

What's Inside

- 2**
Take the pledge during Military Saves Week
- 3**
USARAF participates in early entry command post exercise
- 4**
February is Children's Dental Health Month
- 6**
Soldiers strive for Expert Infantryman Badge



A candidate notionally dresses a head wound; part of the Medical Lane phase of testing for the Expert Infantryman Badge. The EIB testing is a series of events used to test basic infantry tasks, skills and knowledge. (Photo by Cpl. Steve Malone)

- 9**
High school basketball
- 10**
Out & About



- 12**
FMWR events, activities



The Information Exchange, in its new format, took place at the Arena Feb. 14. The event was redesigned as a one-on-one exchange between garrison and tenant command providers and the customer. Garrison Commander Erik M. Berdy also spoke at the event, sharing results of the recent Quality of Life survey and answering questions from attendees. The next Info-X will be scheduled for sometime in May. (Photo by Mark Turney, VMC Public Affairs Office)

Community quality of life survey highlights strengths, health concerns

VICENZA — Results of U.S. Army Garrison Italy's first quality of life survey were tabulated earlier this month and are being examined more closely by the Community Health Promotions Council (CPHC) to determine how best to address the issues raised by the survey.

"We had a great response from the community," said Amy Cates, community readiness and resiliency integrator, USAG Italy. "We had 685 people complete the survey. The information we received is critical to help our working groups focus their efforts. We only have so many resources, and through this process, we can prioritize and begin to address the biggest concerns raised to make the USAG Italy community a better place to live."

Demographics

This part of the survey provided CPHC a snapshot of community members who completed the survey. The survey not only looked at Vicenza Military Community but also quality of life issues at Camp Darby and Gehdi.

- 62.68% married with children, 11.37% single
- 60.93% female/39.07% male
- 49.56% 26-39 years old/24.49% E5-E6
- 38.48% family member of an active service member/34.40% service member on active duty
- 57.43% Ederle/22.59% Del Din/8.89% Longare/9.62% Darby

Top strengths

Understanding strengths of the garrison

was as important as determining areas of improvement. As survey results will guide recommendations for improvement, Cates said it is important that resources aren't redirected in a way that will negatively impact what garrison is doing best. Respondents were asked to select up to five areas from a list of 22. The percentages reflect how many people selected the area as one of their top strengths.

- Access to sports and recreational activities (39.21%)
- Availability of child and youth services (34.26%)
- Diverse community (32.07%)
- Arts and cultural events (29.30%)

See **SURVEY**, page 4

Truck provides team with updated capabilities

Story and photo by Chiara Mattiolo
DMC Public Affairs Office

CAMP DARBY — Darby Military Community firefighters attended three days of training here Feb. 13-16 to learn how to operate and maintain the brand new firetruck assigned to Fire and Emergency Services, U.S. Army Garrison Italy.

According to Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Allen, the new fire truck is fully equipped for firefighting as well as special hazard and rescue tools.

Instructors came from the German company that manufactured the vehicle and trained Darby firefighters on daily operations as well as regular maintenance of the vehicle.

"Due to the peculiarity of this vehicle, all the equipment is in compartments and very tightly stored up," said Karl Hubert, instructor.

The truck is a welcome addition to the fire department; the other one they had was getting old and outdated.

"This new truck replaces the 15-year-old one which was turned in," said Allen. "This high tech piece of equipment is meant to protect the Darby Military Community for the next 15 years."



Firefighters at Camp Darby participated in training Feb. 13-16 to learn how to operate and maintain their newest piece of equipment.

In the past, according to Allen, the fire station had two different vehicles — one for firefighting and the other for rescue purposes, while this new truck is a combination of the two and is able to face all types of emergencies.

Speak Out

By Laura Kreider and Chiara Mattiolo

What is your favorite event
in the Winter Olympic Games?
Have you been watching any TV coverage?



Shantel Scott
Arts & Crafts Center
“My favorite sport
is ice skating.
I catch bits of the
Winter Olympic Games
online.”



Karina Castorina
Family member
“My favorite
is snowboarding.
Until now,
I followed some
freestyle skiing.”



Federico Fanocchi
FMWR
Sports, Fitness & Aquatics
“I love curling.
I can watch the
Olympic Games
at the gym.”



Gabriella Petelin
Livorno Commissary
“I like skiing.
The Italian female
national team
is doing well.”



AnnMarie May
Family member
“Ice hockey.
And yes, I have
been watching
TV coverage.”

Build wealth by starting with Military Saves Week

VICENZA — Making ends meet can be a challenge, and in today’s tough economy, you may wonder how it’s possible to save any money. But any amount saved will grow over time. It’s not an act that’s accomplished overnight, but instead, a process that happens gradually and grows over time.

Those who get into the habit of routinely “paying yourself first” will see the money grow and the achievement of financial goals.

Since 2003, Military Saves Week has persuaded, motivated and encouraged military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings.

Military Saves is part of America Saves, the larger nationwide campaign for all Americans. Military Saves encourages all service members, their families and civilian employees to take the Military Saves Pledge.

Savers who take the pledge can opt to receive a monthly newsletter from Military Saves, as well as a quarterly e-newsletter from America Saves. The program also works with credit unions, military banks and other nonprofit organizations to promote savings and debt reduction. Participants can opt out at any time, or let the reminders encourage good behaviors.

Saving money, reducing debt and building wealth are all worthy goals to improve one’s financial life. It all starts in setting a goal and making a plan to reach that goal. So, decide your goal. Do you want to set up an emergency fund? Get out of debt? Make a down payment on a car or home? Save money for college or retirement?

Military Saves can help participants develop goals and take action. The campaign website provides savings guidance, tools, resources and plenty of motivation. When taking the Military Saves Pledge at www.militarysaves.org, participants will receive a monthly e-newsletter with savings advice from national experts; a quarterly American Savers newsletter; and connect with Military Saves on Facebook and Twitter.

In addition, local participants can help Vicenza beat out other bases in a competition for which installation has the most pledges. Fort Bliss, Texas, had only 1,370 last year and came in third place. The top Marine Corps air station came in fourth with 1,101 pledges. Let’s put Vicenza the top 10 list this year.

Make your pledge at the bank or credit union, or find the box at Army Community Service, the library or the USO. Take the pledge. Commit to your future, and start saving today.

Need help? Come by ACS and ask for Mark Ramsey or Dana Carlyle. The experts can do a free financial strategy session to help everyone reach their goals. Call DSN 634-8634, comm. 0444-718634, or email PFC.Vicenza.usa@zeiders.com or mark.l.ramsey.civ@mail.mil.



In Memoriam

Simone Marangoni

VICENZA — Simone Marangoni, a 20-year U.S. Army host nation employee, died of a heart attack Feb. 18 at his home in Vicenza. He was 44 years old and leaves behind his wife, Katia, and their daughter, Nicole.

Born in Vicenza, Marangoni became a firefighter for U.S. Army Garrison Italy Fire & Emergency Services in 1998. During his tenure in the fire service, he assisted with training firefighters and building Italian-American relationships. Marangoni protected the lives, property and the families of our soldiers for this great IMCOM community.

Always there for his co-workers and placing service before self, Marangoni



will be forever memorized at his station, as his locker will be retired and sealed with his jacket to be remembered always as a part of the firefighter family and service to the garrison.

In his free time, the firefighter was a competitive chess player who traveled all around Italy competing and winning chess events. He also had a deep passion for soccer and often enjoyed attending his local team’s matches in Vicenza. The Roma soccer club was his second favorite

team, and he often had “passionate discussions” with his co-workers about which team was best.

“I met (him) during our military service and by destiny, we worked together side by side for 15 years. During this long period, I had the chance to know Simone deeply. He was a person with an amazing dedication, but at the same time with a kindness that only few people have,” said friend and co-worker Massimo Bondi.

Fire Chief Scott DeLay said of Marangoni, “Simone was a true professional who embodied what it took to be a firefighter. Let the bells ring one last time for Simone, a true professional.”

(Fire & Emergency Services)

U.S. Army Europe Commander
**Lt. Gen.
Christopher G. Cavoli**

Acting U.S. Army Africa Commander
**Brig. Gen.
Eugene J. LeBoeuf**

USAG Italy Commander
and Publisher
Col. Erik M. Berdy

USAG Italy Public Affairs Director
James E. Brooks

Outlook Editor
Karin J. Martinez

Public Affairs Staff
**Anna Ciccotti
Laura Kreider
Chiara Mattiolo
Anna Terracino
Mark Turney**

The Outlook is an authorized publication supporting the USAG Italy command information pro-gram as provided by AR 360-1. All editorial content of the Outlook is prepared, edited and approved by the USAG Italy Public Affairs Office, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO, AE 09630, located in Bldg. 10 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy.

Contents of the Outlook are not necessarily the official news of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Command-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Italy or U.S. Army Africa.

The Outlook accepts submissions. Call the editor with questions at DSN 637-8031, comm. 0444-61-8031, or submit via email at usarmy.vmc.pao@mail.mil. A submission does not guarantee publication. Submissions may be edited at the discretion of the Public Affairs staff.

2018 Army Emergency Relief Campaign Kickoff

Monday, March 5
starting at 3 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 108

Enjoy cake and refreshments with us as we
kick off the AER campaign!

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For more info, call 0444-71-7500. | www.italy.armyMWR.com



Where streets have names

VICENZA — Professor Luciano Parolin, a retired teacher, and his daughter Maddalena are assisted by Italian army Maj. Marco Specchia, G3-PLEX, Italian base commander executive officer, during their visit at the Villaggio Housing area Feb. 14.

Parolin is a writer/researcher and an active member of the Advisory Board for Toponymy of the Vicenza Municipality. Maddalena Parolin took pictures of street name signs on Villaggio for Parolin's latest project, called "TOPONIMI VICENTINI-Vicenza's street names."

The book will include some pages dedicated to personalities and celebrities of the streets adjacent and internal to the American Village.

(Photo by Laura Kreider, VMC Public Affairs Office)

US Army Africa tests communications capability

by Maj. Jeremy Passut
U.S. Army Africa Public Affairs Office

VICENZA — Approximately 20 U.S. Army Africa Soldiers participated in an early entry command post exercise (EECP) Jan. 22-Feb. 2 as part of the U.S. Africa Command directive requiring USARAF to maintain a certified joint task force headquarters capability.

The two-week exercise combined a command post and field training exercise and was led by EECP Commander Lt. Col. Matthew Brown.

The exercise also included Soldiers from 207th Military Intelligence Brigade and medical and Air Force meteorology personnel.

USARAF Soldiers set up the EECP at Caserma Ederle to exercise the communication capabilities of the EECP in response to a natural disaster. When called upon, the command post must be capable to deploy within 96 hours.

“We form the backbone of the joint task force headquarters that could grow upwards of 300 personnel, depending on the mission,” Brown said. “This training event is (a milestone) on the road for U.S. Army Africa’s certification as a joint task force headquarters.”

Capt. Michael Martinez, the EECP communications chief, said the exercise was a good opportunity to give his Soldiers experience working and establishing communications with logistical, medical and intelligence personnel who are a part of the EECP but utilize different communication equipment.

“At the end of the day, I want to see where our shortfalls are in this process and then work on a way forward



The Early Entry Command Post conducts a communications exercise on Caserma Ederle Jan. 24. The COMEX was intended to validate systems, services, connections and integration of enabler components in support of the EECP field training exercise and initial core joint task force requirements in the future. *(Photo by Spc. Angelica Mendez)*

to close those gaps in the end,” Martinez said.

The culminating event for USARAF joint task force validation will occur later this year during exercise Judicious Response. Judicious Response is a U.S. Africa Command exercise executed by USARAF and designed

to test and build the capacity for contingency response in the AFRICOM area of operations.

Once validated, USARAF will have the ability to quickly deploy a small element in support of foreign humanitarian and disaster relief missions.

Commissaries partner with DoD to ensure safe supplements

by Kevin L. Robinson
Defense Commissary Agency Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. — Commissaries are partnering with Department of Defense to help ensure that dietary supplements on store shelves remain free of illegal and unsafe ingredients.

In December, the Defense Commissary Agency announced to its industry partners that it added another layer of protection regarding dietary supplements by requiring these products to be free of any ingredients noted on DoD’s prohibited list posted on the Operation Supplement Safety (OPSS) website.

OPSS is a DoD dietary supplement resource created by the Consortium for Health and Military Performance (CHAMP), a Defense Center of Excellence Department at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

“Many of our commissary patrons use dietary supplements to support their physical fitness regimens,” said Deborah Harris, DeCA dietitian and health and

wellness program manager.

“By using DoD’s list of prohibited ingredients to screen our products, we are adding an extra layer of confidence for our military members and their families and installation leadership that the supplements they buy in our stores are safe and legal.”

LaRue Smith, DeCA’s category manager for health and beauty care products, is the agency’s contact person for suppliers wanting to sell supplements in military commissaries.

“Preventing harmful supplements from showing up on store shelves is critical to supporting the mission of delivering an efficient and effective commissary benefit.

“Once a supplier presents a product to us for consideration to be in our commissaries, we work with them to confirm they’ve checked the banned substances list,” Smith said. “We still have our own

checks and balances such as feedback from patrons and stores.

However, the DoD list adds a very important safety level of protection for DeCA’s customers.”

The path to the current OPSS program began in January 2012, when DoD wanted a department-wide campaign to educate the military community on dietary supplements as far as potential health risks and safe products.

A collaboration of organizations under the DoD Dietary Supplement Subcommittee– the U.S. Army Public Health Command and USU’s CHAMP – gave birth to Operation Supplement Safety.

“Some dietary supplement products contain stimulants, steroids, hormone-like ingredients, controlled substances, or unapproved drugs and the consumer has no way of knowing this,” said Dr. Patricia Deuster, PhD, director

of CHAMP and professor at the Department of Military and Emergency Medicine.

“The DoD prohibited list helps you identify supplements that might pose a potential risk to your health or career. Not all supplements on the list are illegal or banned, but all pose a potential health and readiness risk.”

OPSS has now grown DoD-wide in its campaign to deliver relevant and current information on dietary supplements to the military community.

“Our patrons need to know there are unsafe and substances banned by the Food and Drug Administration that can affect their health and, for some service members, negatively impact their career through a positive drug test,” she said.

In addition to the list, the FDA ultimately regulates and enforces legislation affecting dietary supplements, Deuster said.

To access the FDA website for their statements about dietary supplements, go to <https://www.fda.gov/Food/Dietary-Supplements>.



Children's Dental Health Month

Tips for keeping infant, toddler teeth cavity-free

By **Capt. Matthew Eusterman**
Vicenza Dental Clinic

VICENZA — My name is Dr. Matthew Eusterman (call me "Dr. E"), and I am your garrison pediatric dentist at Vicenza Dental Clinic.

February is Children's Dental Health Month and I want to take this opportunity to give parents critical information to create a cavity-free home from the youngest ages.

Here are my top tips for infants and toddlers related to dental health:

Baby bottle cavities

Parents may ask, "Do infants and toddlers get cavities?" and, unfortunately, the answer is a sad "yes." The majority of cases I have had to treat at these younger ages are almost entirely related to bottle usage in the crib.

Well-intentioned parents desiring a sound sleeping baby will put their child to bed with a bottle of milk. During the night, the child drinks the milk to stay asleep and, in turn, bathes the teeth in sugar-causing cavities. This can also happen with breast milk when the child nurses throughout the night.

Rule of thumb: Never put your child to bed with anything in the bottle except water.

Cavities are contagious

Yes, you heard me right. Cavities are caused by bacteria, and when your child was born, his mouth was bacteria-free. During the first years of life, a child acquires bacteria from their surroundings.

"Who" is their surroundings these early years? Yup, parents and siblings. If mom, dad, sister or brother have a history of cavities, this means they have a type of bacteria that can cause cavities. If anyone in the home has active cavities, this is when it is easiest to pass the bacteria to other people through their saliva.

Rule of thumb: Don't share saliva by sharing cups, spoons or anything else, and make sure all untreated cavities in the family are treated promptly.

Not just candy

Many people think that if they avoid sweets, they will avoid cavities. This is only a little bit true. In the sec-



(File photo by Mark Turney, VMC Public Affairs Office)

ond tip, we learned that bacteria cause cavities, but how? Bacteria living in the mouth need food to survive and they rely on your child's diet to flourish.

However, they can only eat fermentable carbohydrates (simple carbohydrates or processed carbs), and the most common foods in this category are crackers, breads, pastas, chips, fruits, juices and, yes, candy. So never eat these kinds of carbs? No, I feed my four kids these kinds of carbs, but infrequently. In order for the bacteria in a child's mouth to create cavities, they need these carbs frequently throughout the day.

Rule of thumb: Keep the fermentable carbs only at mealtime, brush right after meals, and choose low-carb

or carb-free snacking. The best kind of cavity-free snacks are cheese, meats, nuts, natural peanut butter and fibrous veggies like carrots, celery and broccoli. Not only are these snacks healthier, they will also fill your child up and your child will snack less.

Fluoride

Unlike water in the United States, all the water in Italy is not fluoridated (this includes Caserma Ederle, Caserma Del Din and Villaggio). Fluoride water is available through specific brands of bottled water at the commissary or the large jugs found through the PX Express (just look for red caps or read labels).

Fluoride serves two purposes -- it has an antibacterial effect and it strengthens enamel making it more resistant to acid produced from bacteria. In very small doses (as in fluoridated water or toothpaste) it will not harm the body and help keep your child's mouth cavity-free. Fluoride toothpaste is also a great way to defeat cavities at home.

For children younger than two, I recommend using only a small smear of toothpaste while brushing twice per day. For those older than two who can spit out toothpaste, use a pea-sized amount twice per day.

Rule of thumb: Make sure your child has regular fluoride coating their teeth.

First dental exam

If you are reading this and you have a 1- to 3-year-old who has not been to the dentist yet, then now is the time. The major focus of these first appointments is education and prevention. I want to make sure your child has the best start to living a life free of oral health problems.

Rule of thumb: The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child's first dental visit should take place by the first birthday or within six months of the first tooth.

I hope these tips have been informative and will help you create a healthy dental home for your infant or toddler. For more helpful information regarding your child's dental health, visit the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry at aapd.org. I hope to see you in the near future.

*Your Vicenza Pediatric Dentist,
Matthew Eusterman, CPT, DDS*

SURVEY

(Continued from page 1)

- Good schools/good academics (21.28%)

Physical health concerns

Identifying the community's physical health concerns was examined in the first series of questions. Respondents were asked to select up to five areas of most concern from a list of 18. Percentages reflect what percentage of people selected the same area of concern.

- Tobacco use (42.71%)
- Poor diet (40.67%)
- Lack of access to healthcare (37.61%)
- Injuries (36.44%)
- Dental problems (28.57%)

Spiritual health

Respondents were asked to select three areas of concern to spiritual health from a list of five. The percentages reflect how many people selected the same concern. Cates said given the number of write-in suggestions under an "other" option, this is an area where more consideration will be made in addressing specific concerns.

- Lack of morals (37.61%)

- Lack of adherence to Army Values (27.84%)
- Other (26.97%)
- Lack of spiritual services (23.18%)
- Lack of spiritual diversity (22.01%)

Emotional health

Respondents were asked to select up to five areas of emotional health concern from a list of 16. Percentages reflect how many people selected the same concern.

- Depression (61.52%)
- Alcohol use (56.71%)
- Stress (56.41%)
- Anxiety (36.59%)
- Toxic leadership (29.45%)

Family health

Respondents were asked to select five areas of family health concerns from a list of 16. Percentages reflect how many people selected the same area of concern.

- Lack of employment opportunities (58.60%)
- Deployments/military separations for training/temporary duty (52.77%)

- Financial issues (37.17%)
- Lack of family time together (35.13%)
- Infidelity/cheating (33.53%)

Social health

Respondents were asked to select up to five social health concerns from a list of 18. Percentages reflect how many people selected a concern as their most pressing.

- Lack of career opportunities/unemployment (66.62%)
- Work-life imbalance (49.13%)
- Financial Issues (47.96%)
- Lack of community connectedness (43.29%)
- Deployments (43.29%)

"It's great to hear feedback from community members, and we will be reviewing the results and comments closely to look at how we can shape resources and practices to improve the quality of life in the community," said Chief of the Vicenza Health Clinic Department of Behavioral Health Maj. Rebekah Broady.

Addressing concerns

Using survey results, the CHPC will go to work to address the concerns identified. "The CHPC consists of four working groups that will focus on the top identified issues," said Cates.

"They are the Physical working group, which will focus on physical health-related concerns; the Psychological working group, which will focus on behavioral/emotional health-related concerns; the Community working group, which will focus on social and family health-related concerns; and the Spiritual working group, which will focus on spiritual health-related concerns."

According to Cates, it's likely that there will be a need for focus groups to get more information about the issue.

"On the surface, some of these issues appear to be out of our control. But the working groups will put together recommendations that they feel could influence one way or the other and present those recommendations to senior leadership at the next quarterly meeting." (PAO)



The Outlook accepts submissions and wants to hear what readers want in your community newspaper!

Email content for consideration: karin.j.martinez.civ@mail.mil; call for deadline.

Anyone with questions about submissions or comments/concerns should contact the Outlook Editor at the USAG Italy Public Affairs Office, DSN 637-8031, comm. 0444-61-8031.



WHERE TO GET HELP IN CRISIS

Updated Feb 2018

Military Police 24/7 — (on post/local) 112/114/115, comm. 0444-71-7115 (VICENZA)

Military Police 24/7 — (on post/local) 115 comm. 051-54-7115 (DARBY)

Chaplain 24/7: 0444-66-2273 (CARE)

Behavioral Health: 0444-61-9140

MFLC: 333-489-8967/345-077-0476

Military Crisis Line: (in Europe) 00-800-1273-8255/DSN 118

Domestic violence hotline: 335-805-7867

Sexual assault hotline: 0444-71-7272 (SARC)

American Red Cross: 0444-71-7089



Stop using tobacco with hypnosis

by Tamara Passut
Contributor

VICENZA — The U.S. Army Health Clinic–Vicenza is bringing in a new option for tobacco cessation this year and it involves a process called QuitSmart.

The techniques endorsed by this program help patients ease off nicotine embracing a “warm chicken” methodology rather than the “cold turkey” method.

“We know cigarette smoking is a leading preventable cause of mortality in the United States and worldwide,” said Dr. David Hodson, mental health advanced practice nurse.

“It is surprising that so many individuals still continue to smoke despite the proof that tobacco negatively impacts all systems of our body, and the health of children who are around the smoker.”

The fact is that nicotine and the act of smoking can be so addictive, it takes over the smoker’s common sense that they need to quit.

Making the choice to quit takes several tries for some and it is hard. The

QuitSmart process allows patients to use stop-smoking medications, nicotine replacement therapy, self-hypnosis and group support to help participants stay on track and finally make 2018 the year they quit smoking/using tobacco.

The program being offered has statistically proven more effective than other programs for tobacco cessation which have been used, so if you’ve tried in the past, this may be a great opportunity for another shot at being tobacco free.

“The most important aspect of the treatment is the individuals’ commitment to achieving cessation,” said Hodson.

The program is free and available to all TRICARE beneficiaries and DoD/Do-DEA civilians. It is comprised of a one hour orientation class, one hour individual meeting with a provider, and then three one hour group sessions every other week.

For more information on how to sign up for QuitSmart today, call DSN 636-9508, comm. 0444-61-9508.

Passut is the Patient Advocate and Public Affairs Representative for U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza.



Col. Jay Bartholomees presents carabinieri with an inscribed picture of the lineage of 173rd Airborne Brigade in recognition of their continued support of the “Sky Soldier” mission. (Photo by Pfc. Josselyn Fuentes, 173rd Airborne Brigade)

Brigade commander honors movement team

by Lt. Col. John Hall
173rd Airborne Brigade PAO

VICENZA — When it comes to moving equipment and personnel throughout Europe, 173rd Airborne Brigade Commander Col. Jay Bartholomees looks to the experts of the Italian Movement Control Team, led by Francesca Cisotto.

In the last year, MCB-South supported more than 1,506 “Sky Soldier” movements by bus, line-haul convoy and TMP (transportation motor pool) vehicles.

These movements allowed the brigade to support NATO allies at training exercises throughout Europe to include: Atlantic Resolve, Saber Guardian, Swift Response, and other training events ranging from Germany, Georgia, the Baltics and the Balkans.

This team of dedicated Italian host nation employees is instrumental in finding solutions to the many movements of 173rd Airborne Brigade.

Also recognized at the ceremony were members of Italian carabinieri, who provide security and escort for 173rd Airborne Brigade military convoys and training. The carabinieri, Italy’s national police force, was originally formed in 1726 by Victor Emanuel nearly 300 years ago and continue to serve Italy to this day.

Last year, the carabinieri supported more than 1,000 movements of 173rd paratroopers and equipment, ensuring that the unit meets its mission as the U.S. Army’s Contingence Response Force in Europe, providing rapidly deployable forces to the United States Europe, Africa and Central Command’s areas of responsibilities.



Tax center officially opens

VICENZA — The Vicenza Tax Center on Caserma Ederle celebrated its official grand opening Feb. 12 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Garrison Commander Col. Erik M. Berdy (right) cut the ribbon with some help from Pvt. 2 Brandon D. Chandler, HSC USARAF, who is a volunteer tax preparer.

The center has a team of highly qualified, IRS -certified tax preparers under the lead of Capt. Tara Arndt, Tax Center Officer in Charge.

ID-cardholders from the Vicenza Military Community may file federal and state income tax through the center for free. Refunds will arrive via direct deposit and is usually deposited in 7 to 10 days. There is even a drop-off option for busy taxpayers.

Hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. at Bldg. 166. Anyone with questions may email usarmy.usag-italy.usaraf.mbx.sja-tax-center@mail.mil.

(Photo by Karin J. Martinez, VMC Public Affairs Office)

U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza patrons:

Sign up to message your provider/nurse directly with questions and for advice @ <https://mil.relayhealth.com>.

This is a benefit you'll want to use!

Get your questions answered.

700+ Soldiers, 33 events, 7 armies, 4 weeks of Earning the coveted Expert



Above: A Slovenian soldier plots points on his map during Expert Infantryman Badge testing. The EIB testing is a series of events used to test basic Infantry tasks, skills and knowledge. At right: The Master Tracker is kept up to date in real time as candidates pass or fail events throughout testing. Middle two photos: Candidates run two miles and do push-ups on Caserma Del Din as part of the physical fitness test that is a prerequisite to begin EIB testing.

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Applying camouflage to face, neck, ears, and gear is one task tested in the Patrol Lane phase.



of training, testing t Infantryman Badge

VICENZA — For more than 70 years, the Expert Infantryman Badge has served to recognize Soldiers who have mastered the skills of an infantryman. From the end of January until Feb. 15, Soldiers — some 727 strong — from the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, 2-1 Infantry Division and Croatian, French, German, Polish, Slovenian and Spanish armies came together for the opportunity to train and test for the badge, with a 50 percent success rating. This is the first time EIB has been offered in Vicenza. Testing begins with the standard PT test and includes day and night land navigation; patrol, weapons and medical lanes with 10 tasks each; and a 12-kilometer march carrying a load of 35 pounds in full combat gear. The Soldiers finished the test with Objective Bull, a new event added in 2015, which consists of assessing a casualty, loading the casualty onto a sled and sprinting 50 meters with the casualty to simulate combat rescue.

(Information contributed by Pfc. Josselyn Fuentes and photos by Cpl. Steve Malone, 173rd Airborne Brigade Public Affairs)



After completing all tasks needed to earn their EIB, expert infantrymen smile while posing to show off their newly earned badges.

Left: A candidate properly employs a hand grenade during the Patrol Lane phase of testing.



Candidates are sketching out what they see down their sights in order to properly prepare a range card, part of the Weapons Lane phase.



Candidates prepare for the Land Navigation activity, the first of many tasks needed to complete EIB testing.

To see more EIB photos, visit the 173rd Airborne Brigade Flickr site, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/skysoldiers>.

Winning weekend for Vicenza High School basketball

VICENZA — Below: Grant Kai're (No. 22), Vicenza High School boys' basketball team, adds two points with a layup during the game against American Overseas School of Rome (AOSR) at the fitness center on Caserma Ederle Feb. 9. Vicenza won 45-28. The Cougars girls' and boys' faced off against AOSR and won all four games played during the weekend. The cheerleaders provided school spirit at halftime.

At right: Cougar Christian Coleman fights for the ball surrounded by AOSR opponents during the game at the fitness center Feb. 10. Vicenza won 59-33. More photos may be found on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/usagvicenza/albums/72157665799767968>.

Scoreboard:
Feb. 9 Girls: Vicenza 33 – AOSR 13; Boys: Vicenza 45 - AOSR 28
Feb. 10 Girls: Vicenza 33 – AOSR 8; Boys: Vicenza 59 - AOSR 33
(Photos by Laura Kreider, VMC Public Affairs Office)



Fitness center plays host to racquetball clubs' Winter Shootout

CASERMA EDERLE — The Vicenza Racquetball Club and *Racquetball Italia* hosted the Vicenza Winter Shootout at the fitness center on Caserma Ederle Feb. 3-4.

The U.S. Army Garrison Italy Sports, Fitness and Aquatics staff supported the sport event, which is one of the few tournaments in Italy on the European Racquetball Tour.

Players from Italy, Germany, Bolivia (living in Italy), and the United States competed in men's singles, women's singles, and doubles brackets for trophies and, more importantly, bragging rights until the next tournament, according to J.D. Lattuca, vice president of *Racquetball Italia* and tournament director.

"We had a great turnout with 16 players," said Lattuca. "Not only did we have the top players from Italy, but also some of our players traveled from as far away as Rome and Bad Tölz, Germany, to play."

Lattuca added that the tournament could not have happened without the support of fitness center staff.

"We couldn't have done this without the support of Mark Hill and the rest of the fitness center crew," Lattuca added. "They went above and beyond to ensure this tournament was a success."

Lattuca, who works at U.S. Army Africa KMO, claimed the top prize this weekend, defeating Henry Angulo of Bolivia

in two games to win the Men's Open title (15-4, 15-1). Lattuca also claimed the Doubles Open title, with doubles partner Carlo Papini of Rome, defeating Donald Forbes and Arturo Doss of the U.S. Army Garrison Italy Fire & Emergency Services (15-14, 15-14).

"Donald (Forbes), Arturo and I play here all the time so we get used to how each other plays," said Lattuca. "These tournaments force us to up our level of play and focus on beating top level players from other clubs."

Marco Arnoldi, president of *Racquetball Italia*, called this weekend's event one of the best on the European Racquetball Tour. "What a great weekend of play! Racquetball is already a great cardio workout, and tournament racquetball is intense. You better be in shape if you're going to play in a tournament like this."

On the women's side, Bolivian Mabel Vela defeated her good friend and fellow Bolivian, Vianca Torrico, in two games (15-7, 15-3) to claim the Women's Open title.

The clubs will host the next tournament, the Italian Nationals (*Campionato Nazionale Italiano*), which will also take place April 21-22 at the Ederle fitness center.

Complete results
Men's Open Final: J.D. Lattuca (USA)



Sixteen players from Italy, Germany, Bolivia and the United States came together for a weekend racquetball tournament on Caserma Ederle Feb. 3-4. *(Photo by Heidi Lattuca)*

def. Henry Angulo (BOL) 15-4, 15-1;
Third/Forth Place: Donald Forbes (USA) & Gabe O'Connor (USA)

Thomas Zuber (GER) & Henry Angulo (BOL) / Marco Arnoldi (ITA)

Doubles Final: J.D. Lattuca (USA) / Carlo Papini (ITA) def. Donald Forbes (USA)/Arturo Doss (USA) 15-14, 15-14;
Third/Forth Place: Peter Zuber (GER) /

Women's Open Final: Mabel Vela (BOL) def. Vianca Torrico (BOL) 15-7, 15-3

(Article contributed by J.D. Lattuca)

News briefs

ASIST workshop available

Registration ends Feb. 23 for a two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skill Training workshop. The workshop will take place March 8-9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Building 305 on Caserma Ederle. To register, email name, organization/unit and phone number to usarmy.usag-italy.id-europe.mbx.usag-italy-asap@mail.mil. Call the Army Substance Abuse Program for more information, DSN 637-7245, comm. 0444-61-7245.

Soldier GT improvement class

A class for Soldiers to improve their GT (general technical) scores will take place on Caserma Ederle in Building 126, March 7-27. Classes will take place each day from 8 a.m. to noon. Registration closes Feb. 26. For an application, call DSN: 637-8141 or email Vicenza.edcenter@us.army.mil.

Education center graduation

Every year, the Army Education Center plays host to a Graduation Recognition Ceremony to celebrate and honor the academic achievements of the military community. This year the ceremony will take place May 24 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Golden Lion. Anyone who has graduated in the past year or is within 12 semester hours from graduation are invited to participate.

If interested, please stop by the Army Education Center, Bldg. 126 on Caserma Ederle, or contact by phone or email: DSN 637-8141, comm. 0444-61-8141; vicenza.edcenter@us.army.mil to pick up an application. Applications for the ceremony are due no later than May 1.

Apply now for VCC scholarships

The Vicenza Community Club offers three education scholarships this spring: the High School Senior Scholarship for 2018-19 academic year; Emi Fondi

Scholarship for adult VCC members; and Pia Manetti Scholarship for dependents of VCC members. Spring 2018 applications are open through April 15. For more information, visit the VCC webpage at <http://vccitaly.org/scholarships>. Or contact Rose Roorda, scholarships chairperson at scholar-vcc@vccitaly.org; call 329-815-7024.

PCS'ing with school-age children

Families making a permanent change of station with children currently enrolled in school are asked to contact the school registrar as soon as possible upon notice of PCS, to schedule a time to pick up their children's records. Ten days' advance notice is required during the school year.

Make VA benefits appointments

Anyone with questions about veterans benefits should make an appointment with the Department of Veteran Affairs Overseas Military Service Coordinator (OMSC).

The OMSC is available March 5-9 and March 22-23. Receive assistance with eBenefits enrollment, disability compensation, claims development, education benefits, housing, survivor benefits and more.

Active-duty service members, veterans, survivors, spouses and dependents may make individual appointments. Call DSN 637-8155/8156, comm. 0444-61-8155/8156. Or email julie.machak@serco-na.com or kathryn.dunbar@serco-na.com.

Parent volunteers needed at VHS

The Parent-Teacher-Student Association and Vicenza High School Booster Club are in need of parent volunteers as they support the academic and athletic development of students. Both groups do much to enhance the high school experiences of students, and they need

parents' help to continue to provide these services. Call the school at DSN 637-8600, comm. 0444-61-8600, to be put in touch with a representative.

Financial training at ACS

Army Community Service offers financial training at ACS, Bldg. 108, with a financial expert. Classes offered include: Budget 101: How to Create a Realistic Spending Plan; Credit and Debit; House Buying; Saving and Investing; Stocks and Bonds; Mutual Funds; and Thrift Savings Plan and Blended Retirement Plan. For a confirmed seat, please RSVP. Walk-ins are welcome on a space-available basis. The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 27, 3 p.m., Saving and Investing
March 6, 3 p.m., TSP/BRS
March 13, 1 p.m., Stocks and Bonds
March 20, 3 p.m., Mutual Funds
March 27, 1 p.m., Budget 101
April 3, 1 p.m., TSP/BRS

All classes take place in Room 40. To register or if you have questions, phone ACS at DSN 634-7942, comm. 349-166-0336. Or email PFC.vicenza.usa@zeiders.com.

Medical benvenuti

The U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza

welcomes newcomers with their 'benvenuti' healthcare briefing. The briefing takes place every Wednesday, 1:15-2 p.m. in the training classroom at the health center. Tour the clinic and ask questions. Children are welcome if childcare cannot be arranged.

EFMP Parents Connect

Parents of children enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program are encouraged to join Parents Connect the first Wednesday of each month, 1-2 p.m. at Army Community Service, Bldg. 108. The group is for parents to meet other parents, network, share resources, and get encouragement from other EFMP families. Young children may accompany parents to the meeting. For more information, call 0444-71-7500/8582, or visit the ACS page on Facebook, @USAGItalyACS.

Army Emergency Relief campaign

The 2018 Army Emergency Relief campaign kickoff will take place March 5 at 3 p.m. at Army Community Service, Bldg. 108, on Caserma Ederle. Enjoy cake and refreshments as ACS begins the "Soldiers Helping Soldiers" campaign. For more information, call 0444-71-7500.

Prevent cyber criminals from social media impersonation

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Frequently, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command receives notifications from individuals stating they were scammed online by someone claiming to be a U.S. Soldier.

Unbeknownst to the U.S. Soldier, an online scammer has used the Soldier's name and available social media photos to perpetrate a crime.

While the majority of U.S. Soldier social media impersonations are of officers, online scammers will also impersonate enlisted personnel, Army civilians, and contractors. Scammers, using information from social media profiles, capitalize on the trustworthy reputation of individuals associated with the Army.

By monitoring your social media identity, you can protect your Army family and your reputation.

Mitigating fraudulent accounts

Search for your name on social media sites. Since scammers may use a person's photo but change the name, make sure to also conduct a Google image search of social media profile pictures.

Anyone who finds him/herself or a family member being impersonated online should check with the social media sites used; the sites will lead you to step-by-step instructions for reporting false profiles on several popular social media sites. This includes Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Google+ and LinkedIn.

Additional resources

For more information about social media safety, review more cybercrime prevention information at the Criminal Investigation Command website, www.cid.army.mil.

IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL CIAO CONFERENCE!

The Vicenza Community Club first introduced the CIAO conference to the Vicenza community in 1998 with the goal of professional and personal development in mind. Vendors and speakers from all over the region are brought to provide attendees some of the most sought-after cultural and academic opportunities. Whether your goal is to enjoy the diverse aspects of Italy or gain knowledge and skills to strengthen your role in the community, CIAO was put in place to ensure both. If interested, please stop by the VCC office near the Thrift Store on Caserma Ederle to get registration forms. Get more information on Facebook @ciaoconferencevicenza.



READY.. SET... GROW!

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD 5 TO 10 YEARS OLD?

LEARN STRATEGIES THAT WILL IMPACT YOUR CHILD FOR A LIFETIME AT THE **grow!** PROGRAM.

5 WEEKLY SESSIONS!

PARTICIPATE AT NO COST!

PROGRAM START DATE:

From WED APRIL 18 until MAY 16

3-4: 30 p.m

LOCATION:

VILLAGIO SCHOOL AGE CENTER (SAC), BUILDING 703

PARENTS Will LEARN:

- SIMPLE WAYS TO SHOW LOVE
- STRATEGIES TO ENCOURAGE POSITIVE BEHAVIORS
- HOW TO HELP CHILDREN EAT HEALTHY AND BE ACTIVE
- TIPS FOR TEACHING COPING SKILLS TO CHILDREN
- HOW TO DISCIPLINE CALMLY

PENN STATE RESEARCHERS WILL COMPENSATE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS UP TO \$60 FOR SURVEY COMPLETION.

CHILDCARE OPTIONS!



REGISTER TODAY!

DEADLINE: APR. 11TH

ONLINE:

THRIVE.PSU.EDU

OR

EMAIL:

REGISTER4GROW@PSU.EDU



A Universal Parenting Initiative

The Grow! Program was developed by The Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at the Pennsylvania State University.

Follow us on our website, www.italy.army.mil, and on social media.



www.facebook.com/VMCItaly
www.pinterest.com/usagitaly
www.flickr.com/photos/usagvicenza



Mimosa flowers for International Women's Day



Fishing Fair, Vicenza

La festa della Donna Women’s Day
March 8 is International Women’s Day, or *La Festa della Donna*. In Italy, this is a day men give bunches of mimosa flowers to the women in their lives. The flowers are bright yellow and fragrant. Authorities don’t agree on how or why, but the custom started in Italy, some say in Rome in 1946. Women have since then given mimosa to each other. The flowers are a sign of respect for and an expression of solidarity and support for oppressed women worldwide.

VENETO & NEARBY

Pescare Fishing Fair
Feb. 24-25, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., **Feb. 26**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Vicenza, Via dell’Oreficeria, 16. Admission fee: €17, €12 (children between 12 and senior citizens older than 60 or if you have a fishing license.) Free for children younger than 13.

I Love Lego Exhibit
Through Feb. 25, Tuesday-Sunday, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Monday 2:30-7:30 p.m., Verona, AMO Palazzo Forti, Via Abramo Massalongo 7. Five different "worlds in miniature" cover dozens of square meters of exhibition space — from the ideal contemporary city to the adventures of pirates, from medieval landscapes to the Ancient Rome, to the conquest of space in the not-too-distant future. In homage to Verona, one can also admire a magnificent reproduction of Piazza delle Erbe. Entrance fee: €8; reduced €4 (children aged 6-12). Special discounts for combination tickets with Botero exhibit.

Botero Exhibit
Through Feb. 25, Verona, Palazzo Forti, Via Achille Forti 1. Mondays, 2:30-7:30 p.m.; Tuesdays-Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. The exhibition is divided into sections devoted to the different themes: sculptures, versions by ancient masters, works in which Botero combines Latin American and western culture; religion, politics, and Latin American life. Entrance fee: €14, includes audio guide.

Schella Marzo March Festival
Feb. 26-28, Asiago. During the last three nights in February, adults and children flock to the streets dragging long rows of tin containers that they pound on with sticks to make enough loud noise to wake up the spring. On Feb. 28, 9 p.m. in Piazza II Risorgimento, “*Rogo della vecia*,” is the burning of a huge puppet (which symbolizes winter) made of wood and papier-mâché in the form of an old woman. *Vin brulè* and hot chocolate for everyone.

Passion Art Tattoo Convention
March 3, 10 a.m.-midnight and **March 4**, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Verona, Pala Expo, Viale del lavoro 8. Ticket €15; discount €10 after 8 p.m. March 3. Free for children younger than 10.

Olio Capitale Top quality extra virgin oil expo
March 3-5, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., **March 6**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Trieste, Molo dei Bersaglieri 3, about 120 miles east of Vicenza. Attendees can experience some of the highest

quality extra virgin olive oil in Italy during the *Olio Capitale*, the country’s premier olive oil exhibition. Stop by the oil bar to taste extra virgin olive oil with regional experts. Tasting sessions cater to English speakers; cooking tips. Entrance fee: €7; get a reduced ticket (€5), by filling the form at <http://www.oliocapitale.it/eng/register.html>.

Orto Giardino
Exhibit of floriculture, nursery products, horticulture and outdoor furniture **March 3-11**, Pordenone, Viale Treviso 1, about 90 miles northeast of Vicenza. Mondays-Fridays 2:30-7:30 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Admission fee: €8; reduced €6 for children 13-18; free entrance for children younger than 13.

Free Museums in Vicenza
March 4, free entrance for Vicenza province residents to:
●Palazzo Chiericati, Piazza Giacomo Matteotti 37-39; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; collections of paintings, sculptures, and applied arts from the 13th to the 20th centuries
●Natural History and Archaeological Museum, Contrà Santa Corona 4; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
●Regiment and Resistance Museum, Viale X Giugno; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:15-5 p.m.

Abilmente, Mostra-atelier della manualità creative Bricolage and Manual Creativity Fair
March 15-18, Vicenza, Via dell’Oreficeria 16. Hours 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; embroidery and patchwork exhibits and workshops; sewing and T-shirts decorations classes; creative techniques workshops for children. Admission fee: €12; reduced €10 (youth aged 13-18, senior citizens over 60, groups of more than 10 persons). Free for children younger.

Rivoluzione Galileo. L’arte incontra la scienza Galileo Revolution. Art Meets Science
Through March 18, Padova, Monte di Pietà Palace,



Creativity Fair, Vicenza

Piazza Duomo. Weekedays 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays and Italian holidays, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. This exhibit aims to investigate the influence of Galileo’s discoveries on art history and on people’s perception of the universe. Entrance fee: €12; reduced: €10. https://www.ilturista.info/blog/13420-La_Mostra_su_Galileo_a_Padova/

Van Gogh Alive Exhibit
Through April 2, Verona, Palazzo della Gran Guardia, Piazza Brà; Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Verona, Palazzo della Gran Guardia, Piazza Brà; Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Explore Van Gogh’s work and life experiences during the period 1880 to 1890. Entrance fee: €14; reduced €12.

Van Gogh – Tra il Grano e il Cielo Van Gogh Exhibit – Between Wheat and Sky
Through April 8, Vicenza, Palladian Basilica, Piazza dei Signori, Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fridays-Sundays, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. The main works by Van Gogh are on display, featuring over 120 works among paintings and drawings. Entrance fee: €14; reduced €11 (for students younger than 26 and senior citizens older than 65); €8 (children ages 6-17); free for children younger than 6.

Andy Warhol Exhibit
Through May 1, Treviso, Casa dei Carraresi, Via Palestro 33/38. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fridays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. This exhibit focuses on the concept of Superstars. Entrance fee: €12; reduced €10 (students younger than 26); €8 (children ages 6-18); free for children younger than 6.

Frida Kahlo – Oltre il mito Frida Kahlo – Beyond the myth
Through June 3, Milan, Mudec, Museo delle Culture, Via Tortona 56. A full exhibition dedicated to Frida Kahlo, from the beginning of her career until the latest steps of her artistic production. The works on display are divided into five sections, including politics, women, violence, nature and death.

Egitto. Dei, faraoni e Uomini Egypt. God, Pharaohs and Men
Through Sept. 18, Fridays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Jesolo, Via Aquileia 123. This exhibit offers a display of Egyptian artifacts coming from the most important collections of Italian and foreign museums. Visitors not only have a chance to see, know and analyze the Egyptian world, they can also feel it, thanks to many interactive pieces. Entrance fee: €16; reduced: €12 (senior citizens older than 65; students and people with disabilities); €8 (children aged 6-12); free for children younger than 6. Tickets include audio guide.

MARKETS

Cerea (Verona): Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Via Farfusola 6 (about 150 vendors)
Dolo (Venice): Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Cantiere (about 80 vendors)
Piazzola sul Brenta (Padova): Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., in Via Camerini (about 700 vendors)
Spresiano (Treviso): Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., in Piazza

Luciano Rigo (about 100 vendors)
Treviso: Feb. 25, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Borgo Cavour (about 80 vendors)
Valeggio sul Mincio (Verona): Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Carlo Alberto and downtown streets (about 120 vendors)
Marostica (Vicenza): March 4, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; 8 a.m.-8 p.m. April-September, Piazza Castello (135 vendors)
Noventa Vicentina (Vicenza): March 4, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., in Piazza IV Novembre (120 vendors)
Thiene (Vicenza): March 4, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., downtown streets and squares (70 vendors)
Vittorio Veneto (Treviso): March 4, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., in Serravalle, Piazza Minucci and surrounding streets (75 vendors)



TUSCANY

Sagra delle Frittelle
Fried Dough Festival
Through March 19, Saturdays 9 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sundays, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., San Donato in Collina, Rignano Sull'Arno (Florence). Food booths feature a great variety of *frittelle* (traditional deep-fried Carnevale pastries), the famous *Vin Santo* (sweet wine), and other local specialties. This year, also gluten-free fried dough.

Fiera del Cioccolato Artigianale
Chocolate Fair
March 2-11, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Florence, Piazza SS. Annunziata. More than 40 exhibitors from all over Europe offer a great assortment of chocolates; cooking shows and chocolate workshops held by master chocolatiers. Games and workshops for children, chocolate tasting. Free entrance.

Terre di Toscana-eccellenza nel bicchiere
Tuscany Lands – Wine Fair
March 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and March 5, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Lido Camaiore (Lucca), UNA Hotel, Viale Sergio Bernardini. Local and international wine producers present their wines to the general public. The €25 entrance fee includes unlimited wine tasting; free shuttle bus from Viareggio train station to the hotel and back, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tonfano Street Food
March 9-11, 11 a.m.-11:45 p.m., Marina di Pietrasanta, Piazza XXIV and Via Versilia. Italian and international street food specialties; music and dancing.

Monet Experience e gli Impressionisti
Monet Experience and the Impressionists
Through May 1, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Florence, Piazza Santo Stefano 5. In this multimedia exhibit, Monet's masterpieces expand to 360 degrees on the giant display screens, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in his universe and in the beauty of the nature he painted. Entrance fee: €13; reduced: €10 for students and senior citizens older than 65: €8 (children aged 6-12). Free for children younger than 6.

Follow us on Pinterest
for all of these events and more,
www.pinterest.com/USAGItaly.



MARKETS

Bientina (Pisa): Feb. 24-25, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Vittorio Emanuele (about 140 vendors)
Cecina (Livorno): Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., in Piazza Guerrazzi and Via Cavour
Florence: Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Piazza dei Ciompi
Grosseto: Feb. 24, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., in Piazza Stefano de Maria
Montemurlo (Prato): Feb. 25, in Piazza della Costituzione
Montevarchi (Arezzo): Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-7 pm. Via dei Musei and nearby streets (about 100 vendors)
Prato: Feb. 24-25, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza San Francesco
Viareggio (Lucca): Feb. 24-25, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Piazza D'Azeglio
Arezzo: March 3-4, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Grande (about 1000 vendors)
Carmignano (Prato): March 4, 9:30 a.m.-7p.m., Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II and Piazza Matteotti
Cascina (Pisa): March 4, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Corso Matteotti
Livorno: March 4, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Cavour
Orbetello (Grosseto): March 3-4, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Corso Italia, Piazza Eroe dei Due Mondi, Piazza del Plebiscito
Pietrasanta (Lucca): March 4, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Duomo
San Miniato(Pisa): March 4, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Piazza del Popolo
Scarperia (Firenze): March 4, 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

CONCERTS/SPORTS

Liam Gallagher – Feb. 27 Padova; June 21 Milan
Toto – March 10 Assago (Milan); March 23 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna)
Thirty Seconds to Mars – March 16 Rome; March 17 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna)
Marcus Miller – March 23 Rome; March 26 Bologna; March 27 Milan
G3 – Joe Satriani, John Petrucci, Uli Jon Roth – April 2 Rome, April 3 Florence, April 4 Milan
Bob Dylan – April 3-5 Rome; April 7 Florence; April 8 Mantova; April 9 Milan; April 26 Jesolo; April 27 Verona
Norah Jones – April 8 Milan; April 9 Torino
Afterhours – April 10 Assago (Milan)
Roger Waters – April 17-18 Assago (Milan); April 21-22 and April 24-25 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna); July 11 Lucca; July 17-18 Assago
Phil Rudd – May 5 Bologna; May 13 Rome
Anastacia – May 6 Brescia; May 7 Rome; May 9 Bologna; May 10 Milan
Martin Barre (Jethro Tull's guitarist) – May 9 Lugagnano di Sona (Verona)
The Vamp – May 22 Milan
Patti Smith – June 10 Rome
Gun 'N' Roses – June 15 Florence
Iron Maiden – June 16 Florence; July 9 Milan; July 17 Trieste
Ozzy Osbourne – June 17 Florence
Marilyn Manson – June 19 Milan
Shakira – June 21 Assago (Milan)
Pearl Jam – June 24 Padova
Sons of Apollo – June 24 Milan
Billy Idol – June 28 Padova
Santana – June 29 Padova
Simple Minds – July 5 Marostica
Ringo Starr – July 8 Lucca; July 9 Marostica; July 11 Rome
Deep Purple – July 9 Verona
Lenny Kravitz – July 16 Verona; July 17 Lucca
Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds – July 17 Lucca
King Crimson – July 22-23 Rome; July 25 Lucca; July 27-28 Venice
Scorpions – July 23 Verona
Eminem – Sept. 7 Milan
U2 – Oct. 15 Assago (Milan)
David Garrett and his band – Oct. 17 Rome; Oct. 19 Florence; Oct. 20 Assago (Milan)

ITALIAN ARTISTS
Zuccherò – Feb. 26 Padova; March 2 Assago (Milan); March 3 Florence
Gianni Morandi – Feb. 28 Conegliano (Treviso); March 5 Florence; March 22 Padova; March 28 Assago (Milan)
Ennio Morricone – March 2 Florence; March 6 Assago (Milan); June 16-17 Rome
Antonello Venditti – March 8 Padova
Giovanni Allevi – March 15 Venice
Ornella Vanoni – March 21 Bologna
Gianna Nannini – March 29 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna); April 6 Conegliano (Treviso); April 7 Padova; April 11 Livorno; April 13 Assago (Milan)
Angelo Branduardi – April 10 Milan; April 20 Torino
Lorenzo Live – May 15-16, and May 21-22 Verona; March 10-11, March 13-14; March 16-17; March 19-20 Florence
Vasco Rossi – June 6-7 Padova

OTHER
Harlem Globetrotters – March 3 Assago (Milan); March 4 Rome; March 5 Livorno; March 6 Torino
FIM Superbike World Championship – May 5, July 6-8 Misano Adriatico (Rimini)
MOTUL FIM Superbike World Championship – May 11-13 Imola (Bologna)

Tickets are available in Vicenza at Media World, Palladio Shopping Center, or online at www.ticketone.it and www.getticket.it.

ENTERTAINMENT & TRIPS

Family Movie Night
Thursdays & Sundays, 6-8 p.m.
The Arena, Caserma Ederle
Every Thursday and Sunday, the Arena plays the latest family-friendly movies. For \$29.95, your family may enjoy two hours of bowling for up to six people, one large cheese pizza, six bottled beverages of your choice and free shoe rental.

Library Lego® Club
Feb. 27 and March 6, 13, 20 & 27 3:30-5 p.m.
Library, Caserma Ederle
Drop in to the library on Tuesdays and let your children explore their creativity with the library's Lego® collection. All Lego®s are provided. Open to ages 4-12 years.

BOSS Indoor Go-Karting
March 2, 7:15-10 p.m.
\$35 for each 20-minute race (can participate in two maximum)
Pickup on Del Din/Caserma Ederle
Fire up the engine and slam on the accelerator as BOSS hits the local go-karting circuit. Cost includes transportation, go-karting, helmet and safety gear. Bring snacks and water, euro for food/drinks.

Genova and the Aquarium
March 3, 6 a.m.-9 p.m., \$90
ODR, Caserma Ederle
Discover the city of Genova, one of the most important seaport cities in northern Italy. Visit the second largest aquarium in Europe, with more than 10,000 specimens. Price includes transportation, trip facilitator, and entry to the aquarium.

Youth Center:
6th & 7th Grade Lock-In
March 9, 9 p.m.;
ends March 10, 8 a.m., \$10
Youth Center, Villaggio
Never been to a lock-in before? Join this exciting event where food and fun happen all night long. Register at Parent Central Services or on WebTrac. For youth in grades 6-7 only.

Bernina Express (Switzerland)
March 10, 4:30 a.m.-10 p.m., \$115
ODR, Caserma Ederle
The Bernina Express is a train that links northern and southern Europe in a beautiful way. Board the Bernina Express in Tirano and enjoy a spectacular two-hour train ride through the Alps. Afterward, enjoy free time in St. Moritz.

Darby "Go Green" Kick Back Night
March 16, 6-10 p.m., \$5
Youth Centers, Camp Darby
Celebrate St. Patrick's day and being green by learning about recycling and conserving energy. Participants will enjoy food, fun, and time to relax with friends.

Innsbruck, Austria and Ambras Castle
March 17, 5 a.m.-10 p.m., \$95
ODR, Caserma Ederle
Innsbruck is the capital of the Tirolean region and has all the charm and tradition you'd expect from an alpine village. There will be free time to explore the historical sites, shop, and enjoy local cuisine and drinks. The group will also visit Ambras Castle, located above Innsbruck.

The castle's cultural and historical significance is inseparably linked with the personality of Archduke Ferdinand II (1529–1595), a true “Renaissance prince” who was an enthusiastic patron of the arts and sciences. Don't forget your passport.

Auditions for "Honk!, JR."
March 6, 5:30 p.m. (ages 8-10)
March 7, 5:30 p.m. (ages 11-14)
March 8, 5:30 p.m. (ages 15-18)
Soldiers' Theatre, Caserma Ederle
"Honk! JR." is a heartwarming celebration of being different and special. Based on the story "The Ugly Duckling" by Hans Christian Andersen, audiences of all ages will delight in this musical full of memorable characters, sparkling wit, unique charm and laughter. Roles for youth performers, ages 8-18. Only 30 roles available; no experience necessary. Auditions consist of learning a song/dance from the show taught at auditions. Wear comfortable clothing and footwear. Rehearsals begin March 12 and take place Monday-Friday daily in late afternoon/early evening. No rehearsals during Spring Break. Performances are May 4-13 on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. No registration required. Call DSN 634-7281, comm. 0444-71-7281 for more information.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Resumé Development Training
Every first Wednesday of the month 9:30-10:30 a.m.
ACS, Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle
Learn to write an effective federal resumé. Highlight your transferable skills and accomplishments and learn to make your resumé stand out. Register at least two days before the class. Contact ACS for information at 0444-71-6884/7500.

Romp & Stomp Playgroup
Every Wednesday, 10-11:30 a.m.
SKIES, Bldg. 308, Caserma Ederle
Open to parents and infant/toddler children, ages 0-3 years. Provided by the New Parent Support Program, participants can expect open playtime, songs, indoor/outdoor activities, meeting other parents and making new friends. For information, call DSN 634-7567, comm. 0444-71-7567.

Volunteer Orientation and Registration
Feb. 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
ACS, Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle
Learn how to register on and navigate the Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS). Bring a notebook and pen to take notes, and a laptop (if you have one) to follow along.

Preschool Story Time
March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 10:30-11:15 a.m.
Library, Caserma Ederle
Join the library staff for weekly storytime. There is a different theme each week. This event is geared toward children ages 3 to 5 years old. Activities include making a craft, listening to stories and meeting new friends.

Teen Workforce Preparation Workshops
Youth Centers, Caserma Ederle

The Teen Center staff and partners will help teens get ready for that after school or summer job. Join in on the monthly workshops to build your resume and prepare for success.

Workshops schedule is as follows:
●**Introduction to Babysitting Course**
March 8, 11:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m.
●**Ethics in the Workplace**
April 12, 11:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m.
●**Interviewing Skills & Resume Writing**
May 24, 2-4 p.m.

Lunch will be provided during lunchtime classes. Open to students in grades 9-12. Call DSN 634-7659, comm. 0444-71-7659, for more information.

Sketchbook Sessions
March 2, 9, 16 & 23, 11:30-1 p.m.
\$5 per class (plus sketchbook)
ACS, Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle
Learn to use your sketchbook as a means to create everyday. Participants will learn simple sketching techniques and use of mixed media and watercolor.



BOWLING BASH
for EFMP Families at the Arena!

EFMP Family members are invited to enjoy two free games of bowling, shoes, pizza, water, and a cookie. It is a fun, spirited time for the entire Family!

Friday, March 9
from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Register at ACS EFMP or by phone. | Pre-registration required as space is limited. For more information, call 0444-71-8582. | Facebook: /USAGItalyACS
www.italy.armyMWR.com



LAUNCHING HOPE
PARENTING TO SUPPORT TEENS

Launching Hope is designed to prepare parents to launch their teens into the wonderful world of adulthood and to rediscover their role as the calm command center their teens need in order to liftoff.

March 16 | March 23
from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 108

Topics Include:

- Preparing to prepare • Chill down • Fuel Up •
- Separation • Lift Off •

Register by Friday, March 9. | Class limited to 15 slots. Registrants eligible for childcare vouchers.

For more info, call 0444-71-7500.
www.italy.armyMWR.com



FITNESS & SPORTS

Variety of fitness classes
Dates & time vary
\$5 per class/\$35 for 10 classes
Fitness Center, Caserma Ederle
Zumba®, Yoga, Cycling, Pilates, Power Pump, Kettlebell Strength & Conditioning, and HIT Fit. Stop by the fitness center to learn more. Purchase tickets for all fitness classes at the front desk and present to instructor.

Taekwondo
Dates & time vary
\$12 per class/\$70 for 8 classes
Fitness Center, Caserma Ederle
Self defense class based upon the Taekwondo techniques that will provide students with the tools for self defense.

BOSS Midnight Games: Dodgeball
March 16, 8-11 p.m.
Fitness Center, Caserma Del Din
Kick off your weekend with some 5-versus-5 dodgeball with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. You'll have a chance to crush the competition with this schoolyard favorite. Sign up at the fitness center by March 15.

Warrior Yoga at Del Din
March 20, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
\$5 per class/\$35 for 10 classes
Fitness Center, Caserma Del Din
All levels of experience are welcome, but come prepared to work hard and work up a sweat.

For more events and information, see the FMWR calendar on the USAG Italy website: www.italy.army.mil.