NAPOLI NAVIGATOR # NAPLES IN THE KNOW

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CAPTAIN'S CORNER

By Capt. James Stewart NSA Naples Commanding Officer

This week marks the end of summer vacation and the start of the back-to-school season. This fall looks different as students begin the school year both virtually and in-person. The Naples Middle High and Elementary principals and staff have been working incredibly hard to ensure our children continue to receive an excellent standard of education. Our children also have an incredible support system behind them every step of the way. Over the past two weeks, we have had many volunteers at Naples Elementary School and Naples Middle High School helping to move furniture and prepare the schools for opening with physical distancing measures. Thank you to everyone who gave their time.

Parents and caregivers, it is up to us to instill in our children the proper routines and behaviors necessary to help keep them safe at school. Communicate with your kids the importance of wearing face masks in group settings, physical distancing amongst their peers, and frequently washing or sanitizing their hands. Each day, conduct a temperature check and visual health assessment looking for symptoms such as shortness of breath or cough, flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty

breathing, fatigue, or extreme fussiness. Students should go to school ONLY if they are well. Also, remember to send a water bottle with them to stay hydrated, plus an extra face covering. As a whole community working together, and by keeping these daily practices in place, our children will be able to thrive in a healthy learning environment.

Education is truly a team effort between parents, teachers, school faculty and child care workers. To stay in contact, be sure to follow Naples Elementary School and Naples Middle High School on Facebook



for their latest news. The <u>DoDEA Europe South District</u> website also provides resources to keep families informed. Additionally, <u>School Age Care</u> offers services to help meet your before- and after-school child care needs, as well as programs for students in Virtual School this year. Visit their <u>website</u> and follow their <u>Facebook page</u> for more information. By keeping in touch, we will all be able to support our students to reach their highest potential.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to address learning beyond high school. Onboard NSA Naples, we have hundreds of our service members, civilian employees and family members taking classes this fall through our on-site colleges and other universities, remotely. I am proud of their dedication to pursing higher education and continued professional development. I wish all students, of every level, the best of luck and focus in your studies, and I look forward to celebrating your achievements.

VOLUNTEERS ONBOARD NSA NAPLES PREPARE SCHOOLS FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING

By NSA Naples Public Affairs | Aug. 10, 2020

GRICIGNANO, Italy – The Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples community came together to prepare Naples Elementary School and Naples Middle High School spaces for physical distancing during the upcoming school year, Aug. 10.

Sailors assigned to NSA Naples and its tenant commands, educators, and family members wore masks and worked together reorganizing classrooms in the two schools onboard Support Site in order to reduce the risk of coronavirus spread during in-person education.

"Today we have about 80 volunteers helping support the physical distancing measures that are in place for DoDEA's strategy to open safely for the new school year," said Samantha Love, NSA Naples student liaison officer.

Volunteers spent the day throughout the school, making every effort to ensure all areas were in accordance with the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) COVID-19 mitigation standards. By disposing of excess furniture, they worked to maximize classroom space and minimize potential physical contact between students and faculty. They also assembled desks and set up computers, all to prepare the schools for the first day of lessons.

"It's great to see so many people from different backgrounds and different commands coming together, working toward a common goal," said NSA Naples Commanding Officer Capt. James Stewart. "Everyone is so willing to step up and get the job done. I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of such a wonderful community."

Volunteers welcomed this project as an opportunity to support students going back to school safely to learn in a healthy, clean environment. However, students are not the only ones benefiting from this event. Many of the volunteers walked away with a new-found sense of pride for contributing to such an important and worthy cause.

"This is definitely a rewarding volunteer opportunity, giving back to the kids and them actually seeing us actively participating in their future," said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Alan Canela, assigned to U.S. Naval Hospital Naples. "I think on the whole, as a command, the fact that we're giving to the kids, it should be rewarding to everybody, not just myself."

Overall, the day was a success, both in readying the schools for in-person learning and in bringing the NSA Naples community together.

"In terms of trying to get children back to a place of normalcy in such a crazy time, this is what it's really all about, is seeing people get together and make sure that these things happen for them," said Love.

Stewart also remarked on the cooperative atmosphere of the day.

"Our children are the most important and precious part of our lives, and as parents and educators, we do whatever we can to protect them and keep them healthy," said Stewart. "Today, though, it's more than just moms, dads and teachers helping out to prepare the school. There are single Sailors and geo-bachelors, whose kids don't attend school here, all participating and taking an active role in ensuring the health and safety of our students."

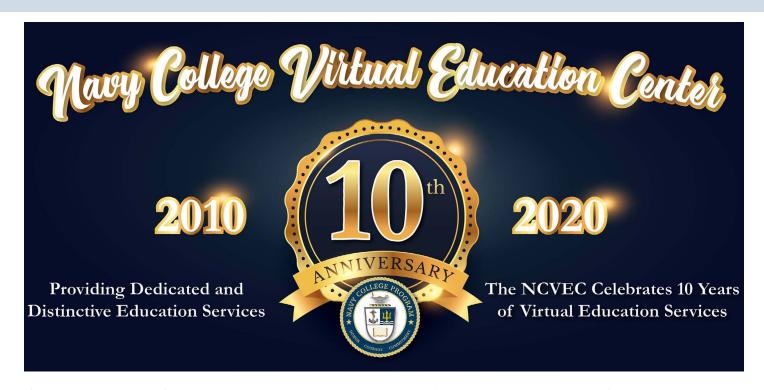
NSA Naples Photos of the Month



Senior Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Robert Delacruz, assigned to Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples housing department, takes part in a volunteer event at Naples Middle High School, Aug. 10, 2020. Volunteers were preparing school spaces for physical distancing measures in order to safely facilitate in-person learning during the upcoming school year. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Donavan K. Patubo)



Sailors onboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples take part in a volunteer event at Naples Elementary School, Aug. 10, 2020. Volunteers were preparing school spaces for physical distancing measures in order to safely facilitate in-person learning during the upcoming school year. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Donavan K. Patubo)



Sailors and Civilians Pursue Higher Education with Support from the Navy College Office

By Alicia McNeely, NSA Naples Public Affairs | Aug. 19, 2020

NAPLES, Italy – Back-to-school season is in full swing, and onboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples that means it is time for our personnel – not just the kids – to hit the books. This month, college students are headed back to the classroom, on base and online, to start the fall 2020 semester.

Pursuing higher education can be a challenging experience, yet NSA Naples community members do not shy away from working hard to accomplish their goals. According to the Navy College Office (NCO), during the last school year, 729 active-duty Sailors assigned to NSA Naples and its tenant commands enrolled in undergraduate college courses, and 72 enrolled in graduate-level courses. Civilian employees and family members took a total of 565 undergraduate and 47 graduate courses.

One such dedicated student is Chief Warrant Officer Elvis Gonzalez, the NSA Naples administration officer. Gonzalez said, "I believe a college education gives you an advantage over others, both in your military career and as an individual. I think having an education helps open some doors that otherwise would not be accessible."

Gonzalez chose to enroll in college while onboard for

a variety of reasons, including inspiring his children. "I wanted them to see their dad pursue – and achieve – his college education while serving as an active-duty service member in the world's greatest Navy," he said.

Thanks to the support of the NCO, service members and civilians are able to take U.S. accredited college classes while living abroad in Italy.

The NCO works with three on-base colleges to offer inperson, online and hybrid classes: <u>University of Maryland Global Campus</u> (UMCG), <u>University of Oklahoma Extended Campus</u> and <u>Central Texas College</u> (CTC). <u>Embry Riddle Aeronautical University</u> is also contracted in Europe. From associate to master's degrees, popular majors range from general studies, hospitality management and child development to business administration and international relations, amongst others.

Christal Poleviyuma, director of the NCO onboard NSA Naples, explained that students are not limited to these programs. She said, "The Navy College Office can help you with any college you would like to go to."

The NCO sets potential students up with a counselor who works with them one-on-one to find the perfect program to meet their educational, circumstantial and financial needs.

Gonzalez said, "When I went to the Navy College Office, they answered every question I had, helped me get started, and once I was attending, they encouraged me to stay focused and on track. They also explained the pros and cons of online and traditional, in-person schools, so I could make an informed decision."

In the end, Gonzalez, who is now only three classes away from earning a Bachelor of Science in business administration with Trident at American InterContinental University, decided to complete his entire degree remotely. "My Navy work schedule doesn't much support going the traditional school route, so I chose to pursue my education 100% online – which by the way, provides me a lot of flexibility to do my online research and write papers," he said.

Aside from researching and choosing the best program of study, the cost of a degree can be another daunting aspect for potential students.

In order to afford higher education, the NCO recommends service members use <u>tuition assistance</u> (TA), scholarships and other financial aid. Active-duty Sailors who have served for at least two years and have command approval are eligible for TA, which funds up to 100% of tuition fees for an educational institution.

Civilians and family members should consider federal student aid, as well as scholarships through My Career Advancement Account and the on-base colleges.

Poleviyuma noted, "Keep an eye on Facebook pages; many base organizations will put out scholarship opportunities regularly."

For those hoping to master la bella lingua while living in Naples, CTC offers free Italian classes for active-duty service members and Department of the Navy civilian employees. Family members are also invited to enroll in the <u>Gateway to Italian</u> language program for a fee.

Additionally, the NCO provides several other services to help NSA Naples community members working to realize their off-duty academic and professional ambitions, including standardized and certification testing, language proficiency assessments and exam proctoring.

For Sailors and civilians interested in enrolling in classes through the NCO this fall, the second session of courses begins in October, and TA must be command approved 14 days prior to the first day of class.

For more information, stop by the NCO on weekdays to connect with a counselor. The NCO is located at Capodichino in Admin. II 442A, room 36.1, on the ground floor. On Thursdays, the NCO is also open in Fleet and Family at Support Site. Follow NSA Naples and NSA Sigonella Navy College Office on Facebook, or call DSN 626-6678 or Comm. 081-568-6678.*

COMMUNITY LIFE AND LEARNING AT THE LIBRARIES ONBOARD NSA NAPLES

By Alicia McNeely, NSA Naples Public Affairs | Aug. 19, 2020

NAPLES, Italy – Onboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples, the libraries are at the heart of both community life and education.

Thanks to the expansive collections in the two Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) libraries, service members, civilian employees and their families assigned to NSA Naples and its tenant commands have access to a wide variety of free reading, leisure and learning materials at Support Site and Capodichino.

The resources and facilities of the libraries aim to appeal to patrons of every age and reading level. At Support Site, the main library of the two, the children's room features a collection with picture books, novels and juvenile nonfiction books.

"Outside the children's room, a while back, we created a teen and young adult area, which we have just actually renovated a little bit," said Ciro Giordano, supervisory librarian of the MWR Libraries onboard NSA Naples. "We got some new shelving, you know, to make it more attractive for the young adults, for the teens. There, we have books that are geared to that age group."

In addition to the youth collection, the libraries between both sites comprise books covering nearly every genre: from historical non-fiction texts and European travel guides to the latest bestsellers and contemporary fiction pieces by American and foreign authors, as well as bilingual paperbacks and easy readers to learn Italian. The Support Site library boasts around 20,000 volumes, and the Capodichino location has between 5,000 to 6,000.

For Giordano, who has worked in the libraries for over 30 years, his favorite volumes in the collection are the coffee table art books illustrating sculptures and paintings from the Vatican and Michelangelo. He said, "Those are really cool books to have. I think they are precious because a lot of times these books are out of print."

In keeping with more modern trends, around a year ago, the libraries added vinyl records to their shelves. These are found amongst the other audio and visual content, including CDs, DVDs and audiobooks.

Although closed during the COVID-19 lockdown, since reopening at the end of May – with limited occupancy and physical distancing measures in place – the libraries are just as busy as ever. In July, the libraries reached a circulation of about 5,000 items for the month, which is equal to pre-pandemic statistics.

While books may be the centerpiece of the libraries, the welcoming atmosphere and dynamic programming are what truly make these establishments shine.

"Why don't we make libraries more of an experience for the patron?" said Giordano. "Turn it into a 'piazza' – a community place – a place where people can come into libraries not just for books or to use the free internet, but also a place where you can meet people, where you can talk to people, where you can take your kids to story time."

Thanks to a bustling events calendar and a recent grant for new furniture, Giordano has achieved this goal of bringing people into the libraries and together as a community.

The grant, called "More Space for People," provided funds for workspace tables and chairs and comfortable sofas for lounge areas in the Support Site library. Patrons

Calling all book lovers!

Visit the MWR libraries onboard NSA

Naples at Capodichino & Support Site

are invited to relax, read, socialize or use their portable devices in these redesigned spaces. Giordano explained this has helped to "make an environment that people would like to go to and come back."

In regard to programming, the 2020 socially-distanced summer reading challenge was a success with over 200 children and a number of adults partaking. Every week, participants recorded which books they read and for how many minutes to win a prize. They could also pick up a grab bag from the library with an activity to complete at home, such as a coloring page or clay craft.

This month, the libraries are hosting the "Don't Judge a Book by its Cover" contest in which youth and adult readers can check out a surprise book wrapped in a brown bag. Patrons are only given a little teaser about the story before taking it home. If a reader enjoys the book, he or she fills out a comment card to be entered into a raffle for a prize.

As the school year approaches, the Support Site library would normally organize a weekly themed story time for 2 to 5 year olds with games, crafts and singing. Although, this is not on the fall schedule due to concerns over coronavirus spread, in the past it has been a popular fun and educational event for preschoolers and parents.

The libraries will still be celebrating other autumnal traditions this year, including the U.S. observance of "Library Card Sign-up Month" in September and "National Hispanic Heritage Month" starting in mid-September. For NSA Naples community members who have never visited the libraries, this will be the perfect time to stop in, open up an account, choose a book and start reading!

For opening hours and more information, visit the Support Site library website or the Capo Connections library page online, or follow MWR on Facebook. For access to more resources, the Navy MWR Digital Library is also available.

Italian Phrase of the Month fare due più due

Literal translation: to make two plus two

English equivalent: to put two and two together

Teresa's Italian Treasures: Education in Italy

By Teresa Merola, NSA Naples Public Affairs | Aug. 19, 2020

Education in Italy is obligatory from six to 16 years old. It is divided into five stages: "scuola dell'infanzia" from ages three to six, "scuola elementare" from six to 11, "scuola media" from 11 to 14, "scuola superiore" from 14 to 19, and "università." Families are able to choose between free, public education and private schools with tuition fees. Many of the private schools are "paritarie," which means that they must comply with Italian regulations and programs. Some private schools and Catholic secondary schools require students to wear uniforms, but public school students do not have to abide by a dress code.

Preschool and kindergarten are not compulsory, but most Italian families choose to send their children to "asilo." The children play, start socializing and learn to recognize letters and numbers.

In elementary school, the curriculum includes Italian, English, geography, history, math, science, technology, music, art, physical education and religion lessons. Usually, students have three main teachers across several classes. Most children go home for lunch because Italian schools often do not have cafeterias.

In middle school, students must take and pass the "esame di terza media" exam to move up to high school.

There are several types of high schools:

Education from a "liceo" ("lyceum") is mostly theoretical and pertains to a specific field: the humanities, science or art. Many curriculums have a similar structure and include courses such as Italian literature, history and math. Some subjects are specific to a particular school, for example one may study ancient Greek and Latin in a "liceo classico," physics and Latin in a "liceo scientifico," scenography in a "liceo artistico," or foreign languages in a "liceo linguistico."

An "istituto tecnico" offers a theoretical education along with a specialization in a particular field of study, such as economics, the humanities, administration, law, technology or tourism.

An "istituto professionale" is a vocational school that prepares students for specific trades, crafts or careers. Some schools offer a diploma after three years instead of five.

In Italian schools, students who fail too many subjects receive a "bocciatura" grade and are required to repeat the entire year, not just the failed courses. All five-year high schools grant access to the "esame di maturità" or "esame di stato" final exams. These exams are held every year between June and July and are necessary for students who wish to apply to a university.

The school year, which is divided into two terms, or "quadrimestri," usually starts around the second week of September and finishes near the second week of June. Schools are closed on national holidays, and there are longer breaks during Christmas and Easter.

In the past, the school day began around 8 or 8:30 a.m. and lasted for five hours, from Monday to Saturday. However, over the past few years, more and more schools are introducing the "settimana corta," literally short week. This means students attend classes from Monday to Friday for more than five hours a day, and they have Saturday free.

Many schools offer after-school activities, but these vary from school to school. Elementary schools usually offer afternoon lessons to help children with their homework, and secondary schools might offer music lessons, art lessons and or other extracurricular activities.

In regard to higher education, a university can cost anywhere from 1,000 to 2,000 euro per year, depending on the specific institution. Prestigious, usually private, universities can have tuition fees from 6,000 to 20,000 euro per year. 🕸

CELEBRATING ITALIAN PROSECCO

By Alicia McNeely, NSA Naples Public Affairs | Aug. 13, 2020

One of the perks of living in Italy is tasting and learning about the incredible wine produced all around the country. Wine and viticulture are diverse and intricate aspects of Italian culture. Vineyards are scattered across the entire land, restaurants offer locally made "vino della casa," and special events are often toasted with a glass of fizzy prosecco.

Mariella Fratellini, sommelier, head chef and owner of La Taverna dei Sapori, a quaint restaurant in Monte Procida often frequented by local military families, said, "Prosecco is the name that we give to the wine produced with the glera grape that is very famous in Veneto and also in Friuli Venezia Giulia – a region close to Veneto where there is a town called Prosecco."

Prosecco is most popular as a "spumante," sparkling wine. Fratellini noted, however, that since any wine produced with at least 85% glera grapes qualifies as a prosecco, there are still and semi-sparkling varieties, as well.

In regard to the well-known bubbly version, prosecco production begins with the same process as other wines: juice is pressed from harvested grapes and fermented with yeast. This creates a still wine that is then fermented a second time in pressurized steel tanks with the addition

of sugar and more yeast. "The method used to make this is called 'Metodo Charmat' or 'Martinotti.' So, this refermentation is from few days until 80 days," Fratellini explained. The second fermentation creates the carbon dioxide bubbles that make a sparkling wine sparkle.

Wine is produced to be enjoyed, and prosecco is best while still young. Fratellini described prosecco as simple, yet fruity. She said, "In prosecco, we often have colors that go from pale yellow to a little green. In the green ones, the flavors are mostly vegetal flavors, fresh fruit – like peach or lemon – or flower, like white summer flowers."

For those looking to try a vibrant spumante, Fratellini recommended choosing a bottle from production zones with the Denominazione di Origine Controllata e Garantita (DOCG) and Denominazione di Origine Controllata (DOC) qualifications, which are the first and second highest classifications in Italian winemaking, respectively. She especially suggested Colli Asolani Prosecco DOC and Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco DOCG, extra dry or brut. Of the latter, she said, "There is a great cru of this prosecco called 'Superiore di Cartizze." Salute!

CARNEY PARK GOLF COURSE OPENS NEW PRACTICE FACILITY

By Mass Communication Specialist Chief Justin Stumberg | July 29, 2020

POZZUOLI, Italy – Carney Park golf course unveiled a new practice facility driving range during a ribbon cutting ceremony, July 29.

The remodeled practice facility features new range mats, a covered awning and an automatic ball dispenser.

Capt. Todd Abrahamson, then-Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples commanding officer, presided over the ribbon-cutting ceremony and had the honor of hitting the first range ball. "I think this takes us to the next level of what Naples is all about. We're setting a precedence of professionalism and having fun," he said.

Many people, both active-duty personnel and civilians, contributed to the finished practice facility, including Seabees from the NSA Naples public works department.

The Seabees helped coordinate the concrete forms for the foundation of the tee line and installed a rebar cage to help reinforce the structure for added support. "I'm really proud of the public works team," Abrahamson said. "The Seabees did the preponderance of the work, and they did a lot to help get this project in on time."

Abrahamson said during his tenure as NSA Naples commanding officer he has continuously been impressed by the range of expertise the Seabees bring to the table. "I'm proud to know the true power of the Seabees and what they can do," said Abrahamson. "You just can't have infrastructure without the Seabees."

During his opening remarks, Abrahamson thanked the Seabees for their hard work and praised members of the

Carney Park Golf Association (CPGA) for supporting the golf course and guiding the Naples community in a new direction. "The CPGA is doing a marvelous job advancing the CPGA into the 21st century," he said. "It means a lot to me that they are not only leaving a legacy but also leaving a future."

CPGA president Kevin MacKenzie said he is excited for the driving range's positive impact on the course itself and the golfers who enjoy playing there. He expressed confidence that the new amenities will entice people to come out and enjoy the overall golf experience at Carney Park. "When the word gets out that you have a really decent driving range to come out to, it helps expose people to the golf course," MacKenzie said. "A lot of people don't know what this golf course has to offer. Given the conditions and the layout, I think that this will be a gateway to getting people integrated and involved in the golf community here."

MacKenzie, an avid golfer who has enjoyed the opportunity to play all over Europe, said the Carney Park driving range is by far one of the nicest he has ever seen. "I know that this range will be used and appreciated," he



Then-Capt. Todd Abrahamson, commanding officer, Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples, fills the inaugural basket of range balls from a brand new automated range ball dispenser at the Carney Park Golf Course (CPGC) practice facility grand opening July 29, 2020. Improvements to the CPGC practice facility began in March 2019 and involved many NSA Naples departments including NSA Naples public works department, Carney Park maintenance staff, and CPGC maintenance staff. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Chief Justin Stumberg)

Naples Public Health Evaluation – Public Outreach Message

How familiar are you with the requirement for landlords to connect off-base housing to a municipal water supply?

The U.S. Navy is committed to ensuring our families are safe while serving at home or overseas. This message aligns with the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples commitment to promote awareness of important health information.

A comprehensive public health evaluation completed for NSA Naples in 2011 identified potential public health risks at some off-base housing locations, and implemented a number of "Enduring Processes" to reduce or eliminate potential public health risks.

One of the most important Enduring Processes requires landlords to ensure that a home's plumbing system is only connected to the municipal water supply. No water wells may be connected to a home's plumbing system in any manner. This requirement is in addition to the requirement for landlords to provide containerized (bottled) water from a Navy-approved vendor.

This requirement is included in lease agreements for all off-base housing arranged through the NSA Naples Housing Office. You may not negotiate or agree to have this requirement removed from your lease agreement.

Permitted water wells may only be used for purposes such as irrigation, and any connection to the home's plumbing system is prohibited. Irrigation water is not fit for human consumption.

For additional Naples Public Health Evaluation information, including reports, fact sheets, FAQs and points of contact, visit: www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnreurafcent/installations/nsa_naples/about/health_awareness.html.

If you have personal environmental health questions, contact the Preventive Medicine team at DSN 314-626-5486 or Comm. 081-568-5486.

For questions about protective measures implemented for off-base housing in the local community, contact the NSA Naples Housing Office at DSN 314-629-4410 or Comm. 081-811-4410. **

NSA Naples Calendar Highlights

Date	Event	Host
August 21	<u>Ice Cream Friday</u>	USO
August 25	Single Sailor Fiesta Dinner	USO
August 26	Spouse Coffee for Newcomers	USO
September 2	Yoga in the Park (adults only)	USO
September 9	Traveling Troop Breakfast (Grazzanise Air Base)	USO
September 11	Cup of Joe	USO

Every Thursday: USO Traveling Troop Lunch - service members are invited to swing by the Capodichino Air Terminal Thursdays at 11 a.m. to grab a to-go lunch.

* Remember to #BYOM - bring your own mask - to all events onboard NSA Naples! *

All calendar highlights listed above are free, in-person activities for NSA Naples personnel or families. For more information, and to learn about other upcoming and virtual events, please contact the following organizations:

For USO services and programs, call DSN 626-5713 or 629-4903, or email <u>usonaples@uso.org</u>. Follow the USO on <u>Facebook</u> at <u>www.facebook.com/usonaples</u>.

For Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) services and programs, visit <u>www.navymwrnaples.com</u>, or call DSN 629-4459 or Comm. 081-811-4459.

Follow MWR on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ITTNAPLES.

For Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) services and programs, call DSN 629-6372 or Comm. 081-811-6372, or email ffscnsanaplesitaly@eu.navy.mil.

Follow FFSC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NaplesFFSC.

For weekly updates on NSA Naples events and important dates, be sure to check out PAO Notes. Please subscribe by sending an email to PAO_naples@eu.navy.mil.

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