



Info X



VICENZA
Military Community

03 October 2012 , 1000 – 1130 hours, THE ARENA, Caserma Ederle



Info X

Agenda

- ❖ Introduction/Master of Ceremony – Public Affairs Office
- ❖ Angel Tree Kick Off
- ❖ Hot Topic(s)
- ❖ Recognitions
- ❖ Community Updates
- ❖ Open Forum
- ❖ POC: Marilee Mastaler, DFMWR, DSN 634-6535,
email: marilee.b.mastaler.naf@mail.mil
- ❖ Next Info X 05 December 2012, 1000 – 1130 hours,
The Arena, Caserma Ederle



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Angel Tree Kick Off

Hanna Leong

ACS, Angel Tree Coordinator



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Angel Tags will be available for pick up on the trees in the PX and ACS lobby.

Please drop off gifts at the PX Customer Service area, unwrapped with the Angel Tag in the bag.

**** Wednesday 7th NOV until Friday 14th of DEC****

First Sergeants will pick up the gifts at ACS and distribute to families 18-19 December 2012

POC: hanna.y.leong.civ@mail.mil or 634-6269 (ACS, 2nd Floor – Room 102)



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Join us for a reception at the ACS lobby 1100 to 1300 directly after Info X to pick up your angel and enjoy some light refreshments.



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Hot Topics

Holiday Bazaar and Tree Lighting

Utilities and Your Wallet

Going Postal

Anti-Bullying Update

Winter Driving Safety

Medical and Dental Care for Dependents Under 18



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Holiday Bazaar and Tree Lighting

**Ms. Hanoria Baker
Acting, DFMWR**



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Friday, 30 November 2012

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 3:30-4:45 | Children Craft at the Arena |
| 4:00-8:00 | Bazaar and Children's Amusement Rides |
| 5:00-7:00 | Horse Drawn Carriage Rides |
| 4:00-5:00 | Holiday Music |
| 5:00-5:15 | Santa Arriving on a fire truck |
| 5:15-5:20 | Tree Lighting |
| 5:30-7:00 | Reindeer Games |
| 8:00 | Bazaar and Rides close |

Saturday, 01 December 2012

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10:00-6:00 | Bazaar and Children's Amusement Rides |
|------------|---------------------------------------|



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Reindeer Games





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- Santa is looking for a new team of reindeer and he needs the best!
- Teams of 4 complete a short loop that includes holiday-themed challenges, all while towing the “sleigh,” a red wagon.
- Categories
 - Youth (14 teams)
 - Elementary (adult accompanied)
 - Middle and High School
 - Adults & Families (35 teams)
 - Men’s, Women’s, Mixed, and Families
- Awards
 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Awards for each category
 - Best Dressed Reindeer
 - Best Sleigh Décor
 - T-Shirt for finishers and volunteers
- \$80 entry fee per team (register through ODR Adults/Families, CYSS Youth beginning 13 November)



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- Location
 - Ederle Track and Field, Softball Field, Turf Field and adjoining roads
- Date
 - 30 Nov 2012, in conjunction with Post Tree Lighting
- Time
 - 1800 - 2030



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**Utilities and Your Wallet
Or
“How not to get surprised
by a 5000 Euro gas bill . . .”**

**COL Buckingham
Garrison Commander**



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Consumption

Americans use
25% more
home energy (electric and heat)
than their Italian neighbors



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Gas and Electric Facts

- Americans are not charged more for electricity.
- There are, however, 3 different levels of electric charge for all consumers, Italian and American, depending on what wattage electric line you have running to your house.
 - 3.0kW – Normal Italian Home – pays the cheapest rate
 - 4.5kW – Some Americans opt for this wattage – and you pay a higher rate
 - 6.0 kW – Many Americans opt for the highest wattage, and pay the highest rate.
- Another Variable –you can choose a fixed annual usage rate, or a rate that varies by time of usage and seasonal prices.
 - If you choose a fixed annual rate, you will pay the same rate all year, any time of day.
 - If you choose the variable rate, you will be charged less or more depending on time of day, and the base rate will change every 3 months depending on how much energy costs.
- The Variable Rate times each day are:
 - Cheapest – Evenings and Weekends
 - Most Expensive – Day Time on Weekdays



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The UTEP Advantage

- UTEP is a service provided by the garrison. This service costs you money, but almost certainly saves you even more money.
- Bottomline – if you join UTEP, then you do not have to pay the 38-48% variable Government Tax on the natural gas or oil you burn to heat your home.
- The annual fee of \$232 (billed quarterly) pays for garrison personnel to administer the program.
- Will you benefit from UTEP?
 - If your annual gas bill after tax is: \$580.00, you will break even.
 - If your annual gas bill after tax is: Under \$580.00 (really?) then you will lose money.
 - If your annual gas bill after tax is: \$3000, then you will save \$968 a year.
 - If your annual gas bill after tax is: 3000 Euro, then you will save \$1368 per year.



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“How not to get surprised by a 5000 Euro gas bill . . .”

- Italian Gas companies do not read meters and bill monthly like in the US.
- It is not unusual for meters to be read once a year – and sometimes it can be longer.
- During the time between meter readings, the gas company will bill you an estimate. These estimates can be WAY off, and you could end up having a giant bill when the meter is finally read and you receive an actual bill.
- Keeping ahead is easy – 2 simple steps:

1. Don't spend your monthly utilities allowance on shoes or beer – save it for your utilities. (Tip: Set up a separate savings account for Utilities and have a great Christmas)

2. Read your gas meter every month, go to UTEP and give them the reading, and they will charge you for your actual usage.

- Note: The Electric company does bill regularly – every other month.



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Going Postal

Mr. Corey Kerzmann
Operations Supervisor



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Holiday Season Additional Opening Hours

Saturday, 24 November 2012, 1000-1400hrs

Saturday, 01 December 2012, 1000-1400hrs

Saturday, 08 December 2012, 1000-1400hrs

Saturday, 15 December 2012, 1000-1400hrs

Saturday, 22 December 2012, 1000-1400hrs

(package pick-up only on 22 December)

Tuesday, 27 Nov., 4, 11, and 18 Dec. normal hours: 1000 - 1730



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Holiday Mailing Deadlines To and From Stateside locations

SAM PARCELS	Monday, 26 November 2012
PAL PARCELS	Monday, 03 December 2012
PRIORITY PARCELS	Monday, 10 December 2012
FIRST CLASS LETTERS	Monday, 10 December 2012

**PLEASE NOTE EXPRESS SERVICE IS NOT OFFERED IN VICENZA
DUE TO USPS LOCATION RESTRICTIONS**



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Best times to mail out packages

Monday – Friday	1400-1600
Designated Holiday Saturdays	1000-1400

Postal Service Center Appointments

Appointments for mailing out packages before customer service hours can be made by calling DSN 634-7430 **Monday – Friday 1000-1730**

***** Appointments are for 5 or more parcels only*****



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Monday 24 December, Christmas Eve

The Postal Service Center will be operating normal hours from 1000 to 1730hrs. However, services will be limited to package pick up only.



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Anti- Bullying Update

**Ms. Carol Kabonick
Co-Chair Anti-Bullying
Task Force**



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- The Bullying Prevention Task Force is a community-wide initiative to eradicate bullying behavior in our community.
- Initiatives include:
 1. Signed Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Signed by Garrison and schools April 2012
 2. Online reporting form/various ways of reporting
 - Community-wide form to report bullying to a central agency
 - Bullying will be tracked across the community
 3. Student/parent education
 - In-class informational sessions for students
 - Parent and community sessions both at school and at ACS
 - 14 November in room 263 of the Elementary School at 8:30-9:30 a.m.
 4. Contract against bullying signed by students
- This task force's goal is to educate and reduce bullying in the Vicenza Community.



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Winter Driving Safety

Mr. Michael Tougaw
Interim Safety Manager



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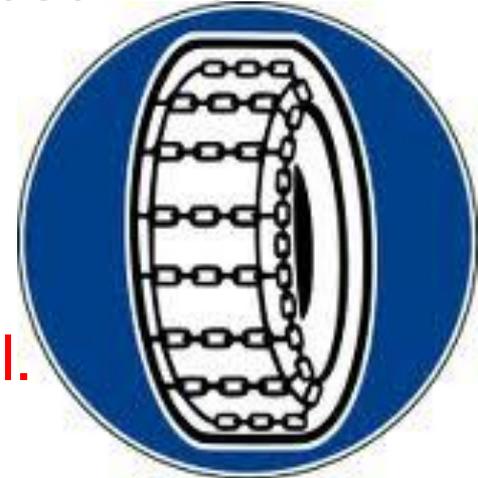
- Winter Safety Kit: ice scraper, snow chains, blanket, gloves, water, booster cables, and snacks, etc.
- Your Car and the Cold: tires, anti-freeze, battery, and wiper fluid
- Tire Chains and Maintenance





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- Italian Law as of 2012 indicates that the owner of the road, can require that vehicles are equipped with snow tires/all season tires or have snow chains in the car.
- The agency or road owner will inform drivers about this requirement by posting the sign below.
- This sign means you must have snow chains in your vehicle or 4 winter/snow/all season tires mounted on your vehicle 15 Nov to 01 April.
- 4 Wheel Drive vehicles are not exempt from this policy.





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- In Europe only the tires with the following symbols are certified:

**M&S,
MS,
M-S,
M+S.**

- The **SNOWFLAKE** is only for the American market.





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Additional Information

- You are subject to being fined or could be liable for accidents if you do not have the proper tires or equipment.
- The official web site for more information is “Polizia di Stato” <http://www.poliziadistato.it>. The section “Viabilita’ Italia” lists roads where chains or winter tires are mandatory and more specific dates.
- If traveling to Austria and Germany 15 Nov. to 01 April ensure that your vehicle has winter/allseason tires and be prepared to use snow chains if weather conditions require them.



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- Family and MWR offers winter car care brochures and classes, individual walk in tire chain mounting classes, and the opportunity to purchase snow chains at the Auto Skills Center.



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Medical and Dental Care for Dependents Under 18

COL Gall

Health Center Commander



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- (1) A minor is any person less than 18 years of age.
- (2) Policy: General rule is minors between the ages of 15 and 18 may consent to their own medical care if the health care provider judges the minor to be sufficiently mature to understand the problem.
- (3) Minors can not consent to any care that requires written informed consent.
- (4) Parental consent is required before non-emergency medical care for minors under 15 years of age.
- (5) Invasive procedures will ALWAYS require parental presence during care.



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RECOGNITIONS



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Antiterrorism Awareness Month Essay Contest Winners

1st Place - Kate Buckingham

2nd Place - Bundy Prough

3rd Place - Natalie Baratashvili



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Adult Volunteer of the Month

Katherine Kinsey

Katherine Kinsey performs a variety of tasks for the EFMP such as creating Excel spreadsheets, rewriting memorandum, creating advertisements and flyers and maintaining data. Katherine also developed and implemented a monthly Art Program for Exceptional family members. Families find Katherine's class to be inspirational. They enjoy her ingenuity, her sharing of art history and her compassion. Katherine shares her smiles and positive spirit on a regular basis. She is an absolute joy to work alongside. EFMP has gained so much due to her dedication.



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Youth Volunteer of the Month

Alex Frank

Alexandra Frank was a key volunteer for this summer's pilot Teenvenuti program and provided a high level of guidance and leadership to the newcomer youth who participated. She shared her insights on the sports and school programs in Vicenza and generally provided a positive overview of life as a teen in Vicenza. Alex has also been a youth volunteer for the EFMP field day and other activities in the community. She is a highly motivated, friendly and positive contributor to our community!



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Community News – Service Providers

- ❖ DES
- ❖ DFMWR
- ❖ DPW
- ❖ DHR
- ❖ DOL
- ❖ DPTMS
- ❖ AAFES
- ❖ DoDEA
- ❖ Religious Support Office
- ❖ Installation Safety Office
- ❖ EEO
- ❖ 509th SIG BN
- ❖ HRO
- ❖ AFN
- ❖ Health Center
- ❖ Dental Clinic
- ❖ Italy Finance Office
- ❖ Installation Legal Office
- ❖ American Red Cross
- ❖ Health Promotion
- ❖ DECA
- ❖ USO
- ❖ PAO
- ❖ IG



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Equal Opportunity National Native American Heritage Month

Theme: “Serving our People, Serving our Nation, Native visions for Future Generations”

- Date/Time: 5 – 8 November 2012 from 1000- 1700 hrs
- Location: Post Exchange
- Artifacts Display

- Date/Time: 15 November 2012 @ 1330 hrs
- Location: Soldier’s Theatre
- Guest Speaker: Mrs. Yolanda Begay



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Open Forum



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InfoX Schedule

Wednesday, 05 December 2012

Wednesday, 09 January 2013

Wednesday, 06 February 2013