

Outlook

February 7, 2013
Vol. 46, issue 5

Vicenza & Darby Military Community
www.usag.vicenza.army.mil



**COUGARS WIN AGAIN
WRESTLING,
BASKETBALL**

Speak Out

What's the best gift to give for Valentine's Day?



Keoshia Rutledge

Family member

"The best gift is a bear and a hug."



Pfc. Kameron Chaney

1st-503rd Infantry Regiment

"For Valentine's Day the best gifts are a card and flowers."



Kianna Grant

Family member

"A big teddy bear, flowers and chocolates."

By Laura Kreider

Contents

VMC community news	3-11
Soldier become naturalized, US and Benin partner, learn to quit smoking, Snap up bargains, puma town	
DMC community news	12-13
ISF kids try careers	
Events and happenings	14-15
Out & About highlights local Carnevale celebrations, sagra, fests and more	
FMWR activities	16-17
ODR trips you'll want to take, plus other MWR events happening on base	
Community Briefs	18-19
Latest announcements for the VMC and DMC	
Religious Activities	20
Prayer Breakfast, chedule of Chapel events, faith groups	
Sports & Fitness	21
VHS Basketball and Wrestling wins	

Front Photo

Jessica Golman and her daughter Sophi, age 3, make a heart wreath at the Arts & Crafts Valentine's Day class Feb. 5. Photo by Grant Sattler, USAG Vicenza PAO

At your service:

Welcoming ACS's newest addition

By Laura Kreider

Meeet Daphne Becker, USAG Vicenza's new Employment Readiness manager at ACS. Becker has been in Vicenza since September, having arrived from Taegu, South Korea, where she served as an ACAP manager. Working out of Davis Hall, Building 108, she concentrates on assisting civilians and spouses in preparing for and searching for and finding employment.

"It's similar in a way in that I'm still helping people, but now I'm focused on civilians and spouses," Becker said.

The primary purpose of the Employment Readiness Program is to assist eligible family members who are relocating as a result of a military or civilian sponsor's PCS.

Soldiers may still stop in for help on building their resumes and constructing job search strategies, she said. She also works with clients on educational requirements to consider and pursue, and scholarships to take advantage of even while they search for employment.

Becker said that when working with spouses and civilians, the recurring question is: where are the jobs?

Considering the limitations for off-post employment stipulated under the SOFA agreement, and the current and expected hiring freeze and economic uncertainty, Becker works with community members to craft future goals and the means to achieve them.

"That way they won't feel like everything is lost. Before a job even becomes available, get your resume ready. Get ready," Becker said.

She is planning an Open House for March 8 to address the present federal hiring freeze, but don't wait till then to work on your present and future employment plans.

Call Daphne Becker at 634-6884 or 0444-71-6884.



The Outlook

February 7, 2013, Vol. 46, Issue 5

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Naturalization for Soldiers, families



Story and photos by David Ruderman
USAG Vicenza PAO

The American Dream took a step up to a higher plane last month for Spc. Fredy Doniz of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team. After years of waiting to enlist and years of serving his country in uniform, the Southern California Soldier became a United States citizen.

Born in Mexico but raised since childhood in the United States, Doniz had prepared himself for the day. While his wife Francine, their 4-month-old son Fredy and a small group of well-wishers waited in a hallway of the Caserma Ederle Inprocessing Center Jan. 18, Doniz met behind closed doors with overseas adjudications officer Kenneth Ellis of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, who interviewed him and administered a qualification test, the last step in a process that had taken years.

"That's part of the naturalization process," said Curda, referring to the test which naturalizing citizens must take. "After one of our applicants files their form for naturalization, there's a series of questions. They have to have the history and civics question test as well as an English language test. And

that's standard for everyone who's naturalizing."

Doniz passed, the doors opened, and Susan Curda, director of USCIS's Rome Field Office, administered an oath that officially conferred American citizenship on the Sky Soldier. Curda and two staffers were on-hand to address a Multicultural Spouses Forum potluck event being held later in the day at Davis Hall by the USAG Vicenza Readiness Relocation Program. Having been alerted that Doniz would have returned from deployment in Afghanistan and was ready to take the final test, the USCIS team gladly agreed to be on hand to administer it and complete the naturalization process.

Curda, whose office is part of the Department of Homeland Security and is located in the U.S. Embassy in

Rome, has been with the USCIS and its predecessor agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, for more than three decades. She said she has congratulated applicants and administered the oath many times, and always finds the ceremony emotionally moving.

American Soldiers go through the same requirements that others seeking U.S. citizenship around the world do, but the timing is different and they are entitled to certain exemptions to ease the process, Curda said. "For example, we can naturalize our military members and their spouses overseas, which is not open for other U.S. citizens overseas. Additionally, there are residency requirements that have been exempted for our military," she said.

With 16 countries in Europe and

Vicenza Military Community

USCIS officers visit Vicenza to naturalize Sky Soldier

Africa under her jurisdiction, including several military installations, her office naturalizes somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 military members and their spouses annually, she said.

"Children will become citizens if their parents naturalize while they (the children) are under the age of 18, so they actually don't have to go through the process themselves," said Curda.

USCIS has been assisting Soldiers individually and in small groups for the past several years, a major decline in numbers compared with a much busier period in 2004-2005, when officers would naturalize Soldiers serving in Iraq in groups of 200 or 300 at a time. That is in part because USCIS has worked with the service branches to identify and provide naturalization services to military members at state-side intake centers, said Curda.

"It's just easier to get them stateside and to get it all done before they even come overseas," she said. After a short but moving congratulatory celebration, the Donizes left to pursue the American Dream, and

Curda and her staff went on to the Army Community Service conference room in Davis Hall, where they conducted an information presentation and open question and answer forum on naturalization and citizenship for attendees of the annual Multicultural Spouses Forum potluck.

"We had about 20 people who came to listen to U.S. immigration and understand the naturalization process," said Relocation Readiness Program manager, Monica Cobbeldick. "I think the ones who did show up are the ones who can most benefit from it. We had people who were very serious in wanting to talk to one of the officers."

Curda said the Q&A session covered the usual ground.

"The problem is that the immigration law itself is so complicated that it's hard, even when people have routine types of issues, it's hard for them to navigate the system. The questions that we had today were pretty typical questions and I'm happy that I think we were able to clarify things for people, de-mystify the process a little bit," said Curda.

"Sometimes folks just don't apply. We still have to wait for them to apply. We can't say, 'You must apply,'" she said. "It depends on when they apply and then we'll try to get to them as quickly as possible. Our biggest challenge is catching them at their post before they move on."

"I think it's really important that we get these folks down here every year," said Cobbeldick. "Overall I am very pleased. The audience they captured was an audience that absolutely needed them."

"I think it's a question of understanding the process itself, because one of the questions that resonates in the questioning is: Where do I even start? Am I even qualified? It's the basics," she said.

Cobbeldick's office is one place to begin for those who have questions about naturalization and citizenship, and has the relevant study materials on hand for those who preparing for the exam, she said.

"There is a need for a liaison because of the foreign born spouses," said Maria Marcantonio, a military passport agent with the U.S. Embassy Liaison Office, who helps community members prepare and file the paperwork for passports, naturalization and permanent residence at the Caserma Ederle Inprocessing Center. In 2012 her office processed 44 permanent residency requests and facilitated the naturalization of 16 Soldiers, she said.

"We're thankful for USCIS folks making it easier, saving time and money for folks down here," said Marcantonio.

And what about the effects of possible changes in immigration law that seem to be on the political agenda back home in the United States?

"I don't know, that's hard to say," said Curda. "We just enforce what Congress provides to us, so we'll stay tuned and see what happens."



Francine (from left), Fredy Jr. and Spc. Fredy Doniz, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, pose for a photo after Doniz was sworn in as an American citizen at the Caserma Ederle Inprocessing Center Jan. 18.



U.S., Benin partner against infectious disease

By Master Sgt. Montigo White
U.S. Army Africa Public Affairs

COTONOU, Benin – United States Army Africa facilitated a Medical Readiness Training Exercise with Soldiers from the Army Reserve Medical Command and Army Medical Command in Cotonou, Benin, Jan. 14-25.

U.S. and Benin conducted the MEDRETE for military medical professionals to build and strengthen public health capacity by enhancing the ability to conduct surveillance for, prevent and respond to infectious diseases, including outbreaks, bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.

“This MEDRETE was an excellent way for us to build partner capacity with the Benin military and government,” said Col. Mark Burnett, general pediatric, pediatric infectious disease physician, and tropical medicine physician from Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu.

In a MEDRETE, a small team of military medical professionals deploy for two weeks or less to underdeveloped areas to gain valuable real-world training while providing medical services to citizens in need of treatment. U.S. medical personnel benefit by providing medical care in a challenging and often unique environment. At the same time local medical professionals develop closer relationships with U.S. medical personnel and the local population receive quality medical care.

Burnett, a native of Madison, Wis., who has been in the Army for 20 years, said it was nice to work with Benin medical military staff and cadet physicians to share best practices to enhance the capabilities of both militaries.

During the first week, U.S. Army physicians conducted patient care encounters with their Benin military counterpart to assist in their diagnosis and treatment.

“It was good to work in my specific specialty area with my counterpart from the Benin military,” Burnett said.

“Their perspective on treating malaria, HIV and preventive medicine was very fruitful with their knowledge in dealing with infectious cases.”

The U.S. Army physicians learned a lot from the training as well, he said.

“I was very impressed with their pediatric program and it can be used as a role model for others,” Burnett said.

His counterpart for the exercise was Benin Col. Alain Azondekon, Benin military hospital officer in charge. Azondekon has received previous medical training in San Diego, Calif.

“We worked together as a team of doctors who share the same common goal of preventing and treating infectious diseases,” said Azondekon. “The partnership we built extends professionally and personally as we built strong relationships that will last a lifetime.”

U.S. and Benin doctors provided classes during the second week to share ideas and processes for treatment and prevention of infectious diseases. Burnett added that he found the Benin physicians’ expertise in infectious diseases very valuable and appreciated their clear passion for taking care of families and the Benin Armed Forces.

MEDRETEs are part of USARAF’s regular, ongoing activities to build partner capacity for African countries. USARAF’s increased cooperation with its partners enhances mutual understanding and increases stability and security across the continent.

“This has been a unique opportunity for Beninese and American military personnel to sharpen their skills through bilateral training that benefits Soldiers, nations and the region,” said Brig. Gen. Peter Corey, USARAF deputy commanding general.

“It is our hope that the mutual respect and trust that underpins our professional working relationship will lead to continued engagements between the Benin Armed Forces and U.S. Army Africa,” he said.

Tobacco cessation classes in Vicenza

Army Wellness Center wants you to call it quits

Tobacco use leads to a number of very serious health problems, work related issues and financial strain.

Health risks: heart disease, lung cancer, stroke, emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and oral cancer. Smoking not only puts your own life at risk, it also endangers the health of family members who may develop asthma or heart disease from second-hand smoke.

Work related issues: Smokers are more likely to miss work due to illness, have poorer motor and perceptual skills, and less endurance.

Financial problems: Tobacco use is a financial drain for users and for our nation. The Department of Defense estimates a loss of \$875 million annually on smoking related health care costs.

If you are a smoker, don't despair. You can change your behavior and

improve your life.

If you're thinking about quitting or tried and failed in the past, the Army Wellness Center invites you to attend the new Tobacco Cessation Workshop. USAG Vicenza has identified tobacco use as a major health concern and has resolved to combine its collective resources to help Vicenza Military Community members quit tobacco use for good.

At the workshop, experts including representatives from the Health and Wellness Centers will be available to answer your questions and concerns about tobacco cessation and provide the necessary resources and support to help you quit.

Quitting tobacco isn't easy, but it is possible with the right tools and support. Come join us for our new Tobacco Cessation Workshop every Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the Army Wellness Center Conference Room on the second floor of the Main Post Fitness

Center, Building 112.

Civilian patients please note that while the workshop through the Wellness Center will be free of charge and available to everyone with an ID card, the one-on-one follow up appointments with a provider and medication will be billable to the patient.

Class size will be limited to 10 participants.

Call 634-8186 or 0444-71-8186, or email stephanie.julca@amedd.army.mil to reserve a spot.



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

Tax time at Camp Darby

Capt. Daniel Hill (center), Darby Military Community JAG, and Jen Lindstrom, tax volunteer, help a customer filling his tax return. Tax season began Feb. 3. The JAG office will provide free tax preparation assistance to customers daily by appointment only from 9-11 a.m. and from 1-4 p.m. To schedule an appointment call 633-7227.

Italian, American squads make friends on the court



Story and photo by Laura Kreider
USAG Vicenza PAO

A healthy mix of competitiveness and good sportsmanship were on display at the Caserma Ederle Fitness Center Jan. 26 when the Vicenza Middle School Yellow Jackets took on the visiting Mestrino Raptors in a friendly Italian-American basketball game.

The Yellow Jackets won 53-46, but everyone went home feeling like a winner.

"Because my son Eric plays with that team (the Raptors) and goes to the Vicenza Middle School on Villaggio, he is uniquely connected with both teams as classmates of one and a team member of the other, and yet friends with both," said Andre Luster, who is the supervisory lead for CYSS Vicenza.

Luster came up with the idea of a friendly match and undertook the necessary coordination to obtain the required approval and logistical support to set up the meet.

"I approached the coaches of both teams and consequently they agreed upon a date and time," he said.

Both the Raptors and the Yellow Jackets attract boys ages 13-15 to play competitive basketball. The game on Caserma Ederle was the first ever meeting of the two teams.

"The game was a learning experience not only for me, but the whole team," said Vicenza Yellow Jacket Jacques Resseguie.

"The Italians played hard and the game was very challenging. This game showed us that we are a good team, but like every other team, we need improvement," he said.

Competition was stiff and the 53-46 finish belies the fact that action on the court was close until the last seconds.

"It was a hard game, but we still came out on top," said Yellow Jacket Cameron Wilkerson. "The Italians played very hard and they had a lot of stamina. I was exhausted because they pressed the entire game. However, this was not my first time playing against an Italian team, so I knew that this would be a challenging game. I had fun, though; hopefully, we will play them again in the future." Yellow Jacket head coach Carl Wilkerson enjoyed seeing how the American players matched up against their Ital-

Raptors, Yellow Jackets check each other's play, broaden views

ian rivals.

"I think it was a great experience for both teams. I was very proud of my team, they played very hard. We are looking forward to playing the Mestrino team again," he said.

The idea of a return match was also on the minds of the Italian players and their coach, Maurizio Benetollo, who said his team was excited by the experience and were already asking him right after the match when they could play against the American team again.

"The game was a friendly game and a good opportunity to play in a different arena," said Benetollo.

"There were three adults referees and it was professionally officiated. We could sense the good athletic preparation and coordination of the American team and how they are trained in different sport disciplines," he said.

"I really liked their technical skills," said Raptor Alessandro Rago. "Now, I am looking forward to meeting them again."

"They were really physical. Some rebounds reminded me of techniques used in the NBA. We were using mostly our teamwork," said Raptor Manuel Masiero.

"I gained so much experience from this game," said 13-year-old Bryce Franklin, who is playing basketball in Europe for the first time this season. "It was both fun and hard playing against this team. If we do face them again, our team will be more prepared."

As a learning experience players on both squads are going to make good use of the experience.



Snap up bargains



By Vicenza Community Club

Need to do some shopping? Only have \$20 in your pocket? The Vicenza Community Club Thrift Shop, across from the PX near the BNL Bank, is the place to go.

Uniforms, stylish clothing, unique jewelry, leather coats? Shoes, boots, toys, electronics? Dishes, transformers, adapters and Carnevale costumes — find them all inexpensively priced at the Thrift Shop.

“It’s an amazingly well run and organized place,” said community member Monica Richmond. “This is no junky shop.”

Community member Cecily Spencer agreed. “This is the best organized military thrift store I’ve visited in more than 23 years in the Army,” she said.

“We only put the best items on display,” said Thrift Shop manager Heide Vaught.

She and her staff spend Mondays sorting items dropped off in the donation containers behind the store to have them ready by opening time on Tuesdays.

“We value the generosity of the community in contributing items. We just want to make sure they are in good condition and quality to be sold in the Thrift Shop,” said VCC president Alison Nielsen.

It’s discouraging when quality materials are left out in the elements and are ruined, Vaught said.

“When making donations, package them into small bags or boxes and move them as far back in the con-

tainer as possible. This ensures that the entrance isn’t blocked and that there is room for everything,” she said.

The Thrift Shop also accepts articles on consignment and provides premium display space for the items, said Vaught. Consignees can sell their goods via the Thrift Shop while pocketing 75 percent of the sales price. Up to 10 items can be consigned at a time, from formal dresses and Polish pottery to baby clothes and strollers.

To consign items, make an appointment, either in person at the shop register or by phone at 634-7460 or 0444-717460.

The Thrift Shop is a service that benefits the Vicenza Military Community beyond making treasures available at bargain prices.

“Seventy cents of each dollar spent in the Thrift Stores goes back into the Vicenza Military Community,” said VCC Community Enrichment chair, Kaarin Engelmann.

Last year the club was able to cycle more than \$90,000 back into the community, she said. One of the many projects VCC sponsors is Bright Eyes, which provides \$150 toward prescription glasses for children who qualify.

“This year we’ve been able to help more children than ever before,” Engelmann said.

The Thrift Shop is open Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and occasionally on other days as designated by the manager. Watch the Facebook page for announcements.

Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated, said Vaught, and the VCC covers childcare costs for those volunteering at the Thrift Shop.

HOW BAZAAR... IN PUMASTAN

By George Hanby
Vicenza Middle School

Beginning in November of last year at Vicenza Middle School, George Hanby's seventh-grade World Geography students had to make a choice.

From among the regions they were studying — the Middle East, Russia and Asia — each student had to choose a country and conduct research on its background, history, geography and culture.

They also had to learn about and re-create local products for which their country is known to present at the school's Grand Bazaar, which was held Jan. 18.

The students were encouraged to use their imagination and creativity when designing and making their products, and dozens of researching entrepreneurs began to produce wares to bring to the Grand Bazaar of Pumastan.

In order to create an authentic bazaar, there needed to be the feeling of being under a tent of some type — like maybe a couple of parachutes?

Hanby contacted 1st Sgt. Tim Jensen at Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, and asked about borrowing some used parachutes. In early January, three huge, olive green "bazaar ceiling tents" were installed in the seventh-grade wing of VMS.

Authenticity in place, the excitement continued to build.

Finally, the day of the seventh-grade Grand Bazaar arrived and more than 70 seventh-graders spread out blankets and rugs to display their wares for sale. Students were dressed in the costumes of their countries: China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Mongolia.

The Grand Bazaar was officially opened by Sheikh al-Hanbib, who welcomed the entire VMS sixth-grade class along with their teachers and parents.

Al-Hanbib generously handed each guest 100 weros — the fictitious currency of Pumastan — to spend while shopping in the crowded, noisy, swirling mass of humanity at the first annual Grand Bazaar of Pumastan.

To everyone's surprise, a special guest stopped by to do some last minute shopping before returning to Afghanistan. Shoppers were surprised to see the Sheikh accompanied by Haminimi Karzai, pausing to smile for photojournalists attending the bazaar.

The memories of this exciting experience were filmed by Vicenza AFN-TV. Perhaps there is a mini-series in the future?





**INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL STUDENTS
GAIN PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE**

Darby Military Community



Story and photo by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Vicenza, DMC Public Affairs

Professional Development Week at the International School of Florence had Darby Military students in a variety of volunteer roles to try out a range of professional possibilities Jan. 28- Feb. 1.

"This developmental week is designed to offer ISF students an actual work experience to evaluate their choices for future career development," said Jennifer Kandell, DMC Youth Center director and school liaison officer.

Kassandra Spitzel, an ISF student whose present career interests include being a fashion designer, volunteered at the Livorno Unit School art classes as her work experience week.

"This is a very positive experience for me," said Spitzel. "Since I want to be a fashion designer, the closest activity was the art class. I volunteered full-time for a week and I practiced some of my artistic skills by teaching school children."

Kandell said participating students had a chance to confront the real working world. They learned more about what an actual workday is and how to prepare themselves professionally, an important complement to their daily classwork at school.

"For me this is an important learning experience, but it

is also nice to take a break from the regular school schedule," said Spitzel.

"I wake up daily at 4 a.m. to get on the bus to Florence at six and begin my lessons at eight. I am hardly ever back home before 6 p.m. and sometimes I am just so tired that I can't even spend time playing with my little sisters," Spitzel said.

Spitzel's future plans include attending foundation courses in London upon graduation and then moving on to attend designer school in California.

Junior Evan Edgell volunteers as an intern at the AFN Radio and Television Stations.

"I learned how to work with recording software and broadcast software," said Edgell. My dream is to be an editor of technology such as video and audio, or a video director."

His ISF teacher says he is very creative and thinks he would do very well as a director, said Edgell.

"This week I was on both live and pre-recorded radio shows; the morning show is live and we pre-recorded for a time slot later on today. Live recordings are easier, less aggravating than the pre-recorded spots, but I enjoyed all the time I spent at AFN and learned a lot about the process," he said.

According to Kandell this is a great learning experience for students to become more conscious of what they really want to focus on in their future.

Asiago in Mongolfiera Hot Air Balloon Show

Feb. 10 and 12 at 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.,
in Piazza Carli and Via Verdi.
Free entrance. Hot air Balloons
launches from Via Verdi, Roana
and Gallio 8:30 -9 a.m. and 2-2:30
p.m.; free hot air balloon tied-
up flights from Piazzale Duomo
in Asiago 9:30 -11:30 a.m. and
2:30-4:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for more
information.

Courtesy photo



CARNEVALE PARADES

Altavilla Vicentina Feb. 9: about 6 miles south-
west of Vicenza; 2:30 p.m. float parade departs
from Via Guglielmo Marconi accompanied by
Creazzo' band and majorettes; 5:30 p.m. best
masks award ceremony and Carnevale pastries,
hot chocolate and vin brulè (hot spiced wine) for
everyone.

Asiago Feb. 12: 2 p.m. Children's Carnevale, in
Piazza Il Risorgimento; about 34 north of Vicenza;
live music, games, stilt walkers, and bounce
houses. Free hot chocolate for children.

Bassano del Grappa Feb. 9: 2:30 p.m. Children's
Carnevale party at the Youth Center, Piazzale
Cadorna; magic shows, clowns, workshops; 5
p.m. dance show; 6 p.m. hot chocolate for all
participants; 9 p.m. night float parade through
Via Paolini, Viale delle Fosse, Piazzale Generale
Giardino.

Feb. 10: 2:30 p.m. float parade Via Velo, Piazza
Garibaldi, Piazza Libertà e Piazzale Cadorna; 2:30 –
6:30 p.m. face painting, music, and dancing; prizes
for the best float at 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 12: Piazza Garibaldi, 2:30 p.m. best children
costume award ceremony; music, group and baby
dances; bounce houses and mini train rides; 3 p.m.
face painting; 10 p.m. torch light procession along
Brenta River and fireworks

Cesuna Feb. 9, Via Busibollo 9, about 34 miles

north of Vicenza; 2:30 p.m. floats parade accom-
panied by the musical bands from Cesuna and
La Spezia; food booths and sampling of local
specialties.

Lugo di Vicenza Feb. 10, downtown, about 16
miles north of Vicenza; 2:30 p.m. floats parade;
free crostoli (Carnevale pastries) and live enter-
tainment.

Malo Feb. 10: 2:30 p.m. Dogs Carnival Show and
award ceremony for the best dog costume; en-
tertainment with Malo's majorettes; second float
parade.

Feb. 12: 2:30 p.m. live music with Malo's band and
float parade; at the youth center, at 8 p.m. charity
raffle drawing; third floats parade; award ceremo-
ny for the best Carnevale float; live music.

Rossano Veneto Feb. 12: about 20 miles north-
east of Vicenza; float parade at 2:30 p.m. accom-
panied by San Vito musical Band and majorettes.
Best costume contest.

Sarego Feb. 10: about 16 miles southwest of
Vicenza; 2 p.m. float parade departs from Via Piave
accompanied by Dueville's majorettes; live music
and folk dances; food booths with frittelle, hot
chocolate and vin brulè (hot spiced wine); 5 p.m.
award ceremony for the best masks and floats

Schio Feb. 9: a float parade in Giavenale departs
at 2:30 p.m. from Via Maranese

Feb. 10: a float parade in Poleo departs at 2:30
p.m. from Via Caile 10

Sossano Feb. 10: 2:30 p.m. float parade departs
and food booths featuring Carnevale specialties;

live music and dancing. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to Feb. 17.

Thiene Feb. 10: float parade downtown departs at 2:30; live music, dances and food booth. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to Feb. 17; Feb. 12 children's Carnevale party at 2:30 p.m.

Tonezza del Cimone

Feb. 10: about 32 miles north of Vicenza; float parade departs from Via Roma; live music and free Carnevale pastries

Trissino Feb. 10: about 12 miles west of Vicenza; 13:30 p.m. float parade departs from Piazza Mazzini accompanied by Muzzolon Band; 4 p.m. best masks awards.

Valli del Pasubio

Feb. 10: in Piazzale del Monumento from 9 a.m. food booths featuring traditional specialties, and fritole, hot chocolate, and vin brulé; 2:30 p.m. float parade; 4 p.m. music and dancing; in case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to Feb. 17

Venezia Ongoing through Feb. 12, about 45 miles east of Vicenza

Verona- [Click here](#) for a detailed list of Carnival float parades in Verona and surrounding towns.

Vicenza Feb. 5, 4 p.m., at the playground on Via dell'Ippodromo and Feb. 6, 4 p.m. on Via Ruspoli, entertainment, games and music.

VENETO

San Valentino Fair

Feb. 8: live music and ballroom dancing at the Sport Center on Via Casona.

Feb. 9: local products indoor exhibit and sale, 8 -11:30 p.m.; at noon official grand opening; 7 p.m. food booths open; 9 p.m. live music and ballroom dancing; 9:30 p.m. country night with Luca Eros, Luke and Nike.

Feb.10: local products indoor exhibit and sale, 8-11:30 p.m.; 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. traditional outdoor exhibition – market with more than 300 stalls featuring local agricultural products and antique market; 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. free guided tours to the bell-tower, donations are accepted; 4 p.m. live bell concert.

Festa di Sant'Agata

Feb. 10, Arzignano, Piazzale Vittoria, about 12 miles west of Vicenza. Votive historical procession departs at 9:15 a.m. accompanied by flag-flyers, and drummers; 10 a.m. medieval market opens; food booths featuring local specialties and wines; 2 p.m. local products and crafts exhibit and sale; from 2 p.m. free Castle guideed tour (in Italian); 2:30 p.m. medieval shows; 6:30 p.m. fireworks

All events listed are as reported at press time. Details are subject to change without notice.

TUSCANY

Bientina celebrates its 50th annual Carnevale Bientinese with typical Carnival floats and activities as well as a small train touring around town for children. The action is in Piazza Vittorio Emanuele in the center of town Feb10 and 12 beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Viareggio Carnival marks its 140th anniversary this year. Go to www.viareggio.ilcarnevale.com for more information. Darby ITR has excursions planned for Feb. 10, 12 and 17, and March 3, departing each day at 3 p.m.

Vicopisano: Carnevale dei ragazzi, Children's Carnival, in Vicopisano will feature floats and a parade in the center of the medieval town; Sundays Feb. 10 from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Feb. 12. Details are on the web at www.comune.vicopisano.pi.it.



Valentine's Day in Verona

Know as the home to Romeo and Juliet, Verona is the ideal place to bring your loved on this Valentines Day. In the city center, you'll find streets are decorated with red heart lamps and ballons being handed out. Go to Juliet's home there the best love letter will be selected on Feb. 14. Romantic music and more greets visitos in the piazza dei signori. Plus, couples get a discount rate at select attraction. [Click here](#) for details

Courtesy photo





FAMILY AND MWR

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT DEL DIN

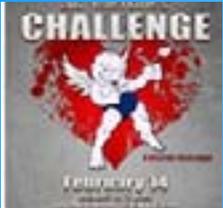
Family and MWR will be hiring many exciting positions at our new facilities located on Del Din for both U.S and Local Nationals, from management to support staff. Positions are being announced now and the staff hired will start work at beginning of May. Positions include; Fitness Center Assistant Manager, Fitness Center Recreation Aide, Fitness Center Pool Life Guard, Warrior Zone Shift Manager, Warrior Zone Recreation Assistant, Warrior Zone Food and Beverage Attendant and Warrior Zone Bartender. U.S. positions will be posted to USA Jobs at <https://www.usajobs.gov/>. Local National positions will be posted to CPOL at: <https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/ln/index.htm>

If you have additional questions, contact Vicenza NAF CPAC at 0444-71-7349 or 7290.



VMC ODR

Book trips [online](#) on WebTrac or call DSN 634-7453.



- Feb. 16, **Alpe di Siusi Ski/Snowboarder Day Trip** Cost: \$40 | Depart: 6 a.m. | Travel Time (each way): 3.5 hrs | Return: 8 p.m. Great area for all levels of skiers and snowboarders.
- Feb. 14, **St. Valentine's Challenge** Cost: \$40 per Couple | Begins: 5 p.m. | Location: Sports Track & Field. Ages 14 and up. Spend this special day with your spouse, battle buddy, or gal pal battling the war of the roses and thorns!
- Feb. 14, **Valentine Spa Day** Cost: \$75 | Depart: 7 a.m. | Travel Time (each way): 1 hr | Return: 7 p.m. Adults Only. Treat yourself to a day of rest and relaxation with Outdoor Rec. We will take you to a very nice 4 star hotel in the Abano and Montegrotto Thermal Spa Village, located one hour from Vicenza. You'll enjoy a nice day of relaxation in the warm and spa pool and then a half hour full body massage. Lunch is not included.
- Feb. 14, **Valentine's Dinner in a Palladian Villa** Cost: \$140 per Couple | Depart: 7 p.m. | Travel Time (each way): 1 hr | Return: 1 a.m. Formal dinner attire and adults Only. Enjoy a romantic dinner in the frame of Palladian Villa Godi Malinverni. You will be served a welcome aperitivo starter before continuing on to the delicious full meal with your special someone in this antique Renaissance Villa located in the outskirts of Vicenza.
- Feb. 10, **Snow Carnival in the Alps-Livigno** Cost: \$75 | Depart: 5:30 a.m. | Travel Time (each way): 4 hrs | Return: 9 p.m. The Alpine Resort town of Livigno, near the Swiss border, celebrates Carnival with a procession of downhill skiers, followed by an obstacle race, fancy dress ball and a traditional parade in the streets.
- Feb. 10, **Ivrea Orange Throwing Carnevale** Cost: \$75 | Depart: 6:30 a.m. | Travel Time (each way): 4 hrs | Return: 9 p.m. The carnival includes a colorful parade followed by orange-throwing battles in the center of town. Ivrea is located in west Italy in Piedmont.
- Feb. 12, **Venice Carnival Photo Shooting** Cost: \$75 | Depart: 8:30 a.m. | Travel Time (each way): 1.5 hrs | Return: 8 p.m. Enjoy a photo workshop with Erika Williams (children under 2 free). Have Erika Williams, a professional photographer, teach you the best-light/color techniques in Venice during this yearly festival.

DARBY ODR DSN 634-7616

- Viareggio Carnevale trips are scheduled every Sunday thru Feb. 17.
- Abetone is one of the longest established and best known ski centers in Central Italy. Spend a day on the slopes on Feb. 16
- Spend President's Day in Assisi, a beautiful village nestled in the village of Umbria and also the home of St. Francis.
- Shop the winter sales at the Barberino Designer Outlet on February 23.

ACS

DSN 634-7500

- Military Saves Week is Feb. 25 - Mar. 1 so visit www.militarysaves.org to receive financial tips and take the Military Saves pledge. The Financial Readiness Team has also coordinated several free events to encourage the community to 'Set a Goal, Make a Plan, Save Automatically':
- Feb. 25: Coupon Social at ACS, 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 27: Money Matters Class at ACS, 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Registration is required.
- Feb. 27: "It's a Habit Sammy Rabbit" Library Story Hour, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Feb. 28: Coupon Social at ACS, 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- Feb. 28: "Savvy Saving" SKIES class, 4:15 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- March 1: Coupon Social at ACS, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Vicenza spouses needed to be sponsors of the Bamberg spouses relocating soon to Vicenza. Training will be held on February 10, 10-11:30 a.m. at ACS and child-care will be provided for the training, but you must contact CDC at 634-5008 to make reservations.



CYSS

DSN 634-8347

- Youth Workforce Preparation Training for students in grades six through 12 will take place Mondays from 3:30-4:30, at the Ederle Fitness Center conference room. Workshops include: Feb. 11: career and personality compatibility; Feb. 25: time management and goals; March 4: workplace ethics; and March 11: customer service. Register at the Teen Center.



ART CENTER

DSN 634-7074

- Learn a super easy form of quilting called the Jelly Roll in two easy sessions on Feb 12 and 19. Cost is just \$80 and no experience is necessary.
- Learn a super easy form of quilting called the Jelly Roll in two easy sessions on Feb 12 and 19. Cost is just \$80 and no experience is necessary.
- Try your hand at creating silver jewelry with our PMC class on Feb. 15 at noon. Cost is \$50 but includes all supplies and materials.



SOLDIERS' THEATRE

DSN 634-7281

- The Music Café celebrates American music in a low-key, friendly environment featuring community musicians Friday, Feb. 8, beginning at 7:30 p.m.



ARENA

DSN 634-7616

- Feb. 9 Pool Tournament at the Lion's Den from 8 p.m. to midnight. Adults only.
- Six people can bowl unlimited games on Mondays and Tuesdays, from 6-10 p.m. for just \$10 per hour per lane. And the shoes are free too.



OLD SOLDIER'S BAR

DSN 634-7685

- It's the monthly Steak Night on February 19. Cost is \$30 per person and includes; 12 ounce T-Bone steak, grilled shrimp, baked potato, tossed salad, water, a glass of wine, dessert and coffee. Reserve by before Friday, Feb. 15

Community briefs

Vicenza Military Community

Visit the community calendar for more upcoming events and details at www.usag.vicenza.army.mil

USAHC limited hours

U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza will reduce hours of operation over the Presidents Day weekend. The Birthing Center remains open but other services will be available only as follows:

Feb. 15, 8 a.m. to noon

Feb. 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Feb. 18, Only the Birthing Center will be open

Please plan accordingly.

Blessings Bonanza

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will host a free giveaway and take-away event Feb. 15 from 9-10:30 a.m. in the Caserma Ederle Chapel fellowship hall. Clean clothes, household goods, knick-knacks and bric-a-brac are all welcome and available for those who may need it.

Rita Bonamego to retire

After decades of service to the Vicenza Military Community, Rita Bonamego is retiring. You are invited to celebrate her career and legacy at a Retirement Luncheon Feb. 26 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Lion. The cost is \$15. Sign up and drop off your reservation at the Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center (Building 108).

CDC hours change

Beginning Feb. 11 there will be a limit of 16 hours per week per child for advance hourly care reservations made on WebTrac for CDC 398. The aim of this policy change is to promote fairness by giving more families an opportunity to use the hourly care spaces that are available. If CDC 398

is full in the morning, parents are encouraged to check for hourly care availability in the afternoon, when space is often available. Families can also call CDC 703 on Villaggio (634-5700) or FCC (634-7615), where hourly care will be provided on a space available basis.

Parents who have used their 16 hours for the week but still need hourly care should call CDC 398 on the day the care is actually needed to see if space is available.

This change is a result of the annual CYSS survey in which several families reported they have not had access to hourly care, even for short term use, because it is frequently full when they request it.

F2F event Feb. 28

The next USAG Vicenza Female 2 Female event, to be held Feb. 28, 4-6 p.m., at the Golden Lion Conference Center, will focus on post-service issues. An ice-breaker will be followed by panel discussion on "Life after the Military: What's next for you?" The program is free of charge and open to the entire community. For more information call 0444-71-7401/8288.

VCC scholarships

The Vicenza Community Club awards more than \$25,000 in scholarships each year. Applications are now available for the Emmi Fondi Continuing Education Scholarship for current VCC members, the Pia Marnetti Scholarships for ID card holding dependents of current VCC members, and scholarships for graduating high school seniors who are also dependents of current VCC members. Applications must be postmarked by March 5 for consideration.

CLEA ceremony March 19

The U.S. Army Europe Combined Logistics Excellence Awards ceremony will take place March 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Fitness Center, Building 1631, on Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, Germany. The annual awards, an Army

Chief of Staff initiative, honor units and organizations across Europe for their excellence in supply, maintenance and deployment operations. For information call 370-5410 or 370-5436.

CIF closure

The Central Issue Facility will be closed Feb. 13-15 for relocation and reopen Feb. 18 with normal operating hours. Call 634-6837 for information. Please plan ahead.

Black History Month

The USAG Vicenza Equal Opportunity Office will conduct a Freedom and Equality march Feb. 21 beginning at the post theater parking lot at 3 p.m. Vicenza Military Community children in kindergarten through high school have contributed their artwork to a BHM poster contest; winning entries will be carried as signs in the march.

Participants will march to the Golden Lion, where the BHM observance will be held. The first 40 adult marchers will receive free commemorative T-shirts.

Guest speaker will be Col. Jonathan A. Johnson; dance, music, poetry and food sampling round out the program. Those who prefer not to march should meet at the Golden Lion at 3 p.m. The EO Office is looking for Black History items to display during the event. If you have memorabilia you would be willing to share, call 634-7914/6061.

AE-ITT training

AE-ITT offers DoD Directive 8570.1 compliance by training and certifying individuals to meet baseline and computing environment certification requirements. IT courses are available [online](#) and the AE-ITT facility on Caserma Ederle. Upcoming courses include:

Feb. 11-12: Organizational Unit Administrator

Feb. 19-21: DoD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process

Feb. 25-March 1: DoD IA Certification 8570.1 (A+) 2009

March 4-8: MCITP: Windows 7 Enterprise Desktop Support Technician Boot

Camp

March 11-15: DoD IA Certification 8570.1 (NETWORK+)

March 18-25: DoD IA Certification 8570.1 (SECURITY+)

March 25-27: DoD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP)

Call 634-6077 for details.

Sky Soldier reintegration

The 173rd ABCT will host a Family Reintegration Fair Saturday, Feb. 2, at the Post Chapel 10 a.m. to noon and from 1-3 p.m. Soldiers, spouses and Families are encouraged to attend. Child care will be provided. Call the CDC at 0444-71-7219 to make a reservation. Call 634-5223 for information.

Pet food drive

Youth Services will hold a Pet Food Drive throughout February to support the Gogna Animal Shelter. Bring donations of dog and cat food to the Villaggio Youth Center, Building 304, or the Teen Center, Building 373 on Caserma Ederle, Monday to Friday from 2:45-6 p.m., or drop them in the donations box at the commissary. Call 634-7659 for details.

2013 Scholarships for Military Children

Applications for the 2013 Scholarships for Military Children Program are being accepted now. See eligibility and submission details online at www.militaryscholar.org and www.commissaries.com. The program is administered by Fisher House Foundation and awarded more than \$10 million in scholarships to 6,742 students in 2012. Applications must be turned in to the commissary by close of business Feb. 22.

Darby Military Community

Visit the community calendar for upcoming events and details at

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

Volunteers needed

Girl Scouts of Camp Darby needs someone to manage volunteers and attend monthly meetings. Call 633-8696 for details.

Order Red Roses for your Sweetheart by Feb 11!

Order one dozen long-stemmed roses to be delivered to you or your sweetheart on Darby or Depot. Deliveries made on Thursday, February 14; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. DSN 633-7438.



Photo by Laura Kreider

Sharing a smile at the Chapel

Community members share a light moment at the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Family Reintegration Fair held at the Caserma Ederle chapel Feb. 2. The two-session event was geared towards families reconnecting after a deployment. After a panel discussion, highlighting situations that may occur, representatives of several post agencies were available as resources to provide information and assist.

Now Showing

Ederle Theater

Feb. 7	Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG)	6 p.m.
Feb. 8	Warm Bodies (PG 13) *	6 p.m.
	Bullet to the Head (R) *	9 p.m.
Feb. 9	Warm Bodies (PG 13) *	3 p.m.
	Stand Up Guys (R) *	6 p.m.
Feb. 10	Stand Up Guys (R) *	3 p.m.
	Bullet to the Head (R) *	6 p.m.
Feb. 13	Hotel Transylvania (PG)	6 p.m.
Feb. 14	Killing Them Softly (R)	6 p.m.
Feb. 15	Hotel Transylvania (PG)	6 p.m.
	Red Dawn (PG-13)	9 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Feb. 8	Broken City (R) *	6 p.m.
Feb. 9	The Last Stand (R) *	6 p.m.
Feb. 10	Hotel Transylvania (PG)	1 p.m.
Feb. 15	Red Dawn (PG-13)	6 p.m.

Admission: * First run, adult, \$5.50, under 12, \$2.75; regular release, \$5/\$2.50; repeat releases, \$4.50/\$2.25; special pay \$3.50/\$1.75.

The Ederle theater box office opens one hour prior to show.

View **MOVIE TRAILERS** and more online at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ReelTimeTheatres/reeltime-landing.htm>

Religious activities

Chaplain Crisis Line

To speak with a chaplain after hours, call 634-KARE (634-5273)

Sunday services

9 a.m.: Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation following Mass, or during duty hours
11 a.m.: Protestant worship
1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship
5 p.m.: Contemporary Christian service

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel
5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m.: PWOC Bible study. Dinner provided. No child care

5:30 p.m.: Catholic choir practice

6:45 p.m.: Gospel choir practice

Thursdays

9:30 a.m.: Military Council of Catholic Women

5:30 p.m.: Gospel service choir rehearsal

7:15 p.m.: Gospel service Bible study

Faith group contacts

Bahá'í Faith: Call Russell Menard at 389-133-4627 or Giacomo Baravalle at 348-603-2283

Church of Christ: Call CW2 Michael Bickle at 345-469-9974 or 0444-335-135 or email vicenzaitalychurchofchrist@gmail.com

Islamic: Call 634-7519 (0444-71-7519)

Jewish: Call Paul Levine at 345-907-2108

Latter Day Saints: Sunday services, 9:30 a.m. in Vicenza. Call Bob Shakespeare at 389-268-5605 or email drbob143@gmail.com.

Call the Caserma Ederle Post Chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for more information.

Camp Darby

Tuesday

9:30 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

Wednesday

5:30 p.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

5:15 p.m.: Protestant Men of the Chapel

6:15 p.m.: Choir Practice

For Camp Darby chapel activities and information call 633-7267.

BLESSINGS BONANZA

February 15th, 9am-10:30am

@ The Chapel Fellowship Hall

FREE Give Away

and or

FREE Take Away

Clean clothes, household goods, knick-knacks, bric-a-brac, whatever can be of use to someone else, or just show up empty handed!

Sports shorts



Cougars finish strong



Junior Peter McCollaum Jr. (above) uses a power half Nelson on his Sigonella opponent and senior Liam Manville (right) turns his Aviano opponent for a pin and a win in the 160-lb. weight class in late season competition last weekend at Naples. The Vicenza High School Cougars won their last regular meet of the wrestling season, fighting it out on the mats against teams from host Naples, Sigonella, Aviano and a local wrestling club, Luizzi.

Photos by Saralynn Manville

Hardcourt wins for the Cougars at home

The Vicenza High School Cougars basketball boys team battle it out against the Mary Mount International team in the main post gym Feb. 2. The Cougars won 74-37 Friday and 62-27 Saturday. The VHS girls squad also walked off the court with two victories, 31-9 and 35-23.

Photo by Laura Kreider



Pool playoff at Arena

Think you're cool at pool? Prove it Feb. 9 at the 9-Ball Singles Tournament at the Lion's Den. Adults only. Entry fee is \$5; register at the bar. Winner takes home \$50. Call 634-8619.

Hoops in Darby

The Hot Shot Basketball Shooting Contest takes place Feb. 27 starting at 5:30 p.m. Register for the ace of hoops contest all day up until start time. Call 633-7438 for details.

Principles of Strength Training

The Army Wellness Center on Caserma Ederle will conduct a two-part Principles of Strength Training class Feb. 11 and 18. The first class is based on an overview of the weight room; the second concentrates on creating individual workout routines based on hands-on instruction. Both classes take place from 8:15-9:15 a.m. Instruction is appropriate for men and women interested in learning more about the principles of strength training and includes a foundation in strength training and practical applications. Goals of the technique include the increase of lean muscle mass and metabolism, improved bone density, injury prevention and reduced health risks. Call 634-8186 or 0444-71-8186 for details and to sign up.

Working out in Darby

A Cardio Circuit class meets Wednesdays from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Fitness Center. Call 633-7438 for details.

Meditation Monday in Vicenza

Army Community Service conducts an informal, relaxing meditation session Mondays at 12:15 p.m. in Davis Hall.