A soldier in camouflage gear is rappelling down a rope from a high-rise building. Other soldiers are visible on the building's balconies and on the ground. The background shows a clear blue sky and a fenced-in area with other buildings.

# Outlook

**Dec. 19, 2013**  
**Vol. 46, Issue 49**

**Vicenza & Darby Military Community**  
**[www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)**

**TRAINING ON  
EDERLE  
PLUS 173 BSTB  
SAPPER STAKES  
AND BOXING IN  
VICENZA**



**VICENZA**  
Military Community

# Outlook

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## On the cover

Even as the holiday season approaches, Sky Soldiers of 1st Regiment, 503rd Battalion, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), train on Caserma Ederle Dec. 6. See page 12 for more. With this issue, The Outlook concludes its publication schedule for the year and will resume Jan. 10. For up to date information and emergency notifications, go to the home page: [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)  
Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Photo by Paolo Bovo



Photo by David Ruderman

## Spouses share holiday spirit

Trinidad Rodriguez (from left), Gloria Rodriguez and Carolina Bertesina chat with Relocation Readiness Program manager Monica Cobbeldick at the Multi-Cultural Spouse Holiday Lunch Dec. 12 at ACS on Caserma Ederle. ACS's Multi-Cultural Spouse Forum meets quarterly to have fun, make friends and discuss a range of interesting topics. Coming up in 2014 will be a presentation and Q&A with the immigration and naturalization representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Rome. They will discuss the complex process of becoming an American citizen and answer specific questions. There will also be a cooking class at which spouses can share insights into their cultural legacies and learn how to prepare each other's popular culinary favorites while learning about Army life, its traditions and customs. For information and to participate, call 634-8525 or 0444-71-8525.

# Speak Out

*If you could have one wish come true, what would it be?*



**Paolo Venier**

USAG Vicenza Safety Office

*"My wish would be visiting a friend of mine who works in Florida."*



**Sgt. 1st Class Destiny Jeffries**

414th Contracting Support Brigade

*"Ten more wishes."*



**Ruth Torres**

Family member

*"Less electronics and technology, and more spiritual moments for families to enjoy together."*

## The Outlook Dec. 19, 2013, Vol. 46, Issue 49

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# Sky Soldiers conduct combined machine gun live-fire range with Slovenian Army troops

Story and photo by  
Staff Sgt. Bruce Cobbeldick  
173rd Infantry Brigade Combat  
Team (Airborne) PAO



**PIVKA, Slovenia** — Sky Soldiers from Destined Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, travelled here Dec. 5 to conduct a combined machine gun live-fire range with Slovenian troops, building on a training relationship that started a month earlier during a NATO-response force exercise in Germany.

“This event will have a big influence on future operations and open doors to battalion-size training events for

both units in the coming training calendar,” said Brig. Gen. Miha Skerbinc, commander of the Slovenian Army’s 1st Brigade.

Approximately 50 Soldiers from Destined Company conducted training with vehicle-mounted machineguns and sniper rifles at the Bac Ilirska Bistrica range compound outside the town of Pivka. It was the first time Soldiers from the brigade had trained at the range facility.

The paratroopers were impressed with the quality of the range and maneuver space at the training area, according to Destined Company Commander, Capt. Sheldon Broedel.

“As a heavy weapons company, we are always hard pressed to find land to fire our big weapons systems, so traveling out here to train was a great opportunity,” he said.

The initial planning for the range began early in the fall and was finalized when both units worked together in November at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany, as part of Combined Resolve 2013, a NATO response-force exercise comprising military units from 10 nations.

During the exercise, the 132nd Mountain Regiment of the Slovenian Army was attached to the Sky Soldier brigade. Destined Company was then

attached to that Slovenian battalion to provide anti-armor capabilities. The working relationships established during the rotation left both units eager to work with each other again, according to Destined Company 1st Sgt. Timothy Jensen.

“We worked together seamlessly in Hohenfels, Germany. My experience has been very positive with the Slovenian soldiers,” said Sgt. 1st Class Nate Haumschild, a platoon sergeant with Destined Company.

“As soon as I got off the bus, I immediately saw one of my counterparts, who I had worked with closely in Germany, and we picked up immediately where we had left off,” said Haumschild. “Training events, and the chance like this to go to a live-fire range, is an excellent opportunity for our paratroopers.”

For the Slovenian soldiers, training alongside the paratroopers from the 173rd is an opportunity to develop light-infantry skills alongside a unit with operational experience from recent deployments.

“The 173rd is a light brigade and has a lot of experience with airborne operations,” said Slovenian Army Capt. Ales Kesic. “That is beneficial for our unit here in Slovenia. Cooperation will become even more important in the post-ISAF era, and this cooperation needs to continue to be strengthened and not less.”



**Staff Sgt. Thomas Vinton (top, center), section leader with Destined Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), and Sgt. 1st Class Nate Haumschild (far left), platoon sergeant with Destined Company, conduct a combined machine gun range with Slovenian soldiers Dec. 5 near Pivka.**

# Sapper Stakes put BSTB troops to the test

By 1st Lt. John Dearing

1st Platoon, Company A, 173rd BSTB,  
173rd IBCT (A)

Castle Company — Company A, 173rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, of the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) — held its first Sapper Stakes competition the week before Thanksgiving at facilities on both Caserma Del Din and Caserma Ederle.

Eight pairs of sappers, including three Italian soldiers from the 8th Engineer Regiment (Airborne), competed in various events that tested their technical competence and physical endurance.

The competition began at 6:30 a.m. on the morning of Nov. 25 with a non-standard PT test. Teams had five minutes to perform as many push-ups as possible, followed by five minutes for sit-ups and three minutes for pull-ups, alternating between partners in each event. The PT test concluded with a three-mile body armor run undertaken while carrying a replica M-4.

The winning team, Spcs. Rafael Agosto and Moises Zamora, performed 247 push-ups, 279 sit-ups, 45 pull-ups and completed the run in 28:25.

## Tank up and hit the road

Following a brief break for breakfast, the sappers began Round Robin I, a series of tasks that would continue to push them physically, while testing their knowledge of common combat engineer tasks.

Spread out over a distance of 11.5 miles, each team would ruck march with 45 pounds of equipment between stations while overcoming challenges that included M4 and M9 engagement skills, urban breaching charges, demolition initiation systems, minesweeping, mine identification, medical treatment and evacuation, mountaineering knots, and weapon assembly and disassembly.

When it was over, Agosto and Zamora held onto their Sapper Stakes lead, edging out Sgt. Philip Jaslow and Pvt. 2 Skyler Goplin as the first day of competition drew to a close and the Soldiers tried to rest up.



Photos by Sgt. A.M. LaVey

**Above:** Spcs. Moises Zamora (left) and Rafael Agosto dig deep to breach a steel door on Caserma Del Din Nov. 27 in the culminating event of the Sapper Stakes competition.

**Opposite:** Sky Soldiers take part in the 50-yard tire flip event.

Day two started in the bitter cold at 4 a.m. Following a quick brief, each team stepped off on a timed 12-mile ruck march. Sgt. Daniel Dixon and Pfc. Jareev Walker started off strong, leading the pack for the first six miles, but Agosto and Zamora once again displayed their determination and physical stamina by taking the lead at the seven mile mark.

Jaslow and Goplin surged in the final three miles but finished second, unable to close the gap. Still, all the sappers showcased their determination that morning, resulting in nine personnel

completing the course in less than three hours. These sappers qualified on the 12-mile ruck march despite having covered more than 14 miles during the first day of competition.

Following another brief breakfast break, the combat engineers moved on to Caserma Ederle for Round Robin II, a portion of the competition designed to test each team's ability in steel cutting charges, timber cutting charges, wire breaching, field expedient demolitions, an obstacle course, and 240B/M2 engagement skills.

In addition to those tasks, each team had to successfully complete polar and grid call-for-fire missions with the call-for-fire trainer operated by Staff Sgt. Sheldon Durrett of the 1-503rd Infantry Battalion. Displaying impressive strength and perseverance, Dixon and Walker finished first overall in this segment of the stakes.

Day three broke with a call for even greater endurance, featuring the culminating event of the Sapper Stakes: the X-Mile Run. This grueling race began with a one-mile gas mask run followed by a water jug carry. The combat engineers next ran to the opposite end of Del Din to complete 50 yards of tire flips and 50 yards of a litter carry.

The sappers then proceeded to a picket pounding station where they had to successfully emplace and remove four pickets as a team. Following a final half-mile sprint, each team had to mechanically breach a steel door, signifying their completion of the Sapper Stakes competition. With an overall time of 24:34, Jaslow and Goplin beat out their fellow sappers to win the X-Mile Run.

Finally, after a grueling three-day



competition that covered 30 miles and numerous proficiency challenges, the Castle Company Family Readiness Group hosted a barbeque celebrating the conclusion of the stakes and the accomplishments of its Soldiers. With families and friends gathered together, Agosto and Zamora were hailed as the overall winners of Sapper Stakes, edging out an incredible performance by Jaslow and Goplin. Third place honors

went to Dixon and Walker, a direct result of their superlative performance during Round Robin II.

During the barbeque, Soldiers from Castle Company and the Italian 8th Engineer Regiment (Airborne) exchanged gifts, a token of the respect and appreciation for each other's strength and skill during the Sapper Stakes, and a marker for the beginning of a rewarding partnership between the two units.

## Tuition Assistance changes to take effect in 2014

By David Vergun

Army News Service

**W**ASHINGTON - As of Jan. 1, a cap on the number of semester hours that can be taken using Tuition Assistance and tighter eligibility rules will go into effect for all Soldiers in the active and Reserve components.

Soldiers will be able to begin using TA one year after graduating from initial entry training, known as IET, said Brig. Gen. David K. MacEwen of the Army's Human Resources Command. Soldiers can also take up to 16 semester hours per fiscal year, and TA can be used for a post-baccalaureate degree after completing 10 years of military service, he said. Soldiers who earn a BA without using TA will not need to wait 10 years before applying the benefit to a graduate degree.

Other TA policy from 2013 will remain in effect next year, said Dr. Pamela Raymer, director of the Army Continuing Education System. That includes allowing Soldiers to use up to \$250 per semester hour.

The caps of 130 semester hours for baccalaureate degree completion and 39 semester hours for a master's degree will remain in effect. Coursework must be selected from the Soldier's approved degree plan in GoArmyEd, a plan which Soldiers develop with their education counselor and home school, said Raymer.

Also remaining in effect will be the prohibition against using TA for a second, equivalent degree; for instance, if a Soldier holds a master's degree, he or she cannot use TA for a second master's degree. TA cannot be used for a first professional degree such as a PhD, MD or JD since the Army has fully-funded programs that support these degree programs, Raymer said.

Soldiers who have been flagged for adverse action or failure of the Army physical fitness test or weight standards will not be able to use TA, she said.

TA may still be applied to non-degree language courses published on the Defense Department's Strategic Language List as "immediate investment" or "emerging" languages, but not for "enduring languages."

TA is also authorized for one post-secondary certificate or diploma, and for courses leading to initial teacher certification programs.

Soldiers who are precluded from using TA or limited by the number of semester hours they're eligible to take can, nonetheless, use GI Bill education benefits.

Raymer said some of the changes to TA for next year resulted from the Army's effort to maximize education support for Soldiers through a voluntary, off-duty education program despite the fiscal constraints of the day.

For details and guidance, talk to your education counselor or go to <https://goarmyed.com/Login.aspx>

# Liceo Quadri students visit Caserma Ederle



**Story and photos by Laura Kreider**  
*USAG Vicenza PAO*

About 50 students and three teachers from the Liceo Quadri, a high school in downtown Vicenza, visited Caserma Ederle Dec. 11.

The visit, part of an ongoing series of inter-school visits and exchanges, included a rich itinerary around several Vicenza Military Community facilities such as the Fire Department, the library, the Arts & Crafts center, the fitness and wellness center and The Arena.

After a quick snack, the visitors moved on to the Villaggio housing area for the highlight of the tour, a visit to the new Youth Center, where the students enjoyed the rock-climbing wall, the

computer center and the game and activity room.

"For many of us, our visit to the Caserma Ederle and the Villaggio was the first experience and, at the same time, the very first occasion of an intercultural dialogue with American citizens," said Liceo Quadri English teacher Elisa Spadavecchia, who helped coordinate the visit with CYSS administrative assistant Margherita Frasson, a veteran of the inter-school exchanges.

"Everybody was very friendly, patient and helpful with us. Everything was just excellent, such as the firemen who gave us the opportunity of trying their tools and means of transport in the Fire Department, the bowling alley, the gym and the Youth Center, where we had really great fun with the staff. And the eggnog was tasty," said Spadavecchia.

In the course of participating in various sport activities, the Quadri students got to learn more about the VMC while having fun. The Youth Center was definitely top of the list in terms of favorite places based on student feedback after the visit.

"People were really kind and we spent our time doing lots of fun and exciting activities, such as the rock-climbing wall," said 10th-grader Mery Perzia.

Fellow Quadri student Martina Zanella said she was scared when first encountering the climbing wall.

"At the beginning I did not want to try rock climbing, but the trainer smiled and promised he would help me, so I managed to arrive at the top. I felt so happy when I got down again," she said.

Student Nicolò Luisetto said visiting the post library was his favorite part of the trip.

"It's very big and well stocked, and I really enjoyed watching music CDs, films and comics with my friends. Thanks to this visit I have learned a bit more about American culture, for instance the importance and space given to that facility, thus enriching culture and lifestyle," he said.

Luisetto also said he would like to

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**Above:** Ricky Jackson, sports programmer with FMWR Fitness and Health, explains the operation of the Caserma Ederle Fitness Center to visiting Liceo Quadri students Dec. 11. **Opposite:** Students return to the gym after viewing the swimming pool.

share his experience with friends who have not had the chance to make such a visit.

"Thanks to some sport activities, facing some challenges while doing rock climbing and learning about stress management, students not only expanded their knowledge, but also socialized with their peers," said Frason, the CYSS assistant.

"Personally, I recommend heartily these sport and cultural exchanges because they build some bonds and partnership that are very useful for

enriching relationships. Being able to experience several activities among kids of the same age really helps, especially for teenagers, a special and at times difficult period of great changes," she said.

"CYSS hosted a great intercultural exchange with a local school, and the Italian youth really enjoyed a sample of our programs," said Christopher Bradford, USAG Vicenza Family and MWR director.

"This is a fantastic grassroots program that strengthens our community rela-

tions," he said.

In a thank you letter after the visit, Spadavecchia and fellow teachers Lorenza Novello and Maria Vittoria Zin, thanked their American hosts for the warm welcome they received during the trip.

"We greatly appreciated the visit. The Liceo Quadri students enjoyed the visit as much as we teachers did," wrote Spadavecchia.

She concluded with best wishes for the holiday season and with the hope of meeting again soon.

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## Outlook

This is the final issue of *The Outlook* for calendar year 2013. Our first edition of 2014 will post to the web Jan. 10. For news and updates in the interim, go to the USAG Vicenza home page at ~

[www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)

# Health Care Forum fosters two-way communication

By **Giovanna Penhallegon**

*U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza*

**A**dozen Vicenza Military Community members attended the first U.S. Army Health Care Center Vicenza organized Community Healthcare Forum Dec. 11.

The forum was organized to provide the Vicenza Military Community healthcare leaders an opportunity to disseminate information about services and to get feedback that would help improve services for the entire community.

Col. Karen Keith of Dental Clinic described the present Going First Class program, which is geared to setting up active duty service members for one-time appointments during which they can attend to all their dental needs, such as cleanings, X-rays and related services.

Capt. Danielle Mathis, the Veterinary Clinic officer in charge, made a presentation that described veterinary services, and Maj. Timothy Reppas handled those responsibilities for the Public Health Command.

Col. Andrew Barr, USAHC-V commander, was on hand to describe the health center's implementation of the Patient Centered Medical Home concept, which will lead to the National Committee for Quality Assurance. He also addressed ongoing efforts to improve access to healthcare via Relay Health, TriCareonLine and open access through same day appointments.

Topics for the Health Center: Audience questions and comments focused on pharmacy wait times, how the clinics deal with the present no-show rate, the Integrated Disability Evaluation System and other issues.

## Gathering input

The medical leaders explained current programs and prospects for changes going forward, and took the feedback with them to add to the matrix of considerations to improve service overall all to the VMC.

The date for a follow-up community-wide will be announced in future.



Photo by Laura Kreider

*VMC members discuss issues at the Community Health Care Forum Dec. 11.*

## USAHC-V earns VPP Star certification

By **U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza**

**U**.S. Army Health Center Vicenza has attained Army VPP Star certification in recognition of its exemplary occupational health and safety standards and processes. It is the first level-one military treatment facility, or MTF, within U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM), and the sixth MTF overall, to earn the impressive Star status.

In recognition of the health center's achievement, Hew Wolff, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health, along with George LeFevre, Safety Management System Program manager for MEDCOM, were in Vicenza Dec. 9 to present the Army's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Army Safety Excellence Star Site certificate to USAHC V commander, Col. Andrew Barr.

The Army has adopted the VPP, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety management system, designed to help reduce accidents and injuries, and the results are significant. On average, VPP users are 52 percent below industry averages for accidents and injuries. VPP reduces accidents by building a safety conscious culture in the workplace through the implementation of safety practices and procedures.

Achieving VPP Star certification requires implementing an effective safety and health management system that meets a rigorous three-stage assessment and performance based criteria. That assessment focuses on employee, management and leadership involvement; worksite analysis; hazard prevention and control; and safety and health training.

USAHC-Vicenza was evaluated June 18 of this year and certified by MEDCOM as qualified for the prestigious certification. Building on the work of former and present staff and leaders, USAHC-Vicenza began its assessment process in December of 2011, completing the certification in 18 months. The center's feat is all the more remarkable in that completing the process takes, on average, three years.

Going forward, MEDCOM inspectors will return to USAHC-Vicenza every three to five years to complete on-site assessments of its safety management system. The future assessments will include a complete facility inspection, and face-to-face interviews with staff members to ensure continued safety program excellence.



Photos by Gabriel Moore

The VHS Concert Choir sing to an all-school audience during their afternoon performance Dec. 11.



Photos by David Ruderman

Eldon Kirkhum leads the VMS Choir during the Holiday Concert Dec. 12, and Derek Hammond packs out his tuba after the show.

# VMC schools end year with festive concerts

By USAG Vicenza PAO

Vicenza Middle and High School music programs closed out the school year on a high note with concerts that put the talents of their fledgling musicians on display.

The High School Concert Band and Concert Choir, under the baton of musical program director Gary Marvel, lead the way with performances at the community tree-lighting ceremony Dec. 6, followed by two performances next day by the Rhythm and Blues Band at the Golden Lion.

The band and choir presented two performances Dec. 11, an afternoon show for the school and an evening

Winter Concert for the community.

Highlights included favorites such as *Dona Nobis Pacem* and *Angels We Have Heard on High* by the choir with piano accompaniment provided by Ciriaco Colella, and seasonal compositions by the band. The entire ensemble joined together for performances of *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* to round out the evening's performance.

Friends and families gathered at Vicenza Middle School Dec. 12 for the annual Holiday Concert conducted by music program director Eldon Kirkhum, which featured a repertoire of new compositions and familiar favorites. The choir sounded like angels singing *Good King Wenceslas*

and *Silent Night*.

The combined band performed *O, Come Little Children* and *Lo, How a Rose*. The advanced band continued the concert with renditions of *Angels in the Bleak Midwinter* and themes from the *Nutcracker Suite*, and Vicenza Elementary School second-grader Hannah Ruderman joined the band for a rendition of *All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth*. The concert concluded with a rollicking, upbeat performance of *Jingle Bell Rock*.

The musical celebrations continued up through the end of the school year with additional performances by the VHS Rhythm and Blues Band for an uplifting end to a musical year.

# Sky Soldiers train on Caserma Ederle

Photos by Paolo Bovo





*Paratroopers of 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) train on Caserma Ederle Dec. 6. The Sky Soldiers engaged in military operations in urban terrain, or MOUT, training, and conducted rappel training on the Joint Multinational Training Command-constructed, 34-foot jump tower, the only Army jump tower in Europe. The facilities are a component of the Caserma Ederle Airborne Refresher Training Facility.*

**Outlook**

**This is the last issue of The Outlook in 2013. Our first edition of 2014 will post to the web Jan. 10. For updates in the interim, go to [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)**

# Christmas wish comes true in Bertessinella

Story and photos by Laura Kreider

USAG Vicenza PAO

It may seem unusual to talk about Christmas during the summertime, but for Gigi Goldin, a member of the local theater group in nearby Bertessinella, it's been a constant subject of conversation since August.

Goldin, along with his theater friends and community residents had a wish: to bring the Soldiers' Theatre holiday musical production, *Celebrate Christmas*, to their town venue, *Teatro Cà Balbi*, where they had hosted the show three years ago.

"People keep asking about hosting it again," said Goldin, who has been attending Soldiers' Theatre holiday shows over the years.

So starting last August, they worked to turn their idea into a project, and coordinated with USAG Vicenza and the Soldiers' Theatre crew to make it a reality.

A series of meetings between Soldiers' Theatre director Jerry Brees and audio technician Barry Robinson with *Teatro Cà Balbi* representatives laid the groundwork of technical details regarding the set and audio systems, and before long *Celebrate Christmas* was ready to travel a mile down the road for a performance Dec. 15.

The cast of 36, which had just completed its two-week run on Caserma Ederle, drew a large and enthusiastic Italian audience to *Teatro Cà Balbi* for their final performance of the year.

"*Celebrate Christmas* has been skillfully performed by our friends of Caserma Ederle," said Goldin. "They put our audience in the magic of Christmas from the first notes."

"It has been very nice being invited to the theater," said Vicenza town council member Anna Maria Cordova. "Besides a good opportunity for an intercultural exchange, the event also offered a very pleasant way to celebrate



Cast members dance through a musical number during a performance of *Celebrate Christmas* at the *Teatro Cà Balbi* Dec. 15.

together the holiday season."

USAG Vicenza Commander, Col. Robert Menist Jr., and Deputy Garrison Commander, Chuck Walls, attended the holiday performance as well.

## Sharing the holiday spirit with friends

"What a tremendous performance by some truly talented Vicenza singers. I am glad we could share the holiday spirit with the Italian community and look forward to their next performance," said Menist.

Cast member Luigi Dalla Vecchia, who has performed in at least 10 Soldiers' Theatre productions over the years, said the audience was very pleased by the show.

"It has been very pleasant to perform off post. I think the audience really enjoyed the different holiday show style, especially those Italians who do not know the installation or do not have the opportunity to be present for the performances at Soldiers' Theatre," he said.

The show's joyous holiday atmosphere carried over to a post-performance reception at a nearby café where, while appreciating a mix of American and Italian traditional holiday sweets, cast members, theater goers, their families and friends had the chance to exchange Christmas greetings.

"The cast and crew of *Celebrate Christmas* were thrilled to share our holiday show with the local community. The experience of sharing Christmas music and traditions with new friends was so exciting and made our holiday season special," said production director Brees.

"This evening has been valuable, especially for its significance of togetherness. The heartfelt spirit got round a barrier that sometimes may be caused by a different language," Goldin said.

For Goldin and the theater lovers of Bertessinella, their Christmas wish came true.



## AAFES HOLIDAY HOURS

Vicenza Facilities	Dec. 24, 2013	Dec. 25, 2013	Dec. 26, 2013	Dec. 31, 2013	Jan. 1, 2014
MAIN STORE	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
GHEDI	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
MCSS	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	CLOSED	9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	CLOSED
CAR CARE CENTER	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
EXPRESS	5 a.m.-8 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	5 a.m.-11 p.m.	5 a.m.-10 p.m.	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
VILLAGGIO EXPRESS	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	CLOSED	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	CLOSED
BURGER KING	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	CLOSED
ANTHONY'S PIZZA	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
SUBWAY	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
CHARLEY'S	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
POPEYE'S	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
TACO BELL	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
THEATER	CLOSED	CLOSED	6 p.m.-9 p.m.	CLOSED	11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
BARBER SHOP (302)	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
BEAUTY SALON (302)	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
EUROPCAR (302)	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
COFFEE SHOP (302)	7 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	7 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
OPTICAL CENTER (302)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
PETALS AND BLOOMS (302)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
CELLULAR PHONE (302)	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
RUG GALLERY (302)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
GIFTS GALORE (302)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
NEW CAR SALES (302)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
STRIPES (227)	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
GREEK GYROS (383)	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
THE GRILL (384)	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
DJ&HOPPS (385)	10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	CLOSED
CIAO CAFÉ	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED
FAMILY HAIR CARE (305)	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
THE CLEANERS (305)	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED
IRONING SERVICE (305)	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED
TKS INTERNET (393)	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN EXPRESS	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN SUBWAY	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN CELL	2-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	2-4 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN BARBER	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN CAFÉ	7 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	7 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
DEL DIN MENSA CAFÉ	7 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	7 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED
LAUNDERETTE (305)	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS
Facility - Livorno	Dec. 24, 2013	Dec. 25, 2013	Dec. 26, 2013	Dec. 31, 2013	Jan. 1, 2014
MAIN STORE/EXPRESS	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
LI LAUNDERETTE	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS	24 HOURS
BARBER SHOP	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
BEAUTY SALON	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
TUSCAN CAFÉ	7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	CLOSED
STRIPES	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
CELLULAR PHONE/GIFTS	11 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	CLOSED
EUROPCAR	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
GIFTS GALORE	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED



# Race Across America 2014

Run, Walk, Bike, Elliptical, Group Exercise

**5,525 miles**

**West Point, NY to Presidio, CA**

(Not really - workout miles take place at Darby)

1 minute of cardio exercise = 5 miles

Registration: Dec 26, 2013-Jan 10, 2014\*

Registration fee: \$10

Program runs: Jan 13-Mar 2, 2014

ALL finishers receive a custom designed t-shirt

\* You must be registered to be tracked



Darby Fitness Center | Call 633-7438 | [www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

## He knows my Daddy

Wife Claudia Medrano and daughter Penelope (center) watch as a well-wisher congratulates Staff Sgt. Francisco Medrano, 405th Field Support Battalion, Italy, upon his promotion to the rank of Sergeant 1st Class in a ceremony at the battalion headquarters Dec. 17.

# Speak Out

*If you could have one wish come true, what would it be?*



**Veronica Carpina**

Humanitarian Assistance Program

*"I wish life will just continue as it is now."*



**Clinton Ryan**

Humanitarian Assistance Program

*"I will wish for more wishes."*



**Lisa Woeber**

DPW Environmental

*"I wish to continue working in Italy."*

## DMC holiday closures, hours of operation

The **Education Center** will close Dec. 20 and re-open Jan. 6.

**Army Community Service** will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

**Vehicle Registration Office** hours of operation will be as follows:

Dec. 23 – 8 a.m. to noon

Dec. 24-26 – closed

Dec. 27– 8 a.m. to noon

Dec. 30 – 8 a.m. to noon

Dec. 31 – closed

Jan. 1 – closed

Jan. 2 – 8 a.m. to noon

Jan. 3 – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jan. 6 – 8 a.m. to noon

**Livorno Commissary** store hours of operation will be:

Dec. 23 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dec. 24 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 25 – closed

Dec. 26 – closed

Dec. 30 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dec. 31 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Jan. 1 – closed

**The Clinic** will close Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m. and will operate on a half-day schedule — 8 a.m. to noon — from Dec. 23 to Jan. 3. It will be closed all day Dec. 25, Dec. 27, Dec. 30 and Jan. 1-2. The Liaison On Call telephone contact is 335-832-6778.

**DLA Disposition Services Livorno** will be closed Dec. 23-31. Regular business will resume Jan. 2

**PW Supply and Self Help**, Building 5156 on the Depot, will be closed Dec. 27-31. The POC is Sofia Afasano at 633-7253.

# EDGE! Youth Boxing is big hit in Vicenza

Story and photos by Kim Ambar

FMWR partnership specialist

I recently ran across a photograph from years ago of my brother donning boxing garb and posing in front of his Golden Gloves trophies for photo memento.

I remembered asking him why boxing had been so important in his early life and how he explained to me that through his rough childhood, boxing had provided him with determination, respect, discipline, self control, focus, confidence, teamwork and a great work ethic to succeed in life.

Thinking back on his responses made me realize there could be great value in bringing the discipline of boxing to the young adults of the Vicenza Military Community as a Youth and School-Age Services program. It would be both a great way to pay homage to my brother's accomplishments, as a boxer and as a person, and to empower the youth of our community.

As plans progressed, a venue was reserved, a dedicated trainer was brought onboard and equipment was purchased, but the question still remained: Would the youth of the VMC come?

A month later, the answer is a resounding yes.

The EDGE! Youth Boxing program got under way in November and there is already a waiting list for enrollment. Only 10 boxers may enroll in six sessions per month. All skill levels are encouraged.

Talking to the youth boxers I discovered a range of motives for their joining the class. Some wanted to learn self-defense, some were interested in the exercise and body conditioning, and some were attracted just because boxing is plain old cool.

What started out as a dream, has quickly turned into reality, with the establishment of ongoing youth boxing classes taking place on Caserma Ederle.

Staff Sgt. Samuel Griffin was chosen as the EDGE! Youth Boxing trainer because he shared a similar philosophy about the benefits of a youth boxing program. Griffin has been a certified boxing coach since 2011 and has most recently served as the USAG Vicenza community boxing team trainer.

In his first class of boxing basic training, Griffin went over the ethical principles that underpin the sport, and required each youth boxer to sign a code of conduct agreement before beginning to learn the ABCs of boxing.

With a range of skill levels in the class, other community boxers volunteer their time and expertise as instructors depending on demand and availability.

To date, the first group of novice youth boxers has advanced to the intermediate skill level. They continue to progress, not only in boxing, but also in advancing their maturity as principled and skilled young adults. It's a win-win situation both in the ring and in everyday life.

For information about the program call the EDGE! program director at 634-6967.



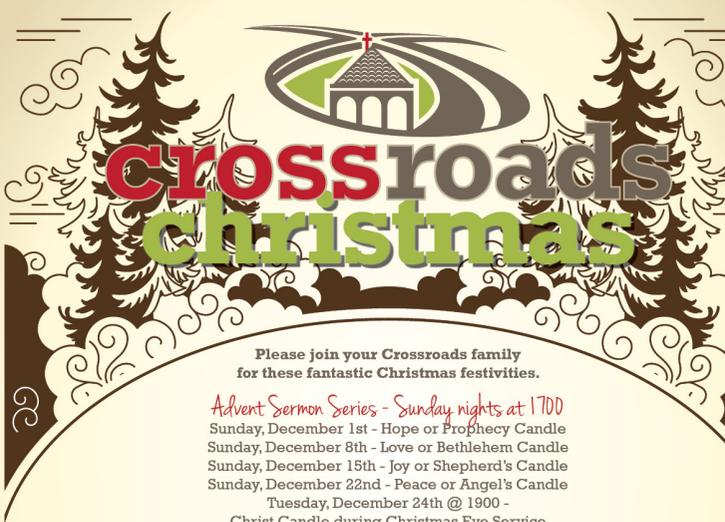
Zillah Military Lodge #167  
**1ST ANNUAL CHARITY**  
**Winter Coat**  
**Drive**

NOW THROUGH FRIDAY, 27 DECEMBER

**PLEASE DONATE**  
**WINTER CLOTHING!**  
*Coats, Hats, Sweaters, Gloves*

Must be clean and in a bag

**DROP OFF LOCATION**  
**Customer Service at the Main Exchange**



Please join your Crossroads family for these fantastic Christmas festivities.

*Advent Sermon Series - Sunday nights at 1700*  
 Sunday, December 1st - Hope or Prophecy Candle  
 Sunday, December 8th - Love or Bethlehem Candle  
 Sunday, December 15th - Joy or Shepherd's Candle  
 Sunday, December 22nd - Peace or Angel's Candle  
 Tuesday, December 24th @ 1900 -  
 Christ Candle during Christmas Eve Service

*Crossroads Christmas Celebrations*  
 Sunday, December 15th - Crossroads Kids lead Praise & Worship  
 Crossroads Christmas Fellowship Dinner in Chapel Activity Room following service.  
 Bring your favorite Christmas-themed side dish and dessert to share.

Wednesday, December 18th - Starting at 9 a.m., drop off homemade cookies at the chapel.  
 Meet at the Chapel at 6 p.m. for Christmas Caroling on Caserma Ederle including the gym, PX, MP & Fire Stations and more!  
 We'll spread Christmas cheer including homemade cookies and hot chocolate.

*Community Christmas Celebrations*  
 Saturday, November 30th - 10 to Noon - Advent Workshop at the Chapel  
 Noon to 1 p.m. - Lunch provided in the Chapel Activity Room  
 1 to 3 p.m. - Hanging of the Greens in the Chapel

Tuesday, December 17th - 9 to 11:30 a.m. - PWOC Christmas Brunch in the Chapel

Questions? E-mail [VicenzaCrossroads@yahoo.com](mailto:VicenzaCrossroads@yahoo.com)

**Make Crossroads your Home for the Holidays!**

*Meet Him - Know Him - Share Him*



Photo by David Ruderman

## Eagle Scout honors bestowed

AJ Munoz-Persinger has a thoughtful moment at the Golden Lion on Caserma Ederle Dec. 13, as members and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 295 assembled to hold an Eagle Scout Court in his honor. Family, friends and fellow Scouts were in attendance to mark the attainment of Eagle Scout status. Munoz-Persinger is the son of Nitza Persinger of the Italy Finance Office and William Persinger of U.S. Army Africa's G-1 section. His Eagle Scout project was based on organizing, preparing and delivering a cargo van's worth of clothing and food supplies for residents of Mirandola (Modena), who were devastated by the major earthquake and aftershocks that struck Northern Italy in the summer of 2012. Though his project is complete, AJ will carry on with his scouting, said his father. "He's done it all, but he's still with the troop as an assistant junior scout master," he said.

**Get latest updates**  
**online at**  
[www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)



# Family and MWR

## Vicenza Military Community



### ODR Trips

- Dec 21 St. Gilgen & Salzburg
- Dec 21 Val Senales
- Dec 22 Lucca Christmas Markets
- Dec 22 San Martino
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Dinner in Villa
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Ski & Snowboard
- Dec 28 Rome Express @ Christmas Time

Register on Webtrac or at ODR. Call 634-7453 for information or visit our website.

### Ederle CDC Dec. Closure

Due to the repair of the HVAC system in CDC Building 398 on Caserma Ederle, CDC 398 will be closed from December 21-January 5. There will be no programs offered at CDC 398 during that time and fees for programming will be suspended. This will not be counted against vacation time for children in regular care who are charged monthly fees. Hourly care will be available on a limited basis at the Villaggio CDC 703 and FCC during this time. The phone numbers are as follows: CDC 703 (0444-71-5700) and FCC (0444-71-7615) Please contact the CDC front desk if you have any questions or concerns.

### Book Bowling for New Year's Eve

Bowl the New Year in with your friends! Book your two hour package that includes shoes and bowling for 6 and a large cheese pizza with a pitcher of soda and party favors for just \$34.95. Time blocks are 5-7 p.m., 8-10 p.m., 11 p.m.-1 p.m. Call 634-8257.

### Strike Zone Christmas Specials

Yes the Arena is open Christmas Day! Head on over and unwrap some amazing deals!

- \$10 Cheese Pizza
- \$5 Burger Combo
- \$29.95 Family Movie Special

### New Year's Day Specials at the Arena

Spend New Year's Day at the Arena with your friends! The Strike Zone snack bar will offer two New Year's Day specials and you can enjoy the Family Movie Night Bowling package 6-8 p.m. For info, call 634-8257.

### Winter Wonderland with ODR

Join ODR and check out the magical winter at Gardaland! Register at ODR or on WebTrac.



Register using MWR Online Services for:

**Vicenza Trip & Classes**

**Vicenza CYSS Activities**

**Vicenza Facebook Page**





## Darby Military Community



### Visit Rome During the Holidays

Rome during the holidays is especially beautiful.

Join ODR and visit:

- St. Peter's Square
- Vatican Museum
- Sistine Chapel
- St. Peter's Basilica

Register at Outdoor Recreation or on WebTrac.

Call 633-7775 or visit our website for more info.

### ODR Trips

Dec 21, Rome Trip

Dec 28, Florence Trip

Jan 4, Outlet Shopping Trip

Jan 4, Abetone Ski Trip

Complete list and trip info on

[www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)

### Sea Pines Winter Specials

Visitors for the holidays? Put them up at Sea

Pines with our 50% off winter rates. Nightly

rates are just:

- \$30 Rustic Cabin
- \$35 Standard Room
- \$40 Deluxe Room
- \$45 Deluxe Cabin

For a full list of amenities and monthly rates visit  
our website.

### Race Across America 2014

Go ahead, have those extra helpings and  
desserts this holiday season; you can work it all  
off with Race Across America 2014!

Travel from West Point, NY to Presidio, CA  
(without ever leaving Darby!). All destination  
points each week are military installations across  
America. Run, walk, bike, elliptical or group  
exercise. 1 minute of cardio exercise = 5 miles.

Registration for this popular event begins Dec.  
26. For more info, contact Darby Fitness Center  
at 633-7438.

### FMWR Holiday Hours

Holiday operational hours for Darby FMWR  
facilities can be found at  
[www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)

### CYSS Abetone Ski Trips

CYSS youth are going to Abetone for a day of  
snow on January 3 & 24. Register at the Youth  
Center or on WebTrac by Jan 2. For info, contact  
633-7521.



Register using MWR Online Services for:

**Darby Trip & Classes**

**Darby CYSS Activities**



**Darby Facebook Page**

# VENETO

## **Corri Babbo Natale Corri** **Run Santa Claus, Run**

The Vicenza Military Community is invited to participate in the eighth annual Run Santa Claus, Run charity event Dec. 21 in Vicenza. Participants may pre-register to receive their outfit before race day or sign up and pay on the day of the event at 10 a.m. To register in advance call Beatrice Giometto at 634-7901 or 0444-71-7901.

## **Mercatini ed eventi natalizi** **Christmas markets and events**

### **Vicenza: Nativity sets in 15 churches downtown**

**Light Fest**, Through Jan. 7 led lights will decorate downtown monuments and historical palaces enhancing the Christmas atmosphere.

**Corso Fogazzaro**, 1st edition of the French Christmas Market; through Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; it closes on 6 p.m. on Dec. 24.

**Campo Marzo**, Vicenza on Ice, ongoing through Jan. 27; ice skating ring; open daily 3-9 p.m.; two hours with ice skates rental €8 (€6 for children under 12); Saturdays, Sundays and holidays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-10 p.m.; two hours with ice skates rental €10 (€8 for children under 12); entry without skate rental is €6.

**Galleria Parco Città**, Via Quadri, Dec. 21-22, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., collectors' items Christmas market.

**Bassano del Grappa**: Piazza Garibaldi e Piazza Libertà, thorough Jan. 6, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Christmas stands feature *vin brulè* (hot spiced wine), hot tea, sandwiches, holidays sweets and crafts;

**Piazzotto Montevecchio**, Through Jan. 6; every Saturday afternoon and the whole day on Sundays; in Piazza Libertà, ongoing through Jan. 8, eco-skating ring.

**Belluno**: Piazza dei Martiri, about 103 miles north of Vicenza; ongoing through Dec. 31, daily 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed on Dec. 25; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Bolzano**: in Piazza Walther, ongoing through Jan 6, 2014; Monday – Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed on Dec. 24-25; More than 80 stallholders in their typical little huts offer traditional seasonal gifts (handmade wooden, glass and ceramic products along with Christmas tree decorations, delicious seasonal pastries and many original gifts), plenty of food specialties available plus mulled wine; children's Christmas market where kids can take an active part baking Christmas cookies and make small Christmas decorations and presents.

**Bressanone**: ongoing through Jan. 6, Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Sunday and holiday: 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.; closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1; in Piazza Duomo, about 154 miles north of Vicenza; food booths feature local specialties; live music and carnival rides.

## **Presepi in Vicenza**



**Bussolengo (Verona)**: Natale Flower Village - Christmas Market, ongoing through Jan. 12; 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; closed on Dec. 25 and Jan 1, 2014, in Via Pastrengo 16, about 42 miles west of Vicenza; entrance fee: €1 on Saturday and Sunday; free entrance on weekdays.

**Gallio**: in Piazzetta dei Giardini, about 40 miles north of Vicenza; Dec. 21 to Jan. 6; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m.; wooden outdoor booths featuring local holiday sweets, hot chocolate, *vin brulè*, local crafts and gift items. Entertainment with jugglers, musicians, fire-eaters, street artists, gnomes, elves, and acrobats. Shows and workshops for children.

**Garda**: Natale tra gli Olivi - Christmas market among olive trees, ongoing through Jan 6, Wednesdays-Thursdays, 3-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays and holiday eves 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Piazza Catullo e Lungolago Regina Adelaide; local and Tyrolean products; entertainment for children; folk music and dancing; art exhibits and local nativity set.

**Jesolo**: Sand Nativity Set, ongoing through Feb. 2; daily 10 a.m. to noon and 2-6 p.m.; in Piazza Marconi; a huge sand nativity sculptured by the best sand artists in the world; free entrance.

**Trento**: ongoing through Dec. 30, Piazza Fiera, about 92 miles north of Vicenza; Mondays – Fridays, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; closed on Dec. 25; more than 60 wooden huts feature traditional holiday decorations, crafts, sweets, local products, gift ideas, and gourmet items.

**Verona**: ongoing through Dec. 22, Piazza dei Signori, Cortile Mercato Vecchio, Cortile del Tribunale; Sunday – Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday, Saturday and holiday eves 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; traditional holiday

*Continued on next page*

crafts and gift items; food booths; Nov. 30-Jan 26, at the Arena, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Nativity scenes display from around the world; entrance fee; €7; reduced €6 for children 6-12 and senior citizen over 60. **Mercatini di Santa Lucia** – Saint Lucia Christmas market, Dec. 12-13, 9 a.m. – 10 p.m., in Piazza Brà; over 300 booths feature holiday sweets, gift ideas, toys and the traditional carousel; the square is lighted by a huge steel comet star sculpture surging from the Arena into Piazza Brà.

**Villafranca:** ongoing through Dec. 24, in Piazza Giovanni XXIII, and Dec. 20-24 in Via Pace, about 46 miles west of Vicenza; live music and entertainment, wooden chalets featuring local holiday crafts, food specialties, and hot chocolate.

### Presepi

#### Nativity sets exhibits

**Bassano del Grappa:** Dec. 25-Jan. 6, in Viale Scalabrini, 9 a.m. to noon and 2-7 p.m. **Bolzano,** Via dei Presepi – Nativity sets Avenue: ongoing through Dec. 31. in Corso Libertà, Piazza Vittoria and in Piazza Gries.

**Thiene:** Artistic Nativity sets exhibit, ongoing through Jan. 6, 2014, Confcommercio Conference Room, Via Montello 33; Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 4-7 p.m.; Tuesdays – Fridays 4-7 p.m.; closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. **Verona:** ongoing through Jan 26, at the Arena, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Nativity scenes display from around the world; entrance fee; €7; reduced €6 for children 6-12 and senior citizen over 60.

**Vicenza:** for a complete listing of nativity sets in Vicenza, visit <http://www.comune.vicenza.it/vicenza/eventi/evento.php/93589>

#### Bodies revealed

Ongoing through March 30, 2014, in Jesolo, Piazza Brescia; Saturdays, Sundays and Italian holidays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; open daily from Dec. 26 to Jan. 6; this exhibit offers an intimate and informative view into the human body. Using an innovative preservation process, it allows visitors to see the human body's inner beauty in educational and awe-inspiring ways. It features more than 200 actual human bodies and specimens meticulously dissected and respectfully displayed, offering an unprecedented and wholly unique view into the amazing body; entrance fee: €16; €12 for children 6-14; reduced: €14 for senior citizens over 65, disabled and their helpers; free for children under 5.

## TUSCANY

### Mercatini ed eventi natalizi Christmas markets and events

**Barbarino di Mugello (Florence):** Dec. 22, 29; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Piazza Cavour and Corso Corsini.

**Firenze:** Piazza Santa Croce, German Christmas Market, ongoing through Dec. 22, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., week-ends 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; more than 50 vendors and

carnival rides for children.

**Pisa:** La Fabbrica di Babbo Natale - Santa Claus Factory, through Dec. 29, 2013, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Stazione Leopolda, Piazza Guerrazzi; entrance fee: €6; €4 for children; toy making workshops for children; Christmas market, food booths; games, bounce houses; face-painting.

**Prato:** Through Dec. 23, in Piazza Duomo; 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### Dream Theater play Milano Jan. 20



## CONCERTS

**New York Ska Jazz Ensemble** - Dec. 27 in Mezzago  
**Dream Theater** –Jan. 20 in Assago (Milan), Jan. 23 in Padova

**Michael Bubl ** - Jan. 27-28, 2014 in Assago (Milan)

**Backstreet Boys** - Feb. 22, 2014 in Assago (Milan)

**Simple Minds** - Feb. 25, 2014 in Assago (Milan)

**James Blunt** - March 18 in Assago (Milan)

**Robbie Williams** – May 1 in Torino

**Ben Harper** – May 9 in Padova, May 13 in Milan

**Yes** - May 17 in Padova, May 18 in Assago (Milan)

**Lisa Stansfield** – May 28 in Padova, May 29 in Bologna

**Aerosmith** - June 25 in Milan

Tickets at Media World, Palladio Shopping Center or online.

## HOLIDAY SPECIALS

### Magic Winter at Gardaland

Dec. 26-31 and Jan. 2-6; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; in Castelnuovo del Garda, Via Derna, about 45 miles west of Vicenza

### Rainbow Magicland

Dec. 26-31 and Jan. 2-6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Via della Pace, Valmontone, Roma.

Visit the VMC community calendar for the latest event details and updates at [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil)

### SJA holiday hours

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be open from 9 a.m. to noon on Dec. 23, 24, 26, 31 and Jan. 2 and 3; open by appointment only Dec. 27 and 30, and from 1-4 p.m. by appointment only Dec. 23, 24, 26, 31, and January 2 and 3. Closed Christmas and New Year's. Call 634-7041 or 0444-71-7041 to schedule an appointment.

### Tax Center seeks volunteer

The Vicenza Tax Center seeks a volunteer interested in taxes with customer service skills and looking to gain hands on experience. Call 0444-71-7316 or 634-7316 for information.

### Cougars vs. U17 on Ederle

The Vicenza High School Cougars basketball squad will take on the highly rated team from Umana Venezia Reyer Dec. 21 at the post gym. All are welcome to attend.

### Soldiers' Theatre

The Soldiers' Theatre will conduct auditions for **Sweet Charity** Jan. 13-14. If you have ever considered being in a show, this is the show for you. They seek a very large cast actors, singers and dancers age 16 and up; no experience necessary. Performances will take place March 14-30.

The popular annual **Acoustic Jam 2014 with Roberto Dalla Vecchia and Friends** will take the stage Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at 7:30 pm. Get tickets, \$10, at 634-7281 or 0444-71-7281.

### VA benefits brief

Veterans Affairs benefits briefer Carmeline Morris conducts VA benefits briefings for transitioning service members and individual assistance sessions to discuss VA benefits details. Call 634-6694.

## Christmas Specials

at the Arena



December 25  
from 4-10 p.m.

The \$10 Cheese Pizza

A \$5 Burger Combo  
*Includes burger, fries and a soda.*

The Family Movie Night Special - \$29.95

*From 6-8 p.m. get 2 hrs of bowling (up to 6 people), free shoes, a cheese pizza & a pitcher of soda.*

For more information call 634-8257.  
[www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)

**Vehicle Registration holiday hours**  
The Vehicle Registration Office in Torri will be closed Dec. 25-27 and Jan. 1. It will be open Dec. 30 and 31 and Jan. 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 637-7820 or 637-7821 for assistance.

### ABC-C telephone counselors

ABC-C telephone counselors will be available Dec. 24 from 6 a.m. to noon, Central Standard Time (US). In case of emergency, please call 785-239-6000. Normal telephone service hours will resume Dec. 26. Counselors will be available from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST. For fast and easy transactions, visit the ABC-C website at <https://www.abc.army.mil>

### USAHC holiday schedule

U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza will observe the following schedule: Dec. 25, closed except for the Birthing Center; Dec. 26, regular hours; Dec. 27, closed except for the Birthing Center; Dec. 30, closed except for the Birthing Center; Dec. 31, regular hours; Jan. 1-2, closed except for the Birthing Center. MEDEVAC bus service will not run to Landstuhl the week of Dec. 23-27; it will resume normal service Dec. 30.

### South of the Alps closures

The South of the Alps Dining Facility will be closed Dec. 24-25, and Jan. 6-23. The SOTA DFAC will be open Dec. 19-20 and Dec. 31 to Jan. 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for brunch and again from 4:30-6 p.m. for dinner.

### 414th training

The 414th Contracting Support Brigade will provide quarterly training Jan. 14-15 for personnel who need acquisition planning and requirement documents development training. Training is also available for new personnel and recertifying Contracting Officer Representatives and Government Purchase Card holders for all USARAF, USAG-Vicenza and tenant units. Call John Dingeman at 637-7728 for details and assistance.

**The Outlook**  
accepts submissions

Email content for consideration by noon on Friday of the week before publication to

[editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil)

## TARP briefings available

The Vicenza Military Intelligence Detachment provides Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP) briefings on request. To schedule a briefing call 634-7688 or 331-172-2142.

## Flu vaccination at USAHC

All civilian beneficiary influenza vaccines are being administered at the Health Center Immunization Clinic in Pediatrics Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1-4 p.m. Soldiers will continue to get their flu shots in the Readiness section.

## Caserma Ederle Fitness Center

The Vicenza **community boxing team** trains Monday through Friday, 6:10-p p.m. Stop by for information.

Unit/Recreational **racquetball open challenge play** is ongoing weekdays from 5-8 p.m. at the Fitness Center; stop to sign up.

Unit/Recreational **basketball open play** is under way Monday,

Wednesday and Friday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center.

Unit/Recreational **rugby open play** takes place Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. at the Fitness Center grass field.

Community **soccer practice** is held Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30-9 p.m. at the turf field.

**Tennis open reservation play** gets going Monday through Wednesday from 6-9 p.m. Meet at the tennis courts to play and meet other players.

Unit/Recreational **soccer open play and practice** take place Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-9 p.m.

## Commissary holiday hours

The Caserma Ederle Commissary has set its hours of operation for the upcoming holiday season:

**Dec. 23:** Monday before Christmas - open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve - open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Dec. 25-26:** Christmas - closed

**Dec. 30:** Monday before New Year's - open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve - open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Jan. 1:** New Year's Day - closed

## FOIA training

Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act training is scheduled for March 25-27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Building 1368 on Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, Germany. The class is recommended for primary and alternate FOIA/PA officers, attorneys and legal advisers. To register, send your name, unit, UIC and DSN number via email to [usarmy.badenwur.usareur.mbx.freedom-of-information-act@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.badenwur.usareur.mbx.freedom-of-information-act@mail.mil)

## Club Beyond Austria April 2014

Club Beyond Adventure Camp for middle schoolers will take place in Austria April 6-11. Activities will include indoor rock-climbing, a high-ropes course, zip-lines and more. Send an email to [avolmert@clubbeyond.org](mailto:avolmert@clubbeyond.org) to register. First 20 students to turn in their application and deposit will receive a \$100 transportation discount.

# At the movies



## Saving Mr. Banks

When Walt Disney's daughters beg him to make a movie of their favorite book, *Mary Poppins*, he makes them a promise, one he doesn't realize will take him 20 years to keep. *Saving Mr. Banks* is the story of how Uncle Walt woos curmudgeonly author P.L. Travers to let his studio bring her story to the screen. Stars Emma Thompson and Tom Hanks.

## Ederle Theater

Dec. 19	7 p.m.	Thor: The Dark World (PG-13)
Dec. 20	7 p.m.	Tyler Perry: A Madea Christmas (PG-13) *
	10 p.m.	Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) *
Dec. 21	3 p.m.	Ender's Game (PG-13)
	6 p.m.	Tyler Perry: A Madea Christmas (PG-13) *
Dec. 22	3 p.m.	Thor: The Dark World (PG-13)
	6 p.m.	Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) *
Dec. 26	7 p.m.	Walking with Dinosaurs (PG) *
Dec. 27	7 p.m.	Walking with Dinosaurs in 3D (PG) *
Dec. 28	3 p.m.	Walking with Dinosaurs (PG) *
	6 p.m.	Anchorman 2: Legend Continues PG-13) *
Dec. 29	3 p.m.	Walking with Dinosaurs in 3D (PG) *
	6 p.m.	Grudge Match (PG-13) *
Jan. 1	11 a.m.	The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) *
	7 p.m.	The Book Thief (PG-13) *
Jan. 2	7 p.m.	The Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) *

**Admission:** 3D first run (\*), adult, \$8, under 12, \$5.25; 3D second run, adult \$7.50, under 12, \$5; first run (\*), adult, \$6, under 12, \$3.25; second run, adult \$5.50, under 12, \$3.

**Advance tickets:** On sale Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the PX Food Court entrance, except on federal holidays. Up to 50 percent of seats will be on sale; the remainder go on sale one hour before show time at the theater box office.

**Film ratings** and reviews are available at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

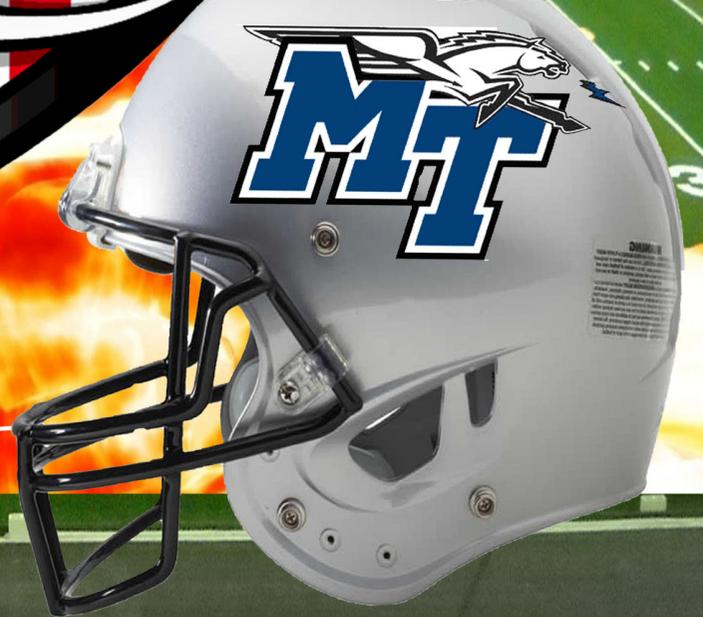


**Bell Helicopter**  
A Textron Company

**ARMED FORCES**

★ **BOWL** ★

**TAILGATE PARTY**



When: 30 Dec. at 1630  
Where: Hoekstra Field Pavilion  
Enjoy FREE food at a great game!



**American Red Cross**



Until Every One Comes Home®

# Know before you go



## Vicenza AAFES facility holiday hours

Vicenza Facility	Dec. 24, 2013	Dec. 25, 2013	Dec. 26, 2013	Dec. 31, 2013	Jan. 1, 2104
Del Din ODR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	4-7 p.m.
Ederle ODR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-2 p.m.
ACS	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
Arena Bowling	4-9 p.m.	4-10 p.m.	11 a.m.-11 p.m.	11 a.m.-2 a.m.	1 p.m.-1 a.m.
Arena Strike Zone	4-9 p.m.	4-10 p.m.	11 a.m.-11 p.m.	11 a.m.-2 a.m.	1 p.m.-midnight
Arena Lion's Den	4-9 p.m.	4-10 p.m.	11 a.m.-11 p.m.	4 p.m.-2 a.m.	4 p.m.-2 a.m.
Arts & Crafts	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
Del Din Library	11 a.m.-4 p.m.	11 a.m.-4 p.m.	11 a.m.-6 p.m.	11 a.m.-4 p.m.	CLOSED
Ederle Library	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	10:30 a.m.-7 p.m.	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
Auto Skills Center	CLOSED	CLOSED	noon-8 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
Del Din Fitness	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	CLOSED
Ederle Fitness	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	CLOSED
Fitness Bubble	Normal Hours	CLOSED	Normal Hours	Normal Hours	CLOSED
Soldiers' Theatre	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Warrior Zone	5-10 p.m.	5-10 p.m.	Normal Hours	7 p.m.-2 a.m.	5-11 p.m.
Youth Center Villaggio	1-7 p.m.	CLOSED	1-7 p.m.	1-6 p.m.	CLOSED
Teen Center*	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
*Middle School and Teen Center combine operations at Villaggio during winter break Dec. 23-31					
CYSS Admin (308)	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
FCC Office	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SLO Office	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
EDGE and Hired!	CLOSED Dec. 23-Jan. 1				
SKIES Unlimited	CLOSED Dec. 20-Jan. 6				
CYSS Sports & Fitness	Normal Hours	CLOSED	CLOSED	Normal Hours	CLOSED
Parent Central Services	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	CLOSED	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	CLOSED
SAC (B-703)	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	CLOSED	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	CLOSED
CDC Villaggio (B-703)	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	CLOSED	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	5:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m.	CLOSED
CDC (B-398)	CLOSED Dec. 23-Jan. 5				

For additional dates during the Holiday period not listed, visit <http://vicenza.armymwr.com/index.php/europe/vicenza/>

Winter 2013-2014

U.S. Army MWR

# Youth Center Ski & Snowboard Trips

Ring in the new year in the beautiful medieval city of Zagreb!

# New Year's Eve Zagreb, Croatia

December 31 - January 1

# 2014

**Cost: \$230\***

Includes: trip leader, transportation,  
1 night in a 4-star hotel, breakfast  
and guided tour

\*Price per person for double room  
\$100 single supplement

**Trip information:**

This trip is for adults only  
Departs from Del Din Shoppette  
Optional dinner \$100



For info, call 634-7453 or enroll via WebTrac on [www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)



## Chaplain Crisis Line

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

### Vicenza

#### 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

#### Tuesday

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

**5 p.m.:** Contemporary Praise band practice

**6 p.m.:** PMOC and PWOC Bible study. Dinner provided; no watch care

#### Wednesday

**5:30 p.m.:** Catholic choir practice

**6:45 p.m.:** Gospel choir practice

#### Thursday

**9:30 a.m.:** St. Mark's Catholic Women

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

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

### VMC faith group contacts

**Bahá'í Faith:** Call 348-603-2283

**Church of Christ:** Call at 345-469-9974 or 0444-335-135 or send email: [vicenzaitalychurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:vicenzaitalychurchofchrist@gmail.com)

**Islamic:** Call 634-7519 or 0444-71-7519

**Jewish:** Call 345-907-2108

**Latter Day Saints:** Young Men/ Young Women meeting is every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Fitness Center. Sunday services, 1:30 p.m. in Vicenza. Call 389-268-5605 or email [drbob143@gmail.com](mailto:drbob143@gmail.com)

**Trinity Church Vicenza:** An International Presbyterian Church (IPC) congregation. Call 328-473-2949 or email [trinitychurchvicenza@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchvicenza@gmail.com)

**Vicenza Hospitality House:** A good place for anyone - single Soldiers, men, women and couples to enjoy food, fun and fellowship.

**Tuesday:** Dinner at 6:30 p.m. with PMOC Bible Study and Women's study following at 7:30.

**Friday:** Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m. with Walk in the Word following. Call if you need transportation. For more information call 0444-581-427.

**Call 634-7519 or 0444-71-7519 for info on Chapel activities**

## Camp Darby

### Sunday services

**11:15 a.m.:** Protestant worship and children's service

**Catholic Mass:** please call the Chapel at 633-7267 to confirm times as it changes depending on which priest is conducting mass.

### 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 DMC activities call 633-7267**

*The Outlook Religious Activities page provides announcements and may offer perspectives to enhance spiritual or religious resiliency in support of Army Comprehensive Fitness programs. Comments regarding specific beliefs, practices or behaviors are strictly those of the author and do not convey endorsement by the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Army, Installation Management Command or the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza.*

# Christmas Specials

at the Arena



**December 25**  
from 4-10 p.m.

**The \$10 Cheese Pizza**

**A \$5 Burger Combo**

*Includes burger, fries and a soda.*

**The Family Movie Night Special - \$29.95**

*From 6-8 p.m. get 2 hrs of bowling (up to 6 people), free shoes, a cheese pizza & a pitcher of soda.*

For more information call 634-8257.

[www.vicenza.armyMWR.com](http://www.vicenza.armyMWR.com)