

Outlook

Vicenza and Darby Military Communities

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NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE HONORED



IMCOM UNWRAPS 2025 PLAN

SKY SOLDIERS TRAIN IN ROMANIA

ANGEL TREE PROGRAM PREPS FOR KICK OFF



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On the cover

Derek and Mya Sanchez, along with their father, Marco (not pictured) perform the traditional Pueblo of Anoma Buffalo Dance at the Equal Opportunity Native American Heritage Month Nov. 14. In addition to the dancing, a poem was recited and food was sampled. See the whole story on page 8.

Photo by **Laura Kreider**, USAG Vicenza/PAO

Freedom 6: It's great to be on the USAREUR Team



By Lt. Gen. **Ben Hodges**
Commander, U.S. Army Europe

Hello United States Army Europe. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to join the tremendous Soldiers, Civilians, Families and host nation Allies here at U.S. Army Europe.

I was first stationed in Germany as a young 1st Lt. in 1983 with the 2nd Armored Division (Forward) in Garlstedt. I remember one day there was a lot of commotion in the company area when we heard the commanding general of USAREUR, Gen. Glen K. Otis, was coming to visit us. I thought that was really cool, and then I asked my company commander, "Sir, what is USAREUR?"

Now, I am very certain that United States Army Europe, along with our joint teammates, is the manifestation of the United States' commitment to the most powerful Alliance in history, NATO.

Coming from NATO Allied Land Command in Izmir, Turkey, I have seen firsthand how USAREUR utilizes its exceptional capacity and maintains a responsive force posture and effective network of installations and capabilities to protect U.S. interests and those of our Allies.

This is a pivotal time in the history of USAREUR and NATO. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain. We face a resurgent Russia that has illegally annexed Crimea and which threatens our friends and Allies. It will require a trained, ready and resilient United States Army Europe, as part of a joint team and a reinvigorated Alliance, to assure our Allies and deter Russia from further encroachment.

USAREUR's contribution to the success of U.S. European Command and our Alliance will be based on three enduring priorities: leader development, readiness, and enabling the Alliance and our partners.

Positive, adaptive leadership can solve any problem and accomplish any mission. I believe that USAREUR is the leadership laboratory for the Army as we have the unique advantage of working side by side with our Allies and partners every day. This emphasis on leader development will also ensure that we have an environment in our formations where every man and woman feels valued, empowered and confident in their fellow Soldiers and Civilians.

Readiness to perform any mission is why we are forward stationed in Europe. Though we make up only five percent of the Army's manpower, USAREUR touches or is involved in most of what the U.S. Army delivers in terms of strategic effect.

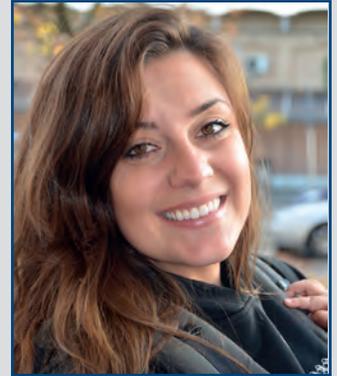
United States Army Europe will continue to be ready, reliable and forward stationed to underwrite the guarantee of collective defense, our Article 5 obligation of an attack on one is an attack on all. We've been here for 65 years doing just that, and we will continue to be prepared to win in a complex world.

I consider it an honor and privilege to lead this historic Team and look forward to seeing you all in your formations and communities throughout Europe.

Strong Soldiers, Strong Teams!

Speak Out

What are you doing for Winter Safety?



Angela Vega

Family member

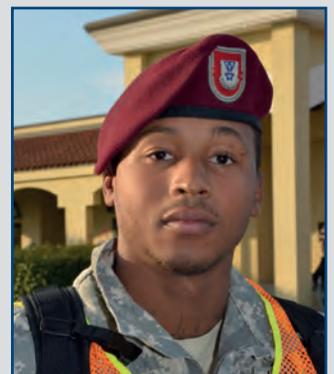
"Making sure our car is up to par for the winter!"



Kristan Wilson

Family member

"I have to get winter tires on my car."



Sgt. Rashawn Bethea

Fusion Company, 2nd Bn., 503rd Inf. Reg.

"Make sure my vehicle is winterized for the cold weather conditions."



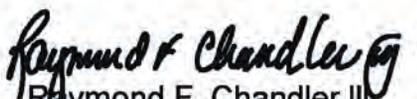
WARRIOR CARE MONTH 2014 – *Show of Strength*

Each November, the military Services commemorate our sacred obligation and enduring commitment to wounded, ill and injured Service members and their Families and caregivers. These men and women have personally contributed to the strength of the force and the strength of our Nation. Their determination and resilience in recovery inspires us all.

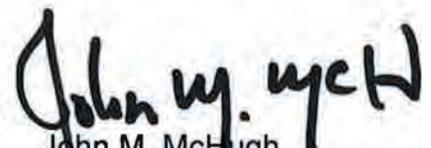
The theme for this year’s Warrior Care Month observance is *Show of Strength*. Across the Army, there will be weekly subthemes observed to celebrate our commitment to the wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their Families and caregivers. Subthemes include *Recovery, Reconditioning, Reintegration and Remaining Strong*.

The Army’s Warrior Care and Transition Program (WCTP) supports wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their Families throughout each phase of the recovery and transition process. At 25 Warrior Transition Units, Soldiers heal, hone vital skills and set and achieve goals across the career, emotional, spiritual, physical, social and Family spectrums. Demonstrating the resilient spirit of the Army, Soldiers emerge prepared to return to duty or to enter the workforce as Veterans. Since 2007, the WCTP has supported more than 62,000 Soldiers, with more than 28,000 of them returning to the force. Together, our Soldiers and our support teams continue to demonstrate the strength and teamwork of America’s Army.

Warrior Care Month is an opportunity to honor the strength and resilience of these incredible Soldiers, Families and caregivers. As we support them throughout each phase of their recovery and transition, we also celebrate their accomplishments. Army Strong!


Raymond F. Chandler III
Sergeant Major of the Army


Raymond T. Odierno
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff


John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army

IMCOM unveils plan for 2025, beyond

By **Jade Fulce**

U.S. Army Installation Management Command



The U.S. Army Installation Management Command released "IMCOM 2025 and Beyond," a new campaign plan operationalizing the commanding general's vision for the organization.

SAN ANTONIO — The U.S. Army Installation Management Command released "IMCOM 2025 and Beyond," a new campaign plan operationalizing the commanding general's vision for the organization. This plan provides a roadmap for IMCOM's future and serves as a change management document that focuses the command's collective efforts, prioritizes resources and continues the exchange of information, Lt. Gen. David Halverson, IMCOM commander, wrote in his preface. What we do must be nested within the U.S. Army senior leaders' priorities, Halverson said.

IMCOM is transforming to support and enable Army Force 2025 and Beyond with services to support and enhance the readiness of a smaller, regionally aligned and globally responsive force.

IMCOM 2025 and Beyond contains three lines of effort designed to set the conditions for success as the command transforms to support the force of the future: professional installation management workforce, effective base operations support services and infrastructure sustainment and revitalization.

Though this plan begins in Fiscal Year 2015 and covers a seven-year period, the strategy looks past 2025. The plan applies to all IMCOM components: headquarters, regions, Army Environmental Command and garrisons. The document directs garrison commanders to incorporate this strategic framework into their overall installation plan.

IMCOM 2025 and Beyond Plan is available at: <http://imcom.army.mil/about/campaignplan.aspx>

Updated policy details off-post uniform wear

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza PAO

VICENZA, Italy – An updated U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Operations Order was published this month detailing off post uniform wear for military personnel in the Vicenza and Darby Communities.

The recently published measures take effect immediately at U.S. Army installations within the Vicenza and Darby Military Communities.

Wear of the military uniform off post is prohibited for the following circumstances:

- While traveling via motorcycle/scooter, bicycle, or foot. Commanders will encourage personnel traveling on motorcycle/scooter, bicycle, or foot not to carry backpacks that readily convey DOD affiliation.
- While traveling on any form of public transportation, including taxis.
- While escorting children to/from or waiting at off-installation school bus stops.
- Stops at fast food restaurants, shopping areas or other public venues while in uniform.
- In public areas of hotels, such as breakfast or dining room, bar, or fitness rooms.

Wear of military uniform (including physical fitness and JROTC uniforms) when off U.S. or Host Nation installations is prohibited with the following exceptions:

- Direct travel between domicile and U.S. or HN installations only while traveling via an enclosed private, government, or rental vehicle.

A Vicenza Military Community Soldier rides a motorcycle on Caserma Ederle. According to the new policy, Soldiers are no longer permitted to ride motorcycles or bicycles off the installation in uniform. Lunch off post is also prohibited.

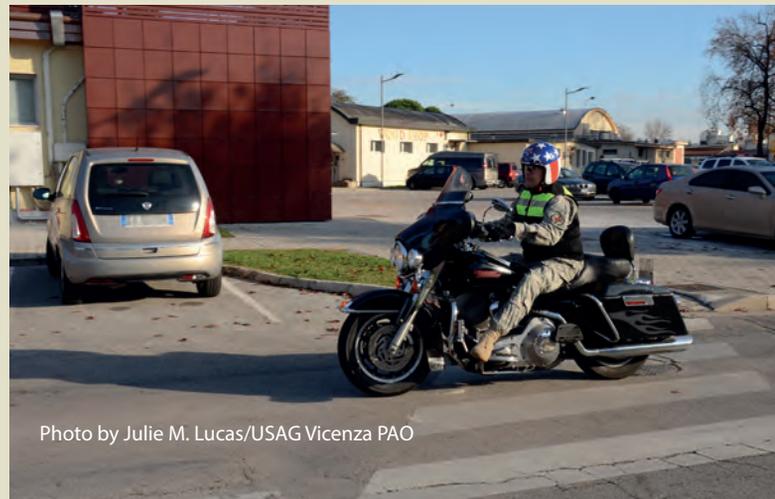


Photo by Julie M. Lucas/USAG Vicenza PAO

- DOD personnel in off-installation hotels may wear uniforms when departing or arriving in an enclosed private, government, or rental vehicle.
- When in an enclosed private, government, or rental vehicle.
- During essential stops at public locations, such as gas stations or off-installation childcare facilities, is authorized during commutes. Dwell time should not exceed 10 minutes and stops should not be routine or predictable in nature.
- When representing the U.S. military at an official HN function.
- While conducting military operations, training events, and exercises. Commanders should minimize uniform wear off U.S. or HN controlled areas when possible.

At no time will units conduct organized PT in Vicenza's historical Centro Storico, or old city center, downtown area, Monte Berico, Livorno Centro, and Pisa Centro downtown area.

These recommendations are not in response to a specific threat, but are due to force protection concerns throughout the European Command area of responsibility.

Antiterrorism officials encourage DOD personnel and their families to use caution and follow force protection and personal protective measures already in place

For more on how to protect yourself, or to report suspicious activity, visit www.eur.army.mil/vigilance.

Procedures to follow for flood claims

By Tsvetana Bombeva
OSJA



This is a vehicle from the flood in downtown Vicenza, on Nov. 2, 2010.

Photo by Jim McGee

About four years ago, on Nov. 2, 2010, heavy rains in the Veneto region caused widespread flooding, forcing thousands from their homes and closing Caserma Ederle.

While it is impossible to predict whether severe flooding will occur this fall, the implementation of flood management plans and knowing the basics of the claims process is critical in limiting damage to personal property and ensuring you are compensated for damage that does occur.

During days of heavy rainfall, storage areas, basements and

other low-lying areas may become flooded causing damage to your personal property. You should take precautions now to avoid damage in the future by storing property off basement floors (e.g., on shelves or wooden pallets) and out of low-lying areas.

If you are a service member or Department of Defense civilian employee who suffers damage from flooding in your on or off-post quarters, you may be compensated for your loss through the Military Claims Office. You have two years from the date of the incident to file your claim but if you wait the full two years, you may have difficulty substantiating your losses and significantly reduce the likelihood of compensation. There are four things you can do that will help ensure your claim is properly adjudicated:

First – Mitigation: claimants have a duty to take all necessary steps to minimize damage. If you have not tried to dry, scrub, and clean your damaged property, please

do so. Claims adjudicators may not be able to provide compensation for items that could have been salvaged by the claimant through mitigation. If you are unsure whether mitigation is appropriate, please contact the Vicenza Legal Office

Second – Notification: if you have private insurance coverage, notify your insurance company immediately. Some private renters, homeowners, or personal property insurance will cover flood damage. Before the Military Claims Office can adjudicate a flood claim, Army regulations require that you first file with your private insurer.

Third – Substantiation: document your damaged property. Gather all the information you can about your personal property including: purchase receipts or credit card statements, each individual item's current replacement cost, the steps you took to save the property (e.g., cleaning bills), and an explanation for not keeping certain property (e.g., it was covered with mold and presented a health hazard). Include any available photographs of your

property before the damage, after the damage, and after your mitigation attempts. The Vicenza Legal Office can provide guidance on properly substantiating a claim, so contact us for guidance as early in the claims process as possible. The more relevant information and substantiating documents you provide, the better.

Fourth – Retention: do not immediately throw away items that appear to be damaged. Remember, mitigation and substantiation. The more expensive the item, the more important it is to keep the item until your claim is settled. In some cases, you may be able to place the item outside your residence, on a balcony or in a garage. However, if the item appears to be a health hazard, photograph and document the state of the item and contact the Vicenza Legal Office before you throw the property away.

For more information on flood damage claims procedures, contact the Vicenza Legal Office in Building 241 on Ederle Caserma at DSN 634-7432/7031 or civilian 0444-71-7432/7031.

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Suggestion Box: Your good ideas can help improve policies, practices, procedures

USAG Vicenza PAO

VICENZA, Italy – Members of the Vicenza Military Community now have an additional method to submit ideas for improving the quality of life for Soldiers, Families, workforce and the garrison.

The Garrison Suggestion Box program went online Sept. 5 and seeks ideas from members of the community on just about anything that can help the garrison increase productivity, conserve resources, improve safety, working conditions and morale.

The U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Plans Analysis and Integration Office lead program and management analyst Michael Fugate said the program's goal is to provide community members a simple way of submitting their suggestions for improving processes, services or any other cost-reduction ideas they may have.

"We are always looking for ways to improve, and we know we don't have all the answers," Fugate said. "Through the Suggestion Box Program, we're empowering our community and asking them to submit their ideas on how we can be most efficient."

He said the process is similar to the former Army Suggestion Program - only without any official red tape or forms to fill out. Fugate said the PAIO office will receive the suggestions and forward them to the appropriate directorate for further consideration. The directorate will, in turn, review the suggestion and provide a response as to whether or not ideas or suggestions can be implemented.

Fugate said suggestions don't have to be submitted in any particular format, but should provide as many details as possible. At minimum submissions should identify an issue, propose a solution and identify the benefit(s) associated with any recommended changes.

Fugate added that people who submit suggestions or ideas can expect to receive a reply by email within five working days.

The Suggestion Box Program does not take the place of the Interactive Customer Evaluation system.

"ICE is the means for customers to provide meaningful, factual feedback on services or programs provided by the Garrison," Fugate said. "The Suggestion Box provides a means by which the public can submit ideas on how to improve the quality of life for Soldiers, Families, the workforce and the community in a manner that is not already in the ICE system."

Ideas to the Garrison Suggestion Box can be submitted via email at <http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil/sites/local/vsp/ICE/default.html> or you can send your suggestion to: usarmy.vicenza.imcom-europe.mbx.vmc-suggestions@mail.mil

Skin treatment laser available for use

By **Jo Penhallegon**

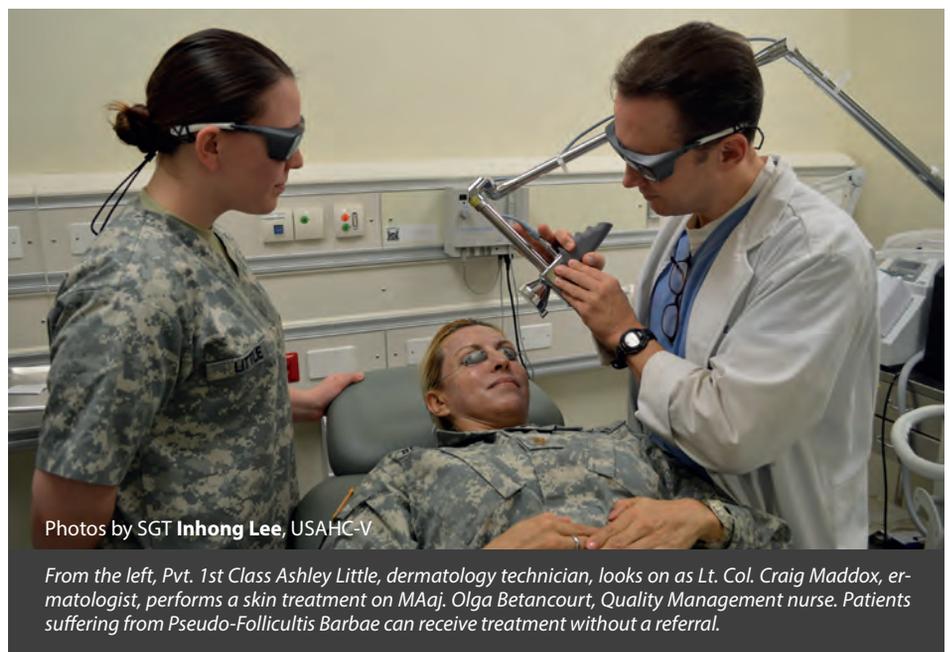
U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza

The Health Center Dermatology Clinic is proud to announce that the Sciton Laser System has arrived after a two-year long wait. This type of laser uses specific wavelengths of light to treat certain skin conditions. Prior to receiving this laser, there was no alternative on the economy.

The Dermatology staff has been training with Sciton representatives and patients have already received treatment.

This particular Sciton laser is used mainly for vascular lesions such as hemangiomas and port-wine stains and other blood vessels anomalies, hair removal, scar revision and skin resurfacing. In the military setting, it is particularly useful for Pseudo-Folliculitis Barbae, a condition in which shaving causes ingrown hairs, bumps, cysts, and scarring.

If you need to be treated for these conditions, see your primary care provider and ask for a referral to Dermatology. Patients already diagnosed with PFB, do not need a referral and can make an appointment by calling 636-9000, commercial 0444-61-9000.



Photos by SGT Inhong Lee, USAHC-V

From the left, Pvt. 1st Class Ashley Little, dermatology technician, looks on as Lt. Col. Craig Maddox, dermatologist, performs a skin treatment on MAaj. Olga Betancourt, Quality Management nurse. Patients suffering from Pseudo-Folliculitis Barbae can receive treatment without a referral.

VMC celebrates Native American Heritage Month with poems



Story and photo by **Laura Kreider**

Sgt. Vincent Sanchez, U.S. Army Vicenza Health Command, member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of Fort Hall, Idaho, explains the significance of "Geronimo," the official motto of the 1st of the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment during the National American Indian Heritage Month event at the Arena Nov. 14. Sanchez also explained the significance of several traditional dances

"Native Pride and Spirit: Yesterday, Today and Forever" is the theme for this year's Native American Heritage Month.

In keeping with this tradition Vicenza Military Community members had the opportunity to appreciate various aspects of the Native American history and culture during this year's observance at the Lion's Den on Caserma Ederle Nov. 14.

In addition to a video and a Native American poem recited by Vicenza Middle School teacher Angela West, the program included the remarks of two guest speakers, Karen Marschino, who is currently working at the U.S. Army Vicenza Health Center and Sgt. Vincent Sanchez, U.S. Army Vicenza Health Command.

Sanchez, who is a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of Fort Hall, Idaho, explained the significance of several dances.

"When I danced Men's Traditional when I was a teenager, I used to go to the powwows just to watch dancers and listen to the drum," he said.

Some of his favorite dances included war dances such as the Shield Dance, a story of two warriors battling with shields and spears, and the Shake Dance.

"Last but not least, I would mention the Neka-Bia-Gunchun, or Buffalo Dance, where the hunters would dress as buffalo to get close to the herd in order to get to the biggest and best of the buffalo," he added.

To perform this hunters' dance at the Arena was another Sanchez, this time Staff Sgt. Marco Sanchez of the 509th Signal Battalion.

Sanchez performed the traditional Pueblo of Acoma Buffalo Dance along with his two children Derek, 10 and Mya, 6 for the second year in a row.

"We performed here in Vicenza du-

ring last year's community celebration. Before coming here, we also did it for a couple of years in Colorado at my son's elementary school," he said.

He explained how this dance was performed prior to leaving for hunting, to make hunters stronger, for having a good hunt and for the spirit of the buffalo.

Sanchez also added that it is important to share these traditions.

"It is very good that we join together. We share what we are, what we represent and educate everyone else. We hold our tradition, we pass it to our children and we share with the community."

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution and the month of November was designated as "National American Indian Heritage Month".

The act has since expanded to celebrate Alaska Natives.

Angel Tree program connects community with gifts

By **Julie M. Lucas**

USAG Vicenza PAO

After the shelves are stocked with food and the stockings are hung, some in the Vicenza Military Community might have a hard time putting gifts under their tree this year. The Angel Tree program facilitates the process of connecting those going through financial hardships with gifts this season.

“Commanders and first sergeants provide information from families of Soldiers E4 and below or those they feel have a need,” said Michelle Demarais, Angel Tree coordinator.

According to Demarais, last year 90 children from 40 families received assistance from the community. A kick off to the program will be held Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. at Army Community Service building 108. During the kickoff event, community members will have their first opportunity to adopt an angel from the holiday tree, signifying a commitment to a Soldier’s child. Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Angels will be available for pick up from Angel Trees



Photo by **Laura Kreider**

A member of the Vicenza Military Community assists a youth in picking an angel off a tree in previous years. This year’s kick off to the Angel Tree program will be Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. at Army Community Service

located in the ACS Lobby and in the PX until all of the angels have been adopted, or until the gift drop off deadline of Dec. 12. The angels will include information such as the child’s sex, age, clothing size and preferences. Gifts that are purchased should be unwrapped and left in the drop off location at the PX, near the customer service counter.

“We are doing something different this year and youth in the community are decorating angels that donors can have a keepsake to place on their tree at home,” Demarais said.

For more information about the program, contact Demarais at 0444-71-8138.

Home for the Holidays

Linda Dahlstrom and **Aaron Talley** perform at Soldiers’ Theatre during dress rehearsal of the “Home for the Holidays”, a two act joyous song and dance musical revue brimming with the music of the season.

The holiday show directed by Jerry Brees, Soldiers’ Theatre director, features a rendition of holiday classics, entertaining arrangements of traditional music, rousing comedy numbers and contemporary music of the season performed by more than 30 cast members.

The production opens Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. and runs through Dec. 14 with performances on Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and matinees on Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for youth.

Call **634-7281** or **0444-71 7281** to make reservations or email gerald.s.brees.naf@mail.mil.



Photo by **Laura Kreider**, USAG Vicenza/PAO



Veteran's Day; time to reflect

On Veteran's day we honor those who have served and those who are serving today to protect our freedoms and interests of the United States of America. At 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 2014 at the Florence American Cemetery a ceremony to honor those who have fallen in the defense of freedom took place. The 731st Munitions Squadron provided military support for this event. Photo by Enzo Vitiello, TSC Livorno

Story and photos by **Chiara Mattiolo**
Darby Military Community PAO

On Veteran's day we honor those who have served and those who are serving today to protect our freedoms and interests of the United States of America.

Camp Darby veterans were recognized in a ceremony held at the Livorno Commissary Nov. 6. Guest of honor was Col. Robert Menist, commander, USAG Vicenza.

On Nov. 11 at the Florence American Cemetery a ceremony to honor those who have fallen in the defense of freedom took place, and the Airmen of the 731st Munitions Squadron provided military support for this event. "It is a great honor for me to be able to pay tribute to all of our service members of all branches," said Master Sgt. Gavin Trzepacz, 731st Munitions Squadron. "For me to be able to share the moment with the 731st MUNS and to have the opportunity to stand tall on ground that was secured by

those who have served in the past and protected by those who are currently serving is a humbling experience."

"I was honored to stand next to each and every one of my fellow service members and to take part in this ceremony is a great way to express my thanks," said Trzepacz.



Col. Robert Menist, commander, USAG Vicenza, hands out a gift basket during the celebrating Camp Darby Veterans event at Livorno Commissary Nov. 6.

DMC shows military Families appreciation



A member of the Darby Military Community is served lunch during the Military Family Appreciation Month celebration Nov. 13.

By **Evelyn Watkins**

Darby Army Community Service

Camp Darby Army Community Service showed appreciation to the military Families by hosting and serving them a meal with prearranged childcare activities hosted by Child, School and Youth Services Nov. 13. The appreciation gathering provided an afternoon for the community members at large to mingle, meet other community members and feel appreciated.

"November is a very crucial time for a small community with young Families experiencing their first time away from home during the holidays; getting to meet others that are new and those that have been here is extremely beneficial for all," said Evelyn Watkins, team lead and Family Advocacy Program specialist for Darby Military Community Army Community Service.

Maj. Dennis Williams, Camp Darby's Garrison manager provided a warm welcome and thanks to the Families for all of their sacrifices and unending support that they provide daily.

"Since 1993, each year the President signs a proclamation declaring November as Military Family Appreciation Month and I am privileged to be able to honor the commitment, sacrifice, dedication and service of Service Members, Civilians and their Families who give so much".



A youth from the DMC enjoys his lunch at the Military Family Appreciation Month celebration. Prearranged childcare activities were held that afternoon.

Photos by **Amy Drummond**
Darby Military Community PAO

Speak Out

What are you doing for Winter Safety?



Senior **Airman Andrew Deckert**

731st Munitions Squadron

"I make sure I have blankets and snow chains in the trunk of my car."



Senior **Airman Alex Arboleda**

731st Munitions Squadron

"I always have snow chains with me."



Ruth Olivo

Family Member

"I double check the Christmas tree lights and ensure I never leave candles burn too long."

173rd Airborne continues allied training missions in Romania

Story and photos by Sgt. **A.M. LaVey**
173rd Airborne Brigade PAO

CINCU, Romania — American paratroopers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade and Romanian army paratroopers began the first day of a week-long combined situational training exercise here, Nov. 17.

The first part of the training includes American and Romanian paratroopers qualifying on their own and familiarizing with each other's weapon systems, including assigned weapons as well as live-firing anti-tank weapons and mortars.

Following range training, multiple allied airborne and air assault missions are scheduled with the combined teams conducting ambushes and raids in a field environment against a U.S.-Romanian team playing the opposing force.

"This exercise is all about building relationships," said Capt. Teddy W. Borawski III, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade. "Our paratroopers will meet and train in the field together and that is where those relationships will be built."

Three days earlier, hundreds of allied paratroopers opened the training with a combined parachute operation over Luna, Romania, while government and military officials, as



First Sgt. Troy Bradshaw, the senior enlisted adviser for Company C, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, performs a jumpmaster personnel inspection on Romanian army Sgt. Maj. Talmacel Bogdan, 630th Airborne Battalion, 6th Special Operations Brigade, during a combined parachute operation at the beginning of Exercise Rubicon at Campia Turzii, Romania, Nov. 14.

well as the press, looked on.

"We are happy to be working and training together here in Romania," said Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta. "We're counting on (Romanian and American forces) to be out in front of challenges in the region and the world."

The exercise, termed Rubicon, falls under Operation Atlantic Resolve and is one of two allied training exercises currently being conducted in Romania, with the 173rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion training with Romanian forces at the Babadag Training Area in eastern Romania.

"It's no secret that there are new risks to democracy and here we see (NATO) fulfilling its responsibilities," said Romanian army Col. Dan-Mincea Suta, deputy commander, 6th Special Operations Brigade and the exercise officer-in-charge. "These are significant training operations and we will learn a lot from each other."

The 173rd Airborne Brigade, based in Vicenza, Italy, is the U.S. Army's Contingency Response Force in Europe, and is capable of providing a full spectrum of operations across the U.S. European, Africa and Central Command's areas of responsibility.



U.S. Army paratroopers from 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, join Romanian army paratroopers from the 6th Special Operations Brigade, for training prior to a combined airborne operation, beginning Exercise Rubicon, at Campia Turzii, Romania, Nov. 13. Rubicon is a U.S.-Romanian exercise designed to increase NATO interoperability between the two forces through partnered tactical training and allied airborne operations.



First Lt. Eric A. Pinard-Janisch, battalion air operations officer, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, marches with Romanian and U.S. Army paratroopers during a combined parachute operation at the beginning of Exercise Rubicon at Campia Turzii, Romania, Nov. 14.

Thanksgiving celebrated on Caserma Ederle



Photo by **Laura Kreider**, USAG Vicenza/PAO

Under a beautiful Italian sun, Soldiers, civilians and Family members kick off the Vicenza Turkey Trot 5K run/walk starting and ending on the North 40 at Caserma Ederle Nov. 22.

Following the run, the Sgt. Morales Club gave away 50 turkeys in 20 minutes at the Commissary. The evening was finished by a dinner served by the USO at the Hoekstra Pavilion. More than 200 people ate at the annual event.



Photo by **Laura Kreider**, USAG Vicenza/PAO

Six-year-old Micaiah Britton holds one of the about 20 lb turkeys given out after the run during the raffle while his mother Kim and his sister Maggie, 11 look on.



Photo by **Julie M. Lucas**, USAG Vicenza/PAO

A USO volunteer serves up desserts to members of the VMC enjoying an early Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 22 at the Hoekstra Pavilion. More than 150 people were fed within an hour with several kinds of turkey and sides. The Vicenza Sergeants' Major Associated donated money to assist with the meal.



Photo by **Julie M. Lucas**, USAG Vicenza/PAO

A member of the Vicenza Military Community receives a turkey, courtesy of the Sgt. Morales Club.



Alex Sendmeyer swims a backstroke during a home meet Nov. 16.

Twelve swimmers from the Mako Sharks team have qualified for the end of the year championships in Eindhoven, the Netherlands.



Mako Sharks swimmer Ethan Amis competes at a home meet against six other teams Nov. 16

Photo by **Griselle Christensen**



MacKenzie Pilson does a backstroke during the meet in Vicenza Nov. 16.

Community news briefs

Vicenza Christian Home-school Co-op sign up

All Vicenza Christian homeschoolers in the community are invited to come out and learn more about the group and activities organized for 2015. Sign up will be Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the Skies side of the spiritual fitness center, behind the Arena. Light refreshments will be served. For more information email aloralisa@yahoo.com, javsmadera@jesusanswers.com or knappfrancesca@juno.com.

Angel Tree kick off

The 2014 Angel Tree connects those facing financial hardships with gifts for children. A kick off event will be held Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 108. Trees will be posted with angels at ACS and PX with children in need with details. Unwrapped gifts can be left in a box at the PX.

Speech and debate judges needed

The Vicenza Middle School will host its fourth annual Speech and debate tournament and is in need of judges, no experience necessary. Training will take place 45 minutes before the start of the tournament, Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. in Angela Wilson's room 0046. The event will last from 3-7 p.m. with only some judges needing to stay until the end. For more information email Angela Wilson at angela.wilson@eu.dodea.edu.

Crossroads Turkey Bowl

The first annual flag football game with music and dinner will be held Nov. 30 from 3-6 p.m. on the Caserma Ederle field. For more information, email VicenzaCrossroads@gmail.com.

Home for the holidays

The Female2Female organization is sponsoring a dinner, "Home for the holidays" Dec. 4 at the Golden Lion. Reservations are required and the event is open to the community, with newcomers given priority. For more information, call 634-7401 or email rsvpf2f@gmail.com.

Holiday mailing deadlines

PAL parcels, Dec. 3; priority parcels, Dec. 10; first class letters, Dec. 10. The postal service center will also be open Satur-

days, beginning Nov. 29 for pick up and drop off from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. On Dec. 20, the postal service center will only be open for pick up.

Retirement Services briefing

A Retirement Services Briefing to be conducted Dec. 6, at building 205, the Hall of Heroes on Olsen Avenue from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sign in begins at 7:30 a.m. This event is open to Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard Reserve and National Guard personnel who have retired or are planning on retiring in the near future. RSVP by Dec. 5 at: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=219021&k=00604B097956>.

Safety recalls

The Consumer Product Safety Commission publishes product safety recalls to <http://www.cpsc.gov/>

Ventamatic recalls Cool Draft Misting Fans due to risk of fire and electric shock.

Venmar Ventilation expands recall of Air Exchangers due to Fire Hazard.

Tankless Water Heaters recalled due to fire hazard; manufactured by Daesung Celtic Energy; distributed exclusively by Challenger Supply Holdings.

Folding Lounge Chairs recalled by 4Seasons due to fall hazard; sold exclusively at Ross Stores.

Tectron International recalls USB Chargers due to fire hazard.

Visonic recalls Amber Personal Emergency Response pendants and kits due to pendant battery failure.

Aqua Lung expands recall of Buoyancy Compensators due to drowning hazard.

Co-Scentrix expands recall of DD Brand Candles due to fire hazard; sold exclusively at Hobby Lobby.

Black Diamond Equipment recalls Whippet Ski Poles due to risk of injury.

Olympus recalls Digital Audio Recorders due to burn hazard.

AP Specialties recalls Power Bank Chargers due to fire hazard.

Mohawk recalls Rugs due to fire hazard; sold exclusively at The Home Depot.

Hoppe's recalls Semi-Auto Bore Cleaner due to failure to meet Child-Resistant Closure Requirement. Call Garrison Safety with questions or concerns at 634-8109/8023/7045.

IACS office hours

The Pass and Badge office located in Building 4B near the MP station on Caserma Ederle is open for service workdays from 8:30 a.m. till noon and from 1-4 p.m. Call 634-7053 or 634-6754 for assistance.

Del Din parking closure

Beginning Nov. 3, the Eastern parking garage on Del Din, building 14, will be closed for approximately 30 days while pigeon netting is installed and it is cleaned. No vehicle will be allowed to be parked while this is taking place. Once that building is finished, they will move to the Western parking garage. Notices are being posted that vehicles will need to be moved before that date.

Drivers Testing Class

The Driver's Orientation class will be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m.

The change in schedule will allow personnel attending the orientation be given the opportunity to take the Driver's License test the following day.

Vehicle Registration hours update

The Vehicle Registration Office is open Monday through Friday continuously from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 637-7820/7822/7823 for assistance.

SFL TAP to offer services on Del Din

The Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program (formerly known as Army Career and Alumni Program or ACAP) is presently offering services at its Liaison office on Caserma Del Din. The office is in Building 10, Room 1025. The schedule is: Tuesdays, SFL TAP counselor, 9 a.m. to noon, education counselor, noon to 3 p.m.; Wednesdays, SFL TAP counselor, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursdays, financial counselor, 9 a.m. to noon, and VA benefits adviser, noon to 3 p.m. The staffing schedule is subject to change; please call 634-7188/7189 or email usarmy.vicenza.imcom-europe.mbx.acap@mail.mil to confirm. The SFL TAP Center in Building 126 on Caserma Ederle is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Del Din GCU accepts check deposits

The Caserma Del Din Global Credit Union ATM located in the in the Community Mail Room can now accept check deposits if the bank card being used is either a GCU debit or ATM card; participates in the AFFN network or participates in the Accel/Exchange network. Call 0444-71-7470 or 634-7470 for details.

New TMP location

TMP service will no longer be provided at the industrial complex at Torri di Quartersolo. The new garrison TMP will now be

located at building 272 on Caserma Ederle. Building 272 is near the POL point and the Hall of Heroes on Ederle. This relocation moves non-tactical services closer to customers serving on Ederle and Del Din

Snow chain use

The Italian "Codice della Strada" allows local jurisdiction/road owner to require vehicles to have snow chains on board or

equipped with winter tires. These requirements apply to all the Autostrade and some local roads. The ordinances are available at the official web site of Polizia di Stato: <http://www.polizia-distato.it>

The ordinances are typically valid from Nov. 15-April 15 (even if snowfall is not in progress). However, weather conditions or local requirements may warrant their

use as specified in the ordinance. Traffic police enforce compliance with all road ordinances for the time frame/conditions indicated by the requirements. Police will check for snow chains on board or winter tires with the MS insignia. Fines for non compliance range from €84-335.

At the movies



HORRIBLE BOSSES 2

Tired of always answering to others, Nick (Jason Bateman), Dale (Charlie Day) and Kurt (Jason Sudeikis) go into business for themselves. After demonstrating the prototype for an invention called the Shower Buddy, the guys attract the attention of Rex Hanson and his father, Bert. Bert invests in the trio's product, then cancels the order and steals their idea. Now heavily in debt and with no legal recourse, Nick, Dale and Kurt decide to kidnap Rex and use the ransom money to pay off their loans.

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

Ederle Theater

Nov. 28	7 p.m.	Penguins of Madagascar (PG)*
	10 p.m.	Horrible Bosses 2 (R)*
Nov. 29	3 p.m.	Penguins of Madagascar (PG) *
	6 p.m.	Horrible Bosses 2 (R) *
Nov. 30	3 p.m.	Penguins of Madagascar 3D (PG) *
	6 p.m.	Horrible Bosses 2 (R) *
Dec. 3	11 a.m.	Interstellar (PG-13)
	7 p.m.	Dumb and Dumber to (PG-13)
Dec. 4	7 p.m.	Book of Life (PG)
Dec. 5	7 p.m.	Penguins of Madagascar (PG)
	10 p.m.	The Pyramid (R)
Dec. 6	3 p.m.	Hunger Games: Mockingjay (PG-13)
	6 p.m.	Gone Girl (R)
Dec. 7	3 p.m.	Big Hero 6 (PG) *
	6 p.m.	Horrible Bosses 2 (R)
Dec. 10	11 a.m.	Book of Life (PG)
	7 p.m.	The Equalizer (R)
Dec. 11	7 p.m.	The Pyramid (R)



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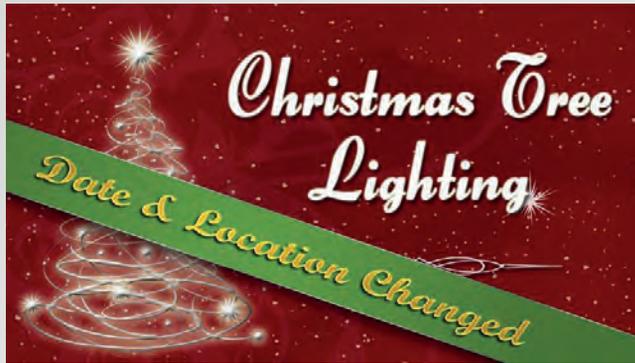
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Family and

Vicenza Military Community



Vicenza Tree Lighting Ceremony

Nothing announces the beginning of the holidays like the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Opening ceremony on Dec 5 with holiday music and activities in front of AAFES Post Theater across from the Library.

Events Schedule

- 3-4:30 p.m. - Children's activities in the Arts and Crafts Center
- 4:10 p.m. - Opening Ceremony on stage
- 4:15 p.m. - Musical Performances
- 5:25 p.m. - Santa Arrives
- Photo op with Santa following the tree lighting in the Library.
- 6:30 -midnight - Jingle Bell Rock-A-Thon at the Arena

'Home for the Holidays' Annual Holiday Show

Perfect for the entire Family and guaranteed to get you in the holiday spirit, 'Home for the Holidays' is the annual Christmas musical revue of contemporary, traditional and comic holiday music in a fast-paced choreographed show.

Show dates:

- Dec 5, 6, 12, 13 7:30 p.m.
Dec 7, 14 2 p.m. matinee

Call the box office for reservations at 634-7281 or stop by Soldiers' Theatre.

Hail and Farewell for Youth and Teens

Are you new or departing the Vicenza Military Community and in Grades 6-12? Don't miss out on the Hail and Farewell on Dec 5, 3-4 p.m. at the following locations:

- Villaggio Youth Center (Bldg 702) for grades 6-8
- Teen Center (Bldg 373) for grades 9-12

Woodshop Certification

Learn the required safety precautions to gain access to the wood shop at the Arts and Crafts Center on Dec 6, 9-10:30 a.m. Space is limited for this class so register early at the Arts and Crafts Center. For info, call 634-7074.

Latin Night

Throw on your dancing shoes and hit the Lion's Den on Dec 13. Enjoy an evening of Latin music and dancing and if you don't know how, there are free dance lessons. Fun begins at 8 p.m.

FCC Recruitment

Register to be a Family Child Care (FCC) provider and earn an income while staying at home with your children! Applicants must live in a Villaggio housing unit. For more information about this program, call 634-7615.

ODR Trips

- Dec 6 Nice Express and Perfumery Tour
- Dec 6 Stubai Ski and Snowboard Trip
- Dec 7 Merano & Bolzano Christmas Markets
- Dec 10 Exploring Architecture: Hidden Treasures of Vicenza
- Dec 13 Klagenfurt and Villach Christmas Market
- Dec 13 Val Senales Ski and Snowboard Trip
- Dec 13 Verona Santa Lucia Market

For more info about these trips, contact ODR at 634-7453.

Ornament Workshop

Is your tree looking a little bare this year? Come to the Library on Dec 10 and make 5 ornaments and listen to holiday stories with children ages 3-11 years. Register by December 8. For information, call 634-7291.



Register using MWR Online Services for:

Vicenza Trip & Classes

Vicenza CYSS Activities



Darby Military Community



Darby Christmas Tree Lighting

Kick-off the holiday season in the Darby Military Community with the traditional tree lighting ceremony sponsored by Global Credit Union! Join us at the Darby Community Club on Dec 5 at 5 p.m. This community-wide event features:

- Tree lighting
- Christmas carols
- Refreshments
- A visit from Santa!

Children's Story Hour

Story time, designed for children aged 3-7, meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Children's Room of the library. Come join us for stories and activities.

ODR Trips

Contact Outdoor Recreation to register at 633-7775/7589:

- Dec 6 Bologna Motor Show
- Dec 13 Florence Noel
- Dec 21 Gardaland Magic Christmas
- Dec 27 Rome

Open Mic Night

Open Mike Night puts instruments, a stage and a sound system at your disposal every Thursday night at the Darby Community Club. Whether you sing, dance or play an instrument, Open Mic Night is looking to help you exhibit your talents. Join us every Thursday evening, 6-10 p.m. at the Darby Community Club.

CYSS Sports Basketball & Cheerleading Registration

Register youth by December 6 for Basketball and Cheerleading at Parent Central Services. For details, visit www.darby.armyMWR.com

Group Exercise Instructors Wanted

Do you have what it takes to motivate, encourage and guide people through their exercise class routines? If you have what it takes but don't have certifications, we can help. Certification programs are held all over Europe. In exchange for volunteer service, the Fitness Center can help underwrite the expense of certification classes. Drop by the Fitness Center to learn more.

BOSS Holiday Celebrations

For 25 years, the BOSS program has helped support the military community by enhancing the quality of life and morale of the single service member. To celebrate the 25th Anniversary, the Darby BOSS program is hosting numerous holiday celebrations. Be sure to check out all the special offers for BOSS members for the months of November, December, and January. For details, visit www.darby.armyMWR.com

Looking for Basketball Officials

Do you have what it takes to provide direction and "make the call" in intramural basketball? Training is provided for all interested in becoming an officials. Don't miss out on this opportunity to provide needed services to our community! Register at the Fitness Center by December 19. For more info, contact 633-7438.



Register using MWR Online Services for:

[Darby Trip & Classes](#)

[Darby CYSS Activities](#)



[Darby Facebook Page](#)

Chapel activities

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.: Gospel service

5 p.m.: Contemporary Christian service

Tuesday

9 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

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

Thursday

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

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

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

Camp Darby

Sunday Services

10:30 a.m.: Protestant worship and children's service

Catholic Mass: Call the Chapel at 633-7267 to confirm times

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

For DMC activities call 633-7267

Chaplain Crisis Line

To reach a Chaplain after duty hours, call **634-KARE (634-5273)**

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.

VMC faith group contacts

Bahá'í Faith: Call 348-603-2283

Church of Christ: Call at 388-253-9749 or 324-623-7921 or send email: vicenzaitalychurchofchrist@gmail.com

Jewish: Call 634-7519, 0444-71-7519 or 327-856-2191

Latter Day Saints: Young Men/Young Women meeting is every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Spiritual Fitness Center. Sunday services, 9:30 a.m. in Vicenza. Call 634-7897, 380-431-7633 or email: lescall@gmail.com

Muslim: Call 634-7519 or 0444-71-7519

Trinity Church Vicenza: An International Presbyterian Church congregation. Call 328-473-2949 or email: trinitychurchvicenza@gmail.com

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

Friday: Potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. with Walk in the Word following. Call 0444-581-427 for more information or if you need transportation.

MUSIC ACTIVITIES AT THE CHAPEL

Tuesday, 5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.: Catholic choir practice

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.: Gospel choir practice

Thursday, 5:30 p.m.: Gospel choir rehearsal



Vicenza Military Community Chapel Holiday Worship Schedule

28 NOV-Thanksgiving Mass, 0900

30 NOV-Advent Wreath Workshop, 1000-1200

30 NOV-Greening of the Chapel, 1300-1500

1 DEC-Advent Penance Service, 1700

16 DEC-Hanukkah begins

23 DEC-Carolling, 1200

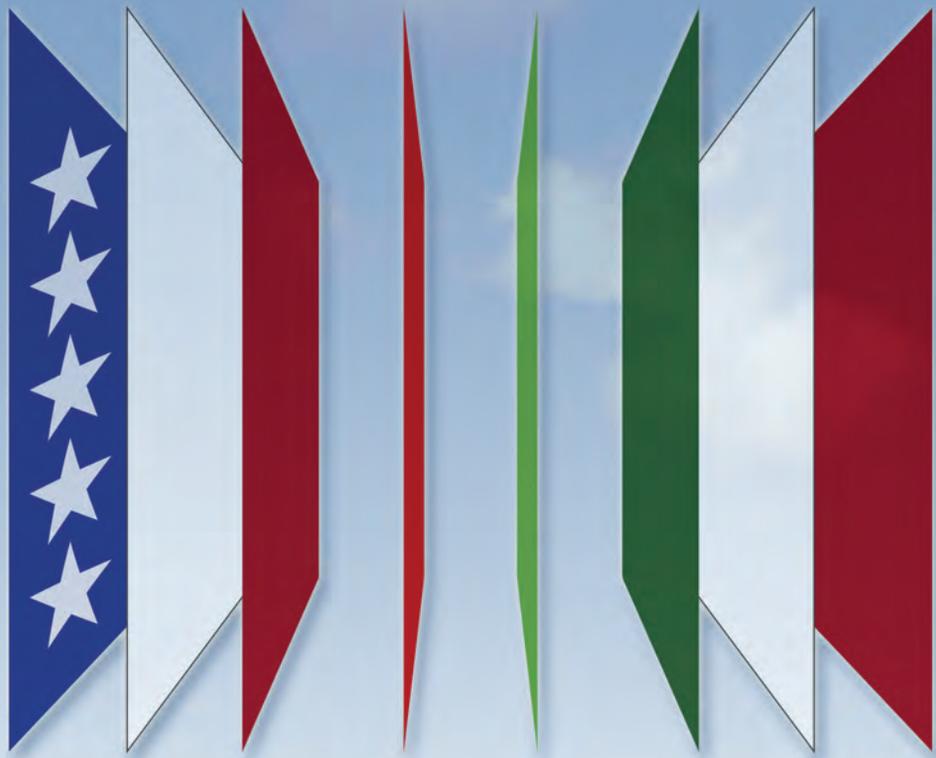
24 DEC-Children's Mass, 1700

24 DEC-Protestant Candlelight Service, 1900

25 DEC-Christmas Mass, 0900

31 DEC-New Years Mass, 1700

*Location for all services: Caserma Ederle Chapel



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Asiago - Christmas Market

VENETO

MERCATINI ED EVENTI DI NATALE CHRISTMAS MARKETS AND EVENTS

ASIAGO

I Giardini di Natale Christmas Market

Piazza Carli and surrounding streets, about 34 north of Vicenza; food booths featuring local specialties and typical Christmas sweets and craft.

Nov. 29, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 3–7 p.m.

Nov. 30, 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

Dec. 6, Dec. 8, and Dec. 13, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 3–7 p.m.

Dec. 7, Dec. 14, and from **Dec. 20** to **Jan. 6**, 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

http://www.asiago.it/it/eventi/art_giardini_di_natale_i_mercatini_di_natale_di_asiago/

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA

Through **Dec. 28** in Piazza Libertà, about 22 miles northeast of Vicenza; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sun-

days, 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m.; Thursdays and Saturdays 2–7:30 p.m. Through **Jan. 8**, In Piazza Garibaldi, daily 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m. (closed on Monday mornings).

Tutti in piazza aspettando il 2015 New Year Celebration

Dec. 31, Piazza Garibaldi, live music, dancing, hot spiced wine, spumante and free panettone (typical Christmas cake) for everyone at midnight.

<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/12/31/11933/-/tutti-in-piazza-aspettando-il-2015>

*Bassano Città della Befana**

Bassano - Befana's city

Jan. 6, from 2:30 p.m.; fairy tale characters, Befana and the three Wise Men; entertainment, free sweets and chocolate for children.

<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2015/01/06/11934/-/bassano-citta-della-befana->

**The Befana is a kind, ugly and old hunchback witch. She is dressed in rags and travels straddling a flying broomstick, carrying a self replenishing sack full of presents for children.*

BELLUNO

In Piazza dei Martiri, about 103 miles north of Vicenza, **Nov. 29–Dec. 14**, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; live folk music on Saturdays and Sundays; St. Nicholas market, Children Christmas Market, **Dec. 4–5**, 8 a.m.–8 p.m., in Piazza dei Martiri.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatino-di-natale-di-belluno/>

BOLZANO

in Piazza Walther, about 120 miles north of Vicenza; **Nov. 29–Jan 6**; Mondays–Fridays 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m.–8 p.m., and Sundays 9 a.m.–7 p.m.; **closed 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.

<http://www.mercatninatale.com/italia/bolzano/date-orari/>

BRESSANONE

In Piazza Duomo, about 154 miles north of Vicenza; through **Jan. 6**, Mondays–Saturdays, 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m.; on Sunday and holidays, 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m.; food booths; live music, exhibits and carnival rides.

<http://www.weihnacht-brixen.com/cs.asp?st=775&sp=it>

BUSSOLENGO (VERONA)

Natale Flover Village, Via Pastrengo 16, about 42 miles west of Vicenza; through **Jan. 15**, 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m.; **closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1**; entrance fee: €1 only on Saturday and Sunday from Nov. 3–Dec. 15; free entrance on weekdays.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-del-veneto/#>

CASTELLO DI GODEGO

Dec. 8, 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Via Guglielmo Marconi, about 22 miles northeast of Vicenza; children can take pictures with Santa Claus and give him their wish list; mini train rides for children; face painting and balloon twisting; food booths.

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/events/319331498248954/>

CISON DI VALMARINO

Dec. 6–8 and Dec. 13–14, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Castelbrando, Via Brandolino 20, about 50 miles north of Vicenza; opens at 10 a.m.; food booths, singing Santa Claus and magic shows.



Continued on next page



<https://www.facebook.com/#!/160495320646461/photos/a.16049577313082.39143.160495320646461/937855139577138/?type=1&fref=nf>

COLOGNA VENETA

Dec. 7–8, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., about 25 miles southwest of Vicenza; Christmas market; street artists; local products and crafts exhibit and sale; puppet and giant bubble soap shows.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-del-veneto/#>

GALLIO

In Piazzetta Giardini, about 40 miles north of Vicenza; **Dec. 6–8, 13–14, 21 and Dec. 24–Jan. 6**; 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 3:30–7 p.m.; wooden outdoor booths featuring local holiday sweets, hot chocolate, mulled wine local crafts and gift items. Entertainment with jugglers, musicians, fire-eaters, street artists, gnomes, elves, and acrobats. Shows and workshops for children.

<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/12/06/11948/-i-mercatini-di-natale-di-gallio>

http://www.sagreitalia.it/dettagli.asp?ID_S={0B3DB6B7-9CCC-41BB-A27B-0F91FD0CB761}

LUSIANA

About 21 miles north of Vicenza; **Dec. 20**, 2:30–6 p.m. Christmas market; 3 p.m. dance show; 4:30 p.m. roasted chestnut for everyone; **Dec. 21**, 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Christmas market; 2:30 p.m. meet Santa Claus; 4 p.m. holiday decoration workshops for children; 5 p.m. Gospel choir.

<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/12/12/12118/-natale-a-lusiana>

MALCESINA (VERONA)

Il Castello di Babbo Natale Santa Claus Castle

Dec. 6–8, Dec. 16–14, and Dec. 20–21, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., about 93 miles northwest of Vicenza; Christmas market; food booths and entertainment for children.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-del-veneto/#>

MERENDAORE (RECOARO TERME)

About 28 miles northwest of Vicenza, **Dec. 7–8**, food booths and hot beverages; face-paintings, live music and

entertainment; meet Santa Claus in the afternoon.
<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/12/07/12081/-/mercato-di-natale-a-merendaore>

MONTEBELLUNA

Dec. 7, 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Via Monte Grappa, about 33 miles northeast of Vicenza, Christmas gift ideas and ornaments.
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/events/1561318124091224/>

SCHIO

Nov. 28, 6–9 p.m. in Panni Alti, Vintage Expo; **Nov. 29**, 10:30 a.m.–8:30 p.m.; **Nov. 30**, 9:30 a.m.–8 p.m.; in Schio, Spazio Shed, Via XX Settembre, about 16 miles northwest of Vicenza; vintage brand name clothes and accessories; posters, toys, records and 50 Christmas stands; free entrance on Nov. 28; €3 on Nov. 29–30.
<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/11/28/10184/-/panni-alti-vintage-expo>

THIENE

Tempo di Natale Christmas Time

Nov. 29, 10 a.m.–9 p.m.; **Nov. 30**, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. at the Thiene Castle, Corso Garibaldi 2, about 13 miles north of Vicenza; Christmas gift ideas; Italian crafts, food, furniture, and clothes exhibit and sale; health and wellbeing info; Christmas ornaments workshops for children; entrance fee: €5; €0.50 for people younger than 18.
<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/11/29/11810/-/tempo-di-natale>

TRENTO

Through **Jan. 6**, Piazza Fiera and Piazza Cesare Battisti, about 92 miles north of Vicenza; Mondays–Fridays, 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m.; **closed on Dec. 25**; more than 60 wooden huts feature traditional holiday decorations, crafts, sweets, local products, original gift ideas, and gourmet specialties.
<http://www.mercatinodinatale.tn.it/news>

TRISSINO

About 13 miles west of Vicenza; **Nov. 30**, 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m.; 10 a.m. horse-drawn carriage tours; 3 p.m. meet Santa Claus; 3:30 p.m. entertainment for children; 4:30 p.m. Christmas tree lighting; 5 p.m. Christmas concert; carnival rides.
<http://www.vicenzae.org/ita/eventi/icalrepeat.detail/2014/11/30/11993/-/mercato-natalizio>

VERONA

Through **Dec. 22**, in Piazza dei Signori, about 36 miles west of Vicenza; Nuremberg Christmas market, Sundays–Thursdays, 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m.; Friday, Saturday, and holidays' eves: 10 a.m.–11 p.m.; wood stands feature holiday gift ideas, vin brulè (hot spiced wine), holiday sweets, typical German bread and sausages.
Through **Dec. 22**, Cortile Mercato Vecchio and Cortile

Ex-Tribunale, Sundays–Thursdays, 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m.; Friday, Saturday, and holidays' eves: 10 a.m.–11 p.m.
<http://www.tuttomercatinidinatale.it/mercato-natale-verona.html>

Festival dell'Oriente Orient Festival

Dec. 5–8 and **Dec. 12–14**, 10:30 a.m.–10:30 p.m.; in Padova, Exhibit Center, Via Niccolò Tommaseo 59, about 24 miles southeast of Vicenza; oriental contemporary and antique traditions; ceremonies, folklore, shows, health and wellness, spirituality, holistic disciplines; fine fabrics, ancient jewels, candles, essential oils, spices, kimonos, biological products and much more; typical oriental food and cuisine; entrance fee: €10. <http://festivaldelloriente.net/>

Monsters of Rock – Photo Exhibit

Dec. 6–24, weekdays 10 a.m.–1 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays 4–7 p.m., in Vicenza, Palazzo Valmarana Braga, Corso Fogazzaro 16; photos taken by Alex Ruffini; many of them have been published in magazines and used on CD and album covers of the major rock singers; free entrance.
<http://eventi.nlz.it>

Tutankhamon Caravaggio Van Gogh . *La sera e i notturni dagli Egizi al Novecento*

Tutankhamon Caravaggio Van Gogh. Evenings and nocturnal from the Ancient Egyptian to the 20th century

Dec. 24–June 2, Mondays–Thursdays 9 a.m.–7 p.m.; Fridays–Sundays 9 a.m.–8 p.m.; **Dec. 25**, 3–8 p.m.; **Dec. 26–30**, 9 a.m.–8 p.m.; Jan 1, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Jan 2–5, 9 a.m.–8 p.m.; in Vicenza, Palladian Basilica, Piazza dei Signori 1; entrance fee: €12; reduced €9 for students (ages 18–26) and senior citizens older than 65; €6 for people 6–17 years; free for children younger than 6; buy your ticket online at <http://www.lineadombra.it/ita/index.php>.
<http://www.vicenzabooking.com/en/events/298-caravaggio-van-gogh-and-tutankhamen-the-evening-and-night-by-the-egyptians-to-900>

Antique markets Nov. 30

Piazzola sul Brenta (Padova): 8 a.m.–6 p.m., Villa Contarini, about 16 miles east of Vicenza

Recoaro Terme: 9 a.m.–6 p.m., in Piazza Dolomiti, about 27 miles northwest of Vicenza

Antique markets Dec. 7

Marostica: 8 a.m.–7 p.m., Piazza Castello, about 18 miles north of Vicenza

Noventa Vicentina: 8 a.m.–6 p.m., Piazza IV Novembre, about 20 miles south of Vicenza



Montecatini Terme - Santa Claus Village

TUSCANY

Sagra del Cinghiale Wild Boar Festival

Nov. 30, Dec. 6-8, in Suvereto (Livorno); besides wild boar specialties, you'll find other products from the area including wine, olive oil, and honey; medieval pageants and medieval competitions; on Dec. 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception), a historical medieval commemoration takes place.

<http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca?q=&category=&area=4&city=&date=12&page=1&post=361>

Sul filo della creatività Creativity Fair

Nov. 29-30, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., in Viareggio (Lucca), Borbone Villa, Viale dei Tigli; first national exhibit and market of Italian art crafts; creative sewing, crochet, patchwork, painting, ceramics, from country style to shabby and vintage; creative workshops; free entrance. http://www.veronicacountrylife.com/2014/06/sul-filo-della-creativita-villa-borbone_27.html

Mostra Mercato Nazionale del Tartufo Bianco National White Truffle Exhibit and sale

Nov. 29-30, in San Miniato (Pisa); white truffle and many other local specialties exhibit and sale; old trades exhibits; Slow food workshops; **Nov. 15**, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. antique market in Piazza Dante.

http://www.truffleintuscany.it/news_truffle_in_tuscany_mostra_mercato_tartufo_san_miniato.html

Esposizione colombofila Dove exhibit

Nov. 29-30, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., in Empoli (Florence), Exhibit Center, Piazza Guido Guerra; exhibition of doves, canaries and birds of prey. Free entrance.

www.colombofilatoscana.it

MERCATINI ED EVENTI DI NATALE CHRISTMAS MARKETS AND EVENTS

MARINA DI PIETRASANTA (LUCCA)

Nov. 28, 2-7:30 p.m., **Nov. 29-30**, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., at La Versiliana Villa, Viale Enrico Mornin 16; Christmas ornaments, nativity sets, country crafts, and antique market; flower arrangement workshops.

<http://www.saimicadove.it/toscana/eventi/s/natale-in-versiliana-marina-pietrasanta/>

MARRADI (FIRENZE)

Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, 11 a.m. -6 p.m., in Piazza Le Scalelle.

MONTECATINI TERME (PISTOIA)

La Fabbrica di Babbo Natale Santa Claus Village

Nov. 28-30, Dec. 5-8, Dec. 12-14, Dec. 19-Jan 6; at the Terme Tamerici Castle; Christmas market and holiday ornaments workshops for children, pony rides,

food booths; entrance fee: €8; reduced €7 for children younger than 12.

www.lafabbricadibabbonatale.it

MONTELUPO FIORENTINO (FIRENZE)

Dec. 13-14, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., in Piazza della Libertà

MONTEPULCIANO (SIENA)

Nov. 22-23; Nov. 29-30; Dec. 5-8; Dec. 12-14; Nov. 19-Jan 6, 2015; visit the Christmas Village in Piazza Grande, Piazzetta Danesi and Via San Donato; games, workshops, and entertainment for children.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-della-toscana/>

PORCIANO (PISTOIA)

Sapori di Natale Christmas flavors

Dec. 7, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., food booths feature traditional holiday sweets; old trades shows; Christmas caroling; horse-drawn carriage tours; 7 p.m. Christmas concert in Saint George Church; Santa Claus Village.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-della-toscana/>

SIGNA (Florence)

Nov. 29, 2-7 p.m.; **Nov. 30**, 9 a.m.–7 p.m., in Via Mazzini, Piazza Repubblica and Piazza Cavour; Italian, French and Austrian Christmas decorations and gift ideas.

<http://www.natale-mercatini.it/mercatini-di-natale-della-toscana/>

HOLIDAY SEASON AT AMUSEMENT PARKS

MAGIC WINTER AT GARDALAND

Dec. 6-8, Dec. 13-14; Dec. 20-24, Dec. 26-31; Jan 1-6; 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; in Castelnuovo del Garda, Via Derna, 4, about 45 miles west of Vicenza; Christmas market and food booths; entrance fee: €23, reduced €20, for children younger than 10, and senior citizens older than 60.

<http://www.gardaland.it/resort/>

RAINBOW MAGICLAND

Dec. 6-8, Dec. 13-14, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; **Dec. 20-23, Dec. 26-31**, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., it closes at 11 p.m. on **Dec. 31; Jan. 2-6**, open from 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Via della Pace, Valmontone, Roma; entrance fee: €22; reduced €19; free for children under 39.37 inches tall.

<https://www.magicland.it/>

Italia in miniatura ITALY IN MINIATURE

Nov. 15-16, 22-23, 29-30, Dec. 13-14 and 20-21, entrance fee: €10; reduced €7; Dec. 6-8, 26-31, entrance fee: €12; reduced €8; 9:30 a.m. to sunset; Viserba (Rimini); Via Popilia 239; this park display hundreds miniatures of famous Italian and European buildings and offers special entertain-

ment and attractions during the holiday season.

<http://www.italianminiatura.com/en/prices-and-info/prices/individual-prices.html>

Antique markets Nov. 30

Cecina Antiqua (Livorno): 8 a.m.–8 p.m. in downtown Cecina (Livorno)

Ponte a Egola (Pisa): 8 a.m.–7 p.m., Piazza Rossa

Antique markets Dic. 6-7

Carmignano (Prato): Dec. 6, 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II and Piazza Matteotti

Cascina (Pisa): Dec. 6-7, 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Corso Matteotti

Orbetello (Grosseto): Dec. 6-7, 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Corso Italia

Pietrasanta (Lucca): 9 a.m.–7 p.m., in Piazza Duomo

San Miniato (Pisa): 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Piazza del Popolo

San Giuliano Terme (Pisa): 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Piazza Shelley and Piazza Italia

CONCERTS



Patti Smith

Patti Smith – Dec. 1 in Bergamo, Dec. 2 in Parma, Dec. 5 in Udine, Dec. 6 in Vicenza

Jesus Christ Superstar – Dec. 2-7 in Florence, Dec. 30 – Jan. 1 in Bologna

Elton John and Band – Dec. 4 in Assago (Milan)

New Found Glory – Dec. 6 in Milan

Sharon Van Etten – Dec. 6 in Bologna

David Crosby Solo Acoustic – Dec. 9 in Lucca, Dec. 10 in Como

Glenn Miller Orchestra – Dec. 13 in Padova

Stromae – Dec. 15 in Assago (Milan), Dec. 17 in Rome

Spirit of New Orleans Gospel Choir – Dec. 22 in Castelnuovo di Garfagnana (Lucca)

Harlem Gospel Choir – Dec. 23 in Bologna

Gran Concerto di Natale – Christmas Concert – Dec. 27 in Padova

The Original USA Gospel Singers and Band – Jan. 11, in Bolzano

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Innsbruck Christmas Markets offer variety of gift ideas



Commentary and photos by **Julie M. Lucas**
Outlook editor

Ornaments of all varieties, colors and kinds can be found at the Christmas Markets in Innsbruck. Find a gift for a loved one in the states or yourself.

Whether you have been in the Vicenza military community one month or 10 years, the Outdoor Recreation trip to the Innsbruck Christmas Markets will offer a variety for your senses.

With a short bus ride of four hours (with a stop on the way) you arrive in one of Austria's picture postcard cities. The downtown area has the typical stone-lined, curving streets you are familiar with in central Europe. Innsbruck, settled in the valley of the Inn river and surrounded by Alpine mountains, offers five different market areas. If traveling by bus you will walk through a forest garden and approach what evokes a fairytale of a guarded medieval city. After walking 100 feet, you will be greeted by one of the more popular sights in the city, the Golden Roof. Chances are, you won't be able to see the building façade for the huge Christmas tree with more than 1,300 lights, marking the first market. The first thing I'd recommend is finding a Gluhwein or punch stand and getting yourself a cup of warm spiced wine, known in Italy as vin brulé. I was

surprised at how many different varieties there are: regular, white, light (less sugar) and non-alcohol for children. You will notice people walking around with colorful coffee cups. To get your own cup it will cost around €2,80 and a deposit of €2, which you will get back if you return the cup. I chose to keep my cups as cheap keepsakes.

Once you get a warm beverage, now you can focus on the wares for sale. The more popular items are Christmas tree ornaments and decorations. Some are made of wood, cut into intricate designs. Some stalls have glass balls,

painted with scenes for winter or religious. If you didn't prepare well for bad weather, you can easily pick up some wool gloves, sweaters or hats. Numerous gifts can be purchased ranging from home decorations to food. Cheese stands, pastries and Speck are just a few of the foods that can be purchased to take home for later.

Other markets in the area include one just off the river that has pony rides for children, a giant carousel, puppet theater and story time. The modern market offers glass, crystal and is located in the heart of the city. The Panoramic Market



More than 160 little wooden stalls line the streets of Innsbruck during the Christmas markets. Wrap your hands around a mug of hot, mulled wine and return the cup for a deposit or keep as a souvenir.

is a distance but an experience getting there. You will have a great view of the city after riding a cable car to 2,256 meters.

At this point, your stomach might start to rumble from the aroma of fried food wafting in the air. If the weather is agreeable, you can pick up fried potatoes, wursts and other meats, a traditional pretzel, even cups of warm soup. When traveling I like to eat typical local cuisine and treat myself. I usually duck down alleyways to find off the beaten path hole-in-the-wall places. After a fantastic lunch of schnitzel, potatoes, salad with a crisp Riesling, I was ready to battle the crowds again. Later in the afternoon, I highly recommend trying some of the many desserts available, including an apple strudel, packaged to take home for less than €10.

The side street paths are called Fairytales and Giants Alley and are decorated up high above the doorways with famous children's stories, such as Snow White. If you want to get away from the hustle and bustle, Innsbruck has an Alpine Zoo and an ice skating rink.

More than 180 stalls will remain open



Christkindl performs music for children and adults at the Christmas markets in Innsbruck. Enjoy the sounds, sights and smells of the market that lasts until Jan. 6 and is less than a five-hour drive.

until Jan. 6. Upcoming weekend events include singing groups and concerts on the weekends. If you don't have plans for New Year's, a fireworks show will be set off Dec. 30 and Dec. 31. An international DJ will be spinning at the biggest indoor New Year's Eve party with a laser show.

For more information about market hours, maps, lodging and all other que-

stions visit, <http://www.christkindlmarkt.cc/1-1-Home.html> or <http://www.innsbruck.info/en/home.html> (both pages in English) or go to ODR and ask about other upcoming trips. If you haven't skied in Europe, they offer trips every weekend to a different destination.

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By Susan Hedblad

@WINE:sharingsips

So here you are in Vicenza, and you probably already know that besides great pasta, pizza and gelato there is wine, a boggling amount of wine. Italy boasts the greatest variety of grapes and wines in the entire world, but you don't have to travel far to taste an already vast number of styles.

In the **OTG** section of the **Outlook**, selected information can be found to make the most out of tastings and visits. I'll be presenting picks for interesting wineries, wine bars and shops (enoteca) to visit, and be illustrating some of the basics of tasting, choosing and serving wine.

Many wineries are open to the public for tastings during business hours, and often throughout the weekend.

Some wines you'll fall in love with, some you won't, but just like a kid in front of a new dish, until you try, you'll never know. Most likely, you'll discover that you like more styles than you imagined, as your palate develops.

I suggest you take the time to **give the wine a swirl** in the glass, and **take in the aroma** before you sip. With practice, you'll be able to discover more about what is in your glass, and about your personal preferences.

Try **documenting wine experiences with a dedicated app**. It's an easy way to learn about the wines and to



keep a tasting diary. If you look at the number of apps available for wine, it's daunting.

One option I can suggest is the free version of the **Vivino app**. Just snap a picture of the label, and Vivino will load information about the wine, the winery, comments and ratings by other users. You can rate the wine with a five star system, and add your comments. It's also a great way to decide which bottle to buy in an enoteca or store. The pro version gives expanded capabilities for cellar tracking. Another valid option is **Delectable**.

Let's start with some background information about Veneto. Whether you prefer wine wispy or bold, earthy or light, sweet or dry, red or white, bubbly or flat, organic or just plain good, chances are, in the Veneto region you can find it.

Veneto is a region that boasts **27 indigenous grape varieties**. Within this region there are registered designations of origin, meaning wine growing areas that are suited for cultivating certain native grapes. You'll know that you're drinking the real thing by observing the bottle: if you see the writing **DOC** (denominazione d'origine controllato) or **DOCG** (denominazione d'origine controllata e garantita), often accompanied by an official-looking paper seal placed over the bottle's cap or cork, it means that you are drinking a wine that is guaranteed to be typical and made

from only chosen local grapes. As of 2012, **Veneto is the largest regional producer of DOC and DOCG wines in the entire world**.

In the immediate Vicenza area, there are the **Colli Berici**, home to the delightful **Tai Rosso**. Wellknown and nearby DOCs are **Bardolino**, from the town with the same name on the shores of Garda Lake, **Valpolicella** and **Soave**. Other noteworthy wines produced here are the white **Bianco di Custoza**, the excellent sparkling **Prosecco di Conegliano Valdobbiadene**, the **Breganze**, also in the Vicenza province, and the majestic **Amarone**

di Valpolicella (a rich and powerful red from the Verona province). Also, the little known **Colli Euganee** with its rich volcanic soil, and warm summer temperatures, produces red wines that rival some top Tuscan reds. In Veneto, you'll also find international varieties, like **Sauvignon Blanc**, **Pinot Grigio**, **Merlot** and **Cabernet Sauvignon**.

The importance of winemaking in this region is underscored by the **creation in 1885 of the very first Italian school for vine growing and oenology**. In addition, Veneto was the first region to create a "strada del



vino" or wine road. The road (better known as Prosecco road) featured special signs providing information about the vineyards and the local wines produced between Valdobbiadene and Conegliano, now a single prestigious DOCG zone crossing a series of spectacular hilly vineyards. Today, panoramic wine roads can be visited throughout Veneto and Italy.

The most appreciated wines in the region come from the provinces of Treviso, Verona, Padova, Venezia, and Vicenza. The Valpolicella area around Verona, with a temperate climate and hilly terraced vineyards, is believed to have cultivated grapes since the Bronze Age.

As a winelover, and especially of Veneto wines, I'm thrilled to have space in the Outlook to write about this region. I'm happy to answer questions.

Please follow me on Twitter @shedblad or write to me susan@otgitaly.com. Cheers!



Eric Grosshans



OTGitaly.com

By Susan Hedblad

This marks the third print issue of the new Outlook magazine, so it seems time to make some proper presentations, and let our readers know a bit about OTG Italy.

I met with founder Eric Grosshan in his office headquarters in Soave. He began work on Outside the Gate, OTG, a proximity app dedicated to the Vicenza area in early 2014, and is also the manager and publisher of the new Outlook, with content furnished by USAG Vicenza Public Affairs Office. Read on to get his personal story and some insight into the OTG Italy project.

Eric, what brought you to Italy?

I was working in California when I fell in love with a beautiful Italian woman who was studying engineering at Berkeley. We married and had two daughters back in the States. A few years later, my wife found a once in a lifetime job opportunity in Italy, and me, being the adventurous type, said yes, let's move! Our daughters were aged 3 and 5 when we arrived in Italy on August 31st 2001.

What was life like when you first moved to Vicenza?

It was a rough start. Just a few days after my arrival, 9-11 hit. I was in a foreign country, watching images on tv, but in a language that I didn't understand. I felt completely isolated, disoriented. Over the years, it made me

think about how American soldiers and their families must feel walking outside the comfort zone of the base. Yet, there is an incredibly unique opportunity to be in a place that has so much to offer.

So I decided to throw myself into life in Italy: learning the language, the culture, how to get around, and generally what makes Italy and Italians tick. After years as a manager in a multi-national company, I adjusted to my role as stay home Dad- an incredibly rewarding and challenging experience. I started learning how to connect and find common ground with Italians, and how to build on that to make life here better for me and my family.

Did you have any second thoughts?

Oh, definitely! After 4 years of full immersion in Italian living, home-

sickness set in. I couldn't just drop everything and fly home, so I thought, I'm living in a city with an American community and I need to get involved! I went biking with a guy working in Recreation, and I could change his wheels so fast that I got my first gig working in the base bike shop. From there, I went on to doing all kinds of activities: cooking classes, extreme skiing, biking, theatre, taught Italian to soldiers and more.

How did you get the idea for OTG Italy?

As I got involved on base, and planning activities I started seeing gaps. By this time, I knew the Veneto region very well, I understood the language, but I also spent a significant time with Americans, and helped them with seemingly easy things to find, like: "Where can I buy wood for my fireplace?" or "Where can I get a key

made?". There are services not available on base, and Trip Advisor can't help you there. The other problem is the language barrier, and finding specialized services where there are English speaking people.

Also, I'd get asked to take people to ski or bike in the Dolomites, or to take them on a wine tour in Tuscany, when you don't even need to leave the Vicenza province to find amazing things to do. The information is there, but nobody is connecting the dots, it's getting lost or is lost in translation. Even when places or events were publicized, needs were not met, and information was not searchable or relevant to people.

My ah-ha moment was when I was watching StarGate with my kids. I started feeling like, "Hey, I'm the StarGate, the medium that can connect the dots, connect communities". And then I'm thinking, "Ok, it's an idea, but I need some tools". At the time, I was working on a project with a company who was developing an App: search capability, categories - and I thought yes, this is an idea that can really happen!

How did OTG Italy come to life?

When I approached the command about the App, dedicated to Vicenza's American community, they were thrilled. They also told me that many missed the print edition of the Outlook newspaper, and asked me if I'd be interested in publishing the paper. The Outlook went out of print 18 months ago due to funding cuts, so I needed to find a way to bring back



this service with my own resources. The adventurous spirit has never left me, so of course, my answer was yes. I put together a small team of Americans and Italians and we got to work.

Tell us about where you are today with OTG Italy?

Today, OTG Italy is a multimedia reality. We are on-line at www.otgitaly.com, where you can also consult the digital version of Outlook, www.otgitaly.com/outlook. Our app, OTG Italy, is available for download on iPhone and Android devices. We are actively involving the best venues, products and services the Vicenza area has to offer. We do ask for your patience, as you'll be seeing both the Outlook and the OTG App quickly grow with new businesses and services being added weekly.

What can we look forward to?

In the beginning of the year, OTG is launching a Classified Ads section, free of charge for basic ads. Here you'll be able to buy and sell items, cars, services and place personal ads. We think that this will be an amazing, easy to use, online service.

In the future, we also envision an online store, bringing you a selection of great Italian products.

We're launching our social media presence, so please be in touch with us there. We will also be planning events in which we hope to meet many of you personally. This is all about community, and we can't make it great without you. We'd love your input about anything: content you'd like to read about, services that you're looking for...



New Mobile App OTG Outside The Gate



Where?

- Just Outside the Base
- Just Outside your Home
- Vicenza on your Phone

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- In English and Italian
- Merchants & Restaurants
- Services & Groups

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OTG APP can be downloaded from



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