Out & About

USO celebrates new moms

High school soccer

CIAO Conference

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Fun Facts

• The Italian wolf is Italy’s unofficial national animal and plays a large role in the legend of the founding of Rome.

• Italy is said to have more masterpieces per square mile than any other country in the world.

• In northern Italy, last names tend to end in “i,” while those from the south often end in “o.”

• The most common Italian surnames are Rossi and Russo.

• Italian has more Latin words than any other Romance language, and its grammatical system remains similar to Latin. Latin is still the official language of the Vatican City in Rome.

• Begun in 1560 for Cosimo I de’ Medici, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence is one of the oldest museums in the world and contains famous works by Michelangelo, Botticelli and da Vinci.

Roadwork begins soon on Ederle

CASERMA EDERLE — The U.S. Army Garrison Italy Directorate of Public Works will soon continue its efforts to make the road system here safer and in conformance with Italian Road Regulations, il Codice della Strada.

The major repair project started in 2016 with repaving and restriping major streets, and replacing aging road signs.

Public Works completed a significant portion of the project in November, and construction work to complete the project will begin early April.

Work areas will be in the center of the community and are necessary to complete the repaving of Olson Avenue and 9th Street. Along with repaving, raised crosswalks will be installed in front of the library, high school, fitness center and Italian Mensa.

The crosswalks will remind drivers of the reduced speed limit in these areas.

In response to community feedback, parking along Olson Avenue in front of barracks 100 and 106, and on 9th Street across from the fitness center, will change from parallel to diagonal parking. The change will double the current number of parking spaces.

The remaining parallel parking areas will remove the individual stall markings to allow more cars in the area. (DPW)

Sky Soldiers feel heat during Real Thaw

173rd Airborne paratroopers collaborate, train alongside allies

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Philip Steiner

173rd Airborne Brigade Public Affairs

TONCAS, Portugal — Paratroopers of 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade participated in a two-week international training event known as Exercise Real Thaw in Portugal, from March 1 to 17.

Exercise Real Thaw was a Portuguese-led large joint and combined force exercise, designed to develop and foster international cooperation in air and land tactical training.

“We came here to do an airborne operation with our Portuguese allies. Then we moved to conducting live-fire team movements, incorporating mortars and anti-tank weapons,” said Capt. Cavn barnhill, commander of C Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cav. Rgt., 173rd Ab. Bde. “We finished off with a situation- al training exercise in conjunction with company of Portuguese paratroopers.”

Throughout each section of the exercise, cooperation and cross-training between the paratroopers of 1-91 and Portuguese 1st Paratrooper Battalion demonstrated continued training contributions to develop and improve air and combat action readiness between NATO allies.

“There are a lot of missions accomplished here, big and small picture, for us. The live fires help train our lethality while, through our small-unit movement skills and our weapon proficiency, we strengthen our ability to ability to move quickly and accurately,” said Barnhill.

“Stepping back, [we are] working with our Portuguese counterparts to build cohesion and relationships with our NATO allies.”

From airborne operations to fire-support, the direct coordination and ability to build partnership capacity for real world-missions was a universal theme throughout Real Thaw.

“We are doing a combined, indirect fire support plan. Our primary mission is to work in conjunction with other NATO forces,” said Staff Sgt. Benjamin Richardson, mortars section, A Troop, 1st Sqdn., 91st Cav. Rgt. “For example, we were doing coordinated illumination for the Portuguese [forward] observers while they conducted fire missions with 120mm Howitzers.”

Throughout Exercise Real Thaw, the U.S. paratroopers had the opportunity to observe and learn more about the technologies used by the Portuguese 1st Airborne Battalion.

“It is always good to see how someone else does it. They have a certain level of finesse to their job that I can see and want to learn from that,” said Sgt. William Smith, C Troop, 1st Sqdn., 91st Cav. Rgt.

“The younger guys can see this too and it gives them something to shoot for- to become more proficient in their job as well.”

Exercise Real Thaw provided an opportunity for the paratroopers to get out to the field to test the skills they covered in a static learning environment.

“Anytime you can get a live-fire experience it is invaluable. You can do all the classroom time you want, but there is no replacement for down-range feedback,” said Richardson.

Throughout the missions, the live fires, the late nights and hard days, some similarities shine through both nations, according to Smith.

“They have a large amount of pride in their country and that is something we share: pride in what we do and where we come from,” said Smith.

The 173rd Airborne Brigade, based in Vicenza, is the U.S. Army Contingency Response Force in Europe, capable of projecting forces to conduct the full range of military operations across the United States European, Central and African commands areas of responsibility.

Begun in 1560 for Cosimo I de’ Medici, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence is one of the oldest museums in the world and contains famous works by Michelangelo, Botticelli and da Vinci.
Leaders take online conduct seriously

The 509th Signal Battalion has been working to field next-generation Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology.

**LT. Col. Brent O. Skinner, 509th Signal Battalion commander, addresses those present about the importance of the EWSD decommisioning and the transition to VoIP services.**

**CMCS Giacinto Tufilli, IBC Staff**

"On weekends, I turn the cell phone off as well as all the electronics and enjoy time with my family."

**Stephanie Boyanowsky**

DODDS

"I enjoy every single moment with my daughter. Knowing that we won’t be there forever, I cherish every second with her."

CMCS Giacinto Tufilli

IBC Staff

"On weekends, I turn the cell phone off as well as all the electronics and enjoy time with my family."

509th marks end of era as voice services get upgrade

Birgitt Aydelotte

AAFS

"I have internalized the teaching of Eckhart Tolle, ‘The Power of Now’ which emphasizes that all we have is this present moment. Make the most of it—and read the book!"

Francesca Malavé-Ortiz

Family member

"Live in the moment. Time is fleeting, and stops for no one. Be grateful for your blessings. Love your family every day, for tomorrow’s never promised."

Luis A. Vargas III

(a.k.a. Alex)

Family member

"Look back at happy or funny moments that I have enjoyed with my family, such as ‘the cookie incident’ or when my dad returns from long trips."

Speak Out

509th's team of trusted professionals continues to lead the way in providing next-generation communications support to more than 23 sites in eight countries as well as deployable VIP communications services on the continent of Africa.

**Benjamin Franklin once said, “You may delay, but time will not.” What are some things you do to remind yourself to enjoy those little moments in life?”**

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**Ali Alvis**

Family member

"I take piggyback rides from my dad as much as I can because I know it won’t last long since I am growing fast."

509th Signal Battalion

LONGARE — Soldiers, civilians and local nationals gathered to witness an end of an era as 509th Signal Battalion hosted the decommissioning of the Lon- gare Electronic World Switch Digital, or EWSD, end office telephone switch.

The event followed a highly successful initiative to upgrade legacy voice services on the site to Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology.

The legacy EWSD telephone switch was part of the larger Defense Switched Network (DSN), providing U.S. govern- ment users with voice services worldwide and a cornerstone of the U.S. Army’s ability to communicate over the past 12 years. Evolution in communications technology, specifically Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology, has enabled us to stand down extensive communications facilities, significantly reducing our operations and maintenance footprint across the theater while enhancing the quality of voice services to the warfighter. The process of instituting VoIP services as the primary means of telecommuni-

509th Signal Battalion

March 24, 2017

LT. Col. Brent O. Skinner, 509th Signal Battalion commander, addresses those present about the importance of the EWSD decommissioning and the transition to VoIP services.

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Leaders take online conduct seriously

The 509th Signal Battalion has been working to field next-generation VoIP services across Southern Europe. The decommissioning of the Longare EWSD is the beginning of the implementation of the new system. According to Todd Hunt, chief, Net-

Work Infrastructure Division, “The decommissioning of the EWSD switch represents an honorable end to an analog era on the Longare campus as we replace this legacy system with the latest converged network technology. The advent of unified capabilities has enabled us to
By Hope Gallegos
VHC Public Affairs Office

VICENZA — As a passage from one of the most translated books in the world “The Little Prince” by French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, some members of the Vicenza Military Community started their mornings “with the greatest care for the planet” as they volunteered to clean up some local areas.

Two groups gathered March 11-12 in separate locations, about eight miles apart, for a recurring cleanup event coordinated by Anna Ciccotti, media and community relations officer, U.S. Army Garrison Italy.

Both days, the mild weather and blue sky perfectly framed the efforts of participants. At first, they gathered with Italian Alpini, councilmen and Civil Protection Agency members at the town hall before heading out in the surroundings to pick up trash, clean trails and pull weeds: the first day the cleanup was in Longare, and the day after in Quinto Vicentino.

“I am honored to continue this partnership that has now become a tradition after its fourth consecutive year,” said Gaetano Fontana, Mayor of Longare.

He said the Italian volunteers once again enjoyed the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with Americans living or working in Longare.

“For us there is much pride in participating in this important civic engagement year after year. While it is important to come together to keep our town tidy, the cleanup sends a powerful message to the community as a whole,” said Fontana.

On the second day, the Mayor of Quinto Vicentino Renzo Segato echoed his counterpart by saying, “These events are important for fostering friendships and inter- nationation, especially for our town where more than a hundred American families have found their home here in Italy.”

“We are grateful that our friends from the Vicenza Military Community could come again this year and help out as in the past. Their participation was key to the success of the initiative and we anticipate that they decided to spend their day off picking up trash with our Italian volunteers.”

During both days, a mixed group of Soldiers and civilians were divided in small Italian and American teams who helped collect garbage. Some of them have helped out on previous occasions.

“I have never had so much fun picking up trash,” said volunteer Denise Gillian, training coordinator for the garri- sons, while talking to her companions at lunchtime.

After some walking, filling quite a few large plastic bags with multiple trash items while exploring new paths in the neighborhood, participants were offered an Italian-style lunch as a thank you for their support to community.

The first day Local Alpini chapters’ members prepared lunch at the Alpini seat of Lugano, while – on the fol- lowing day – the second group enjoyed lunch in the 16th-century Villa Cà Pri- gioni, a restaurant housed in a historical noble residence where owners made the location available to thank all volunteers.

“Lunch was a great opportunity for me to sample Italian cuisine. The portions were more than I could eat, but the des- sert was amazing,” said Sgt. 1st Class Monyshia L. McCray, 414th Contract- ing Support Brigade, who volunteered in Quinto Vicentino.

“I enjoy volunteering because I love helping out others by being a positive role model for Soldiers and members of the community. As a member of the Vicenza Chapter of Excellence Sergeant Morales Club we strive to assist in the communi- ty by giving back, and as a member of the Vicenza Military Community I take pride in improving where we live.”

“Also, I was very excited to meet the Mayor of Quinto Vicentino. On behalf of the Sergeant Morales Club I would like to say thank you for this opportunity to volunteer, and I look forward to similar events in the near future.”

A mixed group consisting of Soldiers, Alpini, Department of the Army civilians and family members, work together to collect trash near Longare during the March 11 cleanup day. Volunteers pictured clean the area overlooking the Pieve di San Maur- ero Abate, in Costozza, that was originally a church restored in the 1700s.

The Vicenza Military Community continues its support of local neighborhoods as part of the Vicenza Community Engagement Program (VCEN), which is comprised of organizations that work closely with the Vicenza Military Community to improve the local environment.

The PRAMUN MUN conference features 11 committee types, such as Social and Cultural, Disarmament II and Environmental, and Turkey. This diversity aids in emu- lating the United Nations atmosphere, by simulating a U.N. General Assembly. PRAMUN features 11 committee types, each with different topics that reflect re- cent events in the actual U.N.

Before the conference this year, Vicenza High School’s Model U.N. class debated topics ranging from establishing post-war relief in African countries to questioning whether offshore tax havens are ethical — specifically, should they be banned globally or do individuals have the right to deposit money in such accounts?

Delegates are allotted seven hours over the course of two days to debate topics and construct resolutions.

Besides time constraints, delegates are obliged to put personal views aside in order to respectively represent the coun- try’s views—not always an easy task. This process of the conference is vital, however, when trying to simulate actual United Nations assemblies.

“I was tasked to represent China,” said Camaan York, a VHS graduate, who par- ticipated in Model U.N. when he was a student. “Being from the United States, there were a multitude of differences between the views, beliefs and values. Although this was challenging, I knew the mock trial would not be successful without my full commitment to repre- senting the country at hand. Therefore, I prepared to strengthen friendships beforehand to successfully represent the views and beliefs of China.”

After construction of resolutions, dele- gates representing various countries presented their committee’s resolutions to have them voted on by the General Assembly.

Vicenza’s Model United Nations class not only represented France at the PRA- MUN international conference, but also represented their school and the Vicenza Military Community.

At the conclusion of the trip, students were given the opportunity to visit the

Church of St. Cyril and Methodius and the German Nazi official under Hitler. Del- egates were able to walk through The Box 10, APO, AE 09630, located in Bldg. 10 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. The office DSN number is 637-8020, off post at 0444-61-8020 or via email at us- army.vmc.pao@mail.mil.

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Becoming a US citizen

CASERMA EDERLE — Ronald Nelson, from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Rome, and Private Juan Garcia conduct the last order of business before Garcia and 10 other new citizens were sworn in during a ceremony at the Golden Lion Conference Center here March 21. In total, 11 people from 10 different nations became new citizens.

The new countrymen (listed alphabetically by nations represented) are: Lesley Gardner, Canada; Amnis Rincon, Colombia; Guendalina Mallard, Italy; Ariana Young, Italy; Min Jung Choi Theus, Korea; Angelita Powell, Mexico; Rajju Thapa, Nepal; Wilhemina Homburg, Netherlands; Juan Garcia, Peru; Ana Liza Caluag, Philippines; and Angela Zamora, Russia.

Photo by Mark Turney, VMC Public Affairs Office

Expeditious naturalization possible in some cases

by Capt. Dimitri Facaros
Legal Assistance Office

VICENZA — Looking to become a United States citizen? Prior to naturalization, lawful permanent residents must satisfy certain requirements before they are eligible to apply for citizenship.

The eligibility criteria generally requires persons to have been a lawful permanent resident for a certain period of time (generally three or five years after receiving a green card); to have spent half of the required time as a lawful permanent resident living within the United States (physical presence); to be a person of good moral character; and to pass a test in U.S. history and government.

In certain cases, however, individuals who reside overseas with their U.S. citizen spouses may qualify for expeditious naturalization. Expedited naturalization allows certain spouses of U.S. military members currently stationed overseas to naturalize without meeting the normal continuous residence and physical presence requirements. In other words, the often-cited three-year rule and five-year rule do not apply.

Section 319(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act allows qualifying spouses of United States citizens regularly stationed abroad to naturalize without any required period of permanent residence. Regularly stationed abroad means the citizen spouse must have at least one year remaining on his or her overseas duty at the time the application for naturalization is filed.

An applicant can file for naturalization, and that application can be approved either before the overseas assignment begins or during the overseas assignment. Other requirements for expedited naturalization include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) the spouse must be a lawful permanent resident at the time the N-400 application is filed; (2) the spouse must be physically present in the United States at the time of naturalization for the interview and the taking of the Oath of Allegiance; and (3) the spouse must show evidence that he or she will join the U.S. military member overseas within 45 days of naturalization.

While completing the N-400, the applicant can designate a specific location to conduct the interview, which may include the oath. This is important as some locations throughout the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have shorter processing times and may be able to conduct the interview and the oath close in time.

Along with Form N-400, there is a list of other documents an applicant is required to file. Some of those documents include two sets of fingerprints; a photocopy of the spouse’s Permanent Resident Card; a DD-1278, a Certificate of Overseas Assignment to Support Application to File Petition for Naturalization; and a letter from the military member’s command identifying the spouse’s authorization to reside overseas with the military member and the date the member is eligible for return from overseas (DEROS).

There is also a fee associated with the application. Although the application is ultimately mailed back to the United States, the application is processed through the USCIS Rome Field Office as this office requires prior coordination to grant an expedite request on an Application for Naturalization.

Don’t delay. Expeditious naturalization is not available once the military member’s overseas tour is complete.


For appointments concerning this issue and other personal legal matters, visit the Vicenza Legal Assistance Office, located at Building 166, DSN 637-8834, comm. 0444-61-8834.

Field trip exposes students to military police operations

CAMP DARBY — Children from the Livorno Elementary-Middle School took a field trip to the Military Police Station March 17 to learn how MPs maintain order and safety.

The students were divided into three groups and rotated through different stations where they could become familiar with police services and the tools they use.

Staff Sgt. Ira Thompson, military police officer, said this kind of field trip is important because it gives children a clear idea of what military police do and their role of providing a specific service to the community.

Megan Fletcher, 2nd- and 3rd-grade teacher at the school, said the students are enthusiastic about learning.

“This is a great opportunity for them to get out of their regular school (environment). They have all worked really hard, and they really deserve to enjoy some new adventures,” she said.

As part of the visit, children had their fingerprints taken while Sgt. Aaron Adams, 529th Military Police Company, explained how fingerprints are useful in the identification process of individuals, since they are unique and stay the same all of one’s life. Fingerprinting seemed to be the highlight of the day for many.

“This was a good trip,” said third-grader Isaac Alvis. “My favorite part was doing the fingerprints, but turning on the sirens was also fun.”

Many students were also attracted by the use of spikes that can stop a vehicle by puncturing all tires at the same time.

“I liked everything, but my favorite was the spike strips (that are used) to trick the bad guys. When they are trying to drive away, the wheel will blow up,” said third-grader Sonya Hamilton.

Many questions arose throughout the trip and, when asked by third-grader Noah Kempf if the MPs would treat everyone the same way even if it were the President of the United States, 1st Sgt. Jeremy Hopfe had a good answer.

“Everyone is accountable to the same law, and the military police are here to restore peace and order, no matter what,” Hopfe said.
CIAO Conference participants attend “Painting and Prosecco,” one of the 20 classes offered during the annual CIAO Conference March 8. The popular class was offered six times throughout the two-day event, which took place at local restaurant Dai Gelosi. To see more photos, see the Flickr album, https://www.flickr.com/photos/usagvicenza/sets/72157679343030541.

VMC members gather for annual conference

For almost two decades, CIAO has provided an opportunity for community members to spend a day enjoying cultural activities. CIAO Conference attendees could participate in cultural activities, classes, and tours in Valperto, including Murano, Burano, Torcello, Venice, and its lagoon. Attendees could choose from two classes per day and pick up to four classes per day, including classes such as wine tasting, Prosecco making, and Prosecco and special vineyard tours to Dutti Winery. Attendees could choose to volunteer to keep busy and to give back to the community. These volunteers just proved that they don’t have to receive a paycheck to feel valued and are just as hard-working and dedicated as those with employment,” said Gallo-O’Bryant. After the rewarding experience, teamwork, and community response, Gallo-O’Bryant said, “This was my first year with the CIAO committee and hopefully not my last.”

One CIAO Committee member is Soraya Franklin, who has assisted with the event since 2010. As an event volunteer, she remembered that the CIAO committee has been trying to schedule the event this particular day since its establishment in 1998.

“The original idea was to schedule the event every year on March 8, which is the day when Italians celebrate Festa della Donna,” said Franklin. “So this year we matched it with that day but also coordinated with the restaurant and the vendors for the extra day.”

Approximately 180 people participated in the event, and some 75 of them were in attendance both days. Some participants came back after their experience last year.

Most classes centered on Italy — living in Italy, the language, the culture, the food, and wine. Attendees could pick up to four classes per day and choose among classes, such as wine tasting presented by a couple of wineries from the Verona area, olive oil tasting, balsamic vinegar tasting, salsa lesson, painting and Prosecco, and several cooking classes.

One presenter, Giovanna Gavazzo, has been a licensed tour guide since 2014 and works as a contractor with Outdoor Recreation. She has been invited for the past two years to the CIAO event. “This year I presented two classes, Travel to Venice and Travel with Kids,” said Gavazzo. “The first one focused on Venice and its lagoon including all logistics, how to get there, explaining the vaporetto lines and excursions to the islands of Murano, Burano, Torcello.”

For the second class, she focused on suggestions to make children interested while traveling, advising amusement parks, zoo and playgrounds reachable in the Veneto region. “Mostly the questions deal with logistics, such as how/where to find tickets, hours of operation and tips on the best time to visit a location,” Gavazzo said.

Attendees said they look forward to the event for the whole year, and many take the day off from work to be a part of it. "This is the second time I’ve attended a CIAO Conference," said participant Carmen Feliciano. She attended two classes alongside her friends Lichelle Brown and Kelsea Hernandez. “Painting and Prosecco” and “Cooking with Lucas.” “I recommended (this) to my friends and they participated with me. I’ll be waiting for next year as well,” said Feliciano.

After sharing the event with friends, Brown said, “We had a great time. It’s a once in a lifetime experience to be able to live here and enjoy wonderful times like these with other spouses. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience Italian cuisine … and immerse ourselves in this amazing Italian culture.”

Chef Lucas teaches how to prepare bigoli al ragù d’anatra, a local recipe of a long thick pasta with duck sauce during the “Cooking with Lucas” class March 8.

Fanny Moran (right) teaches a Salsa lesson at the Taverna of the restaurant before the luncheon at the CIAO Conference.
**Sports**

Vicenza High School boys’ soccer team kicks it up a notch

CASERMA EDERLE — Vicenza High School Boys’ and Girls’ soccer teams faced off against the squads from Naples here March 18.

Above: Vicenza High School’s Errett Bainum, #9, battles his Naples opponent during the game. Vicenza led at the half before falling to Naples 2-1.

At right: Vicenza High Cougar Nicholas Galles, #10, tackles the ball in midfield during the second half of the boys’ game. The Naples girls’ team also won 3-0.

The teams go head to head with the American Overseas School of Rome today, and play Marymount tomorrow, March 25. After Spring Break, VHS will compete against Sigonella at home.

(Photos by Laura Kreider, VMC Public Affairs Office)

Outlook
March 24, 2017

Author, historian returns to Ederle, shares insights

By Hope Gallegos
VHS Career Practicum Student

VICENZA — Vicenza Military Community members gathered March 15 at the Golden Lion to listen to Ross King, a New York Times best-selling author, as he spoke about art, history and architecture.

King has visited the installation several times in the past to present topics from his books, this time focusing on Michelangelo and Machiavelli.

Studying at the University of London for 14 years, obtaining a Ph.D. and post-doctoral fellowship, King said he originally envisioned a career in academia.

He knew writing was the core of his passion for reading, but he never predicted the success the world has allotted him.

Recalling his first visit to Paris 25 years ago, King explained that he had never set foot into any of the museums because he wanted to see what the city was about.

His goal was to learn the streets and watch people — only later looking in museums and communing with paintings. King said he was in awe that Europeans lived with so much history in their day-to-day lives.

“In North America … the historical record isn’t that deep, and so I think maybe we’re more in awe of history because of that. I think maybe that’s one thing that feeds my books, just the curiosity I have for this world,” said the writer.

When asked to describe his first artistic encounter, how old was he and what was he drawn to, King confessed he had never been asked that before. Nostalgia took over his expression. Being one of seven children, he said camping holidays were most of what he knew.

Growing up in a small town, there was a gallery composed of local contemporary art. Little did King know that stepping into that gallery would change his life forever. Intuitively always wanting to be a writer, King said “naturally,” he also wanted to paint.

“Walk without a map in a city you’re exploring and just follow your nose, follow your eyes, and see where all of that takes you,” he said.

King is the best-selling author of books on Italian, French and Canadian art and history. Among his books are Brunelleschi’s Dome, Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling, Michelangelo and Machiavelli: Philosophy of Power held at the Golden Lion March 15.

(PHOTO BY LAURA KREIDER, VMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE)

Historian and writer Ross King talks to Jonah Dolan, 11, after a presentation from his books, “Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling” and “Machiavelli: Philosopher of Power” held at the Golden Lion March 15.

“I thought, because I’m left-handed, I’m going to be like Leonardo Da Vinci, but I realized that I couldn’t. I had no artistic aptitude,” he said. His theory behind justifying his position is that there needs to be people in the world who appreciate art and the artists themselves.

“I can’t paint, but I can celebrate people who can,” he said.

Comprised only of a feeling, King’s inspiration stems from his enthusiasm for how people lived their lives. He said he ponders questions such as, “what was it like to live in Florence in the 1400s or in Rome in the 1500s?” Therefore, he works to answer those questions and labels his books as a literary time travel. The main focus in his stories is on giving his audience an immersive experience, specifically to readers who ponder the same questions he does. Although the location of the stories change, his inspiration always stays the same.

Giving advice to those who enjoy art, history and architecture, King stressed the importance of feeding one’s love for the arts. He suggests reading about art, researching it, going to museums and seeing everything that art, history and architecture have to offer.

“Walk without a map in a city you’re exploring and just follow your nose, follow your eyes, and see where all of that takes you,” he said.

His latest book, published in September 2016, is the story of Monet’s struggles and triumphs in the last dozen years of his life, Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies.

(MARCH 24, 2017)

Ross King, a New York Times best-selling author, as he spoke about art, history and architecture.

(PHOTO BY LAURA KREIDER, VMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE)
Employee Spotlight

This week, the Outlook puts the spotlight on Tamela Hushen, who works for the U.S. Army Garrison Italy at Caserma Ederle.

Organization/position: Directorate of Human Resources, Embassy Liaison Officer

Overview of job/duties: We process tourist and official passports for Vicenza and Livorno communities, with roughly 4,000 being processed last year. We work closely with the Foreign Clearance Guide in understanding each country’s requirements for travel for military and civilian community members.

We also work as a liaison between the installation, or Department of Defense, and the American Embassy and Consulates (DoS). We process Social Security for new births and replacement cards.

In addition, we provide guidance on the naturalization process overseas and work with the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service (USCIS) as well as DoS on special cases. We host naturalization ceremonies for newly immigrated citizens.

Major accomplishments or goals: As immigration is a tough subject to understand, I coordinated a briefing for the community from USCIS and the DoS to help provide understanding of the process and contacts to assist them along the way, which is now a regularly scheduled, annual presentation. It is our goal to provide the best customer service to our community and ensure people leave our office better than before they arrived.

What do you like best about your job? Working with our community and knowing that we are helping them through a process that will affect them for many years to come, whether it be passport or naturalization. We want to keep it as simple as possible and ensure that the community is able to travel and enjoy their time here in Europe to the fullest extent.

 April to focus on military children, abuse prevention

VICENZA — Our local community gets to double the fun in April. Not only is springtime beautiful in Vicenza, but April is also Month of the Military Child and National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The local Child and Youth Services and Family Advocacy Program are partnering up to offer a lot of great events.

Month of the Military Child was established in 1986 to recognize and honor children for the important role they play in the military community. And since 1983, every April is recognized as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Organizations and individuals spend the month focusing efforts on promoting positive family interactions, providing education for families, and on pulling everyone in the community together to work on preventing child abuse and neglect. Use the calendar as a guide for doing something special with your children every day of the month, and find just a small selection of the special activities that are happening around post. Visit the MWR website for more.

Stay tuned to the community or read the next issue of the Outlook to find out what those pinwheels that have been popping up around post are all about!

AFES restaurants open to all

From AFES — While Army & Air Force Exchange Service shopping privileges are only open to Soldiers, Airmen and their families, anyone can dine in Italy Exchange restaurants or pick up grab-and-go fare from Express locations.

Army Regulation 215-8/Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I) lets anyone—including visitors, contractors and Department of Defense civilians—dine at the Exchange’s more than 1,600 restaurants worldwide.

The regulation also authorizes anyone to buy grab-and-go food and beverages from one of the Exchange’s 300-plus Express locations as long as the items are consumed on the installation.

“Whether you work on the installation or are just visiting a military family member, the Exchange has you covered with a variety of satisfying meal options,” said Italy Exchange General Manager Susana Sobrino. “With numerous better-for-you options in both the food court and Express, the Exchange proves you don’t have to wait until you’re off-post to eat a hearty, healthy meal.”

Guidelines on who is authorized to use Exchange operations are prescribed by Army Regulation 215-8/Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I) and the Armed Services Exchange Regulations, Department of Defense Instruction 1330.21.

Anyone who believes they qualify for full Exchange benefits, including access to main stores, should contact the Italy Exchange at 0444-71-7796.
Red Cross names European Division Volunteer of Quarter

by Andrea Stone
Contributor

VICENZA — She may be new to the Vicenza American Red Cross, but Brittney Barton-Wagner, has had an impact across the European continent as a Reconnection Workshop facilitator. That impact was recognized when she was awarded, not only Regional Volunteer of the Quarter, but also Division Volunteer of the Quarter for the European division.

“She has embraced our mission at the Red Cross, our values, our principles. She takes that with her,” said Susan Tipton, Regional Program Director for Italy and Spain. “She embodies what we want (in) a volunteer. She believes in our program, and she’s delivering that program, and I think that’s what sets her apart.”

Brittney has volunteered for the American Red Cross Vicenza Station since moving to Italy in August 2016.

“I knew that job opportunities are very slim here, and I wanted to do something where I could continue to use my degree,” she said.

As facilitator for the workshops, she has gone above and beyond, traveling to the Balkan region to provide resiliency training to deployed service members.

“It was such a unique clinical experience to go to a (temporary duty) or deployment zone with service members who had already been separated from their families six or more months,” she said. “Never did I think, when I was going through graduate school and my practicum and trainings, that this is where I was going to be as a therapist, and it was fantastic.”

The focus of the Reconnection Workshop program is on helping service members and their families deal with the stress of frequent deployments and separations by learning coping skills and better communication skills.

“She has the education, training and skill set to provide a valuable service to our community,” Tipton said. “She’s educating our community through meetings and briefings, informing and empowering them with knowledge. She’s sharing our role as another resource, we’re not here to replace but to add to.”

Barton-Wagner believes that she and her team aren’t doing anything extraordinary to create the successes they are having.

“We just have staff who is really passionate, and that shows in the work and how much effort they put in,” she said. Whether she recognizes it or not, Barton-Wagner has had an impact, the director said.

“She’s made an impact in our military community, no matter where she’s gone,” said Tipton. “She’s done things that we haven’t done over here yet, and she’s been open to doing it and gotten through the little quirks and hiccups along the way with a smile on her face.”

The American Red Cross is a volunteer-driven organization with a history of service in local community. Volunteer positions are available in the clinics, post office, mail room, library, Health Promotions office, and Red Cross office. The Red Cross is always looking for good candidates to take on leadership roles. Volunteer orientations are held the first Tuesday of each month. Contact the office for more information, DSN 634-7089, comm. 0444-71-7089.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

IT’S ALMOST TIME!

The Vicenza Military Community’s annual Easter Eggstravaganza will take place April 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the Caserma Ederle Sports Field.

Oh, baby!

USO showers new mothers with gifts, guests, games

Expectant, new mothers are celebrated and learn ‘What to Expect’ from author Heidi Murkoff

STORY AND PHOTOS
by Aaron P. Talley
VMC Public Affairs Office

CASERMA EDERLE — Becoming a new mother can be challenging, especially if she is far from family and friends. And living in a foreign country. And married to a Soldier who is regularly deployed.

Because military spouses deal with these challenges on a regular basis, the Vicenza USO decided to hold a baby shower here for 50 new and expectant mothers March 20. They even invited a special guest speaker, Heidi Murkoff. Murkoff is the author of the best-selling series of books, “What to Expect When You’re Expecting.”

Through a program organized by the USO, Murkoff travels to military bases around the world to hold events like this for women about to embark on the challenge of motherhood. The writer said each baby shower she hosts is more than just a bunch of gifts and games. She says the bonds the mothers form with each other are what these events are really about.

“We just make those connections is so vital,” she said. “You might feel very isolated to begin with, because you just moved somewhere, and then you feel isolated as a new mom. It’s hard to get out of the house.”

“It’s (important) just knowing that you’re not alone, just knowing there’s your family is so far away,” Wease said. “So we really wanted to make it special for them, an event that they would remember. And they get to meet Heidi Murkoff; what’s better than that?”

Lauren Pease, a military spouse expecting her first child in September, admits that she was a bit starstruck at meeting the famous author. She was also very appreciative of the USO holding this event.

“It shows that they care about us, and that they’re putting in that extra effort,” she said.

“(The USO is) saying hey, you’re not alone, even though your family is way over on the other side of the earth. Just bringing all of us together for a fun event like this is very welcoming.”

For Murkoff, traveling around the world to support military mothers is a no-brainer.

“I’m always in awe, I’m inspired by them,” she said, “because I’m not sure I could do it.

“Being so far away from home, on your own a lot of the time, having a partner who’s deployed, and (yet) somehow managing not only to get through but to do it well, and to survive and thrive: I think it’s an inspiration.”

Wease says this will hopefully be a recurring event in Vicenza.

“It’s a great event, we hope to do it again,” she said. “Look for it in the future.”

Heidi Murkoff, best-selling author of the “What to Expect….” series, holds a baby shower here for one of the mothers at the Vicenza USO Baby Shower. Murkoff was the event guest speaker, but also spent time talking individually with almost all of the attendees, liberally offering hugs to both moms and babies.

Expectant, new mothers are celebrated and learn ‘What to Expect’ from author Heidi Murkoff

As facilitator for the workshops, she has gone above and beyond, traveling to the Balkan region to provide resiliency training to deployed service members.

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The Vicenza Tax Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-noon; Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon; and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. The center closes April 21 for the spring break and will reopen April 25.

Outlook deadline
The next issue of the Outlook will be published April 14. Submission deadlines are 5 p.m. the Tuesday before. Call the editor at DSN 637-8031, or 0444-61-8031, with questions concerning submissions.

Darby library
Beginning April 1, Camp Darby’s post library will be closed on Saturdays. The FMWR manager apologizes for the inconvenience. For more information, call DSN 633-8220, or 050-54-8220.

STEM Fair
The Vicenza Middle School is hosting a STEM Fair April 12 and 14. The fair is an opportunity for students to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math fields in the military and to get to know the work done by some of the military units here. Organizers are looking for military and community presenters to show students how STEM works in the real world. There is also a need for volunteers to judge fair projects. Contact the STEM Fair 2017 POC, Anna Sansone, via email at anna.sansone@eu.dod.email, for more information.

College graduation
The Vicenza Education Center proudly celebrates the accomplishments of our military community. Anyone who has graduated in the past year or is within 12 semester hours of graduation is invited to join the center in celebrating your achievements with the annual Graduation Recognition Ceremony. The ceremony will take place May 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Golden Lion. Graduation applications are due May 5. Those interested in participating are asked to stop by the Vicenza Education Center, Building 126, or contact the administrative assistant at DSN 637-8141, or email vicenza.ed-center@us.army.mil or cymone.a.morgan.cptr@mail.mil.

Pigalle. POC for this event is your designated personnel. Call DSN 633-7267, or 050-54-7267.

At the movies

**CHIPS**
Jon Baker and Frank “Ponch” Poncherello have just joined the California Highway Patrol in Los Angeles, but for very different reasons. Baker is a professional motorbike rider who’s trying to put his life and marriage back together. Poncherello is a cocky, undercover FBI agent who’s investigating a multimillion dollar heist that may be an inside job. (Rated PG-13)

March 24, 7 p.m. Life (NR)
March 25, 10 p.m. CHIPS (R)
March 26, 6 p.m. Power Rangers (PG-13)
March 27, 6 p.m. Life (NR)
March 29, 6 p.m. Power Rangers (PG-13)
March 30, 7 p.m. CHIPS (R)

*The April movie schedule was not available at time of publication. Check movie schedule online at https://www.shopmyexchange.com/rent-time-theatres/Vicenza. Movie schedule is provided by AAFES.

**Admission**
3D first run: Adult $8.50, under 12 $5.75, 3D second run: Adult $8, under 12 $5.50, First run: Adult $6.50, under 12 $3.75, Second run: Adult $6, under 12 $3.50

**SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

**Soldiers remember Bataan sacrifice on 75th anniversary**

**CAMP DARBY** — The 839th Transportation Battalion hosted a commemoration at the Leghorn Army Depot March 17 to remember the sacrifices of the Soldiers who lost their lives in the Bataan Death March of April 1942.

“While 7,000 people are about to begin their commemoration in White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, here at Camp Darby we want to celebrate this year the 75th anniversary of the Bataan Death March with a two-mile walk,” said 839th Trans. Bn. commander Lt. Col. Ja- son Alvis. “Our goal is to march collectively at least those 65 miles that those Soldiers had to march to their internment camp.”

Soldiers, Airmen and civilian employees joined the group for the event, the first at Camp Darby.

“We are here today to show unity and remembrance for all those who lost their lives in that bloody march,” said Airman 1st Class Elliot Yee, 31st Munitions Squadron. According to www.history.com, the Japanese invasion of the Philippines began Dec. 8, 1941, the day after Japan bombed the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor. Within a month, the Japanese had captured Manila, and American and Filipino defenders of Luzon (the island on which Manila is located) were forced to retreat to the Bataan Peninsula. For the next three months, the combined U.S.-Filipino army held out despite a lack of naval and air support. Finally, on April 9, with his forces crippled by starvation and disease, U.S. General Edward King Jr. surrendered his approximately 75,000 troops at Bataan. After the surrender to the Japanese, they were forced to make an arduous 65-mile march to prison camps. Marchers made the trek in intense heat and were subjected to harsh treatment by Japanese guards. Thousands perished in what became known as the Bataan Death March.

According to Alvis, resilience and teamwork is what helped save those who survived (less than 50 percent) the march, which is why Alvis asked that all commemoration participants march in teams.

“No one will be left alone, in honor, memory and commemoration of the death march of Bataan,” Alvis said.
VENETO & NEARBY

Haru no Kaze – Vento di Primavera
Japanese Spring Wind Festival
Through March 26, Vicenza. Haru no Kaze means “spring wind” and symbolically indicates the arrival of spring with its wind that carries away the winter giving way to new life. This annual Japanese festival provides visitors with interesting moments of exchange and encounter with the Japanese arts and traditions through music, performances, lectures, and cuisine. Workshops on local Japanese food, kimono clothing, origami, ikebana, bonsai. Free classes and workshops will be held at the Youth Information Center, Contrà Barche 55, unless otherwise specified. Seats are limited for free and paid classes. Reserve a seat by calling 345-649-7944. An English-speaking operator is available. https://www.facebook.com/harunokazeventodiprimavera/

Festa di San Giuseppe e Festa della Quaglia allo Spiedo
St. Joseph Festival and Pigeon Shooting Fair
March 24-26, March 31-April 1, Villagazznerla, about 9 miles south of Vicenza. Carnival rides, fair trade market, craft show, painting and photo exhibits. Food booths featuring traditional spit-roasted quail and other local specialties open at 7 p.m. Charity raffle, live music and dancing start at 9 p.m. http://www.festadi sanGIUSEPPE.it

531a Fiera di Lonigo
March 24-27, Lonigo, about 18 miles southwest of Vicenza. On March 24, 4 p.m.-midnight and March 25-27, 9 a.m.-midnight, exhibit and sale of Vicentine products and wines; flower and plant exhibit and sale; Bavarian products and beers; carnival rides. http://fieradilonigo.it/

Primavera in Castello
Spring at the Castle
April 1-2, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Roncade (Treviso). At the Roncade Castle, via Roma 141. Flowers, plants and craft exhibition and sale; workshops for children and adults; food booths. Entrance fee: April 1, €5; April 2, €7.50, which includes a bottle of wine; reduced 60% for visitors younger than 18; fee for children younger than 6. http://www.marcodoc.com/primavera-in-castello-2017-al-castello-di-roncade-1-2-aprile/

Musei gratis
Free entry to local museums
April 1, free entry to Vicenza Archaeological Museum, Contrà Santa Corona 4, and Palazzo Chiericati, Piazza Matteotti 37/39, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (last entry at 4:30 p.m.). http://www.comune.vicenza.it/cittadino/scheda.php/42724,46131

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Corrìetrone
Non-competitive 7-13-18-24 km March 26, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; departure 8-9:30 a.m. in Vicenza, Via Dino Carta 3. The €2.50 participation fee includes refreshments during the march and at the finish line. The march is named after the Ret-rone River and trails located around the river in the Ferroviere area of Vicenza. http://www.vicenzacca.it/ita/eventi/icalepeat-de- tail/2017/03/26/14748/-/corrìetrone-sai-edizione

39a Su e Zo Per I Ponti
39th Up and Down over the Bridges
April 1-2, in Venice, 12 km non-competitive walk which crosses 43 bridges, with departure and arrival in Piazza San Marco. This spring event involves thousands of people in a walk of solidarity around Venice alleys. http://www.suezoi.it/en/ponti-vendita/

Fiera Antiquaria
Antique Fair
March 25-April 2, weekdays, 3-8 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Padova, Via Tommaso 59, about 24 miles southeast of Vicenza. Antique furniture and rugs; glass art products; jewelry, museum collections, paintings and sculptures. Admission fee: €8; reduced €4 for children age 13-17 and senior citizens older than 65. Free for children younger than 13. http://www.antiquariaipadova.com/

Fiera Elettronica
Electronics Fair
April 1-2, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Vicenza, Via dell’Oreficeria. Amateur radio, robotics, electronics and computing exhibit; Vicimox – cartoon and Cosplayer fair. Second-hand electronic and photo items market. Entrance fee: €9; reduced: €7. http://www.expoelettronica.it

Noale in Fiore
Noale with Flowers
April 9, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Noale (Venice), Piazza Castello, Piazza XX Settembre. Hundreds of businesses from all over Italy display their flowers, plants, trees, patio furniture and garden tools. http://www.veniceagritourism.eu/Eventi/Mostra+Mercato/834_Noale+v+Fiore.html

PIANO TECNOLOGIA...

March 24, 2017

Outlook
Capodanno di Pisa
Pisa's New Year's Day
March 25, Pisa celebrates the New Year twice, on Jan. 1 and March 25. The Pisans have not forgotten their traditions, and each year they mark the beginning of the year, as was their custom between the 11th century and 1749, when New Year’s Day coincided with the Annunciation. Nine months before Christmas, Thursday, just like then, the beginning of the Pisan Year is marked by a sort of solar clock, a physical phenomenon that is as simple as it is spectacular and intriguing: at midday sharp a ray of sunlight penetrates the Duomo through a round nave window, landing on a marble egg on a shelf surmounting a column next to the pulpit of Giovanni Pisano, on the opposite side. The event is preceded by a historical procession and a religious ceremony that ends at exactly noon. The beginning of the Pisan Year coincides with the official opening of the tourist season.


Cicolisi Chocolate Festival
March 24–26, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Siena, Piazza del Campo. The best Italian chocolates exhibit and sale; chocolate tasting; cooking and Choco Barman shows; Targochocolate exhibit; chocolate chess tournament and entertainment for children. Free entrance.
http://www.chococommenti.it/

Arezzo Flower Show
April 8–9, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Arezzo, Villa Severi, Via Francesco Redi 13. Rare plants and flowers exhibit and sale; more than 80 international flower exhibit rare plants and flowers. Free gardening work-shops for children and adults; flower art demonstrations; flower therapy and natural wellness; food and wine tasting; cooking with flowers workshops. Ticket: €5; reduced €4 for visitors with pets.
http://www.arezzoflowershow.com/

Lo Scirocno del Bello
The box of beautiful things
April 9, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Calenzano (Florence), Via della Chiesa 37. Antiques, vintage, local crafts, jewels, accessories and miniatures exhibit and sale.

CONCERTS/SPORTS

Loreena McKennitt – March 26 Rome; March 27 Florence; March 28 Assago (Milan)
David Garrett – March 26 Padova
Afterhours – March 28 Milan
Macy Gray – March 29 Milan
Steve Hackett – March 29 Turin; April 1 Rome
LP – April 2 Padova; April 3 Milan; July 3 Rome; July 11 Lucca
Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds – April 6 Padova
Jesus Christ Superstar – April 12-14 Rome
Sean Paul – April 17 Milan
Simple Minds – April 21 Turin; April 23 Rome; April 25 Bologna; April 26 Florence; April 27 Milan
Gavin DeGraw – May 2 Milan; May 3 Rome
Dream Theater – May 3 Rome; May 5 Florence
Soul System – May 5 Milan; May 6 Campiello; May 7 Brescia
Natalie Imbruglia – May 6 Milan
Kiss – May 15 Torino; May 16 Casalecchio di Reno
Guns N’ Roses – June 10 Imola
Bruno Mars – June 12 Casalecchio di Reno; June 15 Assago

MARKETS

Bientina (Pisa): March 25-26, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Vittorio Emanuele (about 140 vendors)
Castiglion Fiorentino (Arezzo): March 26, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Piazza Del Municipio
Cecina (Livorno): March 26, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Piazza Guarracci and Via Cavour
Montecatini (Arezzo): March 26, 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Via Isidoro del Lungo, and Via Poggio Braccioli (about 100 vendors)
Prato: March 25-26, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza San Francesco
Arezzo: April 1-2, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Grande (about 1000 vendors)
Family & MWR Events

Bring on the blues

CASERMA EDERLE — Jake and Elwood Blues singing to the crowd during the Blues Brothers Show that took place in the gymnasium here March 21. The Blue Brothers band, together with the Sassy Bluettes, played a wide selection of traditional rhythm and blues songs and put on an energetic show which lasted two hours. The program was sponsored by Armed Forces Entertainment. Look for more photos of the event on the U.S. Army Garrison Italy Flickr page, www.flickr.com/usagvicenza. (Photo by Mark Turner, VMC Public Affairs Office)

Events/Classes

English as a Second Language Mondays, 2-4 p.m. Friday, noon-12 noon ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle English as a Second Language introduces clients to the fundamentals of the English language. Participants can enjoy learning and speaking basic English together. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call DSN 634-7500, comm. 0444-71-7500.

Strong Families Challenge Kickoff March 27, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Various locations on various days The spring edition of the Strong Families Challenge kicks off with a week out in the community. There will be free T-shirts and cookies, plus prize draws and giveaways.

March 27: In front of the Ederle Library 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
March 28: In front of the Ederle Library 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
March 29: In front of the Ederle Library 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
March 30: Villaggio Youth Center, 2-4 p.m.
March 31: In front of the PX 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Breakfast at Del Din for Soldiers March 30, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Outside Del Din ACS office Army Community Services is all about Soldiers. Soldiers will have the opportunity to learn about the Army Corps Program while enjoying free breakfast. Representatives will be available to answer questions and provide information on ACS programs.

Resilience Training March 31, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle Resilience — it’s a process, not a destination. Learn practical skills you can apply every day to help overcome adversity, manage stress and excel in your personal and professional life. The resilience program increases well-being and optimizes clients to the fundamentals of the English language. Participants can enjoy learning and speaking basic English together. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call DSN 634-7500, comm. 0444-71-7500.

Parent Support Group April 10, 1-2 p.m. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle A parent support group is a place where participants can freely talk about their experiences and receive feedback in a judgment-free environment. Be a part of this parent-led support group whose goals are to provide emotional support and encouragement, exchange information and provide recommendations for coping day to day. Learn how to network and share information with fellow parents. This parent-driven support group is hosted by the Exceptional Family Member Program. Young children may accompany parents. The meeting takes place the second Monday of every month. Join the group to interact, give and receive support. All enrolled EFMP families are welcome.

Breastfeeding Basics April 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle Planning to breastfeed! A lactation consultant will walk participants through the basics. Topics include benefits of breastfeeding, the importance of colostrum, newborns and breastfeeding, frequency and duration of feedings, pumping, and manual expression, storage of breast milk and returning to work.

Engvatraganaza April 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Ederle Track & Field Enjoy a few hours watching your child gather eggs and participating in children’s activities at this fun-filled annual event. Don't forget your camera for the many photo opportunities. Egg hunts will be divided by age groups (ages 0 to 2, 3 to 5, 6 to 7, and 8 to 10). Parents are responsible for the control and safety of their children. Pets are not allowed on the sports fields. There will be bounce slides, arts and crafts, bounce specials and photos with the Easter Bunny.

Spring Flea Market April 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. $10 to register/$10 table rental Ederle Library Parking Lot It’s time to clean the house and get rid of those items you’ve been holding onto for years. This is your opportunity to make some cash while making room for your newly bought items from Italy and the rest of Europe. Sellers must be U.S. ID card holders, and space is limited. Limit one spot per family, and only used items can be sold. For more information, go to italy.armymwr.com.

FRG Academy: Dedicated Leaders’ Course April 10-12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle The Dedicated Leaders’ Course is the third of a three-course concept of the Family Readiness Group Academy. Come to ACS for professional development and panel discussions. This three day course will include event planning, health and fitness, and resilience training. Limited slots are available; sign up today.

9Pin No Tap Tournament March 17, 7-10 p.m., $30 Arena Soldier & Family Entertainment Center, Bldg. 2309 Join us at the Arena for No-Tap Bowling. Knocking down nine pins gets you a strike. Two-person teams, doubles and singles competition, with handicap awarded based on a 300 of feeding and an average age cap. Prizes will be awarded. Fee covers bowling lane fee, team prize entry and individual prize entry.

Musicianship April 15-16. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle This course will provide participants with the opportunity to explore the music and literacy skills necessary to perform music in a variety of settings. It is designed to foster the appreciation of music and provide a foundation for the curriculum of the music classroom. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call DSN 634-7500, comm. 0444-71-7500.

Family Readiness Group Academy April 10-12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. ACS Bldg. 108, Caserma Ederle The Dedicated Leaders’ Course is the third of a three-course concept of the Family Readiness Group Academy. Come to ACS for professional development and panel discussions. This three day course will include event planning, health and fitness, and resilience training. Limited slots are available; sign up today.

Softball Season Registration Starts April 9 Fitness Center, Caserma Ederle Registration is coming soon. Open registration runs April 9 through May 9 at the Ederle or Del Din fitness centers. A coaches meeting will take place May 9 at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Fitness Center Conference Room. An officials’ clinic will be held May 2-5, and league play is May 17-21. The USA Softball Championship is July 18-21, with the Army Europe Unit/ Level Championship Aug. 4-6.

Turin and the Egyptian Museum April 1, 6-9 p.m. Adults $95 / Ages 4-12 $55 / Ages 3 and under are free Outdoor Recreation, Caserma Ederle The Turin Egyptian Museum has one of the most complete sets of ancient artifacts in the world, second only to the museum in Cairo. This is a must-see location for anyone interested in Egyptian history. The museum was established in 1824 and boasts the statue of Ramses II, the tomb of Khaf and Merit, and more than 4,000 years of Egyptian history. The city of Turin was the head of Italian parliament for a short period of time in the 1800s, and is home to some of Italy's most prestigious universities. Turin is a city of grand palaces, elegant arcades, and gracious squares ready to be explored. It is probably most famous for “The Shroud of Turin,” the cloth believed to have covered Jesus Christ after his crucifixion.

Youth Center: Spring Break Trip April 2-9 Grafenwoehr, Germany Join your friends at the Youth Center for an epic Bavarian excursion. Youth in grades 8-12 can enjoy various exciting activities this spring break. The itinerary features high ropes, a night hike, and archery, plus tours of Rothenburg, a visit to the salt mines, and a visit to the famous German beer festival. Cost includes accommodation, food and transportation. Don’t miss out on the trip of a lifetime.

Fishing Center, Caserma Ederle ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT is happy to bring Disney’s Imagination Movers to the Vicenza Military Community. Everyone will enjoy this free event, especially children. Doors open at 2:30 p.m.; seating is first-come, first-served to first 400 guests. Gym floor seating may be available, and pillows and small blankets will be allowed. Open to U.S. and local national ID card holders only.

Trace Adkins Concert May 12, 6-8 p.m. Sports Field, Caserma Ederle “The USO is proud to present country music singer Trace Adkins. The whole family can enjoy country music with a true country superstar. There’s no better way to spend a Friday night and start of the weekend. Open to all U.S. and local national ID card holders only. No pets allowed. The event is free.

*Editor’s note: This list is not all-inclusive. To view a full list of activities, visit the FMWR webpage: http://italy.armymwr.com/europe/italy.