Force structure changes to come

Sponsorship Rodeo success in Vicenza

Watch for the Summer Issue of the Outlook — on stands and online May 12
Travel stories, amusement parks, summer safety and more.
Don’t miss it!
In honor of Month of the Military Child, the Outlook talked to some children in the Vicenza and Darby communities.

What is the hardest thing about being a kid?

Anaya Menon  
Age 9  
"You get bossed around by older siblings."

Kyle Curtis  
Age 12  
"The way you are expected to act."

Gideon Spencer  
Age 13  
"Bad influence from friends, peer pressure."

Chloe Suber  
Age 5  
"The hardest is to make friends. Because I am new here, everyone wants to be my friend, and I can’t pick one."

Bandon Ennis  
Age 9 1/2  
"Nothing is hard. I always enjoy life and have fun, even doing homework is fun and easy."

Ryan Elliott  
Age 7  
"That you never get to play the electronics games until you are 21."

Opinion & Policy

Army spring, summer safety campaign is under way for 2017

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — With warmer weather on the horizon, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has launched its Army Safety Spring/Summer campaign.

The annual campaign, which began in March and runs through Sept. 5, emphasizes prevention and vigilance and its theme “Ready … or Not?” is meant to challenge all audiences to make safe decisions wherever their plans take them.

“Spring and summer time offer the perfect opportunity to get outside and enjoy the weather,” said Lt. Col. Phillip Jenison, chief, USACRC ground division. “However, this is also a time when accidents and mishaps pose a greater risk to Soldiers and their families.”

To help leaders and safety professionals, the campaign features articles, postcards and videos, themed on seasonal topics to augment existing safety programs. All products are easily downloadable and ready to use, in several types of format.

“Our hope is that Soldiers take a minute to think about risk … whether they’re on or off duty,” Jenison said.

“The application of an adaptive risk management process, routinely combined with safety skills, impacts readiness and everyone on the Army team should remain watchful of increased hazards associated with spring and summer and stay engaged through this high-risk period.

To find more information and safety posters (like the one above), go online at https://safety.army.mil.

Sergeant Major of the Army  
Dannel A. Dailey  
Mark A. Milley  
Robert M. Speer  
General, United States Army  
Acting Secretary of the Army  
Chief of Staff

April 28, 2017

Speak Out

By Laura Kreider & Chiara Mattirolo

In honor of Month of the Military Child, the Outlook talked to some children in the Vicenza and Darby communities.

What is the hardest thing about being a kid?

Anaya Menon  
Age 9  
"You get bossed around by older siblings."

Kyle Curtis  
Age 12  
"The way you are expected to act."

Gideon Spencer  
Age 13  
"Bad influence from friends, peer pressure."

Chloe Suber  
Age 5  
"The hardest is to make friends. Because I am new here, everyone wants to be my friend, and I can’t pick one."

Bandon Ennis  
Age 9 1/2  
"Nothing is hard. I always enjoy life and have fun, even doing homework is fun and easy."

Ryan Elliott  
Age 7  
"That you never get to play the electronics games until you are 21."
EUCOM, NATO confront challenges from Russia to ISIS

by Karen Parrish
DDN News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Threats from vio- lent extremists and a resurgent Russia re- quire both strong U.S. capabilities in Eu- rope and a sustained commitment to the NATO alliance, the senior U.S. military leader in Europe told the Senate Armed Services Committee here March 27.

Army Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, com- mander of U.S. European Command and NATO’s supreme allied commander for Europe, told the committee that the cur- rent European strategic environment is the most dynamic it has been in recent history.

European theater critical to US

The European theater holds about a bil- lion people, and its trade is roughly half of the world’s gross domestic product, the general said.

Scaparrotti said the transatlantic NATO alliance confers a unique advantage over adversaries. It is, he said, a united, capa- ble warfighting alliance resolved in its purpose and strengthened by shared val- ues that have been forged over generations.

“EUCOM’s relationship with NATO and the 51 countries within our [area of operations] provides the United States with a network of willing partners who support global operations and secure in- ternational rules-based order,” he said.

Russian threat: Malignancies, military action

Political volatility and economic un- certainty in Europe are compounded, the general said, by security threats that are “transregional, multi-domain and multi- functional.”

“In the east, a resurgent Russia has turned from partner to antagonist as it seeks to reemerge as a global power,” Scaparrotti said. “Countries along Rus- sia’s periphery, including Ukraine and Georgia, struggle against Moscow’s ma- lign actions and military actions.”

In the southeast, strategic drivers of instability converge on key allies, espe- cially Turkey, which faces simultaneous threats from Russia and terrorists cou- pled with the challenge of refugee flows.

To the south, the general added, violent extremists and transnational criminal ele- ments “spawn terror and corruption from North Africa to the Middle East.” And in the north, Russia is reasserting its mili- tary presence and positioning itself for strategic advantage in the Arctic.

Measles outbreak could affect military community

SEMBACH KASERNE, Germany — Adults and children not vaccinated for measles could be at risk for contracting the illness due to a current outbreak in several European countries.

Almost all cases have occurred in indi- viduals not properly immunized against the disease. The most seriously affected countries are Italy and Romania. How- ever, France, Germany, Poland, Switzer- land and Ukraine are seeing a significant number of cases. Austria, Belgium, Bul- garia, Czech Republic, Iceland, Hungary, Portugal, Spain and Sweden have experi- enced a smaller number of cases.

Measles can be a very serious, even fatal, illness and is especially severe in babies and elderly persons, according to Col. (Dr.) Rodney Coldren, chief of Epi- demiology and Disease Surveillance for Public Health Command Europe.

“However, there is a very safe and ef- fective vaccine available to prevent this disease,” Coldren said. “The vast ma- jority of Americans are already immu- nized against measles, having received at least two doses of the MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) vaccine in early childhood.”

Two groups of people in the American military community are particularly vul- nerable to measles infection:

(1) Family members not subject to the United States immunization schedule as children; for example, foreign born

spouses. To help protect your family when traveling around Europe, Public Health Command recommends that fami- lies review vaccination records to ensure that everyone is fully vaccinated against measles.

(2) Children younger than a year old traveling to high risk areas. Children younger than one are too young to re- ceive the first regularly scheduled mea- sles vaccine. This is a concern if they are traveling to an area affected by a measles outbreak. In such cases, U.S. authorities allow for the early administration of the measles vaccine to provide protection until the regular measles series can be started at 12 months of age. This early dose can be given as early as six months. However, the dose is additional and does not replace the first shot in the normal immunization schedule.

For more information on protecting in- fants and young children with an early dose of measles vaccine, or for assistance reviewing family members’ immu- nization status, schedule an appointment with your Primary Care team.

(Regional Health Command PAO)

Adults and children not vaccinated for measles could be at risk for contracting the illness due to a current outbreak in several European countries.

(U.S. Army photo)


US priorities in Europe

Scaparrotti listed his command’s priori- ties in meeting European security chal- lenges.

“EUCOM has identified the following focus areas: [intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance] collection platforms that improve timely threat information and strategic warning; and force capa- bilities that deter Russia from further aggression; enhanced naval capabilities for anti-submarine warfare, strike war- fare and amphibious operations; preposi- tioned equipment to increase our respon- siveness to crisis; and enhanced missile defense systems,” he said.

Countering ISIS in Europe

Scaparrotti noted that Europe faces “a difficult challenge” from extremists con- nected to or emanating from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

“Europe is challenged by both a flow of terrorists returning to Europe from Syria and other places, [and] they’re challenged by an influence of those inspired by ISIS or directed by ISIS,” he said.

“The number of threat streams that we have of this type in Europe -- it’s probably higher in Europe than any oth- er part of the globe, with the exception of the places we’re actually physically fighting them, like Syria … Afghanistan and Iraq,” the general said.

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of World War I

On this date:

• On April 28, 1917, the U.S. Congress authorized the raising of 500,000 soldiers through the Selective Service (draft). The number was actually 687,000 since there were vacancies in existing units. The vote was 479 for (90 percent), 32 against, plus 17 who didn’t vote. Public Law 65-12 would not actually go into effect until May 18, 1917, but America was slipping out of isolationism and into world affairs.

Just five months before, Woodrow Wilson had been reelected as U.S. president using the motto “He kept us out of war.”

• A German submarine torpedoed the steamship SS Vacuum. It was probably the first American ship sunk since the declaration of war. Four members of the U.S. Naval Armed Guard were killed.

(Compiled by Gary Hyde)

Photos in Table of Contents, p. 1:
Out & About, Verona car show

Outlook
April 28, 2017

2014-18
The Great War Centenary

Laura Kreider
Chief Mattirollo
Aaron P. Tailey
Anna Terracino
Mark Turney

The Outlook is an authorized pub- lication supporting the United States Army Garrison Italy command information program as provided by AR 360-1. All editorial content of the Out- look is prepared, edited and ap- proved by the USAG Italy Public Affairs Office, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO, AE 09630, located in Bldg. 10 on Caserma Ederle in Vicen- ta, Italy. The office DSN number is 637-8031, off post at 0444-61-8031 or via email at usarmy.mnc. pao@mail.mil.

Contents of the Outlook are not necessarily the official news of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Gov- ernment, the Department of De- fense, Department of the Army, Installations, Management Com- mand-Europe, U.S. Army Garri- son Italy or U.S. Army Africa.
Autism awareness month aims to educate public

VICENZA — April is National Autism Awareness Month. The aim of Autism Awareness Month, started by the Autism Society of America in 1970, is to educate the public about autism as a developmental disability and complex mental condition. Autism is a lifelong developmental disability with no single known cause. It can be characterized by difficulties in the way a person communicates or interacts with other people. Typically, children will show symptoms within the first three years of their lives.

People with autism are classed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and the terms “autism” and “ASD” are often used interchangeably. As it is a wide spectrum disorder, people with autism have a set of symptoms unique to themselves. No two people are the same.

There are, however, some common characteristics found in those with this complex disability.

Social Skills - People with autism have problems interacting with others; children with autism may not have adequate playing and talking skills. Mild symptoms on one end of the spectrum may be displayed through clumsy behavior, being out of sync with those around them and making inappropriate or offensive comments. At the other end of the spectrum, a person with autism may not be interested in others.

Empathy - Empathy is the ability to recognize and understand the emotions of another person. With autism, people find it hard to show empathy to others, although they can learn to acknowledge people’s feelings.

Physical Contact - In some cases, people with autism do not like physical contact such as hugging, tickling or physical play with others.

Environment - A sudden change in the surrounding environment may affect a person with autism. This could be a loud noise, a change in intensity of lighting or even a change in smell.

Speech - People with autism may have speech issues, such as echolalia, in which a person repeats words and phrases that they hear. People with autism may also have a monotonous tone when speaking. When symptoms are more extreme, the person may not speak.

Activities and Routines - Any change to activities or routines can be unsettling for people with autism. This could be a re-ordering of daily activities, like brushing teeth, showering and eating breakfast in a different order.

Early intervention

If your child is exhibiting some of the characteristics of ASD, schedule a primary care appointment at the U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza for evaluation. Your child’s provider will perform an evaluation, a developmental screening, and place a referral to the Educational and Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) and the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), if indicated. The EDIS team can assist military and civilian personnel who have a child 21 years of age or younger with development, behavioral or educational needs. EDIS is composed of two distinct services: Early Intervention Service for children birth to 3 years of age, and Related Services for children and students three to 21 years of age. With parents’ permission, EDIS provides observations, screenings, evaluations and intervention services.

If your child has been diagnosed with ASD, he or she should be screened and enrolled in EFMP, if eligible. EFMP is a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-agency program. It provides community support, housing, medical, educational and personnel services to military families with an Exceptional Family Member. EFMP also offers a monthly parent-led support group whose goals are to provide emotional support and encouragement, exchange information, and share recommendations for coping day to day.

Autism is widespread, awareness is growing

In the United States, autism affects one in every 110 children. Just by reading this article, you are supporting the efforts of Autism Awareness Month in becoming more informed, empathetic and supportive toward people with autism.

The Puzzle Awareness Ribbon is the symbol for Autism Awareness and is promoted by the Autism Society as a means of supporting awareness for the complex and unique challenges faced by people with autism. For more information on National Autism Awareness Month, visit www.autism-society.org.

Resources

US Army Health Center Vicenza Building 2310 http://rhce.amedd.army.mil/vicenza/ Information line and to schedule an appointment, DSN 636-9000; comm. 0444-61-9000


Vicenza Exceptional Family Member Program System’s Navigator DSN 638-7912; comm at 847-717-9712

Vicenza Acting EFMP Manager for USA G Italy DSN 634-7401; comm. 0444-71-7401

Darby Army Community Service Building 504 Exceptional Family Member Program DSN 633-7084; comm. 050-50-7084

Online IT ticketing system in Europe transitions to ITSM 8.1

by William B. King

2nd Signal Brigade Public Affairs Office

WIESBADEN, Germany — Internet down? Computer or printer not cooperating? There are two ways users in Europe can request IT support — by calling the Europe Enterprise Service Desk at DSN 119 and by submitting an online ticket at www.119.army.mil.

The current online ticketing system began an upgrade April 17, as it transitions to the new Information Technology Service Management, or ITSM 8.1 system. ITSM 8.1 is a global enterprise-level system currently deployed by U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command in the Pacific Theater and at U.S. Army Forces Command, with the remainder of the continental United States coming online soon.

Kristian Hernandez, a project manager assigned to NETCOM TAC-Europe, said the benefits of ITSM 8.1 include automating incident and reporting processes across the force, reducing incident processing times and establishing a common operating picture to conduct Department of Defense Information Network operations.

ITSM 8.1 represents a significant upgrade over the existing ticketing system and will enhance network security and customer experience,” Hernandez said. “It is perhaps the biggest shift we’ve seen since enterprise email. It will integrate users in Europe with the rest of the Army on one system.”

A self-paced online training module is offered to assist users with the transition and to familiarize them with the features and operation of the new ticketing system. To access the training go to https://www.trg2.usa.esms.army.mil/wbt/# and under the “NETCOM Training” heading select the “ESMS Incident Management” and “ESMS Request Management” modules.

Hernandez said it’s important for users to verify their information is correct on MIL Connect to ensure online support requests are routed properly and to avoid any delay in receiving support. For example, if a user just PCS’ed to Europe from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., but hadn’t updated his/her MIL Connect information to reflect that move, then a new online request for IT support will not be routed to the user’s correct support provider here in Europe. To view and update MIL Connect information, go to https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect. For more information about ITSM 8.1, the Windows 10 transition and other topics affecting network users in Europe, go to www.119.army.mil (CAC required).
Fifth-graders bring notable figures to life

VICENZA — Having dozens of history’s most significant scientists, philosophers or athletes together in one location, entertaining an audience with stories of their life accomplishments, may seem like a scene from a fantasy movie.

But it was not a movie March 29 at Vicenza Elementary School on Villaggio, where some 120 fifth-graders created a sort of wax museum, as part of an annual project that brought renowned figures to life.

“Fifth-graders researched famous people, wrote biographies, created timelines, developed posters with a timeline of their person, and had props and buttons for them to come alive,” said Librarian Debora Lomi. “Another researcher presented at the two-day event was Nobel Prize in Physics (1903) and Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1911), Madame Marie Curie.

Julianne Gonzalez played Marie Curie, and highlighted something the famous scientist said. “The quote I remember from her was: ‘Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now it is the time to understand more, so that we can be fearless.’” Gonzalez added.

Other figures studied by fifth-graders included athletes, singers and movie stars such as Cristiano Ronaldo; Michael Jordan; Nadia Comaneci; Frank Sinatra; Grace Kelly; Marilyn Monroe; George Lucas and Queen Elizabeth.

“I was ready to do my living biography the moment I put my poster up. It was fun to see everyone come to me. I loved it when a person who knew who Ichiro Suzuki was and had props and buttons for them to come alive,” said Rory France as Suzuki.

Sienna Romero, as Walt Disney, said she really appreciated this method of learning. “It was a perfect time to actually learn about someone who, over time, shaped the world (as we know it) today,” said Romero.

“And it wasn’t those boring speeches. There were costumes, props, and awesome posters,” she said.

Darby kids honor Earth Day

CAMP DARBY — Combining Month of the Military Child and Earth Day (April 29), elementary and middle school students here celebrated with a variety of events focused on acquiring a better knowledge of nature and preservation.

“We want to celebrate both the Month of the Military Child and also Earth Day because children are our future, and you have a come to today to think about what you want to do in life,” said Kenneth Kirk, school principal, to the student body.

Environmental specialist Germana Di Staso offered a lesson on wildlife in the ammunition area at Camp Darby — in particular on the habitat of wild boar and deer. Librarian Debora Lomi collected recyclable items to show the students that there is much more to do with used items than throwing them away.

“Children can use their imaginations to create new objects from various recyclable materials such as empty plastic containers, egg cartons, etc., and the library will host an art exhibition of their creations at a later date,” said Lomi.

Di Staso also gave a brief explanation on the use of different garbage containers and the importance of protecting the environment to reach a goal of zero waste. “Earth Day is important because it raises awareness on the importance of recycling,” Brooks said.

Fifth-grader Jordan Caoile said he learned that it is important to not pollute the environment for better quality of life for both animals and human beings.

Another Earth Day event took place at the Post Exchange where children planted basil, which they took home to grow.

Vicenza — Combining Month of the Military Child and Earth Day (April 29), elementary and middle school students here celebrated with a variety of events focused on acquiring a better knowledge of nature and preservation.

“We want to celebrate both the Month of the Military Child and also Earth Day because children are our future, and you have a come to today to think about what you want to do in life,” said Kenneth Kirk, school principal, to the student body.

Environmental specialist Germana Di Staso offered a lesson on wildlife in the ammunition area at Camp Darby — in particular on the habitat of wild boar and deer. Librarian Debora Lomi collected recyclable items to show the students that there is much more to do with used items than throwing them away.

“Children can use their imaginations to create new objects from various recyclable materials such as empty plastic containers, egg cartons, etc., and the library will host an art exhibition of their creations at a later date,” said Lomi.

Di Staso also gave a brief explanation on the use of different garbage containers and the importance of protecting the environment to reach a goal of zero waste. “Earth Day is important because it raises awareness on the importance of recycling,” Brooks said.

Fifth-grader Jordan Caoile said he learned that it is important to not pollute the environment for better quality of life for both animals and human beings.

Another Earth Day event took place at the Post Exchange where children planted basil, which they took home to grow.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Dana Lewis-Jones, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), SARC, won second place in the annual SAAPM Poetry Slam event. Pictured is Sgt. 1st Class Juanita Lewis-Jones, 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), SARC, reading “Danger Connotations” during the event. Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month takes place in April each year. SAAPM focuses on the root causes of sexual violence in the communities.

(PHoto by Laura Kreider, VMC Public Affairs Office)

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.

Fifth-grader Aiden Tipton dresses up as Albert Einstein and presents his speech while standing in front of his poster during the event at the Villaggio Multipurpose Room March 29. Approximately 120 fifth-graders brought renowned figures to life as part of an annual project.
Employee Spotlight

This week, the Outlook puts the spotlight on Gene W. Strahan Jr., who works for U.S. Army Garrison Italy at Caserma Ederle.

Organization/position: Auto Skills Center/Auto Mechanic Helper

Overview of job/duties: “I support the Soldiers here in the community by teaching them how to care for and repair their vehicles.”

Major accomplishments or goals: “My goal is to be the best I can be at whatever I do. I really love helping people as they work to understand their vehicles and what makes them work.”

What do you like best about your job? “I love what I do and do what I love. For many of these young kids, they may be working on their first and only car. Being able to help them learn about how to work on, maintain and protect their cars is really a great thing to be able to do.”

Intelligence brigade changes hands

Story and photo by Mark R. Turney
VMC Public Affairs Office

CASERMA EDERLE — Standing before guests on a chilly April 21, Col. Timothy Higgins, commander, 207th Intelligence Brigade, spoke clearly as he bade farewell to the brigade he helped officially establish just a little over one year ago.

“This day represents a transition in command, but it really marks the hard work of many individuals and organizations over the last two and a half years,” said Higgins.

“Our brigade represents a combination of active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, and DA civilians, as well as their great families, spouses and loved ones.” Among the guests were Maj. Gen. Joseph P. Harrington, commander of U.S. Army Africa, and Col. Umberto D’Andria, Italian base commander here. Notably missing was Higgins’ replacement, Col. Richard D. Conkle who will report to Italy in June and assume command in a ceremony planned for June 26.

In his closing remarks, Higgins said, “You should be very proud of all you have done and will do, and know that I am extremely proud of all of you. It has been truly honor to have served and worked alongside all of you.” The interim commander is Lt. Col. James Synder.

Clinic advises community about meningitis case

LIVORNO — The Camp Darby Health Clinic has been advised by the Italian Department of Hygiene and Public Health of Northwest Tuscany of a confirmed case of a 34-year-old Italian woman with meningococcal meningitis. The case was confirmed April 18 and has no direct connection to the Darby Military Community.

Steps have already been taken to inform direct contacts of this individual regarding their exposure risk. While all vaccines are not 100 percent effective, the U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza anticipates the risk to the military community to be very low.

Most Americans receive a meningitis vaccination at 11 years old, according to recommendations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Generally, it takes close contact and/or breathing air where someone with meningococcal meningitis has been.

The most common symptoms of meningitis include:

• Sudden onset of fever
• Headache
• Stiff neck
• Altered mental status
• Nausea
• Vomiting
• Photophobia
• Eyes being more sensitive to light
• Altered mental status

Symptoms of meningococcal meningitis can appear quickly or over several days. Typically they develop within four days after exposure but can take up to 10 days in some cases. Newborns and babies may not have or it may be difficult to notice the classic symptoms of fever, headache and neck stiffness. Instead, babies may be slow or inactive, irritable, vomiting, or feeding poorly. In young children, doctors may also look at the child’s response for signs of meningitis.

The infected individual has provided a list of locations where she has frequented in the past few weeks for informational purposes of potential exposure risk. Anyone who believes they were in close contact with the 34-year-old woman on one of these dates at these locations should contact your primary care provider.

• April 4: La Vela Viale Italia in Livorno, and Decimo Porto Piazza Mazzini
• April 5-14: The patient worked out at the Accademia Dello Sport, on Via Garibaldi in Livorno
• April 8: At 1:30 a.m., the Pub La Volta Piza Piazza and the Irish Festival at the Carrara Festival Hall, Pub Johnny Fox’s, and the Ostello Apamoo
• April 10: Dinner at the Restaurant Melfi Amo
• April 11: Pub Le Scimmie Di Tirrenia from 10-midnight
• April 12: The Restaurant Il Teolgo
• April 13: The Bar Civili after dinner
• April 14: The Restaurant La Buia Dell Orata, then the Pub Le Scimmie Tirrenia from 12:35 a.m. – 2:30 a.m., Bar Sardelli after 2:30 a.m.

For more information, call the Vicenza Health Clinic Department of Preventive Medicine at DSN 636-9190, comm. 0444-61-9190, or go to the CDC website at https://www.cdc.gov/ meningitis.

For assistance reviewing family members’ immunization records, schedule an appointment with your Primary Care Team.

Have a comment or suggestion about an on-post organization or activity? Put your thoughts on ICE, the Interactive Customer Evaluation system. Your feedback will help U.S. Army Garrison Italy maintain the quality of excellence you expect. Comments may be anonymous, but please remember: If you would like a response, you must provide name and contact information.

Find the ICE link on the garrison webpage, www.italy.army.mil.
Italy Exchange — Exchange shoppers can put green on their plates while keeping some green in their wallets with Salad Wednesdays at the Army & Air Force Exchange Service food court.

Every Wednesday, diners can take $2 off any salad priced $4 or more at participating Exchange direct-operated restaurants. Salad Wednesday is part of the Exchange’s BE FIT initiative, designed to promote healthy lifestyles for Soldiers, airmen, retirees and military families.

“Eating healthy is essential to not only force readiness and resiliency but the development of healthy, happy military children,” said Italy Exchange General Manager Susana Sobrino.

“The Exchange wants to help military families get the nutrition they need — without breaking the bank.”

Exchange restaurants are open to anyone — whether military, civil service, contractor or visitor — per Army Regulation 215-8 and Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I).

---

WIESBADEN, Germany — Army garrisons across Europe have held a variety of activities scheduled in April as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month. In support of that mission, New Parent Support Program experts from IMCOM-Europe converged in Wiesbaden April 24-27 to receive Infant Massage Certification Training, which gave trainees “the unique opportunity to help parents and caregivers bond with their babies through the age-old tradition of infant massage,” said Brandi Stauber, IMCOM-Europe Family Advocacy Program manager.

Teaching infant massage “provides a rewarding opportunity to promote well-being and deepen the bonding and attachment between infants and caregivers,” Stauber noted, explaining that the practice uses touch “to enhance expressions of love, caring and respect to aid in the process.”

Infant massage teachers share their expertise to help families have positive experiences that will impact both the infant and the family for a lifetime, said Hal Snyder, chief of IMCOM-Europe Army Community Service, as military life can be stressful at times. Studies indicate infant massage helps relax the parent, enhances their confidence and strengthens the bond between the parent/caregiver and the child.

“Research has shown that infant massage may attribute to a decrease in postpartum depression experienced by some new moms,” said Snyder. Overall, the Family Advocacy Program is dedicated to the prevention, education, prompt reporting, investigation, intervention and treatment of spouse and child abuse.

The program provides a variety of services to Soldiers and families to enhance their relationship skills and improve their quality of life. This mission is accomplished through various groups, seminars, workshops and counseling and intervention services.

For more information about infant massage training in your community, call your garrison Army Community Service.

(IMCOM-Europe FMWR)

---

Eating healthy can help local shoppers save

Annual Easter Eggstravaganza delights children

VICENZA — Vicenza Military Community children and parents participated in the annual Eggstravaganza event April 15 on Caserma Ederle Track and Field. This year, more than 10,000 eggs were stuffed with candy. Approximately 30 people volunteered at the event, including the Boy and Girl Scouts and several agencies on post. In addition to the egg hunt for various age groups, children had fun with crafts, bounce houses and giveaways from the USO. Many children also had their photo taken with the Easter Bunny.

(Photos by Laura Kreider, VMC Public Affairs Office)
**At the movies**

**The Circle**

Mae Holland seizes the opportunity of a lifetime when she lands a job with the world’s most powerful technology and social media company. Encouraged by the company’s founder, Mae joins a groundbreaking experiment that pushes the boundaries of privacy, ethics and personal freedom. Her participation in the experiment, and every decision she makes, soon starts to affect the lives and futures of her friends, family and that of humanity.

(Rated PG-13)

April 28
- 7 p.m. The Circle (PG-13)
- 10 p.m. CHiPs (R)

April 29
- 3 p.m. Power Rangers (PG-13)
- 6 p.m. The Circle (PG-13)

April 30
- 3 p.m. The Boss Baby (PG)
- 6 p.m. The Circle (PG-13)

May 3
- 7 p.m. The Circle (PG-13)

May 4
- 7 p.m. The Fate of the Furious (PG-13)
- 10 p.m. Unforgettable (R)

May 5
- 7 p.m. Guardians of the Galaxy 2 (PG-13)
- 10 p.m. The Boss Baby (PG)

May 6
- 3 p.m. Guardians of the Galaxy 2 (PG-13)
- 6 p.m. The Boss Baby (PG)

May 7
- 3 p.m. Guardians of the Galaxy 2 (PG-13)
- 6 p.m. Going in Style (PG-13)

May 10
- 7 p.m. The Circle (PG-13)

May 11
- 7 p.m. The Fate of the Furious (PG-13)

May 12
- 7 p.m. King Arthur: The Legend of the Sword in 3D (PG-13)
- 10 p.m. The Wall (NR)

Check movie schedule online at https://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-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**

**Musical talent**

**CASERMA EDERLE** — The “Minnesingers,” a select group of high school singers from Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School, performed for Vicenza High School students April 21 in the high school gym. The group stopped by Caserma Ederle during their European tour to perform classical and jazz choral pieces, plus a couple of show choir pop music numbers. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the talented group.

(Photo by Aaron P. Talley, VMC Public Affairs Office)

---

**CHANGES**

continued from page 1

Currently, HRC has plans to expand upon its Noncommissioned Officer Education System in order to fill gaps between certain enlisted ranks. In addition, these schools must be completed before a Soldier receives a promotion to the next higher rank.

According to Thorpe, this ensures that those serving in leadership positions have the knowledge and experience to be effective leaders. Also, Soldiers with the appropriate level of NCOES for their current rank are easier to distribute and may have better chance for an assignment of choice.

Thorpe said HRC looks at talent management, Army needs and Soldier desires – giving them some say in the process – when determining a Soldier’s next duty assignment.

“We look at talent management and professional development, Soldiers desires – giving them some say in the process – when determining a Soldier’s next duty assignment.”

Thorpe said Soldiers do have an opportunity to have some say in where they go next, because talent management includes self-management too. She added that Soldiers can go to the Assignment Satisfaction Key (ASK), located on Army Knowledge Online, to see some of the broadening opportunities available to them. Keeping this information up to date will ensure that career managers will see their Soldiers’ desired assignments. “When we do assignment instructions for all the branches, our career managers will look at (ASK) as they are trying to decide where (Soldiers) go next,” said Thorpe.

Thorpe encouraged Soldiers to log on to ASK because, “That’s your voice.”

In this process, Soldiers will first be identified by qualifications and then by availability, which Thorpe said will ensure the best possible match of Soldiers to assignments.

“We are working hard to make sure that we are getting it right and to do right by the Soldiers in our formations,” said Thorpe.

*Editor’s note: Soldiers who have questions concerning duty assignment opportunities should contact their local retention personnel or career managers.*
News briefs

DoDEA customer survey

Department of Defense Educational Activity wants parents to know they have a critical voice in their child’s education. DoDEA wants to know how successful you think they have been in meeting your child’s needs during this school year. The customer satisfaction survey has been extended until April 30. Your opinion is important and will contribute to the decisions DoDEA educators will be making about schools in the near future. The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete and is available via https://surv.dodea.edu. Participating are asked to stop by the VMC Public Affairs Office or email vicenza.edcenter@us.army.mil. DSN 637-8141, comm. 0444-61-8141; or contact the administrative assistant at DSN 634-KARE (5273) or 0444-71-5273.

Tickets on sale: Madagascar Jr. performance

Take a journey out of the zoo and onto the stage with your favorite crack-a-lackin’ friends from the blockbuster DreamWorks film. Join Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the hip-hip Hippo and, of course, the hilarious, plotting penguins as they bound onto stage in the musical adventure of a lifetime. Based on the smash DreamWorks animated motion picture, “Madagascar – A Musical Adventure Jr.” follows your favorite friends as they escape from their home in New York’s Central Park Zoo and find themselves on an unexpected journey to the madcap world of King Julian’s Madagascar. Don’t miss the opportunity to see talented youth in our school are invited to participate.

Mosquito spraying

The following is the schedule the Directorate of Public Works will pursue for mosquito spraying this season. Please click into the chart to review. The DPW recommends staying indoors at least one hour after spraying has taken place.

Caserma Ederle: May 10, 18, 24 and 31 from 9 to 11 p.m.; June 14 and 22 from 9 to 11 p.m.

Del Din: April 28 from 9 to 11 p.m.; May 1, 9, 19 and 23 from 9 to 11 p.m.; June 13 and 23 from 9 to 11 p.m.

Villaggio: May 10, 18, 24 and 31 from 9 to 11 p.m.; June 14 and 22 from 9 to 11 p.m.

For more information, contact the DPW at DSN 637-8200, comm. 0444-61-8200.

Tickets on sale: Madagascar Jr. performance

Take a journey out of the zoo and onto the stage with your favorite crack-a-lackin’ friends from the blockbuster DreamWorks film. Join Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the hip-hip Hippo and, of course, the hilarious, plotting penguins as they bound onto stage in the musical adventure of a lifetime. Based on the smash DreamWorks animated motion picture, “Madagascar – A Musical Adventure Jr.” follows your favorite friends as they escape from their home in New York’s Central Park Zoo and find themselves on an unexpected journey to the madcap world of King Julian’s Madagascar. Don’t miss the opportunity to see talented youth in the community. Reserve now via email to Gerald.s.brees.navf@mail.mil, or call Soldiers’ Theatre at DSN 634-7231, comm. 0444-71-7231. Performances take place May 5-14: Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and a special Thursday performance at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 youth.

Ederle road work

The Directorate of Public Works project to repair and lay asphalt on various streets throughout Caserma Ederle is back in full swing after a winter pause. As part of the project, the contractor will repair the entrance road from Aldo Moro Main Gate (Gate #1) up to the intersection near the Bank of America. In order to perform this work, the main road from the west commissary entrance to Olsen Avenue will be closed for the month of May. A detour with a bypass along the detour.

Contact readiness training

The 414th Contract Support Brigade will provide its quarterly Customer Contract Readiness Training May 16-18. This three-day training covers contract planning, requirement development and training for Contracting Office Representatives (COR) and Government Purchase Card certification/recertification. Classes take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hall of Heroes each day. To register for training go to: https://portal.us.army.mil/staff/tenants/CBS/Pages/Training.aspx.

CID recruiting

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division is looking for highly motivated company grade officers from any MOS willing to become federal law enforcement special agents. Application deadline is May 15. For more information, visit https://www.army.mil/article/184428. For more information on U.S. Army CID, visit http://www.cid.army.mil and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZEGZRLhbw.

College graduation

The annual Graduation Recognition Ceremony for college students who have graduated in the past year or are within 12 semester hours of graduation 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, comm. 0444-61-8141 or email vicenza.edcenter@sas.army.mil or cymone.a.morgan.ccr@mail.mil.

Clockwise from left foreground: Richard Laferrata, Angeline Cereceres, Nikola Feldman and Haylee Sparr work on an art project during Feldman’s recent visit to Vicenza Middle School. Feldman has studied, worked and lived with various cultures around the world in her quest to understand variations of traditional dress from fabric choice, decoration and use of color.

Haylee Sparr, an 8th grade student at Vicenza Middle School, works with visiting artist Nikola Feldman. The students were tasked with using donated clothing to make pieces of art. When asked what she hoped the students learned during her two week visit, Feldman said, “Life and art is all part of a process. There is no end. We have to continue to learn and create throughout our lives. That is the path of an artist.”

Table: Textiles artist shares craft with elementary students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Textiles artist</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Grade(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nika Feldman</td>
<td>Shares craft</td>
<td>Caserma Ederle</td>
<td>6-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapel activities

Chapel Services, Vicenza

VMC Chapel, Building 29
Phone: 637-7575

Sunday schedule
9:10 a.m. | Roman Catholic
11 a.m.-noon | Protestant
1:30-3 p.m. | Gospel
5-6 p.m. | Contemporary
Protestant

Women’s Bible Studies
9:15 a.m.-noon | Tuesdays
5:30-7 p.m. | Tuesdays

Men’s Bible Study
Sunday | 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Protestant Men of the Chapel
Bible Study
5-7 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saint Mark’s Catholic Women’s
of the Chapel
9 a.m.-noon | Mondays

Youth of the Chapel
Grades 6-12
5:30-8 p.m.

Wednesdays
Call chapel for location.

Bible/book studies

Chapel Activity Room, Building 29
6:30-7:30 p.m. - Thursdays

Gospel Service/Bible Study

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Building 965
6:30-7:30 a.m. | Mon thru Fri

Jewish
Call chapel for more information.

Del Din Soldier Ministry
Call DSN 637-4690 for information.

Chapel Services, Camp Darby

DSN 633-267, comm. 958-54-787
24/7 Chaplain Crisis Line
634-KARE (5273) or 0444-71-5273

Sunday schedule
Camp Darby Chapel
9:10 a.m. | Roman Catholic
10:30 a.m. | Protestant

Women’s Bible Study
9:30 a.m. | Tuesdays
May 1 is a national holiday in Italy, Labor Day. Schools and most services are closed.

VENETO & NEARBY

Sagra di San Zeno
Saint Zeno Festival
April 28-May 1, Arzignano, Via San Zeno 32, about 12 miles west of Vicenza. At 7 p.m., food booths featuring fried fish, sausage with polenta, dried codfish, and other local specialties. Live music starts at 9 p.m.

April 28, country night; April 30, from 9 a.m., flowers and local products exhibit and sale; May 1, fireworks at 10:30 p.m.
http://www.sagradizeno.it/

Sagra di San Marco
St. Mark Fair
April 28-May 1, San Marco di Resana (Trevixo), about 26 miles northeast of Vicenza. Food booths open at 7 p.m. and live music and dancing start nightly at 9 p.m.

April 30, 10 a.m., and at 2 p.m., radio-controlled model car competition; vintage cars exhibit; off-road show; off-road exhibit at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

May 1, 10 a.m. vintage cars rally; and Fiat 500/off-road exhibit at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
http://www.eventesagre.it/eventi/21095471/allegati/programma_sagra.jsp

Festa dei Nativi Americani e Bue allo Spiedo
Native American Indian and Country Festival and Ox on the Spit
April 29-30, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Taggi di Sotto (Villafranzo
cam Padova), Via Firenze. April 29 at 1:30 p.m. arrival of the ox and its preparation; 2 p.m. Native Village set up; 5 p.m. speech of Gilbert D. Douvillé, member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. At 8 p.m., food booths open: 9:30 p.m., free country music;

April 30, 12:30 p.m. traditional lunch. Reserve seats by April 23 (€20/person; €10 for children ages 8-14; free for children younger than 8). From 4:30 p.m. country music.

https://www.facebook.com/SagraTuggeDisotto/

Sagra di San Marco e dei Cuchi
Saint Mark and Whistles Festival
April 29-30, Canovo di Roana, about 37 miles north of Vicenza. Exhibit of traditional taraccota “cuchi” whistles, a symbol of love and friendship. Carnival rides; food booths featuring local specialties open at 7:30 p.m. and until 3 a.m. and ballroom dancing.

http://www.usagio.it/it/eventi/arti_sagra_di_san_marco_e_dei_cuchi_canove_di_roana/

Palio di Romano
Old Districts Festival
April 29-30, May 1, and May 6-7, Romano d’Ezzelino, Via Roma and surrounding roads, about 26 miles north of Vicenza;

April 29: food booths open at 7:45 p.m.; 8:30-11 p.m. Middle Ages village reenactment

April 30-9 a.m.-7 p.m. “Angoli Rustici.” Visit the old districts on foot or by free shuttle bus to see reenactment of old trades in farmers’ homes, barnyards and fields. Local products exhibit and sale; food booths open all day. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to May 1. Entrance fee: €2

May 1 and May 6: Food booths open at 7:45 p.m.; 9:30 p.m. live rock music and dancing

May 7: Entertainment for children starts at 1 p.m. with Masha & Orso. At 3:30 p.m., historical parade accompanied by local musical band and flag-throwers followed by the traditional donkey race and award ceremony; 9 p.m. award ceremony
http://www.paliodiromano.it/

La Faida
Medieval Festival
April 30, 3-9 p.m. and May 1, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Montecchio Maggiore, at the Romeo and Juliet Castle, Via Castelli Bella Guardia, about 12 miles west of Vicenza.

On April 30, food booths open at 3 p.m.; flag-throwers and medieval music; local products exhibit and sale; at 8 p.m. at the amphitheater “The Tempest” by W. Shakespeare; May 1 food booths open at 9 a.m. Reenactment groups from all over Italy participate in medieval dances, duel, entertainment and falconry shows.

Food booth feature medieval dishes and drinks. Free entrance; shuttle buses will be available only on May 1, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., from the parking lots of Via Degli Alberi or the Xylem parking lot, in Via Lombardi. Bus ticket €2.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to May 7, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Verona Legend Cars
Vintage car exhibit
May 8-7, Verona. 9 a.m.-7 p.m., at Verona Fair. Viale del Lavoro 8. This exhibit is a leap from past to present with a large exhibit and parades of vintage cars as well as stands devoted to new models from major manufacturers with areas for test drives. A wide variety of the most sought-after spare parts and numerous miniature models to build, sell and buy.

Entrance fee: €15, reduced €12 for children ages 12-16; free entrance for children younger than 12 and for disabled. If you own a vintage vehicle and would like to exhibit free of charge at the fair, call 049-738-6856. An English-speaking operator will assist you.

http://www.veronalegendcars.com/

Red Devils
Awards and WWI commemoration
May 6, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., May 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Thiene, Via Friuli 6. Military miniatures exhibit and international modelling contest; food stands. Free entrance.
http://www.reddevilsthiene.it/

Esotika Pet Show
May 6-7, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Vicenza, Fair Center, Via dell’Oreficeria. National fair dedicated to exotic animals with shows and exhibits. Entrance fee: €10; free for children younger than six.
http://www.esotikapetshow.com/

Antica Fiera di Primavera
Spring Festival
May 6-14, Camisano Vicentino, about 11 miles east of Vicenza. Nightly food booths in Piazza della Costituzione feature local specialties; carnival rides in Piazza Libertà, Piazza del Vicariato Civile and Piazza della Costituzione. Local crafts exhibit and sale; live music and dancing start at 9 p.m.

Festa della Famiglia
Family Day
May 7, 9-7 p.m., Castagnero, Piazza Mercato. Entertainment, gadgets and free workshop for children ages 1-12. Food booths.
http://www.vicenzaestate.it/eventi/sagre/3-festa-della-famiglia-a-castagnero.html

Vicenza Jazz Festival
May 12-21, Vicenza. Every night, live jazz concerts in Vicenza. For detailed program and tickets, visit http://www.vicenzajazz.it/

Strakids
Kids run/Walk
May 13, 4:30-6 p.m., Arzignano. Non-competitive run/walk for children ages 5-14; registration in Piazza della Libertà. Free participation and prizes for everyone.
https://www.italybyus.com/vi/event-pro/strakids-kids-run-walk/

Giochi gonfiabili a Campo Marzo
Bouncy houses in Campo Marzo
Through May 14, Vicenza, Campo Marzo, across the main train station. Weekdays 3-8 p.m.; weekends and Italian holidays 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Among the many bounce houses, there will be an “air mountain,” “Cameleon castle,” as well as a giant slide. Admission fee: €5. Special discounts for families.
http://www.comune.vicenza.it/cerca.php?q=giochi-gonfiabil

Campionaria
International Fair
May 13-21, open 10 a.m.-midnight on weekends, 4 p.m.-midnight on weekdays, in Padova, Via N. Tommaso 59, about 24 miles southeast of Vicenza. More than 1,000 vendors featuring items for home, vacations, hobbies, sports, cars, motorcycles, patio furniture, fitness and camping equipment, horse and dog shows, entertainment and live music. Free entrance.
http://www.campionaria.it/visita/

MARKETS

VENETO

Cerea: April 30, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Via Farfusola 6, about 45 miles southwest of Vicenza (about 150 vendors)

Piazzola sul Brenta: April 30, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., in Via Camerini, about 16 miles east of Vicenza (700 vendors)

Thiene: May 6, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., downtown streets and squares (70 vendors)

Marostica: May 7, Oct.-March 8 a.m.-7 p.m., April-Sept. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., in Piazza Castello, about 18 miles north of Vicenza (135 vendors)

Out & About
All listings compiled by Anna Terracino

Schools and most services are closed.
Noventa Vicentina: May 7, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., in Piazza IV Novembre, 20 miles south of Vicenza (120 vendors)

Vittorio Veneto: May 7, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., in Serravalle, Piazza Minucci and surrounding streets (75 vendors)

**TUSCANY**

**Sagra del Carciofo**

Artichoke Fair

Through May 1, Ristorante (Piombino, Livorno), La Pineta City Park, Via Ristorante. Food booths featuring a great variety of artichoke dishes, other local specialties and wines. Opens at 7 p.m. and, on Sundays, also at noon. Every night, live music and dancing.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=4&post=40

**ArtEart**

Art Festival

April 28, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Montepulciano (Siena), Via di S. Donato 14. Recycled art exhibit and sale by Tuscan artists from all over Italy. Food and wine specialties; free entrance.


**Sagra del Cacciaccio**

Hunter Fair

April 28-29, May 1, May 5-7, and May 12-14, Certaldo (Florence), Centro Polivalente, Via Matteotti. Food booths featuring hare and wild boar, other specialties and local wines and open at 8 p.m. and on May 1 and Sundays also at noon.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=4&post=2043

**Valdichiana Eating**

April 29-30, May 1, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sarteano (Siena), Piazza Bagagli and Piazza XXIV Giugno. Tuscan specialties exhibit and sale; cooking and cocktail shows at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Free entrance.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=3&post=1381

**Volterra Gusto**

Flavors in Volterra

April 29-May 1, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Volterra (Pisa), Piazza dei Priori. Exhibits and sale of local gastronomical products including the famous local white truffles, wines, cheeses and chocolates; food booths; wine tasting.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=3&post=1381

**Foodies Festival**

Rith&m-Food

April 29-May 1, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Castiglioncello (Rignano Marittimo, Livorno), Castello Pasquini and Portovescovo. Italian specialties; cooking demonstrations and workshops for children.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=5&post=1445

**Sagra del Cinghiale**

Wild boar Fair

April 29-30, May 6-7, and May 13-14, Bagno a Ripoli (Florence), Via Tiziano 158. Food booths offering a variety of wild boar dishes and other local specialties, open for dinner on Saturdays and lunch and dinner on Sundays.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=4&post=33

**Sagra del Bacciole e del Carciofo**

Beans and Artichoke Festival

April 30-May 1, La Serra (San Miniato, Pisa). Local products exhibit and sale; entertainment; food booths open at 8 p.m.; on Sundays, April 25 and May 1, food booths open also at noon and at 6 p.m. Live music and dancing.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=2&post=34

**Carciofo Pride**

Artichoke Pride

April 30, 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Venturina Terme (Livorno). Food booths featuring a variety of artichoke dishes, other local specialties and wines. Local products and craft exhibit and sale; from 3 p.m. live music and dancing.

http://www.sagretoscane.com/cerca/?category=65&area=ecity=dt=epage=4&post=1682

**MARKETS TUSCANY**

**Street Food Village**

May 5-7, Prato, Piazza San Francesco. May 5, 5-10 p.m.; May 6-7, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Italian and international street food exhibit and sale; http://www.follerumba.it/firenze/evente/prato-streetfood-village

**Medievio in Castello**

Medieval Festival

May 6-7, Buti (Pisa), Via Mariniari and Via San Roccolo. Medieval crafts exhibit and sale; musicians, historical parades, falconers, flag-throwers, magic shows, and fire-eaters; food booths feature typical medieval specialties.

http://www.medievoincastello.it/

**Corri sui Lungarni**

Road running along the Arno River

June 3, the 7.2 km walk departs at 9 p.m. from Piazza XX Settembre and goes through the most famous and beautiful landmarks of Pisa. The €3 fee for the non-competitive race can be paid from 5 p.m. at the Logge dei Banchi (Ponte di Mezzo).

http://www.podistiacaspallderisi.it/home/corri-sui-lungarni

**CONCERTS/SPORTS**

**Gavin DeGraw – May 2 Milan; May 3 Rome**

**Dream Theater – May 3 Roma; May 5 Florence**

**Patti Smith – May 4 Parma; May 10 Cremona; May 12 Borgo**

**Soul System – May 5 Rome; May 6 Ciampino; May 7 Brescia**

**Bruno Mars – May 7, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Corso Matteotti**

**Orbietello (Grosseto): May 6-7, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Corso Italia, Piazza Eroe dei Due Mondi, Piazza del Plebiscito**

**Pietrasanta (Lucca): May 7, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Piazza Duomo**

**San Miniato (Pisa): May 7, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Piazza del Popolo**

**Scarpiera (Firenze): May 7, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; downtown squares and streets**

**Out & About**

**Green Day – June 14 Lucca; June 15 Monza**

**Justin Bieber & Martin Garrix – June 18 Monza**

**Bryan Ferry – June 23 Florence**

**Damian Jr Gong Marley – June 23 Rome**

**Major Lazer – June 24 Milan**

**Sean Paul – June 27 Padova; April 17 Milan**

**The Chainsmokers – June 28 Milan**

**LP – July 3 Rome; July 11 Lucca**

**Wolfmother + Giuda – July 7 Padova**

**Anastacia – July 12 Marostica**

**Erykah Badu-Mary J. Blige – July 12 Lucca**

**The Lumineers – July 15 Villafanica (Verona)**

**Elton John and his Band – July 14 Mantova**

**Robbie Williams – July 14 Verona; July 15 Lucca; July 17 Bardolino**

**U2 – The Joshua Tree – July 15-16 Rome**

**George Benson – July 17 Marostica**

**Red Hot Chili Peppers – July 20 Rome; July 21 Milan**

**Marilyn Manson – July 26 Villafanica (Verona)**

**Sting – July 27 Cividale del Friuli; July 28 Mantova**

**Joss Stone – July 28 Tarvisio (Udine)**

**The Offspring – Aug. 2 Rome**

**Ben Harper – Aug. 10-11 Gardone Riviera (Brescia)**

**Lady Gaga – Sept. 26 Assago**

**Bryan Adams – Nov. 10 Padova; Nov. 11 Assago; Nov. 14 Rome; Nov. 16 Bolzano**

**James Blunt – Nov. 12 Rome; Nov. 13 Florence; Nov. 14 Assago**


**ITALIAN ARTISTS**

**Alessandra Amoroso – April 28-29 Verona**

**Zucchero – May 1-4 Verona**

**Fiorella Mannoia – May 2 Bologna; May 3 Montecatini; May 13-14 Florence; May 20 Padova; May 24 Trierse; Sept. 17 in Verona**

**Francesco Guccini – May 5 Padova**

**Francesco Renga – May 5 Assago; May 16 Naples; May 18 Florence; May 22 Casalecchio di Reno**

**Umberto Tozzi – May 5 Rome; May 19 Padova; May 19 Assago**

**André Deandrà cante Andé – May 12 in Padova**

**IL Velo – May 19-20 Verona**

**Tiziano Ferro – June 11 Lignano Sabbiadoro; June 16-17 Milan; June 24 Bologna; June 28 and June 30 Rome; July 15 Florence**

**Vasco – July 1-10 Modena**

**Renato Zero – July 1-2, July 4-6 Rome; July 29 Lajatocci (Pisa); Sept. 1-2 Arena di Verona, Sept. 7 and Sept. 9 Taormina**

**Ennio Morricone – July 7 Rome; Aug. 30 Verona**

**WWE Live – May 3 Rome; May 4 Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna)**

**Motul FIM Superbike World Championship – May 13 Imola; June 18-19 Misano Adriatico**

**MotoGP Mugello – June 2-4 Scarperia (Firenze)**

**MotoGP Misano – June 18, Sept. 8-10 Misano Adriatico**

**Formula 1 – Grand Prix – Sept. 1-3 Monza**

For a comprehensive list of festivals, concerts and upcoming sporting events, please see our Pinterest page, www.pinterest.com/usagvicenza.
Though most parents agree that children should contribute to household chores, the reasons why vary. Some cite equity: Everyone benefits from a well-run household so it’s only fair that everyone contributes. Others think about responsibility: Children should learn to take ownership for themselves and contribute to their community. Still others consider the practical side of things: Children need to learn how to do laundry and keep a clean house so that they can do the same when they’re adults and won’t have to depend on someone else to do basic tasks for them.

But is doing chores a job or is it an expected duty? In other words, do chores deserve a reward, just as a job elicits compensation?

The most common way to reward completed chores is through allowance. Yet the question of whether a child’s allowance should depend on chores turns out to be somewhat controversial. On the one hand, household work is just that: work. And doing it for pay can be a child’s first experience with getting compensation for doing decent work. On the other hand, the family needs to eat, and dishes need to get washed. Everyone in the family benefits from things that just have to happen in the household. Parents don’t get paid for what they do to make the household run, and perhaps shouldn’t be expected to get paid for chores.

The “right” answer to this debate can be a bit tricky. Every family is different and, rightly so, finds different ways to make things work smoothly. But there’s some reason to think that the best approach may be to keep chores and allowance separate.

First, research on motivation points to the value of cultivating intrinsic – or internal – motivation rather than relying on outside or external motivators. The idea here is that if chores are tied to money, children learn the lesson that the only reason to do chores is to get paid. And when children get rewards (e.g., money) for doing chores, they may begin to lose an appreciation for the feeling of a job well done.

Most importantly for parents looking to get the household work done, if children decide they don’t need the reward or they don’t want to do it for some reason, they won’t see any reason to do the work. Whereas, if children learn that they do chores because it’s simply expected of them as part of the household, or because it’s part of being a responsible person, or whatever reason parents want to stress, they’ll be more likely to do them without having a “carrot” dangling in front of their faces.

Another argument for keeping chores and allowance separate comes from Rob Lieber, a New York Times money columnist and author of “The Opposite of Spoiled.” Lieber suggests that money management is such an important thing to learn in childhood that it should not be dependent upon whether or not children complete their chores. He believes that children need to learn hard lessons about saving, distinguishing between wants and needs, making trade-offs, and making mistakes with their money. And they need to do this while they’re still in a space where they can lose small amounts of money, before they get to be independent when even small mistakes can quickly add up to financial disaster.

“Many parents recognize the importance of encouraging intrinsic motivation and teaching money management while creating a mock work environment where children get paid for jobs they do,” Lieber said. “One possible compromise is to keep a small, basic allowance and the essential every day chores as two separate enterprises. Children get a certain amount of money every day, no matter what, and are expected to, e.g., make their beds, clear the table, pick up their laundry, and unload the dishwasher without compensation. However, parents can choose some extras, like mowing the lawn, taking the trash out, cleaning out the garage, and so on, that can be monetized. Do those jobs and get extra pay.

Parents and children can even work together to identify which tasks are in the first category, which are extras, and how to distribute the tasks among the members of the family. In this way, the concepts of equity, responsibility, and practicality come through loud and clear through the essential every day chores.

Additionally, children have the opportunity to go above and beyond – and earn compensation for their effort. Both of those experiences will serve them well in their personal lives, and in their careers.

The Interactive Customer Evaluation system is a web-based tool that allows users to recognize great service, point out need for improvement or recommend new ideas on behalf of Department of Defense organizations.

Installation Management Command customers make up over 55 percent of the entire DOD ICE mission, with a total of more nearly 4.2 million comments overall.

“It’s not surprising when you consider IMCOM manages more than 70 installations worldwide, and is the proponent for all Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs throughout the Army,” said IMCOM Commander Lt. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl.

“It puts a burden on our service provider managers, but it’s well worth the effort because of the information it provides us as decision makers,” Dahl said.

ICE is IMCOM’s primary means of receiving feedback directly from its customers. ICE empowers customers to make a difference in how IMCOM delivers products and services, by offering recommendations or bringing up issues. Customer comments are a critical component in helping the command prioritize and refocus installation services and support to meet changing requirements.

“All IMCOM service provider managers receive this feedback and follow up on every comment, regardless of whether the customer asks for a response or not,” said Russell Matthais, ICE Program Administrator for IMCOM.

In the last year, IMCOM responded to more than 490,000 customer comments in ICE. Over 362,000 of those customers responded that they were satisfied with their product or service, which is a 93 percent overall customer satisfaction rate. Of those that had a complaint and provided contact information, IMCOM responded to 81 percent in three days or less.

Though it’s not required, Matthais highly encourages customers to provide the contact information when submitting a comment card through ICE, so program managers can provide immediate feedback.

“We want to hear it, good or bad,” Matthais said. “It’s the only way we get better at what we do. And if the customer provides contact information, we can respond directly to them with an answer, to either make it right, or even have a discussion about ways to improve.”

In many cases, an ICE comment begins an ongoing interaction that lasts until the problem is resolved. One ICE customer even said in the command after receiving assistance through the program to send appreciation for how the complaint was handled.

“[ICE] made sure I got to the correct people to assist me in my situation,” the customer wrote. “They did research, and spoke to leadership to help me. I wish I knew about this office sooner.”

Matthais said the majority of ICE customers leave anonymous comments, which is still helpful, but frustrating to the service or program managers at the installation level.

“They can make it right for the next person… but I think most managers would prefer to be able to let the customer know their voice made a difference,” Matthais said.

It also limits how ICE can help. Contact information maximizes the opportunity to assist the customer, which often turns a negative experience into a positive interaction.

“Not only did she assist me over the phone, but she took the time to follow-up,” one customer wrote. “She went above and beyond and provided me with a direct line for assistance. A million thank-yous from the bottom of my heart.”

Managers appreciate the opportunity to make things right, Matthais said.

“As our resources are stretched thin by budget and manpower constraints, it’s important we focus our energies on providing the best possible customer service,” Dahl said.

“ICE helps us do that, but letting us know what we’re doing well, and what needs improvement.”

Dahl encourages every IMCOM customer to make use of the program.

“By sharing your honest feedback, together we can work to improve service delivery and achieve IMCOM’s goal of providing world class customer service,” he said.

“Just as importantly, ICE is a good indication of what programs mean the most to the customers,” Dahl said, “which is important data in an operating environment with limited resources.”