



DARBY DIGEST



Your source for local news, information and culture

VOL. II, Issue 2

November 7, 2008

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Nov. 14 is last day to buy Thanksgiving Luncheon tickets at DCC. Single service members and geographical bachelors eat for free. E-4 and below family members get discount.

Important Dates in November:

- National Veterans Awareness Week Nov. 9-15
- Marine Corps Birthday Nov. 10
- Veterans Day Nov. 11
- "Army Service Day" Nov. 17
- Great American Smoke out Nov. 19
- Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27
- American Indian Heritage Month
- Military Family Appreciation Month

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Tree cutting necessary to ensure safety

News Release

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

CAMP DARBY, Italy - In Italy, fall is often marked by strong winds, torrential rains and flooding. This can make for a dangerous landscape, according to Chiara Chelossi, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety Specialist.

“On Nov. 4 an Italian teenager in Rome was killed when a Aspen tree fell on him during a storm,” said Chelossi. “All trees have a natural life time, and some of the pine trees in Camp Darby have reached their life cycle of 70-80 years.”

USAG Livorno Commander Lt. Col Steven Cade wants community members to be aware of the potential dangers of seeking shelter under the ancient pine trees on Camp Darby during bad weather.

“When these local pines reach the end of their life cycle, they became weak and natural agents such as wind, rain and low temperature can harm their stability,” explained Cade.

“There is currently a plan in place that has identified those trees that are at the end of their life and we are working closely with the Italian Natural Park Authority, who is responsible for all decisions concerning the fauna and floras in the Park Area, to ensure safe removal,” said Cade.



Trees with a crossed circle are slated for the first removal, beginning Nov. 6.

According to Engineer Giuseppe Carra', USAG Livorno Buildings and Grounds Division chief, 115 trees were deemed at the end of their life cycle and marked with a white circle.

“The first trees targeted for cutting have a crossed circle and are close to populated buildings,” said Carra'. “For every tree cut down, two new ones will be planted in its place.”



Lt. Col. Steven Cade
U.S. Army Garrison
Livorno Commander

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Helping out at harvest time

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Under a gentle Tuscan sun, adults and youth from Camp Darby's Club Beyond worked from dawn till dusk harvesting grapes in a Tuscan vineyard.

According to Chaplain (Capt.) Kelly Porter, US Army Garrison Livorno chaplain, it was a chance for the youth to put their faith into action and lend a helping hand to a family that didn't have the resources to harvest all of their grapes.

"I think the kids understand a lot of lessons from an agrarian culture that they wouldn't get from living in city or town," said Porter. "They learned from the owner about dependence on land and weather and those lessons are closely tied to our dependence on God.

"In the Bible, both wine and vineyards are prominent symbols so there are a lot of analogies for spiritual lessons; seeing that in person made a lot more sense to the youth and volunteers."

During a traditional Tuscan lunch of salami, bread and oil, and pasta, the owner spoke to the group about the process of planting, harvesting and maintaining the vineyard. He then segued into relating that imagery to lessons in life.

"In the Fall, leaves are ripped off and burned so it seems like the leaves aren't important," explained the owner. "But during the growth season, the leaves are big and flat and help with photosynthesis.

"What once seemed unimportant-isn't true. All of us, like the leaves, have an important role to play in life."

Porter believes the role in helping others taught the youth "no matter where you go in the world, people are the same- working for a living and supporting their families".

"It's easy to lump people into groups and say 'oh I don't like that group', but on an individual basis we're all struggling," said Porter. "It wasn't easy to work out in the sun all day; but, when the last grape was cut everyone felt a closer connection to the land and the people who work it."



Club Beyond youth help harvest grapes at a local vineyard. (photos courtesy of Jessica Barlow, Club Beyond)



To learn more about Club Beyond, visit their website at: www.mcy.org

Click here for survey about local events

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=BAArgYJr5gmJ8xTQAW0EgA_3d_3d

WARRIOR CARE

DEFENSE LEADERS MAKE WOUNDED WARRIOR CARE TOP PRIORITY



Soldiers, Families may provide feedback on health care

Heidelberg, Germany – November has been designated as Warrior Care Month and the Europe Regional Medical Command will be providing information about the health and quality of care for wounded, ill or injured service members and their families.

Visit the ERMC Web site (<http://ermc.amedd.army.mil>) in November for weekly information or to submit a healthcare question by clicking the "Ask the Doc" e-mail link. Questions can also be submitted to Brig. Gen. Keith W. Gallagher, the U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army Command Surgeon and also the ERMC Commanding General, on his blog site.

In addition, the Department of Defense has a new Warrior Care Web site at www.warriorcare.mil that offers information for service members and Families.

The Military Health System is asking wounded, ill or injured service members and their families to help health system leadership better understand the needs and expectations of warriors in their care by completing an online questionnaire.

The questionnaires—one for wounded, ill or injured service members and one for family members—are available through Nov. 28 on the Military Health System Web site at <http://www.health.mil>

The questionnaires ask for feedback concerning a service member's experience and satisfaction with the care he or she has received since becoming wounded, ill or injured.

All questionnaire responses are anonymous to encourage honest and specific answers that will lead to positive changes in how the MHS handles care for wounded, ill or injured service members.

The questionnaires are part of Defense Secretary Robert

Gates' commitment to supporting wounded, ill and injured service members—ensuring that their care is the Department of Defense's top priority.

Care is continually improving but MHS leaders recognize that there is still more to be done. By listening to the opinions of wounded, ill or injured service members and their families, the MHS will be in a better position to meet their needs and expectations. The online questionnaires are available directly at <http://www.health.mil/Pages/Page.aspx?ID=18>.

America's Military Health System (MHS) is a unique partnership of medical educators, medical researchers, and healthcare providers and their support personnel worldwide. This DoD enterprise consists of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; the medical departments of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Combatant Command surgeons; and TRICARE providers (including private-sector healthcare providers, hospitals and pharmacies).

TRICARE Management Activity, the Defense Department activity that administers the health care plan for the uniformed services, retirees and their families, serves more than 9.2 million eligible beneficiaries worldwide in the Military Health System. The mission of the MHS is to enhance Department of Defense and national security by providing health support for the full range of military operations. The MHS provides quality medical care through a network of providers, military treatment facilities, medical clinics and dental clinics worldwide. For more about the MHS, go to www.health.mil.

Watch the AFN local news on TV on channel 14 on the satellite decoder

or on the web at

<http://vicenza.afneurope.net>

Wake up with AFN Livorno's SSG James Allen weekdays from 6-10

on

AFN



Holiday mailing deadlines



SAM Parcels	Nov. 28
Parcel Airlift Mail Parcels	Dec. 4
Priority Mail Parcels	Dec. 11
First Class Letters and Cards	Dec. 11
Express Mail	Dec. 20

Camp Darby Halloween Highlights



Clockwise (Above) Better Opportunities for Single Soldier member Spc. Norman Pierce volunteers to put tattoos on kids during the Camp Darby Fall Festival Oct. 31.(Below) Children follow a treasure map to go trick or treating on Camp Darby. The post does not have housing on the installation so organizations, units and individuals volunteer to hand out candy and treats for the youth around the installation. Roads are blocked off to traffic in order (bottom) 3/405th participates in Trunk or Treat by turning a car into a Pirate Ship. Kids had to walk the plank in order to search the treasure chest. (far left bottom) Dad and son walk around Camp Darby trick or treating. (bottom left) Party goers enjoy Halloween festivities at the Darby Community Club Adults only Party. (left) Camp Darby kicks off its Halloween events with a spooky story hour at the Post Library Oct. 31. Kerry Lawrence, dressed as Cruella De Vil, reads "Inside a House That is Haunted" by Alyssa Satin Capucilli to Camp Darby youth. (upper left) Children enjoy the Camp Darby Commissary pumpkin painting event held in the main square Oct. 31. After the paint dried, kids were able to take the pumpkins home with them.



Photo by Challen Kelker



Click here for survey about local events

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=BArgYJJr5gmJ8xTQAW0EgA_3d_3d



Camp Darby

November 2008

VOICE

Monthly Community News for USAG Livorno

Army Community Services
Bldg. 407
USAG Livorno

Mon/Wed 8:00-5:00
Thurs 11:00-5:00
Fri 8:00-5:00
Closed Weekends

Telephone
DSN 633.7084
CIV 050.54.7084

In this issue:

National Military Family Appreciation Month

New Family Readiness Group Classes

ACS Staff Spotlight: New Additions!

The Military Family Gets Honors During the Month of November

Despite extended separations, constant relocations and frequent school/job transfers, military families persevere, overcoming challenges swiftly and successfully. Their contributions are unseen but heartfelt, these loved ones support their service member and in doing so provide him or her with the determination to accomplish the mission.

On Nov 19th, ACS will be having a celebration in honor of National Military Family Appreciation Month. It will include recognizing distinguished Camp Darby families and the positive contributions they provide for our community. Join us for the cake cutting ceremony, at 3:00 p.m. in the ACS bldg. 407.



Spouses of Deployed Servicemembers Monthly Social

Spouses of deployed service members face unique challenges while their loved one is gone. Acting as a single parent, spending holidays apart and worrying about the safety of the service member can

leave spouses feeling isolated. That's why ACS holds a Spouses of Deployed Service Members Social on the first Thursday of every month (Nov. 6), so those in similar situations can connect and

realize they aren't alone. Children are welcome and spouses can share tips on special items for care packages, and exchange advice on how to making a long-distance relationship truly successful.



New Classes Designed to Strengthen Family Readiness

Amber Gaglione, the ACS Mobilization and Deployment Specialist, will be offering a new Family Readiness Group training series. These sessions are designed to better prepare those involved in Family Readiness Groups for the unique challenges they may face as volunteer family advocates.

PART I FRG Essentials: Money Matters

November 4, 12:00 p.m. at Global Credit Union
Important money issues FRG face, fundraising special accounts and budgeting.

PART II FRG Essentials: Compassion Fatigue

November 18, 12:00 p.m. at Global Credit Union
Teach volunteers how to not burnout or become overloaded while caring for others.

PART III FRG Essentials: Motivating the Group

November 25, 12:00 p.m. at Global Credit Union
Learn how to be a creative and proactive advocate for your FRG.



Visit Us Online at www.livornomwr.com

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=BAArgYJJr5gmJ8xTQAW0EgA_3d_3d

Click here for survey about local events



Classes & Seminars

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Resume Points Training

November 7, 11:30-12:00 p.m.

Learn how to make yourself attractive on paper.

Interview Skills Training

Call ACS for date and time

Get tips on putting your best foot forward.

VOLUNTEER CORPS

Volunteer Action Council

November 5, 10:30 a.m. at ACS

Get involved today! Monthly VAC meeting is the first Wednesday of every month.

Volunteer Knowledge Training

November 21, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS

Stop by to join the ranks and add your skills to TEAM Darby!

RELOCATION READINESS

Benvenuti at Camp Darby

Monday, November 3, 8:15 a.m.

New to Camp Darby and don't know where to go to get answers? Learn about Italian customs, culture, local shopping, paying Italian bills and more. Please sign up for the next Benvenuti session by calling ACS. Free child-

Children's Playgroup

Wednesdays, 1100 a.m. - 1200 p.m. in the

Chapel Nursery

Children's playgroup (for ages 0-3) helps little ones learn to socialize and interact. It also provides an invaluable support system for parents.

Military One Source

Military OneSource provides free private services and information:

- Counseling
- Educational Materials
- Interpretation/Translation

Stateside: 1-800-342-9647

Overseas: 800-3429-6477

Stateside Collect: 484-530-5908

TTY/TDD: 1-866-607-6794

En Espanol: 1-877-888-0727



FINANCIAL READINESS

Military Family Holiday Financial Preparations

November 4, 3:30-4:00 p.m. at ACS

The holidays can cause out of control spending if you don't budget ahead of time. Learn how to manage your money this season with some pre-planning.

Consumer Rights and Obligations

November 6, 1:00 p.m. -1:30 a.m. at ACS

Learn what you the consumer are entitled to and what your responsibilities are during this quickie class.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Italian conversation & grammar at the Library

Mondays 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

English as a second language at the Library

Tuesdays 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Beginners

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Intermediate

ACS Cooking Class- Southern-Style Thanksgiving!

Thursday, November 13, 12:00 p.m.

Learn how to prepare an authentic Southern-Style turkey with all the trimmings. Class attendees will also be able to enjoy the finished products, so bring your appetite!



Coming in December

Community Action Council (CAC)

Let your concerns be heard! CAC is a great opportunity to voice your opinion or concern about Camp Darby.

Send issues to:

usaglacs@eur.army.mil

or log onto

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

and click on CAC!

ACS Staff Spotlight: *New Additions!*



From left; Sherie Colegrove, Cinzia Zahner, Jenny Sposato and Julie Gardner.

Camp Darby ACS welcomes 4 new members to the team; Sherie Colegrove, Julie Gardner, Jenny Sposato and Cinzia Zahner. Sherie is the FAP special events coordinator, currently organizing the Children's Playgroup at the Chapel Mertz Hall. Julie is the

Unit Services Coordinator, and will act as the ACS liaison to all Camp Darby units. Jenny is the new Relocation Program Manager, and will be helping servicemembers and their families with PCS and ETS information and referral. Cinzia will be the new Relocation

Assistant, assisting those in transition with household items from the Lending Closet. Cinzia will also be conducting the ACS Italian and English as a Second Language courses. We welcome these new additions into our ACS family.

New UMUC Scholarship Fund

Adelphi, Md. (Nov. 3, 2008)—University of Maryland University College (UMUC) recently announced a new scholarship fund earmarked to assist active-duty, enlisted service members and their families. The \$200,000 fund will provide financial assistance to UMUC's military students and their spouses in Asia, Europe and the Middle East, as well as stateside.

It will cover the cost of textbooks for enlisted, active-duty members of the U.S. armed forces, as well as tuition assistance in the form of scholarships to spouses of enlisted, active-duty service members. All awards will be need-based, renewable, and contingent upon the student maintaining satisfactory academic standing.

For more information, service members and their spouses stationed in Europe may contact Edna Roy at eroy@ed.umuc.edu

DECA Scholarships

By Caroline Williams
DeCA marketing specialist

FORT LEE, Va. — Scholarship applications will be available beginning Nov. 3 in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at <https://www.commissaries.com> and directly at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Only dependent, unmarried children (under the age 23) of active duty personnel, reserve/guard and retired military members, survivors of service members who died while on active duty or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military may apply for a scholarship.

Applicants should prepare to submit an essay on the following topic: "What would you place inside a time capsule to help people in the next century understand military life today?" Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business on Feb. 18, 2009. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

Civilian education system policy update.

WASHINGTON DC- The current CES program and policy, approved by the g-3/5/7 in November 2006, has continued to evolve as the needs of the 21st century Leader have changed. These changes enhance the training opportunities for the army civilian corps and strengthen the civilian leader Development program in support of the contemporary operating environment.

Recent policy changes include: a new course is added to the CES program to provide continuing education for senior leaders (CESL) after the advanced course-effective July 08. Local nationals are centrally funded and considered for attendance against command quotas IAW policy placement priorities-effective October 08. Equivalency credit will not be granted for training when completion date is more than ten years-effective date is date of this message-effective October 08. These CES policy changes are included in the recently revised ar350-1.

Clarification to the following current policy requirements: foundation course is required for all interns, team leaders, supervisors and managers hired after September 30, 2006. Interns are required to complete the action officer development course (aodc) and foundation course before completion of the intern program. Interns are priority two for attendance in the basic course. Team leaders, supervisors and managers are priority one for attendance in all of the ces courses.

Supervisors and managers are required to complete the basic course during their first year in a supervisory position; they are required to complete the intermediate and advanced courses before the completion of two years in a supervisory position. The advanced course is available to Gs13 and above or equivalent pay band. All other Army civilians in permanent appointments are priority two and highly encouraged to attend CES based on meeting the eligibility requirements.

Information on CES is available through the AMSC website at <http://www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/>. Course registration is available through the CHRTAS web-site at <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/chrtas>. For questions regarding use of CHRTAS contact your civilian human resource training area POC or help desk through CHRTAS training link.



Soldiers- use your educational benefits at: www.earmyu.com

Darby Job Corner

Volunteers needed to help deliver holiday cheer

Camp Darby's consolidated mailroom is seeking volunteers to help handle mail for the months of November 2008 through January 2009, to help expedite the flow of mail during the annual surge of holiday boxes and parcel.

According to Art Jones, IMCOM-Europe Army Community Service volunteer coordinator, the holiday season is traditionally a time when CMRs actively seek volunteers, though volunteers can be used year-round at mail facilities.

"We're fortunate that our military communities share a tremendous volunteer spirit and have answered the call for assistance year after year," said Jones. "We're hoping that, once again, our Soldiers, Family members and civilians rise to the occasion during this special time of year."

Anyone interested in volunteering at a consolidated mailroom may contact their local garrison ACS volunteer coordinator, said Jones.

"This is a great opportunity for people to support their communities and gain some experience working in a mail room while supporting our communities," said Jones.

Volunteer duties may include, but are not limited to; receiving, recording and processing mail, distributing incoming mail and packages, loading and unloading mail vehicles, sorting and sacking mail.

People interested in volunteering should contact the Postal Supervisor Cindy Newton 633-8017.



Camp Darby Volunteers

Interested in obtaining valuable experience to make your job resume more marketable?

Stop by the ACS Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator's office or call 633-7084 to volunteer. If you're currently a prized volunteer, make sure your monthly volunteer hours are recorded by the 15th of each month with us or at www.myarmylifetoo.com

Employment Readiness Program

Searching for a job? Stop by the ACS and view our bulletin board to see what jobs are hot and what is not. For more information about resumes, jobs, volunteering and more- contact Stephen Zglinicki, Volunteer Corp Coordinator and Employment Readiness Specialist at 633-7084 or send him an email at stephen.zglinicki@eur.army.mil

US Active Duty Spouse online job skill training

Open to all spouses of Active Duty service members, there are only 90 slots available for free training. This is first come first serve!

Call DSN: 632-5407 to sign up.

Mrs. Elizabeth Speck
FRP / AERO / AFAS
TEAM Darby
DSN: 633-7084

O

NAF Job

Opening Date: January 07, 2008 Closing Date: January 06, 2009

First Cut off Date: January 21, 2008

Position: Store Worker, WG-6914-4

Salary: \$14.19 - \$16.56 Hourly

Place of Work: DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY, EUROPE, LIVORNO, ITALY

Position Status: This announcement may be used to fill temporary full-time, part-time or intermittent positions. Indicate on your resume your availability for any of these appointments.

Number of Vacancy: Multi

ITR

- Nov. 8, Go Christmas Shopping for Tuscan Ceramics. The art of making and decorating ceramics in Montelupo Fiorentino has been handed down from father to son ever since the 14th century. Call 633-7589 to sign up today!
- Download a copy of the 6-month (October 2008 through March 2009) trip calendar today! Log onto: www.livornomwr.com.
- Have you made your Christmas list yet? ITR is preparing a Holiday Bazaar just for you on December 5th at the Community Club! Why fight the crowds and worry with the hassle of a parking space? You can find lovely Italian gifts for everyone on your Christmas list right on Camp Darby. For more information, call ITR at 633-7589

Outdoor Recreation

- Ski the Matterhorn for Thanksgiving! Contact ODR at 633-7775 for more information about this 4-day getaway (to include the Thanksgiving Turkey dinner!). You must sign up by Nov.10.

Darby Community Club

- Tickets are on sale now for the Thanksgiving Feast at the Club! Space is limited so purchase your tickets today! Last day to purchase tickets is November 14th.
- Nov. 21 free Apple Pie in celebration of National Military Family Appreciation Month
- Texas Hold'em Tournament is scheduled for Nov. 14 and 28 at 6 p.m.
- Try the new Wednesday special for November "Philly Cheese Steak Combo". \$5.95 includes fries and a drink.
- Karaoke is King! Every Thursday in November is Karaoke night! Stop singing in the shower and sing at the club!

Sports and Fitness

- Basketball sign-ups are on-going until November 11th at the fitness center.
- Oriental Dancing Classes are offered every Wednesday from

12:00 - 1 p.m. Give it a try! Call 633-7440 for more info.

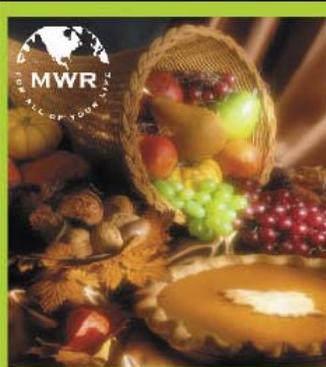
- Basketball team rosters must be submitted by COB Friday, Nov. 7 to Todd Smith at the Fitness Center.
- Buy tickets at the fitness center for Swedish massage, Deep tissue massage, Soft tissue massage, Sport massage, Hot stone massage and more! Buy 3 and get 1 of the same type FREE! Call 633-7440 for more info.

Darby Lanes

- Units! Get your teams together now for Intra-mural Bowling!

The November Darby Horizon can be found online at www.livornomwr.com. If you'd like to receive an electronic copy of the monthly Horizon sent directly to you, please send an e-mail to livorno_marketing@eur.army.mil

Thanksgiving Feast



Where: Community Club
Bldg 204

When: Thursday,
November 27, 2008

11:30 to Noon for Single
Soldiers/Airmen

Noon to 2:30 p.m. Open to the
Public

Celebrate this joyous Holiday at the
Community Club for a
Thanksgiving feast you'll never forget!

Roast Turkey
Glazed Roasted Ham
Roast Beef
Old Style Dressing
Glazed Sweet Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Glazed Carrots
Buttered Corn
Seasoned Peas & Mushrooms
Assorted Pies
Ice Cream
Water

Adult tickets - \$18 or €12
Children's tickets - \$9 or €6
(8 years and below)

Tickets must be purchased at the Club no
later than November 14. For more
information, call 633-7855

Click here
for
survey

Winter Safety Training Day

Nov. 12 at the Camp Darby Theater.
 0900-1020 English
 1030-1150 Italian
 1300-1420 English
 1430-1550 Italian

Also this year there will be two guest speakers. The first speaker is from the Red Cross to discuss emergency plans for the local area and Camp Darby. The second speaker is from the Traffic Police (Polizia Stradale) who will speak about driving in the local area and main differences between Italian and US traffic laws. We will also cover the annual requirements for Cold Weather Injury Training.

During the training, with DOL-TMP assistance, we will be able to get attendees drivers license endorsements for the annual winter drivers training requirement. Don't forget to sign in, and bring yours US Gov Motor Vehicle Operator's Identification Card (OF 346) to be stamped for winter training at conclusion of the class!
 DSN: 633-7841

Italian National Train Strike

There is a national train strike scheduled for 9 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9 to 9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10.

Flu Season is here

The 08/09 Flu Season is here and the Influenza vaccine has arrived at U.S Army Health Clinic Livorno. You do not need an appointment but we request that you be mindful of the following hours as a walk-in for vaccinations. Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri from 8 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m. and Thur 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m. If you have any questions regarding the flu vaccination, please call central appointments at 633-7357.

National Native American Indian Heritage Month

This month highlights and honors the many contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives and it recognizes the traditions of the first inhabitants to call our land home. The Native American Indian continues to play a unique role in shaping our nation's history and culture by preserving the heritage of their ancestors and by contributing to the rich diversity that is America's strength.

Since the birth of our nation, pluralism and diversity has been hallmarks of the American experience and success. The American Indian dedicated efforts to honor their proud heritage have helped others gain a deeper understanding of the unique spiritual, artistic, vibrant and ancient customs of the Native American community.

DECA Livorno

Special Holiday Hours of Operation

- Nov. 11, Veterans Day, open regular hours
- Nov. 23, Sunday Extra day open from 10:00 to 17:00
- Nov. 26, Wednesday Open until 19:00
- Nov. 27, Thursday Thanksgiving day open from 09:00 to 14:00

Your Holiday Message, Delivered by Stars and Stripes

Stars and Stripes has launched its annual "[Stripes Holiday Messages](#)" program online. People are invited to send messages of love and support to their men and women stationed overseas. These **FREE** messages will be printed in the European, Pacific and Middle East editions of Stars and Stripes on **December 20** as long as they are received by the November 28 deadline.

In addition, all messages (which can also include a photo) will be posted online at Stripes.com. Visit the "[Stripes Holiday Messages](#)" site for more information.

Contact: Maria Luisa Hernandez Stars and Stripes - Central Office Phone: (202) 761-0914
 Fax: (202) 761-0890 hernandezl@stripes.osd.mil
www.stripes.com

Italy off the beaten path... explore your world

WILD BOAR FESTS IN PISA

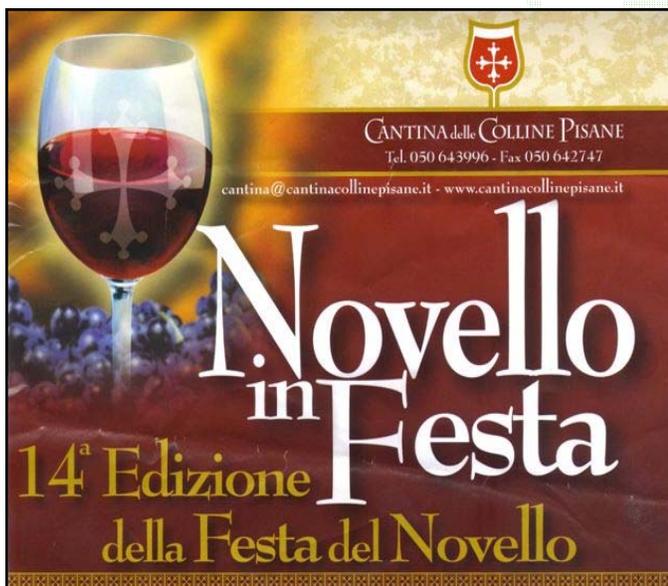
The 37th edition of the wild boar fest will take place in Riparbella, Pisa on Nov.8. and in Chianni, Pisa Nov. 14-16. Taste the traditional food prepared with wild boar, sausages, salami, stakes and ribs produced locally, but also arts and crafts stand, concerts, and street artists show.

NEW WINE AND OIL FEST

In Montecarlo, Lucca, from Nov.8– Nov. 9, it is possible to taste the famous New Wine of Montecarlo, as well as the new oil locally produced. Food stands will offer typical seasonal food, roasted chestnuts, the “bruschetta” toasted bread with oil and garlic.

NEW WINE FESTIVAL

Nov. 8-9, join the City of Cenaia as they celebrate the New Wine of 2008. A rustic dinner takes place both nights beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at 8 p.m. there will be live Orchestra music and Sunday night will be the elections for Miss Novello 2008 beginning at 9:30. The events all take place at the Catina della Colline Pisane located between the towns of Cenaia and Quattro Strade.



VOLTERRAGUSTO AUTUMN FAIR

Join the 4th edition of Voltterragusto, along the roads of the Etruscan town of Volterra (Pisa), there will be a display of locally produced cheese, wine, oil, chocolate and truffles. The Autumn festival will continue until Nov. 23, covering a specialty every weekend. Specifically, Nov. 8-9 will be the chocolate fest, and Nov. 14-16 the new oil fest. For information call 0588-86099 or Email info@voltterragusto.com

WHITE TRUFFLE IN SAN MINIATO

From Nov. 15- 30 enjoy the White truffle fest in the beautiful medieval town of San Miniato. San Miniato producers will expose and sell their products, wine, oil and the much known white truffle. On Nov. 30 the owner of the biggest truffle found this year, will be awarded the golden truffle. For additional information call 0571-42745 or Email ufficio.turismo@cittadisaniminato.it

ANTIQUÉ MARKETS

Don't miss the Antique Market in Lucca every third weekend of the month. Over 500 exhibitors coming from across Italy join this market. You can find: antique furniture, ceramics, pieces of China, jewels, glassware, fabrics, watches, sculptures, paintings, iron and copper items, as well as trinkets of all sorts

TOYS TIME

Special attraction for children will be in Santa Croce Sull' Arno (Firenze) Nov.23. Every year, the last Sunday in the month of November, in the center of town there is a toy fair, old and new toys are sold in the booths, games and live music will accompany the event. For information check the site www.prolocosantacroce.it

2008 River to River Film Festival

The eighth River to River Florence Indian Film Festival, completely devoted to Indian cinema and directed by Selvaggia Velo, will take place in Florence, Italy, Dec. 5- 11 at the Odeon, the beautiful 20s-style theatre located right in the heart of the city.

The competition section of the Festival will screen the latest independent Indian feature films, shorts and documentaries, and the latest works on India by international directors.

Among the films, the audience will vote for the best film, that will win the River to River DigiChannel Audience Award, consisting in the free promotion of it on DigiChannel.net, including web publication, newsletter, homepage screening and being part of the DC worldwide network.

The Festival will feature a retrospective on Raj Kapoor (1924-1988), a director from a great family of film-makers who lived in the golden age of Indian cinema. An actor, producer and director, Kapoor is known as India's Charlie Chaplin for his characters who become the stars of his quintessentially 50s Bollywood films.

Three of his masterpieces will be screened, in collaboration with the Directorate of Film Festivals of New Delhi. The Chaplin-inspired *Awara* (The Tramp), 1951, in which Raju, who has become a petty thief, is charged with murder, and finds his father again in a courtroom after many years. *Shree 420*, 1955, where the title stands for the article of the Indian Criminal Code that punishes fraud-related crimes, with the main character arriving in Mumbai in search of a better future and having to face the temptations of the metropolis. Finally, the colour film *Bobby* (1973), which tells, with Seventies atmospheres and an unforgettable soundtrack, a sparkling love story with heights of romance and genuine entertainment.

In addition to the retrospective on Raj Kapoor and the films in competition, the Festival will include two special sections: the best short animations from Anifest India 2008, organised by The Indian Society of India: 15 films shot by students and professionals that explore interesting ideas inspired by wide-ranging artistic and intellectual perspectives, including both traditional media and cutting-edge technology; the three most outstanding diploma films of 2007 and 2008 by the students of the prestigious Film and TV Institute of India



Ocean of Pearls by Sarab S Neelam, is an intense story of a young and promising Sikh doctor who has to choose between a prestigious job in Detroit and obeying the values of the community in which he grew.

On the opening night, the Apsara Dance Group will perform kathak and Bollywood dances on the stage of Odeon, as well as soundtracks from the films by the great Raj Kapoor.

On Dec. 8, at midday, Cinema Odeon will host a tea talk with Paolo Scarnecchia called "The body of the actor and the voice of the soul: the role of music in Raj Kapoor's films."

Tickets are on sale now, in collaboration with mymovies.it, and at Cinema Odeon. The card will be also valid as a MYmovies Movie Card until Nov. 30. More information about feature and short films, documentaries and events can be found on www.rivertoriver.it.



Khuda Kay Liye (In the Name of God) by Shoaib Mansoor, the first Pakistani film distributed on a large scale in India after a long time, a powerful and realistic description of the lives of Muslims and Pakistanis after 9/11.