



DARBY DIGEST



Your source for local news, information and culture

VOL. II, Issue 2

November 21, 2008

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. in the PX plaza. Events include tree lighting, visit with Santa, Christmas carols, the 6th Fleet Quintet Brass Band and refreshments!

CFC Contributions

CFC now total \$12,186. If you have not had the opportunity to contribute you still have time. Contact SSG Brett M. Patterson at DSN: 633-7722 and he will come to your office to pick up your contribution.

Important Dates in November:

- Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27
- American Indian Heritage Month
- Military Family Appreciation Month

In this issue:

Housing Contest	2
Safety	4-5
Chapel	7-8
Job Corner	9
Events	10-11
Truffle festival	12
Reviews	13

Veterans Day Memorial

Story and photos by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

On a cold and humid morning, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) students from Vicenza American High School honored the Military Veterans with a memorial ceremony held at the Florence American Cemetery, Nov 11.

"For me this is the first time here in Florence, this place is breathtaking, we are here today to honor the memory of war veterans who sacrificed their life for our future, we appreciate that and we will never forget them," said Adriana Cleveland, Vicenza JROTC Unit Commander.

Leadership, self discipline, integrity, sense of responsibility, for JROTC students are words to live by. "I joined the program to learn discipline and skills that I will also need for everyday life," said Cleveland.

JROTC, is a federal program sponsored by the US Armed Forces in high schools. It is designed to teach high school students the value of citizenship, leadership, service to the community, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment, while instilling in them self-esteem, teamwork, and self-discipline. According to Maj. George Smailes, JROTC instructor in Vicenza American High School, the program's



JROTC students from Vicenza American high School, lay a wreath to the memory of Military Veterans, Nov 11, at Florence American Cemetery.

focus is reflected in its mission statement, "To motivate young people to be better citizens." It prepares high school students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as American citizens.

Jayson Richard has been involved in the program for almost three years, and said JROTC contributed to make him a better person. "I learned about discipline and respect, I want to join the Naval Academy in the future, and this is a great chance for me to learn more. Richards is not new to Veterans Day celebrations in Florence, in fact, he participated in last year's commemoration and said Florence monumental cemetery is one of the best kept sites he has visited.



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

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Holiday Contest for Single Service members in the barracks

By Challen Kelker

USAG Livorno Housing Director

We are proud to announce the official Barracks Dormitory Holiday Door Contest and Building Contest (two separate events) brought to you from us the USAG-Livorno Garrison Housing Office.

The Holiday Door Contest is open to all those living in the barracks, dorms and NCO barracks. Prizes will be awarded for the best room entrance Holiday décor representing a theme.

You can also take part in the Best Dressed Holiday Main Building Entrance. This is located in the middle of your buildings. This brings Teamwork at its best from the residents.

But, make sure to not block the entry for Fire Safety.

Judging will be joint venture between the Housing director, Senior Airmen and Army Enlisted.

Military members that want to be part of this please RSVP the Housing Office or email me at challen.kelker@us.army.mil Please include your building and room number.

Dec. 23 the awards will be handed out at 11:00 am in front of the Commissary and PX.

Thanks the Camp Darby Commissary for their involvement, the Camp Darby AAFES and Chaplain, Capt. Porter. We want to bring the holiday cheer to you all with a little excitement and rewards.



SINGLE SOLDIER HOUSING OFFICE
HOLIDAY CHEER DOOR CONTEST
19 DEC 13:00 Judging begins

**OPEN TO SOLDIER'S
 AIRMEN and even NCO'S
 RESIDING IN
 BLDG'S
 401
 406
 412**

SSHO

Come and help us spread the Holiday spirit throughout the Garrison. Dress up your hallway Room Entrance DOOR

1st Place \$60.00 shopping spree
 2nd Place \$40.00 shopping spree
 3rd Place iTunes Gift Card
 From Our Post Chaplain
 We thank Our Commissary
 for their Contribution

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
 FROM THE
 TEMPORARY
 EMPLOYMENT
 OFFICE**

RSVP by 1 Dec 08 to: challen.kelker@us.army.mil Email your Bldg and room # if you are participating or sign up at your SSHO Office Bldg 413 (questions contact Jay at housing)

Deadlines and guidelines for holiday mailing keep gifts flowing on time and trouble-free

By Spc. Fabian Ortega

U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- This year the U.S. Army Europe postal system expects to handle more than twice the amount of holiday mail than it has in recent years, USAREUR postal officials said.

With the increased popularity of online shopping and the dramatic fluctuation of currency exchange rates recently, many USAREUR Soldiers and Families are choosing the digital route for holiday gift buying this season. That means more packages from online retailers will be flowing through post offices in Europe.

“We anticipate a larger than normal mail volume this year because of the exchange rate,” said Bill Hilsher, USAREUR postal program manager. “A lot of people are ordering Christmas gifts online, as every year, but this year there seems to be more.”

The expected holiday mail surge at Army Post Offices in Europe, which typically begins the second week of November, has prompted USAREUR postal officials to take a proactive approach, advising that holiday gifts and other parcels be shipped before mailing deadlines set by the U.S. Postal Service.

One of the biggest challenges postal facilities face this time of year is the holiday mail surge, Hilsher said. “We advertise and let folks know to ship early, but there are still plenty of procrastinators out there.”

USAREUR Soldiers and Families mailing packages to loved ones in the U.S. should send them by Dec. 4 if using standard mail and Dec. 11 or 18 if using Priority or Express Mail, said Hilsher.

Holiday parcels being shipped from the U.S. to overseas locations using standard mail -- including online orders -- must be shipped by Dec. 1 to ensure they arrive before the Christmas holiday, Hilsher said. Express Mail and Priority shipping are also available, but shipping rates are bit more expensive. Nov. 13 is the deadline for sending holiday packages by Parcel Post to all APOs and Fleet Post Offices.

For those late shoppers, Express Mail and Priority shipping are only available to some military post offices and not available when sending parcels to service members in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Before rushing off to send holiday gifts and packages, Hilsher suggested following a few helpful rules.

“Mail early, pack it well, address it clear and legibly, include a to and from address on the inside of the package so if the label gets ripped off during processing, they’ll still be able to get the package to where it’s going,” Hilsher said.

In addition, there are restrictions on the types of items that can be mailed to deployed service members (see box at right).

For those having trouble boxing those perfect holiday gifts, a Priority Mail flat-rate box, offered by USPS, offers the best rate, according to the official USPS Web site.

The largest flat rate box, which measures at 800 cubic inches, is delivered for \$10.95 to an APO and FPO addresses -- \$2 less than for domestic destinations.

Each country has customs regulations that apply to incoming mail, including military mail, and theater commanders may impose additional restrictions.

Here is a general outline of mailing restrictions:

- Alcoholic beverages of any kind
- Narcotics
- Munitions
- Obscene, pornographic or sexual articles (pictures, paintings, cards, films, videotapes, etc.)
- Any matter depicting nude or seminude persons
- Non-authorized political materials.
- Pork or pork by-products.
- Bulk quantities of religious materials contrary to the Islamic faith. Items for the personal use of the recipient are permissible.

The maximum length of a package in any category is 72 inches. For specific restrictions, check with your local post office.

Sources: U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency

USPS also offers a military care package kit that contains three flat-rate boxes, two cube boxes, address labels and customs forms. The kit is available at no cost to Soldiers, Families and friends shipping to service members overseas, but standard shipping rates apply.

The USPS created the “Mili-kit” is based on the items most frequently requested by the military, according to the USPS Web site. The kit may be ordered by calling the USPS Expedited Package Supply Center. More information on the kit and other mailing procedures is available at www.usps.com.

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

Local authorities help prepare Camp Darby community to stay safe

Story and photos by Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Every quarter, service members groan and civilians wonder if the mandatory training means they need to go too, but U.S. Army Garrison Safety and Occupational Health Specialist Chiara Chelossi always strives to find new ways to make annual or required safety training enlightening and refreshing.

“Because many people are not aware of Italian laws, let alone changes in them, I decided to bring Italian traffic police from Pisa and Red Cross representative to speak during the Camp Darby Winter Safety day,” said Chelossi.

The training session highlighted an emergency response plan tailored to the bilingual Camp Darby community and Italian traffic safety was incorporated into winter safety driving.

Red Cross representative, Marco Bargagna explained that Americans are used to calling 911 in case of an emergency, whereas Italians call 118.

“If someone in is on Camp Darby or the depot and in a panic situation calls 118, the ambulance shows up unexpected at the main gate and 20 to 30 minutes are wasted trying to get cleared through security,” explained Bargagna. “Using these lessons learned, we developed an Emergency Response harmonized plan so if someone calls 118 from Camp Darby, a call is immediately placed to the Camp Darby Fire department, Carabinieri security forces and health clinic doctor.

“This coordinated effort ensures the ambulance can reach the mishap scene as quickly as possible,” said Bargagna.

After the Red Cross briefing, Vice Questore Aggiunto, Dr. Daniela Giuffre’ told the audience about the newest changed to Italian traffic laws.



“July 2008, driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs became even tougher,” said Giuffre’. “Not only did fines increase, if your blood alcohol rate exceeds 1.5 g/l your vehicle will become permanently confiscated, unless it belongs to some one else.

“If your caught driving under the influence of drugs, you’ll be fined 1,500 to 6,000 Euros, your license will be suspended six months to a year and the vehicle is permanently confiscated. If a driver under any type of influence causes a traffic accident, the penalties are doubled,” continued Giuffre’.

She added there is a new law in force since July 2008, which states “you can not refuse to receive the sobriety test to verify the level of alcohol or taking of drugs.”

“You will receive the same fine as for driving under the influence of alcohol, suspension of drivers license for 1 year to 2 years and the confiscation of your vehicle,” said Giuffre’.

Chelossi added that she was glad the Italian traffic police and Red Cross representatives were able to directly answer questions from Camp Darby community members.

“It’s important that we are all aware of what to do in case of emergency and what we need to do to help keep ourselves and loved ones safe when driving on the roads this winter,” said Chelossi. “The safety of our people and the surrounding communities is one of our foremost concerns.”

When calling 118, it is important to provide the following information in order. While your providing this information to the operator, another operator is communicating it to the ambulance for quick response.

1. Telephone number [preferably from phone you are at]
2. Where is the injured person? [details]
3. Who are you? [name and qualification (if your a doctor or red cross certified)]
4. What happened?
5. When did it happen [time of incident]?
6. How many people were injured
7. Useful informations on the scene [is there a fire, dangerous matericals, etc]
8. Do not hang up- wait for the ok from the 118 operator
9. The operator will read you back all of the information to confirm that its correct

Bike Safety

By Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

even though the bicycle riding season is coming to a close, attention still needs to be kept focused on safety. The Safety office provides a community safety guide to highlight the essential safety measures that are to be followed.

Follow the rules of the road

Utilize proper hand and arm signals when operating in traffic

Wear highly visible reflective clothing and an approved helmet

Only children 12 years or younger may operate on the sidewalks

Bicycles must be equipped with the following: bell, red rear reflector, yellow reflectors on both sides of each pedal, yellow reflectors on both side of each wheel, front white light and a rear red light for night time and periods of reduced visibility

Bicycles without lights may not be ridden one half hour after sunset or one half hour prior to sunrise.

The Installation Commander has placed the road from Camp Darby to Tirrenia (Viale Mezzapiaggia) off limits during the hours of darkness to pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters; this limitation does not apply to vehicular or motorcycle operators. Even during daylight hours it is recommended to use a motor vehicle to travel this road.

The wearing of portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices while operating a motor vehicle and while jogging/running, bicycling or skating on roads and streets on DoD installations is prohibited Always keep in mind that skating is prohibited on Italian roads.



PROBLEM: Recent Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning of IM-COM personnel in office area. Likely source was due to improper venting of CO gas from a flame-fired hot water heater in the mechanical room.

SOLUTION: Gas-fired furnaces, electrical installations, and mechanical rooms in general, require a minimum three foot clear area around equipment. Storage in mechanical rooms is not recommended and in many cases is against fire and life safety codes.

FACTS: Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas. CO is highly toxic to humans and pets but especially children and older adults with respiratory illness.

ACTIONS:

1. Maintain a minimum three-foot clear area in/around all mechanical systems.
2. Ensure gas vents are inspected routinely by a competent inspector.
3. Ensure carbon-monoxide detectors are properly installed and working in all facilities where fuel-fired equipment, mechanical systems, appliances are used.
4. CO alarms should be placed, in general --
 - In every living/working area.
 - At the foyer/entry/landing to each additional story in a building.
 - In or immediately outside every sleeping area.
 - Five feet or higher up a wall, on a ceiling, or as directed by the detector manufacturer.

Camp Darby Highlights



(Top left) Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Director for IMCOM-Europe , Arnie Cole officially presents Jimmy Roddy, Camp Darby Fitness director with a “Best Small Fitness Center in the Army” award. (above) ACS teaches community members how to make the perfect southern style Thanksgiving meal. (below) Col. Raffaele Iubini and Lt. Col. Steven Cade recognize the accomplishments and contributions of the men who work and run the Carabinieri Mensa on Camp Darby. (left) Soldiers repair old picnic tables as part of “Make a Difference Day.”



Photos by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs

DECA Livorno

Special Holiday Hours of Operation

- 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

Use the Holiday Season to Grow Your Family

By Chaplain (Capt.) Kelly Porter
USAG Livorno Chaplain

Soon both congregations will celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. In December we will observe the tradition of Advent. These next six weeks are an opportunity for significant spiritual growth for you and your family.

Thanksgiving is not a church holiday but it has many spiritual applications. Who could honestly say, "I am grateful enough, I don't need to focus on this area?" Not me.

Some may or may not be familiar with Advent is a season of preparation, of looking ahead to the coming Christ. And of course we all know about Christmas

All of these special observances and holidays make people more receptive to God's message for their lives. I'm sure you've heard the joke and Christmas and Easter Christians, but the reality is that at this time of year we get more in tune with God. Knowing that, let's use this time for two purposes:

My own spiritual development

Outreach toward non-believers

Challenge yourself and your family to read through and discuss one of the gospels during the next six weeks. Matthew takes a Jewish perspective and links Jesus' birth with fulfillment of the law and lineage of King David and Father Abraham. Mark tells how Jesus fulfilled Messianic prophecies from Isaiah and focuses on Jesus' power through miracles. Luke takes a Greek perspective and emphasizes the perfect humanity of Christ. John wrote to the commoner and to the philosopher so that all may know Jesus is the Christ and by believing may have eternal life. Read a chapter each day and ask the following questions:

What does this tell me about Jesus?

If I choose to believe this, how does my life need to change?

At the end of December take note of any differences in yourself and your family dynamics. Is your behavior or attitude different? Are you

more hopeful? Do you think about Christ more?

The second purpose naturally flows out of this last question. If I think about Christ more I start to think like Christ. After studying His life for the last month it will be easy to recognize that Jesus constantly looked outward. Who need to be healed? Who needed food? Who needed living water? Who needed a prayer? Who needed the Kingdom of God? Our mind should be the same as that of Christ Jesus- who came to serve. We serve others practically by meeting needs and spiritually by giving words of life.

Jesus came to seek and save that which was lost. Does your family think the same way? Discuss how you can reach out to others physically and spiritually. †



The Duomo at Piazza dei Miracoli.
"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to."
Luke 13.24

Enjoy the full publishing
of the Chapels "THE
DOOR" on the web at
[http://
www.usag.livorno.army.
mil/sites/RS.html](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil/sites/RS.html)

Regular Activities

- Mass 10:00
- Sunday School 10:00
- Prot Worship 11:15
- Women's Bible Study
Tues 12:00-13:00
Wed 17:30-18:30

DSN: 633-7267
COMM: 050 54 7267

EMAIL:
kelly.porter@eur.army.mil
tokovia.n.sanda@eur.army.mil

New Volunteer Catholic Coordinator

IMCOM is being squeezed for every 1/2 penny it has in order to support the Global War on Terror. As such funds may not be available for a contract Catholic Religious Education Coordinator. Regardless whether funds become available many tasks still need to be completed to have a successful and vibrant Catholic community on Camp Darby.

We prayed. And God provided. Almost instantaneously, Sherie Colegrove has stepped forward as a volunteer coordinator for the Catholic congregation. Sherie is currently a contractor at ACS and runs the Play Group on Wednesdays.

Sherie will serve as a

liaison between the congregation and the chapel staff. Her responsibility is expanded beyond the religious education coordinator to be more encompassing.

All supply requests, building reservations, master calendar event scheduling, announcements and other administrative tasks will be funneled through Sherie to the chapel staff and vice versa. The intent is more consistent communication flow. This doesn't mean Sherie is doing all the work for the community or attempting her own personal coup. Her role is simply synchronization.

Thanks Sherie for your willingness to serve.

Holy Day Schedule

Mass will be held at the following dates and times

1st Advent	Nov.30, 10 am
2d Advent	Dec.7, 10 am
Immaculate Conception	Dec. 8, 10 am
3d Advent	Dec. 14, 10 am
4th Advent	Dec. 21, 10 am
Christmas*	Dec. 25, 10 am
Octave of Christmas	Jan. 1, 10 am

** Note: Darby Chapel is invited to attend midnight mass at Roberto Federighi's parish on 24 Dec. Service will be in both English and Italian.*

Sunday School

Sunday School meets each week at 10 am. The children are studying Bible Blitz and are memorizing scripture verses to earn a new Bible.

The adult class has moved to the chaplain's office. The class is currently using a video series called "Faith Lessons: Walk as Jesus Walked." The lessons are divided with a video every two weeks and discussion the other Sundays.

This week covers the Apostle Paul's mission to Lystra in Acts 14.

November Worship Theme A Season of Thanks

**Sermon : Where are the other nine?
Text: Luke 17.11-19**

Where are the other nine? Of 10 lepers healed only 1 returned to say thanks. Why are some grateful and others are not? Find out this Sunday.

Children's church meets this Sunday.

Chapel wide Announcements

- **Night of Praise.** Next planning meeting 11:30-12:30, Thurs Dec. 4.
- **The heat is on!** Please conserve energy by keeping exterior doors closed. Also, keep the areas in front of radiators clear. Make sure your children are aware the radiators are hot. (Course now, they'll want to touch them)
- **Chapel Potluck** Nov. 23 at approx. 12:45 pm. Both congregations will meet for a Thanksgiving dinner after the Sunday service and then decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season. The chapel will provide turkey, ham and drinks. Please bring salads, sides, veggies, desserts (pumpkin pie hint-hint, wink-wink).
- **Men's Ministry** this really is a ground floor opportunity- to launch a new men's ministry at Camp Darby. Most of the previous leadership has moved and it's time to start all over again. See Barry Speck or Chaplain Porter for more details. We're looking for a time for our first get-together.
- **Men's Ministry Leadership Conference (aka PMOC).** Although it's called Protestant Men, we will combine efforts at Camp Darby to have a more effective program. The 2009 Conference at the Sauerland Stern Hotel in Willingen, Kneippwed Germany takes place on 13-16 February. The conference will train men to lead local ministries and plan the 2009 Fall Men's Conference. Your only cost is transportation to the event. See Chaplain Porter ASAP to register.
- **Club Beyond**
 1. High School Romania Service Project meeting Thurs Nov. 20 at ISF during lunch hour
 2. Middle School Club every Wed. 2:30-4:15 at school gym.
 3. Girls Bible Study every Wed. 11:30-12:00 at Chapel



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.

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

DCC is looking to hire two snack bar cooks NA4, 9.83 an hour to work a the Gazebo grill. Please apply at NAF office in HQ front, building 303.

Regional Contracting SubOffice (RCO), Livorno

The Army Community Service is soliciting for subject contract position. Offers are due by 2 p.m. on Nov. 25.

The successful offeror will need to obtain a D-U-N-S number and a federal Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code and register on the central contractor's registration website. The RCO can help you through these processes.

The point of contact for the performance requirements is Evelyn Watkins at 633-7584 or Jenny Sposato at 633-7084.

Please contact Julian Bargas Jr. or John Campos if you feel you are qualified at DSN 633-8363.

Employment Readiness

Are you a US citizen or from a NATO country other than Italy searching for a NAF or APF job? Stop by and view our bulletin board for current jobs. Check in with the ERP manager to create a winning resume or "surf that job"! There are certain contract positions that are open to US citizens, and others that are open to all Camp Darby ID card affiliated personnel.

Interview Skills Training

December 5, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS
Get tips on putting your best foot forward.

Resume Points Training

December 19, 11:30-12:00 p.m. Learn how to make yourself attractive on paper!

Computer Classes

Take your skills to a new level with our free and self-paced Computer-based training.

MILITARY ONE SOURCE

Military Onesource provides free private services and information: Interpretation/Translation, Consultation, Counseling, Research, Educational Materials and Referrals

Overseas: 800-3429-6477

Overseas Collect: 484-530-5908 (Contact your int'l operator first.)

ITR

- 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.
- Florence Noel Dec. 6- Among many lights and special effects, "Florence Noel" comes alive! At this traditional Christmas festival, you'll find handmade articles, decorations and food. Special events include The Advent Village and the Enchanted Magic of Christmas. Visit the house of Santa Claus and the Chocolate Village! For more info, log onto www.florencenoel.it. For more information, call ITR at 633-7589
- Vicenza PX Shopping Dec. 13. You won't find a more convenient way to get to Vicenza than with ITR. DSN 633-7589

Outdoor Recreation

- Rent ski and snow board equipment at ODR at 633-7775.

Darby Community Club

- Nov. 21 free Apple Pie in celebration of National Military Family Appreciation Month
- Texas Hold'em Tournament is scheduled for Nov. 28 at 6 p.m. Free Spaghetti for the players
- Saturday Night Fever Night Nov. 29. Dress up in your favorite 70's outfit, there will be a DJ playing best disco hits of the 70's
- 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!

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!

- Gift certificates are great gift ideas! For those folks on your holiday list that have everything... What about a gift certificate for a massage? ...Spin class? ...Oriental Dance Class? ...Yoga? DSN 633-7440

ACS

- Financial Counseling/Consumer Advocacy. Come in for a dose of courage! The only way to solve a problem is to face it!
 - Thrift Savings Plan Information Dec. 9, 1pm
 - Budgeting 101 Dec. 10, 1 pm
 - Consumer Rights & Obligations Dec. 12, 11:30
- Holiday Angel Tree-This year, spread the Holiday Cheer among Unit-nominated Families w/children. In early December, the Holiday Angel Tree will be placed in the PX lobby. Each decorative angel has a gender and age attached to it. Purchase a gift for him/her, wrap it, and bring it in to ACS, where they will be dispersed among the selected families.
- Reintegration, Relationships & PTSD Dec. 17 10:00a.m.-11:00 a.m. at ACS. Tips on how to better manage family relationships following a deployment. Particular attention is focused on how PTSD affects family relationships. RSVP at 633-7084
- New Parent Class, Dec. 9 at 10:30 in ACS. A Parenting 101 class aimed at informing new parents of proper care and nutrition of children and what services they are eligible for.
- New Parent Playgroup Wednesdays, 11:00-12:00 a.m. at Chapel Nursery. Children's playgroup (for ages newborn up to 3 years) helps little ones learn to socialize and interact, as well as provide an invaluable support system for parents.
- Spouses of Deployed Service Members Social, Dec. 4, 5:00 p.m.
- Kids of Deployed Service Members Ornament Making Dec. 11, 3:00 p.m.
- Language Classes Are Back. Italian conversation & grammar at the Library every Monday 12:00-1:00 p.m. and English as a second language at the Library Every Tuesday 11:00-12:00 p.m. Beginners

The November Darby Horizon can be found on-line 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

Italy off the beaten path...

explore your world

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.
See page 12 for complete story

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

TOY 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

JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE NIGHT

Nov. 26 at 10:20 pm at the Borderline Club in Pisa is a concert event dedicated to the great guitarist Jimi Hendrix in celebration of what would have been his 66th birthday.

For info. call Borderline at 050 580 577

River to River Florence Indian Film Festival

Completely devoted to Indian cinema and directed by Selvag. 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.

WINX ON ICE

Children can enjoy a fabulous spectacular on ice at the Nelson Mandela Forum in Florence Nov 29 at 2:30 and 6pm and Nov. 30 at 2:30.

For ticket information visit www.winxonice.it or www.mandelaforum.it

ROME JAZZ FESTIVAL

Head down to Rome for the 32nd Annual Jazz Festival through Nov. 30. Yael Naim performs on Nov. 24 and Herbie Hancock Sextet featuring Terence Blanchard performs Nov. 26 at 9 pm at the Sala Santa Cecilia. Check out artists and events at www.romajazzfestival.it. Site is in English and has some great video and audio previews, some prices are as low as 10 Euro.

TRACY CHAPMAN IN CONCERT

Catch the American singer-songwriter on the Teatro Verdi stage in Florence with the Our Bright Future tour Dec. 1.

Acquire tickets Online at: www.boxol.it
For information: www.bitconcerti.it

XXXVIII San Miniato White Truffle Festival

By Chiara Mattiolo

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

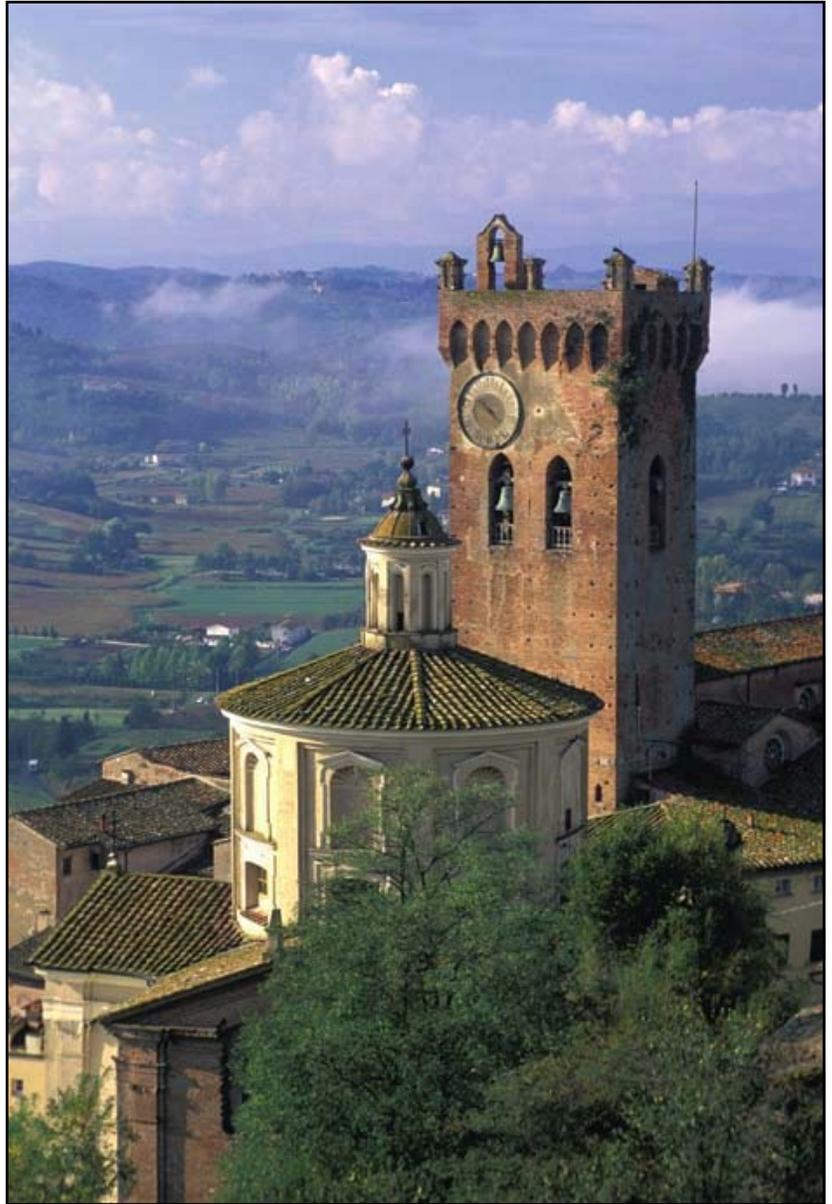
During the last three weekends of November, San Miniato hosts the white truffle fest.

The truffle with its unique taste transforms the city into a huge open air tasting workshop during the festival. During this particular period, San Miniato comes alive, with displays, theatre performances and even marching bands.

For the adventurous, there's a free organized search for truffles and mushrooms Nov. 23 at 9:30. The hike begins at the main square and lasts 90 minutes.

The gastronomically precious white truffle, more highly valued than the black one, is harvested in the area around the city. This territory produces 25% of Italy's celebrated white truffle production.

The truffle takes the throne where it is displayed in the historical Piazza del Duomo at the foot of the Rocca. Other squares also have their own markets where typical flavours of the San Miniato hills are offered together with other culinary specialties.



(Above) San Miniato Cathedral and Matilde Tower (left) truffles on display at the festival. Photos courtesy of Enzo Signorelli

While in San Miniato for the White truffle fest, the surrounding countryside is spectacular, especially as the sun sets. The festival is a great occasion to learn more about this wonderful town located atop three small hills where it dominates the lower Arno valley between the valleys of Egola and Elsa.

For further information email: soc.cons@cittadisaniminato.it or visit them on the web at www.cittadisaniminato.it.

Book Review: “If They are Roses”

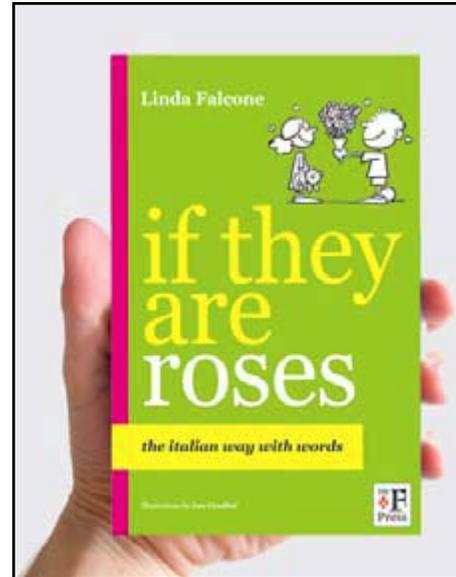
Linda Falcone’s latest book release “If They are Roses: the Italian way with words” is a delightful must read for Americans living in Italy.

Not only is Falcone’s style light and engaging, but she offers the reader a humorous explanation of some of the many Italian cultural nuances.

Having first discovered this Author through her column in “The Florentine”, an English language newspaper distributed in Florence and online, I was glad to have found a collection of her writings consolidated into a book.

Falcone has also written “Italians Dance and I’m a Wallflower”.

- Joyce Costello



To order online send an email to press@theflorentine.net
They ship worldwide /and accept paypal and credit card payments.

Book Review: Financial Peace Revisited

Dave Ramsey gives a step by step overview repair, rebuilding and planning for the future. Its full humorous stories, quick reminders and its type face is largest enough so its not hard to read.

I think its a good reflect the author’s outgoing personality and his wife even adds her take on financial well being as well.

Its written for couples, singles, kids and families and because it’s a wide variety you don’t feel like you have to read every word to get information you need– you can go through and read points of interest and that opens doors for change.

Its great low cost holiday gift for anyone who wants to help themselves or others. Or you can borrow this book through the inter-library loan program at the Livorno Post Library.

- Elizabeth Speck

TV Series Review: Californication

I recently utilized the inter library loan program to get the TV series: Califonication. While I don’t like X files, I do like the main character, but his character in Califonication is 180% opposite.

I thought it would be a funny family history in a sparkling Hollywood environment. Instead, I found it a sad, strange dysfunctional family with the main focus on being sex with little meaning.

I do not recommend this series unless you seriously wish to realize your life is so much better then the main character.

-Love free library movies

Check out the Family and MWR Command (FMWRC) eContent Collection of free audio and ebooks on www.netlibrary.com

AFN TV Review: Pushing Daisies

For those who loved “Dead Like Me” and “Heros”, quirky director Bryan Fuller is back at it again with “Pushing Daisies” on AFN Atlantic Channel, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. The hour long show starts out with a faceless narrator (think older male version of Desperate House Wives) talking about young Ned's life.

Ned has the power to bring people and things back to life for a minute without consequences. He’s teamed up with a private investigator, a dead– now alive childhood sweetheart and petite jockey all at the Pie Hole restaurant.

Nominated for 12 Emmy Awards in its first season, I’m glad season one (only 9 episodes) is now showing on AFN.

To see first two shows, this series is available through the library.

-Happy shows rule

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