

Darby Digest

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

December 22, 2009

**Special
Holiday
Edition**

Camp  Darby's premier bi-monthly newsletter



The holiday season is a wonderful opportunity to relax with family and friends. It is also an opportune time to reflect on all we have accomplished the past year. Fiscal year 2009 was the safest flying year in the 62 year history of the US Air Force and a banner year for Army safety as accidental fatalities dropped to their lowest level since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. I applaud each of you for your help in achieving these milestones and challenge you to make the coming year even safer.

This is a festive season, but for many the winter holiday is full of parties and shopping. Too much to accomplish in too little time can lead to a false sense of urgency, increased stress, and taking unnecessary risks. Continue to use the composite/organizational risk management process to aid you in making smart decisions. Good planning, leader involvement, and effective communication will raise awareness of the hazards associated with the holiday season.

At home, ensure trees and holiday decorations are located away from heat sources. Also maintain a safe distance between lit holiday candles and flammable decorations or draperies. Keep tree stands filled with water, and never overload electrical outlets. Check the serviceability of all ornamental lighting and extension cords. Ensure your decorations are child safe.

If travelling this holiday season, plan your travel ahead of time allowing for frequent rest stops and unexpected delays due to congested highways or adverse weather. Drive defensively and remain alert for impaired, impatient, or aggressive drivers. Always use seatbelts, child safety seats and insist that your passengers do the same. Never drink and drive!

This is a special holiday and you are valuable members of the Camp Darby/Livorno Military Community. I want each of you to enjoy your families, celebrate smartly, and return to work safely.



Vol. III, Issue 22

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

STEVEN G. CADE
LTC, EN
Commanding

Cover photo by Joyce Costello

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Camp Darby family celebrates Thanksgiving



Photos and story by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The Camp Darby family celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional luncheon at the Darby Community Club Nov. 26.

“While we celebrate Thanksgiving here, we need to dedicate a special thought to our fellow service members, Italians and Americans who are now deployed and to their families,” said Lt. Col. Roger McCreery, 3/405th Army Field Support Battalion commander, in his speech preceding the Thanksgiving lunch.

After Father Roberto, a local Italian Catholic Priest, blessed the meal and those in attendance the serving senior service members donned their aprons and served the junior service members roast turkey, ham, beef, potatoes, carrots, corns and sweet potatoes.

“The Thanksgiving luncheon is a chance for those single service-members here at Darby to regain that sense of family that you don't normally get being away from home,” said Airman 1st Class Daryl Perales, Better Opportunities for Single Service Member president. “It's a huge morale booster and BOSS is happy to provide that at every opportunity we get.”

“To me this was a chance to celebrate and the food was excellent; even if I am far from my family I got something to do on this special day,” said Pfc. Thomas Kime, 511th Military Police Platoon.

“We used this event as a way of showing appreciation to the young service members for serving our Nation,” said U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez. “Camp Darby is a big family, even if the service member's family may not be here with them, we are here with them and for them.”

Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the holiday festivities. The community will gather again on Dec.4 for the tree lighting ceremony and the holiday bazaar.



Pfc. Thomas Kime, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno 511th Military Police Platoon, receives his free Thanksgiving lunch for single service members.

Surprise at the gate



Photo and story by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

U.S. Army Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez became a guard for a day on Thanksgiving Day when he decided to release Pfc. James Griffith, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno 511th Military Police Platoon from his guard shift to allow him to enjoy the festivities luncheon.

“Let me tell you, being at the gate is not an easy job,” said Rodriguez. “I wanted to show my appreciation to my MP by covering his duties so he could have his Thanksgiving lunch.”

While at the gate, Rodriguez also took the opportunity to greet the incoming personnel.

“I was fortunate enough that no one gave me a hard time while I was at the gate” said Rodriguez.

December 4, lights on!!!

By Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The traditional Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place in Camp Darby, on Dec. 4, in an atmosphere filled with enthusiasm, joy, and participation. This beautiful tradition began after the tragic 11 Sep. 2001 events. This year, a wonderful 11 meters silver fir was



donated by the city of Abetone as a sign of friendship and solidarity.

"This year's celebrations have an even deeper implication due to the recent assignment of Nobel prize for Peace to U.S. President Barack Obama," said Abetone mayor Giampiero Danti.

"I want to express to this gentleman (Abetone mayor) the sincere thanks from the Camp Darby Community, and the Italian Community for his kind gesture," said Col. Raffaele Iubini, Italian Base Commander.

The Installation Commander, Lt. Col. Stephen Cade, welcome his guests wishing happy holidays, and thanking Abetone community for the gracious donation and for their long-term friendship.

"The tree we are to light this evening is representative of the goodwill to be shown during this wonderful holiday period. It has been graciously provided by the Comune of Abetone and we thank them not only for this beautiful tree, but for the friendship that they have shown to us," said Cade.



A Mouse Christmas

Photos and story by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

A Mouse Christmas is the title of a Christmas Musical about the Birth of Jesus, held at Livorno Post Chapel on Dec. 13 during the Protestant service.

Under Laura Gjere artistic direction, the actors performed on the scene just like professional artists.

"I think it is important for children's development to stage the birth of Jesus, this will help them to get a better understanding of the true meaning of the festivities," said Gjere.

"The children have worked diligently to prepare for the chapel Christmas play and I am happy to see such a large participation," said Kelly Porter, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Chaplain.



Seasons greetings from former Commander

It has been a long time since I left Camp Darby and its existence, when I left, appeared tenuous. I am immensely glad to see that the Army had the good sense to keep Camp Darby.

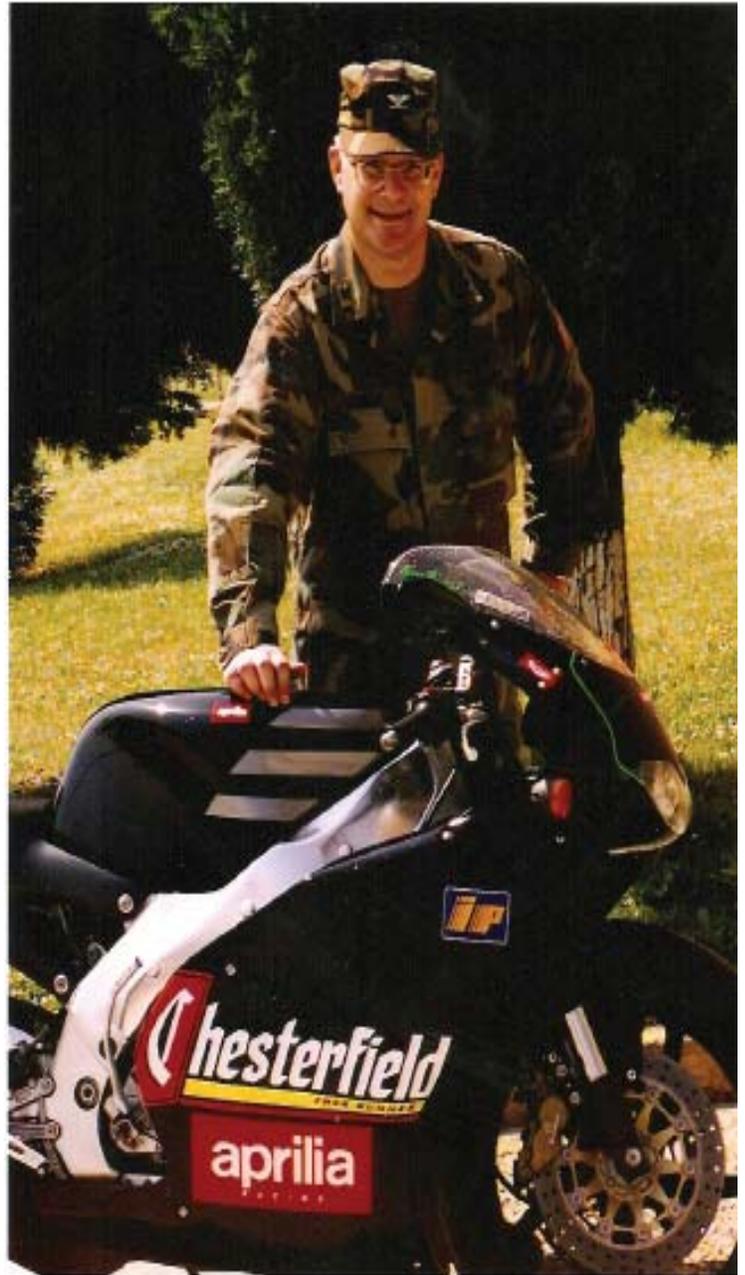
It was and I am sure remains the special place and with the special people that I remember.

It was one of my greatest blessings to be able to retire at Camp Darby among so many friends and in such a lovely (and valuable) place.

My best wishes to LTC Cade and his team and all the disparate units that make Darby such a diverse and yet unusually satisfying place to live and to work.

If anyone remembers me, please give them my greetings, best wishes and gratitude for the time I was able spend among them.

COL(R) Jim Crinean
Former Installation Commander



Lt. Col. James Crinean, former Installation Commander, proudly poses with his "Aprilia" motorcycle.

With My Hero

By Victor Aurtur



Through battle and conflict, I stand side by side with my Steady Rock, with my Hero, my Soldier, my Airman.

Through the fog of uncertainty and the rains of dismay, I walk through the positive lights of freedom and hope with my Soldier, my Airman, my Steady Rock, my Hero.

Through the laughter of our children and the smiles of our loved ones, my heart is filled with promises of security and as the nights turn into day and the days turns into night.

I stand by my Steady Rock, my Soldier, my Airman my Hero.

*Ultimately, we withstand the fog, the rains, the battles and the conflicts;
we withstand it all because I care for my*

Steady Rock, my Hero, my Airman, my Solider.

We withstand it all, with a promise to

my Soldier, my Airman, my Hero that my Heart, my Soul and my Love will always be here, waiting until the daylight shine rays of hope and the night blanket us with promise and warmth.

I will be here waiting for

My Soldier, My Airman, My Steady Rock, My Hero

*I will be here waiting and ready to forever love, My Soldier, My Airman, My Steady Rock,
My Hero*

Victor Arthor is the new Mobilization and Deployment Specialist at Camp Darby's Army Community Services. He is in the United States Army Reserve and has been affiliated with the military for over 25 years.

Writing poetry as a hobby since his childhood, he said he was inspired to write "with my Hero" by all the military families that encounter every day challenges and obstacles, while their loved ones are away defending our country.

"During the first Iraq war, I remember as it was yesterday, all the sad but strong faces of sons, daughters, wives and parents waiting at airports around the country and watching their military loved ones fly away to fight unknown enemies" said Victor. "I remember watching photos of soldiers returning from Vietnam, running to embrace their spouses. I was inspired to write with my hero by my daughters and my wife; and understanding the challenges they faced as I used to put on my uniform everyday for over 14 years as a active duty soldier. I think mostly I was inspired to write with my hero was during my time as a soldier working at Walter Reed Army Hospital. I remember watching all the spouses that either lost a soldier to combat or remained side by side with their soldier when he or she returned from Combat and although their soldier lost a limb, lost their feeling of touch and/or lost their confidence in the world...the spouses remained by their side."

Victor plans on creating some future outreach information for the community i.e. Family Readiness Group luncheons and meetings, Military spouse appreciation fitness classes (I am also a certified personal training), and a host of other ACS sponsored ideas in relations to Deployment and Mobilization while he is stationed at Camp Darby.

Jingle Bell Fun Run



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

A group of brave, motivated runners participated to the 2009 Jingle Bell Fun Run in spite of the cold weather on Dec. 16.

"It was extremely cold this morning," said Capt. Annie Robinson, Commander U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment. "We decided to make the run a little shorter, but we had fun in any case, and the Holiday spirit was celebrated." Continued Robinson

At the arrival, outside the Headquarters building, all runners could enjoy a hot chocolate, cookies and fruit.

Health Clinic Holiday Schedule

- 24 December (Training Holiday)
- 25 December (Federal Holiday)
- 31 December (Training Holiday)
- 1 January (Federal Holiday)

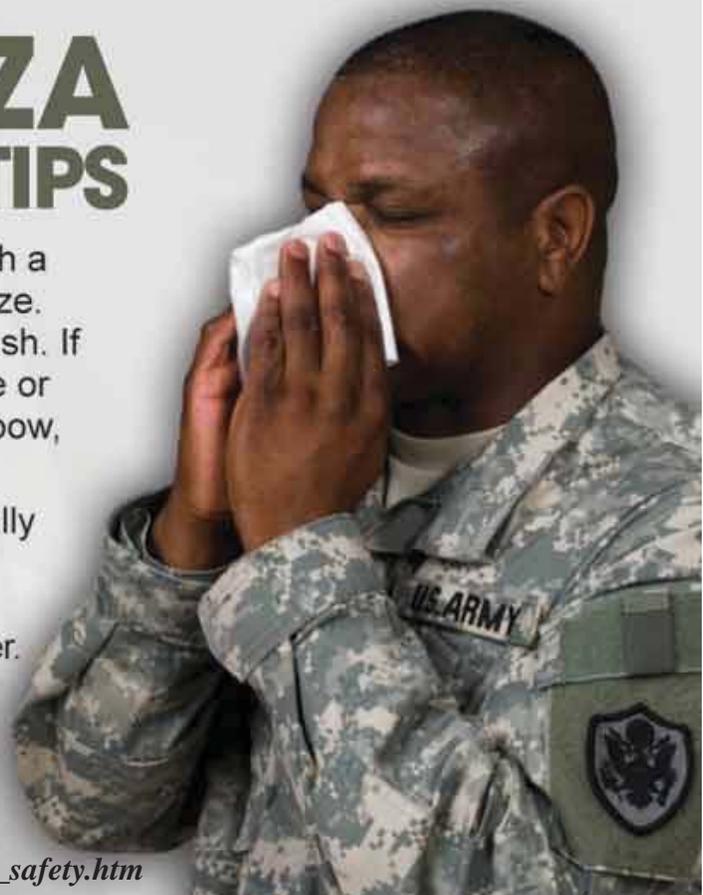
We will be open for patient care for normal hours from 21-23 December and 28-30 December; and of course back to normal operations on 4 Jan 2010.

www.tricareonline.com

INFLUENZA PREVENTION TIPS

- » Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the used tissue in the trash. If a tissue is not available, sneeze or cough into the inside of your elbow, not your hand.
- » Wash your hands often especially after you cough or sneeze.
 - Use soap and water *or*
 - Use alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- » Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- » Stay away from people who are sick.

[/www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/vaccine_safety.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/vaccine_safety.htm)





Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch Resourcing the Army Home: Installation funding levels on the decline

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In recent years, the Army and its Installations have enjoyed unprecedented levels of funding. In fiscal year 2008, the Army hit a high water mark in its fiscal history with a total annual budget exceeding \$250 billion - three times more than FY 2001 funding level.

Much of this growth is attributed to funding the war, rebalancing our Army through investments in Army's force structure, equipment, infrastructure, and key Soldier and Family programs.

Funding levels of this magnitude are unsustainable year after the year and as the country faces some stiff economic challenges, we are forced to reduce funding and exact a greater level of stewardship over our resources.

The Installation Management Command - like other commands throughout our Army - will operate at reduced funding levels. This means that starting in 2010, performance levels for some installation services will be notably less than what we have had in recent years and will remain at that level for the foreseeable future.

Our challenge is to ensure those key, higher-priority programs across our installations do not suffer. We will maintain our full support to Life, Health and Safety programs, the Army Family Covenant and those services that prepare our Soldier and their Families for deployment in support of the Army's Force Generation model.

These are non-negotiables that will remain fully funded. This is our commitment; we will not depart from it. However, there will be other installation services that will clearly be reduced.

We have grown accustomed to some very high levels of service across the board in recent years and we all need to be forthcoming with the expectation that things will be different in some areas. Help manage this expectation across your garrisons. Educate everyone as to which changes they can expect to see. A simple explanation can go a long way to helping understand the changes some of our installation services will undergo.

Across the Army's installations, we can do much to help ourselves by becoming better stewards of our resources. It starts with the individual; everybody has a role. Simple things like turning the lights off, powering down your computer at night, driving tactical vehicles instead of TMP vehicles or conducting a VTC instead of traveling to a distant site unnecessarily all save money - and no savings is too small to forego.

Commanders and leaders across the installation have a key role and are responsible for the efficient use of our resources. Costs should be an inherent consideration in your every decision. We too often marginalize this key factor in making good, resource-informed decisions but we can no longer afford to do so.

As I travel throughout the Army community, I carry the message that we can do business smarter and more efficiently without sacrificing the quality of service that our Soldiers and their Families so richly deserve.

I challenge everyone to do the same; to work together to ensure that those key installation programs that mean so much are well resourced and operated; that we do away with wasteful and unnecessary spending.

Every person - whether you are a Soldier, Family member, one of our great DA Civilians or a contractor serving our Army - is needed and can make a difference.

Ask yourself if you are doing the right things and then, are you doing them right. Doing things right means doing them in the most cost efficient way without sacrificing effectiveness.

Season's greetings!!



By Chiara Mattiolo

This year the traditional Commander's Holiday reception was held on Dec.11 at the Camp Darby Community Club. This recurring occasion is a chance for the Italian and American Base Commanders to meet and share the holiday spirit with representatives of the local institutions and the Installation staff who worked closely to reach the established objectives.

The Christmas reception typically represents a time to think about the past year and to plan and renew enthusiasm for the new projects of the year to come.

"The Holiday Season to me is the time of year when we all take time to reflect, rejoice and renew," said Lt. Col. Steven Cade, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Commander. "Reflect on our many blessing, to rejoice over the pleasure of spending time with our families and our friends, and to renew the commitment to one another and to the causes we believe in," continued.

Both the Italian and the American Commanders took some time to remember the victims of the recent incident at Pisa 46th Air Brigade who caused the death of 5 Italian Airmen.

"Our causes are shared with you our Host Nation. Sometimes the cost is very high. I would ask that your thoughts and prayers be with the families and comrades of the Italian soldiers from the "Folgore" Brigade and the Airman of the 46th Air Brigade that gave the ultimate sacrifice so we can share peaceful time together," said Cade. Both commanders emphasized how the commitment, loyalty and constant support of the Italian institutions was fundamental for the success of Camp Darby's mission.

"Our heartfelt thanks to the Civil and Military Forces in our Region which silently serve without expecting recognition to protect and support the Base," said Col. Raffaele Iubini, Italian Base Commander. "Without their dedication, Camp Darby could not exist and would never have the great human and economical relationship we have with the territory hosting the Base".



Photo by Elena Baladelli, 7th JMTC, TSC, Livorno

Lt. Col. Steven Cade (center) greets Mrs. Maria Luisa Di Meglio, wife of Gioacchino Di Meglio (at Commander's left), Carabinieri Pisa Province Commander at the Annual Holiday reception Dec.11 at the U.S Army Garrison Livorno Community Club.

New Young Plants Beautify Camp Darby

By Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

All the trees that were cut in the past months because they reached the end of their natural life are being re-planted to meet the Natural Park requirements to replace every removed tree.

“The Natural Park Authority is responsible for all the decisions concerning the fauna and floras in the Park Area, we constantly work with them to the best respect of the nature,” said 1st marshal Riccardo Brayon, Italian Base Command.

According to Brayon, a 10 years plan was studied to cut down all the old trees and to replant new ones “Some trees are marked with a circle, others with a white crossed circle. All those marked with a white circle were judged to be at the end of their life cycle, those marked with a crossed circle will be the first to be cut based on priority parameters established by the Park Authorities and the US/Italian Command,” Brayon continued.

Among the first trees to be cut were those in the campground area, those trees are now substituted by oak trees.

“This is a very challenging and expensive project that might seem a loss from a first look, but it is absolutely necessary to cut these old plants to allow the growth of new, young plants that will be with us for the years to come,” said Iubini.



VOICE

Community News for USAG Livorno

The New Face of ACS

By Stacy Walker

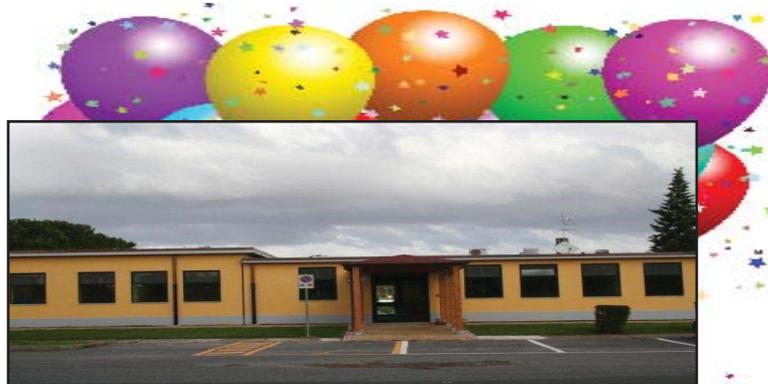
Army Community Service (ACS) is in their new home with some new smiling faces. After months and months of planning, renovation and decorating, our new facility, we are up and running -ready to serve you. Our new facility is equipped with bigger offices, a nice new conference room and a full kitchen. Along with the great new building, we have new staff members adding to our seasoned ACS veterans.

At the front desk you will meet me, Stacy Walker, the new Information and Referral Contractor. I am determined to provide you with or send you in the right direction for all the information that you need.

If it's a job or volunteer opportunities that you are looking for, look no further than Scheyda Stasik. Scheyda is the new Employment Readiness and Army Volunteer Corp Program Manager. Her classes will teach you the knowledge needed to achieve that employment position you desire. If you need some help with writing your resume, take a class with Angela Long. She is the new Program Support Contractor. Some of her classes teach you how to make the most out of your resume.

Maybe you just have some concerns about your family life? Stop on by and see Elaine Miles, our new Family Advocacy and Exceptional Family Member Program Manager, or find Candy Jenkins. She is the new FAP Educator. Together, these ladies can help you deal with any family or household concerns that you may have. If you want to talk to someone about or need to report a sexual assault, then Aida Spago is your gal. She is a highly qualified and wonderful person to talk to. She will always be very professional and keep the utmost of confidence.

Victor Arthur is the man to see if you are facing a deployment. He is our new Deployment and Mobilization Program Manager. Contact him if you or your spouse/sponsor has questions or concerns regarding deployments. Maybe you are new to the military life? Do you need help understanding the lingo that everybody except you seems to get, or do you have a concern about our community. If so, contact Britta Pederson. She is the new Army Family Action Plan and Army Family Team Building Contractor. She will teach you how to speak "Army" with confidence.



Visit us at
our new ACS
home in
building 504

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

Yellow Ribbon
Room Telephone

DSN 633-7946

CIV 050.54.7946

AER/AFAS

Telephone

335-741-5973

MFLC Telephone

329-876-2168

SARC Telephone

335-771-4989

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Interview Skills

December 11, 11:30-12:00 p.m. Bldg 428
Learn how to present yourself for an interview both physically and mentally.

RELOCATION READINESS

Benvenuti at Camp Darby

December 7, 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 childcare, but registration is required.

Sponsorship Training

December 8th, 9:00-11:00 Bldg. 428
Let us teach you how to make somebody's move to camp Darby easy as pie!

Multicultural Spouses Meeting

December 16, 11:30-2:00 Bldg 428

FAMILY ADVOCACY

Children's Playgroup

Wednesdays, 11:30-12:30 Bldg 428
An interactive and educational playgroup for service members and their families with children from birth-3 yrs.

Breast Feeding Classes

December 9 & 16, 10:30-11:30 Bldg 428

New Parent Support Group

December 9 & 23, 10:30-11:30 Bldg 428

POWER, Caring for the Caregiver Part 1

December 10, 1:00-5:00 Bldg 428
Register by 3 November

Single Parent Support Group

December 11, 3:30-4:30 Bldg 428

EFMP Roundtable

December 16, 11:45-12:45 Bldg 428

POWER, Caring for the Caregiver Part 2

December 17, 1:00-5:00 Bldg 428
Register by 17 November

ACS will be closed
25 December 2009
For Christmas.
We wish you a
Happy Holiday!!



FINANCIAL READINESS

Marriage And Money

December 3, 11:30 p.m.-12:00 p.m. Bldg 428
Learn how to handle money in a marriage .

Consumer Rights and Obligations

December 9, 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Bldg 428
Learn what you the consumer are entitled to and what your responsibilities are during this quickie class.

Investment Club

December 8, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Bldg 428

Money Management

December 10th, 11:30-12:00 Bldg 428

Housing Crisis Information

December 14th, 11:30-12:00 Bldg 428

Credit Reports

December 15, 11:30-12:00 Bldg 428

Financial Recordkeeping

December 16, 11:30-12:00 Bldg 428

Debt Liquidation

December 17, 11:30-12:00 Bldg 428

Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

AFTB training consists of three levels:
Level 1 is an introduction to the military for newcomers.
Levels 2&3 are advanced courses for Family Readiness Group (FRGs) Leaders and Volunteers.
All trainings are available online at:
www.myarmylifetoo.com
or call ACS for more information.



Intervenel Act! Motivatel
24-Hour Sexual Assault Response
Phone number: 335-771-4989

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
Overseas Collect: 484-530-5908
TTY/TDD: 1-866-607-6794
En Espanol: 1-877-888-0727

Camp Darby Events Calendar



By Margaret Robbins
FMWR Marketing

ITR

Download your very own copy of the 6-month (October thru March 2010) trip calendar today for your trip planning purposes! Log onto: www.livornomwr.com

Looking for hotel accommodations? No matter where in the world you're planning to go, you're sure to find the hotel right for you! Log onto our website and get a FREE price quote today! Log onto: www.livornomwr.com, click on "ITR". Click on the word "HOTELS".

Outdoor Recreation

Let ODR get your skis and snowboards ready for the slopes! Call ODR for more information about hot waxing and edging.

Get ready for snow season! Ski Abetone and Mount Cimone beginning on January 9.

Darby Community Club

What are you doing on New Year's Eve? Make your plans not to miss the Rock'n New Years Eve Party at the DCC. This special evening promises loads of good times! Tickets go on sale November 30. For more information, call 633-7855.

Every Thursday is Karaoke Night with Bibi at the Club. Stop singing in the shower and impress your friends too! Fun starts at 6:30 p.m.

The Gazebo Grill is temporarily closed. At this moment, they are currently recruiting for new contractors/operators. For more information, call NAF Contracting Office at DSN 633-7726.

Sports and Fitness

Shaolin Kung Fu classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Prices are reduced from \$10 to \$8. Call 633-7440 for info.

Chocolate madness is coming to Beauty & Spa in

December! Can you imagine a chocolate massage? How about a chocolate facial or chocolate body scrub or how about a chocolate hand mask? Contact Beauty & Spa for more info. Makes a great holiday gift!

Darby Lanes

Looking for a place to hold a Unit Holiday Party? Look no further! Party packages are available for you! Call 633-7458 for more information.

Kid's birthdays? No problem! Darby Lanes offers party packages to take the hassle out of children's birthday party planning.

ACS

Do you have an issue or concern? The Army Family Action Plan is here for you. The Army Family Action Plan is designed to promote better standards of living for service members, civilians and Family members. Let the community leaders know what's effective and how it can be improved. How do you submit an issue?

1. Email: afap@eur.army.mil
2. Online at http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil/AFAP_Form.asp (click on AFAP)
3. Take your issue to ACS
4. Drop in the black boxes located the Library, Laundromat, Post Gym, Health Clinic or Post Office. Let your voice be heard! For more information, call ACS at 633-7084.

In order to better serve the Camp Darby Community, you are kindly invited to complete the Army Community Service Needs Assessment which will only take a couple of minutes to complete. Your survey will be treated as confidential and only group statistics will be reported. Follow this link to complete the survey: www.myarmylifetoo.com/survey_livorno

CYS

GET INVOLVED TODAY! CYS Sports & Fitness is looking for volunteer sport coaches for: Gymnastics, Tennis, Martial Arts, Golf, In-line skating, Bowling, Racquetball, Track, Table Tennis, Skiing, Swimming, Ice Skating, Wrestling and Archery. Can you help? Call 633-7681 for details.

Trees

Many artificial trees are fire resistant. If you buy one, look for a statement specifying this protection.

A fresh tree will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard than a dry tree. To check for freshness, remember:

- A fresh tree is green.
- Fresh needles are hard to pull from branches.
- When bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break.
- The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin.
- When the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that tree is too dry.

Place tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Heated rooms dry trees out rapidly, creating fire hazards.

Cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption. Trim away branches as necessary to set tree trunk in the base of a sturdy, water-holding stand with wide spread feet. Keep the stand filled with water while the tree is indoors.

Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways. Use thin guy-wires to secure a large tree to walls or ceiling. These wires are almost invisible.

"SNOW"

Artificial snow sprays can irritate lungs if inhaled. To avoid injury, read container labels; follow directions carefully.

Lights

Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify them by the label from an independent testing laboratory.

Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using.

Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, houses, walls or other firm support to protect from wind damage.

Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord.

Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Lights could short and start a fire.

Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.

The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and any person touching a branch could be electrocuted! To avoid this danger, use colored spotlights above or beside a tree, never fastened onto it!

Keep "bubbling" lights away from children. These lights with their bright colors and bubbling movement can tempt curious children to break candle-shaped glass, which can cut, and attempt to drink liquid, which contains a hazardous chemical.

**Holiday
Decoration
Safety
Tips**

A publication of the U.S. Consumer
Product Safety Commission

CP8C-811

Focus on Fire Safety



FEMA

U.S. Fire Administration

Holiday Fire Safety

With the onset of the holiday season, it is important to focus on fire safety and prevention. The celebration of the season brings with it increased usage of electric lights, decorations, candles, and the ever popular Christmas tree, all of which can be potential fire hazards. Additionally, cooking fires increase during the holidays as families and friends gather to celebrate. By following general fire safety precautions related to cooking, candle usage, and decorations, ... potential fires, deaths, and injuries remain preventable.



Enter Text Here

For information and resources on this subject visit
www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus