



VOL. III, Issue 3

February 6, 2009

www.usag.livorno.army.mil

African-American History Month

Feb. 13 is the “Old School vs. New School” basketball tournament at the fitness center beginning at 5 p.m.

The Black History month celebrations will conclude on Feb. 27 with a food tasting event at the Darby Community Club beginning at 6 p.m.

March is Women's History Month

The next planning meeting is Wed, Feb. 11 at 3:30 p.m. at ACS. Please join us.

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Safely moving Heavy Brigade Combat Team track vehicles

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs.

Camp Darby units 839th Transportation Battalion and 3rd Battalion, 405th Army Field Support Brigade worked ardently together to ensure the successful arrival and transportation of 144 vehicles belonging to the 172nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team Left Behind Equipment from the Port of Livorno to Leghorn Army Depot for repair.

839th Trans Bn. coordinated the download of the ship and the staging of the equipment for onward movement with the port authority, ship, and the contracted stevedores, according to Lt. Col. Robert King, 839th Trans Bn.; while 3/405 AFSB Commander, Lt. Col. Roger L. McCreery oversaw the participating members of the 3/405 AFSB discharged the vessel, served as technical subject matter experts for the subject equipment and served as operators during the convoy to Camp Darby.

“A mission like this absolutely requires teamwork from all the key organizations in order to accomplish the mission,” said King. “Detailed communications with our host nation partners was critical to insure that all the requirements have been met prior to operation.”

McCreery added that a focus on safety, communication and the technical competency of all involved were the central characteristics to successful accomplishment of the mission.

“The operation involved large groups of people from various organizations such as 3/405th AFSB, 839th Transportation Battalion, 497th Movement Control Team, USAG Livorno, Italian Base Commander, local law enforcement, port authorities and contractors Sintemar all operating over a multi-day/multi-shift period of time,” said McCreery. “Success required a diligent, focused effort by all because armor equipment, due to the sizes and weights involved, is inherently dangerous to operate and mistakes often result in catastrophic consequences.”

In addition to making sure coordination was complete across the board, the sheer task of



839th Transportation Bn. Employees unload tracked vehicles from a ship at the Livorno Port in Livorno, Italy.

moving tracked vehicles in a short window of time was a challenge.

“It was important to get the initial 28 vehicles off the vessel quickly so that the vessel could be moved, allowing another ship to exit the Port of Livorno and 839th Terminal Manager Franco Infante provided the motivation and expertise to get the vessel downloaded in time to let other traffic pass in the port,” said King.

Once off the ship, the vehicles then had to make the journey from the port to the base.

“In order to minimizing disruption to the local population and avoiding maneuver damage, we conducted route reconnaissance and identifying high risk areas such as interchange loops and differences of height between paved surfaces at critical areas such as points where turns would be negotiated and coupled with the technical expertise of the operators, effectively mitigated this risk; there was no disturbance to the local populace and no maneuver damage noted during the operation,” said McCreery.

Now that these 172 HBCT vehicles are being positioned at Leghorn Army Depot as Left Behind Equipment during the unit's deployment to southwest Asia, according to McCreery, 3/405th AFSB will bring the vehicles to 10/20 standard, store, maintain, and issue the vehicles back to the unit upon its return from deployment.

Exploring diversity daily keeps community on their toes

Story and photo by Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez, the USAG Livorno Command Sgt. Maj., used his creativity and ingenuity to come up with a new way to help educate the Camp Darby community about African-American Heritage Month. He decided to do a daily Trivia question via email to those on the Camp Darby email distribution list with winners receiving small prizes donated from AAFES and DECA vendors.

“I thought in my mind— ‘is there another medium that we could use to educate the whole community?’” said Rodriguez, explaining how he came up with the idea for the trivia contest. “My intent is to allow all of those working on Camp Darby to learn while they research and at the same time gives them a better appreciation for the African-American heritage.”

Stacy Walker, who correctly identified Vernon Baker as an answer to one days trivia said she has used this opportunity to further educate her children.

“My son had to do a report for school and he wanted to do a report on Martin Luther King, Jr, along with the other 27 children in his class, but I insisted that he learn about some of the great men who served in the Buffalo Soldier, like Vernon Baker,” said Walker. “It’s important to have a complete history and to look beyond the limited, mainstream African-American history which is typically taught in the schools.”

During the cake cutting ceremony, Feb. 2, kicking off African-American heritage month, USAG Livorno Commander, Lt.Col. Steven Cade told gatherers that “these little nuggets of knowledge are a unique way to learn about history, where we came from and where we are today.”

Rodriquez added that Cpt. Nathaniel Paschal from

the Livorno Unit Health Clinic did all the research for the questions and the trivia challenge is open to all personnel with valid ID Cards and authorized to purchase in the Commissary and PX may participate, but only once per day. Past winners may continue to participate.

Upon receipt of the daily challenge, bring written answers to the Community Mail Room and place it in the designated cardboard box before 5 p.m. Make sure to add your name, email address and telephone number. Do not email your answers, nor call AFN with your answers.

Answer sheets will be pulled at random, the first person with the correct answer is the winner and will be announced the next day. Winner will need to call 633-7505 upon notification.

To read past questions and answers, visit www.usag.livorno.army.mil and click on the African-American History Month banner.



(Left to right) 1st. Sgt. Ray Laverenz, Headquarters and Headquarter Detachment USAG Livorno, Air Force Master Sgt. James Poole, 31st Munitions Squadron First Sergeant, Mary Head, African-American heritage month committee member, Lt. Col. Steven Cade, USAG Livorno commander gather with Camp Darby community members at the Darby Community Club on Feb. 2, to celebrate the beginning of African-American Heritage month with a cake cutting ceremony.



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

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Free gym classes at lunch time

Story and photo by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Sometimes the frantic life style, the million things to do and a little bit of laziness distract us from realizing the importance of taking care of our selves, our body and mental wellness, and also our body good shape. At Camp Darby during lunch time, Eileen Laverenz offers a variety of classes for free and a unique chance to give fitness a try.

“I teaching fitness in the group atmosphere and these classes are a good way for people to inspire and motivate each other while making exercising more fun and rewarding,” said Laverenz.

Patrizia De Sanctis, Transportation assistant, 839th Transportation Battalion, said she normally exercises on cross training machines, but when she learned about these classes offered for free, she was curious to try them.

“I wanted to give it a try- it was just perfect for me and my needs, and I love working out in groups” said De Sanctis.

Laverenz added that the diversity and choice of classes offered at the gym gives an opportunity for all levels of fitness to participate, classes focus on all components of fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular strength and flexibility.

The program offers a variety of choices the “Noon tune up” class on Tuesdays, a class that rev up metabolism, followed by strength training, “Take it on the road” Wednesday class is a cycling class to cross train bodies, Thursdays is “War in the core” a half cardio kickboxing, half core strength class, and “Step it out” on Friday, a basic step class for great training workout.

“Another very important benefit that we do not think about very often is stress relief,” said Laverenz. “By working out and giving the body a healthy physical stress, it can help to relieve and better tolerate those mental stress that pop up in everyday life; plus exercise relaxes the body and releases the “Feel good” hormones to make you a happier person.”



Franca Millis enjoys getting in shape with a free kick boxing class offered at the Camp Darby Fitness Center every Thursday at noon.

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Girl Scouts celebrate new home with "Passport to Pisa" program

By Sgt. Ryan Hall

American Forces Network Livorno

Girl Scouts from all over Europe descended on Camp Darby for the unfurling of the United States of America Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic colors at their new headquarters. Over two hundred girls representing 28 troops from across Europe took part in the Passport to Pisa Program, according to Margaret Renwand, CEO of USA Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic.

U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Commander, Lt. Col. Steven Cade added that this was a great opportunity for girls all across Europe to grow and learn within the Girl Scout organization, while experiencing the new and different cultural aspects of life in Tuscany.

"We are proud that they have chosen Camp Darby as the location to host their event," said Cade. "We have a great community that prides itself in hospitality and opportunities to see the best of Italy- that's why Camp Darby is becoming Europe's Southern Destination of Choice."

For Kendra Bader, from troop 63 from Kaiserslautern, Germany, it was a chance to expand her horizons.

"This event is good for your education and it gives you the chance to have fun and communicate with other girls around the world," said Bader. "I like earning badges and Girl Scouts has really taught me how to get out and meet new people."

Girl Scout mom Karen Pryor added she was happy Girl Scouts offered great programs to the girls because of what the scouting experience gave her.

"Girl Scouts gave me opportunities and a chance to build my confidence and try things that I probably wouldn't have gotten a chance to try," said Pryor. "I'm glad my daughter is getting the chance to do adventurous things she might not otherwise try."

Girl Scouts of the USA has been making a difference in daughters of service members in Europe since 1951 when they originally were located in Heidelberg, Germany. Upcoming Europe-wide Girl Scout events include the annual cookie sales that will begin in February and Campeggio Bosco Ridente, the summer Girl Scout resident camp at Camp Darby.



(Top to bottom) Staff Sgt. Victor Flores, 511th Military Police platoon, teaches Girl Scouts how to defend themselves against attacks. Erin Laverenz learns how to explore her inner diva. (left) Lori King teaches Girl Scouts about CPR. (Photo by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs)

For more information about the USA Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic, visit www.usagso-na.org.

ANOTHER ROTA TRANSLOAD SUCCESS

Article and photo by Drew Maul
839th Transportation
Battalion TB Intern

■ UH-60 Blackhawks pier side on a foggy Rota morning

Several times a year, the 839th Transportation Battalion deploys a team to conduct operations at Naval Station Rota, Spain. The 839th supports deployments and redeployments, as well as training missions, which require the unique skill-sets possessed by the men and women deployed by the Battalion. Missions range in length from two weeks, to a few days, all depending on the varying contracting requirements, piece counts, and equipments types, which each mission presents.

Rota is an ideal trans-load point due to the Naval Station's strategic location in Southern Europe, with a port facility on the Atlantic Ocean, and an airfield capable of supporting major airframes such as the C-5 and C-17. This enables deploying and redeploying units to use the port for sealift, and the airfield for airlift, in a straight-line deployment and redeployment from the East Coast, to theater, and back.

In the case of the most recent mission handled by 839th, the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade from Fort Campbell, Kentucky redeployed from OEF utilized Strategic Airlift to NS Rota, unloaded their equipment from the aircraft, and rolled it right to the staging area at the port, ready for roll-on operations. Contracted stevedore support details were secured by the Italy Detachment Director, providing specialized labor for actual loading of the helicopters, which made up the majority of the cargo of the redeploying unit.

In coordination with our partners from the Theater Aviation Sustainment Manager – Europe (TASM-E), Naval Station Rota, and personnel from the supported unit, the mission plan was executed flawlessly. Some unique challenges were faced due to the vessel type provided, and the lack of lifting equipment available pier side at NS Rota. Instead of an LMSR, or other vessel that has built in Lift-on - Lift-off capability, a car carrier was chartered by MSC forcing the entire operation to be Roll-on. The loading of approximately 60 helicopters was completed in less than four hours, far exceeding the time requirements standards of a LoLo operation.

Not having the capability for LoLo forced Battalion personnel to come up with some innovative ways to load some exceptionally heavy 20' containers, weighing in between 20 and 35,000lbs. Available pier side, provided by NS Rota, were two 25K forklifts, each by themselves unable to handle such a large load. Due to the total lack of lifting capability, and no dolly sets, NS Rota equipment was utilized to successfully roll the containers up on to the ship.

Once aboard, the forklifts were brought on to lift the containers off the trailers, but quickly height clearance issues appeared. After some troubleshooting, a gap was discovered between support beams in the ceiling of the deck enabling the forklifts to take advantage of a few extra inches, and lift the container just enough to allow its trailer to be removed, and successfully placed on the deck. This innovative approach enabled the successful completion of the mission, loading the entire inventory of equipment in less than 14 hours.

839th personnel utilize their skill, in coordination with units, vessel, and contracted support, at Naval Station Rota and continue to successfully and safely complete missions both in Rota and across the Mediterranean.

CPSC Warns of Deadly Fire and Carbon Monoxide Hazards with Winter Home Heating

WASHINGTON, D.C. - According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), there have been more than 150 residential fires that resulted in more than 200 deaths since Thanksgiving. These statistics have led the USFA and fire chiefs to declare the holiday season and start of the new year as one of the deadliest in recent memory.

As families look for ways to save money in these tough economic times, the concern over additional fire deaths and carbon monoxide poisonings from alternative heating sources is heightened. The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is urging consumers to keep safety in mind when it comes to heating their homes this winter.

Home heating equipment is among the top causes of fires and CO poisonings. From 2003 through 2005, there was an annual average of 57,300 fires and 270 fire deaths associated with portable heaters, central heating systems, and fireplaces and chimneys. There were also 68 deaths, on average, from carbon monoxide poisoning each year associated with these products.

CPSC urges consumers to:

- Schedule a professional inspection each year of all fuel-burning home heating systems, including furnaces, boilers, fireplaces, wood stoves, water heaters, chimneys, flues and vents.
- Take precautions when using space heaters, fireplaces or other heating sources to help stay warm this winter.
- **Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in the home and check that the batteries are fresh and working.**

2009 is just weeks old, yet there have already been dozens of deaths from fires in the home. Reports of residential fire deaths in January include:

- Eight people died including a mother, her boyfriend and her four sons age 6 months to 10 years old, in their Richland, New York home. There were no smoke alarms in the home.
- A woman was killed in her Detroit home by a fire believed to have been caused by a space heater

Continued on page 7

Products Recently Recalled

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers not to take **Venom HYPERDRIVE 3.0**, a product sold as a dietary supplement and containing sibutramine. Sibutramine, a controlled substance with risks for abuse or addiction, is a potent drug that poses potential safety risks.

The product was sold via distributors and in retail stores nationwide as well as in Canada, Poland, Sweden, Hungary, South Africa, the Netherlands, Australia, France and the United Kingdom. The product was packaged in red plastic bottles containing 90 capsules each with the UPC# 094922534743.

Consumers who have this product should stop taking it immediately and contact their health care professional if they have experienced any adverse effects. Consumers can contact the company at legal@alrindustries.com to receive further instructions for returning the product and to ask any questions.

DDI Inc. Recalls Toy Construction Play Sets Due to Violation of Lead Paint Standard. The recall involves the 136-piece Mega Construction Play Set (item# 911346) and includes various construction equipment, vehicles, buildings and roads. The play sets are packaged in a black and yellow box with the word "Builder" printed in the upper left hand corner of the package. Consumers should immediately take the recalled play sets away from children and contact the firm for a refund of the purchase price.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact DDI at (800) 220-2390 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or visit the firm's Web site at www.ddiretail.com

The Hain Celestial Group Inc, a West Chester, Penn. firm, is recalling approximately 983,700 pounds of frozen chicken entrees in commerce because they contain peanut products recalled by the Peanut Corporation of America, which is the focus of a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today.

- 10 ounce cartons of Ethnic Gourmet Chicken Pad Thai, which contains peanut sauce and peanuts as garnish. UPC code # 18687-70054, lot codes "WC7" and "WC8"
- 12 ounce bowls of Trader Ming's Spicy Kung Pao Chicken, which contains crushed and whole peanuts as garnish. UPC code 0379526, lot codes "WC7M" and "WC8"

The shipping containers bear the establishment number "P-9744" printed on the side of the boxes. Consumers and media with questions about the recall may contact the company's toll-free number at (800) -739-4838.

For more information visit www.recalls.gov

DA 4755 -Hazard Reporting. Italian and English available. Anonymous or not. Online at:http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/management/so_language.asp

Winter home safety*Cont. from pg. 6*

that was too close to a chair.

- Three people, including 13- and 15-year-old sisters and their older male relative, died in their Oklahoma home. Space heaters and an electric stove were being used for heat.

CPSC urges consumers to follow these home heating safety tips:

Space heaters:

- Place space heaters on a level, hard and nonflammable surface (such as a ceramic tile floor), not on rugs or carpets or near bedding or drapes. Keep the heater at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture and other flammable materials. Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- To prevent the risk of fire, NEVER leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or place a space heater close to any sleeping person. Turn the heater off if you leave the area.
- Never use gasoline in a kerosene space heater. Even small amounts of gasoline mixed with kerosene can increase the risk of a fire.
- Use a space heater that has been tested to the latest

safety standards and certified by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory. These heaters will have the most up-to-date safety features; older space heaters may not meet the newer safety standards. An unvented gas space heater that meets current safety standards will shut off if oxygen levels fall too low. Do not use portable propane space heaters indoors or in any confined space unless they are specifically designed for indoor use. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for proper use.

Fireplaces:

- Have flues and chimneys inspected for leakage and blockage by creosote or debris.
- Open the fireplace damper before lighting a fire and keep it open until the ashes are cool. An open damper may help prevent build-up of poisonous gases inside the home.

Store fireplace ashes in a fire resistant container and cover it with a lid. Keep the container outdoors and away from combustibles.

Stoves and Ovens:

- Never use electric or gas stoves to heat the home. They are not intended for that purpose and can cause fires and CO poisoning.

Loss

▶ A Soldier was killed and four others were injured in a vehicle accident January 17 at approximately 0210 local near Lagrange, Ga. The Soldier was driving a Chevrolet Trail Blazer with four other Soldier passengers, when he lost control of the vehicle, exited the roadway and crashed. Of the remaining four passengers, one is in critical condition, one is in stable condition and two had non-life threatening injuries. The Soldier was wearing his seatbelt.

▶ A Soldier was killed and another injured in a vehicle accident January 17 at approximately 0500 local on Fort Lewis, Wash. The Soldier was a passenger in a 2008 Dodge Caliber being driven by another Soldier. The driver lost control of the vehicle in a curve, exited the roadway and rolled over several times. Speed and alcohol were reported as contributing factors.

▶ A Soldier was killed in an Army Motor Vehicle (AMV) accident January 22 at approximately 1815 local in Iraq. The Soldier was the gunner of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle (MRAP). The vehicle was proceeding through a construction area when it overturned into a ditch and pinned the Soldier underneath.

Safety Reflection
 • When behind the wheel, both on and off duty, Soldiers' risk assessments affect not only their personal safety, but also the safety and welfare of every passenger.

GO! RISK?
<http://safety.army.mil>

PURS Preliminary LOSS REPORTS
 for the Week of January 16-22, 2009

3
 U.S. SOLDIERS DIED IN ACCIDENTS

- 5 Soldiers Injured
- 1 MRAP Damaged

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Camp Darby

February 2009

VOICE

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:

AFAP Still Has Needs

Having a "Smooth" Move

Calendar of ACS Events

Painting Class Still Taking Students

Army Family Action Plan... making a difference for 25 years

By Jenn Houston

Information Referral Contractor

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) is celebrating 25 years of hard work in getting literally hundreds of legislative, regulatory and policy changes involving the Army as well as improving many programs and their associated funding.

The annual AFAP conference brings together installation members to discuss base wide and quality of life issues. By the end of the conference, those issues would have realistic remedies that will have a positive impact for the community or would be funneled up Regionally. Past issues have brought about changes in Carry-over Leave and increasing the SGLI

Camp Darby's AFAP Conference will take place on March 4-5. Delegates from every unit on Post will meet at the DCC to discuss our base issues. Please help by taking the time to submit your issues with recommendations in any of the drop off locations.

If you would like to be a delegate in the Camp Darby AFAP Conference March 4-5, please contact ACS no later than Feb. 10



Deadline for AFAP Issue Submission is Tuesday, Feb. 24 . Visit www.usag.livorno.army.mil and click on submit AFAP issue.

Are you "PCSing"? Attending smooth move can save you time and energy!

Whether it will be your first "PCS" or your 6th, just the idea can be daunting. On Feb. 11, ACS will hold its "Smooth Move" briefing to help elevate some of the stress felt by all affected by the change of station.

During this briefing, Relocation Readiness personnel will help prepare you for your departure from Camp Darby with base specific recommendations that way you will not be left wondering who you turn in your AFN Decoder to or when you should schedule your Housing inspection. It is our duty to make sure that you are full prepared so that you do not encounter any hidden obstacles while you are wrapping up your out-processing checklist.

Sign up today at ACS or call 633-7084 for more information.



Visit Us Online at www.livornomwr.com

February 2009



Classes & Seminars

RELOCATION READINESS**Benvenuti at Camp Darby**

March 2, 8:15 a.m. at CSM Shields

Conference Room

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.

Smooth Move/Levy Briefing

Feb. 11, 8:30 a.m. at ACS

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.

ARMY VOLUNTEER CORPS**Volunteer Knowledge Training**

Feb. 13, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS

Join the ranks and add your skills to Team Darby!

EMPLOYMENT READINESS**Interview Skills Training**

Feb. 27, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS

Get tips on putting your best foot forward.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT**Reintegration, Relationships & PTSD**

Feb. 11, 18 at 10:30 a.m. at ACS

Tips on how to better manage family relationships following a deployment. Please RSVP at ACS for this class.

FAMILY ADVOCACY**Children's Playgroup**

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the

Chapel Nursery

Military One Source

Military OneSource provides free private services and information:

- Counseling
 - Educational Materials
 - Interpretation/Translation
- Statewide: 1-800-342-9647
Overseas: 800-3429-6477
Overseas Colled: 484-530-5908
TTY/TDD: 1-866-607-6794
En Espanol: 1-877-888-0727

FINANCIAL READINESS**Marriage and Money**

Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. at ACS

Strengthen your marriage and your finances with this class.

Consumer Rights and Obligations

Feb. 18, 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m. at ACS

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

Debt Liquidation

Feb. 17, 1:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. at ACS

Learn the benefits of TSP in this quickie class.

Banking and Credit Union Services

Feb. 12, 12:00 p.m.-12:30 p.m. at ACS

Learn which banking option is best for you.

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*

Intervene! Act! Motivate!
24-Hour Sexual Assault Response
Phone number: 335-771-4989

Yellow Ribbon Room Opening in February!

New building features:

Full kitchen complete with grill, crock pot, tableware, etc.

Conference Room that's perfect for meetings

TV with VCR/DVD player, Xbox 360, Internet capabilities

Kids Room stocked with new toys and MORE!

Sponsorship Training

Feb. 10, 12, at 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Learn what it takes to be a great sponsor.

This class will discuss military sponsorship and what it takes to introduce your new unit member not only the base but to Italy.

Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

Feb. 18-19 time and location to be announced.

Level 1 is an introduction to the military for newcomers.

All trainings are also available online at:

www.myarmylifetoo.com

Introduction to Painting Class...and it's free!

Start off the new year getting in touch with your inner artist! ACS is now offering an introduction to painting class for beginner artists. Initial classes will cover the basics,

starting with what supplies will be needed (students must buy their own), proper color blending, shading techniques, and how to sketch ideas.

Learn how to paint your

ideas on canvas and add a little color to your life!

Tuesdays

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

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Thursdays

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

-in building 841

Hot events for Single Service Members

23rd Ski Competition (Slalom)

Test your skinning skills against Italian and allied armed forces active and retired officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted and their family members; sports associations' members and supporters Feb. 15 at Mount Verena (about 40 north of Vicenza).

Enrollment fee: 10 euro. Reduced fee for families (10 euro for the first one, 8 euro for the second and 5 euro for the other family members); reduced for sports associations with more than 10 members: 5 euro each. Deadline for enrollment is Feb. 12 at 6 p.m. You can enroll at: UNUCI Center, Via Milano, 37. 0444-321381; unucivicenza@infinito.it.

Paint Ball

Got a team or looking for friends to play paintball with? If you want more info about Paintball Sports in the Aviano area call: (+39) 349 / 4311235 or contact by mail to: monroeagram@yahoo.com 33081 Aviano (PN), Friuli (Italy) www.paintballsports.it

Live Music Concerts

All American Rejects	Feb. 6	Musicdrome, Milan
Oasis	Feb. 24	Nelson Mandela Forum, Florence
Nashville Pussy & Supersuckers	March 28	Rock Planet, Pinarella di Cervia
Everlife	April 1	Zoe Club, Milan
Bob Dylan	April 18	Nelson Mandela Forum, Florence
Eagles	June 13	MediolanumForum di Milano, Milan
Coldplay	Aug. 31	Stadio Friuli di Udine

Ticket and concert information can be found on www.ticketone.it

Skydiving in Italy

Who wouldn't want to jump out of a perfectly good airplane that plans on landing safely? Learn how to Skydive in Lucca. For more information visit www.paracadutismolucca.it. English version is available on the web.

Next Boss meeting : Feb. 11 at the Boss lounge

Upcoming events:

Ski and snowboard free. Check out the free ski or snowboard rental and transportation at ODR.

Valentine's Day Roses: Support BOSS and show your loved one you care by purchasing a dozen red long stem roses for \$45 from BOSS. Reserve your flowers Feb. 2-12. Flowers will be delivered on Friday the 13th on Camp Darby and the Depot.



University of Maryland University College *Europe*

Field Study available in Brussels, Paris and Rome

HEIDELBERG, Germany--University of Maryland University College Europe (UMUC Europe) announces two 3-credit undergraduate field study courses offered this Spring from 14-21 March: Northern Renaissance Art in Brussels and Paris and Expatriate Writers in Rome: 1800-Present. Specific course information is as follows:

Northern Renaissance Art in Brussels and Paris:

This course familiarizes students with artistic events in the Netherlands and northern France during the 15th and 16th centuries.

While staying in the region of Flanders, students will visit the Musies Royaux, the Museum of Ancient Art, the Royal Library, and Institute for Restoration in Brussels; and the National Library, Louvre, and Musée Jacquemart-Andri in Paris. There will also be day trips to Bruges, Gent, and Antwerp.

Expatriate Writers in Rome:

1800-Present: Students will stay in the historical center of Rome and explore British and American responses to the eternal city through different genres: travel writing, letters, a novel, a novella, a short story, and selected poetry. Students will begin with the 18th century grand tour, read the Romantic poets of the early 19th century, and then follow in the footsteps of early modern writers by visiting the Forum, the Palatine, Colosseum, Baths of Caracalla, and Circus Maximus as previous writers did.

For more information, please visit

www.ed.umuc.edu/undergrad/field_study, contact your local UMUC field representative, or contact UMUC Europe at DSN 314-370-6762, CIV +49-(0)6221-3780, www.ed.umuc.edu.





VOTECH ONLINE CLASSES

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 9, 2009

CLASSES START FEBRUARY 23, 2009

NO LATE REGISTRATION FOR ONLINE COURSES

eArmyU and Active Army TA students must apply and register for courses through the [GoArmyEd portal](#).

Start date is February 23, 2009, end date for 8-week courses is April 17, 2009.

Business Administration and Management

BMGT1301 TC001 19988 186275 Supervision
 HRPO2301 TC002 20058 186345 Human Resources Management

Computer Science

ITMT1355 TC016 23547 189880 Plan Ms Server 2003 Network **(Self-Paced)**
 ITMT1400 TC020 23553 189886 Implement MS Win XP Pro **(Self-Paced)**
 ITMT1440 TC016 23542 189875 Mgt & Maint MS Srv 2003 Envir **(Self-Paced)**
 ITNW1358 TC020 23559 189892 Network+ **(Self-Paced)**
 ITSY1442 TC016 23536 189868 Information Techn Security **(Self-Paced)**

Early Childhood Professions

CDEC1319 TC001 21245 187550 Child Guidance
 CDEC2341 TC001 21258 187563 The School Age Child
 TECA1318 TC001 21267 187572 Wellness of the Young Child

Kinesiology/Wellness

KINE1301 TC004 21042 187347 Intro to Physical Fit & Sport

Protective Services

CJCR1304 TC001 18663 184922 Probation and Parole
 CJLE1333 TC001 18671 184930 Traffic Law and Investigation
 CJLE1345 TD002 13668 179886 Intermed Crime Scene Invest
 CJSA1318 TC001 18679 184938 Court Management
 CJSA1348 TC001 18687 184946 Ethics in Criminal Justice
 CJSA1348 TC002 18692 184951 Ethics in Criminal Justice
 CJSA2331 TC001 18698 184957 Child Abuse: Prevent/Invest
 CJSA2331 TC002 18702 184961 Child Abuse: Prevent/Invest
 CRIJ1301 TC001 18708 184967 Introduction Criminal Justice **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ1301 TC002 18712 184971 Introduction Criminal Justice **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ1301 TC003 18724 184983 Introduction Criminal Justice **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ1306 TC001 19295 185580 Court System and Practices
 CRIJ1307 TC001 19305 185590 Crime in America
 CRIJ1307 TC002 19310 185595 Crime in America
 CRIJ1310 TC001 19320 185605 Fundamentals of Criminal Law
 CRIJ1310 TC002 19324 185609 Fundamentals of Criminal Law
 CRIJ1310 TD004 13664 179882 Fundamentals of Criminal Law
 CRIJ1313 TC001 19549 185834 Juvenile Justice System **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ1313 TC002 19559 185844 Juvenile Justice System **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ1313 TD004 13666 179884 Juvenile Justice System
 CRIJ2301 TD002 13665 179883 Comm Resources in Corrections
 CRIJ2314 TC001 19569 185854 Criminal Investigation
 CRIJ2323 TC001 19580 185865 Legal Aspects Law Enforcement **(Self-Paced)**
 CRIJ2328 TC001 19591 185876 Police Systems and Practices

www.europe.ctcd.edu

www.ctcd.edu

Peanut Butter product recalls

By Gerri Young

DeCA Europe Public Affairs Officer

Items affected by the U.S. nationwide peanut butter recall were quickly pulled from all commissary shelves and will remain on hold pending further notification. DeCA continually works with military public health officers and food safety specialists to handle all matters relating to food alerts and recalls.

These products are part of several voluntary manufacturers' recalls under advisement of the Food and Drug Administration following an outbreak of salmonella in the U.S. involving peanut butter and peanut paste supplied by the Peanut Corporation of America. While the products have not been linked to this outbreak and no cases have been directly connected to these products, the voluntary recall is made in the interest of safety and quality.

Customers are advised not to consume these products. Commissary customers who may have these products at home from an earlier purchase may bring them back to the commissary if they so choose. A full refund will be made.

This information sheet is provided as quick reference material in a fast-changing scenario surrounding the peanut butter food alert/recall. At this writing, the following items covered by the recent manufacturers' voluntary recalls have been pulled from commissary shelves.

PRODUCT REMOVED FROM SALE	UPC #
ZonePerfect Health Foods Chocolate Peanut Butter Bar	63810220101
Clif Crunchy Peanut Butter Bar	72225210120
Clif Health Foods Chocolate Chip Peanut Bar	72225210130
Luna Nutz Over Chocolate Bar	72225210310
Keebler Cheese and Peanut Butter Crackers	03010047324
Keebler Toast and Peanut Butter Crackers	03010047357
Austin Cheese and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978340921
Austin Toast and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978340922
Austin Cheese and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978348801
Austin Toast and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978348802
Austin Cheese and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978325875
Austin Toast and Peanut Butter Crackers	07978325884
Austin Snack Cracker Variety Tray	07978348635
NOTE: IMPACTED AUSTIN AND KEEBLER CRACKER PACKAGES COME IN SIZES FROM 7.4 OZ TO 62.1 OZ CLUB PACKS	

For full information on salmonella and listing of recalled products, consult this link <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html>. The listing included on this site is extensive. To use the search feature it offers, understand the most UPC numbers are not included in the database. Make sure you type the brand name correctly or it will not be found. You may also look at the complete Excel database offered on the site in alphabetical order by brand. Only the items listed in table above are normally carried by DeCA Europe.

Military Saves Week 22 February - 1 March 2009

Get ready for Military Saves Week 2009!. If you have not taken the saver pledge and made a commitment to spread the savings message, look for the pledge link on our website at: <http://www.militarysaves.org/> and enroll today.

Take the Saver Pledge: *I will help my self by saving money, reducing debt, and building wealth over time. I will help my family and my country by encouraging other Americans to Build Wealth, Not Debt.*

If you have taken the pledge, use the week as a reminder to make a **AAA check up:**

1. Yearly reminder to **Assess** your savings status
2. **Act** to improve
3. When you act, act **Automatically**--through automatic saving

DO's and DON'T for Sauna Use:

DO's:

- Shower before using Sauna
- Always use bathing suit or equivalent
- Always use towel to sit on

DON'T

- Do not wear shoes
- Do not wear clothing or rubber sweat suits
- Do not pour water on the sauna rocks (damage may occur)

Pregnant women and persons in poor health should consult with physician before use.

Second and third Vehicle registration

Vehicle registration records are going to be inspected by the Pisa Customs and one of the items that they are going to be looking for are road tax payments. If you have a second or third vehicle registered make sure that your payments are up to date if not please come in to update them in order avoid possible penalty charges. DSN: 633-7587

Dietician visiting Camp Darby

The dietician from the Vicenza Health Center will be available for appointments at the USAHC-Livorno on Feb. 19. If interested, please call the reception desk at 633-7357 for an appointment.

To make an appointment call the Livorno Army Health Clinic at DSN 633-7257

Health and Wellness Fair

Come to the Fitness Center March 19, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. to learn ways to improve your health.

Railroad Strike: Feb.6, all day

Your opinion is important

We need your issues for the upcoming Army Family Action Plan. Forms can be found at ACS, the post office and the laundry mat and online or usaglacs@eur.army.mil or log onto www.usag.livorno.army.mil and click on CAC. For more information, call the ACS at 633-7084.



THE YEAR OF THE NCO

Congratulations to Camp Darby Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter: SSG Christopher Lemaire, 511th MP Platoon



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas

Camp Darby Calendar of Events

Feb. 3

*Black History Month Kick-off Celebration at noon in the PX plaza

Feb. 11

*Special children's story hour (for children ages 3 to 5 years) at the library at 10:00 a.m.

Feb. 13

*Celebrate and improve knowledge about Black History Month (for children ages 6 to 12 years) at the library at 3:00 p.m.

*Celebrate Black History Month with a Basketball Game "Old School vs New School" at the Fitness Center at 5:00 p.m.

Feb. 25

*Special children's story hour (for children ages 3 to 5 years) at the library at 10:00 a.m.

Feb. 27

*Black History Month Food Tasting at the Darby Community Club beginning at 6:00 p.m. with DJ Goody

2009

ITR

633-7589

- Agriturismo Dinner for Sweethearts - Make a date with your significant other and enjoy a relaxing dinner at a beautiful local country farm on Feb. 14.
- Viareggio Carnivale Feb. 8, 15, 22
- Barberino Design Outlet Shopping, Feb. 21
- Pistoia Zoo trip Feb. 28
- Assisi Trip March 7
- Rome in a day, March 14
- Download a copy of the 6-month (October 2008 through March 2009) trip calendar today! Log onto: www.livornomwr.com.

Darby Community Club

633-7855

- Texas Hold'em at the Darby Community Club. Free pasta to all Texas Hold'em players on Feb. 6, 13, 20.
- Stop singing in the shower. Come and sing at the DCC and impress your friends on Feb. 12.
- Sweetheart steak dinner on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation

633-7775

- Ski trips available every Saturday to Abetone or Monte Cimone with ODRGreat packages are available for those without ski equipment.

Library

633-7623

- Don't miss the special Children's Story Hour to celebrate Black History Month with two guest readers on Feb. 11 at 10:00 a.m. for kids ages 3 to 5 years.
- Don't miss the special meeting to celebrate and improve knowledge about Black History Month with two guest speakers on Feb. 13 for kids ages 6 to 12 years.
- Save money with free DVD rentals. If the library doesn't have the one you want, they can order it from another library in Europe.

Darby Lanes

- Check out our new dollar days on Thursdays

Dollar Days
Every Thursday

SI games
SI shoe rental
SI Pizza toppings*

Thursday
Operating Hours
4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For more info
call DSN 633-7458

*Large pizza reduced from \$15 to \$11 with SI toppings

**CAMP DARBY
FITNESS CENTER**

DODGE BALL
17 March 09

EXTREME

DROP OFF TEAM ROSTER AT THE FITNESS CENTER
OR EMAIL: TODD.K.SMITH@EUR.ARMY.MIL
For more information, contact the Fitness Center
DSN 633-7438 OR 633-7440

FITNESS CENTER CAMP DARBY

Table Tennis Tournament - Singles
3-5 March 09

DROP OFF TEAM ROSTER AT THE FITNESS CENTER OR EMAIL:
TODD.K.SMITH@EUR.ARMY.MIL
For more information, contact the Fitness Center
DSN 633-7438 OR 633-7440

February Information, Tickets & Travel



30 January -1 Feb.	Rome Express \$79.00 Deadline: 26 January
31 January	Ski Trip to Nassfeld, Austria \$59.00 Deadline: 26 January
31 January	Zagreb Capital of Croatia \$59.00 Deadline: 26 January
07 February	Moonlight Snow Adventure Capped with Mountain Top Feast \$64.00 Deadline: 02 February
07 February	Guided Florence \$88.00 Deadline: 02 February
07 February	Trieste & Mirimare/Duino Castles \$69.00 Deadline: 02 February

13-16 February	Almafi Coast (Sorrento & Naples) \$359.00 Deadline: 02 February
14 February	Romantic Valentine Lunch at Juliet's Castle & Wine Tasting \$99.00 Deadline: 09 February
14 February	Spectacular Venice Carnevale \$69.00 Deadline: 09 February
16 February	Italian Super Motors: Ducati, Lamborghini, Maserati, Ferrari & Guided Tours of Modena and Parmigginao Cheese Farm \$135.00 Deadline: 09 February
21 February	Salzburg & Guided Salt Mines \$89.00 Deadline: 17 February
21 February	Spectacular Venice Carnevale \$69.00 Deadline: 17 February
28 February	Guided Ljubljana & BTC Mall \$59.00 Deadline 23 February
28 February	Innsbruck & Swarovski Crystal World \$84.00 Deadline: 23 February
28 February	Enjoy Milan by Night Tour \$89.00 Deadline: 23 February

Almafi Coast Tour

Feb. 13-16
Price: \$359 (double occupancy)
Tour Itinerary:
Feb. 13
2230 - Depart from Area 1.
Feb. 14
0830 - Arrive in Naples and depart for a boat excursion to Capri. Followed by free time to enjoy the island.
1630 - Depart from the island to Sorrento for check-in.
Feb. 15
0800 Breakfast at the hotel (included)
0830 Depart to Amalfi coast to enjoy the spectacular Mediterranean view (escorted tour) Possible boat ride (if available) from Positano (Additional €10)
1200 Lunch in Amalfi (not included)
1500 Pompeii guided tour at the archeological site (entrance fee not included) Return to hotel for dinner and free time.
Feb. 16
0730 Breakfast at the hotel (included)
0800 Check-out and depart for Naples. Visit of the main monuments and downtown area.
1200 Free time for lunch (not included)
1315 Depart to Aviano.
2300 Approximate arrival in Aviano.

For more information contact ITT at
632-3107 or email: ITT@aviano.af.mil

Contact us at
email: ITT@aviano.af.mil Tel: 0434-30-3107 DSN: 632-3107

NOR Center Trekking Day Trip

Come paddle along the beautiful Sorrento Coast! This trip will take you to Marina della Lobra and Mitigliano. Cost is €25 per person.
POC: NOR Center, 081-526-1579

Castles of Naples

Join ITT for a visit of some of the most beautiful castles in Europe, (Castel dell'Ovo or Maschio Angioino etc.) Adult: € 28, Child: € 26
POC: MWR ITT, 626-4330/629-7906
www.mwritt.org

Naples by Bus

Join us on this bus tour and see the major historical sites and landmarks. You will have plenty of opportunities for photos and a stop for coffee.
Adult: € 20, Child: € 18
POC: MWR ITT, 626-4330/629-7906
www.mwritt.org

Historical Naples

The history of this incredible city cannot be experienced in a few hours, but we promise to show you as much as possible! To complete our tour we will visit the archeological underground of the San Lorenzo church.
Adult: € 26, Child: € 24
POC: MWR ITT, 626-4330/629-7906
www.mwritt.org

Salerno Town and Cathedral

Aldo wants to take you to the town of Salerno (one of its favorites). He will give you a guided tour and then some free time to stroll, shop or lunch on your own.
Adult: € 33, Child: € 31
POC: MWR ITT, 626-4330/629-7906
www.mwritt.org

Navy Support Activities
Naples is located South of
Camp Darby off A1 and is
roughly 5 hours drive.

For lodging visit
<https://www.navy-lodge.com/>

ITR / ODR Trips

.....
Every weekend ODR takes you to the slopes: Feb. 14, Obereggen. Call ODR for information on equipment and fees at 634-7453.

.....
Feel the Rush. ODR takes expert ski and snowboarders to Interlaken Switzerland for a weekend of Heliskiing on Feb 13-18. Lodging and transportation are provided. You must have a passport. Call ODR at 634-7453 for complete details.

.....
ODR offers a paintball trip Feb. 22. Transportation is \$10 and the field fee is 10 Euro. You can rent equipment for an additional fee if you don't own your own. Call 634-7453 for information.

.....
Romantic Weekend in Nice and Monte Carlo Enjoy a special romantic weekend in France, Feb. 14 -15. Stroll along the famous seaside promenade in Nice and enjoy the glamour of Monte Carlo. Call ITR at 634-7094 for reservations.

.....
Find out why Innsbruck Austria is such a special place on Feb. 14, 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Enjoy a guided tour and shopping in the Swarovski crystal factory store. Register with ITR at 634-7094.

.....
Explore the popular town of Lucerne Switzerland on Feb. 21 with ITR. This trip leaves at 2 a.m. Feb. 21 and returns 2 a.m. Feb. 22. You'll have a guided tour plus time to shop with the advantage of the favorable Swiss Franc to U.S.

dollar exchange rate. Call 634-7094 for information.

.....
Overnight Brewery Tour - Tour and taste the best brews in an authentic Austrian castle Friday, Feb. 13 - Saturday, Feb. 14 with ITR. Call 634-7094 for information.

.....



Caserma Ederle is located North of Camp Darby off A4 and is roughly a 3 1/2 hours drive.

For lodging visit www.vicenzamwr.com/

FMWR Activities visit: www.vicenzamwr.com

Italy off the beaten path...

Out and About

By Chiara Mattiolo

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Antique markets

Antique markets became a tradition in Tuscany, and every town has its own recurrent market where about 500 exhibitors coming from all over Italy meet. Antique furniture, ceramics, pieces of China, jewels, glassware, fabrics, watches, sculptures, paintings, iron and copper items, as well as trinkets of all sorts care sold.

Following are the dates and locations of the next antique markets:

Feb.7 Pistoia 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Feb. 7 and 8 Pisa 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Feb. 7 Forte dei Marmi (LU) 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Carnivals

Viareggio

Viareggio hosts one of the most famous carnivals in Italy and Europe. The first edition of this carnival is dated back to 1873. Allegoric floats representing the Italian and International political life will pass on parade for 3 km along the beautiful coast of the city of Viareggio. This year the parades will be on Feb. 8, 15, 22, and 24, and Mar. 1.

For additional information contact:

www.viareggio.ilcarnevale.com

Marlia (LU)

The Carnival in Marlia was established in 1904, it is one of the most popular carnival celebrations in Tuscany, it will take place Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, and Mar. 1, from 2:30 p. m. to 6 p.m.

For information contact: Carneval Marlia 0583 30416 www.carnevalmarlia.it

Orentano (PI)

This is a special carnival for children, it is called the children's carnival, it was started by the local parish in 1956. This year's celebrations will be Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 24 from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For information contact: Ente Carnevale dei bambini 0583 23462 www.orentanocarnevale.it

Bientina (PI)

Bientina carnival is celebrated since 50 years, it includes, besides the traditional allegoric floats, also a little train loaded with children passengers riding around the town. The Carnival concludes with fireworks in the evening Feb 24. The calendar will be Feb.1, 8, 15, 22, and 24 from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.

For information contact:

Associazione Carnevale Bientinese 333 6996091 e-mail: URP@comune.bientina.pi.it

Santa Croce (PI)

The carnival in Santa Croce will get started on Feb.1 with the city band playing in parade thru the city roads, the dates of float parade will be Feb. 1, 8, 15, 19, and 22, from 3:30 p.m. The celebrations will include an exhibition on the history of the carnival tradition, and a photo contest. The best carnival related photo will be used for next year's carnival flyers.

For information contact: Santa Croce Municipality at 0571 360592 www.carnevaesantacrocese.it

FESTA is announcing auditions for Shakespeare's Macbeth at the BARGELLO MUSEUM in Florence, Italy, July 2009. FESTA is seeking trained professional actors. Auditions will take place on Feb. 21 from 10:30 am - 3 pm at St. James Church (Via Bernardo Rucellai 9, Florence, between Via della Scala and Via il Prato), and auditions will consist of performing a 30 second to 1 minute selection from Macbeth. Actors should choose their own selection from the text. Please come prepared. Monetary compensation is dependent on experience and need. Some housing and financial assistance may be available for actors not living in Florence.

Rehearsals start at the beginning of June 2009, and the show runs July 8-12 (possible added performance on July 13), 2009. For an audition time, please write to Suzanne at sidasilva@yahoo.com or call 347/9397010. For more information on the show, www.themacbethproject.org. For information on FESTA go to www.festatheatre.com

Tickets: 15 Euro per person, 10 Euro for children 11-13. Children under 10 do not need a ticket.

Parade Date and Time: Feb. 8, 15, 22, 24 the parade begins at 3 p.m. March 1 the parade begins at 5 p.m.

Other Viareggio Carnivale events:

Different city quarters have special afternoon events geared towards children.

- Feb. 17 in Termetto
- Feb. 19 in the Vecchia Viareggio

Miss Viareggio 2009 Beauty Pageant for girls 15-26. Enrollment and participation is free. For more information, call civilian 0584 184 0751.

For more information, visit www.viareggio.ilcarnevale.com

Where to eat: For those without a budget, visit historic Ristoranti Margarita on the main strand. The food is exquisite and the settings will make you feel like your in Hollywood's golden age with its elegance. If your tired of Italian food, check out the "Sushi Train" restaurant located adjacent to the main Carnivale entrance off Piazza d'Azeglio.

How to get there: Viareggio is a 30 minute drive from Camp Darby off the A12 Autostrade.

ITR trip offerings: Every Sunday during Carnivale from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m., ride with ITR for only \$15. RSVP your spot DSN 633-7589



Socially aware Carnivale

Wit and sarcasm make fun of vice and folly

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The 40 days before lent is a time of festivities across the world. New Orleans has Mardi Gras with people throwing beads, Germany has Fasching with decorated tractors, Rio di Janeiro has Carnival and scantily clad dancers in the streets and Venice has a majestic Carnivale with people wearing masks and spectacular medieval gowns. But, the giant parade and floats in Viareggio focuses on a completely different matter.

At this celebration, the floats focus on political and social issues staying true to the original university student organizers intent 136 years ago.

This years floats highlight the issues of clandestine immigration, a mysterious island scene dominated by a gorilla, the poor economic situation and satire on Italian television show "Door to door".

At first glance, the names of the float may not seem all to enticing, but this parade really is a must see event for adults and children alike.

The floats themselves can be several stories high and filled with folks throwing confetti and candy. Between the giant floats are marching bands and performers, all the likes of those you see at Macy's Thanksgiving day parade.

Plus, if you have children, be sure to let them dress up in a Halloween costume and give them plenty of confetti and silly string.

You can bring your own economical confetti by shredding all of those junk mail catalogues and old magazines you want to get rid of or you can buy it on site at the celebration.

If you tire of the parade, there are kiddy rides and plenty of booths selling carnivale treats.

Parking is non-existent and the preferred way to arrive is to take the ITR bus.

One of my favorite things about the Viareggio carnivale are the after party events down by the dock. You won't find many tourists, but you'll find all sorts of fantastic fish made the "Viareggio" style.

Billie Holiday highlight of Lucca Jazz Festival

By Chiara Mattiolo

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The city of Lucca is hosting the 5th edition of a “woman’s” only jazz festival. According to Lucca Jazz Circle President, Vittorio Barsotti, this year’s edition is dedicated to the well known jazz singer Billie Holiday, 50 years after her death.

“We thought that the traditional jazz concert is old fashioned and we want to offer a variety of initiatives, having a different theme every year, and giving voice to new emerging groups,” said Barsotti. “Lucca Jazz Donna offers a variety of concerts that will be held in the San Girolamo Theater, located in the historical center of the city and will include a special recognition for the best emergent group.”

Artist director, Patrizia Landi said the concert schedule includes: Michele Hendrix, daughter of the famous America jazz lyrics Jon Hendrix playing in concert Feb. 21, Eileina Dennis will exhibit her energetic voice on Feb. 22, and on Feb. 28 there will be the concert of the Italian jazz singers Tiziana Ghiglioni and Ada Montellanico.”

Barsotti explained that they decided to hold this Jazz concert at the end of February because of the vicinity of International Women’s Day (March 8), and also because the city of Lucca is a key touristic destination for live music concerts.

“There will also be a free tex-



Niky Nicolai and Joy Garrison perform at the Lucca Jazz festival. Photo courtesy of Enrico Stefanelli

tile art exhibition called “Obscure Mother..soul archeology...the sound of silence” at the San Girolamo Theater in the center of Lucca that will be open for the entire duration of the festival,” said Barsotti. “Additionally, Billie Holiday – The Long Night of lady Day” by John Jeremy, will be screened at the Cinema Centrale in Lucca on Feb. 19 at 9:15 p.m.”

This is the fifth year of the “Lucca Jazz Donna” festival. To learn more about this festival visit www.luccajazzdonna.it. Tickets go on sale Feb. 10 at the Telerecord shop in Lucca, Via Santa Croce 11/13 tel. 0583 49 22 29. After 7 p.m., the tickets can be purchased directly at the Theater’s ticket office.

African- American Heritage Month at Camp Darby

On Feb. 11 and Feb. 25, a special children’s story hour will be offered at the Post Library for children ages 3-5.

On Feb. 13 there will be a special event for children ages 6-12 at the Post Library at 3 p.m. Also on Feb. 13 is the “Old School vs. New School” basketball tournament at the fitness center beginning at 5 p.m.

The Black History month celebrations will conclude on Feb. 27 with a food tasting event at the Darby Community Club beginning at 6 p.m.



For the next four Friday's in February, our AAFES movie theater will show movies that honor the African American Heritage. Here is the schedule and synopsis of each movie.

PRIDE (PG) Friday Feb 6 1800

CAST: Terrence Howard, Bernie Mac

The year is 1973, and Jim Ellis, a college-educated African-American, can't find a job. Driven by his love of competitive swimming, Jim converts an abandoned recreational pool hall in a Philadelphia slum with the help of Elston, a local janitor.

But when city officials mark the new Philadelphia Department of Recreation for demolition, Jim fights back – by starting the city's first African-American swim team. Recruiting troubled teens from the streets, Jim struggles to transform a motley team of novices into capable swimmers – all in time for the upcoming state championship.

RATED PG (thematic material, language including some racial epithets, and violence)

GLORY ROAD (PG) Friday Feb 13 1800

Cast: Josh Lucas, Derek Luke

40 years ago, Don Haskins went on the recruiting trail to find the best talent in the land, black or white. 7 blacks and 5 whites made up the legendary 1965-66 Texas Western Miners. They were mocked and ridiculed for their showboating and flaunting of black players on the court. Yet, in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, Haskins and his Miners came together as a team united to research the National Championship game against powerhouse Kentucky.

RATED PG (racial issues including violence and epithets, and mild language)

FREEDOMLAND (R) Friday Feb 20 1800

Cast: Julianne Moore, Samuel L. Jackson

When her son disappears and is believed to be dead, a single mother blames an African-American man from the projects for the kidnapping, creating a racial controversy. An African-American detective and a white missing child researcher team up to investigate the case which they discover may be more complicated than they expected.

RATED R (language and some violent content)

THE EXPRESS (PG) Friday Feb 27 1800

Cast: Rob Brown, Dennis Quaid

Based on a true story of football hero Ernie Davis, the first African-American to win the Heisman Trophy, and his fight for equality and respect forever changed the face of American sports. Davis hurdled social and economic obstacles to become one of the greatest running backs in college football history. As the growing civil rights movement divided the country in the 60's, Davis became a symbol for achievement that transcended race. He joined the ranks of black pioneers by teaching a generation tolerance, inspiring a movement that smashed barriers on and off the field.

RATED PG (thematic content, violence and language involving racism, and brief sensuality)

AD SUBMISSIONS

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