



Your source for local news, information and culture

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www.usag.livorno.army.mil

March is Women's History Month
 "Women taking the lead to save our planet" see ad on pg. 2 for upcoming events.

Gate Change
 Starting March 16, the main gate to Camp Darby will be #1 along the road to Tirrenia. Expect the main gate (#4) to be closed for approximately 90 days. Pay attention to speed changes in that area, especially when passing the Child Development Center.

Daylight Savings time
 Don't forget to "spring ahead" an hour on March 29.

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31st Munitions Squadron wins Air Force wide award

Story and photos by Joyce Costello
 USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The U.S. Air Force recently announced that 31st Munitions Squadron was named the 2008 Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award winner for the missile and munitions category. According to 31st MUNS Commander, Lt. Col. Tammy Cobb, the hard working members of the 31st Munitions Squadron are the reason they were able to compete for this award.

"We are U.S. Air Force Europe's premier munitions hub, transporting munitions by rail, road, and ship while maintaining a local \$405 million conventional munitions stockpile in pristine condition," said Col. Cobb. "We won the MEA at the USAFE level last year, but winning the award at the Air Force level is incredibly prestigious, and truly a once-in-a-career opportunity."

For the airmen putting in long hours working in the ammunition storage area, receiving this recognition meant a lot to them.

"This is a very big Air Force award and for me it was pretty amazing because we are such a small base and many people don't even know this exists," said Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Burge, 31st MUNS precision maintenance crew chief. "We work pretty hard and we're always busy so I think this award gives everybody credit for what we do on a daily basis maintaining ammunition."

Airman 1st Class Randy Bibey, 31st MUNS munitions storage specialist, added that "winning this award shows our camaraderie and how we help everyone work together."

According to Col. Cobb, 31st MUNS competed against every munitions, munitions support, and missile maintenance squadron in the Air Force and will now be competing against units in every branch of the military.

The MEA trophies will be presented at the 2008 Maintenance Awards Banquet dinner May 7 at Bolling Air Force Base in the District of Columbia.



Top: (Left to right) Staff. Sgt. Jeremiah Burge and Airman 1st Class James Gray inspect an air to ground maverick missile. Middle: (Left to right) Airman 1st Class Kyle Simpson and Jesse Camacho prep the guided missile test machine. Bottom: Airman 1st Class Randy Bibey guides coworker and his forklift while transporting munitions for inspections.



THE YEAR OF THE NCO

Congratulations to Camp Darby

NCO of the Quarter: SSG Christopher Lemaire, 511th MP Platoon
Soldier of the Quarter: SPC Keith Owens, Health Clinic



Team Darby,

March is Women's History Month. The following two links depict the success of women in the U.S. Air Force <http://www.af.mil/whm09.asp> and U.S. Army <http://www.army.mil/women/index.html>

Here are the rules for Women's History Month Trivia Questions:

- All Camp Darby and Depot Personnel may participate; that includes the local national workforce
- Trivia questions will be emailed to all and read on AFN every Thursday in March
- Every Thursday two questions will be asked and in order to win, both questions must be answered correctly
- Personnel may participate only once per day
- Past winners may continue to participate
- Bring written answers to the Community Mail Room and place it in the designated cardboard box NLT 5 p.m. (Don't forget to add your name, email address and telephone number)
- Answers will be collected every Thursday in March at 5 p.m.
- Answer sheets will be pulled at random; the first person with the correct answers is the winner and will be announced the next day
- The winner needs to see me or Graziella Tognotti

for the prize 633-8332/7505

- Do not email me your answers
- Do not call AFN with your answers

Women taking the lead to save our planet..

Camp Darby Calendar of Events

- * *March 3, Cake cutting ceremony*
begins at noon at the DCC
- * *March 11, Story hour at the Library*
begins at 10:00 a.m. with a special guest reader
- * *March 12, Happy Birthday, Girl Scouts!*
visit the Open House from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
- * *March 13, Story hour at the Library*
begins at 3:00 p.m. with a special guest speaker
- * *March 19, Health & Wellness Fair*
at the Fitness Center 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- * *March 26, Golf Tournament*
at the Tirrenia Golf Club. Tee-off times TBD

USAG-Livorno, FMWR Marketing 2009, Women's History Month.indd



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

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New Family Readiness Center opens its doors

Story and photos by Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The Camp Darby Army Community Service's Service member and Family Readiness Center (SFRC) opened its doors on Feb. 27 with a ribbon cutting ceremony, according to Evelyn Watkins, Army Community Service Division Chief.

"The SFRC has a Yellow Ribbon Room with four computers for E-mail, video producing capability, web-cam capability, Family Lounge with TV and DVD, recliners for relaxation, a children's play room with all sorts of activities for the little ones, a training room, a kitchen, information and referral and a lot more," said Watkins.

Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, director of the Army Diversity Task Force, helped cut the ribbon and said this opening ceremony had particular importance to her.

"When the Secretary of the Army decided he wanted to one-stop shopping soldier readiness center, I was pleased we were able to justify and commit funds to this cause," said Gen. Pinckney. "Seeing the fruit of my labor makes me proud and I know you all will enjoy and benefit from it."

As service members and their families visited the new center, many like the Cereceres family were glad to have a place to keep in touch with their loved ones while deployed.

"I think this was a wonderful idea to help the service members and the families stay in touch when your spouse is deployed," said Zulma Cereceres.

Surveying the new computer systems with the latest in video teleconference hardware, her husband, Air Force Staff. Sgt. Felix Cereceres added "this really brings us into the new age of technology."

Additionally, the community took advantage of the opening ceremony to welcome home service members that had recently returned from their deployments.

"It is with great pleasure that we recognized and honor those that have placed their life in harm's way and it was very fitting that we were able to do that at the new SFRC," said U.S. Army Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez.

Rodriguez added that the community should visit and utilize the many services and opportunities provided to help Families handle difficult situations during the service member's deployment and the SFRC offers a place to find support in addition to a place to hold meetings and training.

The SFRC is located in building 428, behind the education center.



CFC-O ceremony recognizes IMCOM-E, USAREUR generosity

By **Julio A. Hernandez**

Installation Management Command-Europe public affairs

The generosity and civic commitment of Soldiers, DoD civilians and families assigned to U.S. Army in Europe continues to be as strong as ever, and it was recognized at an award ceremony held Feb. 24 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion by the Installation Management Command Europe Region and U. S. Army in Europe.

The award ceremony culminated a successful European 2008 Federal Combined Campaign Overseas. Gen. Carter F. Ham, USAREUR commanding general, and Diane M. Devens, IMCOM-Europe region director, hosted the ceremony and presented more than 250 awards to individuals and agencies to recognize their support of CFC.

The campaign was marked by a substantial increase in donations; as a whole, the European theater raised \$2.4 million - an outstanding achievement - and there was an overall increase of \$100,000 more than in the previous year.

“Despite all the economic hardships, our Soldiers, DoD civilians and families recognized that there are people that need our help more than ever,” said Ham

“In spite of the worldwide economic crisis 46 percent of all U.S. Army in Europe military and civilian personnel contributed,” said Melissa Kidder, CFC-O executive director.

The highlight of the ceremony was when U.S. Army Garrison Livorno and the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team at U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza received special recognition.

Ham and Devens proudly presented the Special Merit Award to Lt. Col. Steven G. Cade, USAG Livorno commander, representing the garrison, and Lt. Col. Curtis A. Johnson, 173rd ABCT brigade support battalion commander, representing the brigade.

At USAG Livorno, 75 out of 120 assigned personnel donated \$16,964, a 62.5 percent participation rate and an average gift of \$226.19. At the brigade, 1,294 out of 1,650 assigned personnel donated \$98,347.16, a 78.4% participation rate an average gift of \$76.

“The award is the highest honor given by the CFC-O and most often bestowed by the command upon the installation or area achieving the greatest improvement over the previous year’s results,” said Constance T. Baker, CFC-O deputy director. “The U.S. Army in Europe CFC-Overseas campaign is always a success due to the tremendous teamwork between IMCOM-E and USAREUR.”

“Thanks, thanks, thanks, for an extraordinary 2008 campaign,” said Ham in closing remarks.

The award ceremony was filled by a remarkable display of camaraderie and leadership as representatives from throughout USAREUR and IMCOM-E Region gathered to collect the fruits of their contributions.



(Left) Gen. Carter F. Ham, USAREUR commanding general, and Diane M. Devens, IMCOM-Europe region director present to Lt. Col. Steven Cade, USAG Livorno commander, a Special Merit Award.

The incredible strength of women

Story and Photos by Chiara Mattiolo

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Nobody objects to a woman being a good writer or sculptor or geneticist if at the same time she manages to be a good wife, good mother, good looking, good tempered, well groomed and unaggressive, wrote [Leslie M. McIntyre](#) (photographer/writer).

This description seems to fit perfectly on most women, but certainly does fit to Air Force Master Sgt. Latasha George, Superintendent of Commander's Support Staff, 31st Munitions Squadron.

Native of Jonestown, GA, Sgt. George has served her nation in the Air Force for 13 years. She was selected as Non-commissioned officer of the year for 31st Munitions Squadron and USAFE in 2007 and 2008.

"I always strive to perform at the highest level and to set the standards for the six people I supervise on my staff" said George

Sgt. George also strongly believes that there is so much to do and to see in the world that time has to be well managed to fit the most in. With this spirit, she has always been an active player in community projects; she took part in the setup for the Halloween Haunted House, was part of the African/American Heritage Month committee, and she read for the children story hour at the Post library. She also coached basketball for young children.

"Camp Darby takes the good and the bad of being a small community, sometimes though, people tend to stick with what they already know, here, more than in any other place, there is so much to do, to learn and to see. I try to set and example as an NCO on trying to meet more people, see more places; there is no limit to what we can do as a community" said Sgt. George.

Sgt. George, who is mother of LeAire, five years old, and whose husband is at school at Ft. Benning, still tries to find some time out of her busy schedule to enrich her instruction. She achieved her Bachelor in Human Resource Management last year, and now she is studying for her Master Degree on Information Management.

"Sometimes it seems like days last much longer than 24 hours, I wake up every morning at 4.30 a.m., and go to bed around midnight, Saturdays belong to school, but Sunday's belong to my daughter," said Sgt.

Women's History Month: Taking the lead to save our planet



U.S. Army Garrison Livorno
Recognizing Women who
have made a difference in
the community

MSgt Latasha George

Age: 31
Current Position: Superintendent of
Commander's Support Staff
Current Unit: 31st Munitions Squadron
Hometown: Jonestown, GA
Years of Service: 13 years
College: TUI University
Coaches childrens Basketball
Volunteers at Camp Darby events

"I try to set and example as an NCO on trying to meet more people, see more places; there is no limit to what we can do as a community...as a mother, sometimes it seems like days last much longer than 24 hours, I wake up every morning at 4.30 a.m., and go to bed around midnight, Saturdays belong to school, but Sunday's belong to my daughter."



(Left to right) 1st Sgt Carmen Daugherty, Senior Airman Dial-Bowie, Lt. Col. Steven Cade and Evelyn Watkins help kick of the Camp Darby Women's History Month with a community wide cake cutting celebration on March 3. Upcoming events include a health and wellness fair and a golf tournament

Medical Soldier named Camp Darby Soldier of the Quarter

Story and photos by Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Spc. Keith Owens, an x-ray technician assigned to the U.S. Army Health Clinic Livorno, was recently named the Soldier of the Quarter at a base wide competition at Camp Darby, Italy.

During his five years of military service, Owens has consistently sought ways to improve himself as a Soldier. When previously stationed at Ft. Bragg, he competed in the Womack Medical Centers Soldier of the Month competition so he said he jumped at the chance to be able to compete in the installation wide competition at Camp Darby.

"In my particular career field it is difficult to make the high cut off points for promotion, so you have to be creative and find ways to excel and make yourself stand out," said Owens.

According to his supervisor, Sgt. James Wassom, the Soldier of the quarter board is a great chance to highlight service member's hard work.

"Owens is a very smart guy and he consistently performs outside of his trained job on a daily basis," said Wassom. "Besides taking x-rays, he performs hearing tests, helps medics screen patients, tracks the military and civilian time cards and is in charge of the eye glass program; our clinic is very small so what he does makes a huge difference to the members in the community who need those services."

Owens said he decided to join the Army because it is a family tradition to serve ones country.

"My dad is a Chief Warrant Officer and my brother is a military policeman," said Owens. "While I enjoy my job of helping doctors diagnosis good quality radiographs, I would eventually like to be come an aviation warrant officer like my dad."

Owens will now be eligible to compete for Camp Darby's Soldier of the Year.

AMERICA'S ARMY: THE STRENGTH OF THE NATION™



U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Soldier of the Quarter

"I continued a family tradition of service to country by joining the Army... I continue to find ways to better prepare myself to become a good Non-Commissioned Officer...I'm honored to be named Camp Darby's Soldier of the Quarter."

SPC Keith Owens
U.S. Army Health Clinic Livorno



U.S. ARMY

"Army NCO- No One is More Professional then I..."

Food tasting event culminates African American Heritage Month

Story and photos by Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The Camp Darby community gathered for a large food tasting event at the Darby Community Club on Feb. 27 to celebrate African American Heritage Month.



Gathers heaped their plates with favorites such as tender ribs, brisket, spicy greens, tasty potato salad, red beans and sausage, smooth corn pudding, red velvet cake and incredible lemon squares.

For Airman 1st Class, Justin Alexander, (pictured in 2nd photo on the left) 31st Munitions Squadron, the food reminded him of home.

“I’m from South Carolina and this food is just like home, it’s...fantastic,” said Alexander.

“A single airman knows to never pass up a good thing like a home cooked meal,” quickly added Airman 1st Class Ryan Cassady, 31st MUNS.



The final Sgt. Maj. trivia question winner was Sgt. 1st Class Jenkins (pictured on top left photo) who was presented with his prize from the answer to the question: Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, director of the Army Diversity Task Force.

This years African American Heritage Month focused on “The quest for black citizenship in the Americas.”



Suicide prevention awareness

Mental health professionals stand by to assist Army-wide effort

Heidelberg, Germany – Europe Regional Medical Command health professionals are poised to provide assistance and advice as Army units stand down for suicide prevention awareness training between now and March 15.

The number of suicides in the Army has risen for the fourth year in a row, and the problem is being addressed with an Army-wide “stand-down.” A chain-teaching program will follow the stand down between March and July 15.

The Army experienced 128 confirmed suicides in 2008, up from 115 in 2007, said Army leaders during a media roundtable Jan. 29. An additional 15 deaths are being investigated as suspected suicides, though Army experts say experience has shown that as many as 90 percent of suspected suicides are eventually classified as confirmed.

“Our providers are ready to support unit and community suicide awareness and prevention training in Europe,” said Maj. David Cabrera, acting director for the Europe Regional Medical Command’s soldier and family support services office. “We’re proud to be part of the U.S. Army Europe and community team working to reduce the number of suicides in the Army.”

There are fourteen mental health treatment facilities placed throughout Europe. **Camp Darby service members can get help at the [Vicenza Behavioral Health Clinic](#), DSN 634-7604 or Civ 0444-71-7404.**

Seeking help at those locations will give someone access to the shared installation, unit and community services and resources that support suicide prevention, Cabrera said.

Army chaplains will partner with the behavioral health community to emphasize the importance of peer support – “battle buddies” – in recognizing and intervening in advance of a Soldier’s decision to view suicide as an option, he added.

**NEVER LEAVE
A FALLEN
COMRADE**

Buddies can Prevent Suicide

Not all Wounds are Visible

March 10 & 12, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Post Theater
Get the training you need to make a difference

USAGHPBM
Responsible for Health

National Problem Gambling Awareness Week

Resources available to combat gaming problems

HEIDELBERG, GERMANY – March 1-7 is National Problem Gambling Awareness Week and the Europe Regional Medical Command wants the community to know that help is available to combat gambling problems.

Eight certified gambling addiction counselors are available at Army garrisons throughout Europe to help problem gamblers and their families, said Cynthia Scheib, a psychiatric nurse consultant to the IMCOM-Europe Army Substance Abuse Program. Scheib was instrumental in starting the ERMC gambling addiction treatment program, thought to be the only active gambling treatment program offered overseas by the U.S. military.

Since the program began in October, the certified gambling addiction counselors - who are all behavioral health specialists familiar with the military lifestyle - have treated Soldiers, family members and civilian employees for gambling problems. They are certified by the National Council on Problem Gambling.

Scheib said gambling addiction could seriously disrupt the lives of Soldiers and Families, thus affecting the Army mission.

“Treatment for problem gambling is not only available, but is also effective in improving the lives of problem gamblers and their families,” she said.

To learn more or to find help in your area, visit your local Army Behavioral Health Clinic or call the Division of Behavioral Health at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, DSN 486-7276, or civilian phone 06371-86-7276.

Information is also available at the National Council on Problem Gambling Web site, www.ncpgambling.org

DA Civilians- You can get PAID to get in shape

March 19,
11 a.m -1 p.m.
Sign up at
Camp Darby Fitness
Center

GET FIT with CIVILIAN FITNESS

<http://www.chppmeur.healthcare.hqusareur.army.mil> to download an application packet.

For more information contact the Health Promotion Office at DSN 634-8828 or health@setaf.army.mil

Health

Now that the end of the year holidays are behind us, it is time for everyone's favorite time of the year - - tax time! Ok, maybe not your "favorite" time of the year, but it probably ranks above getting a root canal without anesthetic.

- Capt. Anthony Valenti, USAG Livorno Staff Judge Advocate

TAX PREPARATION SERVICES:

Tax preparation for tax year 2008 federal and state tax returns will begin on Jan. 26. We have a volunteer to assist us in doing the intake of your tax information. As with last year, we have to send the tax returns to Vicenza to the tax preparers there. We will scan the documents to Vicenza and track them to ensure that nothing gets lost in the shuffle. Our tax volunteer is Christine Noonan and she will be working on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be accepting personnel on a walk in basis.

Taxpayers with more complicated tax returns are normally prepared and returned within five business days, and include tax returns with any of the following situations: Capital gain or loss reported on Form 1099-B, rental real estate, Schedule K1 income, self-employment, foreign earned income, foreign income tax credit, tax treaty exclusions, and Puerto Rico returns.

ELIGIBILITY AND EXCLUSIONS:

Persons with the following tax issues are not eligible for tax preparation services.

(a) 'Day Traders' / Frequent traders in the financial markets: Persons who have made more than 12 sales of securities in 2008 are not eligible to have your taxes prepared unless you have calculated the amount of gain or loss by filling out a Schedule D.

(b) Businesses and Rental Property: If you own a business or rental property, other than the rental of your primary residence in the United States, you are not eligible to have your taxes prepared. In these cases, professional tax preparation is to your advantage because it will allow you to optimize the business expense deductions you are entitled to.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

All persons must bring the following documents with them to the appointment:

- (1) Your Military Identification Card.
- (2) One copy of each W-2 issued for the tax year, and a copy of each 1099 issued by banks and investments companies or for other income. Taxpayers who want refunds directly deposited into their account must provide bank information, including their bank routing number and account number.
- (3) A Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Tax Payer Identification Number (ITIN). If you do not have an SSN and are not eligible to obtain an SSN, but you have a requirement to furnish a federal tax ITIN or file a federal income tax return, we can have you fill out an IRS Form W-7 with your tax return.
- (4) If you made any sales of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares) in 2008, you must provide the purchase price and date of purchase for the securities. This is especially important if you purchased the securities over a period of time in small increments because the net gain on each share of the security needs to be calculated.
- (5) The Economic Stimulus Payment (ESP) issued in 2008 was partially an advance on your 2008 tax obligation. Taxpayers must tell us how much ESP they received, even if the ESP was diverted to cover child support or student loan debts. Go to <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=187383,00.html> to find out the amount of your ESP in 2008.

PRIOR YEAR TAX NOTICES:

If you receive a notice from the IRS about your tax returns filed for tax year 2007 and earlier or you have not filed a tax return for a prior year, you will need to set up an appointment with CPT Anthony J. Valenti for legal assistance at DSN 633-7227. Remember to bring to your appointment all papers the IRS sent you, a copy of the tax return for the year the notice applies to, and most importantly remember not to panic.

INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WHO PREPARE THEIR OWN TAX RETURNS:

- (1) The IRS website is the primary source for all tax forms and publications: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/index.html>
- (2) Tax forms and instructions may be downloaded from the IRS at: <http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/lists/0,,id=97817,00.html>
- (3) Tax publications may be downloaded from the IRS at: <http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/lists/0,,id=97817,00.html>

CHANGES TO THE TAX CODE:

The tax code changes every year, sometimes in small ways, sometimes in large ways. If you prepare your own returns, you should review a summary of the changes to the tax code at: <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=202106,00.html>

High Winds Safety

By David Henry
USAG Livorno Safety manager

While riding his motorcycle to work on the 18th of February a 54 year old man, was killed in Rome when a branch from a Pine tree fell on him. The doctor left behind a grieving wife and three daughters. Unfortunately living in the Tuscany region of Italy also has its share of hazards. This time of the year is marked by strong winds, torrential rains and flooding. This type of bad weather could create potentially dangerous situations including falling trees. Working on Camp Darby we all have heard of dents in vehicles or broken windshields from falling pine cones. Utilization of the Composite Risk Management process will greatly minimize the potential for accident or injury. Ask yourself simply what could possibly happen that could injure myself or my family and what can I do to prevent it. I.e., protect your vehicle from damage by not parking underneath the trees.

Camp Darby and along the route to and from Camp Darby there are many old pine trees that have reached the end of their life cycles. The Via Aurelia, going to Livorno, or the Lungarno D'Annunzio, going to Pisa are both lined with old pine trees. The stability of these old trees can be easily compromised by natural agents such as storms, strong wind and rain. We recommend that all community members, including family members and contractors, be aware of the potential hazards of driving and/or walking under these trees especially during bad weather.

BEFORE THE STORM:

What is your risk? Your community officials or USAG Livorno Emergency Operations Center are your best resources to learn about the history of storms and high winds for the Tuscany region. Where will your family be when the storm strikes, there is often little if any warning. They could be anywhere - at work, at school, or in the car. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children are safe? Find out about the disaster plans at your workplace, your children's school or daycare, and other places where your family spends time.

HAVE DISASTER SUPPLIES ON HAND:

Flashlights and extra batteries
Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries tuned to a local station, and follow emergency instructions.
First aid kit and manual
Emergency food and bottled water
Non-electric can opener
Essential medicines
Cash and credit cards
Sturdy shoes

DURING A STORM:

Choose emergency areas that will provide shelter for every place you may be located during the storm and conduct practice drills. Hold drills at home, school, and the office. Get inside if the storm catches you between locations. Contact the USAG Livorno Emergency Operations Center or MP Desk for information and updates. Tune your radio or television to AFN for weather updates. (fm station 106.0) or at home on decoder channel 222.

STORMS & HIGH WIND SURVIVAL RULES:

Protect yourself against the 'sandblasting' effect of flying sand, glass and debris. Cover your exposed skin and get inside quickly. Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

Flying objects
Falling trees and pine cones
Broken windows
Downed power lines

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & TOOLS:

Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed.

<http://www.ready.gov/>

Emergency Supply Checklist;

<http://www.ready.gov/america/downloads/checklist.pdf>

Camp Darby Emergency Numbers

	DSN	Civilian
Emergency	911	05-54-7575 (PMO)
Fire Dept.	117	050-54-7117
Health Clinic	633-7357	050-54-7357
	633-7358	050-54-7358

Emergency Numbers Off Base

Ambulance	118
Carabinieri	112
Fire	115
Emergency	113

Children's Flip Flops Recalled by Alpargatas Due to Violation of Lead in Paint Standard

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml09/09137.html>

Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of product: Children's flip flops

Units: About 210,000

Manufacturer: Alpargatas USA Inc., of New York, N.Y.

Hazard: Decorative paint on the sole of the flip flops can contain levels of lead in excess of the federal standard.

Firm's Recall Hotline: (888) 289-5306

CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772

Nautilus Recalls Bowflex(r) Home Gyms Due to Risk of Injury

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml09/09138.html>

Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of product: Bowflex(r) Ultimate 2 Home Gyms

Units: About 78,000 (about 68,000 home gyms were recalled on December 6, 2007)

Importer: Nautilus Inc., of Vancouver, Wash.

Hazard: The home gym's horizontal seat rail is designed to be latched in a vertical position for storage. If the seat rail is not manually latched, it can fall unexpectedly on the user or a bystander, posing a risk of serious injury.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Nautilus at (800) 259-9019 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.bowflex.com

Various Toys Recalled by CBB Group Due to Choking Hazard and Violation of Lead Paint Standard

Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of product: Fishing Games, Rattles, Pull-A-Long Cars, Mini Pull Back Cars, and Cartoon Bubble Guns

Units: About 39,000

Importer/Distributor: CBB Group Inc., City of Commerce, Calif.

Hazard: The fishing games, baby rattles and pull-a-long cars contain small parts, which can detach and pose a choking hazard to children. The mini pull back cars and bubble guns have surface paints which contain excessive levels of lead, violating the federal lead paint standard.

Product Information:

Fishing Games	Model KK-4296 UPC# 782468042968, Model PT-2006 UPC# 830002020061, Model T-8112 UPC#704291081129, Model KK-4461 UPC# 782468044610
6-Piece Rattle Set	Model ET-1293 UPC# 800323012939
6-Piece 3" Pull Back Cars	Model KK-4382 UPC# 78246804382
3-Piece Rattle Set	Model ET-1388 UPC#800323013882
Pull-A-Long Car	Model ET-1041 UPC# 800323010416, Model KK-4218 UPC# 782468042180
Battery-Operated Cartoon Bubble Gun	Model KK-4275 UPC# 782468042753, Model KK-4276 UPC#782468042760
Battery-Operated Dolphin Bubble Gun	Model OR-2238 UPC# 868333022386

Sold at: Dollar stores and toy stores nationwide from July 2007 through December 2008 for between \$1 and \$5.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should take the recalled products away from young children immediately and return them to the place where purchased for a full refund.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact CBB Group, Inc. toll-free at (866) 628-6238 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at www.cbbgroup.com

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. To join a CPSC email subscription list, please go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.



Camp Darby

March 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:

SFRC Welcome Home and Grand Opening!

Military Saves Week

AFAP Conference Results

ACS Calendar of Events

Spotlight: Coming Events!!

Welcome Home and Grand Opening of Service Member and Family Readiness Center (SFRC)

After many months of planning, building, and interior decorating, the SFRC in Bldg. 428, finally opened its doors for business on Friday, February 27th at noon.

The Welcome Home and Grand Opening celebration began with a ribbon cutting event by BG Belinda Pinckney, Army's Diversity Task Force Commander, LTC Steven Cade, USAG Livorno Garrison Commander, LTC Tammy Cobb, 31st Munitions Commander, Ms. Rebecca Cade, Camp Darby Family Readiness Senior Advisor and Ms. Evelyn Watkins, Army Community Service Officer.

Recently returned Airmen from contingency operations and Families were recognized.

The all-new facility features the Yellow Ribbon Room with four computers for E-mail, web-cam capability, a full kitchen, a cozy living room with flat screen TV, VCR/DVD player and XBOX, a conference room and a fun kids room, complete with an array of toys, books, games and small scale furniture, a training room with TV and internet capability, and information and referral.

Come to visit and utilize the many services and opportunities provided to help ease the stress of deployment. Attend the training sessions and classes that are offered by ACS.

Hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs- 10:00-3:00
Telephone: DSN 633-7946



Camp Darby Celebrated Savings with a Week of Events!

Across the country military members and their families were hearing the phrase "Build Wealth, Not Debt" and this was all because of Military Saves Week, Feb 22 to March 1. During the week, Mrs. Elizabeth Speck, Camp Darby's ACS Financial Readiness Manager, reminded community members to assess their savings status, act to improve upon their savings method and set up automatic savings options.

List of Events that occurred at Camp Darby for Military Saves Week

Feb. 22 - March 1

Take the "Saver Pledge" at www.militarysaves.org

February 24, 12:00 p.m.

Cake Cutting in Curley N. Square

February 25 - 26, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Informational Tables set up at the Curley N. Square



Visit Us Online at www.livornomwr.com



March 2009

Classes & Seminars

RELOCATION READINESS

Benvenuti at Camp Darby

Tuesday April 7, 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.

ARMY VOLUNTEER CORPS

Volunteer Action Council (VAC) for OPOCs

April 8, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS
Meetings are usually the 1st Wednesday every quarter.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Resume Points Training

March 13, 11:30-12:00 p.m. at ACS
Learn how to make yourself attractive on paper!

Career Fair by visiting professionals

March 24, 9:00-12:00 p.m. in the SFRC
Learn how to make yourself attractive on paper!

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT

Reintegration, Relationships & PTSD

March 11 & 18 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 SFRC
An interactive and educational playgroup for service members and their families with children from birth-3 yrs.

Military One Source



Military One Source 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

FINANCIAL READINESS

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Information

March 10, 11:30 p.m.-12:00 p.m. in the SFRC
Learn the benefits of TSP in this quickie class.

Identity Theft Protection

March 11, 1:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. in the SFRC
Learn steps that help to achieve financial freedom and security.

Consumer Rights and Obligations

March 13, 11:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. in the SFRC
Learn what you the consumer are entitled to and what your responsibilities are during this quickie class.

Financial Record Keeping Training

March 19, 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m. in the SFRC
Learn how work ATM/Debit purchases into balancing the checkbook.

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*



Soldier and Family Readiness Center

Are you an appointed Family Readiness Group Leader? Come to ACS and sign out a key to the building for your meetings.

Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

March 18 & 19, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the SFRC.
Level 1 is an introduction to the military for newcomers.
All trainings are also available online at:
www.myarmylifetoo.com

ACS Spotlight: Coming Events

March	April	May	June
March 18, <i>Cooking Class with Ann Hinckley "Spring into Spring"</i>	April 1, <i>Child Abuse Prevention and Safety Fair</i>	May 8, <i>Volunteer Recognition Ceremony</i>	June 17, <i>Multicultural Wives Club</i>
March 24, <i>ERP Career Fair</i>	April 11, <i>Child ID Day</i>	May 13, <i>Smooth Move</i>	June 17 & 18, <i>AFTB Level 1 Training</i>
March 31, <i>VA Rep. is coming to Camp Darby</i>	April 16, <i>Car Seat Safety Inspection</i>	May 26, <i>Single Service Member Meal</i>	June 23, <i>Money Basics for Teens</i>



FIREPROOF
YOUR MARRIAGE

NEVER LEAVE YOUR PARTNER BEHIND

Marriage Enrichment Small Group

Thursday, March 12 and 19
5 p.m. at the Chapel

Childcare Provided
Refreshments

Discussion group about the challenges and successes of marriage

Learn to break free from destructive relationship patterns and love for a lifetime

The Women's Ministry Announces:



Spring Retreat Mediterranean Area

At the Redeemer's Feet

Ruth 4:14-15a The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age."



GAETA, ITALY

MARCH 13TH-15TH, 2009 ONLY €99

Guest Speaker: Becky Shirey
Worship by the PWOC Chick Band

Contact Stephanie Feagin to sign up: stephanie.feagin@us.army.mil

Kid's Day at The Chapel

March 14, 2009

"When mamma's away the kiddos will play"

Guys, send your wives to Gaeta and bring the kids to the chapel for a day of fun

Games Stories
Lunch Lots of Water

10:00-14:00

Need men to volunteer to cook, set up, clean and lead games

Vacation Bible School 2009 Paul and the Underground Church



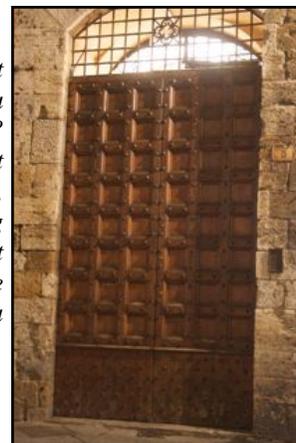
Coming in June

- ⇒ Make a huge difference on Camp Darby—Be A VBS volunteer
- ⇒ See Karen Pryor for more information

The theme is ancient Rome. Currently collecting items to decorate for that theme. Need the following:

- Cardboard
- Robes
- Children's plastic swimming pool
- Cardboard rolls (paper towels, toilet paper)

"If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."
- Genesis 4.7



Club Beyond is an ecumenical Christian ministry reaching out to every military teen. Club Beyond is sponsored by military chaplains as a part of the overall Command Religious Program at a military installation.

What's Happening?

Middle School

Monday Lunch	11:30-12:00	
Girls Bible Study	11:30-12:00	
Wednesdays Club	14:30-16:30	Wednesdays (at the school)



Reconciliation

Sun. 9:40-10 a.m. and by appointment

Those who approach the sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against him, and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which by charity, by example, and by prayer labors for their conversion." CCC 1422

Confirmation is being planned in Vicenza for the first week of June. Please contact Sherie at sheriedc@yahoo.com for further information.

CCD Classes

See Fr. Roberto or Lisa Parker for more information about CCD classes.

Holy Day Mass and Service Schedule

Holy Thursday	Thursday	April 9	Mass at 4 p.m.
Good Friday	Friday	April 10	Mass at 4 p.m., Service at 5:30 p.m.
Saturday	Saturday	April 11	Service at 5:30 p.m.
Easter	Sunday	April 12	Mass at 10 a.m., Service at 11:15 a.m.

UMUC EUROPE ANNOUNCES SPRING 2009 SESSION 2 REGISTRATION

New Europe \$100 Book Award for Spouses and Family Members

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- University of Maryland University College Europe (UMUC Europe) announces its registration period for Spring 2009 Session 2. For on-site courses, students may register now until 20 March with classes beginning on 22 March. For online (DE) courses, students may register now until 5 April with classes beginning on 6 April.

UMUC Europe is also pleased to announce a new Europe \$100 book award for spouses and family members of active-duty enlisted service members. The application process only takes minutes, and new and current students are encouraged to apply. Active-duty enlisted service members may still apply for the Orkand \$100 book award.

Scholarship applications are still being accepted for the many scholarships that UMUC Europe has to offer. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility of all applicable and available scholarships.

Students may learn more about admissions, registration, scholarships, and schedules for certificates, associate's, bachelor's and master's level courses by contacting their local UMUC Europe field representative or visiting www.ed.umuc.edu.

Central Texas College

CTC Schedule for Term IV Registration March 9- 20 2009

Classes:

Creative arts for early Childhood CDEC 1358 TU TH 1730 1930 Instructor: Fornaciari Linda

Introduction to Criminal Justice CJA 1322 (times to be confirmed) Instructor: Rhan Carol

There are also online classes also available.

For more information please call DSN 633-7492 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or email to [:darby@eruope.ctcd.edu](mailto:darby@eruope.ctcd.edu)

An alert to Soldiers, Airmen, and Civilians concerning on Online Degrees and Continuing Education Credits. It is crucial BEFORE you register for online courses or degrees that you check to ensure the source you are using is an Accredited University. There are programs available online which, for a fee and some of your military training information, will issue you a degree, but this WILL NOT be acceptable for promotion points unless it is listed as an Accredited Program. See the link below for a specific list of accredited universities listed by the Army.

Army Human Resource Website <https://www.ask.army.mil/dbhelper/searchdetail.aspx?sname=CVEDIN>
US Department of Education Link for Accredited Universities <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/>

By Kay Blakley

DeCA home economist

FORT LEE, Va. – The Military Saves campaign encourages service members and their families to develop financial fitness habits that lead to personal financial stability, and ultimately, to mission readiness. To help attain those goals, there's hardly a better habit to embrace than choosing the commissary for all your grocery and household needs. After all, "Extending the paychecks of military members with savings of 30-percent or more is the reason the commissary benefit exists," said DeCA Director and Chief Executive Officer Philip E. Sakowitz Jr. So, it should come as no surprise that No. 1 on our list of six easy ways for military families to stretch their food budget is shop the commissary!

Shop the commissary: We may look like a retail grocery store, but we're actually a government agency charged with delivering a non-pay benefit for military members and their families. Commissaries make no profit – you pay the same price DeCA pays for products, plus the 5-percent surcharge, which goes directly to funding the new construction or renovation of commissaries. Consistently shopping the commissary provides an average savings of more than 30-percent over retail grocery store prices.

Plan ahead: Sound meal planning and eating more meals at home will go a long way toward reducing your overall food expenditures. Don't forget to include leftovers in your plan. A large, inexpensive roast served on Sunday can provide the makings for sandwiches on Monday and a protein source in a chef salad served on Tuesday.

Make a list: Having a definite list when you shop helps avoid impulse buys. If you find an item on sale that you know you'll use later, feel free to add it to your cart. But beware of pretty displays that don't fit into your plan, and never shop when you're tired or hungry. You'll fill your cart with all kind of items – everything looks good when you're starving and trying to hurry.

Read labels and compare prices: When comparing prices of competing brands, compare the number of servings per container. A cheaper price on a larger size is only a savings if you actually use those extra ounces. It's no bargain if you end up throwing them away. Don't automatically assume that a larger-size container is always a better buy. Sometimes it is, but often it's not. Always check the unit price shelf tag, or do the math yourself. Sometimes huge savings can also be found by comparing the same product in different forms.

Do it yourself: The higher price for "convenience" items reflects the labor required to pre-cook, pre-cut, or pre-measure. Most of the time, substantial savings can be had by making these preparations yourself. Coleslaw is on my menu for dinner tonight, so I compared the difference between buying a head of cabbage (22 cents per pound) and shredding it myself versus buying a 1-pound bag of coleslaw mix (\$1.99). What a huge difference! I can easily spend a few minutes with my food processor for that kind of savings.

Redeem coupons: Coupons and rebate savings can add up fast. All commissaries honor Internet coupons these days, and most commissaries make paper coupons available near the store entrance, in the checkout area or sometimes attached to the products themselves. Keep an eye out for those you use most often. And remember, coupons redeemed in overseas commissaries are good six months past their stateside expiration date.

Savings through consistent shopping in commissaries year round can also add up fast. Yearly savings for a family of four averages \$3,400, a family of three saves more than \$2,600, a couple more than \$2,100 and a single service member saves nearly \$1,200. With savings like those you'll be financially fit and mission ready in no time.

Notice to Our Commissary Customers

Effective 2-26-2009

CertifiChecks, Inc. has informed us they will no longer administer the Gift CertifiCheck program.

This unfortunately affects our commissary customers.

As a result, at this time commissaries can no longer issue or redeem gift CertifiChecks.

DeCA is working with the Department of Defense to effect a solution to this unfortunate situation. It is suggested that you retain your CertifiChecks pending a resolution.

Road paving

On Friday , March 6 until Wednesday, March 11, the traffic flow on the south end of Harmon Avenue (New Commissary) will be restricted to one lane in order to repave the street outside of the construction site.

Sharepoint class in Vicenza

An Office 2007 and Sharepoint Integration class March 16-18 has been added to the schedule. Request the class through the ITT website or call AE-Information Technology Training Center.

AE-ITT WEBSITE: <http://itt.eur.army.mil>

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.

BOSS

Next Boss meeting : Tuesday, march 10 at 5:15 at the Boss lounge. We'll discuss possible fundraisers. For more infor about BOSS call ODR at 633-7775.

CYS Survey

If you have children enrolled in CYSS, please take a few minutes to complete the annual survey by clicking on the link provided below. http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=l0hzdqm5o150sxnwis_2bRiA_3d_3d



**STORE WORKERS WG-6914-04
VACANT POSITIONS
ARE AVAILABLE AT
DECA LIVORNO COMMISSARY**

APPLY AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL

Select **EMPLOYMENT**
Click on **SEARCH FOR JOBS**
Click on your country of interest
Type in occupational series (6914)
Click on **GET RESULTS** for a list of vacancies

Your opinion is important

Got an issue that you believe can be solved/ Or maybe your looking for an explanation? Log onto www.usag.livorno.army.mil and click on CAC to submit your issues. Answers will be printed in the Darby Digest.

CAMP DARBY JOBS**AAFES is hiring:**

Store associate at Shoppette, Main PX
Theater Worker
35mm Projectionist
Food Service worker

For information about the jobs or how to apply visit:
<https://recruiter.kenexa.com/aafes/cc/Home.ss?ccid=bupJEdUjsTs%3D>

NON-APPROPRIATED FUND JOBS

Applications are presently being accepted by the Livorno Civilian Personnel Branch Office for the following positions. Applicants should apply at the NAF Personnel Office, HQ Front 1st Floor, Room 11, Camp Darby, 633-7032, fax 633-7049. The hours of operation are 0900-1600, Monday-Friday. For further information, please review the specific job announcements located at NAF Personnel.

ANN. NO. POSITION TITLE, Series and grade

EUNAFLI0901OC	HOTEL DESK CLERK, NF-0303-01
EUNAFLI0902OC	CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM ASSIST CC-1702-01/02
EUNAFLI0903OC	CUSTODIAL WORKER, NA-3566-02
EUNAFLI0904OC	BARTENDER/BAR ASSISTANT NA-7405-01/03
EUNAFLI0905OC	ANIMAL CARETAKER, NA-0548-03
*EUNAFLI0913OC	LABORER, NA-3502-02
*EUNAFLI0907OC	RECREATION AID, NF-0189-01
*EUNAFLI0908OC	RECREATION AID LIFEGUARD, NF-0189-01
*EUNAFLI0909OC	RECREATION ASSISTANT, NF-0189-02
*EUNAFLI0910OC	LIFEGUARD (POOL OPERA TOR), NF-0189-02

Come visit our website at <http://cpolrhq.belvoir.army.mil/eur/index.htm>

ITR 633-7589

- Rome Trip March 14
- Children's Museum in Genoa March 21
- Republic of San Marino March 28

Darby Community Club 633-7855

- Texas Hold'em at the Darby Community Club. Free pasta to all Texas Hold'em players on March 13, 27.
- Celebrate St Patrick's Day March 17.
- Stop singing in the shower. Come and sing at the DCC and impress your friends March 12.

Outdoor Recreation 633-7775

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

Library 633-7623

- Don't miss the special story hour for children ages 3-5 years to celebrate Women's History Month on March 11 with a guest speaker.

Darby Lanes

- Check out our new dollar days on Thursdays. Dollar games, Dollar shoe rentals and Dollar Pizza toppings

Fitness Center 633-7440

- If you are looking to get into shape for no money at all, check out Eileen's list of classes. There's something scheduled almost every day of the week, and the best part is, it's free
- Dodge ball Extreme tournament march 17.

Auto Skills Center 633-7009

- New cleaning and detailing service is now available. Call to make an appointment.
- Get your oil changed here.
- Closed on Sundays, Mondays and holidays.

Download a copy of the 6-month (April 2009 through Sept. 2009) trip calendar today!

Log onto:
www.livornomwr.com

**COUNTRY & WESTERN NIGHT**

featuring **KATHY &
THE WILD BILLY'S**

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 10:30 P.M.

Free entrance for all U.S. ID card holders and Camp Darby LN's
Ride the mechanical bull for only Euro 3.00 per person



MARCH INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL

6-8 March

Rome Express
\$89.00 Deadline 02 March

07 March

Guided Florence
\$84.00 Deadline 02 March

7-8 March

Rogaska Spa & Crystal Factory
\$159.00 Deadline 23 February

13-15 March

Polish Pottery Shopping
\$149.00 Deadline 09 March

14 March

Guided San Marino
\$69.00 Deadline 09 March

14-15 March

Budapest
\$219.00 Deadline 02 March

21 March

Zagreb: Capital of Croatia
\$64.00 Deadline 16 March

21 March

Venice & Gondola Ride
\$64.00 Deadline 16 March

21 March

Castles of Bavaria
\$95.00 Deadline 16 March

28 March

Pisa & Bologna
\$79.00 Deadline 23 March

28 March

Guided Asolo & Bassano Del Grappa
\$59.00 Deadline 23 March

28-29 March

Cinque Terre
\$324.00 Deadline 18 March



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ITT
632-3107



Shamrock Shuffle 5K/ 1.5 mile Family Fun Run

Carney Park, March 14

DSN 627-7021 or 0771-709-021

Four Person String Scramble Golf Tourney

Fri, Mar 27. Tee off is 12 noon. Tourney is a four person string scramble using 10% of 4 players handicaps combined. String length issued is based on team handicap. Cost is \$25 per person plus green fees.

POC: Carney Park Golf Course, 081-526-4296

St. Patricks Day in Dublin, Ireland

Sun, Mar 15 thru Thu, Mar 19. Cost is \$749 for Single Sailor ID card holders, and \$849 for non-SS ID card holders. Price includes all bus transfers, round trip air transportation, 4 nights in a 3-star hotel, full Irish breakfast, tours of Dublin, Guinness Hopstore, Old Jameson Distillery, and Powerscourt Gardens and House.

POC: Liberty Center, 626-4896

Teen Center - Spring Break in Madrid

Tue, Apr 7 - Sat, Apr 11. Cost is €370 per teen (7-12 graders). Price includes round-trip air fare, 4 nights in a 3-star hotel, daily breakfast, 1 dinner at Madrid Hard Rock Cafe, admission to the Prado Museum, Royal Palace, and the Madrid Bullfighting Museum, all transportation throughout the trip. Sign up NOW! Seats are limited!

POC: Child and Youth Programs, 629-4395

Angels and Demons Tour; Path of Illumination

Sat, Apr 18. An incredible journey; discover the Illuminati and their secrets. The Path of Illumination; understand how to solve the many puzzles and enigmas. The Altars of Science; decode the secret messages hidden in Bernini sculptures and Galileo texts. The Church of Illumination; take a glimpse of "il Passetto", the secret passage that links the Vatican City with the Castel of Sant' Angelo. Cost is €120 per person and includes round trip transportation, a Pearls welcome drink, ITT tour leader assistance, and a full course dinner.

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/>

For Trip information visit:
www.mwritt.org

Vicenza ITR / ODR Trips

- Every weekend ODR takes you to the slopes so all ODR for information on equipment and fees at 634-7453.
- Join ITR for a Belluno Brewery tour and tasting of the Pedavena Beers at the on March 13 8:30-4 p.m. Enjoy a behind the scenes look at how the beer is made and visit the old wing of the brewery with ancient mosaics and the typical copper boilers. Call 634-7094.
- ITR heads to Klagenfurt Austria March 14 for a guided of this amazing town that according to legend was haunted by a special kind of dragon, a "lindwurm". Visit the Klagenfurt Cathedral and Minimundus, a collection of small scale models of famous building from all over the world. Call 634-7074 for information.

- Visit Trieste the beautiful port city on the northern corner of Italy near the Slovenian border. With ITR you'll explore Miramare Castle with its beautiful gardens on this prime seaside location. After the guided tour you'll have free time for lunch and shopping.

You will now find information about the top 10 requested destinations, answers to the most frequently asked questions, and links to the most popular sites in the area on www.vicenzaMWR.com or call 634-7453.

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

SOLDIERS' THEATRE PRESENTS

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

LYRICS BY TIM RICE. MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN MUSIC LIBRARY, NY

FEATURING

NATHAN NELSON	AARON TALLEY	
CHRISTIAN ARROYO	JERRY BRES	MITCHELL BENTLEY
LUGI DALLA VECCHIA	JONLUCA DECARO	LUKA FAVESI
LORENZO FELIATTI	ERIC GROSSHANS	JAMES KEVER
REGGIE HEINES	JOE REEDER	ERIC TORRENCE
LEE NELSON	MYRETA DAVIS	LINDA DAHLSTROM
BIZZY BUFFINGTON	JUNEL JEFFREY	SONIA ELIA
BETHANY HACKER	MICHELLE NELSON	CHELESA MARGANTONIO
ANNA MAESIGNAN	MARSHA PITMAN	GAROLDIN PARISE RIZZO
TAMARA PESSAH		EVELYN STANLEY

DIRECTION BY JOANNE MITCHELL. WITH CHOREOGRAPHY BY JERRY BRES AND LINDA DAHLSTROM
MUSIC DIRECTION BY CIRIACO COLELLA
VOCAL COACHING BY AARON TALLEY

MARCH 13 - 29, 2009
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. SUNDAY MATINEES AT 2 P.M.
TICKETS: \$15 ADULTS & \$12 YOUTH. BOX OFFICE: CALL 634-7281
www.vicenzaMWR.COM

OFFICIAL ENTRY
MILITARY & CIVILIAN
PLAYS FESTIVAL



Dolcemente Prato

Prato, Italy March 6-8

The City of Prato celebrates its second year highlighting every sort of pastry imaginable at the Dolcemente Prato Festival.

There will be food tasting, shows and guest speakers. The exposition room has 18 special exhibits from Chocolate to coffee to renowned "Pasticcieri" to a collection of unusual marmalades.

Each day begins with a breakfast from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. centering on pastries from a particular region. (Saturday is Emilia Romagna and Sunday is Puglia)

At 5 p.m. enjoy high tea with speakers.

Hours and Cost:

Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Entrance Fee: 5 Euro

How to get there: From Camp Darby get on the A-11 Autostrade heading towards Florence. Take the Prato-Est exit and follow the signs towards Centro Pecci.

GPS address: Viale della Repubblica 186, 59100 Prato

www.dolcementeprato.it

Festa della Donna

International Women's Day March 8

Florence:

- Music concert: Quartetto Aphrodite at 10:30 a.m. at Careggi, Auditorium Clinica Medica www.agimusfirenze.it
- V-DAY March 7,8 at 9.m. and 4 p.m showing on March 8: Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues (In English) at Teatro di Cestello www.florencetheatre.com

Pisa:

- Bacchus Enoteca, Via Aurelia Sud, 8: Dinner (20 Euro) with dancing and live music. RSVP 050-960350
- Risorante da "Antonella e Umberto", Via Carducco 60. karaoke and piano bar with Seafood dinner for 32 Euro, children's menu 10 Euro. RSVP 050-878757
- Il Risoranti Emilio, Via di Cammeo 44. Karaoke and show with Land or sea meal for 25 Euro. RSVP 050-562141
- Risorante le Torre, Via delle Torri 2. Dinner for 16 Euro. RSVP 050-9711697

Lucca Animation

Lucca, Italy March 18-22

Lucca Animation Press Release:

An amazing parade of guests, workshops, retrospectives and premieres, with the best of the world animated production, will take place in the Tuscan town, transporting it into an innovating and, in the same time, historical planet. Amongst the various events, the International Short Film Competition: forty films, chosen amidst two hundreds participants coming from everywhere in the world (from Canada to Iran, from Japan to Estonia), have been selected to run for the Gran Premio 2009, which will be awarded by a specialized jury. There will be room also for Special Programmes with themed screenings like Roborealismo, a retrospective on the films that changed, over three decades, the vision of the mythical Japanese giant robots, or a special focus on Africa, with the screening of the first animated feature entirely produced in Zimbabwe, forerunner of a new and continuously growing scene. *Tickets :Single Screening 3 Euro to Fest 5 day pass 35 Euro.*

www.luccaanimation.it

Finding David...or not

By Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Living in Italy means many of my friends and relatives want to visit me so they can explore Tuscany with a cheap guide and free place to stay. I'll visit Cinque Terra or Venice willingly, but I always sluff off when they want to go to Florence and take them to the train station, give them a cell phone and a map and wish them well.

Well, this year when my father decided to visit, I decided to go with him so I could do a travel story about Florence. In particular, I wanted to see Michelangelo's David. Little did I know, there are over 100 museums in Florence (which I later discovered on the Official Florence Tourism web site) and I wasn't too sure what was where.

Upon arriving at Santa Maria Novella train station, we made our way through the leather and street markets, around the Duomo and finally into what I believed was the Piazza Vecchia, not Palazzo Vecchio.

Huge statues of famous Italian artists and philosophers lined the street. Seeing a replica of David outside of a museum entrance with a line, I assumed we had made it to the Uffizi and promptly stood in line with my father and camera.

My father, who had seen David decades ago with my mother wasn't too sure we were in the right place.

"No Dad, this has got to be it," I responded. "I could have sworn the original David was inside and to the left or maybe to the right."

After climbing up and down steep stairs and seeing some lovely paintings on the walls and ceilings, I was no longer sure if we would see David before breaking for lunch.

"I think we're in somebody's house," said my father.

I grumbled something incoherently as I called my coworkers cell.

"No, David is not at the Uffizi and it sounds like you aren't either," said my coworker. "David is in the Academy Gallery, so your probably at David's original site in Piazza della Signoria.

At that point, I realized we weren't going to see David this time and I would have to make a special trip back later. I also resolved the next time I had friends or family that wanted a guided tour of Florence, I would definitely send them on the installations Information, Tours and Recreation trip.



The Palazzo Vecchio is filled with rooms with huge murals. Cameras are allowed, but without the flash. Open from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. except Thursdays and holidays (closes early at 2 p.m.) Visit www.museumsinflorence.com for more info.

“Tasting Tuscany” fest tantalizes your taste buds

Story by Jaylyn Clark

Special to the Digest

Among the myriad of reasons Camp Darby is a fantastic location to visit is its proximity to Florence. After you’ve seen the Duomo, walked across the Ponte Vecchio and visited numerous world-class museums, you will discover that is just scratching the surface.

March 14, for example, ushered “Taste” a three-day exhibition whose primary aim was to highlight and share the cultural and biological diversities of foods in Italy. It featured over 170 exhibitors selected from Italy’s finest makers of products ranging from cheeses to fruit preserves, oils to vinegars, salmon to sausages, the ubiquitous pasta, chocolates, as well as Italy’s premier wines, liqueurs, cakes, coffees and confectionary.

The event was located in the historic Stazione Leopolda, a former railroad station whose architecture has been faithfully preserved to house large-scale public events. It is an imposing structure that evokes its industrial past down to the original tracks that carve its floor, including the circular track in the center, presumably to allow trains to literally turn around.

The fair was configured into three long aisles that extended the length of the building, flanked on either side by high, narrow counters. Vendors were lined up behind these counters. Each vendor’s display blended seamlessly into the other as they stood side-by-side one after the other down the length of the aisles.

The basic layout could be described as the fundamentals of a three-course meal. The first aisle was for all intents and purposes the appetizer. Here were to be found the olive oils drizzled on breads, the vinegars by the spoonfuls. Further down were selections of artisan sausages and cured salmons and sturgeons and tunas suspended in olive oils.

The next aisle was comprised of varied condiments. We encountered, yes, olive jams; gooseberry jam (my husband insists that I include the remark I made after I tried the gooseberry jam, “Why, it tastes fresh and tangy, like a wild edible berry you might pick while on a hike in the mountains.”); rose hips jam; a marmalade made from figs, hazelnuts, walnuts, and grapes; balsamic jelly; the combinations appeared limitless.

One vendor featured all things “truffles” with its most recent venture being a truffle-flavored praline that wasn’t half bad. There seemed to be miles and miles of cheeses galore. I discovered *ventagli* pasta, which looks like the cut-off crinkled edge of the lasagna noodle. We noted that the Umbria region is acclaimed for their legumes.

Items were presented in bite-sized portions. There was no limit to each person’s sampling and servings were endlessly forthcoming. It must be said that with the copious varieties of foods spread throughout, a taste was pretty much all a person could spare.

What added to the experience was the opportunity

to converse one-on-one with suppliers who were only too happy to share the background on their products. For instance, the representative from *Il Borgo Del Balsamico* explained the complicated process involved in the making of balsamic vinegar—how the label produced different aged varieties depending upon its usage in the kitchen—from young balsamic aged 3 months in a wooden cask, good for that added zip in a salad dressing due to its high-acidic content, to their premium product retailing more than 100 Euros and aged at least 25 years. She shared a sample of their finest balsamic adding it is considered an excellent digestive when taken by the teaspoon following a meal. We watched fascinated as the thick dark liquid oozed slow as sludge out of its bottle. It tasted sublime.

We also learned about *Acquerello* rice cultivated in the Piedmont region. They actually age the rice for one year within steel silos under a controlled temperature. This allows the starch to mature ultimately creating a brand of rice that embodies deeper flavor, creamier texture, and better shape retention to promote superior absorption of sauces. Two enthusiasts nearby made a point to regale its properties declaring Arborio rice paled in comparison.

The third and final aisle was an apt conclusion to our gustatory journey. Here lay palliatives for the soul whether your elixir of choice was spirits (limoncello anyone?) or a jolt of caffeine to reawaken the senses worn sluggish from a full stomach; and perhaps it was time to satisfy that elusive sweet tooth craving from the innumerable assortment of treats gleaming colorfully from their wrappers and glass cases.

One chocolatier embellished its chocolates with actual shavings of silver and gold leaf while another chronicled an array of cookies and nougats unique to their region. We stumbled upon an exquisite torta that was simply divine. It was basically a “cake” of ganache, smooth as silk and dusted with a coating of cocoa... heavenly!

Stuffed to the bursting point, we had maybe sampled a quarter of the items available. We were exhausted. It was time to go home and relax our bellies.

As we were gathering our belongings at the coat check, two young American ladies approached us and asked whether the 8 Euro entrance fee was worth the price of admission. Would they get anything to eat?

“More than you can possibly imagine” we responded heartily, and they excitedly trotted off to buy their tickets.

If anything, we might sum up our experience as being likened to the equivalent of a fashionable all-you-can-eat buffet... Italian style... with drinks to boot.

Jaylyn and her husband Air Force Capt. Stephen Clark are avid travelers and enjoy spending their weekends exploring the world outside of Camp Darby.

TASTE. IN VIAGGIO CON LE DIVERSITÀ DEL GUSTO

March 14– 16

Florence, Stazione Leopolda - V.le Fratelli Rosselli, 5

Open to the public

Hours: 10.30 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. (Monday 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.)

Admission €10 for the public

For more information: www.tastefirenze.it



Movies Begin: 6:00 p.m. Matinees Begin: 1:00 p.m.

Mar 7 *Bedtime Stories* PG Adam Sandler, Keri Russell

Hotel handyman Skeeter's life is changed forever when the bedtime stories he tells his niece and nephew start to come true. He attempts to take advantage of the phenomenon, incorporating his own aspirations into one outlandish tale after another, but it's the kids' unexpected contributions that turn Skeeter's life upside down. Rated PG (rude humor, mild language) 99 min

Mar 8 *The Unborn* PG-13 Gary Oldman, Odette Yustman

Casey Beldon hated her mother for abandoning her as a child. But when inexplicable events begin to happen, Casey begins to understand why she left. Plagued by merciless dreams and a tortured ghost that haunts her waking hours, she must turn to the only spiritual advisor, Sendak, who can make it stop. With Sendak's help, Casey uncovers the source of a family curse dating back to Nazi Germany--a creature with the ability to inhabit anyone or anything that is getting stronger with each possession. Rated PG-13 (intense sequences of violence/terror, disturbing images, thematic material, language, sexual references) 88 min

Mar 12 *Taken* PG-13 Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace

Bryan, a former secret agent relies on his old skills to save Kim, his 17 year old estranged daughter, who has been forced into the slave trade. Using his contacts in the CIA and the business connections of his ex-wife's husband, he travels to Paris to find her. Rate PG-13 (intense sequences of violence, disturbing thematic material, sexual content, drug references, language) 91 min

Mar 13 *Friday the 13th* R Amanda Righetti, Jared Padalecki

Searching for his missing sister, Clay heads up to the eerie woods of legendary Crystal Lake where he stumbles on the creaky remains of rotting old cabins that lie in wait behind moss-covered trees. Against the advice of police and cautions from the locals, Clay pursues what few leads he has with the help of a young woman he meets among a group of college kids up for an all-thrills weekend. Little do they know, they've entered the domain of one of the most terrifying specters in American film history - Jason. Rated R (graphic bloody violence, sexual content, drug references, language) 98 min

Mar 14 *Transporter 3* PG13 Jason Statham, Natalya Rudakova

Frank Martin has been pressured into transporting Valentina, the kidnapped daughter of Leonid Vasilev, the head of the environmental protection agency for the Ukraine. Along the way, with the help of inspector Terconi, Frank has to contend with the people who strong armed him to take the job sent by Vasilev to intercept him, and the general non-cooperation agents of his passenger. Despite Valentina's cynical disposition and his resistance to

get involved, they fall for each other, while escaping from one life-threatening situation after another. Rated PG-13 (intense action/violence, sexual content, drug material) 100 min

Mar 15 *Fired Up* PG-13 Nicholas D'Agosto, Eric Christian Olsen
Shawn and Nick the stars of the Gerald R. Ford High School football team, are dreading the prospect of another summer at football camp. After Nick hatches a scheme for the two to join their schools cheerleaders at cheer camp instead, they find themselves awash in a sea of gorgeous young women. The guys are having the time of their lives until Shawn falls for Carly, the beautiful head cheerleader who is very suspicious of their motives. To win Carly over, the boys must come up with some surprising new moves to prove Shawn's intentions before the all-important cheer competition finals. Rated PG-13 (crude & sexual content/ nudity, language, teen partying) 90 min

Mar 19 *Yes Man* PG-13 Jim Carrey, Zooey Deschanel

A man signs up for a self-help program based on one simple principle: say yes to everything... and anything. At first, unleashing the power of "yes" transforms his life in amazing and unexpected ways, but he soon discovers that opening up his life to endless possibilities can have its drawbacks. Rated PG-13 (crude sexual humor, language, brief nudity) 104 min

Mar 20 *Valkyrie* PG-13 Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh

Colonel Von Stauffenberg is a loyal officer who serves his country all the while hoping that someone will find a way to stop Hitler. Realizing that time is running out, he decides that he must take action himself and joins the German resistance. Armed with a cunning strategy to use Hitler's own emergency plan- known as Operation Valkyrie- these men plot to assassinate the dictator and overthrow his Nazi government from the inside. Rated PG-13 (violence, language) 121 min

Mar 21 *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* PG-13

Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett

"I was born under unusual circumstances." And so begins "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," adapted from the 1920s story by F. Scott Fitzgerald about a man who is born in his eighties and ages backwards: a man, like any of us, who is unable to stop time. We follow his story, set in New Orleans from the end of World War I in 1918, into the 21st century, following his journey that is as unusual as any man's life can be. Rated PG-13 (war violence, sexual content, language, smoking) 167 min

Mar 22 *Transporter 3* PG-13 MATINEE

Mar 26 *He's Just Not Into You* PG13

Mar 27 *The Day the Earth Stood Still* PG-13

Mar 28 *Fired Up* PG-13

Mar 29 *The Legend of Chun-Li* PG-13 MATINEE