

Darby Digest

www.usag.livorno.army.mil
November 20, 2009

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Camp  Darby's premier bi-monthly newsletter



Thanksgiving Holiday Safety Message

In 1789, President George Washington declared the first National Day of Thanksgiving. Years later, with America engaged in a costly civil war, President Abraham Lincoln revived what is now an annual tradition.

As American Soldiers, Airmen, DA civilians and their families pause to consider and rejoice in our many blessings, I'm personally thankful for your hard work and dedication in defense of America's ideals and liberty. Sergeant Major Rodriguez joins me in wishing each of you a joyous and safe Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Commanders and first-line leaders must continue to take an active role. The US Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center (<https://safety.army.mil/>) and the USAF Safety Center (<http://www.afsc.af.mil/>) have proven tools to identify travel hazards and implement risk controls. Ensure risk assessments and safety awareness briefings are completed. Leaders must stay engaged to eliminate potential loss. Leader engagement can make a difference!

If you're traveling this Thanksgiving remember that planning ahead is key. Do a good PMCS on your vehicle. Always use safety belts and child safety seats. Keep your arrival time realistic and plan for delays. Get a good night's sleep before traveling. Drive defensively and pay attention to your surroundings, especially during inclement weather. Do not drink and drive!

This is a special holiday and you are valuable members of the Camp Darby/Livorno military community. I want each of you to enjoy your Families, celebrate smartly, and return to work safely. The Garrison Safety office stands ready to assist you in all your safety endeavors.

STEVEN G. CADE
LTC, EN
Commanding



Vol. III, Issue 21

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

Cover photo by Joyce Costello

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Army and Navy JROTC celebrate Veterans in Florence

A Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training cadet helps his Army JROTC color guard counterpart get ready for the Veterans Day ceremony at the Florence American Cemetery Nov. 11.

Story and photo by Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

FLORENCE, Italy- America's leaders of tomorrow stepped up to the responsibility of honoring America's Veterans at a joint Veterans Day memorial ceremony at the Florence American Cemetery in Tuscan, Italy Nov. 11.

"We have to keep the memories alive and respect our Veterans because if we don't then you dishonor the people who gave their lives," said Cadet Capt. Jayson Richard, Vicenza JROTC commander.

Cadet Lt. Cmdr. Ashley Travis, Naples Naval JROTC company officer added "I'm grateful that I am able to stand here today because Veterans back then decided to stand up for their country and our freedom...I have so much respect for those warriors who made the ultimate sacrifice."

Richard, who is a senior at Vicenza American High School, has been in JROTC for three years and decided to join because he always had been interested in the military.

"I have always been attracted to the lifestyle and discipline that the military offer," said Richard. "I think being involved in JROTC has refined my values and helped me to have more focus on what I do in school and in my life."

Richard added that while it may see that being in JROTC is a lot of hard work, that it teaches him stuff that he wouldn't get from any other class.

"I'm honored and humbled to be able to contribute to honoring our veterans in ceremonies such as this."

According to Maj. George Smailes, Vicenza ROTC Officer Instructor, this was the first year the two groups joined together to honor Veterans at the Florence American Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony

World War II Veteran goes back in time

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

This Veterans Day, Nov. 11, people are honoring our brother and sisters in arms around the world. One World War II veteran traveled around the world to come back to areas that he helped liberate in Italy and France.

Pfc.. Noel Yuzuro Okamoto, a Japanese American who was born in 1922 in Hawaii, joined the Army in March 1943 and was eventually assigned to the 442nd RCT, 232 Combat Engineer Company. He recently took part in a liberation ceremony in Bruyeres, France with the color guard from 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT.

“They (color guard) brought the original flag that we brought here 65 years ago,” said Okamoto. “It was very touching to see it fly at the ceremony.”

After the ceremony he met an older French man who had a book naming everyone who was in the 442nd and their rank. He had been collecting autographs over the years and having the veterans date his book whenever they came back to the area.

Okamoto pulled out a yellowing photograph of a young French girl he was friends with when serving in the area. On the back was written her name Raymonde’. The man with the book immediately decided that he was going to be the local town guide and help Okamoto find his lost beauty.

Raymonde’ was still alive and living in the town.

“When we called her on the phone, she at first thought it was a joke,” said Okamoto. “Once we were at her home and asked her if she was the woman in the photo, she had a large smile and pulled out a matching copy of the photo from a drawer.”

“It was absolutely amazing to me that we found her and that she had the same photos,” said Vicki Youngblood, Okamoto’s daughter. “It was like something out of the movies.”

After leaving France, Okamoto and his daughter went to visit Pvt. “Curley” Nakae square at Camp Darby, Italy. Okamoto wanted to leave a “Go for Broke” 442nd lanyard on the monument that celebrated the Medal of Honor recipient Pvt. Nakae.

“It’s important to remember our veterans from today and yesterday,” simply stated Okamoto.



5,160 minutes of remembrance

Story and photos by Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

FLORENCE, Italy- I went to the Florence American Cemetery this Veterans Day to cover the ceremony by the Army and Navy JROTC. I saw these four Italian men wearing baseball caps with the International Police Association logo. I had seen these men before over the years whenever I covered ceremonies in Florence. Curious about their involvement I went over to find out why they were there.

"It's the 11th" one man answered in English- as if it was the most logical thing in the world.

I wasn't sure if he was referring to the date or the hour. It turned out to be both. Ugo Arrighetti explained that every 11th day of the month since 9/11, these ex-carabinieri Italians had been coming to the Florence American Cemetery for an hour of silence from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

"But why?" I asked still unsure if it was an official function of the International Police Association that they belonged to or if it was something else.

"Because our souls tell us to do it...because if you refuse to learn history then you never have to do anything about it...because one hour of our life each month is nothing in comparison to what happened that day...because that hour of silence allows us to reflect on sacrifices made," Arrighetti replied.

It was hard not to break out into tears as the cemetery's church bell tolled 11 times right after Arrighetti finished explaining why the four Italian men paid tribute at an American military cemetery for people they never even knew. They weren't making the monthly meeting into an occasion to go to a restaurant afterwards and share a good Italian meal. No, these men were silent in keeping their vigilance. They were not boasting to reporters nor not looking to be applauded or asking anything in return. They were taking the time to remember and honor history.

I waited until I was alone before I cried. I cried for the two indigent veterans that died in Bakersfield, California that were given a proper military burial by people that never knew them. I cried for the private who is blinded and laying alone in Walter Reed without a family to be by his side. I cried for the families at Fort Hood, for my friends in Iraq and Afghanistan, for my friends who have died doing what they believed in and for those who will be injured tonight while I sleep.

Mostly, I cried from the shame of knowing that there are so many ways with my job to make sure people stationed here learn the history about what happened at Camp Darby from World War II to present. That so many have sacrificed so much and that if we don't capture this history and share it that Arrighetti is right "we can pretend we don't have to do anything about it".



(Left to right) Ugo Arrighetti, Franco Banchetti, Vandero Carolo Vergaro and Giorgio Bianchi, members of the International Police Association, visit the Florence American Cemetery in Tuscany every 11th day of the month since 9/11 to spend an hour remembering those who have sacrificed their lives. IPA has been involved with other remembrance ceremonies at the Florence American Cemetery for the last 16 years.



Camp Darby team tests their mettle USAFE flag football championships

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

CAMP DARBY, Italy- Ten Air Force unit level flag football teams traveled across Europe to Camp Darby, Italy for the first combined USAFE Flag football championship Nov. 12-16. Divided into two pools the top contenders in the semifinals were 86th Communication Squadron from Ramstein Air Base, 31st Security Forces Squadron from Aviano Air Base, 52nd Logistic Readiness Squadron from Spangdahlem Air Base and 731st Munitions from Camp Darby.



Ramstein beat Aviano 27- 6 and Camp Darby beat Spangdahlem 26-7 leaving Aviano and Spangdahlem to fight for third. Spangdahlem beat Aviano 6-0 in overtime. Finals went to double overtime, when Ramstein beat Camp Darby 20-19 securing them the coveted title of USAFE Flag Football Champions for 2009.

“We were on the verge of being defeated earlier in the tournament and were able to bounce back and take first,” said Staff Sgt. Randy McGinnis, Ramstein’s quarterback. “Going into double overtime was very stressful, but it taught me a valuable lesson to trust your teammates in overtime. If we could score then the offense would look after us to clinch the victory.”

The Camp Darby team, which had only been playing together for a week, played some impressive defense added McGinnis.

“It was a challenging tournament as we had 99% of our guys playing both ways with only one guy to substitute in and we normally practice against each other and not as a team,” said Staff Sgt. Johnny Escobar, Camp Darby’s quarterback. “It was hard work, but we stuck through it and played some amazing games.

USAFE Sports Director, Thomas Burkett, said the camaraderie between the teams was outstanding and that is what military sports is about. He added that the tournament will be held at Camp Darby again next year.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/campdarby/collections/72157622683695603/>



Camp Darby Solider completes first-ever overseas LESEL course



By Tom Saunders

IMCOM-E Public Affairs

HEIDELBERG, Germany - Twenty six Installation Management Command-Europe Directorate of Emergency Services and Provost Marshal senior leaders graduated from a two-week Law Enforcement Senior Leadership Course Nov. 6 marking the successful completion of the first-ever class conducted overseas.

A two-person mobile training team from the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, brought the classroom to Europe as part of a two-pronged Installation Management Command initiative to provide more cost effective training and to bolster the capability and knowledge of DES and OPM personnel globally.

"This idea first filtered through DES channels at IMCOM and through training channels at USAMPS to gauge the viability of bringing training to the field primarily in CONUS. However, we had the desire to have the training in Europe. So we conducted a cost analysis that validated measurable cost savings would be realized by bringing two instructors here to conduct training instead of flying 26 students back to the U.S.," said Pete Horcasitas, IMCOM-Europe Directorate of Emergency Services chief. "The end result is that we had outstanding instructors provide valuable training here that strengthens and broadens the knowledge base of our DES and PMO workforce in Europe."



Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Gomez (left) observes a firefighting demonstration during a LESEL course

Instructors David Reed, USAMPS Chief of the Law Enforcement Operations Branch, and Candy Vidal, USAMPS LESEL course manager, covered a variety of subject matter spanning the DES and OPM functions to include law enforcement and fire management processes, as well as resourcing, budgeting, and contract management using a seminar-style teaching approach in order to foster discussions and exchange of ideas.

Reed explained that one of the goals was to provide training that facilitated sharing of knowledge.

"This program of instruction is designed to assist provost marshals, DESs, and their senior operational staff to better perform their law enforcement and force protection duties. It's not as simple as a 'how to be a police chief' course," said Reed. "This was designed to provide some solid resources, encourage student discussions, and deliver an overview of the roles and expectations of senior DES and PMO personnel from an Army perspective.

Reed explained that when a course places senior civilian and military members in a venue like this, they tend to learn a great deal from each others experiences as most of them have learned a lot of what they know by doing this job.

"During this course, we discussed policies and standards, but also let students identify areas they wanted to get smarter about, and they did just that," said Reed.

According to Vidal, because many DES and OPM personnel have a tactical background either working in MP platoons, military working dogs, or a narrower mission scope, "this training helped fill the knowledge gap to provide a broader understanding of the responsibilities embedded in the role of a DES or OPM senior leader."

Students from all U.S. Army Garrisons in Europe attended the training bringing with them diverse experience.

"The course was especially important to me, because I came from a Brigade Combat Team where the Law Enforcement aspect of my job was limited to only two to three weeks a year for the last six years," said Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Gomez, USAG Livorno. "The course brought me up to speed with current developments in rules, regulations, host nation agreements and the SOFA. When discussing issue and concerns with classmates, most if not all had similar issues and each were able to give some sort of solution."

He added that the biggest issues he could take back with him to Camp Darby was additional ways to deal with improving international relations and cooperation.



Appreciating our Military Families

By Stacy Walker
Camp Darby Army Community Services

During the month of November Camp Darby's Army Community Services is showing its appreciation for Military Families with a special barbecue and new programs like the single parent support group. One event that highlighted the sacrifices made by families supporting their service members was a chili and rib cook-off and barbecue appreciation event on Nov. 10.

"It was nice to have a night where spouses didn't have to cook...they deserve the appreciation for all that they do for us," said Tech. Sgt. Edwin Fields, father of one.

Air Force first Sgt. and father of two, James Poole, added that "Families are the lifeline of our success."

On March 11, 2009, Congress declared the year 2009 to be the year of "The Military Family." This symbolic gesture was and is used as a way to show support, love and appreciation for the 2.9 million spouses of Active, Reserve, and Guard components, 1.3 million military "brats", as well as the millions of military parents.

Families can pack up a home and move across country or across the ocean with very little notice. They can even make any old house a home. Military Families are often separated for very long periods of time, missing holidays, birthdays, and life milestones. But they do it all with a smile on their faces and a pride that cannot be explained.

"It's a lot of sacrifice and hard work, but in the end it's worth it," says Coralia Jimenez-Goodman, Army wife and Soldier.

"A strong Soldier is the result of a strong family," added Maria Lechuga, mother of two.

Top to bottom (left to right) Maria Lechuga and her daughters Sophia and Marina enjoy drawing a portrait of a happy military family on the table during the Camp Darby Military Appreciation barbecue Nov. 10. ; Staff Sgt. Moises Cruz-Izquierdo enjoys some father-daughter time; The Gomez family enjoys some quality time together during the Camp Darby Military Appreciation barbecue Nov. 10. (Photos by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs).



Forklift safety training keeps workforce rolling

Story and Photo by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety Office ensured Italian and American forklift operators received refresher training in accordance with OSHA standards and Italian Law Nov. 16 to 20.

According to David Henry, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety Officer forklift operators are required to take a forklift operator class as they are hired and have the forklift endorsement on their SETAF driver license, then a refreshment course must be completed every three years.

“This refresher training, provided both in Italian and in English, is a two hours of classroom instruction and two hours of forklift operation evaluation tailored for the U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Directorates but open to tenant units as well,” said Chiara Chelossi, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety and occupational Health Specialist.

During the training session forklift operator refreshed their ability to drive and to observe basic safety measures from checking the vehicle fluids to control the tires and to always remember to fasten seat belts while operating the vehicle.

“We offered training for a full week,” said David Henry, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety Manager. “But we are ready to provide more classes if someone in need missed this opportunity”.



Pasquale Corradini (driving), Transportation Mobile Equipment Repairer, 3rd, 405th Field Support Battalion, performs his forklift operators refresher training, Nov. 17, while David Henry, U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety Officer checks the accuracy of his maneuvers.

Combined Federal Campaign open until Dec. 15

Camp Darby has donated \$3,080 to CFC organizations so far. Everyone can make a difference with CFC. Donations can be made by cash, checks, credit card and debit transaction or by payroll deduction.

Try e-Giving, CFC-O's fully automated giving option. The user-friendly instructions guide contributors through the process. There is a limit of 2% of base pay on credit and debit card giving.

Online Pledge Assistant is not a fully automated pledge system but a way for contributors to fill out a pledge form online. Once the pledge card is complete, contributors must print the pledge card and sign the payroll allotment copy before turning it in to their CFC Keyperson.

For more information on the program check the CFC website at www.cfccoverseas.org or contact Staff Sgt. Steinhorst at DSN 633-7575.



Story and photo by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Easy access to TRICARE on-line is now available in the Livorno Health Clinic, in the lobby. There's a computer connected at all times available for customers to link with the TRICARE site where customers can easily book their appointment or update their personal data.

"Customers can access the TRICARE web site from their homes by logging on to www.tricareonline.com or use the computer designated for this purpose in the Clinic lobby," said Mirella Bernardelli, Livorno Health Clinic Medical Records Technician. "This system is a big opportunity to give beneficiaries easy access to care".

"Booking an appointment on line is really easy and allows to avoid long lines, as well as choosing the exact day and time for your visit, comfortably from your computer," added Spc. Holly Arnold, Livorno Health Clinic Medic.



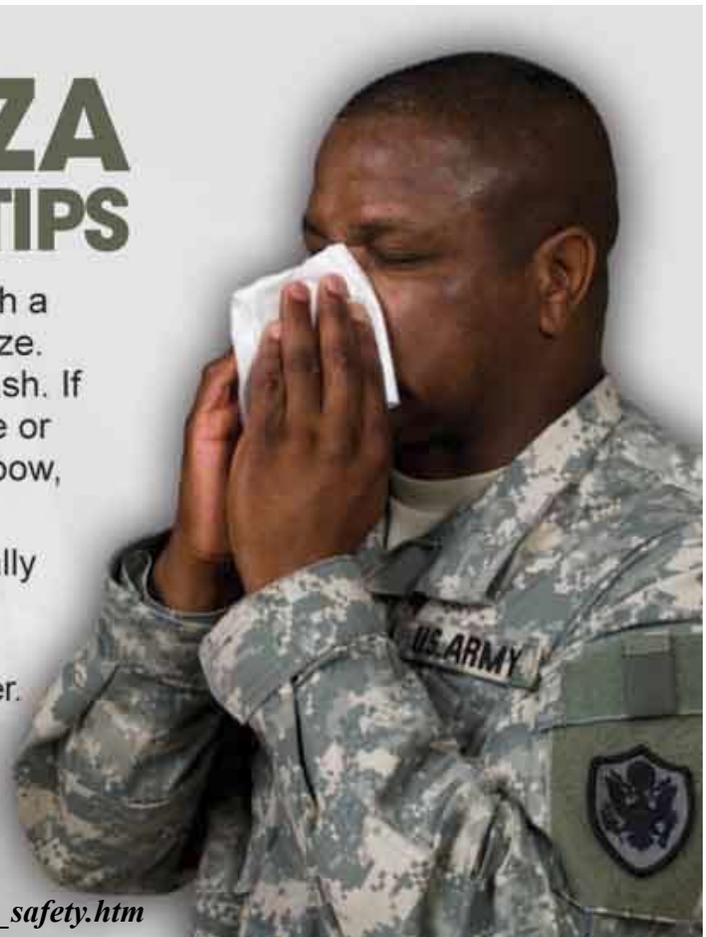
Spc. Holly Arnold, Livorno Health clinic Medical, books her medical appointment via TRICARE on-line in the Livorno Clinic lobby. The new system is available to all TRICARE beneficiaries.

www.tricareonline.com

INFLUENZA PREVENTION TIPS

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

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



Giving objects to a second life



Story and photos by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

So many times we buy objects that we really like, and after a short while we just get tired of seeing them, or maybe we just can't find them an appropriate place in our homes. We don't want to throw them away, but we don't really want them cluttering up our homes any more. Other times, we buy things for our children and they grow so fast that they are not able to wear them any more; but, the items still looks new.

At Camp Darby there is a great opportunity to give those object a second life by donating them to the Thrift Store, or even to get a value back from them by consignment. The Livorno Thrift Store "Second Glance" collects and resells all kind of goods.

"We accept donations and consignment of any object, as long as it is new or semi new," said Monica Mechur, Thrift Store Manager. "While consigning unused belongings, other people's unused belonging may become our special deal."

"The Livorno Thrift Store is an incredible source good buys; anything can be found there almost new and at an incredibly convenient price," said Mechur. "Every thing can be found from porcelaine, clothing, books and CDs, toys, electrical appliances, arts and crafts, but also some antique and jewelry. I invite every person on post to come and discover this little corner of Camp Darby."

Mechur added that customers can find great deals on Christmas decorations or find a nice gift for a special friend or loved one.

Proceeds from the Thrift shop are used by Friends of Camp Darby to provide scholarships and other financial assistance within the community.

The Thrift Store is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and it is located next to the shoppette.



Pimp My PC



By Vincenzo Leto, USAG Livorno Public Affairs Office

Army wide transition to Windows Vista deadline approaching

As of Oct. 22 Microsoft started shipping Windows 7, the latest operating system of the Windows series. By Dec. 31 the U.S. Army must complete the migration of all user computers from Windows XP to Windows Vista, according to the Department of Army directive. Some end-users may ask “why is the U.S. Army going to Windows Vista that is an old product and not selecting Windows 7 that has many new useful features?”.

The concern is a valid one. Windows 7 is already proving to be an excellent platform for personal computing. It has new features such as simplified document management and easy-to-use interface. Additionally, it supports a wide range of different hardware configuration. On the other hand, Windows Vista has been subject to severe criticism by computer magazines.

While Windows 7 deserves great respect for being innovative, it is just too new to be adopted by the U.S. Army. Historically, new operating systems need several months and sometime years of time to work-out glitches and secure. In fact, a new operating system release is normally followed by a great number of updates designed to address errors, omissions and security deficiencies.

The U.S. Army has adopted Windows Vista as a replacement for Windows XP because it is a mature and stable product. Microsoft technicians have been working hard to fix the problems that were affecting the initial release of Vista and many errors have been corrected. Numerous security deficiencies were discovered also and remedial actions were taken. In addition, the U.S. Army IT technicians had time to study the product and configure it to make it even more secure and reliable while implementing specific U.S. Army requirements.

U.S. Army users should be expecting to have a pleasant experience with Vista. The redesigned user interface is extremely nice and easy to use; it is very easy to add a new device such as a printer and even easier to manage documents if the user has a larger number of them.

It is important to understand that the migration must happen before Dec. 31 because Microsoft is dropping support for Windows XP. Computers that are migrated to Windows Vista by the deadline, will be removed from the network by NETCOM. Contact your IT department to ensure that your PC is migrated.

Native American Heritage month



“ The indigenous peoples of North America -- the First Americans -- have woven rich and diverse threads into the tapestry of our Nation's heritage. Throughout their long history on this great land, they have faced moments of profound triumph and tragedy alike. During National Native American Heritage Month, we recognize their many accomplishments, contributions, and sacrifices, and we pay tribute to their participation in all aspects of American society.”

A Proclamation by President Barack Obama

Staff Sgt. Cesar Salcedoacosta, 839th TRANS, Capt. Robert Tarr, Director of Emergency Services, Staff Sgt. Robert Everly, Camp Darby EO and Howard Ramirez-Cano, USAG Livorno Provost Marshall join the Camp Darby community in celebrating Native American Heritage month with a cake cutting ceremony Nov. 3.

To learn more about the important contributions native Americans have made in the U.S. military, visit www.army.mil/americanindians.

Camp
Darby
Buckle up
or
Walk



Getting involved in your child's education



Carmen Arroyo, Assistant Superintendent Mediterranean District, Vicenza, (left) introduces Noni Hoag, English Language Arts Curriculum Specialist to the Livorno school parents in an informal meeting held at the Livorno elementary School, Lion's Lounge on Nov. 19.

"The focus of these visits is to learn more about the school by looking at all the school aspects, not only at education to have a better understanding of what type of support we can get from the District," said Arroyo

"We can't help having an intimate relation with all the children and parents working in such a small community," said Denise Webster-Cochenour, School Principal, Livorno Unit School. "This is certainly a plus when it comes to understanding the students and parents needs and requests."

(Photo by Chiara Mattiolo, USAG Livorno Public Affairs)



Tune into Livorno's
AFN The Eagle Show
weekdays from
6 a.m.- 10 a.m.
and
2 p.m.- 6 p.m.

Staying Safe while deep fat frying



Each year at Thanksgiving, there are many close calls and serious injuries from deep fat frying a turkey! All personnel considering this should review these safety recommendations to assure that everyone has a fun and SAFE Thanksgiving!

Keep the fryer in FULL VIEW while the burner is on. Monitor at all times!

Place the fryer in an open area AWAY from all walls, fences or other structures.

Never use IN, ON or UNDER a garage, breezeway, carport, porch or any structure that can catch fire.

Raise and lower food SLOWLY to reduce splatter and avoid burns.

COVER bare skin (gloves, eye protection, and an apron)!

Check the oil temperature frequently.

If the oil begins to smoke, immediately turn off the gas supply.

If a fire occurs, immediately call 911 if on Camp Darby, if off post dial 115 for fire, 118 for ambulance, and 113 for emergency services. DO NOT attempt to extinguish the fire with water. Have a portable fire extinguisher present.

For safest operation, the CPSC recommends these guidelines for a turkey fryer:

Center the pot over the cooker's burner and ensure there is at least 2 feet of space between the liquid propane tank and the fryer's burner.

Place the liquid propane tank and fryer so that any wind blows the heat from the fryer away from the propane tank.

Completely thaw (the U.S. Department of Agriculture says 24 hours for every 4 to 5 pounds of turkey) and dry the turkey before cooking. Partially frozen or wet turkeys can cause the hot oil to splatter when they are placed in the oil.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions to determine the proper amount of oil to add. If those instructions are not available:

- 1) Place the turkey in the pot.
- 2) Fill with water until the turkey is covered by about a half inch of water.
- 3) Remove and dry the turkey.
- 4) Mark the water level. Dump the water, dry the pot completely and fill with oil to the marked level.

Hot electronics can burn you up

By Tom Saunders
IMCOM-E Public Affairs

HEIDELBERG, Germany - Hot commodities on the gift-giving market are turning into a hotter issue for safety officials. Electronic charging units designed for use in motor vehicles for a variety of portable music players and other electronic gadgets have been identified as culprits responsible for vehicle fires.

"We received a safety alert that charger and converter units used to play or charge various electronic items may overheat if left plugged into a car power source resulting in a vehicle fire," said Mike Schwarz, Installation Management Command-Europe safety officer. "A good rule of thumb is to unplug these devices when they are not in use. That rule also applies to devices in the household: When not in use, unplug."

According to Schwarz, the safety alert described an incident involving a 2007 Chevy Suburban destroyed as a result of an electrical fire. This fire resulted from leaving an I-phone charger/docking station plugged into the car outlet. The charger unit overheated and started a fire, while parked in a residential garage. The owners of the vehicle were very fortunate that they accidentally found the fire at 11 p.m. before going to bed and before it spread to the house. None of the garage heat detectors or house fire alarms had gone off.

"As these devices become more popular, it becomes more important for all of us to use common sense and be safety conscious," said Schwarz.

VOICE

Community News for USAG Livorno

The New Face of ACS

By Stacy Walker

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

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

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

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

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



Visit us at
our new ACS
home in
building 504

Army Community
Services
Bldg. 407
USAG Livorno

Mon.Wed 8:00-5:00

Thurs 11:00-5:00

Fri 8:00-5:00

Closed Weekends

Telephone

DSN 633-7084

CIV 050.54.7084

Yellow Ribbon
Room Telephone

DSN 633-7946

CIV 050.54.7946

AER/AFAS

Telephone

335-741-5973

MFLC Telephone

329-876-2168

SARC Telephone

335-771-4989



EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Interview Skills

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

RELOCATION READINESS

Benvenuti at Camp Darby

December 7, 8:15 a.m.
New to Camp Darby and don't know where to go to get answers? Learn about Italian customs, culture, local shopping, paying Italian bills and more. Please sign up for the next Benvenuti session by calling ACS. Free childcare, but registration is required.

Sponsorship Training

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

Multicultural Spouses Meeting

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

FAMILY ADVOCACY

Children's Playgroup

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

Breast Feeding Classes

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

New Parent Support Group

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

POWER, Caring for the Caregiver Part 1

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

Single Parent Support Group

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

EFMP Roundtable

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

POWER, Caring for the Caregiver Part 2

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

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



FINANCIAL READINESS

Marriage And Money

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

Consumer Rights and Obligations

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

Investment Club

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

Money Management

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

Housing Crisis Information

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

Credit Reports

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

Financial Recordkeeping

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

Debt Liquidation

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

Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

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



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

Military One Source



Military Onesource provides free private services and information:

- Counseling
- Educational Materials
- Interpretation/Translation

Stateside: 1-800-342-9647
Overseas: 800-3429-6477
Overseas Collect: 484-530-5908
TTY/TDD: 1-866-607-6794
En Espanol: 1-877-888-0727

Through the Aisles

Your Commissary -- It's worth the trip!

Customer newsletter by DeCA Europe, Kalserslautern, Germany



We don't profit, you do!
www.commissaries.com
November 2009, Vol. 92

Don't forget to pick up a college education on your next trip to the commissary!

The Scholarships for Military Children Program can help with a **\$1,500** scholarship!



For information, contact your local commissary, school guidance counselor, or visit the program website at

www.militaryscholar.org or www.commissaries.com.

Applications available Nov. 3, 2009
Application deadline: Feb. 17, 2010

Now Available

\$25 GIFT VOUCHERS

Available at customer service, cash office, or full-service checkout!



Give the Gift of Groceries!

*starting October 18th

Meet Sergeant Major Linda Ricker, U.S. Army, newly-assigned to DeCA Europe command staff. As such she is responsible for advising the region director on matters concerning the welfare, health, morale and proper utilization of resources to increase education and awareness of the commissary benefit for all enlisted members (active, reserve and retired) and their families including guard and reserve components. Find her on the European region page of www.commissaries.com.



Last chance to save big at end-of-season prices! Last seafood road show will take place at Patch Barracks Commissary in Stuttgart on Nov. 13-14, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. each day. Best prices of the season aimed at reducing our inventory and improving your dining pleasure!

Defense Commissary Agency now on Facebook!

twitter.com/DeCAEurope for the inside scoop to commissary customers. Follow me!



Camp Darby Events Calendar



By Margaret Robbins
FMWR Marketing

Limited tickets are still available for the Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, November 26. For more information, call the DCC at 633-7855.

The Library is closed thru November 28 in order to move the operation from bldg 407 to bldg 601. The Library will remain in this temporary location for approximately 1 year while their permanent home is under renovation. During this time, 8 computers, copy machine, limited books, CD's and DVD's will be maintained in the temporary facility. Please remember that library materials can be borrowed from other European Army Libraries.

ITR

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

November 26, Ferrari Auto Museum, Visit the famous Ferrari Museum in Maranello, south of Modena. You will see how Ferrari cars have changed over the years and trophies won by the Ferrari team.

November 27, Rome Trip, At your own pace, visit some of Rome's most important sites.

November 28, Florence Trip, Spend the day in Florence at your leisure!

December 4, Holiday Bazaar, Why fight the crowds and worry with the hassle of a parking space? We're going to bring everything to Camp Darby! Find lovely Italian gifts for everyone on your holiday list!

December 5, Florence Noel, Among many lights and special effects, 'Florence Noel' comes alive! At this traditional Christmas festival, you'll find handmade articles, decorations and food. For more info about this event, visit www.florencenoel.it

December 12, Pisa Market Shopping, Hate doing last minute shopping because of parking problems?



Camp Darby Chapel presents . . .

A Mouse Christmas

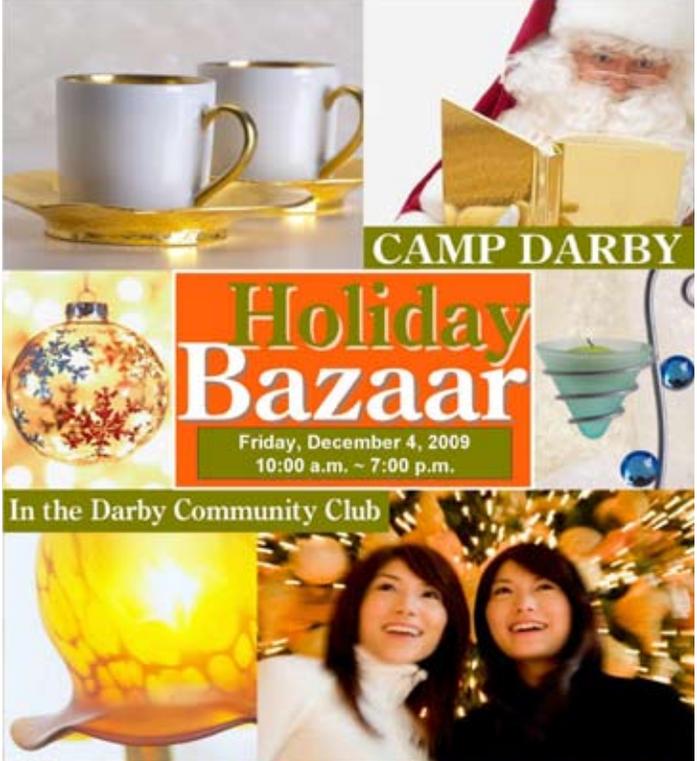
A Christmas Musical about the Birth of Jesus for the Whole Family!

Rehearsals

Who? Kids of All Ages and Parents, Teens, and Adults Who Want to Perform or Volunteer
Where? Camp Darby Chapel
When? Each Sunday and Tuesday
Time? See schedule posted at Chapel

Would you like to be involved? The cast is set but we are looking for more adults to help behind-the-scenes with scenery, sound, costumes, lighting, etc.

We will have 1 to 2 rehearsals a week throughout November and early December and conclude with a free matinee performance open to the base community on Sunday, December 23rd. Tell your friends! We'd love to see you there!



CAMP DARBY

Holiday Bazaar

Friday, December 4, 2009
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

In the Darby Community Club

Ornaments Leather Goods Jewelry Tuscan Ceramics

For More Information,
Contact ITR: DSN: 633-7589 CIV: 050-54-7589





Camp Darby Events Calendar Con't

Worry no more! ITR will drop you off and pick you up right in front of the market. All you need to do is shop.

December 19, Vicenza PX Shopping, You won't find a more convenient way to get to Vicenza than with ITR. Why spend your hard earned money on autostrada tolls and gas when you can go with us? Save your cash for the presents.

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

Outdoor Recreation

ODR is going to the Bologna Motor Show on December 5. To sign up, call 633-7775.

Looking to unwind some holiday stress? ODR is going to the Venturina Hot Springs on December 19.

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

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

Darby Community Club

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

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

Need to say thanks? Bring your special someone to the Club on Nov 27 to the 'Right arm/Wing man' night!

The Gazebo Grill is temporarily closed. At this moment, they are currently recruiting for new contractors/opera-

tors. For more information, call NAF Contracting Office at DSN 633-7726.

Let's salsa! Come to the Club on December 12 and 19 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Sports and Fitness

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

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

Darby Lanes

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

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

ACS

November 25, Multicultural Spouses Meeting, Obtain valuable information on medical services, employment, immigration and naturalization services, driver's license, ESL and much more.

The holidays are a time for giving. Experience the joy of giving a Holiday gift to a child who might otherwise go without. On December 4, you'll find a Christmas tree in the front of the PX loaded with angels. Select an angel from the tree, purchase a child's gift according to the information you find on the angel and return the wrapped gift to ACS by Friday December 18 in time for Christmas delivery.

Do you have an issue or concern? The Army Family Action Plan is here for you. The Army Family Action Plan is designed to promote better standards of living for service members, civilians and Family

Camp Darby Events Calendar Con't



members. Let the community leaders know what's effective and how it can be improved. How do you submit an issue?

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

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

CYS

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

Register your children for Cheerleading and Basketball thru December 6. all Parent Central Services (PCS) at 633-7681 for more information.

2009 Holiday Mailing Deadlines

The Camp Darby Post Office recommends the following mailing dates to ensure delivery to CONUS addresses by Dec. 25.

SAM Parcels	Nov. 27
PAL Parcels	Dec. 4
Priority Parcels	Dec. 11
1st Class Letters	Dec. 11

Postage rate depends on the weight and the size of the box. Cost of postcards also vary by size and shape.

If you are mailing more than five packages, find out about making an appointment.

Auto Skills

Is your car a mess? Check out the new service at the Auto Skills Center! You can have your car professionally cleaned inside and out right here on post!

NAF Human Resources Office

The NAF Human Resources Office is seeking applicants eligible for NAF employment under U.S. conditions for the positions listed on the following website: <https://cpolwapp.belvoir.army.mil/public/vabSelfNom/>



ARMY FAMILY COVENANT: KEEPING THE PROMISE

ARMYOneSource.com

Camp Darby Community

*Christmas
Tree
Lighting*

❧ Tree Lighting ❧

❧ Christmas Carols ❧

❧ Visit with Santa ❧

❧ Refreshments ❧

Friday, December 4, 2009

5 p.m. PX Plaza

Camp Darby

Destination of Choice: Old Port of Genoa

By Joyce Costello

Known as the home of Christopher Columbus, Genoa is actually a fascinating port town on the western coast of Italy that offers an array of things to do and see. Located one and half hours north of Camp Darby, the old port of Genoa is ideal for a day trip.

The air coming off the ocean is brisk in December, however the excitement inside the Genoa Aquarium is hot. Located on the old wharf of Ponte Spinola, parents and kids alike will be fascinated with over 10,000 marine species.

The tour lasts 2 and half hours and is open 365 days a year. They offer special programs where you can sleep with the sharks or help return wild turtles to the sea.

Another great place for families to visit is *La Citta' dei Bambini di Genova* (the city for Children). Kids 2-14 can enjoy science and technology experiments and play.

Kids can also enjoy rock climbing, making their own TV show or making a giant soap bubble that they can stand in. From October to June the "city" is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (last entrance by 4:45 p.m.) Visit for a few hours or even hold a birthday party there. Either

way, its a great chance to "sneak" in some extra science and physics education without your kids realizing it.

Also located in *Il Porto Antico* (the old port of Spinola) during November and December is an open air holiday market with 150 tables. They will have a special exhibit of model airplanes, trains, cars and military miniatures for collectors.

In addition, during the month of December on Saturdays, there is an ice skating rink that is open from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Entrance for children shorter than 1.20 meters are free.

Those wanting to learn more about the Antarctica will be surprised to learn that the Old Port of Genoa is home to the Italian National Museum of Antarctica.

They have exhibits and a large collection of rocks, meteorites and biological specimens.

Art lovers will enjoy discovering genoise artist Emanuele Luzzati whose exhibit is located in the Luzzati Museum in an old pier home with an impressive door that dates back to the mid 16th century.

The artist has bright, colorful paintings and there are classes for children and adults who wish to explore their creative side.

After visiting the museums, aquarium and exhibits, enjoy one of the many traditional Italian or Japanese dining options located in the old port.

Additional Information

Genoa Aquarium
www.acquariodigenova.it
Site is available in English.

City of Children
www.cittadeibambini.net/
Site is only in Italian.

National Museum of the Antarctica
www.mna.it
Site is available in English.

Luzzati Museum
www.museoluzzati.it
Site is only in Italian.

Old Port in Genoa
www.portoantico.it/
Some of the site is in English.

Where to Stay

Book a room at one of many lodging options on Camp Darby. Winter rates at Sea Pines Lodge and log cabins are now in affect. Learn more on "Plan my vacation" on www.usag.livorno.army.mil