

# Darby Digest

[www.usag.livorno.army.mil](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil)

June 23, 2011

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Camp  Darby's premier weekly newsletter

## Leader and workforce development



During the USAG Livorno Quarterly Awards ceremony June 16, we recognized 99 members of the Camp Darby Military community for their stellar performance. It is because of their teamwork, professionalism and selfless service in their attitudes, actions and words that make the Camp Darby military community thrive.

Among the many awards that were given to units and individuals, I started a new award called the "Do the Right Thing Award" that recognizes those folks who do things that you might never hear about. Susie Campo was the first recipient of the "Do the Right Thing Award" and received a garrison coin.

Campo, who works at Casa Toscana, was on her way home after work when she recognized a visiting tourist that got into a car wreck in Pisa. She acted as a translator and liaison between the Carabinieri and the visitor and helped make a bad situation tolerable. Her selfless service encourages others to work together, while promoting group pride and accomplishments.

Directors and Supervisors, it is important to recognize and nominate deserving individuals local honorary awards and higher level awards. I encourage you to submit your award nominations to DHR well in advance of the next ceremony in September.

To the Camp Darby employees, thank you for your continued selfless service and for doing a great job.



Vol. IV, Issue 25

**Lt. Col. Kevin Bigelman**  
U.S. Army Garrison Livorno  
Commander

KEVIN A. BIGELMAN  
LTC, FA  
Commanding

Event Photos can be found on [Camp Darby's Flickr Site](#).

*Cover photo by Joyce Costello-  
Italian American Carnival*

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# Reducing the environmental impact of your job now even easier

By Doug Powell

Directorate of Public Works Environmental Engineer

As part of Camp Darby's good stewards of the environment initiatives, DPW has started providing building occupants on the installation with paper recycling collection boxes and will soon be distributing mixed (metal, glass, plastic) recycling collection containers. The new recycling collection system makes it easier for the Garrison to recycle and will make a big difference in the amount of trash that is disposed of.

Building cleaning contractors will removal the collected recyclables as long as the building occupants properly segregate the materials. The key is to make sure the paper box contains only paper or cardboard, and the mix recyclable box contains only glass, plastic or metal items. If the containers are not properly segregated, the material will be disposed of as regular trash. The cleaning personnel will transfer the recyclables into the larger bulk recycle containers located outside of the buildings.

It is important for everyone to do their part to minimize waste. Recycle containers are strategically located throughout the Garrison. Please make the effort to recycle! Paper goes in the yellow dumpsters; glass, plastic and metal in the blue domes; and regular trash in the silver dumpsters.

A detailed description of the mixed recycling particulars for Pisa (Camp Darby/Depot) and Livorno communities can be found on the environmental management page. For more information, or requests for additional recycling containers, call the [DPW Environmental Office](#) at DSN 633-7202.



Photos by Joyce Costello

Steve Mechur, Family, Morale, Recreation and Welfare, does his part to protect the environment by recycling papers in the GEOFOR paper recycling bins that are being distributed to offices on Camp Darby. Offices that would like these new collection boxes should contact DPW at 633-7202.



**Camp Darby's got talent:** All the top performing stars came to the Livorno elementary and middle school: Taylor Swift, Miley Cyrus- even Queen and the Beatles during the talent show that rocked the stage with singing, dancing, and music on June 9. One rocker, Chris Meeks captured the rhythm perfectly, according to his dad, David Meeks.

"Chris has always been around music with both his uncles being professional musicians in a very famous band called Strana officinal," said Meeks.

"One of my uncles played from when he was little to when he's big and when I said I want to play the guitar, my uncle said, 'play the drums'," said Chris. Read the full story on [www.usag.livorno.army.mil/News287.html](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil/News287.html)

Photos by Chiara Mattiolo

**Class of 2024:** Caps and gowns, proud parents and speeches had all the makings of a graduation. Anticipation was building as Nicole McKenna's Strong Beginnings pre-kindergarten class got ready to march into their graduation ceremony on June 14.

According to Mckenna, the program is geared towards preparing youngsters for kindergarten. For Johnny's proud mom, and teacher's aide, Mei Lan Bargas, she says she's personally seen what a difference this program makes in the educational development of young students.

Read the full story on [www.usag.livorno.army.mil/News289.html](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil/News289.html) and see more event photos on [www.flickr.com/photos/campdarby/sets/72157626842180287/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/campdarby/sets/72157626842180287/)



**4<sup>th</sup> of July**



*Beach opens  
at 9 am*

# AMERICAN Beach!

**Kids games**

- Water Balloon toss
- Water bucket relays
- Tug-o-war and more...

**Adult Beach Volleyball Games**

**BBQ from  
5:00 to 9:00 pm  
\$9.00 pp**

**7 pm to midnight**

**DJ/music/dancing under the pavilion**

**10 pm**

**Fantastic Fireworks Display**

**Snack Bar open  
9 am to 11 pm**

**Register to  
WIN a new  
BMW 328i**

This event is sponsored by:



**www.BavarianMotorCars.com**

Produced by USAG Livorno, Family & MWR Marketing 2011, Jul4celebration2011/AmericanBeach.indd

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

## June 24

Free Spin Class with Nicole at noon. at the Fitness Center.

Italian American Carnival opens at 7. Live music at fest tent by 'D8Dimension Band' at 8:30 p.m.

ITR trip to Elba Phone: 633-7589

## June 25

Parents Night Out and Youth Center Kickback night from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Italian American Carnival opens at 7. Come & enjoy a Car Tuning Display and Competition! If you are a member of the Camp Darby Community and you think that your car is a winner, enter it! The top 5 cars from Camp Darby will receive a trophy! Live music at the fest tent by 'Grass Circle Band' from 8:30 pm-11:30 pm

ITR trip to Rome Phone: 633-7589

## June 27

Free Cardio Fitness Class with Conny at noon at Fitness Center.

Vacation Bible School runs June 27- July 1. Post Chapel phone: 633-7267

2011 Summer Reading Program 'A Midsummer Knight's Read' kicks off. Library Phone 633-7000.

ITR trip to Cinque Terre Phone: 633-7589

## June 28-

Free Step & Body Forming class with Conny at 5 p.m. at Fitness Center

ITR trip to Venice Phone: 633-7589

## June 29-

Breastfeeding 101 at 11:30 at ACS. Provides education on proper breast feeding and the benefits for mother and child. ACS Phone 633-7084

Join the Camp Darby Golf league which plays every Thursday at 4 p.m. Call 633-7886 for more details.

Free Spin Class with Nicole at 5 p.m. at the Fitness Center

## June 30-

The Army Field Support Battalion-Italy (formerly

3/405th AFSB) will be closed for external operations all day on June 30 in order to celebrate their Organizational Day. Please contact DSN 633-7500 if you have any questions.

Relaxation Techniques at 10 a.m. Come and learn proper relaxation techniques. Class is held in Yellow Ribbon Room. ACS Phone 633-7084

Free TRX strap Class with Keen at noon at Fitness Center

ITR trip to Rome Phone: 633-7589

Army Accident Reporting Course at 3 p.m. USAG Livorno Safety Office is offering an Army Accident Reporting Course to assist units/organizations with understanding Army accident reporting requirements. Recommend participants are supervisors and ADSO/CDSO responsible for reporting accidents or assisting with reporting. Safety Office phone 633-7318.

Free Spin Class with Nicole at 5 p.m. at the Fitness Center.

Karaoke Night at DCC at 6:30 p.m.

## July 1 -

ITR trip to Elba Phone: 633-7589

Texas Hold 'em at the DCC from 6:30 p.m.

## July 4- [USAREUR Training Holiday](#)

[Fourth of July celebration](#) at the American beach.

During the day there will be free games and activities for the kids such as a water balloon toss, water bucket relays and tug-o-war and beach volleyball for adults. From 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. you can also buy a special barbecue meal for purchase. From 7 p.m. to midnight the DJ will have you dancing under the pavilion. Fireworks are scheduled to begin at 10 p.m. A complimentary shuttle bus service from Camp Darby to the American beach will run in the evenings. Seats are based on first come-first serve basis.

ITR Cinque Terre trip

Cost is \$39 for adults, \$34 for children ages 3-10 years. \*Train ticket is not included in trip price  
ITR Phone: 633-7589

## July 5 -

Taco Tuesday at the DCC from 5 p.m.- 7 p.m.

# OUT & ABOUT - EXPLORING THE WORLD

## FAMILY

### Calcio Storico Fiorentino

On June 24 in Santa Croce Square, Florence check out one of the most strange and old games ever played since the Renaissance. [www.firenzeturismo.it](http://www.firenzeturismo.it)

**June 25- Gioco del Ponte** The battle for the Ponte di Mezzo (middle bridge) in Pisa is a colorful event dating back to the middle ages. Contest starts at 6 p.m. [www.pisaonline.it](http://www.pisaonline.it)

**June 25-July 3- Palio del Cuoio and Grilled meat Festival** Folks race with 80 kg wooden casks as part of a relay followed by fest dedicated to grilled steak.

## SPORTS

**Saturday, June 25-** 10, 7, 4 Km in [Guastice](#) at 6 p.m.

**Saturday, July 2-** 10, 5, 2 Km at 6:30 p.m. at [Staffoli](#) (PI)

**Sunday, July 3-** (Volksmarch) [29th Trofeo La Rosa](#), 20K at 8:15 a.m. in Altopascio (LU) at the Campo Sportivo

**Sunday, July 17-** (Extreme running in mountains) [6th Annual Skyrace](#) at 9:30 a.m. at Forno-volasco in Garfagnana.

**Monday, July 18-** (Volksmarch) 18, 6, 3K [Trofeo Monte Corchia](#) in Levigliani at 8:15 a.m.

## SAGRA/FESTS

**June 26-** [Dog Show](#) Open to every breed at 8 a.m. in Calenzano

**July 1-3-** [Faulgia Beer Festival](#) dinner, music and beer

**June 25-26-** [Maccheroni of Cigerani festival](#) via Roma 6 - 55020 Fosciandora [www.comune.fosciandora.lu.it](http://www.comune.fosciandora.lu.it)

**July 2-3-** [Tordello Festival](#) Dedicated to a local Lucca dish similar to tortelloni, Segromigno in Monte, Capannori

**June 24- July 3** [LA sBIRRAta Bier festival](#) Live music, games and contests too in Vaiano (Prato)

## MUSIC

### Lucca's Summer Music Festival

June 26- Blink 182  
July 14- Elton John  
July 15- Joe Cocker & B.B. King  
July 16- Amy Winehouse  
July 18- Ben Harper  
July 19- Liza Minnelli  
July 21- James Blunt  
[www.summer-festival.com/](http://www.summer-festival.com/)

### Pistoia Blues July 8-10

Lou Reed & more  
[www.pistoiaiblues.com](http://www.pistoiaiblues.com)

### George Micheal

Sept. 10 at Piazza Santa Croce, Florence. Tickets are on sale now with online ticket distributors

## MARKETS

**July 2-3** Antique Market in Arezzo in the city center. [www.arezzeriaantiquaria.org](http://www.arezzeriaantiquaria.org)

**July 3** Breakfast and solidarity market every first Sunday of the month in TOR (Teatrofficina Refugio, 8 Scali del Refugio, Livorno, (LI). Starts at 10 a.m. Cartoons shown throughout the morning for children's

**July 7-** [Ricette e Saperi](#) market in Caacina from 5:30- 11 p.m.

Shopping under the stars Thursday evenings in historic center of Lucca July 1-Aug 31 [www.comune.lucca.it](http://www.comune.lucca.it)

## CULTURE

**Corot to Renoir: French Graphic of 1800 exhibition** Ongoing at [Museo della Grafica](#) in Pisa

**Angry young men: Picasso, Miró, Dalí** in Florence until July 17 at the [Palazzo Strozzi](#)

**57th Puccini Festival-** July 15-August 27 in Torre del Lago Puccini [www.puccinifestival.it/](http://www.puccinifestival.it/)

**Opera Festival 2011** in Florence and Chiusdino - Siena opens July 12- Aug. 13. This season tributes Swan Lake and Don Quixote. [www.festivalopera.it](http://www.festivalopera.it)

# And then there was Dog

By Nicole "The Pet Lady" Marquez

When contemplating the desires of having a dog, and adopting a "for their lifetime" forever friend, we rarely consider the time, training, and patience that must be devoted to enjoy that close and special bond between animal and human. We see cute dogs, statuesque dogs, or a breed that strikes our fancy. They walk well with "their" owner. They sit, stay, and come on command. Surely, that must be the norm for the breed. They, in essence are an ambassador for their kind right?

We search for that breed, seldom giving thought what they are bred for, what their temperament will be, how long they will live, and just how much work will be involved. We just see cute fuzzy faces. Cute, docile, roly-poly puppies. Playing, pouncing, and oh so irresistible puppies that they steal our hearts away.

We take them home. The first few days they are exploring their new digs, learning, eating, and playing. Such sweet little lambs, we cannot think of being away from them, not even to go to the bathroom for fear we will miss that puppy yawn. Yet, reality sets in. It's Sunday night, the weekend is over, and we must do what we must be off to work for eight to nine hours a day bright an early.

We rush home from work to play, feed and potty this adorable fluff ball. We walk in the house all excited and expecting soft puppy kisses, and a wagging tail. Instead we find the house to be chewed, shredded, and pee'd on. Surely we have been sold a defective product. This isn't how we thought this was going to be.

My dog Hiero was Sired and Whelped from the dogs I grew up with. I was a teenage when Sam was brought into my family. I was never responsible for his training, or his rearing so to speak. To me, Sam was just an amazing, well behaved, and even tempered dog. I wanted one just like him. Hiero's mom was the female counterpart of my families dog pack growing up. Sam taught Tasha everything, and to me she also was just as awesome. Together they were Mr. And Mrs. Bone.

I didn't know the investment, the time, the training, the hours of cleaning up, vet visits and so on. For me, and like many others, I saw the end product as the breed, and of course my family dogs were special so I just thought they were perfect specimens of "their" kind.

WRONG. At eight weeks after visiting Hiero every day at my folk's house, she finally came home with us. At week nine she went back to live with her Doggy Mom and Dad for more puppy behavior training. I had that luxury. So often we want that cute fuzzy face waiting for us by the door that we don't consider the work, and hours of devotion, and the amount of years we must invest. We leave for work, for our friend's parties, dinners, and have to leave poor Fluffy at home who had been home all day by herself already.

We arrive home all in a dither, stressed out, in a hurry, and expect to feed Fluffy, take Fluffy potty, and then go on our way to our next destination. Like any youth-filled social creature, she too wants to be social, to have interactions with you, with others, and instead finds herself left alone and bored. After all, Fluffy was just taken from her parents, brothers and sisters who she had been with since she came into the world. So out of boredom, maybe even anger, and definitely frustration, Fluffy finds a way to let you know she isn't happy.

She eats your floor, your couch, maybe your brand new Xbox and you are left angry and upset. After all, this puppy was falsely advertised and its all her fault that she is defective right? Wrong.

It takes a real desire to learn, an everyday effort, and commitment on the whole family's part, to raise a well adjusted K9 citizen. Time, bonding, and patience will ensure the best outcome with your new forever friend. With K9's and other companion animals you will find it's worth it. Puppyhood doesn't last forever, and in saying that, understand that there are no do'overs. Your dog will always give you a second, third, even a tenth chance but it will remember. In the end, you get out what you put in to it, just like any worthwhile relationship.

Pets are the best teachers, best friends, best confidants, and best snugglers in the world. They can read you better than you can read yourself. I learn something new every day, and my dog, she is one to teach me how to be a better me.



Nicole and Hiero and Tasha relaxing together.

## Taking care of your animal family members

The Vicenza Vet is taking appointments for vaccinations and health certificates during his upcoming visits to Camp Darby: July 21 and Aug 25.

Call DSN 635-4841 or civilian 0444-71-4841 to make an appointment for your cat or dog.

