



Community mourns loss of four Sky Soldiers



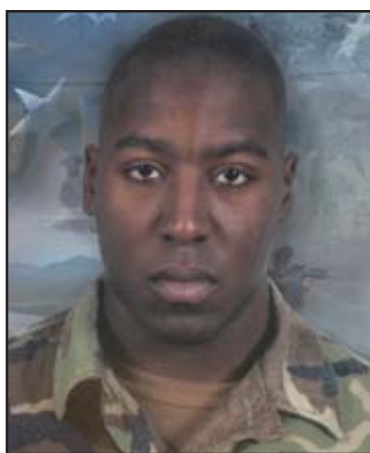
Spc. Blake Hall



1st Lt. Joshua Hyland



Spc. Michael Lehmillier



Pvt. Christopher Palmer

22nd Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Memorial services were held Thursday for four 173d Airborne Brigade Soldiers who died supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan Aug. 21.

Spc. Blake Hall, 1st Lt. Joshua Hyland, Spc. Michael Lehmillier, and Pvt. Christopher Palmer, all members of Battle Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), were killed in an Improvised Explosive Device attack south of Deh Chopan.

Emotions at the memorial service ran high, as each of the fallen was remembered by a fellow Sky Soldier.

Spc. Michael Denny started off the Soldier's tributes by reading a letter from Hyland's wife, Laine, who is back in America.

"Joshua Michael Hyland died defending the country that he held so dear," Denny read. "He died fighting for the rights of a country that he thought deserved the same rights that he had. He believed in what he was fighting for and was

proud to serve his country."

Following Denny was Sgt. Garret Tetrault, a fellow Sky Soldier and friend of Lehmillier. "Specialist Lehmillier was the type of guy you would never forget," he said. "When he came to Chosen Company, we were in Germany training and he jumped in like he had been there from the start. He was not just a normal Soldier; he was a complete packaged Soldier who brought a uniqueness to the Chosen Few. He will always be locked in the thoughts, prayers and memories of the 173rd Airborne Brigade."

Struggling with his emotions, Staff Sgt. Robert Colliton spoke to the standing-room-only crowd in the post chapel.

"Specialist Blake Hall was a Soldier's Soldier," he said. "Whether it was running the nine-plus mile dark side at 6 a.m. for PT, or countless team live fires in the freezing rain at Graf, he loved it. He lived for it.

"He loved it so much, that three days before he was killed in action,

he stood in front of our company and reenlisted for another four years," he said.

"To Specialist Hall, freedom was worth fighting for, and if need be, dying for," continued Colliton. "Blake Hall was a patriot, a boy from Missouri who loved his country."

The tribute given for Palmer was especially poignant, as it was given by his cousin, Pfc. Andre Owens, who said, "There are too many stories I could stand up here and tell you about the good times I shared with P. P was never the selfish type. With his loved ones, what was his was yours. He lived his life everyday for his nieces. He helped his sister out with her kids any way, and every way, he could. It will never be the same without P."

In reading his remarks, Lt. Col. Michael Shinnars, 173d Rear Detachment commander told the group that, "Our hearts are angry and sad. The sadness will go away. In the end, the cowards that built this bomb and exploded it, will meet their own early deaths."

Gun Devils hold shuras to ease voting security concerns

Story and photos

By Pfc. Jon Arguello

Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – In an effort to bolster election participation and resolve any concerns the Afghan population had regarding voting, Task Force Gun Devil organized a series of *shuras* to ensure the population that the coalition would do everything in its power to provide a secure environment to vote in. They also said they would work with the Afghan government to progress in other areas. (Editor's note: A *shura* is the Arabic word for consultation. It also refers to an assembly that meets for a consultation - source: Wikipedia online dictionary)

Nearly 400 Afghans participated in the first *shura* in Maywand, in the western part of Kandahar province.

A key speaker was Meinsef, an election official for Kandahar, who talked about the

voting process.

Meinsef explained that yellow ballots were for district elections while blue ballots were for parliament. He also explained that Kuchies, or nomadic tribes, may participate in parliamentary elections, but not district elections.

The district leader, Habibualla, who also happens to be a district education leader from the Norzai tribe, spoke next and emphasized the importance of security.

Habibullah said that only security would increase the return and involvement of non-governmental agencies. He also mentioned that corruption must end and that the government is working hard to solve the problem.

"The men here are true leaders because they never left, they stayed and did what was right for Afghanistan while the Taliban leaders hide in Pakistan and go dancing in clubs as their militants die fighting against Afghan soldiers," Habibualla said.

The next day, on the far side of Kandahar, another *shura*, hosting the elders of the Arghandab district, took place. The focus there was on opium and illicit drug crops, as well as security.

"Opium and other drug crops need to stop," said a village elder. "The world is helping us and we need to take this opportunity to end the problem or the world will turn against us."

Gov. Assadullah who attended both *shuras* expressed how proud he was of the people of Arghandab and that they had a distinguished history as defenders of Afghanistan.

"The people of Arghandab were the first to fight against the Russians, and it was all of the people of Arghandab," said Assadullah. "Now we have good people and a good government. We have to get together and defend it as well."

Assadullah said that Afghanistan did not have the power to make necessary progress over the last 25 years because of war, but now they are receiving that help from the coalition.

"They have already helped us, and are continuing to help us," Assadullah said. "Now it is our turn to help them."

Lt. Col. Bertrand Ges, commander of TF



Village elders gather at the Arghandab shura to discuss issues including opium and illicit drug crops, as well as security.

Gun Devil, said the coalition is at a critical juncture and that all progress made against the Taliban will be made through cooperation. He asked that the Afghan people help by not providing Taliban support and to let coalition forces know when the enemy fighters come into their area.

Education and electricity were other important topics discussed at the *shuras*. One of the Arghandab representatives said there are 3,500 students in the district and they were trying to increase that along with the capacity of the schools in the district. A request for a girl's school was also made.

The governor mentioned that electricity projects would increase in proportion with the security in the areas where the electricity was needed.



Kandahar Gov. Assadullah lets the attendees know that proud he is of the people of Arghandab and their distinguished history as defenders of Afghanistan.

Labor Day water outage expected

Monday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., the following buildings will experience a water shut-off: #112, #113, #113A (Benincaso Mother and Child Pavilion), #131, #371, #372, #333 and #339.

The reason for the water shut off is

for the new barracks under construction behind the Vicenza Health Clinic.

Questions regarding this outage should be directed to the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction-Vicenza at 634-7679.

What's new for students of Vicenza Middle, High Schools for 2005-06

By Kathleen Reiss

Principal

Vicenza Middle and High Schools

Dear students and parents:

On behalf of the Vicenza Middle/High School staff, we welcome all new and returning students to what promises to be an outstanding school year!

We hope that you have had a summer filled with fun distractions from schoolwork and are eager to return to the world of academics and extracurricular activities.

We also welcome six new teachers to our school. Two are arriving from other Department of Defense Dependents' Schools, three are joining us from the states, and one is already in our community.

Our curriculum will be enhanced by the addition of nine new courses: student Skills for 7th graders; middle school speech; middle school and high school journalism; middle school and high school yearbook; 9th grade Honors World History/Literature; Student Leadership for 9-12th graders; and Discrete Math, which will provide students an alternative to enrollment in the traditional

math course sequence beyond geometry.

The middle school teams and activities will continue to provide opportunities to help bridge the gap between elementary school and the more independent world of middle and high school.

We offer a variety of extracurricular activities for high school students that will strengthen their leadership skills and help instill other skills that will enable them to work toward success.

We encourage and welcome parents and community members to volunteer in our school. We recognize the vital role of parents and volunteers in helping us to guide our students to achieve the success we all want them to experience. Please work with our school team to help your children meet high academic and behavioral expectations. Enthusiasm and positive thinking are contagious. Help us to make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

(Editor's note: The Outlook inadvertently ran an old welcome back letter in the Aug. 23 Outlook. This is Ms. Reiss' letter for this school year. We apologize for any confusion.)

Consumer alert: Engine oil

Vicenza Auto Skills Craft Center
Press Release

The American Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers recently released a report titled *Impact of Low Quality Oils on Engine Wear and Sludge Deposits*.

They performed an extensive study on motor oils with an API (American Petroleum Institute) rating of SA and compared it to oil with an API rating of SL.

The report concluded that API SA rated oil could cause severe premature engine wear and even engine failure in modern automobile engines.

The API ratings of engine oil begin with SA and progresses to SM.

(SA,SB,SC...SM) SA is the lowest quality but is still commercially available at discount stores and even auto parts stores.

The rating is clearly written on the label of all motor oil sold in America. AAFES Garage uses SL and SM rated oils.

To save on costly repairs, consumers should first check their owner's manual for the required oil, then speak with their mechanic to make sure that's what they are getting.

For details, call the Auto Skills Center at 634-7014, the AAFES Garage at 634-7368 or check out the Web sites: www.autoalliance.org/media or www.asecert.org.

Experiencing life together

The 22nd Area Support Group Chaplain's Family Life Office, in partnership with deployed SETAF and 173d Airborne Brigade chaplains, is writing a series of devotional articles based on the best-selling book, "A Purpose Driven Life," by Pastor Rick Warren.

The intent of these articles is to offer deployed Soldiers and their family members a devotional meditation which they can use for weekly discussion and to hopefully deepen their spiritual connection during the separation.

Chaplain (Capt.) Buddy Hammil
14th Transportation Battalion

"Each one of you is part of the body of Christ and you were chosen to live together in peace."

— Colossians 3:15
(Contemporary English Version)

Life is a group activity; it is a team sport. Our creator is a God of community. He created us for community, for Him, for each other. God intends for us to experience life together. The Bible word for this shared experience is *fellowship*.

Usually, we think of *fellowship* as food. The term brings to mind coffee and doughnuts following Sunday morning chapel service.

True fellowship is more than an afterthought. Fellowship is more than just what we do after worship.

Fellowship is experiencing life together. Fellowship includes living out biblical principles in community: unselfish loving, honest sharing, practical serving, sacrificial giving, sympathetic comforting and more. Real fellowship is much more than coffee and doughnuts.

In real fellowship people experience authenticity. "Authentic fellowship," Rev. Warren writes, "is not superficial, surface-level chit-chat. It is genuine, heart-to-heart, sometimes gut-level, sharing." (pg. 159)

Real fellowship cannot happen without sharing real feelings. Only when we open up our lives to each other will we experience real fellowship.

In real fellowship people experience mutuality. Warren describes mutuality as "the art of giving and receiving. It's depending on each other." (pg. 161)

Mutuality is the heart of fellowship: building reciprocal relationships, sharing responsibilities and helping each other.

The Bible says, "Make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." Romans 14:19 (New International Version)

In real fellowship people experience sympathy. Sympathy is entering into and sharing in the pain of others, not just giving advice. Sympathy meets the fundamental human need to be understood.

Whenever we truly sympathize with another, when we affirm their feelings, we build *fellowship*.

The Bible tells us, "As holy people...be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle and patient." Colossians 3:12 (GWT)

In real fellowship people experience mercy. "Fellowship is a place of grace," Warren explains, "where mistakes aren't rubbed in but rubbed out." (pg. 163) We all need mercy and forgiveness because none of us are perfect.

The Church is *not* a place of perfection. The Church is full of imperfect saints seeking forgiveness and determined to live according to God's principles as set forth in the Bible.

God says, "You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." Colossians 3:13 (New Living Translation)

Join us in the post chapel this Sunday and experience real fellowship. And while you're here, go ahead and have some coffee and doughnuts.

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues that affect the community. If you have an issue that you wish to submit, visit the 22nd Area Support Group Web site at www.22asg.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link.

This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies.

There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly.

The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$2.50 per hour, per child for children ages 6 weeks through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, Building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration.

Call 634-7219 or stop by their new location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC is Sept. 28 at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

Issue: *Is there a requirement for a certain number of handicap accessible spaces at the health clinic? Is there any way to get a 15-minute parking space for the health clinic for people going to the pharmacy or making an appointment?*

The handicap spaces are, more often than not, vacant, unless they are being utilized by an unauthorized vehicle. Perhaps a handicap space could be redesignated as a 15-minute parking spot.

Response from Directorate of Public Works: The U.S. Army Health Clinic-Vicenza handicap parking spaces meet the UFAS requirement and cannot be removed.

For other types of parking, DPW will post signs in accordance with the Office of the Provost Marshal traffic plan and guidance.

Issue: *I recently called the Dental Clinic to make appointments for my children. I was told to call back the following Monday because the assistants were on emergency leave. I was told they were the only people that could make appointments. Why can't anyone else make an appointment?*

Response from the Dental Command: The day that this patient is referring to, the clinic was very understaffed for different reasons.

Both of the pediatric dental assistants were on leave and the front desk receptionist was out, as well. The pediatric dentist was in the middle of re-doing templates for patient scheduling on that particular day because of recent updates

to our scheduling system.

This made it impossible for the dentist to treat patients, re-do the templates, and take calls for scheduling that day.

Therefore the doctor asked that all patients' parents call back the following Monday when his dental assistants would be back.

Those who called back on Monday had no trouble getting an appointment.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused the patient and do not anticipate it happening again.

Issue: *The AFN television service that everyone receives (I believe it is called PRIME Atlantic) is atrocious. I do not know if this is a topic that can be resolved by the CAC, but I do think it warrants some public notice.*

The shows airing during the prime time hours, 7-10 p.m., have had technical problems during the past several weeks.

About two weeks ago there were three shows in a row that went completely blank, just a black screen, for the last 20 minutes of the show.

Then, from 7-9 p.m. each TV show played for around ten to fifteen minutes and then just went off air - no commercials, no sound, nothing. This happened again a couple of nights ago. Right in the middle of two programs, the screen just went blank. Nothing came on for 20 minutes, then the next show finally started about five minutes in to it.

I could understand if this was an intermittent thing, but it happens two or three times a night and sometimes twice a week. This is very aggravating for those

of us who live on the economy and can not afford the AFN decoder that Villaggio residents get for free.

I think that AFN should re-air the shows that were ruined, or retrain their employees on proper usage of their equipment, if it is human error. If it's an equipment problem, then replace the faulty equipment.

Response from AFN South: The AFN South Network Headquarters in Vicenza is in the process of modifying its television broadcast facility to transition from a single-channel over-the-air service to a multi-channel satellite service by the end of this year.

This transition is necessary to achieve compliance with compulsory broadcast laws and regulatory policies imposed by the Italian Government and European Union.

These intermittent outages are a manifestation of this effort. We respectfully request your patience as we go through these growing pains.

AFN also reminds customers that beginning Jan. 1, 2006, the only way to receive AFN television programming is by way of cable service or an authorized AFN satellite decoder.

Depending on customer eligibility, decoders are available either through the 22nd Area Support Group Housing Division or AAFES.

The Housing Division will be distributing information on the decoders and installation as soon as it becomes available. Information will be sent out via the *Outlook* and other avenues on post.

Show your school spirit, get involved

Look around and you can't miss the fact that school is back in session. The big buses are lining up behind the Golden Lion and children with their new backpacks are crowding around the school entrances. Having school back in session is wonderful for our community.

Once again, the students will be busy in class and participating in the many after school activities and programs offered on Caserma Ederle and Villaggio. However, school being in session doesn't just affect people with children; it affects the entire community.

Safety is always a major concern when there are so many children being dropped off and picked up at the same time.

Every person on this installation needs to be a guardian for our children – watch your speed limit, especially in front of the school, cautiously look before backing out of a parking space, and drive with vigilance.

It's also important for parents to carefully watch when their children are getting on the bus from home, and it is especially important that parents are there when the children are dropped off in the afternoons.

Although safety is the number one priority when it comes to the children of this community, there are many other important ways we can support both our youth and our community.

The school needs volunteers – with many of our Soldiers and civilians deployed, many students need additional support and help with school work. The school volunteer program is an excellent way for all members of our community to get involved.

To volunteer pick up a volunteer packet at the Vicenza Elementary or High School office.

For parents with school-age

children, participation in the elementary and secondary school advisory meetings and the Parent, Teacher, Student Association are great ways to have your voice heard. And if you have children in high school sports, don't forget the Booster Club.

High School sports, drama club, guitar club, National History Day competition, Knowledge Bowl, Math Counts, Middle School Fitness Club, Model U.S. Senate, National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, Middle School and High School Student Councils, music and choir practice, and the school newspaper offer students a great way to spend their time after school.

And for youngsters not ready for these school-related activities – or who are too young for certain activities – Child and Youth Services offers wonderful after-school programs for all school-age children.

The schools take a proactive stance to family support and deployments. Training has been done with teachers on the various stages of deployment and the ways that children are affected.

School crises teams are on call to attend to the needs of students who may be faced with a difficulty stemming from the absence of a deployed parent.

Family Advocacy, Army Community Service, and Social Works Services can coordinate with the schools to help make productive use of the counseling services



Maj. Gen. David Zabecki

available in the community.

One of the most important contributions provided by the schools is an environment for the children that promotes a feeling of stability and normalcy when it's most needed.

The school can also offer additional support to families by providing low-cost or free lunches and breakfast to individuals who qualify. Qualification is based on family size and income. The School Liaison Officer, located in the Davis Family Readiness Center can help answer any questions and fill out an application.

And finally, in addition to being watchful for the children on the post and supportive of the needs these children have in the community, don't forget that school being back in session also means fall sports are back in session.

Sept. 24 is the first home games. Cheer our VHS Cougars football team as they roar onto North 40 and root for our Boys and Girls Volleyball teams as they take on the American School of Rome.

Don't forget, VHS Homecoming is Oct. 15, come out and watch the Vicenza Cougars take on the Ansbach Cougars.

Rules explained for Renewal Agreement Travel

Civilian Human Resources Agency-Europe Region
Press Release

Renewal Agreement Travel is for use between consecutive periods of continuous overseas employment.

It is authorized for the purpose of appropriated and nonappropriated fund employees to return home for leave between overseas tours.

Employees must take home leave or annual leave for the time they are in the United States.

Employees serving on transportation agreements become eligible for RAT when they have completed a prescribed tour outside the CONUS and have signed a transportation agreement for another tour.

Entitlement to RAT is not cumulative from one period of service to another if not used.

An earned RAT entitlement cannot be denied, but the local commander has the authority to approve the time at which leave is granted in connection with the travel. RAT ordinarily is performed between overseas tours. Travel at a later date, within a tour, may be authorized by the employing organization. However, RAT cannot be taken when there is less than 12 months remaining on the current tour. Employees may travel alone or be accompanied by their family members.

Family members may travel unaccompanied, but employees

must use RAT for the family to be authorized to travel unaccompanied. Families may depart the overseas station before employees, but may not return before the employee does.

Unaccompanied dependents will not be allowed delayed use of renewal agreement travel beyond six months after the date the employee begins such travel.

Generally, the standard tour is 36 months and the renewal tour is 24 months. Within the five-year period, employees may take RAT between the 30th and 48th month, which gives a travel window of 18 months.

Employees must have 12 months remaining on their tour upon return from RAT.

After completing a five-year period, employees are eligible for RAT provided they have been extended for a total of 24 months. RAT may be taken two months prior to the completion of a 24-month tour, for a travel window of 14 months.

Employees who receive a 12-month tour extension will not be eligible for RAT. If they receive a second 12-month extension, they would be eligible for RAT provided the 12-month extension is approved in time for them to be able to complete the 12-month service requirement upon return from RAT.

For more information on RAT and other civilian personnel policies visit the Web site: www.chra.eur.army.mil, or call the Vicenza Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at 634-7537.

Pharmacy call-in refill service available on post

U.S. Army Health Clinic-Vicenza
Press Release

The Vicenza Health Clinic is announcing its new easy-to-use AudioCare Call-in Refill Medication service.

This is an automated system that allows you to use your telephone keypad to call in your prescription refills 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for pick up during pharmacy hours.

Since it is a centralized system, you can select a different pick-up location if traveling, or TDY in Europe. You can pick up prescriptions at any Air Force pharmacy in Germany, or any Army pharmacy in Germany, Belgium or Italy.

Here are the easy-to-follow

instructions for the service:

Have the last four digits of the sponsor's Social Security number and the numerical portion of the prescription numbers ready (these are found in the upper right portion on the prescription label), and follow these steps:

Step 1: Call 634-7590 or off post at 0444-71-7590.

Step 2: Select your 'Footprint.' Choose option #1 for Landstuhl Footprint (Vicenza is a Landstuhl Footprint pharmacy)

Step 3: Select a pharmacy. Choose option #3 to pick up prescriptions at the Vicenza Health Clinic pharmacy.

Step 4: Pick an option for the pharmacy selected. At this step you can request a refill or

inquire as to the status of a prescription.

You will be asked to enter your Social Security number and prescription numbers using the keypad.

Other options give the pharmacy hours of operation, instructions on using the system, opportunity to select a different pick-up location, or allow you to speak directly with a pharmacy representative.

Calling in refills allows the pharmacy to prepare your prescriptions in advance, saving time and helping improve services for everyone.

For information contact Rebecca Viola, Vicenza Health Clinic pharmacist at 634-7596, or off post at 0444-71-7596.

Walk 4 Freedom: Supporting our troops, one mile at a time

By Barb Bragiel
22nd ASG Health Promotion
Office volunteer
Press Release

Whether you're out and about walking around Caserma Ederle, taking a trip with ITR or attending a church service at the Post Chapel, put your time and energy to work with the Health Promotion Office's WALK 4 FREEDOM program.

The goal of the program is to

accumulate the distance (in miles) to Afghanistan in one year. Participants can earn miles by engaging in various athletic and non-athletic activities.

Although the program kicked off in February, there's no deadline to when you can register. Community members can sign up as individuals, families, Family Readiness Groups, sports teams, classes or other groups.

Participants can earn incentives

such as t-shirts, water bottles and sports towels when they stop by Mileage Validation Stations. Stations will be set up every 90 days in various locations around post.

The next stations will be held Sept. 20-22 and 27-29 in the fitness center gymnasium from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For details call the Health Promotion Office at 634-8828.

The Outlook

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These Sky Soldiers are true brothers-in-arms

By Capt. Tavi Brunson
A Company, 173d Support Battalion
173d Airborne Brigade
Special to the Outlook

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD-Aug. 11, 2005 was a special day for two members of the 173d Airborne Brigade, as they pledged their commitment to the service of their country and the Army.

While the act of reenlisting is a time-honored tradition that anyone who wears a uniform has seen a dozen times over, this particular reenlistment was special.

What made it so was that the two Soldiers were brothers, Sergeants Paulo and Petero Valai; but these Sky Soldiers are not just brothers, they are twins as well.

Paulo Valai, of Alpha Company, 173d Support Battalion, serves as the Storage Section NCOIC of the Supply Support Activity at Kandahar Airfield. In this position, he is responsible for the receipt, storage, and distribution of 6,000 repair parts and supplies that support units all across Regional Command South.

Petero Valai, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), serves as a clerk

for the Maintenance Platoon, currently operating out of Forward Operating Base Lagman.

He is responsible for requesting parts and tracking the operational readiness of his battalion's equipment in support of the 2-503d Inf (Abn) operations to promote stability and solidify a legitimate government in the Zabol Province.

Since birth, the Valai's have enjoyed almost every minute of their lives together.

The two brothers were born May 11, 1975 in American Samoa. Paulo was born at 11:15 p.m., and Petero was born two minutes later.

The Valai's spent much of their formative years growing up in Samoa, where they enjoyed volleyball and football.

After graduating from Samoana High School, the two enlisted in the U.S. Army and, together, attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Va. in the winter of 1997.

The brother's first assignment was to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., where they both served in the Aviation Brigade as Automated Logistics specialists in the aviation brigade warehouse.

From there, the Valai's found themselves assigned to 3d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division in Vilseck, Germany.

Again, both brothers enjoyed assignment to the same brigade and job, this time as PLL clerks in the brigade's motor pools.

After three years in Germany, which included a rotation to Kosovo, the two received assignment orders to Vicenza and the 173d Abn Bde.

Now, while in Afghanistan, their string of luck continues as Paulo will be joining Petero at FOB Lagman later this month.

At their reenlistment ceremony, presided over by Col. Kevin Owens, Combined Task Force Bayonet and RC South commander, Owens thanked the Valai's, "...for the honor and privilege of reenlisting the [two] brothers, their dedication to duty" and for allowing him to be apart of their special and memorable day."

Paulo summed up the experience and the heart of a Sky Soldier best during his congratulatory speech when he said, "Thank you all for coming, and I appreciate the support from my command and my battalion commander at our reenlistment, but now I would like to go back to work!"



Sergeants Paulo Valai (right), and twin brother, Petero, raise their hands as they take the Oath of Reenlistment administered by Col. Kevin Owens, CTF Bayonet and Regional Command South commander. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Wannemacher, 173d Support Battalion Reenlistment NCO)

Workshop helps family members gain knowledge, skills for Army life

Story and photo
By Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Many changes and long-term deployments may require some auxiliary skills especially while living overseas and as single parents.

Programs such as Army Family Team Building can develop these skills and help increase awareness to be prepared in times of readiness and deployments.

During deployments, many units have discovered that the rear detachment is kept busy dealing with family problems, according to Cynthia Giesecke, Vicenza AFTB program manager.

"Some of these problems could have easily been alleviated by providing families the knowledge and resources available to them," she said.

This is exactly why units need to take advantage of working in collaboration with AFTB to ensure that their families are receiving the education and services support needed to survive during deployments, explained Giesecke.

She added that AFTB is a volunteer-led organization with a central tenet: provide training and knowledge to spouses and family members to support the total Army effort.

"Our organization is about providing proactive, forward-thinking support for today's families, and ensuring the strength of tomorrow's Army," she said.

"Our goal is to help families become self-reliant because they will enhance the overall readiness of the unit and ensure that their soldiers are focusing on the mission; instead of worrying about their family members back home."

And family members here in Vicenza

decided to participate in a two-day training provided by AFTB this past week.

About nine courses that form Level I Training really helped the participants, such as Karla Saxton, who arrived in Vicenza nine months ago.

"This is my first station and it's all new to me," said Saxton. "I decided to participate in this program because I don't know a lot about the military life.

"Being in this class has taught me that I do make a difference. If I don't take care of myself, then it means my husband has to do it, which also means that he can't do his job. I need to take care of the problems at home so that he can relax and do his job," she continued.

In a similar situation another of the participants, Amanda Mohr also highlighted the importance of better understanding about the Army. She found out about AFTB through a neighbor.

"Since I am a new Army spouse, I have learned several things in this training that will help me better support my husband," Mohr said.

The training may also be of help to those more familiar with the military.

"I decided to participate because I am a Family Readiness Group leader and wanted to be able to have answers to any questions that may come my way," said Tonia R. Smith who has already spent a year in Vicenza.

"My personal experience within this class has been very helpful. A lot of it has been a refresher and review because of my military experience," she said.

After the completion of the two-day training session, the certificates of graduation were presented by Lt. Col. Angela Haynes, 22nd Area Support Group executive officer, at the Davis Family Readiness Center Aug. 25.



A volunteer AFTB instructor holds one of the courses of Level I Training, which focuses on Military Acronyms and Terms. The two-day training took place at the Davis Family Readiness Center Aug. 24-25.

Other upcoming training opportunities include AFTB Level II training Sept. 13-15; and AFTB Instructor training Oct. 17-19, which includes information about how to conduct presentations and workshops.

One of the AFTB volunteer instructors, Mary Anderson, has been teaching AFTB workshops since April.

"I picked to volunteer for AFTB because I wanted to give back to the community," said Anderson, who taught a Level I course focusing on military acronyms and terms.

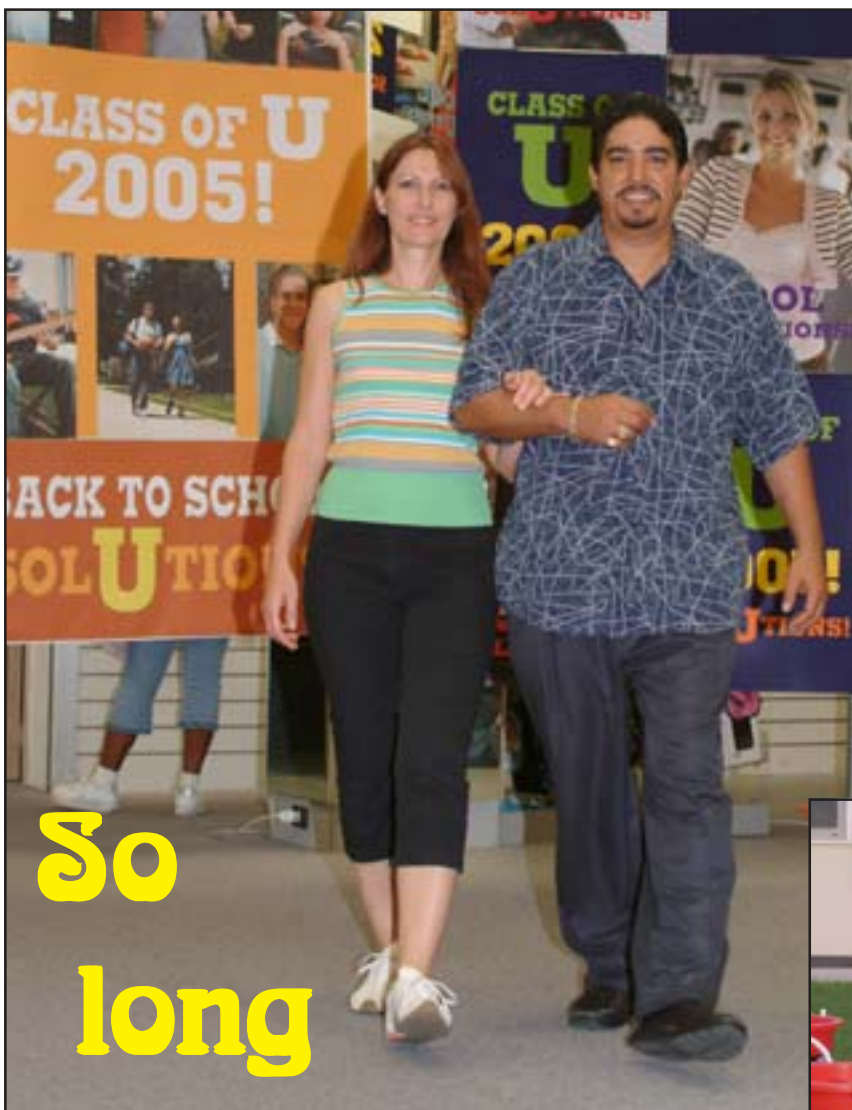
"I wanted to use my experience in the Army to help other spouses understand the Army better. I love to teach and every class

I have taught the students have been exceptional! I like to develop games and exercises for them to understand the material," she added.

The sessions take place in a classroom setting at the Conference Room located at the Davis Family Readiness Center.

All classes include free childcare, but since spaces are limited it is recommended to register in advance.

For more information about AFTB or to register for one of the classes, go to the AFTB office located at the Davis Family Readiness Center Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., call 634-8526 or e-mail afb.vicenza@setaf.army.mil.



So long summer!



The Caserma Ederle community didn't let summer slip away without a few last-minute events: (Clockwise from top) AAFES held a Back to School Fashion show Saturday featuring models from the community. During the AAFES Back to School Bash held Aug. 20 in the post exchange parking lot, children and adults had fun at the dunking booth and other games. Another model wears some jewelry during Saturday's fashion show. A Cub Scout Pack 295 cub master, gives information about upcoming activities during the annual MWR Back to School Bash held on the North 40, Aug. 26. During the event, parents had the chance to check several informational booths focused on community programs. A girl runs with her glass full of water while participating in the 'Hole in the Bucket', another of the fun activities organized for children during the bash. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



SPORTS SHORTS

Three teams participated in the 2005 22nd ASG/SETAF Summer League Basketball Championship Aug. 20 in the fitness center gym : Unfuquitable, Feelings and Rude Boyz. At left: Bringing home the trophy was Unfuquitable with a win of 78-48.

Below: A 13th Military Police Co. team player catches the flag of a U.S Army Health Clinic team player during the game. The 22nd ASG/SETAF Unit/Recreational Flag Football League plays Wednesdays and Fridays, starting at 6 p.m. on the North 40.

Bottom left: Ultimate Frisbee is underway and teams are forming now! At left, a player catches the disc in the midfield before another player has a chance. Ultimate Frisbee mixes features of sports such as soccer, basketball and American football and it is played on a rectangular field. For more information about practicing and the upcoming Ultimate Frisbee Tournament contact the Sports Office at 634-7009. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



Out & About

By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Vicenza events

The 8th International Concert Festival: *Historic Organs of Vicenza, a Listening Heritage* is underway.

The festival features classical music played on antique organs – in some cases with the contribution of a chorus – and all in settings of interest for their history and their architecture.

The festival offers evenings of music presented on historic instruments that have been perfectly preserved and maintain their excellent acoustic qualities.

Performances start at 9 p.m. and the next two are held in the church of St. Giorgio, in Vicenza, Friday with the German organist Thomas Wikman, who will perform on a 1991 Franz Zanin organ.

Sept. 9 in the church of St. Gaetano the Spanish organist Jose' Enrique Ayarra will play on a 1955 Ruffatti brothers organ.

Entrance is free.

Vicenza will celebrate its patron saint Sept. 8, with festivities which begin Sunday and go through the middle of September.

The main events will be on Campo Marzio, which is the park opposite the train station, find more than 30 rides and just as many food and beverage stands, there will also be a small market selling bric-a-brac.

Dinner under the stars: Enjoy a dinner under the stars on Corso Palladio, the main street downtown Sept. 8 at 8 p.m.

A full course meal, typically Vicentino, will be served.

Cost is 30 Euro person. For further information on the event call 0444 221280 open Monday-Saturday morning 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Hot air balloon rally

Over 200 years have past since two Frenchmen Joseph-Michel and Jacques Etienne Mongolfier, in the June of 1783 presented to the French government the project for a hot air balloon that could reach, without passengers, 2,000 meters in height.

In the same period, Italian Andrea Memmo, of Padova, presented to officials the project for *Prato della Valle*, which was to be the largest square in Europe.

These two events have been put together by Alberto Melis, a hot air balloon pilot from Padova, to celebrate these occasions and make the square an 'airport.'

Saturday at 5 p.m. after the market in Prato della Valle closes, hot air balloons will take off from a stadium nearby to land in the square.

Sunday at 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., the hot air balloons will take off from the square.

On both days you will be able to see the balloons being refuelled

Sunday, children will be able to inspect a balloon.

There will also be booths set up to collect donations to help those with Alzheimer's disease.

Cod festival

Friday through Tuesday, the town of *Gaianigo*, near Gazzo Padovano, will celebrate its annual 'Festa del baccala' cod festival.

Saturday's main events will be the opening of the food tent at 7 p.m., followed by an exhibition by the International Free Dance company at 7:30 p.m., and at 9 p.m. dance to the Berardi Gianluca orchestra.

Sunday at 10:30 a.m. visit an antique vehicle exhibition; at 6 p.m. the food tent opens; at 7 p.m. there's an exhibition by the GDS Millenium Dance Company, and at 9 p.m. dance to the group 'I Duca d'Este.'

Monday and Tuesday the food tents open at 7 p.m.

Venice regatta

Venice is preparing to stage its colorful race of traditional, oar-driven boats, the Regata Storica on Sunday. The regatta, among the most beautiful and important of Venice's major celebrations, has been a city tradition for over 600 years.

The big day will begin with a procession at 4 p.m., which will be decked out for the event and accompanied by hundreds of costumed characters.

After the procession there will be four races in all, the first for the youngest competitors on their 'pupparini' boats the second for women; the third for male teams on the six-oar 'caorline' craft, and the fourth involves rowing champions in 'gondolini', which are competitive gondolas.

Medieval events

There will be two palios in the town of *Montebelluna*, located 50 km from Vicenza.

Saturday, is when *V Europalio* takes place featuring 11 teams – two

teams each from France, Germany, and Hungary, and one team each from Finland, Poland, Romania, Italy and Ireland.

The palio starts at 5 p.m. and consists of teams, with four-able bodies, pulling large carts laden with goods.

The event starts at the Town Hall where the carts are weighed and the teams run through the streets of the town, finishing at the *Mercato Vecchio*.

Also on Saturday, there will be a market from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. with vendors in historical costumes.

Sunday's palio consists of 11 Italian teams, representing the borough that they come from.

The event starts with a parade at 10 a.m.; the carts are weighed, and the race begins. There is no market on Sunday but at 3 p.m. there is an historical parade with over 1,000 participants.

The city of *Montagnana* holds a wonderful historic celebration that includes the participation of 10 of its boroughs and a spectacular costumed horse-race or the so called 'Palio dei Dieci Comuni.'

Montagnana is a walled city with a now-dry moat around the outer wall.

The first Palio dates back to 1259 when the town defeated the terrible tyrant Ezzelino.

Festivities start Saturday at 3 p.m. with the opening of the medieval market in the town center and a medieval village.

Later in the day at 8:30 p.m. is the swearing in of all the participants of the horse race.

Sunday, the medieval market opens at 9 a.m., and at 3 p.m. the historical parade through the streets of the town of more than 1,000 costumed participants weaving its way to where the races will take place.

Sunday at 4 p.m., watch a performance of flag-wavers and musicians, and then the start of the horse races.

At 10:30 p.m. there is a torchlight procession and a sight not to be missed is the 'lighting of the tower.'

Many events are free, but there is an entrance fee for the races, which range from 5 Euro for children to 10 or 15 Euro for adults and are available from the tourist office in the city center.

Montagnana is south of Vicenza, about a 40 minute drive. Drive south on SS247 to Este and then go 25 km west on SS10.

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

Aug. 30	The Adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl (PG)	5 p.m.
Aug. 31	The Honeymooners (PG13)	5 p.m.
	Mr & Mrs Smith (PG13)	7 p.m.
Sept. 1	Mr. & Mrs Smith (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sept. 2	Fantastic Four (PG-13)	7 p.m.
	Land Of the Dead (R)	10 p.m.
Sept. 3	The Perfect Man (PG)	2 p.m.
	Land Of Dead (R)	7 p.m.
	Fantastic Four (PG13)	10 p.m.
Sept. 4	Fantastic Four (PG13)	2 p.m.
	The Perfect Man (PG)	7 p.m.
Sept. 5	CLOSED	
Sept. 6	CLOSED	

Camp Darby Theater

Sept. 2	War of the Worlds (PG13)	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	Bewitched (PG13)	7 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

MR & MRS SMITH - *Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt.* John and Jane are an ordinary suburban couple with an ordinary, lifeless suburban marriage. But each of them has a secret — they are actually both legendary assassins working for competing organizations. When the truth comes out, John and Jane end up in each other's cross-hairs.

THE ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY AND LAVAGIRL - *Taylor Lautner, Taylor Dooley.* Ten-year-old Max is an outcast who has become lost in his own fantasy world in an attempt to escape the everyday worries of dealing with parents, school bullies and no-fun summer vacations. But when Max realizes the characters and adventures in his imagination might be more real than anyone else believes, his whole world changes. Now, Max is blasting off on a mission to Planet Drool where his superhero friends Sharkboy and Lavagirl live, and where the evil Mr. Electric threatens to do away with all dreams forever.

FANTASTIC FOUR - *Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba.* When an experimental space voyage goes awry, four people are changed by cosmic rays. Reed, inventor and leader of the group gains the ability to stretch his body, and takes the name, Mr. Fantastic. His girlfriend Sue, gains the ability to turn invisible and create force fields, calling herself the Invisible Woman. Her younger brother Johnny gains the ability to control fire, including covering his own body with flame, becoming the Human Torch. Pilot Ben is turned into a super-strong rock creature calling himself Thing. Together, they use their unique powers to explore the strange aspects of the world, and to foil the evil plans of Doctor Doom.

THE HONEYMOONERS - *Cedric the Entertainer, Mike Epps.* New York City bus driver Ralph and his feisty wife Alice, struggle to make ends meet. Despite Ralph's many get-rich-quick schemes/motivational speaker tape series, they've managed to save some money and, along with their best friends Ed and Trixie, they seem to have almost enough money for a down payment on a Brooklyn duplex. However, when Ralph decides to try to impress Alice by making up what he's lost and augmenting their savings with another of his crazy schemes, he winds up losing all their money and his marriage to boot — and it takes all his determination and love for Alice to get things on track again.

LAND OF THE DEAD - *Simon Baker, Asia Argento.* In a modern-day world where the walking dead roam, the living try to lead "normal" lives behind the walls of a fortified city. Outside the city walls, an army of the dead is evolving. Inside, anarchy is on the rise. With the very survival of the city at stake, a group of hardened mercenaries is called into action to protect the living from an army of the dead.

WAR OF THE WORLDS - *Tom Cruise, Miranda Otto.* Ray is a working class man living in New Jersey. He's estranged from his family, his life isn't in order, and he's too caught up with himself. But the unthinkable and, ultimately, the unexpected happens to him in an extraordinary sense. His small town life is shaken violently by the arrival of destructive intruders: Martians which have come enmasse to destroy Earth.

THE PERFECT MAN - *Hilary Duff, Heather Locklear.* Holly conceives the perfect plan for the perfect man — an imaginary secret admirer who will romance her mother Jean and boost her shaky self-esteem. When the virtual relationship takes off, Holly finds herself having to produce the suitor, borrowing her friend's charming and handsome Uncle Ben as the face behind the e-mails, notes and gifts. Holly must resort to increasingly desperate measures to keep the ruse alive and protect her mom's newfound happiness, almost missing the real perfect man when he does come along.

BEWITCHED - *Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell.* When Jack accidentally runs into Isabel, he becomes convinced she could play the witch Samantha in his new TV series. Isabel is also taken with Jack, seeing him as the quintessential mortal man with whom she can settle down and lead the normal life she so desires. It turns out they're both right—but in ways neither of them ever imagined.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.

The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time. Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.

Out & About with ITR

For information on the trips below, contact Information, Tours and Registration at 634-7094, or stop by the office across from the Shopette.

Saturday-Florence. The cost for adults is \$47 per person, children 3-12 pay \$33, no charge for children under 3. Fee includes guided tour, and escort assistance. Need at least 35 paying adults. Leave at 6:30 a.m., return by 10 p.m.

Sunday - Nove ceramic festival and dinner. The cost for adults is \$35 per person. Children 3-12 pay \$25, and no charge for children under 3. Fee includes dinner, and escort assistance. Need at least 15

paying adults. Leave at 3 p.m., return by 10 p.m.

Monday - Rattenberg, Austria: Giesswein and Geiger outlets. This is an adult-only trip and the cost is \$40. Fee includes escort Assistance. See the new GEIGER collection, and the Austrian town of Rattenberg. Need at least 30 paying adults. Leave at 6 a.m., return by 10 p.m.

Sept. 10- Lugano, Switzerland. The cost for adults is \$42, children 3-12 pay \$29, no charge for children under 3. Fee includes guided tour and escort assistance. Need at least 35 paying adults. Leave at 6:30 a.m., return by 10:30 p.m.

Sept. 11- Cinque Terre express.

The cost for adults is \$40, fee for children ages 3-12 is \$31, no charge for children under 3. Fee includes train ticket, and escort assistance. Leave at 6 a.m., return by 10 p.m.

Sept. 14- Wine and Olive oil tasting in Soave. This is an adults-only trip and costs \$25. Fee includes guided tour, and escort assistance. Need at least 15 paying adults. Leave at 2 p.m. return by 7 p.m.

Sept. 17- Milan. The cost for adults is \$38, fee for children 3-12 is \$25, no charge for children under 3. Fee includes guided tour, and escort assistance. Need at least 30 paying adults. Leave at 7:30 a.m., return by 9 p.m.

FIAT 500: *The little car that could*

Story and photos

By Mark Santaw

Special to the Outlook

Back in the late Sixties, gasoline in the United States cost 30 cents a gallon and muscle cars ruled the streets.

But in Italy, people had to cope with higher gas prices, rough cobblestone roads, and the lack of parking spaces – all of which forced Italians to become the masters of invention when it comes to funky little cars.

In times like those, a car that was able to get the family around at over 40mpg, that could be maintained and repaired with a screwdriver and a set of pliers, was a good thing, indeed!

Opposed to the “bigger is better” philosophy in the United States, the Europeans believe that good things do come in small packages, especially the Italians.

Visit any European city today, and you will encounter a sea of compact cars you’ve never known existed. There are Mercedes Smart Cars, VW Lupos, Ford’s Ka, and various little Alfa Romeos, Fiats, Peugeots, Lancias, and Renaults.

Naturally, Italians enjoyed ‘*La Dolce Vita*’ and used their small family car on weekend trips to picturesque locations like the beautiful Lago di Garda, an inflatable rubber boat on the roof rack, celebrating the simple life, enhanced by a good bottle of Chianti and some fresh Parmigiano.

Who needed a gas guzzler of American proportions when they could drive such a compact car and spend the saved gas money on espresso, vino, and pasta?

So what’s the Italian’s all time favorite car? A Ferrari Testarossa? NO! A Lamborghini Diablo? No, again. It’s the FIAT Cinquecento (500).

Traditionally, Italy has always been the leader in creating beautiful, frugal family cars, able to zip through ancient Rome’s smallest cobblestone side streets and park upright, if necessary. A Fiat Cinquecento, “five-hundred” (due to its 500cc engine capacity) is as Italian as cappuccino, amaretto, and the magnificent Pavarotti performing at the Grand Opera in Milano.

Built between 1957 and 1975 and available in various body styles, the 500 features a layout similar to that of the VW Beetle based on a rear-mounted engine. The FIAT 500 is equipped with an air-cooled 500cc (30 cubic inches) 2-cylinder motor and backed up by 13 to 22 wild Italian cavallinos (horsepower). A 500 will catapult its passengers up to a



FIAT 500 lovers from all over Europe compare cars and stories about these immensely popular little car. As part of the FIAT 500 Rally, the vehicles all participate in a 25 kilometer ride through the the seven cities of Asiago area.

cruising speed around 100km/h (63mph)...in roughly 5 minutes.

Unlike the obese, chrome-laden American monsters of the late 50’s and early 60’s, those small road rockets could fly over the nastiest roads – with four adults and the family dog on board – to church and back faster than Aunt Ethel was able to refuel her Cadillac land-yacht!

The FIAT story began in 1899, when Giovanni Agnelli founded the company *Fabbrica Italiana Automobili di Torino* (Italian Automobile Factory of Turin), which went on to produce automobiles, aircraft and utility-vehicles.

In 1936, the Fiat 500 A, which became known as the *Topolino* (Little Mouse), caused a stir as the first “runabout” ever built. Even Walt Disney fell in love with the “Topolino A”, and made it Mickey Mouse’s car.

The introduction of the Fiat 500 Nuova (500 N) in May of 1957 was the dawn of a new era in the history of the Fiat runabouts.

This model distinguished itself as a city-car, and became very popular because of its small size, four passenger capacity and low gas consumption.



A familiar sight on Italian roads, the author’s FIAT Cinquecento (500) in front of Villa Rotonda in Vicenza.



The author’s FIAT 500 may not match this GMC in size...but when it comes to parking, gas consumption, and driving fun... people understand why it was (and remains) so popular.



Every year up in the hills around Asiago, just 30 minutes north of Vicenza, is a *Raduno Cinquecento* (Fiat 500 Rally) which is one of many held in the Veneto region, and this year it is scheduled for Sept. 3-4 .

Last year there were more than 350 FIAT 500s present from more than 11 different countries in every color and layout imaginable.

As this engine, which only provided 13 horsepower, was considered too weak by many contemporaries, the later 500s (F, L, and R models) sported a proud performance of up to 22 horsepower.

So families were not neglected, FIAT introduced the 500 *Giardiniera* (gardener), which was essentially a station wagon.

In this version, the engine was mounted below the rear floor, which offered room for more than just hand luggage. Very soon, most of these models were worn out as the workhorses of small companies.

FIAT’s ingenious concept was a commercial success far beyond Italy’s borders and well into all of Europe.

When production finally stopped in 1975, approximately 3.7 million of these little bubble cars had been built, second only to the VW Beetle, and far ahead of Austin Powers’

favorite, the Austin Mini.

Today in Italy there are more than 800,000 still on the road...not bad for a 30 to 50 year old car.

An opportunity to see these remarkable cars up close is coming. Every year up in the hills around Asiago, just 30 minutes north of Vicenza, is a *Raduno Cinquecento* (Fiat 500 Rally) which is one of many held in the Veneto region, and this year it is scheduled for Sept. 3-4 .

Last year there were more than 350 FIAT 500s present from more than 11 different countries in every color and layout imaginable.

One of the highlights of the events (even from a spectator’s perspective) is a tour of all of these cars through the seven villages of Asiago, which cover approximately 25 km of paved mountain roads...quite a sight, indeed.