



The Outlook

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U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

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Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Savusa, the new command sergeant major for U.S. Army, Europe, and USAREUR Commander Gen. David D. McKiernan salute during the national anthem at the welcoming ceremony held in Savusa's honor May 5. The arrival ceremony was held on Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg, Germany, the headquarters for USAREUR. (Photo by Gary L. Kieffer, USAREUR Public Affairs)



Savusa 'sworn in' as USAREUR command sergeant major

USAREUR
News Release

The new U.S. Army, Europe and Seventh Army command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Tului Savusa, officially assumed his duties during a ceremony at Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg, Germany, May 5.

Savusa's new position was last held by Command Sgt. Maj. Michael L. Gravens, whose Army career concluded with a farewell ceremony at Campbell Barracks March 5.

A native of American Samoa, Savusa entered the Army in 1975. He has served on tours around the world from the demilitarized zone in Korea to the Sinai desert in Egypt, forts Bliss, Campbell and Polk in the United States, and his previous assignment as command sergeant major of the Southern European Task Force (Airborne). He has deployed to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan.

USAREUR commanding general, Gen. David D. McKiernan, welcomed Savusa and his family in a speech during the ceremony.

"Today is a very important day for the United States Army, Europe and Seventh Army. We welcome a truly great trooper, his lady, and fine Army family," he said.

McKiernan said Savusa's career, including deployments to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan, "Reflects unsurpassed leadership in combat and peacetime."

During Savusa's most recent assignment as SETAF's command sergeant major, McKiernan said, "He created an atmosphere that valued drive, teamwork and balance. He brought out the best in leaders and Soldiers, living by his personal motto of 'pride and professionalism.' His inspirational and enthusiastic leadership were crucial in the planning and training effort prior to the deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom. And his inspirational leadership in combat was simply invaluable to the command throughout the deployment."

McKiernan also praised Savusa's wife, Mareta, whom he called a 'first round draft

"I will remind noncommissioned officers that they are leading volunteers, and our Soldiers are all Soldiers of democracy, who joined of their own free will. Who stay by their own choice. That is a special kind of Soldier, and it takes a special kind of noncommissioned officer to lead them and inspire them."

Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Savusa
USAREUR Command Sergeant Major

pick' for her work at SETAF in Army Family Team Building, the Family Readiness Group, church and youth activities and in coaching the high school volleyball team.

"We've eagerly anticipated your arrival, Mareta," he said.

The commanding general concluded, "Command Sergeant Major Savusa, my new battle buddy, welcome to you and your family. It is my honor to be at your side."

After the general's remarks, Savusa took the microphone. He spoke briefly in the Samoan language, delivering what he described as thanks to his elders, a Samoan tradition for important occasions.

Savusa then switched to English, and said, "I will start by thanking my wife Mareta, and our four wonderful children... I wouldn't be here today without you."

He also thanked his parents, who were unable to attend the ceremony.

"Long before I signed the dotted line, they instilled in me... values like courage, integrity, service before self," he said. "They are proud Samoans, and I hope they are proud of my

career in the Army and that I honor them with that. Because wherever you are from, honoring your family is job one."

Savusa continued, "General McKiernan, I express my sincere appreciation for the confidence you have in me. As your senior enlisted leader and advisor, I consider this job one of the most important jobs in the Army, and it is an honor for me to assume it. I am eager to take the challenge."

Savusa then discussed the Soldiers of U.S. Army, Europe.

"They are here because of the promise America made to Europe, to uphold freedom, democracy and the rule of law... because of the sacrifice of ordinary Soldiers, America has kept its commitment. Today, Soldiers in Europe... are also committed in other areas of the world, fighting the war on terror," he said.

"I have had the privilege and honor to serve side-by-side with these Soldiers... in both Afghanistan and Iraq," Savusa said. "But while our commitment has not wavered here

in Europe, we certainly recognize that the nature of our mission has changed. We are part of the greatest force transformation in the history of our service. We are transforming an army. This transformation requires rebasing, repositioning, reassignment. But this also requires great leadership on the part of every leader at every level. And during my tenure here in Europe, noncommissioned officers are going to hear a lot about this."

Savusa continued, "I will remind noncommissioned officers that they are leading volunteers, and our Soldiers are all Soldiers of democracy, who joined of their own free will. Who stay by their own choice. That is a special kind of Soldier, and it takes a special kind of noncommissioned officer to lead them and inspire them."

He concluded, "Now, it is time to go back to work. God bless America. God bless our Army that serves her. God bless our Soldiers in harm's way. God bless each and every one of you. Any mission, anywhere."

Sign in only those you know

Office of the Provost Marshal
USAREUR

USAREUR personnel with sign-in privileges should use them with care. That means you should only sign in people you know or who need to enter post for legitimate business. It also means keeping an eye on the people you do sign in.

"Your ID card is a symbol of trust," said Lt. Col. Deborah K. Anderson, chief of Law Enforcement Operations at the USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal. "Trust means responsibility, and responsibility means you don't sign in people you don't know."

Soldiers and civilians can be made liable for any misdemeanors the people they sign in commit, she added.

Anderson explained people outside gates

will offer all kinds of excuses why they need to enter post – but don't be deceived. Any of these people could be criminals or terrorist sympathizers scouting out possible targets.

Especially at weekends, people will wait outside gates for someone to sign them in so they can go to on-post clubs or parties. This may seem harmless, but if you do not know who they are, you do not know their real intentions or the trouble they may cause, Anderson said.

You also do not know if they will end up becoming victims of crime. In a club or party environment, they could potentially become victims of violence or sexual assault, she said.

"You can be held responsible if anything happens to the people you sign in," Anderson concluded.

SAFETY COUNTERMEASURE

Army sees nine motorcycle fatalities in April alone

SETAF Safety Office
News Release

The Army lost nine brothers in arms in the month of April due to motorcycle accidents. USAREUR is not immune to motorcycle accidents and has seen two fatalities this fiscal year and four last year.

With the exception of one accident, all riders were considered "experienced." All but two had attended the proper training courses. Of the nine, three were hit by other drivers, five simply lost control of the bike and one fatality was attributed to driving under the influence. Speed was the contributing factor in all but two of these accidents.

Lessons Learned:

Not all motorcycles are created equal. Every rider knows that all bikes have their own handling characteristics, different gear ratios, horsepower and response to throttle tendencies and stopping distance requirements. You may have been riding for years but how experienced are you on the bike you are currently riding?

Driving any vehicle forms habits, good or bad, to compensate for the tendencies of the vehicle under different conditions. Have you overcome the habits learned on the old bike or have you transferred them to the new?

In an emergency the chances are that your reactions will be based

on habit, and you may find your bike doesn't respond as you expected simply because it is not the same bike.

Slow your speed until you have mastered the bike you are riding and know that the bike will perform as expected in given situations.

The wearing of a proper helmet is a must, even if just riding around the block. The leading cause of motorcycle fatalities is head trauma.

Driving defensively at all times is a must for any vehicle driver but is critical to safe motorcycle operation.

Decrease speed when entering intersections, even if you have the right of way.

Curves are especially dangerous on any motorcycle as the physics affecting the bike and the rider change dramatically. Of greater importance, in many instances, is the rider cannot see what is ahead. A pothole or an animal in the roadway are not a great impediment to a four wheel vehicle but can spell disaster to a two wheeled vehicle. Enter curves cautiously. Slow down!

Enjoy your bike this summer but always *Drive to Arrive!*

Motorcycle Safety Courses

Classroom dates are scheduled for (Mondays): May 22, June 12, and June 26 starting at 3:30 p.m. in the Golden Lion. Range dates



The accident in this photo occurred in April outside of Camp Darby when the servicemember, an experienced motorcyclist, attempted to pass at high speed with oncoming traffic. He was killed on impact. (Photo provided by the SETAF Safety Office)

(Wednesdays) are scheduled for: May 24, June 14, and June 28 beginning at 8:30 a.m. and are conducted at the fairgrounds area near the Villaggio Housing area, in front of Hotel Aries.

You must have a valid stateside driver's license with motorcycle endorsement on it. You must have

at least two years of stateside motorcycle driving experience.

You can sign up for the following week's class and range anytime from Tuesday through Monday morning, prior to the beginning of class.

All class dates are tentative, pending a 5-6 participant minimum

and availability of motorcycle rider instructor.

Note: Soldiers returning from deployment must come in for retraining prior to driving again, those caught driving who have not received retraining can be prosecuted by the Provost Marshal.

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community. If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at www.usag.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 \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old 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 location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC will be May 24 beginning at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

Issue: Non-scannable Civilian Retiree ID Cards – I retired in 2003 after 33 years of federal service. I was a career civil servant, not previously a military retiree. While there are not many on-post benefits available to retired civil servants, access to MWR services is authorized.

My wife and I just spent two months in Europe, most of the time in Vicenza, and found that while I could talk my way onto military installations to use MWR services, I could not

sign my wife on post. This meant I could go to a club or the Food Court, or stay in the on-post lodging but my wife had to wait in the car off-post. As you can imagine, I did not ask her to do that.

It appears USAREUR has recently implemented a new security system that has three main parts:

1. The gate guards use a bar code reader to scan the ID card.
2. The ID card holder must be included in a local database for post access based on the person's eligibility for services.
3. The ID card holder's reason for post access is derived from information in the DEERS database.

Without such a bar code readable ID card and an entry in DEERS, the individual has to apply for a post pass that requires a local ID card holder as a sponsor. While we were in Vicenza, we had a sponsor, but availability of a local sponsor is unlikely for most folks who want to use MWR services while they are traveling.

I received a Retiree ID card upon retirement, a DA Form 5003, but it does not have the new bar code on the back. I was continued in DEERS, not as a retiree but as a current Army contractor. Based on this, I could "talk my way on post." But without a DEERS entry that specified my entitlements, I could not get a post pass based on my own eligibility and sign my wife on post.

I called on the MWR folks at one post in Europe and they were very interested in resolving the problem as the absence of a scannable ID card is a barrier to their potential customers getting on post to use MWR services.

Recommendation: Retirees need to receive a new style ID card with the bar code, and we need to be continued in the DEERS database as "MWR services eligible." The USAREUR security system should have provision for retired DoD civilians. We have also served.

Response from the 510th Personnel

Support Battalion: I do not believe that the issue is solely a PSB issue as we do not issue government civilian retiree ID cards. These cards (DA 1602) are only issued in CONUS. Government Civilian Retirees do not have privileges to Post or MWR facilities in Europe.

The ID card (DA Form 5003) does not exist here. The customer's desire for giving post privileges to DA civilian retirees overseas is a legislative one. According to rules governing ID cards in Europe, the customer is not entitled to any card due to his retiree status.

I believe he/she had a CAC card because of his contractor status, but it should not have gained him access to this installation unless he was on TDY as a contractor with orders.

Issue: Misuse of Dry Cleaner's Parking Spaces – There are two parking spots behind the Hall of Heroes for use by dry-cleaning customers. These spaces are frequently filled, and yet there is nobody in the dry-cleaners. It is not reasonable to park any distance away when you have items to pick up or drop off that are bulky. It seems that people are using these parking spaces as long-term parking and not what they are intended for.

Recommendation: Enforce the short-term parking for dry-cleaner customers. I don't know how it should be done.

Response from the Directorate of Emergency Services: The military police are citing personnel daily for parking in the short term parking areas. The DES has ordered the MP's to check the dry cleaners area more often when possible.

Issue: Commissary Shopping Carts – The Commissary no longer allows customers take carts to the parking area to bring out groceries. I have talked with the employees and was told too many people are taking carts all over post, and this is the solution.

This is ridiculous. If I have more than two bags of groceries I have to pay someone to bring my bags to the car. I would prefer to do this myself. This is a disservice to the customers

that they cannot use a cart because of a few disrespectful people.

Recommendation: Have a few designated "outside carts," maybe paint them a bright color. It is not reasonable to make us use bagger carts.

Responding Agency: DeCA: Thank you for the feedback. I realize that this decision would generate some concern. After months of struggling with this issue, I made a decision in October last year to prohibit shopping carts to be taken from the Commissary.

It came down to an accountability, sanitation and safety issue. In the event I lose carts due to theft, mismanagement or damage, our agency will have to replace them with funds that could be used for payroll, utilities or stock requisition.

Additionally, I noticed my shopping carts around post getting rain, dirt and bird droppings on them. My patrons deserve better. I've seen children sitting in them racing with other carts. This is a serious safety issue as well.

Retailers in the states don't worry about the loss of a shopping cart; they simply charge more for the cost of your purchases. They also work on a profit margin, employing people to go around the parking lot to retrieve their carts.

The Defense Commissary Agency charges a five percent surcharge. This money is used to fund new construction, renovations and new equipment such as self-service check-out registers and other modernizations; none for cart retrieval.

I received 50 new carts in May of last year. I now have 43 accounted for. At \$175 each, that is \$1,225 loss to the Defense Commissary Agency. The other carts we have in the store are older and needed replacing. However, I need to use them now as some of the new carts are now missing. The bagger carts are designed to be used in parking lots whereas the shopping carts are not. With more troops returning, I need all of my carts here, not scattered around post leaving customers waiting for carts.

This decision has command support.

Achoo, Achoo, Achoo!

Seasonal allergies in high bloom for allergy sufferers

Europe Regional Medical Command Public Affairs
Press Release

It's in your hair, on your skin, up your nose, and in your eyes – **pollen** – Mother Nature's perverse way of announcing spring.

Pollen – A nasty, invisible irritant to our immune system causing symptoms of seasonal allergies.

What are seasonal allergies?

"These are allergic problems caused primarily by exposure to pollens that are worse when certain plants are blooming," said Lt. Col. Stephen N. Marks, allergist, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

Folks living in Europe can blame their itchy, watery eyes, and chronic sniffing on a few bad seeds and trees. The pollination process and its affect on allergy sufferers rotates from season to season.

"In general, trees pollinate in early spring and into the summer; grasses in late spring and through the summer, and weeds from summer into the fall," explained Marks. "In a climate like Germany, seasonal allergies tend to occur during the spring, summer and fall. After the first good frost those pollens are inactivated by freezing, so they no longer cause symptoms," said Marks.

An allergy diagnosis is made based on a person's physical symptoms.

"Typical symptoms of seasonal allergies are sneezing, runny nose, itchy watery eyes, stuffy nose and sometimes wheezing, chest tightness or cough," said Marks.

"These symptoms can be very severe, especially affecting the eyes. That seems to be the hardest area to get under control," he said. "It interferes with a person's ability to function. You need your eyes for almost everything we do in our society, and when they are itchy and uncomfortable, it can affect our daily lives."

Most allergy symptoms can be relieved by using an over-the-counter antihistamine. Over-the-counter eye drops with an antihistamine ingredient relieve itchy, watery eye problems.

However, Marks cautions against long-term use of over-the-counter eye drops.

"Typical symptoms of seasonal allergies are sneezing, runny nose, itchy watery eyes, stuffy nose and sometimes wheezing, chest tightness or cough."

Lt. Col. Stephen N. Marks
Allergist, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

"The downside to over-the-counter eye drops is that they contain a decongestant," he said. "You should not use these eye drops for an extended period of time as this can make the redness worse."

There are prescription medications available offering relief of allergy symptoms. Your healthcare provider can prescribe antihistamines that do not cause drowsiness.

Take care when using certain over-the-counter allergy relief medications on a daily basis.

"I would caution people to avoid excessive use of over-the-counter decongestant nasal sprays," said Marks. "If these medicines are used too long, you can develop a rebound nasal congestion. This results in a requirement to use that medicine everyday just to be able breathe through your nose."

Doctors can also prescribe a topical nasal spray. An anti-inflammatory nasal spray is even more effective than oral antihistamines at reducing the nasal symptoms.

Marks says the time to visit your healthcare provider is when the allergies are not adequately controlled with medications.

"Patients should be referred to an allergist if they have, at a minimum, been taking a corticosteroid nasal spray everyday and a daily antihistamine for at least six weeks, plus or minus eye drops, and their symptoms are not improving," explained Marks. "A referral to an allergist for skin testing and allergy evaluation is the recommended next step."

Patients referred for an evaluation and skin testing must stop taking antihistamines 10 days prior to skin-testing, or the antihistamine blocks the response in the skin and the

results are not reliable.

"Prescribed allergy shots may be the best treatment option for some patient's allergies," said Marks. "These shots offer the best treatment for allergies because they don't just treat the symptoms; they change the immune system so that the person's immune system does not recognize these things as allergy-causing."

Allergy shots are not a quick-relief treatment for allergy sufferers, and a certain amount of risk is involved.

"Receiving allergy shots is a long-term treatment course of three to five years and carries a significant risk," said Marks. "The risk is the possibility of having an allergic reaction to the shot itself. Those allergic reactions can happen at any time and due to this risk, the shots are required to be given at a clinic. Patients have to wait for a minimum of 30 minutes after each injection."

Don't let seasonal allergies prevent you from enjoying being outside. With allergy medication you can enjoy the great outdoors. Keep in mind, if you don't see an improvement in symptoms within a few weeks of using over-the-counter medication it is suggested you schedule an appointment with your health care provider for further evaluation.

Transitioning schools this summer?

Military Child Education Coalition / Parent to Parent is holding "Easing School Transitions, What you Want to Know" classes for families who are PCSing this spring every Thursday night at the Vicenza High School media center from 5:15-6 p.m.

Topics addressed include: Your Child's Portfolios: what to include; Questions for upcoming schools/teachers; A hands on opportunity to explore the future school's Web site and the MCEC Web site, which has many valuable resources; and Information on the Interactive Counseling Center, a forum to interact "live" with the upcoming school personnel or a student.

For more information, contact Parent to Parent at 348-079-5480 or via email at parent2parent@setaf.army.mil

Outstanding Community Volunteers honored

The Vicenza military community held its annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony May 2 at the Ederle Theater with a reception at Club Veneto. The following people were honored as Outstanding Community Volunteers for their contributions to the Vicenza community: (in photo in no specific order) Janine Smith, Laura Couturier, Laverne Johnson, Kelly Walker, Hanne Robinson, Manuela Bonnette, Hiltrud Nupp, Pat McBride, Beth Manning, Karen Huffman, Dawn Norcross, Joshua Lemon, John Beamish, Kenneth Barteau, Christopher Nupp, Sheri Mahadeo, Jessica Buhler, and Grace Pemberton. (Photo provided by Randie Gibson, Army Volunteer Corps)

The Outlook

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Nutrition Tip from WIC Overseas

*What does a
healthy dinner plate
look like?*

*Try ½ veggies, ¼
starch, ¼ meat.
Buon appetito!*

WIC is a nutrition and supplemental food program. Call WIC Overseas at 634-6258 for more information.

Adopt a pet

The Vicenza Vet Clinic has a cat for adoption. He is a 10 1/2-year-old male cat that is very friendly and loves attention and to be brushed. He does get along with other cats however he likes to be the center of attention so that may cause friction between the cats until they adjust. He is neutered, microchipped, and his vaccines are current until November.

He had a problem with bladder stones in the past and must be kept on a special diet to help prevent the stones from returning. The food can be purchased at the clinic and at local Italian pet stores. In the states, the food can be purchased only from a veterinarian.

This is an affectionate cat that would make a wonderful addition to a home where he is properly cared for.

The adoption fee is \$35 to offset the cost of treatment and food. Call 635-4841 (0444-71-4841) to set up an appointment to meet this beautiful cat since he is kept offsite.



The good, the bad and the sugar coated

Sugar Bowl informs, entertains local students

Story and photos by Spc. Justin Nieto
SETAF Public Affairs



The fifth grade students here on Caserma Ederle received a special treat May 5 when they participated in the Sugar Bowl; an event held by the Vicenza Dental Clinic to inform the students on ways to take care of their teeth while having fun.

"This is an annual event for us and the fifth graders," said Lt. Col. Jamie Houston, officer in charge of the dental clinic. "We always try to piggyback it on National Nutrition Month."

National Nutrition Month itself is an event sponsored by the American Dietetic Association and "designed to focus attention on the importance of making informed food choices and

developing sound eating and physical activity habits," according to the association's Web site.

"We have done this for a while and used to just have a five-minute, instructional tape," said Houston. "However, the students just weren't learning from the tape."

So instead, Houston now takes a more interactive approach to reach the students; face to face instruction and a competition.

"There use to be no exchange between the students and the teachers, so this method is much more proactive," said Houston, who has been a part of the event for eight years. "The students get so much more out of it because of the competition as well."

"This is so much better because we get to speak to the students and the teachers directly," continued Houston. "And I always get a kick out of the boys and girls here."

Houston spoke to the eager students about the new methods of brushing, flossing and warned them about the worst kind of



Students examine the teeth of a former patient of Houston. The teeth were brought in as an example of what can happen to those who neglect dental hygiene.



drinks for your teeth.

Their knowledge was then put to the test, three boys against three girls, in the Sugar Bowl.

"I was really nervous to be up there," said Jason Bly, one of the students representing the boys.

"It just shows boys pay more attention than girls," continued Bly, smiling.

"Some of the stuff I never knew, like how to brush and floss the new way," said Bly. "It was a lot of fun."

Houston said the students enjoy learning because it's a chance for them to go home and tell their parents about their experience and maybe teach them a thing or two.

"It's kind of a role reversal; the children are teaching the parents new things," said Houston. "And I think the students really enjoy that."

Lt. Col. Jamie Houston, left, talks to the 5th-grade classes of the Vicenza Elementary School about the new and improved way to brush and floss before the start of the Dental Clinic's annual Sugar Bowl.

Beware of Quickie Divorces

Capt. Kimberly I. Barnard
Client Services
Staff Judge Advocate

As marital tensions rise and people get impatient with legal proceedings, especially when living overseas, some people look around for the easiest and quickest way out of their marriage.

Unfortunately, the "quick" way may cause far more problems in the long run.

"I can't wait the year that it will take to get a divorce in the U.S. and especially not the three years that it will take in Italy. I am just going to take some leave and get a quick divorce in Mexico."

STOP. If you run off to get

that quick divorce, you may spend the next several years still married and paying huge legal fees trying to get out of the mess you created by being impatient or trying to get out of paying the spousal support.

The leading case controlling this issue is *Williams v. North Carolina*, 325 U.S. 226 (U.S. 1945). Although the case was decided over 50 years ago, it is still the current law. A couple from North Carolina each decided they wanted to divorce their spouses and then get married. They traveled to Nevada and stayed the required six weeks before filing their divorce petitions. Nevada granted each of them a divorce. They immediately got married there in Nevada and quickly headed back home to North Carolina. North Carolina courts declared the divorces invalid and found the couple

guilty of bigamous cohabitation.

For Soldiers, this can cause an even greater problem. Not only will you continue to owe spousal support (interim support if there is no separation agreement) but you could be found guilty of adultery or bigamy resulting in an Article 15 or a Court Martial.

The legal reality is the court granting the divorce must have personal and subject matter jurisdiction. Both parties must be allowed due process within the system.

Subject matter: The court must first have the authority to decide divorce cases.

Personal: Depending upon the laws of that state, at least one of you must either be a resident or be domiciled in said state.

Therefore, the only domestic courts which may have the authority to divorce you are the ones where you or your spouse is a legal resident or where you or your spouse resides.

For example, if you are a resident of Kentucky, your spouse is an Italian national, and you are living here in

Italy, you may file either in Kentucky or in Italy for a divorce.

Due Process: The court must ensure each party has an opportunity to present their side of the case.

If you choose to file in Kentucky and your Italian spouse is not given proper service and notification of the proceedings, then the divorce may still not be valid.

If there are children involved, the situation becomes even more difficult. Not only do you have to make sure you are in the right court to decide your divorce, but also that the court has the authority to make decisions concerning the children. Only one court has authority to decide on issues involving your children – the court where the children have lived for the last six months. If you file in a court which does not have jurisdiction over the children, you will have to file again in the proper court. Therefore, you have just caused both the timing and the legal fees to at least double.

If the court allows you to process your case and both of you formally agree to the court having authority

to decide the matter, then the validity of the divorce is likely not to be questioned.

However, if one spouse was not given the opportunity to be represented in court, he or she may challenge the final decree and/or the spouse's state or country may not recognize the divorce.

The spouse who wanted the divorce in Mexico would have a hard time getting the states and Italy to recognize the divorce. If that spouse decided to "remarry," there is now a serious question of bigamy, being married to two people at the same time.

Generally, divorces granted in foreign countries to persons who are legal residents of the United States are not considered valid or enforceable.

Think before you take the "quick" way out. If not, you may be in the courts for years and spending large amount of money on additional legal fees.

For more information or questions, call Client Services, Judge Advocate, at 634-7041.



Mother's Day Tea

Left: Lt. Col. Martha Hayes, USAG Vicenza chaplain, speaks to participants in the Mother's Day Tea held at the Ederle Chapel May 6. The celebration also included special songs and music, poetry, and drama.

Right: Family members pick some snacks and fruit.

Far right: A family member shows one of the heart-shaped cookies prepared for the event where she added her personal touch for her mother, Deborah. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)



Alpha Company swims away with cup

1-508th Banner Day

Story and photos by Spc. Jon Arguello
173d Airborne Brigade Public Affairs

The paratroopers of 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry (Airborne) have gone through many emotional and physical tests over the past year during their deployment to Afghanistan. Now the Soldiers have returned to their base in Italy, and the battalion had one more group of tests to prove their skills. However, these tests were a little on the brighter side.

Just like when they returned from deployment to Iraq, the 1-508th Inf (Abn) held a competitive, but fun, day of activities called "Banner Day" in celebration of their return from Afghanistan. Banner Day consists of company versus company sports included football, softball, basketball, volleyball, tug o' war, 100 yard dash, and a surprise dodge ball game.

Although the games were competitive and each company won events, the Alpha Company "Shark Tank," with four competitions won, became the Banner Day champions.

"Banner Day, overall, was awesome," said Alpha Company 1st Sgt. Mario Cockrell, from Berkeley, California. "There is nothing better than infantrymen competing in intramural sports."

But Cockrell and the Shark Tank took more home than fun that day. Along with the Banner Day Cup, Alpha took bragging rights and a guidon streamer to proudly display their victory over the Headquarters and Headquarters Company "Workhorse," Bravo Company "Legion," and Charlie "Rock."

"I can be no prouder," said Cockrell. "Somebody was going to win. All of the paratroopers in the battalion are at the same level of physical and mental performance. They demonstrated that down range, and they put up a good fight on Banner Day – but we won."

Although Alpha won the event, participation and excitement about the games was high and the battalion's Soldiers had a great time.

"I thought it was great to have everybody out there," said Keith Eisenhower, a medic from Harrisburg, Pa., who spent most of his deployment with Charlie Company but has since returned to HHC. "We haven't had everybody together since the last Banner Day. We were always broken up into company, platoon or smaller elements. It's a great idea."

After deployments, activities like Banner Day are extremely important in terms of retaining unit cohesion and esprit d'corps, Cockrell said.

The battalion's command sergeant major agreed with Cockrell's assessment.

"The event was so successful after the battalion returned from Iraq, the Soldiers were already asking about it as soon as we got back from Afghanistan," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Hoff, from Abilene, Tx. "It's not just fun for our paratroopers, this is something that brings together the families too. It's a huge morale booster."

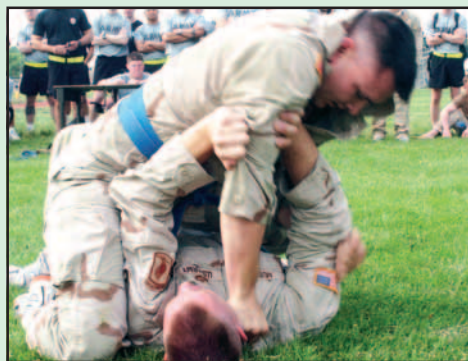
The Red Devils weren't the only people playing that day. Families were offered humvee rides, an opportunity to jump from the 34 foot tower in a simulated parachute jump and a chance to fire a weapons simulator, as well as the opportunity to cheer on their



The Alpha Company "Shark Tank" won the volleyball, football, dodge ball and softball competitions.

Left: Staff Sgt. Travis Ellis and Bravo Company won the Combatives portion of the Banner activities.

Left below: Lt. Col. Timothy Macguire, commander, 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry (Airborne) watches as 1st Sgt. Mario Cockrell attaches the Banner Day streamer to Alpha Company's guidon.



Soldiers during the games.

"It brings everybody together not just the Soldiers. It involves the families, family readiness groups and rear detachment," Hoff said. "It shows everyone involved how much they are appreciated for their efforts. It's important to show appreciation for everyone along with the Soldiers who deployed. Never underestimate or judge your contribution by your proximity to the frontline. Everyone is a part of the success."

The event was a success on many levels to the Soldiers, Hoff said.

"It was huge success for everyone involved. It was a day of relaxing with friends and family," said Hoff. "The children had a blast with the humvee rides, tower and weapons simulator. The Soldiers get to showcase their individual athletic ability, and they got a day off where they didn't have to come into work."

As far as maintaining their Banner Day superiority, Alpha Company's first sergeant had this to say:

"It's hard when you're on top. When you're on top, everybody is gunning for you."



173d Rear-D stands down

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell
173d Airborne Brigade Public Affairs

Paratroopers from the 173d Airborne Brigade Rear Detachment were recognized May 9 during a ceremony near the brigade headquarters in which the rear detachment officially stood down.

Awards were presented to 12 Soldiers as Col. Kevin Owens, 173d Abn Bde commander, expressed his appreciation for their exceptional service over the last year.

"Gen. [B.B.] Bell, [former USAREUR commander] said once that if you think you can't live without the people that you have chosen for Rear-D, then you have chosen the right people," said Owens, "and I believe that has been the case here."

"We simply could not have done what we did this past year in Afghanistan if it wasn't for you, our fellow Sky Soldiers, taking care of all the issues back here," said Owens.

Sgt. Hector Ramirez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Airborne Brigade, receives an Army Commendation Medal from Col. Kevin Owens, 173d Airborne Brigade commander, for excellence while serving on the brigade rear detachment during Operation Enduring Freedom VI.

Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Flower & Plant Expo

In the gardens of *Villa da Schio*, located in the town of *Costozza* near *Longare*, an exhibition-market of plants and flowers, some of them rare, and rose plants, garden furniture, gardening books and paintings will take place May 20-21. Over 40 exhibitors will have on show/sale orchids, water plants, sweet-peas, geraniums, grass seed, fruit trees, etc. One will also find dried and decoupage flowers, engraved flowers on glass and flowers in natural soap. It's not too early to think about seasonal gifts. The gardens will be open each day from 9 a.m. to sundown. Entrance fee is 6 euro.

Upcoming Concerts

The following concerts will be held in Milan: Daniel Powter-June 5; Rolling Stones-June 22 in Milan's soccer stadium; Robbie Williams-June 22; Iron Maiden-2-3 Dec. Then we have Madonna-July 6 in Rome; Eric Clapton-July 10 in Verona. The Heinekin Jammin' Festival will be held at the Imola race track June 16-17. June 16 will see headliner Depeche Mode and Metallica will perform June 17 among others.

Celtic Music Festival

The 3rd Celtic Music Festival will be held in the town of *Montecchio Precalcino*, 16 kilometers from *Vicenza*, June 19-21 and the following weekend. Different clans and groups will be present, all dressed in their order. Some of the main events Saturday include opening the gates at 2 p.m., seeing the arrival of the Cimbri clan followed by the Roman legion at 4 p.m. and people in the village of the crafts will start their work. 5:30 p.m. sees activities for children. At 7 p.m. the Celtic restaurant opens, and 7:30 p.m. is the ritual lighting of the fire followed by 10 p.m. music. May 21 the gates open at 11 a.m. with the Celtic restaurant opening at noon. Activities for children will take place at 3:30 p.m. and at 5:30 p.m. the

battle between the Roman legion and the Celts will occur. 7 p.m. the restaurant re-opens. Entrance fee is 6 euro, but if you go in costume and are younger than 18 or over 65, it's only 4 euro. Children smaller than the kings sword get in for free. Further information can be found on the Web at www.venigallia.com in Italian only.

Exhibitions & Fests

84th Campionaria: Ongoing is the biggest all round exhibition on the *Padova* exhibition grounds until May 21. Here, you'll find everything for your home, vacations, hobbies, sports, car, motorbike, garden furniture/swimming pools, camping equipment etc. There will also be demonstrations on spinning, horse riding and music shows to name but a few. Open weekdays, 4:30 p.m. to midnight and weekends from 10 a.m. to midnight. Visited by over 250,000 people last year, this exhibition entrance is free. Exit the autostrada at *Padova est*, east, and follow signs for *84th Campionaria*. If going by train, you will find the grounds 500 meters from the *Padova* train station.

World press photo exhibition: The World Press Photo, the world's most prestigious photography competition, visits the *Galleria Carla Sozzani* in *Milan*.

Each year, works by the competition winners and runners-up become part of a large touring exhibition visiting over 40 countries around the world. The images will also be featured in the World Press Photo Yearbook, a publication identifying the leading international news photographers as well as providing a record of world events over the past 12 months.

The *Galleria*, located on *Corso Como*, is open Tuesday and Friday through Sunday 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. until May 28. There will be an entrance fee.

Pea Festival: The town of *Lumignano*, a town near *Longare*,

holds its 2nd *sagra*, town fair, on May 20-21. This fair is very popular for its food tents serving dishes, which main ingredients are *piselli di Lumignano*, peas from *Lumignano*.

Medieval Fests

White wine medieval festival in *Soave*, province of *Verona*, will celebrate its white wine produced in the area at a medieval fair May 21, where you will find the city filled with period costumes. The main focus of the festival is local wines, along with oils, cheeses and other produce. Different events will be going on throughout the day starting at 9 a.m. with a bric-a-brac market, which is open until 7 p.m. Medieval events in the center of *Soave* with musicians, fire-eaters, knights, falconers, flag-throwers and duels between cavaliers from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. At 11:30 a.m. Rise with white *Soave* will be served in *Piazza Cavalli*. At 5 p.m. there will be a historical parade through the streets of the city.

The town of *Sanguinetto*, province of *Verona*, will be holding their annual medieval event "The Palio and Toro Festival" May 18-23. Main events are May 20-21: At 6 a.m. on both days cooks start cooking the 'Toro' on a spit which will be served each day starting at noon in food tents. May 20 at 4 p.m. the set up of a medieval military camp in the castles trench will begin. At 4 p.m. the craft market opens, at 8:30 p.m. there will be a costumed procession in the market area. At 9 p.m. there will be a representation of a medieval banquet inside the castle, with music, jugglers, knights, archers, swordsmen and others.

On May 21, 9 a.m., there is a meeting in front of the castle of the Palio participants and the presentation of the day's program. At 10 a.m. there is an opening of the market with over 100 vendors. 3:30 p.m. will be the start of the Palio in the trench of the castle with medieval games, an archery contest with bows, a crossbow contest, an

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

May 16	Date Movie (PG-13)	7 p.m.
May 17	Eight Below (G)	7 p.m.
May 18	Freedomland (R)	7 p.m.
May 19	Inside Man (R)	7 p.m.
May 20	Madeas Family Reunion (PG13)	4 p.m.
	Inside Man (R)	7 p.m.
May 21	Madeas Family Reunion (PG13)	4 p.m.
	16 Blocks (PG-13)	7 p.m.
May 22	CLOSED	
May 23	Madeas Family Reunion (PG13)	7 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

May 19	Ultraviolet (PG-13)	6 p.m.
May 20	Pink Panther (PG)	6 p.m.
May 21	The Shaggy Dog (PG)	2 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

INSIDE MAN - *Denzel Washington, Jodie Foster* - Tough cop, Detective Frazier matches wits with clever bank robber Dalton as a dangerous cat-and-mouse game unfolds. Unexpectedly, Madaline, a power broker with a hidden agenda, emerges to inject even more instability into an already volatile situation.

ULTRAVIOLET - *Milla Jovovich, William Fichtner* - Set in the late 21st century, a subculture of humans has emerged with a genetic mutation causing enhanced speed, incredible stamina and acute intelligence. As more people are infected and the government becomes increasingly terrified of their growing power, those with the mutation are treated as outcasts, subjected to terrifying tests and put into quarantine. The government sets out to destroy them, but one woman is determined that that doesn't happen: ultra-beautiful ultra-lethal Violet. With eye-popping martial arts skills and chameleon-like abilities, Violet becomes a rogue warrior bent on protecting her new race - and seeking revenge on those who created it.

MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION - *Tyler Perry, Blair Underwood* - An unstoppable force of nature, southern matriarch Madea may have finally taken on more than she can chew. She has just been court ordered to be in charge of Nikki, a rebellious runaway, her nieces Lisa and Vanessa are suffering relationship trouble, and through it all she has to organize her family reunion. As the reunion approaches, secrets are revealed and tensions rise. Madea must use every tactic in her arsenal to not only keep the peace, but keep her family together.

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.

exhibition of flag throwers, games for children along with an exhibition of falconers.

At 6:15 p.m. there will be an award ceremony. Full program and *dove siamo*, directions, on www.fierafestadelatoro.it in Italian only. *Sanguinetto* is located 72 kilometers from *Vicenza*.

The epic Palio di *Ferrara* medieval tournament, which has

taken place since 1259, is the oldest in the world. It celebrates the victory of the Marquis and the Lord of the town, Azzi VII Novello d'Este, against Ezzelino da Romano, a general of the German Emperor.

The historical procession on May 20 at 9 p.m. consists of over 1,000 people, ladies, lords, warriors, musicians wearing typical Ferrara costumes of the 15th century. On May 28 is the Palio, which are donkey and horse races, which starts at 4 p.m. Details from www.paliodiferrara.it.

Antique markets

The following towns will hold their antique market May 21: *Padova* at *Prato della Valle* - 160 vendors with several vendors specialize in oriental items; *Malo* - 25 vendors; *Mirano Venice* - 100 vendors; *Cittadella, Padova* - 60 vendors; *Soave, Verona* - 100 vendors; *Godega di Sant'Urbano, Treviso* - 215 vendors; and *Montagnana, Padova* - 80 vendors.

Calendar Note

The human chess game in *Marostica* will be held Sept. 8 with ticket costs of 60, 50 or 30 euro and Sept. 9 tickets costs 80, 70 or 40 euro. Both performances start at 9 p.m.

On Sept. 10 there are two performances: 5 p.m. - 25, 20 or 10 euro and at 9 p.m. - 60, 45 or 20 euro.

WARRIOR GAMES

HomeFront Celebration

Clash of the Kin Family Challenge

48 Family groups of 3-4 participants will compete in four separate events. Pre-registration required. Limit of 48 teams.

Puzzle relay - Board Walk - Sack Race - Tug Of War

Each family team will receive time for completion of each event. The family with the lowest combined time of all four events will be the winner.

Each team must consist of an actual family group, verified by Sponsor ID.

All members of the team must participate in the event

Top time of all four events combined will be declared the winner.

In case of a tie a round of Tug of War will be the tie breaking event.

All participants will receive laurel wreaths, and the overall winning team will receive a trip to Rome including airfare and hotel (for a family of four).

Scavenger Hunt/Trivia Challenge

This event will have a maximum of 50, three or four-man teams. Pre-registration is required. Teams will have a total of one hour to complete the event.

All participants will receive laurel wreaths, and the overall winning team will win a trip for four to *Caneva World* near *Lake Garda*.

Hula Hoop Marathon

Special Rules: The overall winner holds the record for continuous revolution of a hula hoop for longest duration. No pre-registration required. First come, first serve. Only 48 individuals will be permitted to compete. Every hour on the half hour additional participants will be permitted to enter competition on a space available basis. No breaks are allowed. Anyone may compete.

Overall winner will receive an AAFED gift certificate.

Run & Shoot

Only 50, two-person teams will be allowed to participate. Pre-Registration Required. Teams must consist of one adult and one youth, 10-18 years of age. Each team member must complete the half-mile loop. Only Outdoor Recreation provided equipment will be used.

Overall winners will receive a trip for four to *Medieval Times*.

To register for these events or others taking place over the three-day *Warrior Games HomeFront Celebration*, stop by *Outdoor Rec*, across from the *Shoppette* parking lot.





Story and photos
By Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff



A volunteer shows one of the *kimonos* on display at the pavilion to a family member. This traditional Japanese dress is very valuable, and it is used by girls when they turn 18. Left: A participant introduces some Tahitian dances during the program.



Dancers perform the *Fast Tahitian*, the last dance performed by the group. At the end of the dance they also invited community members to perform the same dance together.

Right: A volunteer hands out to the participants some *Chicken Adobo*, one of the traditional recipes presented at the food tasting booths.

Far right: Children enjoy dancing after the event.



On Friday, Caserma Ederle celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage month with the *Asian Pacific Extravaganza*.

The event that took place at the Teen Center Pavilion and included exhibits, traditional dances, and food tasting for participants. The food tasting represented Guam, Japan, Korea, China, Philippines, and Vietnam.

Maj. Gen. Jason Kamiya, SETAF commanding general, and his wife Carmen, also welcomed the community in different languages. Traditional items were on display in several booths located in the pavilion.

Hansel & Gretel at Soldiers' Theatre

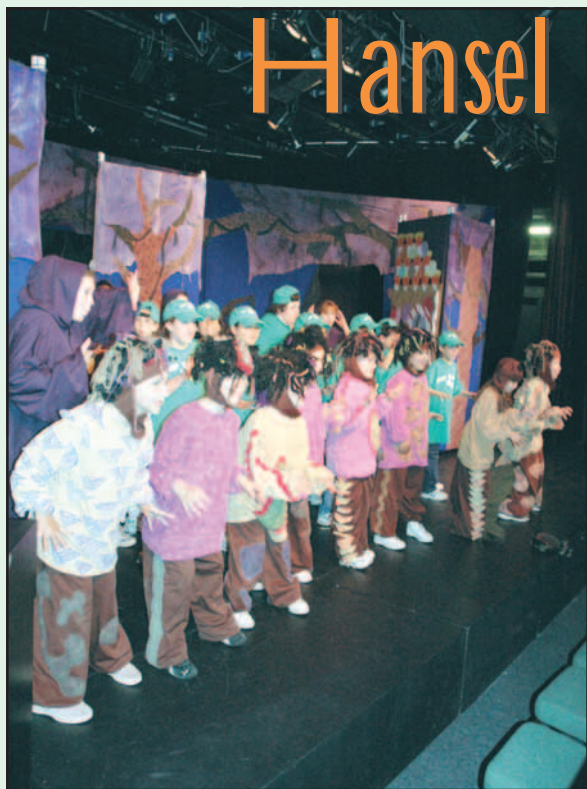
Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Almost 50 children took part in the production of "Hansel and Gretel," presented at Soldiers' Theatre, which culminated in two performances on Saturday with full sets, lights, costumes and makeup.

The week-long program was brought over by the Missoula Children's Theatre. The Missoula Children's Theatre was founded in 1970 by Jim Caron, who still serves as executive director. Caron and Michael McGill, MCT's music director, supervise the intense training period for the "tour teams" and have created the original musicals which are currently touring with 38 teams of MCT tour actor/directors.

"More than 200 people are expected to attend," said Ross Daniels, Soldiers' Theatre director. The program had the children rehearsing in the afternoons and performing different characters such as cooks, wallybirds, and new and old campers.

Actors perform one of the songs during the rehearsal.



A group of children wear different costumes while performing in the dress rehearsal of the show, *Hansel and Gretel*. Almost 50 children participated in the show.

