



# The Outlook

December 1, 2011

U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

www.USAG.Vicenza.Army.Mil

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46/41 Friday 52/37 Saturday 52/39 Sunday

The annual tree lighting ceremony takes place Friday at 5 p.m. outside the Central Processing Facility. This event kicks off a weekend of activities. For more info. see page 7.

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EFMP participants enjoy bowling



Photo by Mindy Anderson

**First timers:** From the right, U.S. Army Africa's Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Robert Brogan and Vicenza Military Intelligence Detachment First Sgt. Jeremy Lowry serve up some turkey and dressing Nov. 24 at the South of the Alps Dining Facility. For more photos from the local Thanksgiving celebration, see page 4.

## USARAF leads training for Botswanian soldiers

U.S. Army Africa PAO

**GABORONE, Botswana**—Twenty-eight instructors from the U.S. and Botswana worked together to train 115 officers and noncommissioned officers from the Botswana Defense Forces during the second iteration of the Botswana Tactical Intelligence Course Oct. 5 - Nov. 18.

Maj. Bob Blair, the course's officer-in-charge from U.S. Army Africa military intelligence, or G2 section, said this is the second stage of a three-stage capability build for

the BDF. The first iteration ran from December 2010 to January 2011.

"BTIC is designed for junior military officers and NCOs with little to no military intelligence experience. This course prepares officers to serve as MI professionals on a staff or in an operational HQ (headquarters). In addition, BTIC also promotes partner nation cooperation and coordination and provides a standard military process within the partner community," Blair said.

The BDF instructors, under the tutelage of the Regional

Joint Intelligence Training Facility mentors, have spent weeks studying their assigned course materials. Before taking the podium in class, each instructor conducts a rehearsal incorporating both mentor and peer observation.

The assigned RJITF mentor evaluates the instructor on his or her performance and provides feedback after the class, intervening if necessary to ensure learning objectives are met.

"The U.S. Army is doing a good job by giving this training to Botswana because it will go

on to enhance our collection analysis capability especially during this time of increased crime, poaching and cattle rustling," said Capt. Ronny Samakabadi, BDF adjunct instructor.

Petty Officer 1st Class Rory Rankin, intelligence specialist in the U.S. Navy and one of the course instructors, said the course is featuring many firsts: The first use of multiple Joint Military Intelligence Instructors, the first shared responsibility of instruction between U.S. and partner nation instructors and

See TRAINING, page 2

## Vicenza post exchange unwraps holiday return policy

Army and Air Force Exchange Service

Recent industry statistics show that three to four percent of all retail sales are returned for refund or exchange. To alleviate the worry about what can be returned and when, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is giving the gift of extended hassle-free returns for the holidays.

For items purchased between Nov. 1-Dec. 24, Vicenza PX shoppers can return or exchange those items through Jan. 31.

If a shopper requests a refund with a sales receipt, a cash refund will be made if the original purchase was made in cash. If the original purchase was made by credit card, the refund can be credited to the customer's same credit card. If a customer requests a refund without a sales receipt, the refund amount is loaded onto an Exchange Merchandise Card.

"The Vicenza Exchange's return policy is second to none," said the Exchange's PX Manager Charles Eaves. "With our amended policy during the holiday season, we have the processes to ensure

it's the right color, look or fit."

In addition to returns on locally purchased items, shoppers can return Exchange, catalog or internet orders to the Vicenza PX for a full refund on the product. If the return is due to an error on the Exchange's part, shoppers will be reimbursed the standard shipping charges in full.

"We take our commitment to serving those who serve very seriously," said Eaves. "Exchange shoppers give the best gifts because we ensure that Soldiers get exactly what they want every time."

The AAFES is a joint command and is directed by a Board of Directors which is responsible to the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through the Service Chiefs of Staff. The Exchange has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and generating non-appropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. To find out more about the Exchange visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com>.

## Holiday scams everywhere, safety measures needed

By Peg Clevenger

USAG Vicenza security manager

With the onset of the Holiday season quickly approaching there are some tips to follow regarding security from the Transportation Security Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Trade Commission and the Better Business Bureau.

**Transportation Security Administration:** Knowing that holiday travel brings inexperienced and infrequent travelers to airports, using holiday-specific 3-1-1 information will help you get through the security checkpoints smoothly and quickly.

TSA's 3-1-1 program means:

- ♦ Liquids, aerosols and gels must be in containers three ounces or less
- ♦ Items must be put in a one quart, clear plastic zip-top bag
- ♦ Only one zip-top bag per passenger.

**Do not wrap gifts.** If a security officer needs to inspect a package they may have to unwrap your gift. Wrap gifts after arriving at your destination.

**Apply 3-1-1 to gifts.** 3-1-1 isn't just about shampoo and toothpaste. Food items such as jams, salsas, sauces, syrups and dips will not be allowed through the checkpoint unless they are in containers three ounces or less and in the passengers one quart zip-top bag. This applies to gift items including lotions, creams, scented oil, liquid soaps, perfumes, and even snow globes that

are in excess of three ounces — even if they are in sealed gift packs. It is suggested you ship these items prior to your trip or put them in your checked baggage. Any of these items will be allowed on the plane if you purchase them after the security checkpoint. TSA allows liquid items purchased after the checkpoint onto planes because these items have been previously screened.

**Know what items are prohibited on planes.** A gift you plan to bring in your carry-on bag might be on TSA's Prohibited Item list. These items delay the screening process for you and other passengers. If you're not sure which items are allowed, see the list of prohibited items at [www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm).

**Federal Bureau of Investigation - Cyber Shopping Warnings:**

"Oh, you better watch out..." Cyber shoppers should take heed of the familiar holiday song's timeless refrain. With holiday shopping in full swing and recession-wearied shoppers hunting for irresistibly good buys, it's a safe assumption that crooks and scammers are baiting their traps with deals too good to be true.

Among the scams that prompt some 30,000 complaints each month to IC3, through its website, are:

- ♦ **Bogus online classified ads and auctions:** Criminals post products they don't have, or, in some cases, use stolen credit card numbers to purchase merchandise they offer in auctions. In another scam, criminals may promise free delivery and provide customers with free "paid" shipping labels that are fake

and won't be honored by shippers.

**Tips:** Don't provide financial information directly to sellers—use a legitimate payment service. Check each seller's feedback ratings and proven track record.

- ♦ **Phony gift cards:** As with merchandise, be cautious about buying gift cards through classifieds or auctions.

**Tip:** Buy directly from a merchant or authorized retailer. Counterfeit cards won't be honored.

- ♦ **Phishing:** These time-tested scams arrive by email or text message, directing recipients to follow a link or call a number to correct or update account information. Would-be victims are sent to fraudulent or spoofed websites that look legitimate and directed to provide their account information and personal details.

**Tips:** Don't respond to unsolicited e-mails. Don't click on e-mail links or download attachments from unknown senders. For criminals, the numbers spell opportunity. Shoppers, meanwhile, should exercise the same caution they would in a crowded mall—eyes wide open, protecting themselves and their money.

"If you're shopping online, make sure the website is secure and it's not a cloned website," says a representative of the Internet Crime Complaint Center. "If you want to deal with a business, go directly to their official website."

**Federal Trade Commission:**

Identity Theft: What are the steps I should take if I'm a victim of identity theft?

See HOLIDAYS, page 3

## TRAINING: 28 instructors from different branches train African soldiers together

Continued from page 1

the first integrated officer/NCO final exercise, all of which make this course a more memorable experience for instructors.

"It has been an unforgettable experience both culturally and professionally for me," Rankin said.

Blair says it is rewarding to interact with the Botswana officers and NCOs because he knows they will go back to their units and take full advantage of the opportunity to better inform their commanders on a broad range of operational challenges.

Thirty-five officers participated in a five-week program while 80 NCOs followed an 18-day program in consecutive groups of 40. All 115 students came together for a week-long final exercise. The course is intended to transition primary responsibility of instruction from U.S. to Botswana in 2013.

The third BTIC will transition to 100 percent BDF instruction. This opportunity will make a difference by empowering the BDF to enable them professionally towards the future, Rankin said.



U.S. Army Africa photo

NCOs in the Botswana Tactical Intelligence Course conduct practical sketching exercises for the Botswana Defence Force outside the Joint Technical School classroom at Sir Seretse Khama Barracks located in Gaborone, Botswana.

## Speak Out

### What are you asking Santa to bring you this year?



Noah Burton

Vicenza Elementary School  
"I am asking Santa for a Pomeranian puppy because I want to show I'm responsible."



Rebecca Cotton

Vicenza Elementary School  
"I want a laptop that you can close and take around."



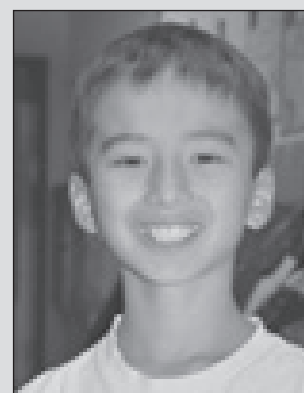
Bridget Craig

Vicenza Elementary School  
"I would like Santa to help me adopt a whale from the Whale Foundation and I'd name it Jackalean."



Maddie Leshar

Vicenza Elementary School  
"I'm asking for Percy Jackson books."



Bret Witt

Vicenza Elementary School  
"I am asking for a Lego Mindstorms NXT 1.0."

By Laura Kreider

## Construction chief returns after working in Afghanistan

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza PAO

Chief of Transformation Construction Management Office Kambiz Razzaghi has recently returned from deployment to Afghanistan where he was attached to NATO Training Mission Afghanistan from November 2010-October 2011. NTM-A has the overall responsibility to train, equip and provide facilities for Afghan National Security Forces to include Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police. To that end the United States and the other NATO partners have invested tens of billions of dollars in Afghanistan during past few years, building hundreds of large and medium size bases throughout the country for ANA and ANP, Razzaghi said.

To this date all the Operation and Maintenance activities are being conducted and paid for by coalition partners and contractors, he said. Afghans must be trained to take over the O&M responsibilities for these bases.

“My primary mission was to engage with Afghan Military and Government officials to evaluate their capabilities, determine staffing and training needs and set the stage for the eventual turnover,”

Razzaghi said. “In this capacity, I was able to travel throughout the country and engage the Afghans at all levels. Being able to speak the language fluently and knowing the Afghan culture well enabled me to establish very close relationships with Afghan commanders, government officials and civilians.”

Razzaghi said being in Afghanistan for a year was an amazing and rewarding experience. “I met and became friends with men and women soldiers from some 40 different countries. I met and broke bread with many Afghans of different ethnicities: Pashtuns, Hezaries, Uzbeks, Turkmens, Baluchis and Tajiks,” he said. “But what I miss the most are the Afghan children. I had long talks with Afghan children who have the bleakest of futures but still have hopes and dare to have beautiful dreams. The love in their eyes, the sheer joy I sensed in their smiles are irreplaceable memories and ones I will cherish ‘til the day I die.”

Razzaghi left Afghanistan at the end of October.

“During the pre-dawn darkness of my last day in Afghanistan I recalled a line by the Persian poet Rumi: ‘I came upon a synagogue, a church and a mosque, I entered each and felt the Spirit of God to



Courtesy photo

**Kambiz Razzaghi, right, chief of Transformation Construction Management, poses with members of the Italian Army at Kandahar. Razzaghi returned in October after spending nearly a year in Afghanistan.**

be same in all.’ So I am praying with all my heart to the Gods of all people for the safe return of all my young soldier friends to their families and homelands, and for the Afghan adults of all tribes and ethnicity to overcome their hatred and prejudice against each other and to try to

build the foundation for a better future for the beautiful and innocent children of Afghanistan.”

Razzaghi returns to his duties overseeing construction of facilities and infrastructure for the new installation at Dal Molin.

## HOLIDAYS: Shopping online, using ATMs involve extra security risks

Continued from page 2

If you are a victim of identity theft, take the following four steps as soon as possible, and keep a record with the details of your conversations and copies of all correspondence.

### 1. Place a fraud alert on your credit reports, and review your credit reports.

Fraud alerts can help prevent an identity thief from opening any more accounts in your name. Contact the toll-free fraud number of any of the three consumers reporting companies to place a fraud alert on your credit report. You only need to contact one of the three companies to place an alert: [www.equifax.com/home/en\\_us](http://www.equifax.com/home/en_us), [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com), [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com).

### 2. Close the accounts that you know, or believe, have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

Call and speak with someone in the security or fraud department of each company. Follow up in writing, and include copies (not originals) of supporting documents. If the identity thief has made charges or debits on your accounts, or has fraudulently opened accounts, ask the company for the forms to dispute those transactions.

### 3. File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

You can file a complaint with the FTC using the Identity Theft Hotline, toll-free: 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338); TTY: 1-866-653-4261; or write Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

### 4. File a report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

Call your local police department and tell them that you want to file a report about your identity theft. Ask them if you can file the report in person. If you cannot, ask if you can file a report over the Internet or telephone. If the police are reluctant to take your report, ask to file a “Miscellaneous Incident” report, or try another jurisdiction, like your state police.

When you go to your local police department to file your report, bring a printed copy of your FTC ID Theft Complaint form, your cover letter, and your supporting documentation. Ask the officer to attach or incorporate the ID Theft Complaint into their police report. Tell them that you need a copy of the Identity Theft Report

(the police report with your ID Theft Complaint attached or incorporated) to dispute the fraudulent accounts and debts created by the identity thief. For more details, go to the Federal Trade Commission website: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>.

### Following are a few ways to fight identity thieves at the ATM:

**Protect your PIN** – When entering your PIN, cover the keypad with your other hand to prevent any cameras from catching your digits. False keypads placed over the real keypad are also a way scammers get PIN numbers so if the keypad looks different, move on.

**Give it a wiggle** – Skimming devices are often false panels attached to the ATM—such as where you put your card into the machine. If parts of the ATM look damaged or different, give it a wiggle. Also look for new or suspiciously placed cameras and unusual signage.

**Be picky with your ATMS** – Avoid using ATMs in poorly lighted or low trafficked areas. Experts often recommend choosing a bank ATM over standalone ATMs in public places. Thieves will also place their own phony ATMS in public places.

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The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for style, brevity and clarity. Circulation is 2,000 per week.

## Volunteer Spotlight 509th Signal Battalion



**Christina Cottrell** is a volunteer for the 509th Signal Battalion and was recently nominated as Outstanding Community Adult Volunteer of the Month at the Nov. 9 Info-X.

“Her selfless service in support of more than 250 Soldiers, DA civilians, Italian employees and their Family members has been exemplary,” said Allie Vallery, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Army Volunteer Corps program manager. “She has planned, orchestrated and led several major team building events that have truly enhanced the readiness of the 509th Signal Battalion under the new Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program.

“Her willingness to ensure new Soldiers and their Families are welcomed is exceptional.”

To suggest a new staff member or volunteer to be featured in *The Outlook*, email us at [editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil).

# Community Camera



Photos by Julie M. Lucas

**Thanksgiving celebrated:** Above, visitors to the South of the Alps Dining Facility were greeted by two geese and a turkey Nov. 24. To the right, single Soldiers enjoy a pre-Thanksgiving meal served at the Chapel Nov. 23.



## “Tis the Season”:

Your favorite holiday musical numbers will be performed starting Friday at Soldiers' Theatre. Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Friday-Dec. 11. Call 634-7281 for tickets.



Photos by Laura Kreider



Photo by Laura Kreider

**AFAP conference:** Ninth-grader Will Tramm points out the scope and recommendations of the top issues discussed in the Youth Group during the 2012 Army Family Action Plan Conference held at the Golden Lion Nov. 22.

## USAG Livorno sponsors Winter Safety Day

Story and photos by Chiara Mattiolo  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Garrison Livorno Safety office held a Winter Safety Day for the entire Camp Darby community Nov. 22.

John Eaton, safety manager, said a variety of safety events during the day aimed to increase attention to safety, especially during the winter holidays.

"Safety specialists and subject matter experts from the fire department, health clinic, provost marshal and motor pool did briefings on holiday and fire safety, local and winter traffic safety, cold weather injury prevention, and emergency action planning were provided," explained Eaton.

Eaton also said winter driving endorsements were provided, Fatal Vision events were offered to simulate drinking and driving and pedestrian situations as were free vehicle winterization inspections.



Camp Darby employees perform a pre-winter vehicle safety check as part of the annual emphasis for the community.

"Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season; unfortunately, these decorations may increase your chances of fire," said Eaton. "Last year in the states, holiday fires resulted in 20 deaths and 45 injuries. Following a few simple fire safety tips can save you from creating a tragedy."

The Winter Safety Day format was revised this year to include Fatal Vision driving and walking events which more than 75 community members tested out.

"It is amazing how bad you can see with these goggles," said Pfc. Brad Russell, 511th Military Police Platoon. "It is really hard to drive or even walk with these on."

According to Russell this new portion of the safety training was really effective in making everyone aware of the danger of driving while drunk.

As part of the Safety Day free vehicle winterization inspections were offered to evaluate the status of Privately Owned Vehicles and their readiness to perform

in cold weather.

"We checked everything from the tires to the brakes, the seat belts, and car liquids," said Emiliano Cardelli, maintenance mechanic.

"Cars need extra attention during the winter period particularly for anti freezer liquids and the tires," said Eros Reccanello, Production Control. "Everyone should have by law winter tires or snow chains on board."

Reccanello referred to the new Italian law that went into effect a few weeks ago that states vehicles now need winter tires or snow chains from Nov. 15-April 15.

"Many community members commented on the helpful findings that were made on their vehicles during courtesy inspections, and many had their tires inflated to correct pressure as part of the service," added Eaton.

"Those who are not aware of the winter safety measures can always call us and we will be ready to provide the clarifications needed or visit our page on the garrison website," said Eaton.



Staff. Sgt. Chris Lee, 511th Military Police Platoon, attempts a sobriety test with impairment goggles as part of the annual Winter Safety Day Nov. 22.

## Naturalization services helps family members overseas

By Joyce Costello  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Jiyoung Bowman, spouse of Maj. Bowman, decided that this holiday season she would take the Oath of Allegiance and became a citizen of the United States at the U.S. Embassy in Rome Nov. 16.

According to Darryl Perez, Rome Military Naturalization Team at the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, overseas naturalization is an incredible privilege given to spouses and children of military members stationed overseas during a time of conflict.

"Mrs. Bowman is one of the few spouses from the Livorno community to take advantage of this program," said Perez. "Special provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorize U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to expedite the application and naturalization process for spouses of members of the U.S. armed forces who are or will be deployed may be eligible for expedited naturalization. Other provisions of the law also allow certain spouses to complete the naturalization process abroad."

Bowman said, "It's been ten years since I got to the U. S. from Korea and I realized that there are many benefits to taking U.S. citizenship, such as applying for jobs every time I PCS. The human resources office helped me a lot and I was a little worried about the test, but it wasn't so bad."

"The highlight of the ceremony was definitely the oath; it was a little emotional with my family there with me," said



New U.S. citizen Jiyoung Bowman, poses with her husband Maj. Victor Bowman, their daughter Livia Bowman and Rome District Director John Lafferty during her naturalization process in Rome, Nov. 16.

Bowman.

Perez said since 2008 USCIS has naturalized 1,236 military spouses during ceremonies in 23 countries around the world.

For more information about preparing a naturalization packet contact the Camp Darby Judge Advocate General's Office. General information about immigration benefits for military members can be found at [www.uscis.gov/military](http://www.uscis.gov/military).

## Darby Dates

Visit the community calendar for upcoming events and details at [www.usag.livorno.army.mil](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil)

**BOSS**  
633-7438

X-Box Tournament, Dec. 16. Come on over to the Bowling Center for the Xbox Tournament Modern Wars III. Winner gets a choice of newest video game.

**Army Community Services**  
633-7084

- ♦ Play group, Dec. 7 and 21
- ♦ Card Making Class, Dec. 21

**Fitness Center**  
633-7440

- ♦ Lose to win incentive program open registration Dec. 19-Jan. 14.
- ♦ Free fitness orientation on proper techniques or how to train in the proper zone.

**ITR**  
633-7589

- ♦ Milan International Fair, Dec. 10
- ♦ Bologna Motor Show, Dec. 10
- ♦ Vicenza PX Shopping Trip, Dec. 17
- ♦ Wine Tasting Trip, Dec. 18
- ♦ Rome Trip, Dec. 23

**ODR**  
633-7775

- ♦ Community Paintball, Dec. 3
- ♦ Abetone Ski Trip, Dec. 17

**Bowling Alley**  
633-7458

- ♦ Dollar day bowling every Sunday from 5-9 p.m.
- ♦ Buy ten games and get next one free

**Darby Community Club**  
633-7855

- ♦ Taco Tuesday, Dec. 6
- ♦ Garrison Holiday party, Dec. 16
- ♦ New Year's Eve dinner and party. Buy adults and children tickets in advance at DCC

**Religious Activities**  
633-7267

9:40 a.m. Catholic reconciliation  
10 a.m. Catholic Mass  
11:15 a.m. Protestant worship  
11:15 a.m. Catholic CCD  
Chapel Christmas Pageant, Dec. 4, 11:15 a.m.-noon.

**Stay informed with AFN Livorno**

In the car or at home, tune into AFN for the latest news, weather and events. Radio: AFN The Eagle on 106.0 FM Mon -Fri, 6-10 a.m. and 2-6 p.m. TV on Atlantic or decoder Channel 14.

## Bassano del Grappa market:

Shoppers looking for holiday items can find them in Piazza Libertà and Piazza Garibaldi, about 23 miles northwest of Vicenza until Dec. 26.



Photo by Anna Terracino

### Local events

**Dec. 8 is the Immaculate Conception Day.** It is a national holiday in Italy. There are celebrations throughout Italy and churches hold special masses. Although government offices, banks and schools are closed, many stores stay open for holiday shopping.

#### Christmas events in Vicenza:

- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony: Saturday, 5 p.m., Piazza dei Signori.

- Magic Christmas: Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 8. Wooden chalets in Corso Palladio, Corso Fogazzaro and Piazza San Lorenzo featuring typical Christmas products from Italy and abroad.

- Santa Claus Village: ongoing through Jan. 8 in Piazza San Lorenzo, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Christmas items and decorations, Christmas plants, seasonal fruits and vegetables and free cotton candy for children.

- Christmas flavors and colors: Friday, 3-8 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., in Piazza dei Signori. More than 40 booths with local Christmas sweets and stands from all over Europe.

- Ice-skating rink: open through Feb. 12, Campo Marzo, Saturdays-Sundays and holidays 9 a.m.-noon and 3-8 p.m.; weekdays 3-8 p.m. Entrance fee: Monday-Friday: €7 and €5 for children younger than 12 (fees include ice-skate rental); €3 entrance only; Saturdays-Sundays and holidays €9; €7 for children younger than 12 (fees include ice-skate rental); and €3 entrance only.

- Fairy tale Gardens: Dec. 8, Sundays Dec. 11 and 18, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturdays Dec. 10 and 17, 2:30-7:30 p.m., Giardini Salve, Piazzale De Gasperi. Staging of the most popular fairy tales with lights, sounds, colors and more than 200 costumed people. Food booths featuring traditional Christmas sweet and local specialties.

- Visit a typical London Bus: in Piazza Castello and have coffee and hot chocolate on board.

- Corri Babbo Natale Corri, or Run Santa Run, will be held Dec. 17, in Vicenza. The Vicenza Press Association and the City of Vicenza are co-sponsoring the sixth annual Run Santa Run charity fundraiser downtown 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., starting and ending at Campo Marzo, the park near the main train station. The €8 entrance fee includes a lightweight Santa suit to run in and hot chocolate and cake at the finish (€5 if you already have a Santa suit). Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome and there is special recognition for the agency or association with the most participants. The course is under two miles and may be easily completed walking. Persons may pre-register to receive their costumes before race day, or may sign-up and pay the day of the event at 10 a.m. All the money raised goes to Italian charities. Last year the event raised about €12,000, most of it went to help the local flood victims. To register, call 0444-513585. If you need help, call USAG Vicenza Community Relations at 634-7169 or send an email to [usagvicenzapao@eur.army.mil](mailto:usagvicenzapao@eur.army.mil).

#### Local Christmas markets:

**Bassano del Grappa** ongoing through Dec. 26, Piazza Libertà and Piazza Garibaldi, about 23 miles northeast of Vicenza. Piazza Libertà, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursdays and Saturdays 2-7:30 p.m.; Piazza Garibaldi, Tuesdays-Sundays 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Mondays 2-7:30 p.m.

**Bolzano**, ongoing Friday through Dec. 23, Mondays-Fridays 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Walther, about 120 miles north of Vicenza. More than 80 stalls in their typical little huts offer traditional seasonal gifts (handmade wooden, glass and ceramic products along with Christmas tree decorations, delicious seasonal pastries and many original gifts), plenty of food specialties available plus mulled wine. New this year: children's Christmas market where kids can take an active part baking

Christmas cookies and make small Christmas decorations and presents.

**Cerea**, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., about 27 miles southwest of Vicenza. Local holiday sweets, local products exhibit and sale; hot spiced wine and cotton candy sampling; entertainment for children; carnival rides for children; Santa Claus' arrival.

**Gallio**, Saturday through Jan. 8, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m., Piazzetta Giardini, about 41 miles north of Vicenza. Wooden outdoor booths featuring local holiday sweets, hot chocolate, hot spiced wine local crafts and gift items. Entertainment with jugglers, musicians, fire-eaters, street artists, gnomes, elves, and acrobats. Shows and workshops for children, and a reindeer petting zoo.

**Garda, "Christmas among the olive trees,"** ongoing through Jan. 8, Piazza Catullo e Lungolago Regina Adelaide; local and Innsbruck Tyrolean products; entertainment for children; folk music and dancing; art exhibits and local nativity set.

**Lonigo**, Dec. 8-Dec. 24, Piazza Garibaldi. Christmas Village grand opening Dec. 8 at 3 p.m.; free mini train rides start at 3:30 p.m.; Christmas torchlight procession departs at 5 p.m. from Piazza Garibaldi.

**Monteviale**, Saturday 3-9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sports Center, Piazzetta D. Baruffato 1.

**Torri di Arcugnano**, in Piazza Rumor, Wednesday, 8-10 p.m.; Dec. 8, 10 a.m. 8 p.m.; Dec. 9, 10 a.m. 8 p.m.; Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**Trissino**, Sunday, 8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., in Piazza Mazzini. Entertainment for children with face-painting and clowns.

**Verona**, Nativity Scenes Exhibit, Saturday through Jan. 22, daily at the Arena, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. It features more than 400 nativity scenes from around the world. Entrance fee: €7; reduced cost of €6 for children 6-12 and senior citizens older than 60.

#### Ecological skate rink:

Ongoing through Jan. 8, Piazza Libertà, Bassano del Grappa, Mondays-Fridays 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays and Italian holidays 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Cost: €5.

### FREE concerts, exhibits & events

#### Missionary Nativity Scenes exhibit:

Ongoing through Jan. 8, daily 9 a.m.-noon and 3-6 p.m., in Vicenza, Viale Trento 119. More than 500 nativity sets from all over the world are displayed.

#### Nativity sets and prayer cards exhibit:

Saturdays 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and Sundays 10:30 a.m.-noon & 3:30-5:30 p.m. through Jan. 6, in Bassano del Grappa, Cappuccini Friar's Convent, Via S. Sebastiano 42.

#### Twentieth century Vicentine paintings exhibit:

Tuesdays - Sundays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. through Jan. 15, in Vicenza, Palazzo Chiericati, Piazza Matteotti.

#### Christmas Concert:

Sunday, 5:30 p.m., in Schio, San Giacomo Church, Via Cavour.

#### Advent Sunday Concert:

Sunday, 8:30 p.m., in Vicenza, Cheese Santa Maria in Ariel, Piazza Ariel 21.

#### Christmas Lighting Ceremony:

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., in Costabissara, Piazza Vittorio Veneto.

### Concerts

**White Lies:** Dec. 2 in Padova  
**Adam Cohen:** Dec. 3 in Milan  
**Maroon 5:** Dec. 9 in Padova  
**Red Hot Chili Peppers:** Dec. 11 in Assago (Milan)  
**Rihanna:** Dec. 12 in Assago (Milan)

**Soweto Gospel Choir:** Dec. 17 in Padova

Tickets available in Vicenza at Media World, Palladio Shopping Center or at [www.greenticket.it/index.html?imposta\\_lingua=ing](http://www.greenticket.it/index.html?imposta_lingua=ing) or <http://www.ticketone.it/EN/>.

### ODR trips

**Cortina and lunch:** Dec. 3  
**Merano & Bolzano Christmas market and grappa tasting:** Dec. 4

**Florence at Christmas:** Dec. 10  
**Ljubljana, Slovenia:** Dec. 11  
**Ski and snowboard San Pellegrino:** Dec. 17

**Innsbruck Christmas market:** Dec. 17

**Klagenfurt & Villach Christmas market in Austria:** Dec. 18

**Gardaland at Christmas:** Dec. 23

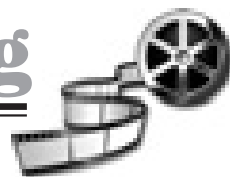
**Ski and snowboard Alleghe:** Dec. 24

**Christmas in Strasbourg, France:** Dec. 24-26

**Ski and snowboard Folgaria:** Dec. 26

Trips can be booked on WebTrac at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/Vicenzarectrac.html> or by following the WebTrac link on [www.vicenzaMWR.com](http://www.vicenzaMWR.com) or at ODR.

## Now Showing



### Ederle Theater

<b>Thursday</b>	Contagion (PG 13)	6 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Dolphin Tale (PG)	6 p.m.
	Killer Elite (R)	9 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Dolphin Tale (PG)	3 p.m.
	Hugo (PG)	6 p.m.
<b>Sunday</b>	Hugo (PG)	3 p.m.
	Killer Elite (R)	6 p.m.
<b>Wed.</b>	Abduction (PG 13)	6 p.m.
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Abduction (PG 13)	6 p.m.
<b>Dec. 9</b>	Dream House (PG 13)	6 p.m.
	Drive (R)	9 p.m.

### Camp Darby Theater

<b>Dec. 9</b>	Drive (R)	6 p.m.
<b>Dec. 10</b>	Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part I (PG 13)	6 p.m.
<b>Dec. 11</b>	Happy Feet 2 (PG)	1 p.m.
<b>Dec. 16</b>	Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part I (PG 13)	6 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and older, \$4, younger than 12, \$2.

The Ederle theater box office opens one hour prior to show.

View MOVIE TRAILERS and more online at [www.shopmyexchange.com/ems/euro/vicenza.htm](http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ems/euro/vicenza.htm) or [www.aafes.com/ems/euro/livorno.htm](http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/livorno.htm)

## Special events

- ♦ **Christmas Festival and Market**, Friday-Sunday will be an event for everyone. Shoppers can begin shopping at noon from the 40-plus vendors from all over Europe. Gift ideas include; jewelry, artwork, photography, paintings, clocks, furniture and carpets, specialty foods, wine and beer, Dutch cheeses and chocolates, Venetian glass plus massage and beauty items. The VCC will hold their Winter Trip Raffle and Silent Auction for decorated trees and swags. There are kiddies' carnival rides, photos with Santa, stories with Mrs. Claus, and there is a horse and carriage that everyone can enjoy. Children's Holiday games and crafts are on Friday 3-4:45 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Plus pick up a free take home holiday craft kit. Park in Commissary lot and take Santa's Express Shuttle train which runs continuously throughout the event between ODR and the Luna Bubble stops. Hours for the Festival are Friday, noon-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Find complete and most current information at [www.vicenzaMWR.com](http://www.vicenzaMWR.com).
- ♦ The **Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony** is Friday, 5 p.m. in front of the Central Processing Facility, with performances by the VHS Band & Chorus and Ms. Downey's 2nd Grade Class.
- ♦ Watch the **Reindeer Games** at the Track and Field, Friday, 5:30 p.m. as contestants compete in amazing challenges; drinking eggnog, "big package" delivery, locating the house, painting the toys, and pulling the "Sleigh". Awards for best costume plus the "best" teams.
- ♦ **Syncroshow** performs in the Post Pool Friday at 7 p.m.. The Italian Champion Synchronized swim team is coming to our Post Pool to perform. This master level 2010 team includes team member Reka Trentin who qualified for the Junior World Championships in China in 2005. Call 634- 8642 for more information.
- ♦ **Soldiers' Theatre** opens "Tis the Season" Holiday Show with fast-paced song and dance musical revue of all your Holiday favorites. Performance on Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Friday-Dec. 11. Call 634-7281 for tickets.
- ♦ At the Arena join Drop Simpler Band for our "Holiday Open Mic Night" Friday, 7:30 p.m. where community bands and musicians all have a chance to perform their favorite Holiday tunes. Make a Vicenza Community child's Holiday brighter by placing an "Angel Tree" gift in the donation box at this event. Angels are available on the trees located in ACS and AAFES Food court. To sign up to perform email, [Jeffrey.craig1@us.army.mil](mailto:Jeffrey.craig1@us.army.mil) before the show.

## CYSS

CYSS offers Family Readiness Group Evening Care the second and third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at CDC 398. This care is for official FRG meetings and FRG POC's should make the request. Space is limited and if less than 10 children enroll, child care will be provided by Family Child Care providers on Villaggio. Upcoming dates are, Dec. 13 & 20, Jan. 10 & 17, Feb. 14 & 21. For any meetings requiring care during the day, contact the CYSS Deployment Specialist at 0444-71-7401, earlier than 3 weeks out, to allow for advance reservations at our hourly CDC 398.

## ACS

Share in the holiday spirit of giving to a child in our Vicenza Military Community who may otherwise do without this holiday season. Pick an angel from the tree in the Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center lobby. The deadline to drop off gifts purchased for angels is Dec. 8. Call 634-7500 for more information.

## Arts and Crafts Center

- ♦ Looking to create a more personalized holiday stocking this year? Maybe a "Befana" Stocking to get into the Italian tradition? Sign up for one or both of these sewing classes taught by Daisey Bingham. Stocking class is Dec. 8, Befana Stocking class is Dec. 7 & 14.
- ♦ Bring messy clothes and a camera with an open mind to create memories through pieces of art work during Messy art Tine Dec 10, 10 a.m. This parent child class is great for ages 6 months to 5 years.

## Masters degrees

Interested in obtaining your master's degree? Look no further, University of Phoenix has a face to face MBA program starting in

January. Classes are six-weeks long and meet one night a week. You can complete your degree in less than two years. Mention this ad and get your application fee waived. Registration closes the first week of January, so sign up today by contacting Sarah Foley at [Vicenza.Campus@phoenix.edu](mailto:Vicenza.Campus@phoenix.edu).

## Info X

The next Info X is Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Arena, second floor. The Info X is a town hall-type forum open to the community. For information call 634-5087.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. AA is offered in Vicenza Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in building 395. For more information, stop by the ASAP office.

## EFMP Athletics

The Exceptional Family Member Program is sponsoring a Thru the Zoo Yoga class, Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m. Dec. 6-20 at the Physical Fitness Center exercise room. For more info or to register call 634-7500/8582.

## Government Purchase card training

The next class will be held Jan. 13 at the Distributed Training Facility, building 128, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations are not required to attend. For questions, contact Scheryl Forsythe-Bolling at 634-3968.

## Food Handler's Course

The Food Handler's course has changed to a new time and location. The class will be 10 a.m. in the Pediatrics classroom of the Vicenza

Health Center. The class will be conducted on the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Craig Brown at 636-9516 or email [craig.brown4@amedd.army.mil](mailto:craig.brown4@amedd.army.mil).

## AFN HD sports

AFN is now providing limited high-definition programming to authorized audiences in concert with the fall 2011 National Football League season. The AFN Broadcast Center began transmitting an HD version of AFN|sports over decoder channel 801 as a test and the station becomes an official member of the AFN family this Sunday. The HD feed will only be accessible to viewers with the new CISCO D9865 decoders, currently on sale at the Vicenza Exchange. Viewers with the older decoders will still continue to receive all AFN channels, just not the HD feed. For questions, visit [www.afneurope.net](http://www.afneurope.net).

## Free legal help

Navigating the MEB-PEB process is complicated, but free legal help is available. Visit the USAG Vicenza webpage at [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil) and click on "Community" then Staff Judge Advocate to read the article.

## Newspaper survey

The Outlook newspaper is looking for your suggestions to help improve coverage of the Vicenza Military Community.

Comments and ideas from readers ensure the Outlook is doing the best job possible providing the information readers want to see. The survey just takes a couple of minutes to let PAO know your preferences.

Readers are asked to go to the 10 question survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/PH5TLSN](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PH5TLSN) until Dec. 10.

## Religious activities

### Chaplain Crisis Line

To speak with a chaplain after hours, call **634-KARE** (634-5273)

### Sunday services

**9 a.m.:** Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation following Mass, or during duty hours  
**11 a.m.:** Protestant worship  
**1:30 p.m.:** Full Gospel Pentecostal worship  
**5 p.m.:** Contemporary Christian service

### Tuesdays

**9:15 a.m.:** Protestant Women of the Chapel.

### Wednesdays

**3 p.m.:** Praise dance practice  
**3:15 p.m.:** Middle School Club Beyond meets in Villaggio Youth Center  
**5 p.m.:** Contemporary Praise band practice  
**5:30 p.m.:** PWOC Bible study. Dinner provided. No child care  
**5:30 p.m.:** High School Club Beyond meets at the Teen Center for dinner; meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Call 340-139-4073 for information  
**5:30 p.m.:** Catholic choir practice  
**6:45 p.m.:** Gospel choir practice

### Thursdays

**9:30 a.m.:** Catholic Women of the Chapel  
**5:30 p.m.:** Gospel service choir rehearsal  
**7:15 p.m.:** Gospel service Bible study

### Faith group contacts

**Islamic:** Call 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for info  
**Jewish:** Call Paul Levine at 345-907-2108  
**Latter Day Saints:** Call Chance Wilson at 327-869-8107. Sunday services, 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Viale Trento 246, Vicenza.  
**Bahá'í Faith:** Call Russell Menard at 389-133-4627 or 349-708-2535.

Call the Caserma Ederle chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for more information on religious activities.



Photo by Laura Kreider

**Music Cafe:** Erika Green, center, performs some songs during Music Café Nov. 18 at Soldiers' Theatre. Various local musicians joined together to perform and create some music. The next Music Cafe will be Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

**DON'T BE LATE:** E-mail briefs to [editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil) noon on Monday, or by 4 p.m. Friday if Monday is a holiday.

Know of an event we're missing? Email the *Outlook* at [editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil)  
 We gladly accept story ideas, photo and story submissions. All submissions are subject to editing.

## 1st Bn., 503rd Inf. Regt. holds annual Turkey Bowl

Story and photo by Spec. Michael Sword  
173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team

In front of friends, family and fellow paratroopers on a sunny afternoon, the officers and noncommissioned officers of 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, met up on the field. Not on the field of battle, but on the football field on Caserma Ederle, to play in the battalion's annual Turkey Bowl, Nov. 23.

"Once the professional NCO corps was officially born, the officers and the NCOs have always wanted to test each other as leaders to build camaraderie but to also keep each other honest," said Lt. Col. Jeremy Schroeder, commander. "In all my time in the military there has always been some form of officer and NCO competition, and the turkey bowl in conjunction with Thanksgiving is the best place to do it."

Even though it was the day before Thanksgiving, there was a large crowd watching the leaders of the battalion go head-to-head.

"I'm glad that the Soldiers, NCOs and officers that weren't playing ... brought their families or significant others and



An officer from 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team catches a pass during 1st Battalion's Turkey Bowl, Nov. 23. The Turkey Bowl is an annual football game pitting the officers against the NCOs of 1st Bn. and this year the NCOs won again, 20-6

came out here, watched the event and enjoyed the afternoon with us," said 1st Bn.'s command sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Michael Williamson.

"It was not a mandatory event to attend, so I love that the guys showed up," added Schroeder.

At the end of the day, the officers couldn't stop the NCOs, who walked away with the win, 20 - 6.

"It feels good," said Williamson.

"Everyone played a good game, but the NCOs played an exceptionally good game."

Although it was a good game, a loss is always hard to take and the officers are looking forward to their next meeting with the NCOs.

"No one got hurt and we had a good time, so it met my intent," said Schroeder. "They definitely outplayed us today, but we're looking at a rematch."

# Sports Shorts

### Free throw contest

Talk is cheap so show your stuff at the Dec. 8 Basketball Free Throw Competition. A participant meeting is at noon and the play begins immediately following. First, second and third individual awards for each category. Call 634-7009 for information.

### Lunch hour fitness

Does your lunch hour need more excitement? Come join the Fitness Staff for the "Game of the Week" each Thursday afternoon at noon. Reminisce while you play old school recess games such as four square and kickball. The new game for each week will be posted at the Fitness Center on Tuesday.

### Unit & rec play

New players are always welcome. Call 634-7009 or individual POCs.

**Rugby:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-7:30 p.m., North 40 field.

**Basketball:** 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for 10 or more, Fitness Center.

**Racquetball:** 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for 16 participants, Fitness Center.

**Men's Soccer:** 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for 24 or more players at the turf field behind the Ederle Inn. Email [shaun.nurse@amedd.army.mil](mailto:shaun.nurse@amedd.army.mil) or call 636-9648/9120/9632.

**Women's Soccer:** (not currently meeting) 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for 12 or more players at the turf field behind the Ederle Inn. Email [sr\\_brasher@yahoo.com](mailto:sr_brasher@yahoo.com) or call 634-8925.

**Volleyball:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays for eight or more, Fitness Center.

**Frisbee golf:** 6 p.m. Wednesdays, North 40 field.

**Tennis:** Open play Singles and Doubles on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

### Volunteers needed

The Mako Sharks Swim Team is looking for adult volunteers to assist. Swimmers are elementary-high school ages and compete in the European Forces Swim League. For more info., contact John Casey at 0444-91-2612 or email [john.j.casey@us.army.mil](mailto:john.j.casey@us.army.mil). Visit <http://makosharks.homestead.com/index.html>.

### Become a ninja

Check out the new Ninpo Taijutsu class at the Fitness Center. Learn the ancient art of Ninja with classes every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center.



## EFMP bowling:

Above, Master Sgt. Eddie King and Sgt. 1st Class Roddy Rieger assist Exceptional Family Members while bowling. At left, Ben Torrence, center, is assisted by Master Sgt. Eddie King, U.S. Army Africa, during the EFMP Bowling held at the Arena Nov. 15.

Photos by Laura Kreider