

173rd ABCT hosts Logistics Forum in Germany

By Maj. Jeffrey A. Smith
173rd Brigade Support Battalion

WARNER BARRACKS, Bamberg, Germany - More than 95 logisticians and leaders from both the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team and external agencies gathered in Bamberg, Germany recently to discuss key logistical functions, trends, and lessons learned as the 173rd ABCT prepares for future operations.

Hosted by the 173rd Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne), the support battalion for the 173rd ABCT, the logistics forum focused on functions that will not only assist the brigade at home station, but also in a deployed environment.

"This event was critical in allowing logisticians and leaders within the brigade to come together in order to achieve a shared understanding and focus on logistical matters that have a direct impact on brigade level operations," said Lt. Col. Luis Velez, commander of the BSB, 173rd ABCT. "Having the 173rd ABCT located in two separate geographical areas can be challenging, so seizing opportunities such as this event to meet as a group not only helps to build vital relationships, but it also has an impact on the support that the 173rd BSB provides to battalions in both Germany and Italy," said Velez.

Attendees were afforded an opportunity to examine static displays built by members of the 173rd BSB Distribution, Maintenance, Medical Companies, as well as its Rigger Platoon. Interactive static displays were built and geared towards not only habitual logistical support, such as aerial delivery, and food service operations, but also specific support the brigade can expect to receive such as Level II medical functions and vehicle-recovery operations.

Representatives from the Defense Logistics Agency, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (838th Transportation Battalion), USAREUR G4, and the 405th Army Field Support Brigade also provided valuable reference materials that pertained to all in attendance.

Maj. Robert Hilton, 173rd ABCT S4 officer, said, "The deployment logistics training and static displays proved to be

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Photo by Grant Sattler

Family huddle: Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Cruzdiaz hugs his children, Lindsay, Michela and Anthony, and says goodbye to them and his wife, Jennifer, as 25 Soldiers of Det. C, 106th Finance Management Co. left Vicenza Thursday morning on their way to a year-long deployment to Afghanistan.

1 month until April 17 tax-filing deadline

By Capt. Derek Coyne
USAG Vicenza Tax Center

It has been over a month since the USAG-Vicenza Tax center officially opened its doors to the Vicenza military community and things are in full swing. So far, the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Tax Center has assisted nearly 1,000 tax filers and processed more than 1,800 returns, saving our military community over \$200,000 in tax preparation fees and generating over \$2.2 million in refunds.

Since opening their door, preparers have answered questions about some common tax issues facing our community. Soldiers often come into the office and explain that they were told they could deduct the cost of the military equipment they purchased and even the haircuts they got this past year. The Internal Revenue Service allows filers to take two types of deductions from their adjusted gross income: Standard deduction or Itemized deduction. The Standard deduction is a

fixed amount set by the IRS that is based on your filing status. This year's standard deduction rate is \$11,600 for married filing jointly, \$8,500 for head of household and \$5,800 for single or married filing jointly. Itemized deductions are deductions for certain expenses listed on the IRS Schedule A form such as medical expenses, taxes and interest paid, gifts to charity, and job expenses. The type of exemption taken is the taxpayer's choice; however, if itemized deductions are less than the standard deduction, the taxpayer should take the standard deduction.

The most common types of itemized deductions that Soldiers ask about claiming (military equipment and haircuts) fall into the category of unreimbursed employee expenses. The first key to this deduction is the word "unreimbursed." The US government does a very good job reimbursing Soldiers for incurred business expenses such as a travel, transportation and meals. Check your last travel voucher. There are other things that are not be reimbursed. You cannot claim mileage for driving

to and from work. However, if your job requires you to travel to another location during the day, you could claim the miles if you were not reimbursed and used your personal vehicle. However, why would you wait until tax time to make that claim? File a travel voucher then and get reimbursed.

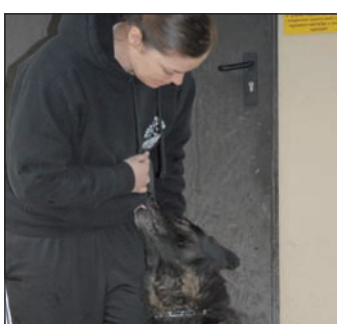
Secondly, it must be a legitimate business related expense. Every year the Judge Advocate General attorneys must pay Bar dues to the state they hold a license in to maintain their qualification to practice law. The Army does not pay for this. This is a legitimate expense and may be claimed if they choose to itemize; haircuts are not. There is no tax break for good hygiene. In fact, a tax preparer was sentenced to 36 months in prison following a guilty plea in May 2004. The preparer pled guilty to three counts of aiding and assisting in the preparation and presentation of a false and fraudulent tax return. The preparer inaccurately and falsely advised and counseled her clients that the

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News pages 3 & 4

VHS Booster club holds auction Saturday; 2 Military Working Dogs retire from service



Community Camera page 8

View photos of post activities



70/41
Friday



68/45
Saturday



66/43
Sunday

No driving in downtown Vicenza Sunday due to a race. Drivers face a €155 fine for violations.

IRS consumer warnings during tax season

By Peg Clevenger
USAG Vicenza security manager

The Internal Revenue Service has issued several recent consumer warnings on the fraudulent use of the IRS name or logo by scamsters trying to gain access to consumers' financial information in order to steal their identity and assets.

When identity theft takes place over the Internet, it is called phishing. Phishing (as in "fishing for information" and "hooking" victims) is a scam where Internet fraudsters send e-mail messages to trick unsuspecting victims into revealing personal and financial information that can be

used to steal the victims' identity. Current scams include phony e-mails which claim to come from the IRS and which lure the victims into the scam by telling them that they are due for a tax refund. The IRS periodically alerts taxpayers too, and maintains a list of phishing schemes using the IRS name, logo or Web site clone. If you've received an email, phone call or fax claiming to come from the IRS that seemed a little suspicious, go to <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=214917,00.html> to check the validity. More information on IRS suspicious emails and identity theft can be found at on that page.

For information about these tips or any of security issues, call 634-8998.

Colonoscopies: unpopular topic but lifesaving

By Terry DiResta
US Army Health Center Vicenza

Nobody wants to do it. Nobody wants to talk about it. Until you hear from a friend or a family member that they did do it and found they had pre-cancerous polyps which may have turned into cancer eventually. But because they had this test, the polyps were discovered and removed in time. Yes, I am talking about colonoscopy. Wait — don't turn to the sports page, especially if you are age 50 or older, or love someone who is!

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. A perfect opportunity to tell you about the newest study just published in The New England Journal of Medicine. It showed that removing polyps (growths) found in the colon (large intestine) during colonoscopies prevents deaths from colon and rectal cancer. How? A colonoscopy lets a doctor examine the whole length of the colon and rectum, searching for any growths that might be cancer or might turn into cancer over time. Removal of

these growths (polyps) prevents them from becoming cancerous in the body. If the growths are already found to be cancerous, finding them early before any symptoms appear makes the cancer easier to treat.

Many people delay or refuse this important screening test until someone they know gets the test and finds out they had pre-cancerous polyps in the colon. This is the wake-up call which usually motivates people to get a colonoscopy. Unfortunately, others don't even have this test on their radar. Most people should start regular screening at age 50, unless they have a family history or other risk factors for colon cancer. Overall, 90 percent of new cases of colon cancer and 94 percent of deaths from colon cancer occur in those 50 and older. It is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death in both men and women today. But we have the means to prevent much of it, diminish suffering and save countless lives—and it all starts with the colonoscopy.

For the Vicenza community,

colonoscopies are performed at Aviano Air Base's surgical clinic. As a courtesy, the pre-procedure visit can be scheduled here when the Aviano providers visit the health center twice a month. The actual colonoscopy can then be scheduled at Aviano, within 30 days of the preparation appointment. Camp Darby patients can be seen in either San Rosorie hospital in Pisa or at Naples Naval Medical Center. The Camp Darby clinic also offers free colo-cards to patients who walk in and request a kit.

If you are 50 or older, don't have a personal or family history of colon cancer or polyps, are not having any problems such as blood in the stool, change in bowel habits, abdominal pain or unusual weight loss, call 636-9533 in Vicenza or 633-7886/7357 for those in Camp Darby, to get scheduled. This test is fully covered for TRICARE beneficiaries. Civilians should check their health care insurance policies. Most will cover this important screening test. Take advantage of your health benefits. This truly is a test that can save your life.

FORUM: 173rd hosts informative logistics information

Continued from page 1

a very informative and worthwhile event. I think it would be a good idea to conduct these logistics events on a quarterly basis to continue to grow our capabilities."

The highlight of the event was a logistical professional development briefing by the United States Army Europe G4, Army Col. Shapiro. Capt. Ryan Hulse, commanding officer for Company B, 173rd BSB, said, "By far, the most informative portion of the forum was the presentation provided to us by Col. Shapiro. It was invaluable to the group in hearing first-hand from one of the senior logisticians in USAREUR where we are currently at, as an Army, and where we are going."

This event served as yet another vital tool in ensuring that logisticians within the 173rd ABCT continue to challenge themselves in providing the best quality of support to Paratroopers within the brigade. As the unit looks to the future, it will continue to review processes, ensuring that newly assigned members to the brigade provide uninterrupted logistics support to current and future operations. The brigade intends to host another logistics forum upon its return from deployment.



Photo by Capt. Michelle Ramos
173rd Brigade Support Battalion Airdrop Systems Technician Warrant Officer Jeremy Larson, demonstrates the deployment of the newly fielded T-11 Parachute. The 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team will begin to implement this new Parachute into Airborne operations following its return from deployment.

Speak Out

What would you recommend to include in your meals?



Leyla Burns
ACS intern

"Make sure you eat vegetables and drink enough water. Also, don't forget to have some fruits."



Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Hanks
414th CSB

"Whole grains and/or vegetables that are dark in color like green, red or orange."



Erika Maldonado and Sarah Powell
Family members

"Vegetables every day and fish three times a week."

By Laura Kreider

VHS Booster club holds auction Saturday

By Julie M. Lucas
Outlook editor

The Vicenza military community is invited to enjoy the fun of the Booster Club's third annual furniture and collectibles auction this Saturday at the Vicenza High School gym. The funds raised by the auction support the student athletes for costs not covered by the school and provide scholarships for students who choose to continue their education beyond high school.

"Christopher Beane (Vicenza Elementary School principal) brought the idea of the auctions from Naples and now this is our third year," said Booster Club vice president Becky Lynch.

More than 800 items are shipped from Hong Kong for the auction. During the auction, AFN will be on hand to do a live broadcast and teachers fill in as auctioneer. The doors open at 10 a.m. for a preview of items to be sold. The live auction begins at 11 a.m.

"People get caught up in the action," Lynch said. Last year the sale netted the Booster Club \$10,000, most of which was contributed to scholarships. A portion of the money goes to each spring sport team to help with their travel expenses. As a result, the players help work at the sale.

"This is a community event and it's a win-win," Lynch said. "It's good for the kids and it's good for the shoppers."

Because this year's sale will be on St. Patrick's Day, certain items will have shamrocks on them. Whoever bids and wins the auction on these items will be entered in a special door prize drawing. Babysitting services will be available by donation from the girl's softball team and a North Carolina barbecue or hot dog lunch will be for sale. Checks and cash are preferred methods of payment. Credit cards can be accepted.



File photo by Laura Kreider

Vicenza Middle School teacher George Hanby served as auctioneer during the Vicenza High School Booster Club sale. This year's sale will be held Saturday at the VHS gym. Doors open at 10 a.m. and the sale begins at 11. Money raised goes to helping with scholarships and athletics.

TAXES: Knowing state residency, what can be deducted important

Continued from page 2

following things were deductible on the Schedule A form: personal clothing worn to work; personal hygiene items; vitamins; gym fees; haircuts; manicures and pedicures; mileage to and from work; and money spent at restaurants.

Many filers come into the center and when asked "What is your state of residency?" they will answer, "I don't have one." This answer is incorrect. Every United States citizen is resident of one of the 50 states or U.S. territories. Residency requirements differ from state to state. Most servicemembers are residents of the state from which they enlisted or commissioned unless they have actively made efforts to change their state of residency.

Going to see your S-1 and asking

them to change your residency to Texas or Florida is not enough. For example, to become a resident of Georgia a person must first establish a domicile in the state and then maintain such domicile for 12-consecutive months.

Establishment of a domicile has multiple indicators such as place of employment, voter registration, driver's license and property taxes. A Soldier, who is stationed at Fort Stewart for 3 years, obtains a Georgia driver's license and registers to vote in the state can claim Georgia residency after 12 months if they desire. When they claim Georgia residency, they are renouncing their previous states residency.

If that same Soldier had a permanent change of station to Italy, they will remain a resident of Georgia until time

they can establish a new state residency. That cannot be done while stationed overseas.

Many states have income taxes and even require their residents to pay state income taxes no matter where they earned their income. For example, income (even military pay) is reportable and taxable income for Georgia residents, no matter where earned. So check the tax laws for your particular state and adjust your withholding with your finance office accordingly.

The tax filing deadline this year is April 17. There is still plenty of time to come by the Tax Center. The hours of operation still remain the same. The tax center is located on the first floor of the JAG office in building 241 and is open Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m.-

4 p.m. even during lunch hours. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays they are open for walk-ins, while Tuesdays and Thursdays they are only open for appointments.

You will need to make an appointment if any of the following scenarios apply: You have rental property; have capital gains; received self employment income; claiming foreign income exclusion; need to amend a prior year's return; itemizing deductions; or have received a letter from the IRS. In unique circumstances, such as an upcoming deployment or filing a Puerto Rico Tax return, you will be able to drop off your documents for processing and you will be contacted when complete.

For more information, contact the Tax Center at 634-7316 or 0444-71-7316.

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Vounteer Spotlight AFTB Volunteer manager



Janet Ferguson is the volunteer manager for the Army Family Team Building program at Army Community Services. AFTB is a series of classes to help spouses learn more about the Army, self development and leadership.

"The AFTB program is indispensable to anyone who wants to be proactive and embrace the challenges of Army life," said Ferguson.

"Janet helps support the Army Community Service Army Family Team Building program. She assists with class recruitment, training, and facilitation of the AFTB classes," said Allie Vallery, ACS Army Volunteer Corps Program manager, Employment Readiness Program manager (acting).

The next AFTB class will be held March 21-22 (Level 3). For more about the AFTB classes, contact ACS at 0444-71-7500.

To suggest a new staff member or volunteer to be featured in The Outlook, email us at editor@eur.army.mil.

2 Military working dogs end tour of duty

By Julie M. Lucas
Outlook editor

Two local combat veterans recently ended their tours of service, but these aren't your typical servicemembers. Ronnie and Roby are military working dogs, both with multiple combat deployments, have reached a point in their careers where it was time for them to stop working.

"Military working dogs can work anywhere from 4-12 years; it's up to them really when they stop working," said Staff Sgt. Megan Hobson, MWD handler.

In addition to their duty in Vicenza, the MWD's also spent time at Camp Darby. Sometimes the dogs are used in special operations, such as presidential missions, much like the one Roby worked in Spain.

When it is time for the dogs to retire, they ideally get adopted out to live with families, which is a lengthy paperwork process. Some of the dogs, however, reach a point where they are too aggressive to be adopted.

"The dogs become a danger to their handlers, and other animals as well," said Hobson.

A small ceremony is usually held for the animals, during which poems are read and a folded American flag is presented, which the handlers usually keep. One poem that is read is "The Rainbow Bridge Poem" and another is "Guardians of the Night."

"The poems are read to comfort us," said Staff Sgt. Loretta Streichert. "Everyone who does this job loves dogs and we all grow incredibly close."



MWD Roby



MWD Ronnie

Courtesy photos

TBI team available locally to help injured persons

By Dr. Catherine Frantom
U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza

Many readers may not know that there is a multi-disciplinary treatment team for traumatic brain injury located in the U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza. Their team is comprised of experienced providers who comprehensively evaluate, treat and coordinate care for adult individuals who have sustained a TBI.

Vicenza's TBI program is designated as Level 2, which means it is equipped to treat mild through moderate range brain injuries. Downrange events, vehicle accidents, sports concussions, hard parachute landings, falls and assaults are among the types of injuries they see among the military and civilians within our community. Severe TBI requires inpatient treatment facilities not available at the clinic. As such, severely injured patients will typically require treatment at a Level 1 facility with subsequent transfer back to the United States for care and rehabilitation services.

Regardless of the injury severity, early intervention is important to speed recovery and maximize functional outcome. Although rate of recovery depends upon type of injury and personal health and resilience, early management of physical, cognitive, and emotional symptoms may reduce long-term problems. This is particularly true following concussions where persistent symptoms can be associated with both neurological and/or non-neurological causes. Research demonstrates that early and serial monitoring and treatment of symptoms appears to result in substantial improvement in the vast majority of concussed patients.

The TBI multi-disciplinary team at VMHC includes a case manager, education specialist, primary care provider, occupational therapist, physical therapist and neuropsychologist. Operating as a decision-making team, they are able to develop individual treatment plans and provide sequential monitoring to speed recovery and maximize functional outcome. An important component to multi-disciplinary treatment is placement of appropriate limitations on activities to allow for proper rest and healing of the brain after injury.

- A case manager facilitates access to service agencies, assists with treatment and discharge planning, and coordinates resources and specialty care that support the physical, emotional and spiritual healing of patients with TBI. An important role of case management is to bridge communication between patients, care providers, and family members to coordinate care.

- An education specialist is available to the military community, Soldiers,

command and Families to provide educational resources and information about mild and moderate TBI. Education is provided to patients on a one-to-one basis to optimize symptom management and the recovery process. Family members are invited to participate in TBI education and to be actively involved in the patient's treatment and recovery process.

- A primary care provider medically evaluates TBI patients and determines a course of action based on presenting symptoms. This might include, for example, referrals to radiology for brain imaging, ordering labs, referring to specialty providers, and prescribing medications. The primary care provider is the point of entry for TBI. Once a person is determined to be symptomatic, the primary care provider will refer him or her to the multi-disciplinary team coordination of services, serial monitoring and adjustment of the medical plan as indicated.

- Occupational therapy is used to enhance a person's ability to perform everyday life activities (occupations), facilitate community reintegration, and assist patients with return to activities, or in the case of active duty members, transitioning to civilian life or return to duty. Occupational therapists use a variety of evaluation and intervention tools to identify and treat deficits that may be impacting their ability to perform their occupations. In a TBI setting, an occupational therapist addresses functional limitations as well as challenges with visual skills, upper extremity coordination/fine motor skills, psychosocial deficits and cognitive skills to include memory, attention, concentration, and problem solving.

- Physical therapy involves a full assessment of functional movement patterns including strength, flexibility, joint mobility and balance/vestibular function. Based upon the findings of the evaluation, targeted exercises, drills and/or manually applied interventions may be implemented

with specific goals to reestablish full restoration and enhancement of bodily movement and coordination.

- The neuropsychologist uses a specialty practice within clinical psychology and referral is made when known or suspected central nervous system injury or disease results in changes to cognitive and/or behavioral function. Thus, neuropsychologists are concerned with evaluating relationships between the brain and behavior. Evaluations are designed to characterize behavioral and cognitive changes resulting from, for example, TBI, stroke, brain tumors/surgeries, seizure disorders, hydrocephalus, infectious diseases and dementias. Sometimes this can be accomplished through screening, but comprehensive assessment is required when diagnostic clarification is needed or when co-occurring conditions present as impediments to optimal functioning (e.g., depressed mood, post trauma stress, chronic pain, etc.).



Competition sorts out 'Best Warrior'

By Sgt Tony Brazier
AFN Livorno

Some titles are given at birth and some titles come by way of knockout. At Camp Darby there is one title that is being earned the hard way. Top Soldiers at Camp Darby competed in the week long competition March 5-9 for the coveted title of Camp Darby's Best Warrior.

Pushups, sit-ups and a two mile run were only the beginning.

"The pt test was good- the guys had a high level of fitness competing this year," said Staff Sgt. Dennis Profit, USAG Livorno HHD NCOIC.

The title of best warrior only comes to those Soldiers and NCO's who are Army strong, boarded, tested by written exam and essay and the next day ready to roll at o'dark early.

"Tuesday morning we started back up at 4:30 a.m. on a 12-mile ruck march which was very physically demanding," said Pfc Aaron Layne, 511th Military Police Platoon. "Physically, I'm doing good."

And still this was only the beginning. Warrior task tests like searching a vehicle for explosive devices and tactical combat casualty care filled the rest of the morning. There was still day land navigation, night land navigation, and oh yes, day three.

"They all knew their tasks very well and executed them," said Profit. "When they got to the range, I think they shot with no hesitation."



Above, Staff Sgt. Delano Hamler, right, 839th Transportation Battalion, conducts buddy aid during Camp Darby's Best Warrior Competition. At right, Pfc. Aaron Layne tries to escape being pinned by Sgt. Jacob Nickels during the combatives section of the Best Warrior Competition. Both Soldiers are assigned to 511th Military Police Platoon.



So after some action at the range, the day continued with Combatives. The best warrior competition winners will be named the USAG Livorno Soldier and NCO of the year at a special recognition ceremony at the Darby Community Club.

Photos by Elena Baladelli

Darby Dates

Visit the community calendar for upcoming events and details at www.usag.livorno.army.mil

Army Emergency Relief

You can help make Soldiers and their Families Army Strong. Talk with your units AER rep about donating today.

Children's Playgroup

633-7084

Playgroup for children 0-3 years, now meets every Wednesday of the month. Come join this highly interactive group.

Child, Youth & School Services

633-7681

- ♦ Registration runs through March 31 for youth baseball programs.

- ♦ Bowling Day / Parent's Night Out scheduled for March 24.

- ♦ Your input is vital to all CYSS programs. Don't miss the next Parent Advisory Council Meeting, March 28 at noon.

- ♦ Come & celebrate the Spring Fest Eggstravaganza April 7 at the DCC. Fun begins at 11 a.m. with egg hunts, a visit from the Easter Bunny and a barbecue at noon.

ITR

633-7589

St. Francis of Assisi, March 24

Sports & Fitness

633-7438

Whether you want to coach or you're just playing for fun, register for this season's Recreation Volleyball League from March 5 thru April 5. Games begin on April 11.

Darby Community Club

633-7855

Seether live March 25. Catch this post grunge rock band from Pretoria, South Africa, as they tour in support of their 6th album called 'Holding Onto Strings Better Left to Fray'.

ODR

633-7775

Ski and snowboard trips running until the snow is gone every Saturday in March.

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

Fine Arts Program invaluable to youth

Commentary by Susanne Sperl
Livorno Unit School Art teacher

Too often, we are quick to think that art class is simply where students come to color or make a decorative craft. While those things do take place in our class, so does so much more. Simply, the visual arts are a language and they communicate to the world.

We encounter the impact of strong creative design and expression every day. Take a moment and consider one of your typical days. How many instances do you encounter that are a direct result of artistic and creative design and/or contribution? Every webpage you view, every device or gadget you hold, every source of media you experience begins with design.

The goal in our art classes is to learn to communicate clearly and effectively regardless of the medium. Much of what we experience in the artroom has direct application to developing and refining the skills necessary to understanding, navigating and communicating in the world today. While color may be a vehicle at times, students are also challenged to design, which means they must be able to creatively solve problems. They are required to express and explain their works and intentions with the vocabulary of an artist, which requires them to practice communicating through a variety of means.

I continually seek ways for our students to share their works and messages with a larger audience. It is important for students to have these opportunities to showcase their work beyond the walls of a classroom because this adds meaning and real life experience to what they are creating and exploring in the artroom. This could range from displaying work at a community function to writing and illustrating a teaching book to be sent to a school in Uganda.

It is my belief that our students carry within them thoughtful stories, ideas and expressions and it is important that their ideas are heard. But in order for them to be truly heard and understood, they must learn how to express ideas and



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

Livorno Unit School Art Classes have been discussing and exploring works of several inspiring African-American artists in celebration of Black History month. They have been learning about the life and works of Romare Bearden, Henry Ossawa Tanner, Faith Ringgold, William H. Johnson, and Dave (artist, poet, slave). The student's works were on display at the African-American Heritage food tasting event at the Darby Community Club Feb. 24.

communicate them effectively.

In March, Livorno Students first-fourth grades will have a live video call with a curator from the Smithsonian American Museum of Art who will share with them works by some of the artists from their collection and discuss our own art with us in the process. We are very excited and look forward to this opportunity.

If you'd like to help keep art active in our schools, contact the school for more information.

StraVicenza:

An annual 2, 4.5 and 10 kilometer run takes place downtown Sunday. Registration for the race is Friday, Saturday and Sunday and the cost is €4 and €2 for children younger than 14. It includes your bib number, snack and medical coverage. Bag storage service is available for €1.



Courtesy photo

Local events

No Driving Sunday:

Sunday has been declared a "no driving day" in Vicenza and adjacent neighborhoods from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. in all ZTL (no traffic zone) areas. The ordinance applies to all vehicles including SETAF registered vehicles. Vicenza city residents cannot use their vehicles from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. in the historic city center. If they need to drive their cars outside the city limits, they should do so before 9 a.m. Free parking at the Stadio, Dogana, and Via Cricoli parking lots and free buses from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Violators will be fined €155.

Father's Day – La Festa del Papà

On Monday, Italians celebrate Father's Day. It is also the day they celebrate St. Joseph. Stores all over Italy will be offering specially wrapped gift items for family members to buy for their fathers. Typical sweets are the St. Joseph's Day Cream Puffs or Zeppole di San Giuseppe: they are more common in southern Italy but they can also be found in some local pasticcerie (pastry stores).

StraVicenza Marathon:

The annual StraVicenza 2, 4.5 and 10 kilometer runs are going to be held on Sunday at 10 a.m. The start and finish will be at the Campo Marzo. You can register at StraVicenza Point, Loggia del Capitaniato, in Piazza dei Signori, Friday (4 p.m.-8 p.m.), Saturday (10 a.m.-1 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.-8 p.m.), and Sunday (7:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m.). Cost is €4 and €2 for children younger than 14. It includes your bib number, snack and medical coverage. Bag storage service is available for €1. Sunday is also a no-driving day in Vicenza. Participants can park at the Stadio, Dogana, and Via Cricoli parking lots and take a bus to the city center. Vicenza buses and parking in the above lots are free from 7:30 a.m. onwards. From Caserma Ederle, participants can take either the #7 or #1 bus from Viale della Pace and get off at the Stazione (Train Station.)

Saint Joseph Festival & Spit-Roasted Quail Fair:

Thursday-Sunday, in Villaganzerla, about 9 miles south of Vicenza. Carnival rides, fair trade market, craft show, painting and photo exhibitions, food stands and charity raffle.

- Thursday: 8 p.m. fair grand opening
- Friday: 9 p.m. live music and dancing with D'Animos Band
- Saturday: 11 a.m. 2nd "Stars & Stripes" country dance competition; 7 p.m. Two Step Night dancing; 9 p.m. DJs' marathon
- Sunday: 9 p.m. live music and dancing with Rossella Ferrari and I Casanova Orchestra

Antiquaria - Antiques Fair:

Saturday-Tuesday, in Padova, Via N. Tommaseo 59, about 24 miles southeast of Vicenza. Saturday-Sunday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; weekdays 3-8 p.m., Antiques and collectors' items will be for sale, including furniture, lighting, glass & tableware, vintage jewelry and fashion accessories, prints, rare books, coins, medals postcards, old advertising. Admission: €5; reduced €2.5 (children 6-14). Free for children under 6.

Local products exhibit and sale:

Sunday, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., in Bassano del Grappa, Via Angarano, about 22 miles north of Vicenza.

Flower Festival:

Sunday, in Cassola, San Giuseppe district, about 22 miles northeast of Vicenza. More than 300 stands featuring flowers, local products, food, art exhibits; live music with local bands and carnival rides.

Haru no Kaze – Japanese Spring Wind Festival:

March 23- April 1 in Vicenza. The free classes and workshops will be held at the Youth Information Center, Contrà Barche 55, unless otherwise specified. Seating is limited for both free and paid classes. Reserve your seat by calling 345-6497944. An English speaking operator is available.

FREE concerts, exhibits & events

Carnevale photos exhibit:

Ongoing through March 31, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-noon and 8-10 p.m., in Vicenza, Civic Center, Via Rismondo 2.

Silver works exhibit:

Ongoing through May 9, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 3-7 p.m., in Vicenza, ViArt, Sala del Capitolo, Contrà del Monte 13.

Japanese art and photos exhibit:

Saturday through April 1; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 3-7 p.m., in Vicenza, ViArt, Contrà del Monte.

Contemporary Japanese art exhibit:

Friday-April 1, Tuesday-Thursday 5-7:30 p.m.; Friday 4-7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m., in Vicenza, Bertoliana Library, Palazzo Cordellina, Contrà Riale 13.

Ceramic art exhibit :

Ongoing through May 15, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 3-7 p.m., in Vicenza, ViArt, Sala del Capitolo, Contrà del Monte 13.

Concerts

James Taylor and his band: March 24 in Padova

America: March 24 in Bassano del Grappa, March 28 in Trieste

Lorenna McKennitt: April 16 in Padova

Steve Hackett: April 18 in Florence

Sinead O'Connor: April 24 in Milan

Metallica: May 13 in Udine
Allan Holdsworth Band: May 23 in Milan

Coldplay: May 24 in Torino
Metalfest: June 5-7 in Monza

Marilyn Manson: June 7 in Padova

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band: June 7 in Milan, June 10 in Florence, June 11 in Trieste

Madonna: June 14 in Milan, June 16 in Florence

Guns N Roses: June 22 in Rho (Milan)

Black Sabbath: June 24 in Rho (Milan)

Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers: June 29 in Lucca
Sting: July 10 in Piazzola sul Brenta

B.B. King: July 13 in Pistoia

Lenny Kravitz: July 16 in Sarzana (La Spezia), July 19 in Vigevano (Pavia)

The Beach Boys: July 27 in Milan

Alice Cooper: July 30 in Milan
Tickets available in Vicenza at Media World, Palladio Shopping Center or at www.greenticket.it/index.html?imposta_lingua=ing or <http://www.ticketone.it/EN/>.

Sporting events

Fim X Trial Indoor World Championship:

Saturday, in Assago (Milan)

Now Showing



Ederle Theater

Thursday	Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (PG 13)	6 p.m.
Friday	Joyful Noise (PG 13)	6 p.m.
	War Horse (PG 13)	9 p.m.
Saturday	Joyful Noise (PG 13)	3 p.m.
	John Carter (PG 13)	6 p.m.
Sunday	Joyful Noise (PG 13)	3 p.m.
	John Carter (PG 13)	6 p.m.
Wed.	War Horse (PG 13)	6 p.m.
March 22	War Horse (PG 13)	6 p.m.
March 23	Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG 13)	6 p.m.
	The Devil Inside (R)	9 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

March 23	The Devil Inside (R)	6 p.m.
March 24	Contraband (R)	6 p.m.
March 25	Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG)	1 p.m.
March 30	Red Tails (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 or
www.afes.com/ems/euro/livorno.htm

ODR trips

Outlet tour in Tuscany: Sunday

Rome express: March 24

Mystery ski/snowboard: March 24

Arabba ski/snowboard: March 31

West coast discovery tour in Portofino: March 31

Chianti art and food: April 1

Rome overnight: April 6-8

Final ski/snowboard trip: April 7

Genoa Aquarium trip: April 7

Borghetto and Parco Sigurtà: April 11

Legoland in Germany: April 12-15

Snowshoe northern Italy: April 14

Walk with a hawk: April 14

Waterfall at Lake Garda: April 15

Sea kayak: April 21

Wine tasting in Friuli: April 21

Tuscan cooking and photography class: April 22

Florence and the Uffizi Gallery Tour: April 28

San Marino: April 29

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 or at ODR.

Special events

♦ The annual Eggstravaganza will be held on Hoeskstra Field March 31, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This year's activities include games, arts and crafts, bouncy houses, photos with the Easter Bunny and an egg hunt sponsored in part by the Local VFW. Egg Hunts will begin at 11:45 and will start at 15-minute intervals for the following age groups; under age 3, 3-5 years of age, 6-9 years of age and 10-12 years of age. BOSS and USO will be selling hot dogs, sodas and chips and AFN will be recording "Shout Outs." Bring your camera, it's lots of fun for the entire Family. Call 634-5999 for additional information.

♦ Warrior Challenge II is ready for sign-ups. It's the most intense "Fun Run" of your life. Runners must leap logs, traverse tires, leap over and thru vehicles, squeeze through tubes and sludge through the gunk pit in this very twisted 5k race, beginning and ending on the track. A Viking awards ceremony and feast follows the event for winners, survivors and friends. Register on line or at ODR through April 27 at 4 p.m. Registrations are cut off at 300 people or one hour prior to the event. Cost is \$15 and includes a T-shirt for race finishers. Awards for first, second & third (men & women) and for the first place team. Get your Viking costume on to qualify for costume prize drawings. And new this year — Junior Warrior Challenge for children and teens prior to the start of the race. Visit <http://www.vicenzamwr.com/rec.html> or call ODR at 634-7453 for more information.

Personnel Security Office hours change

The Personnel Security Office will begin operating by appointment only starting Monday. Hours of operation are Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays from 1-4 pm. will be used to provide Community Fingerprinting Service and closed in the morning. Call 634-8498/8998 for an appointment.

CYSS

♦ Join CYSS Youth Center and Club Beyond for the Amazing Mattress Race, on March 24 6-9 p.m. at the Villaggio Youth Center. This event is for High School Students. There are great prizes and dinner will be provided. Call 634-7659 for more information.

♦ April is Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month. Many exciting events are planned throughout the month for Families to have fun and celebrate. A Parent Connection Conference April 3 offers a variety of workshops with relevant topics geared to parents of various age groups. The Junior Warrior Challenge is on April 27. Other activities include National Library Week games and activities, Earth Day Celebration and recycling art activities, plus a FAP Ice Cream Social April 18 and a Sunrise Breakfast Social April 23. For a complete listing of these events visit www.vicenzaMWR.com.

♦ Stop by the Post Library through

April 1 to see photos taken by youth in the Vicenza community in the annual Image Makers Photo Exhibit. Categories include color, B&W, digital, alternative and photo essay. Vote for your favorites. Presented by CYSS and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Call 634-7659 for more information.

Soldiers' Theatre

Soldiers' Theatre presents Rogers and Hammerstein's musical "Oklahoma." Performances on Fridays and Saturdays are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Matinee is at 2 p.m. through March 25. Tickets are on sale by stopping by the box office or calling 634-7281.

Arts and Crafts Center

♦ Improve your photographs with classes from the Art Center April 5 at 1 p.m. Learn how to take exciting and unique photos of children of all ages. At 5 p.m. learn to make your basic vacation snapshot a gorgeous travel photograph. Both of these classes are 4 week sessions. Call 634-7074 for information.

♦ Learn to stretch canvas Sunday at 1 p.m.. Become certified to use the frame studio to stretch your own paintings properly. Blank canvas and all supplies are included. Or bring your own canvas to stretch (no larger than 16x16 inches).

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 and click on "Community" then Staff Judge Advocate to read the article.

Military/deploying civilian walk-in immunizations

Readiness Immunization hours have changed. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - 8-11:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays - 1-4:30 p.m.

Summer Hire program

Family members between the ages of 14-22 with a valid ID can apply for a clerical, labor or child care job that runs between

June 18-July 27. Applications are accepted online between March 26-May 20 at <https://cpolrhr.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/>. For more information contact Gaetano Valente at 634-7149.

USAHC hours

The U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza will be closed Friday for a training holiday. It resumes normal hours of operation Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There is no pharmacy refill either day, but the birthing center will be open both days. In case of an emergency, go directly to San Bortolo. Call 0444-75-3300 to speak with the patient liasons.

Outbound HHG shipment brief

Installation Transportation Office conducts Outbound Transportation Briefings daily for Household Goods shipments on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in classroom 3, building 393, CPF building. For questions call 634-6922. Attend between three-six months before you move to ensure a smooth pack-out. You do not need your orders to attend.

VHS Booster club auction

The 3rd annual furniture and collectables auction will be held Saturday at the Vicenza High School gym with a preview at 10 a.m. and live auction starting at 11 a.m. More than 300 items including hand-tied rugs, clocks, lamps, screens, crystal and many one of a kind items. For questions, contact Becky Lynch at 346-664-3347.

Pinewood Derby

Pack 295 is holding a Pinewood car Derby March 24, at 1 p.m. at the Teen Center. Cars at still for sale. For more info., contact Brian Curtis by email stillscouting@gmail.com.

Library

♦ Coming in April for National Library Week, an Altered Book Contest. Get started now on your entry. Transform any old book into a work of art. Entries are due at the

Library by April 6.

♦ Every Wednesday, come hear stories, sing songs and make a craft at the library for Pre-School Story Time. Fun begins at 11 a.m.

Arena

♦ Put on your "Green" and head over to the Lion's Den Saturday to celebrate with St. Patrick's Day specials and of course, Green Beer! Drop Simpler! will be performing live music.

♦ Country Night March 22, at the Lion's Den will feature special guest Paul Bogart. Bring a friend and dance the night away. Music begins at 8 p.m.

♦ Join March Madness at the Arena! Bowl Monday-Thursday all day long for \$1 per game and \$1 for shoes. Enjoy food and beverage specials throughout the month and enter to win free bowling games. It's all part of March Madness! Call 634-7013 for more information.

♦ Free country line dancing classes will be offered from 8-9 p.m. Thursday nights at the Lion's Den, this Thursday and March 29.

VCC

Trivia Challenge night will be March 30 at the Old Soldiers' Bar in the Golden Lion. Teams of 4-6 will compete for cash prizes. Another prize will be given out for funniest team name. The entry fee is \$5 per player with a limit of 15 teams. Teams register by email to andrearbarlow99@aol.com.

UMUC Spring classes

The University of Maryland University College once again brings a session full of fun and interesting classes. Spring Session 2 offers: Biology with a lab, International Human Rights, Italian 1, 2 & 4, College Math, Statistics, Intro to Research and College Writing. For new students earn \$700 dollars by applying for "New Student Scholarship." Registration for classes is currently ongoing until Monday and classes run Monday-May 13. For more info., call: 634-7055 or email vice@europe.umuc.edu.

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

Mondays

5:30 p.m.: High School Small Group (sponsored by Club Beyond) meets at The CLUB House for dinner; Bible study starts at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel
12:30 p.m.: Middle School Small Group (sponsored by Club Beyond) meets at the Middle School in room 1017
5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

Wednesdays

3:15 p.m.: Middle School Club Beyond meets room 1017 in VMS
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 340-665-3453 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

Bahá'í Faith: Call Russell Menard at 389-133-4627 or 349-708-2535

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, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Viale Trento 246, Vicenza

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

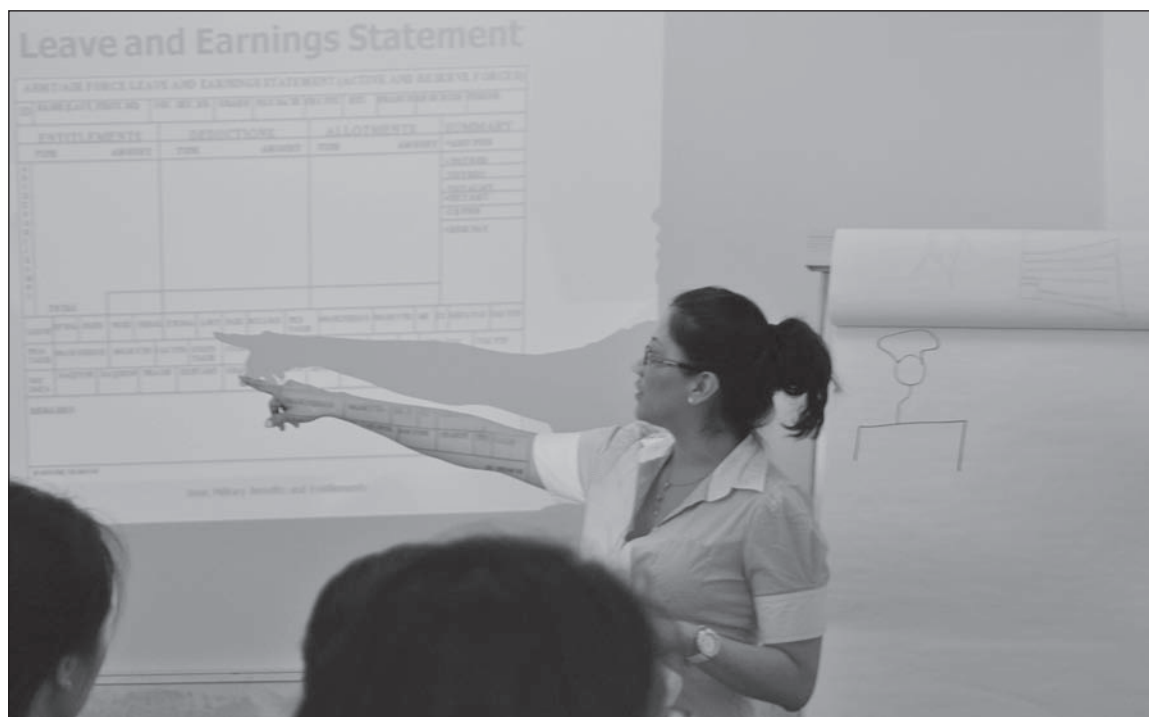


Photo by Janet Ferguson

AFTB half marathon: Bree Barrett, Army Family Team Building instructor and ACS Financial intern, explains leave and earning statements during the AFTB half marathon. An instructor training course for AFTB will be held March 21-22.

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

Community Camera

Retirement award:

Col. David Buckingham, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza commander, reads the Meritorious Service award to retired Col. Aldo Rando, who worked in various positions around Caserma Ederle for 17 years. Many members of the Vicenza military community both Italian and American attended a farewell to Rando March 6. His positions included Chief Training Section, G3 Operations (NATO) and Chief Exercise and Plan Section, G3 Operations (NATO). Rando served as the NATO Engineer Liaison Officer with USAG Vicenza since 1999.



Photo by Julie M. Lucas

Sports shorts

Softball Officials Clinic

April 3-6 can give you the skills to become a certified umpire, score keeper or timer. Sports needs you and you can earn some extra cash officiating during the season. Call 634-7009 for additional information.

Yoga weekend

Anyone interested in yoga will want to be a part of Neesha Zollinger's European tour here in Vicenza April 14-15. She weaves meaningful themes into her teachings that touch the heart, mind and body. With Neesha's guidance, you'll take your yoga practice to exciting new levels, inspired by her celestial energy and wisdom that is sprinkled with playfulness, and passion. Neesha studied for eleven years with Anusara's founder John Friend, travels the globe teaching and is widely known for her classes on Yogatoday.com. Cost for the entire weekend is \$150 or you can choose one day only for \$85. Call 634-7453 for more information.

Pre-natal swim class

Pre-natal Swim Class is a safe way to exercise during pregnancy. Swimming skills are not required. Classes are on Wednesdays or Fridays. Each session will run for eight weeks. For more info call 634-6536.

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 or call 636-9648/9120/9632.

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.

Women's basketball

Women's basketball practice held Sundays from 4-5 p.m. at the post gym. All female community members welcome to attend. Focus is on fun and having a great workout. POC: Julia.sibilla@us.army.mil.



Photos by Julie M. Lucas

Skateboard class: Vicenza youths work on decorating skateboards during the EDGE! class at the Arts & Crafts center.



Photos courtesy of CEFD

Rope training: Firefighters with the Caserma Ederle Fire Department trained March 7 at the jump tower on rope rescues. The training is a re-occurring proficiency training where they practice scenarios on how to rescue potential victims.

