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# U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza welcomes Daiga

USAG Vicenza Public Affairs  
Press Release

Col. Erik Daiga took command of the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza in a ceremony on Caserma Ederle Aug. 12.

Daiga enlisted in the Army in 1984 from Palmyra, Penn., and served in the 82nd Airborne Division before being selected for Officer Candidate School.

His overseas tours include assignments in Korea, Germany, Bosnia, Kosovo and Kuwait. As a native Latvian speaker, he also served as a U.S. military liaison officer to the Republic of Latvia.

Daiga joined the Army Installation Management Agency team in 2003. He comes to Vicenza from Washington, D.C., where he served as a strategic plans officer for the assistant chief of staff, Installation Management Command.

The outgoing commander, Col. Virgil S.L. Williams departed for Washington, D.C. for his new assignment at the Pentagon as chief, Program Integration Division, Resource Integration, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management Agency.

"A natural coalition and consensus builder, Col. Williams quickly earned the trust and confidence of SETAF, the (173d ABCT) brigade, Italian Army leaders, Carabinieri, provincial and municipal leaders, supporting commands and the many agencies that combine to support Soldiers and families here in



IMCOM Europe Director, Diane Devens, passes the USAG Vicenza guidon to incoming garrison commander Col. Erik Daiga during the change of command ceremony held Aug. 12 on Hoekstra Field. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

northern Italy," said IMCOM Europe director Diane Devens in her remarks during the ceremony. As the presiding commander, Devens passed the garrison guidon from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander.

Devens praised Williams for providing "a backbone of support for the family and for the war fighter - by standing up the infrastructure to support a 36-room Warrior in Transition Unit and Soldier and Family Assistance Center in record time; by fully implementing the Army Family Covenant to improve programs and services to the community; and, by working to help the 173d (ABCT) deploy almost 2,000 Soldiers and more than four hundred tons of equipment" to Afghanistan efficiently and safely.



(Above) Col. Erik Daiga, USAG Vicenza commander, addresses the crowd during the change of command ceremony Aug. 12. Daiga took command of the garrison from Col. Virgil Williams, who left for a new assignment in Washington, D.C.

## 3/405th AFSB supports USAID humanitarian mission

**By Jennifer King**  
405th Army Field Support  
Brigade Public Affairs

The 3rd Battalion of the 405th Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB), headquartered at

Leghorn Army Depot on Camp Darby answered an urgent call from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to prepare humanitarian supplies for shipment to Tbilisi, the capital of

the Republic of Georgia.

Upon request from USAID, the battalion prepared 2,256 hygiene kits and 4,000 wool blankets for immediate distribution to the crisis region. The 3/405th AFSB is responsible for the storage and maintenance of USAID humanitarian supplies under an interagency agreement between the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Army.

Col. Jack Haley, the commander of the 405th AFSB, commented on the battalion's responsiveness in support of the crisis in the Republic of Georgia. "Our battalion in Italy can quickly support missions on a far reaching international scale and assist people in need thousands of miles away," he said.

The Camp Darby Italian base commander Col. Raffaele Iubini

added that support to humanitarian aid missions is one of the most important and far reaching missions for Camp Darby.

"We have the ability to respond rapidly due to the excellent infrastructure and coordination between U.S. and Italian military structures, and that makes a huge difference for those waiting on the aid," Iubini said.

The humanitarian supplies departed Italy via a U.S. European Command airlift on Aug. 18.

According to the USAID website, United Nations agencies estimate that up to 70,000 people are displaced within the Republic of Georgia and as many as 30,000 people may be displaced in Russia.



An Italian employee of the 3rd Battalion of the 405th Army Field Support Brigade helps load an 18-wheeler full of USAID wool blankets destined for Georgia as part of a USAID humanitarian assistance relief effort. (Photo by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs)



## Suicide Prevention: Speak up so others don't act out

By **Chuck Roberts**

*Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Public Affairs*

A canoe plummets over a waterfall and crashes into boulders below.

Moments earlier, as it nears the precipice, a bystander almost yells out a warning but assumes the canoeist is in control of the situation and remains quiet. Prior to that, several hikers watch the same person paddling obliviously past numerous signs indicating rough water ahead.

As in the scenario above, speaking up and intervening early can save the life of a friend, colleague or loved one contemplating suicide, said Maj. (Dr.) David Reynolds, Chief of Clinical Health Psychology at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

"It belongs to everyone," the Air Force psychologist said of responsibility to intervene. "If you're concerned someone you know is contemplating suicide, don't keep silent."

Intervention is critical, Reynolds said, because it can help change the perception of a person contemplating suicide who thinks of taking his life as a long-term solution to what may be only a short-term problem. The vast majority of people don't commit suicide because they want to kill themselves, he said, but as a way to end the torment of not being able to cope with their problem.

Common problems include separation, disabling physical conditions, alcohol abuse, feared legal repercussions, emotional rejection or any overwhelming situation people feel they can't escape from.

"It can rock your world," Reynolds said of the emotional impact some face as the gulf widens between reality and their belief in how things should be happening. As an example, he cited the case of a young Airman who was seriously distraught because he had not become the millionaire he'd envisioned himself by his mid-20s.

Signs or symptoms of someone contemplating suicide can include withdrawal from society, giving away personal belongings or actions as obvious as saying final goodbyes. In one blatant incident, an Airman kept a book about how to conduct suicide in full view of her colleagues. No one came forward and the young Airman ultimately committed suicide.

There was a time when people hesitated broaching the subject of suicide for fear of placing the thought in their mind. But if you have enough suspicion and concern to think about approaching the subject with someone,

Reynolds said it's almost certain the idea has already been contemplated.

When confronting someone, Reynolds said consideration should be placed on "how" or "what" to ask. A direct question such as, "Are you thinking about committing suicide?" may draw a negative response. A more meaningful response might be elicited by phrasing the question in a different way, such as "Are you thinking of hurting yourself?" or "When was the last time you thought about committing suicide?"

If someone indicates they are contemplating suicide, you should help ensure they receive counseling. But at any level of care from friends or healthcare professionals, Reynolds said the key is attempting to find out what the problem is and helping them see there are alternatives other than suicide and help them see beyond the immediacy of their problem.

That was the case with one suicide victim who, upon receiving the news he had prostate cancer, acted on his immediate reaction to end his life. If he had taken the time and opportunity to speak with a healthcare professional, Reynolds said his outlook might have changed given the knowledge that recent medical history points to the disease as treatable and curable in many cases.

But someone who is suicidal often sees problems with tunnel vision and visualizes their problems as worse

than others. The magic question Reynolds said you want to help them answer is: "What is the one thing that would make life better so you wouldn't feel the need to commit suicide?"

For example, if a relationship suddenly ends while someone is deployed, the servicemember may be convinced they've lost the only person they'll ever love again. A friend can point out countless others have been through the same experience and have gone on to discover love again.

And once someone is identified and receiving treatment, Reynolds noted the importance in keeping track of how they're getting along and remaining aware of how their problem is being resolved.

The good news about suicide prevention is that it works, said Reynolds, noting that suicide rates among servicemembers are statistically less than their civilian counterparts.

For more information about suicide prevention, visit: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org) Army Behavioral Health [www.behavioralhealth.army.mil/sprevention/index.html](http://www.behavioralhealth.army.mil/sprevention/index.html)

Suicide Prevention Resource Center [www.sprc.org/library/event\\_kit/index.asp#gen\\_info\\_factsheets](http://www.sprc.org/library/event_kit/index.asp#gen_info_factsheets)

### Check ATMs for tampering prior to use



The USAG Vicenza Office of the Provost Marshal and US Embassy in Rome have reported an increase in tampering with ATMs in the Vicenza and Rome.

Theives have reportedly installed false card swipers and keypads that allow thieves to steal the bankcard and pin numbers of persons using the machines.

The provost marshal's office encourages community members to be cautious when using ATM machines off post or use on-post ATMs to get money prior to heading off post.

### Speak Out

What do you think will be your toughest subject this year?

By Outlook Summer Staff



Sophomore Junior Vimoto  
15 years old

Spanish II because I can't speak Spanish.



Freshman Courtney Anderson  
13 years old

Honors English, because all the work.



Sophomore Dahvien Dean  
15 years old

History because I am not good with dates



7th Grader Nikita Andriolo  
12 years old

History, because it's always hard for me.



Freshman Ebony Tyson  
14 years old

I hate math, so Algebra is going to be hard because I make careless mistakes.



## Safety officers

### Keeping organizations hazard free

By Chris Sheets

USAG Vicenza Safety Office

Many people equate safety and occupational health with the presence of an ergonomic keyboard or one person in their organization periodically reminding them to wear the appropriate personal protective equipment or completing a risk assessment before starting a project.

As part of the Army's safety and health program structure, Army civilians can be appointed as collateral duty safety officers to perform required safety and accident prevention functions in Army units, industrial, and administrative activities.

Individuals assigned this additional duty are carefully selected from within the organizations by commanders and directors and are dedicated to keeping their organizations safe in addition to their regular duties.



Gianni Rigon

Safety Officer, Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity, USAG Vicenza Directorate of Logistics

"I work through our 14 shops [in IMMA] ensuring safety operations," said Rigon.

"Mr. Rigon is the reason our maintenance repair facility is the safest in Italy," said George Schmidt, chief, Maintenance Division, DOL, and Rigon's supervisor. "His attention to detail and concern and care for the Soldiers and civilians is always first. His recent project to ensure our cranes were safe, which was inspected by the Italian government inspectors went superbly. He prepares and revises relevant safety instructions and provides technical safety training to supervisors and employees."

## The Outlook

Aug. 21, 2008 Vol. 41, Issue 32

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*The Outlook* is an unofficial publication authorized and provided by AR 360-1.

All editorial content of *The Outlook* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Public Affairs Office in building 3, room 101 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. Telephone DSN 634-7000, off post at 0444-71-7000 or e-mail: editor@eur.army.mil

*The Outlook* is published weekly by the USAG Vicenza PAO, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO AE 09630. It is printed by Centro Stampa Editoriale SRL, Grisignano (VI) 0444-414-303.

Editorial publication is an authorized section for members of the U.S. Army overseas.

Contents of *The Outlook* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Command-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force.

**Submissions:** Send all submissions for publication to [editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil). Submissions should be made via e-mail and must be received by Monday at noon for that week's publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for style, brevity and clarity. Circulation is 2,500 per week.

## Evaluations a shared responsibility

By Capt. Chris Petree  
SETAF Inspector General

### NCOER OER

The U.S. Army uses two types of evaluation reports to measure an individual's performance and potential. Noncommissioned Officers are assessed on the DA Form 2166-8 – Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Report, while commissioned and warrant officers are assessed on DA Form 67-8-1 – Officer Evaluation Report. Completing and submitting evaluation reports according to Army Regulation 623-3 are critical to career progression, promotions and selection for special duty assignments.

The Inspector General's Office has seen an increase in the number of complaints and concerns on late NCOER and OER submissions. Our office has conducted numerous inquiries into the reasons why NCOER's and OER's are not processed on time.

We discovered that the two main factors are: units not having a rating scheme posted and not having a mechanism in place to track when evaluation reports are due.

AR 623-3 states, commanders

at all levels will ensure that official rating schemes are published by duty position and posted in the unit so all Soldiers are familiar with their rating chain. A copy of the rating scheme is also made available to each rated officer/NCO and rating official. Rating chains are established by the commander and maintained by rating officials to provide the best evaluation of an individual Soldier's performance and potential. You can find the general rules for establishing rating chains in AR 623-3 paragraph 2-4 and table 2-2.

Another reason completed evaluation reports tend to be late to Human Resources Command is because tracking mechanisms are not in place at the company level. We recommend establishing and maintaining a tracking mechanism, i.e. an excel spreadsheet with items such as the dates of last evaluation, dates of next evaluation, date to rater, date to immediate rater, date to

senior rater and date to HRC. Keep in mind that anytime a rated Soldier is placed in a duty position for longer than 90 days and then changes duty, a change-of-rater evaluation report must be submitted if the rater meets the qualifications outlined in AR 623-3. Also, if the rater is moved to a new duty position a COR evaluation report will be completed on all rated individuals under his or her supervision.

There are many layers of management and responsibilities in the U.S. Army evaluation system. It is not only the commanders and first sergeants responsibility to track evaluations, but the onus is also on the rated individual. We all have an individual responsibility to help guide our careers, and ensuring our evaluation is completed, signed, and submitted to HRC on time is essential for career progression. It is your report card and you, your rater, and senior rater all have a shared responsibility to complete the OER / NCOER. It is all about taking care of Soldiers.

For more information, visit the combined SETAF and USAG Vicenza Inspector General Office, bldg 33 or call 634-8555.

## At your service



Tom Davis, Lt. Col. Paul Bishop, Master Sgt. George Hunter and Capt. Chris Petree

**Organization:** Community Inspector General's Office

**What do you do for the community:** Today's Army Inspector General – like the Army IG of the past – is an extension of the commander's eyes, ears, voice, and conscience. The IG determines the state of discipline, efficiency, economy, morale, and readiness of the community as directed by the Commander.

For nearly 230 years, IGs have served their commanders and communities by assisting, investigating, inspecting, teaching and training, and sometimes auditing. The assistance function is the process of receiving, inquiring into, and responding to complaints, requests for information, and requests for help presented to our office.

We emphasize that the IG is not a replacement for your chain of command. Your chain of command should be able to fix your issue prior to elevating it to the IG.

The IG is located in building 33, around the corner from the dental clinic.

The office hours are 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

You can also call to schedule an appointment at 634-8555 or off post at 0444-71-8555.



# Back to School news for Vicenza

*From the principals' desk:*

## Vicenza Elementary opens doors Aug. 28

Dear Vicenza Elementary School students, parents and community members:

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to another year of exciting learning adventures at Vicenza Elementary School.

The VES staff and administration look forward to a challenging and rewarding year for each student.

Whether we are in pre-deployment, deployment, or reintegration, please know that we are here to support our children, the families, and the USA G - Vicenza community. We know that children thrive best when they feel they are in a safe and stable environment; therefore, we always strive to keep routines, schedules, and activities as normal as possible. We have two counselors within the school, a school psychologist, nurse and a Crisis Team.

Please make sure that the office and the teachers have updated phone numbers for both you and your emergency contacts at all times.

Should you have concerns, let us know right away so that we can select the best resources for assisting you.

This year, we welcome a new assistant principal to VES - Dr. Lorena Reinhardt. She comes from Germany where

she worked as teacher and administrator in DoDDS elementary and high schools.

Due to renovation projects, school begins Aug. 28 for 1st-6th grades and kindergarten begins Sept. 5.

The first day of Sure Start will be announced to those parents when they are notified of selection.

Class lists will be posted at the post office and the School Liaison Office located in Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center Aug. 26 after 4 p.m.

Lists will also be sent to the School Liaison Officer in Ghedi, who will notify those parents.

Based on an in-depth review of school data, our staff has selected two specific goals to target for school improvement and

student success: written communication in all curricular areas, and mathematical reasoning. The School Improvement Process/Plan is a key component of school life, so we ask parents to please consider serving on a School Improvement Team as a parent representative.

Together, we can provide the best learning environment for your children. We welcome parent and community involvement in the school and hope you will join us as a volunteer as often as possible.



**Martha Parsons**  
Vicenza Elementary School principal

## Welcome Vicenza Middle, High School students

Parents, students, teachers and staff, welcome to Vicenza Middle and High School:

I am very excited about joining an excellent team of teachers, staff, administrators and the community of Vicenza. I want to share some of the wonderful news I know about Vicenza Middle and High School.

High student achievement is the number one priority with the educators at our school. Terra Nova scores for our students excel above the average of students in the United States.

The students in our Advanced Placement classes are challenged with rigorous learning, so that they can achieve success on the exams. Vicenza M/H School has a model Advancement via Individual Determination program that is used as an example of best practices for all students in the Mediterranean district. These are just a few of the excellent opportunities Vicenza M/H School offers students.

It is important that students become involved in their high school. It is the students' pride and spirit that makes Vicenza middle and high school the

winning team in the classroom and on the playing field. Our high school student council is the voice for the students. They have planned the welcome assemblies for both the middle and the high school students.

I want to extend the voice to the parents and members of the Vicenza community. The administrative team has an "open-door" policy at Vicenza M/H School. Stop by the school, so that we may discuss the academic success and achievements of our students. Parents need to be involved in their student's academic and extra curricular experiences. The first

two opportunities for parents to meet with teachers and administration and to see what our school has to offer is at the open house. VMS parent meeting is Aug. 28 from 5-6 p.m., place to be determined. VHS holds its open house Sept. 4 from 5-6 p.m. in the high school gym.

Students, as you return from your summer vacation ready to learn, I challenge you to the following: (1) Show enthusiasm for learning and success will occur, (2) Have pride in yourself and your school and (3) Be a Cougar – have spirit – get involved. See you Aug. 25.

**COUGARS RULE!**



**Lauri Kenney**  
Vicenza Middle, High School principal

## Calendar for Vicenza Schools

Aug. 25: School begins for Vicenza Middle, High school students

Aug. 28: Vicenza Elementary School grades 1 – 6 begin, orientation for kindergarten students at 1 p.m.

Aug. 28: Vicenza Middle School parent meeting, 5-6 p.m. Place to be determined, contact school.

Sept. 1: No school, Labor Day

Sept. 4: Middle, High school open house, 5-6 p.m. in VHS gym.

Sept. 5: First day of school for kindergarten students

Sept. 12: First day for Sure Start

Sept. 16: Elementary school open house, Ederle Theater, 4 – 6 p.m.

Sept. 30-Oct. 3: Elementary school student photos

Oct. 10: No School

Oct. 13: No school, Columbus Day

Oct. 31: No school, teacher work day

Nov. 6-7: Elementary school parent-teacher conferences

Nov. 7: Middle, High school parent-teacher conferences

Nov. 11: No school, Veteran's Day

Nov. 27-28: No school,

Thanksgiving break

Dec. 8: Early dismissal

Dec. 22: Begin winter recess

Jan. 5, 2009: Instruction resumes

Jan. 19: No school, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 23: No school, teacher work day

Feb. 13: No school

Feb. 16: No school, President's Day

March 5: Early release

April 3: No school, teacher work day

April 6-10: Spring Recess

April 16-17: Elementary School portfolio conferences

April 17: Middle, High School conferences, registration begins

April 24: Early release

May 24: No school, Memorial Day

June 11: Last day of school



## Garrison commander greets school staff

Col. Erik Daiga, USAG Vicenza garrison commander, speaks to the Vicenza military schools staff Wednesday morning at the school. Many of the educators have been gone since the garrison changed commanders and this was their first meeting with Daiga. (Photo supplied by Norie McCall, School Liaison officer)

## School Briefs

### Bright Eyes program

The Bright Eyes Program provides reimbursement for eyeglasses to children who are currently enrolled or qualify to participate in the USDA School Lunch Program. For those children who need eyeglasses, once eligibility has been verified, you will be issued a check for \$100 to defray the cost of eyeglasses. The check will be issued upon receipt of proof of purchase.

Bright Eyes is supported by funds generated by the Vicenza Community Club through their fund raising activities. All information is confidential. This is truly a cost-saving program for qualifying families.

Call the Schools Liaison Office at 634-5998 for details.

### What is S2S?

Believing that transitioning does not have to be difficult, just different, S2S or Student-2-Student is a unique student-led, school-managed program that confronts the challenges of transition and provides relevant training that gives students the best possible transition experience.

For the incoming students the team provides a forum for students to quickly feel welcome, comfortable, included and accepted into their new school community.

S2S is a powerful program designed to help change a transitioning student's focal point from what the student has lost to what the student will gain through the relocation. S2S guides students through their uncertain surroundings.

S2S is presented by the Military Child Education Coalition. For details about the S2S program, contact the Vicenza High School counselor at 634-7656 or the School Liaison officer at 634-5998.

### Free, reduced school lunch program

The Department of Defense provides meals to eligible students under the National School Lunch Program. The purpose of the program is to provide a nutritious lunch free of charge or at a reduced cost to eligible students. To find out if your child is eligible to receive reduced-price or free lunch at school, pick up an application at the School Liaison Office, room 42, Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center, bldg 108, or at the school.

For details call the School Liaison Office at 634-5998.



## Small Livorno fitness center wins big

By Sasha Sibilla  
Outlook Volunteer

USAG Livorno has been awarded the IMCOM Europe-level best small European sports, fitness and aquatics center.

The award was no surprise to Sports and Fitness Director Jimmy Roddy who acknowledged the challenge of running a fitness center for such a small community and

attributes his success to offering nontraditional activities and to his dedicated and innovated staff.

"I have a great team of men and women who have helped provide the Livorno community with a full range of team and individual sports and fitness programs based upon interest, available resources, facilities and climate," said Roddy.

One the newest programs,

the Biggest Loser competition, helped the community to see who could lose the most body fat in a safe and healthy manner, said Roddy. The eight-week program helped competitors lose weight by learning techniques and incorporating health lifestyles into their daily routine.

Current services offered to the Darby community include: massage, Yoga, aerobics, muscle conditioning and spinning classes.

"Services we are looking to offer in the near future include manicures, pedicure and Turbo Kick," he said. For details on activities offered by the USAG Livorno fitness center, call 633-7440.



USAG Livorno held its first Health Fair earlier this summer. Lisa Bowersox (left) takes a body fat measurement of a patron and said it was awesome to see the community come out and take advantage of the event. Booths included financial, physical and mental health education information by community experts. (USAG Livorno file photo)

## Darby aates

### Oriental dance class

This free class is held Wednesdays from noon-1 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Call ACS at 633-7084 for more information.

### Camp Darby ITR

Call ITR at 633-7589 or 050-54-7589 for details and reservations on the following upcoming trips:

Cinque Terre - Aug. 23, cost \$39 for adults and \$34 for children; and

Acqua Village Trip - Aug. 30, cost \$20 for adults \$15 for children.

### Upcoming at ACS

Call Army Community Service at 633-7084 for more information on these events:

**Single Airman/Soldier meal** - Aug. 26. Stop by, pick up a plate or eat in. RSVP at 633-7084.

**Account Repairs Before PCS'ing** - Aug. 28 11:30 a.m.-noon. Come and learn how to read a credit report and obtain a copy of your own.

**Resume Points** - Aug. 29 11:30 a.m.-noon. Learn how to make yourself attractive on paper.

**Teaching money-handling skills to children** - Sept. 9 from 10:30-11 a.m. Be a proactive parent and learn tips to help your children make good financial choices.

**Fourth Quarter Volunteer Action Council** - Sept. 10 at 10:30 a.m. This class is for all individuals who oversee volunteers on Camp Darby.

### Community Club

Texas Hold'em once-a-month tournament Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. Call the Darby Community Club at 633-7855 for details.

### City sightseeing tickets

Discover the wealth of history of Italian cities onboard the "Hop On - Hop Off" buses available in Rome, Florence and Pisa.

Get on and off as often as you want for the entire day.

Discover the lovely cities of Pisa, Florence and Rome at discounted prices for savings up to \$3.67 per person.

For details or to make a reservation, call ITR at 633-7589/8231 or 050-54-7589/8231.



## Darby worker honored for 45 years of service to garrison

Brig. Gen. William Garrett III, SETAF commander, presents Graziella Tognotti a plaque for 45 years of service. Tognotti started working on Camp Darby for the Corp of Engineers and is currently the U.S. Army Garrison Livorno command branch administrative assistant. Lt. Col. Steven Cade, commander USAG Livorno, said Tognotti's selfless service sets a fine example of dedication, professionalism and loyalty to not only the garrison, but also to all other Italian employees on Camp Darby. (Photo by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs)

### From the principal

## Livorno Unit School opens doors

Welcome to Livorno Unit School

The staff of Livorno Unit School and I extend a heartfelt and warm welcome as partners and stakeholders of our wonderful school.

Together, we will provide a positive and productive community where students, parents and staff develop and implement a rigorous educational program.

It is our mission to work together in order to prepare our students, our future leaders, for a future in our ever-changing and demanding world.

It is our belief that as long as the school and home work together, we will be able to provide a rigorous educational experience for every child.

I invite each and every parent into the school. Your presence is an affirmation of your commitment to your student and it sends the most positive message your child can receive. Your involvement in the school proclaims the importance of Livorno Unit School.

Ways to become involved in the school include volunteering

in your child's classroom, serving as a mentor to a student in need, joining the Parent Teacher Association, or being involved in the School Advisory Committee.

Livorno Unit School is fortunate to have a dynamic staff with multiple areas of certification, experience and expertise.

From multi-age instruction throughout all grades to wonderful technology integrated lessons in our classrooms, including Art, Music, and the Information Center, our school is an awesome center for learning.

We are fortunate to have a smartboard in almost every classroom.

Classrooms that do not have one have the ability to interact with one in our media center.

We constantly seek out ways to provide a pleasant, safe, meaningful and stimulating educational environment for our students. If you have recommendations or suggestions please let me know.

Together, we will make this school year a wonderful occasion at Livorno Unit School.



Denise Webster  
Livorno Unit School principal

## Livorno Unit School calendar 2008-09

Aug. 22: Partnership Day 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Aug. 25: School begins for Grades 2-8

Sept. 1: Labor Day - Federal Holiday

Sept. 2: Kindergarten and Grade 1 begin

Sept. 26: Teacher In-service - No School for Students

Oct. 10: Teacher In-service Early Release 11a.m.

Oct. 13: Columbus Day - Federal Holiday

Oct. 31: No school for students - Teacher work day

Nov. 6 & 7: Parent-Teacher conferences

Nov. 10: Teacher In-service, Early release at 11a.m.

Nov. 11: Federal Holiday (Veterans Day)

Nov. 27: Thanksgiving - Federal Holiday

Nov. 28: Friday - Recess Day

Dec. 22: Begin Winter Recess

Jan. 5: Instruction Resumes

Jan. 16: Teacher In-service, early release 11a.m.

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Federal Holiday

Jan. 23: No school for students - Teacher Work Day

Feb. 13: Teacher In-service, Early Release 11a.m.

Feb. 16: Presidents' Day - Federal Holiday

March 13: Teacher In-service, Early Release 11 a.m.

April 3: No school for students - Teacher Work Day

April 6; Begin Spring recess

April 13: Instruction resumes

April 18: Parent-Teacher conferences

May 25: Memorial Day, No school

May 22: Teacher In-service, Early Release 11 a.m.

June 11: School ends



## Regata Storica



The parade of decorated gondolas viewed from the *Ponte dell'Accademia*, Accademia Bridge. The parade commemorates the Venetian Republic's glorious past.

### A historic Venetian event not to be missed

Story and photos by Laura Kreider  
Outlook Staff

Venice is renowned for its traditional feasts held and celebrated on the water. The *Regata Storica*, historical boat race, is one of these events that mixes a colorful tradition with sport.

There are many theories about the regatta's origin. According to one, it started because the city needed to train youths in the art of rowing, which was considered one of the necessary skills of Venetian life.

The *Regata Storica* takes place the first Sunday afternoon of September, this year on Sept. 7. Four races are preceded by a historical cortege of decorated boats with crews wearing traditional costumes.

This procession is reminiscent of 16th century festivals when the *Serenissima*, Republic of Venice, welcomed kings and queens – the most magnificent one organized in 1489 to celebrate the arrival in Venice of Caterina Cornaro, Queen of Cyprus.

The four races are named for the types of boats used: the *pupparini*, for youth ages 14-18 years old in two-man boats; the *mascarete*, an all women's race; the *caorline*, a men's race in six-man boats; and the *gondolini*, the rowing champions race.

Both the procession and the four *regattas*, races, start in the afternoon near the eastern part of the city by the *Castello* Public Gardens and end in front of *Ca' Foscari* University where the Grand Canal curves in the direction of the *Rialto* Bridge. A floating *loggia* where dignitaries sit marks the finish line.

Arrive early to stake out a good-viewing spot along the route. For more information on this event and more, visit Venice's city Web site at [www.comune.venezia.it](http://www.comune.venezia.it), also in English.



A close up of one of the decorated *bissone*, eight-oared gondolas. These boats parade down the Grand Canal before *La Dogaressa*, where two people wearing costumes sit representing the Doge and the Queen of Cyprus, Caterina Cornaro. According to tradition, the most magnificent regatta welcomed her arrival to Venice in 1489.

#### Venice's water buses

Venice's water buses are called *vaporetto*. They are the public transportation for Venice, taking visitors on the main canals, to the islands and around the lagoon. Although often crowded, they are by far the least expensive way to get around, other than walking.

The single-trip *vaporetto* fare is 6.50 euro and is good for one hour from the time it's stamped. If you plan to spend a few days in Venice, it may be more economical to buy a travelcard, which is purchased at any *vaporetto* ticket office.

Travelcards are good for both water and land transport in the Venice area, land services on the Lido and in Mestre. Prices range from 14-31 euro depending on the number of days. For more details visit [www.actv.it](http://www.actv.it), also in English.

## Ride in a beautiful balloon

### Hot air balloon rides

Fly above the mountains of the Aosta Valley in a hot air balloon. The Aosta Valley is situated in the Northwest of Italy, close to Switzerland and France. On the ride you can see the highest mountains in Europe – Monte Bianco, Monte Rosa and the Gran Paradiso. The rides take off every morning, weather permitting, around 6:30-7 a.m. with an altitude of 2-3,000 meters depending on the weather. Cost is around 180 euro per person, with a minimum of two people per ride.

Other flights include a VIP flight for two passengers plus pilot for 460 euro which includes cheers and fireworks. Information is available by e-mail at [info@mongolfiere.it](mailto:info@mongolfiere.it) or visit the web site [www.mongolfiere.it](http://www.mongolfiere.it).

### Upcoming concerts

Stevie Wonder in Milan- Sept. 26; Coldplay in Bologna-Sept. 29 and Milan-Sept. 30; Joan Baez in Milan-Oct. 11; Leonard Cohen in Milan-Oct. 23; Burt Bacharach in Milan-Oct.26; in Florence-Oct. 27 and in Rome-Oct. 28; Liza Minnelli in Milan-Nov. 14; Morbid Angel in Milan-Dec. 9 and Padova-Dec. 11. Tickets are available from your local box office or online at [www.vivaticket.it](http://www.vivaticket.it).

### Events and news

Note in your diary that Sept. 19-21 in *Piazza dei Signori*, downtown Vicenza, food booths will be set up offering the very best of food items from the Veneto region.

Tickets on sale for 'Winx on Ice,' the beautiful fairies of cartoon, created by Iginio Straffi, will become human and this time on an ice-skating rink.

The nearest performance to Vicenza will be in Padova Dec. 13 and 14. Find information and tickets on [www.vivaticket.it](http://www.vivaticket.it).

The human chess game will take place Sept. 12- 14 in Marostica. Find information and tickets at [www.marosticascacchi.it](http://www.marosticascacchi.it).

The 31st craft exhibition will be held in Palazzo Baggio, Marostica until Sept. 14. Open: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays it's open until 10 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

Police will be fining people caught throwing cigarette ends on the ground in *Prato della Valle* in Padova.

There are also heavy fines for anyone buying merchandise from illegal vendors on the beach, markets and street corners. These are those vendors who sell items off sheets placed on the ground.

### Road race

A road race will take place Sept. 14. The race begins in *Piazza Bra*, Verona and ends in Boscochiesanuova, a total of 32 km. Starting time is 9 a.m. Entrance fee is 20 euro and open to all who reach the age of 18 before the date of Oct. 5. The race is entirely on asphalt. Sign up a KM Sport stores in Bussolengo, Zane, S. Martino B.A., Verona or for more details, call Huseyin Kara at 340-819-5825.

## Now Showing

### Ederle Theater

Aug 21	You don't mess with the Zohan (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Aug 22	Get Smart (PG-13)	6 p.m.
	Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)	9 p.m.
Aug 23	Kung Fu Panda (PG)	3 p.m.
	Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)	6 p.m.
Aug 24	Kung Fu Panda (PG)	3 p.m.
	Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)	6 p.m.
Aug 27	Get Smart (PG-13)	6 p.m.

### Camp Darby Theater

Aug 22	Kung Fu Panda (PG)	6 p.m.
Aug 23	Swing Vote (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Aug 24	Kung Fu Panda (PG)	2 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and over \$4, under age 12, \$2.

The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Looking for the movie synopsis? Check out the AAFES Web site: [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Movie Schedule.

Looking to buy or sell items? Check out MWR's Marketplace at [www.mwrmarketplace.com](http://www.mwrmarketplace.com).



## Soggiorno office hours

Due to a shortage of personnel, the Soggiorno office customer service hours are Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Phone calls to 634-7165 will be taken daily from 1-4 p.m. The office is closed on Italian holidays. In order to resolve minor issues and receive additional information e-mail your questions to Liliana Poloni or Umberto Franceschini at [Liliana.Poloni@eur.army.mil](mailto:Liliana.Poloni@eur.army.mil) or [Umberto.Franceschini@eur.army.mil](mailto:Umberto.Franceschini@eur.army.mil). The Soggiorno office is located in the Central Processing Facility.

## Chapel retreats offered

Come learn "How to not marry a jerk!" Aug. 26-28 when the USAG Vicenza Religious Services office holds a Single Soldier retreat at the Edelweiss Resort in Garmisch.

Sept. 7-9 the USAG Vicenza Religious Support Office will hold a Couples Retreat at the Edelweiss Resort in Garmisch. This event is for military couples and childwatch will be provided. Space is limited so contact the Garrison Chaplains office at 634-7519 to register.

## ACAP, VA benefits

A Job assistance workshop (spouses welcome to attend) is Sept. 9-11: Learn how to write effective resumes, dress for success, interview with confidence and get the career you want.

Veterans Administration benefits briefings are Sept. 4 and 26. General benefits briefing from 8:30 a.m.-noon and a Disability Transition Assistance program briefing from 1-3 p.m.

Call the Vicenza ACAP Center at 634-7189/7188 or visit <https://www.acapexpress.army.mil> for information/appointment.

## Health Center closure

The Vicenza Health Center will be closed Aug. 22 and 29 for training holidays and Sept. 1 for Labor Day.

The health center will continue to conduct medical services Aug. 23 and 30 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Also available is the advice line at 800-877-660 for questions related to health. The call is free of charge.

## Central Texas College

Registration deadline for iPod Microsoft, A+ and Network training is Sept. 5. Stop by the education center, call 634-6514 or e-mail [vicenza@europe.ctcd.edu](mailto:vicenza@europe.ctcd.edu) for more information on CTC's offerings.

## MBA program

Due to block leave, University of Phoenix is rescheduling the start date for the on-site Master of



## Auto Skills Center for basic to advanced mechanics

Spc. Ralph Keller and Jared Rulland balance Keller's tire at the Auto Skills Center. The center is located in bldg. 44, near the Fire Station, and open Monday-Friday from noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 634-7014 for more information. (Photo by Jasmine Perry, Outlook Summer Hire)

## Mounting License Plates

The Directorate of Logistics is no longer mounting license plates. Community members have three options: mount the plates on your own; make an appointment at AAFES Care Care by calling 634-7368; or visit MWR Auto Skills 634-7014. Call for information and pricing.

Business Administration. The first class is now scheduled to start in late September. Registration is now open. The deadline to register is Sept. 1.

For details, e-mail Ana LaForgia at [ana.laforgia@phoenix.edu](mailto:ana.laforgia@phoenix.edu) or call 634-8928.

## Adult dance classes

Adult dance classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays Aug. 26 Oct. 2 from 5:15-6:15 p.m. on stage at Soldiers' Theatre.

Cost is \$7 per class session. Beginners on Tuesdays and Advanced on Thursdays.

Call 634-7281 for more information.

## Club V entertainment

Aug. 23, Texas Hold 'em Tournament, 8 p.m. in Club V. Cash prize for the top three players. Cost is \$20. Sign-up begins at 5 p.m.

Every Monday at 8 p.m. it's

Game Night at Club V.

Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. it's Movie Night at Club V.

Every Thursday at 8 p.m. is Country Night and every other week, ride the mechanical bull at Club V.

Call 634-7685 for details.

## USO happenings

Back to School Bash will take place Aug. 23 from 1-3 p.m. in the USO parking lot.

There will be food, give-aways, a live band, the dunk tank and more.

Labor Day Give-a-way - There will be a give-a-way of two tickets each to five winners who can Name that Tune on AFN.

Tickets are for Gardaland, Aqua Paradise and Movieland Studios. Listen to AFN 106FM The Eagle for details.

The USO is also looking for volunteers. Stop by the USO, located in bldg 109 for details.

## ITR Trips

Aug. 30: Pisa and the Pinocchio Park - A guided tour of Pinocchio Park, then head to Pisa for free time to explore, dine and shop.

Aug. 31: Ca' Bruzzo Champagne Brunch - Enjoy a typical Sunday brunch but at an Italian vineyard. Experience wine tasting, music and art with an opportunity to purchase.

Aug. 31: Nice and Monte Carlo - An opportunity of free time to explore, dine and shop in Nice and Monte Carlo.

Sept. 1: Rimini Beach day - Enjoy an afternoon full of fun in sun and sand, then watch the sun set over the sea at Rimini Beach.

Stop by ITR for details or call 634-7094.

## BOSS calendar

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Summer Scene events calendar is online at [www.vicenzamwr.com](http://www.vicenzamwr.com).

## Religious activities

### Caserma Ederle Chapel

Call the chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for details on post religious activities.

### Chaplain Crisis Line:

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

### Saturday services

4 p.m.: Sacrament of Reconciliation, or by appointment.

5 p.m.: Vigil Mass

### Sunday Services

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass

9 a.m.: Protestant Sunday school and AWANAs (Sept. through May in Vicenza High School)

10:45 a.m.: Catholic religious education (Sept.-May in Vicenza High School)

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship

4 p.m.: Lutheran worship

6 p.m.: Contemporary Christian worship

### Monday

Noon: Weekday Mass

Noon: LDS Scripture Study

3:05 p.m.: Middle School Club in the high school cafeteria. (Sept.-May)

5:30 p.m.: High School Club in the Teen Center. (Sept.-May)

For details contact Jocelyn Cary at 634-7890 or 349-385-3476 or [vicecb@yahoo.com](mailto:vicecb@yahoo.com).

### Tuesday

9:15 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)

### Wednesday

Noon: Weekday Mass

Noon: Protestant Men of the Chapel (PMOC) Bible study (at DFAC)

5:30 p.m.: PWOC evening Bible study

### Thursday

Catholic Women of the Chapel do not meet over the summer.

Noon: Weekday Mass

5:30 p.m.: Gospel service choir rehearsal

7:15 p.m.: Gospel service Bible study

### Friday

Noon: Weekday Mass

Noon: Muslim Khutba and prayer

### Faith group POCs

Islamic POC is Mohamed Noeman at 634-6306.

Jewish POC is Dr. Stephen or Nancy November at 328-054-9709 or [november6@msn.com](mailto:november6@msn.com).

Latter Day Saints (LDS) POC is Elder Openshaw, 334-665-6845 or Frank Petty at 634-3907/340-899-2218. Scripture study is held Monday, noon-1 p.m.

### Darby Chapel

For details call the chapel at: 633-7267 (50-54-7267).

8:30 a.m.: Catholic

Reconciliation

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Mass

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

All briefs must be received at [editor@eur.army.mil](mailto:editor@eur.army.mil) noon Monday, or by Friday at 4 p.m. if Monday is a holiday.



# Cougar sports

## Prepping for new season, flashbacks to '07

(Right) Vicenza Cougars Boys Basketball team take on the American Overseas School Rome Dec. 7-8. The teams played four games, with each team winning two. Tryouts for both girls and boys teams will be announced later in the year in the Outlook. (Outlook file photo)



(Left) Kris Higgins of AFNORTH, top, and Cougars' Shaun Mahadeo wrestle in the 130 lbs. class during the European championships. Higgins won the match and also the championship. (Above) Vicenza Cougars girls volleyball player, Rachel O'Neill, No.15, makes the play over the net as her team lends their support. (Outlook file photos)

## Football practice begins



Micky Stoner, center, gets ready to throw the ball while Nicholas Williams, left and Reggie Haines surround him during the VHS Football practice held at the multipurpose field Aug. 19. Head coach for this year's Cougar football team is Adam Ridgley. He's assisted by Mark Wilson and volunteer coaches: Chris Buscema and Anthony Bly, offensive and defensive line coaches; John Parker, running backs, linebackers and special teams coach; Brandon Salone, receivers and defensive backs coach, David Stoner, defensive line coach and Scott Williams, quarterback coach. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

### VHS Cougars fall game schedule

Date	Opponent
Sept. 13	Aviano (H)
Sept. 20	Hohenfels (A)
Sept. 27	Utah Team (H)
Oct. 4 ( <i>Homecoming</i> )	AFNorth (H)
Oct. 11	Baumholder (A)
Oct. 18	Signonella (H)
Oct. 25	Div III playoffs

Championships are at Baumholder, Nov. 1.  
All games are at 1 p.m. H= Home; A= Away

### Vicenza Booster Club wants you

The Vicenza Booster Club is gearing up to support another Vicenza High School Cougars successful fall sports season and is looking for volunteers. Booster club members attend all VHS home games selling food and team souvenirs. Proceeds go toward helping the VHS sports program purchase supplies. Our next big event is the fall sports kickoff tentatively set for Sept. 3. The next meeting of the Booster Club is Aug. 26 at 5:15 p.m. at the high school.

## Sports shorts

### ODR local area cycling

Every Tuesday and Thursday Outdoor Recreation leads bike rides in the local area for all levels of riders.

The Beginner, Level I, is approximately one and a half hours on a course 8 to 10 miles with level, paved surfaces at an easy pace.

The Intermediate and Advanced, Level III/IV, rides last approximately two and a half hours on a 25 mile course through the hills south of Vicenza on paved surfaces, gravel roads and a single-track at a moderate-to-fast pace.

The cost for all rides is \$5. All riders should have the appropriate bike for the ride which is in good working order. Sign up at ODR at least one day before the ride. For information call 634-7453.

### Ederle Inn pool hours change

Through Sept. 7 the Ederle Inn pool will open weekends only. The pool will close for the season Sept. 8.

Call 634-5181 for details.

### Children and Youth Cross Country

The Cross Country season for ages 6-13 is from Sept. 2 - Oct. 11. Practice days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the North 40 track. Cost is \$25, which includes T-shirt, participation medal, and end of season party. Enrollment is Aug. 18-Sept. 1. Call 634-6151 for details.

### Children, Youth Tennis

The tennis season for ages 8-13 runs Sept. 4- Oct. 14. Level 1 meets Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. on Caserma Ederle. Level 2 meets Mondays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Villaggio. Cost is \$25, which includes T-shirt, participation medal and end of season party. Enrollment ends Sept. 1.

Call 634-6151 for details.

### VHS Cheerleading tryouts

VHS fall cheerleading tryouts will begin with an interest meeting Aug. 25 from 3-3:30 p.m. at Vicenza High School. All VHS students in grades 9-12 are eligible to try out for the team. You must have a current physical on file. Tryouts will officially begin Aug. 26.