



# The Outlook

April 18, 2006

U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

www.USAG.Vicenza.Army.Mil

Vol. 39 Issue 15



The 4th-6th grade Vicenza Elementary All-Star After School Honor Choir, directed by VES Music Teacher Angela Hartwig, sing "God Bless the USA," the last song performed during one of the two shows presented at Soldiers' Theatre Thursday. The "Welcome Our Heroes Home" program included pieces such as "The Sound of Music," "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" and "Edelweiss" all by Rogers & Hammerstein and "There is No Business Like Show Business," "Puttin' On the Ritz" and "God Bless America" all by Irving Berlin. During the show, some children also presented poems and songs they had composed to the large crowd that participated in the event. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

## SSA wins top honors in Europe-wide competition, competes at Army level

By Sgt. Carlos Lazo  
SETAF Augmentation Unit

In Fiscal Year 1997, the Supply Support Activity here participated for the first time in the Army Supply Excellence Award

competition. Not only did they win at the United States Army, Europe level, they won at the Department of the Army level; a feat any unit would be proud to achieve once. But for SSA, winning in FY 97 was only the beginning, and they have been acquiring recognition and

praise from both USAREUR and DA since. From FY 97 to FY 05, SSA has won at the USAREUR level seven out of the nine times they have competed, and one of the two times when they didn't win, they took runner-up.

For the FY 06 competition SSA has done it again, claiming victory at the USAREUR-level. They received their trophy April 4 during a ceremony held in Heidelberg, Germany.

SSA's victory now takes them to the DA-level, where they placed second last year. At the DA-level, SSA has won three times and been runner-up four times.

"Our goal is to win [at the DA level]," said Chief Warrant Officer Jorge Mercado, accountable officer for SSA, "but even placing runner-up is a major achievement."

Mercado credits all of his workers, both military and civilians, for SSA winning this year and the previous years.

"We have a great group of dedicated professionals that work here on a daily basis and makes it easier for us to compete and win," said Mercado.

That workforce consists of 21 civilians, local nationals, and three Soldiers, including Mercado himself. The leadership includes Gilberto Berdin, who serves as the Local National supervisor for the SSA; Carmen Civarelli, the Stock Control supervisor; and Staff Sgt. Sergio Rosales, the SSA NCOIC.

"I consider these people, instead of employees - I consider them more of a family," said Mercado. "And in any happy family, you're able to achieve great things."



Chief Warrant Officer Jorge Mercado, accountable officer for USAG Vicenza Supply Support Activity receives the 1st Place Level 4 (B) SSA Table of Distribution and Allowances USAREUR-level award from Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics Lt. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody during a ceremony April 4 in Heidelberg, Germany. "The beauty of these awards is that good ideas have no rank," Lt. Gen. Dunwoody said. "You have young folks, civilians and Soldiers competing with good ideas that we can cross-fertilize throughout our services, for efficiency and better service to the warfighter." (Photo provided by USAREUR Public Affairs)

## EEO Training for Supervisors

The Equal Employment Opportunity office will be conducting training titled "Avoid the Pitfalls of Discrimination."

This training is for military, civilian and local national supervisors who supervise U.S. civilian employees. In addition, EEO counselors, Special Emphasis Program managers and Equal Opportunity advisors/leaders and Human Resources advisors who need cross training can take the course.

The course length is four hours and six sessions will be offered during the mornings and afternoons of May 23-25. The training will take place at the Vicenza Education Center, building L985.

Attendees will gain a better understanding of the EEO complaints process, learn how to avoid discrimination complaints and learn basic mediation skills to resolve workplace disputes. Sessions will cover: EEO complaint process and theories of discrimination; supporting your employment decisions; recognizing situations or actions which may result in an EEO issue; responding to allegations of discrimination; preventing a hostile work environment; enhancing organizational effectiveness; resolving workplace conflict; conducting management inquiries; and sending emails - friend or foe.

If you are interested in taking this course, you must submit your name to Cindy Pierson, EEO Officer, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza via email at [cynthia.pierson@setaf.army.mil](mailto:cynthia.pierson@setaf.army.mil) no later than May 8. Email or call Pierson at 634-7976 for more information.

See SSA Wins on page 4

# Cell phone road rules apply on, off-post

By Robert Szostek  
Office of the Provost Marshal  
USAREUR

Hand-held phones are safety hazards that have caused many road accidents in Europe. For that reason, the Department of Defense and most European nations have banned the use of hand-held cell phones while driving a motor vehicle.

"These laws are enforced on and off U.S. installations throughout Europe," said Lt. Col. Deborah Anderson, chief of law enforcement operations at the United States Army, Europe office of the provost marshal.

"Studies show that mobile phone use in cars is unsafe," Anderson explained. "Driving safely is a complex task and requires total concentration. Phoning distracts drivers, and any distraction can make you miss hearing or seeing the cues needed to avoid a crash."

Anderson said it is best to switch off the phone as soon as entering the car, but added that people who want to communicate while driving can:

- Buy a "hands free" device that allows the driver to keep both hands on the steering wheel. The device can also be distracting, so short duration calls are recommended.

- Use the voice mail box function and call people back when finished driving.

"It is OK if people use a hand-held phone in a vehicle if it is safely

parked and the engine is off," Anderson said. "However, penalties for having a cell phone in your hand or wedged between your head and shoulder while driving, even in slow moving traffic, are severe."

#### Here's a partial list of fines:

Belgium – fines from 50-1,375 euro.

Germany – a 40 euro fine and one point against your license.

Italy – fines from 68 to 275 euro.

Luxemburg – fines up to 74 euro.

Netherlands – minimum fine is 140 euro, maximum is two months in prison or a 2,000 euro fine.

Department of Defense – DoD policy is to assess three points against your license for on-post violations.

"People will suffer heavier penalties and can even lose their license if they caused an accident or were involved in one while using a cell phone improperly," Anderson added.



Qualification means day at beach for Livorno Soldiers



Livorno Soldiers qualify on their weapons at the beach range. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Vedner Bellot, DHR)

Left: Sgt. Dyrus Williams, Directorate Human Resources training NCO and chaplain's assistant, gives a safety briefing to Livorno-based Soldiers before they begin qualification of their weapons at the beach range. (Photo by Capt. Raul Rovira, DHR)

"The range was done to maintain qualifications," said Capt. Raul Rovira, DHR, USAG Livorno. "All Army Soldiers have to maintain qualifications every six months under the new guidance. This is even more strict with the MPs."

## VA is only official government resource for veteran benefits

USAREUR  
News Release

The Department of Veteran's Affairs is responsible for administering a wide range of programs available to the nation's veterans including compensation and pension benefits, health care, home loan guarantees,

vocational rehabilitation and employment, education, life insurance and burial benefits. With a quarter of the nation's population potentially eligible for VA benefits and services, it can be big business.

However, as a U.S. government agency, the VA is a nonprofit organization. Veterans seeking assistance must be cautious of

companies that appear to offer similar programs.

As a nonprofit organization, the VA will not ask you to buy anything and will not ask for personal information. It will not ask for remuneration for its services.

If an organization is requesting personal information, particularly financial information, it is probably not affiliated with the VA.

To inquire about any organization that alleges VA affiliation, contact the VA Overseas Military Services Coordinator at 483-6007 (+49-631-411-6007), or visit the official VA Web site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

VA publishes a booklet called "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents" which is available online.

## Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community.

If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil) and click on the Community Action Council link. This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies. There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

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

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

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, building 395.

Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC will be April 26 beginning at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

#### Issue: Number 04-023 – Parking

**March 2006 Update from the Directorate of Public Works:**

- Constructing ITR/Campground parking lot which will hold 56 spaces by end of August 2006

- Moving many TMP/official vehicles to Torri Warehouse (initially create over 160

parking spaces on caserma by end of April 2006

- Developing a 500 space satellite parking area for Torri Warehouse (create over 600 spaces on caserma)

- Investigating a 300 space satellite parking area close to Villaggio (create over 300 spaces on caserma)

- Continue to clean up parking on Caserma Ederle (create over 100 spaces on caserma by end of May 2006)

- Developing a simple, easily enforceable plan to use all parking on caserma

**Issue Number 04-0126 – Wet mail delivery**

**March 2006 Update from the 510th Postal Company:** To date, HQ EUCOM J4 representatives visited Vicenza (Jan. 31-Feb. 1) and concurred with the Air Force and Army recommendation to move all Italy mail operations to Milan.

EUCOM J4 representatives are working closely with a Tiger Team headed by Tim Lynch, 2nd Air Postal Squadron, USAFE; Keith Jones, 1st PERSCOM and 21st Theater Support Command G3 on a cost analysis for future operations in Milan.

USAFE is capturing operational/warehouse/handling cost, while 21st TSC provides 1st PERSCOM with the cost to contract transportation. Lynch is establishing timelines and meeting dates. He will contact the postal company within the next 30 days with an update.

**Issue Number 04-0128 – DSL Internet in the Barracks**

**March Update from AAFES:** We are currently working Vicenza Barracks phones from two angles. IMA-E has been in negotiations with TKS in Germany to use the cable infrastructure to provide service. This will require a great deal of funding from IMA and TKS to proceed. We are currently waiting on IMA's decision regarding the funding.

If IMA decides not to proceed with the TKS initiative, AAFES will then quickly solicit a

contract for service over phone wire.

#### Issue Number 05-155 – Post Office Hours

**March 2006 Update from the 510th Postal Company:** We now have approval to change APO hours. The new hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday (note that the old hours of 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thursdays will no longer be in effect).

**Issue Number 06-278 – Pricing in MWR Facilities**

**March Update from the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation:** We appreciate your question about how MWR sets prices and we thank you for your concerns about the Vicenza Art Center. We have reviewed the Art Center pricing with special attention to custom framing. As you described, the custom frame pricing is not comparable to off-post pricing.

The most recent IMA-E MWR retail pricing guidelines suggest that the Art Center cover labor and supplies and produce an average profit of 20 percent. The old prices included a much higher markup. Therefore, we are in the process of reducing custom frame prices, especially for material. New custom frame prices will go into effect on April 1, 2006. Because there are thousands of variables related to custom framing, we encourage customers to discuss their frame specifications with Art Center to receive an estimate. We will also be happy to compare the new estimate with the old pricing structure to illustrate the new prices.

MWR also took the opportunity to review all MWR prices based on this CAC issue, to make sure we were offering competitive pricing in all MWR programs. Except for the Art Center custom framing program, all other MWR prices are in line with headquarters guidance and are very competitive with similar programs throughout Army Europe and in our host nation. The garrison commander has approved all MWR prices. We will continue to review our prices quarterly and will report any major

revisions at the monthly CAC meetings.

Again, MWR thanks our customers for their feedback. We encourage you to continue to comparison shop and bring your findings to our attention immediately.

**Issue: SETAF Driver's License Renewal** – I recently had to renew my ID card and when I did I also had to renew my SETAF driver's license. This is when I found out about the new regulation as of May 2005 that you can not renew or obtain a SETAF driver's license with out a valid states side or Italian driver's license. If this is a new regulation it should have been put out to the community and all senior staff to pass on to their employees or Soldiers. I have been in Italy since 1986 and have no need to maintain a states side driver's license. The old policy stated if you had a valid SETAF drivers license or a valid states side driver license you could renew your license. If this is a new policy then this policy probably affects a lot of the community. So now I have to request an exception to policy from the commander to extend my license for 90 days so I can go out on the economy and get an Italian drivers license. I also will have to pay about 200 euro out of my pocket for this.

**Recommendation:** Grandfather those who have valid SETAF driver's licenses, put out to the community about this new policy and make a drop dead date when this policy comes into effect

**Response from the Directorate of Emergency Services:** We welcome the opportunity to answer this issue. The current policy to renew a SETAF license is as follows. Personnel with a valid SETAF license do not have to have a current Stateside or country license to renew their SETAF license. The only time a current stateside license or country license is required is when applying for an initial license or if the SETAF license is already expired. A change to USASETAF 190-2 will soon be published to reflect this change.

# Scarlet fever deserves respect, not fear

Europe Regional MEDCOM  
News Release

Scarlet fever. It once was a childhood disease that annually killed thousands in the United States. But today's strains aren't nearly as aggressive and can be treated relatively easily, said the Army's top pediatrician in Europe.

Lt. Col. Robert Smith, Europe Regional Medical Command's pediatric consultant and commander of the Mannheim health clinic, said parents no longer have to face the same fears of the disease that, perhaps, their grandparents did.

"It (the bacteria that causes scarlet fever) used to be a very virulent disease that caused more complications," Smith said. "The strains now don't seem to be nearly as dangerous."

Scarlet fever is caused by the Group A streptococcal bacteria that cause the more common "strep throat." But with scarlet fever, the bacterium creates a toxin that attacks skin cells, causing them to turn red. It is distinguishable by a red rash that begins around the throat and on the chest that, if untreated, spreads rapidly to the trunk and extremities.

"It's a treatable disease because it responds well to penicillin," Smith said. "We've seen about the average number of cases this year - I haven't seen a lot of it. But, parents should be aware of the disease and become familiar with the symptoms."

He said a child coming down with the fever will likely feel sick and complain of a sore throat and headaches. Other symptoms include the rash, which begins to develop after about 24 hours, and nausea and vomiting.

Children between two and 12 are most susceptible to contracting the disease. He said it was rare for preschoolers to get it, and

older children have built up a partial immunity to it.

"About 10 percent of children who come down with strep throat will develop scarlet fever," Smith said. He said the number fluctuates, too. "It comes and goes. Some years it's 10 percent, some it's 20."

Once doctors diagnose a child with the disease, the treatment consists of fever reducers, like ibuprofen or Tylenol, and a 10-day regimen of penicillin. Smith said the penicillin should be taken all ten days, until it is used up. Parents should also remember not to share medications with others in the family, or stop giving the doses just because the child feels better.

"After treatment begins, a child will begin to look and feel better after two or three days. They can return to school after they've been taking the penicillin for 24 hours," he said. "It's not like chicken pox, where the parents have to keep the child home for 10-14 days."

He did urge parents, though, to take the disease seriously and get treatment for their children.

"If a child complains of being sick, it's usually because they are," Smith said. "They're not like adults who have been known to claim illness to get out of going to work. If children are sick, they'll let you know."

He said parents can teach their children some basic personal hygiene tips, like washing hands, coughing or sneezing into a tissue or the crook of an elbow, and maintaining a proper diet. The bacterium behind scarlet fever is spread by coughing and sneezing, he said.

"People get things from people," Smith said. "If everyone stayed home, we'd be fine. But since we do go out and interact with others, we just need to be aware of the illnesses out there, and seek treatment when the first signs of something appear."

# Camp Italia, Bravaria provide summer fun for military youth

By Sgt. Tara Teal  
SETAF Public Affairs

Tired of the same old boring summer stuff? Head to Camp Italia or Camp Bavaria for a change of pace. These programs are designed to give military youth a break from stress and to have some much needed fun. It will be a trip your child will never forget.

Children in grades 6-8 can attend Camp Italia held at Camp Darby, Italy. It will include teambuilding activities, military skill demonstrations, water activities and sight-seeing trips including a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the leaning tower in Pisa. The two camp sessions run from July 9-15 and from July 23-29.

Camp Bavaria will be held in Grafenwoehr, Germany, and is designed for high school students, grades 9-12. The high school sessions will include adventure activities such as caving and repelling, water sports

and the high ropes course. Teambuilding and self expression activities will also be a core component of Camp Bavaria. Camp sessions will run from June 18-24 and from Aug. 13-19.

To qualify for the camp, students must have one or more parent or guardian deployed or scheduled to deploy between June 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007. You may submit your application via the MWR Europe website anytime until May 5. No late applications will be accepted. Selection notifications will be made on May 15 and will be emailed and posted on the camp Web site.

This program is brought to you but the Installation Management Agency, Europe, Child and Youth Services.

If you are interested, visit the MWR Europe Web site at [www.mwr-europe.com](http://www.mwr-europe.com) to apply or questions email [camparmychallenge@ima-e.army.mil](mailto:camparmychallenge@ima-e.army.mil) for details.

# Suspected gunfire near post proven false

By Sgt. Adrian Schulte  
SETAF Public Affairs

A recent incident where a car window was supposedly shattered by gunfire while coming onto Caserma Ederle has proven to have been caused by other factors.

On April 3, a vehicle was entering the post onto the deceleration lane of gate one when its rear window shattered. A military policeman, thinking he heard gunfire, hit a panic button raising emergency vehicle barriers and stopping all traffic coming on or off post.

American military police and Carabinieri quickly reacted to the situation and conducted a preliminary investigation. No

evidence was found that shots were fired. The vehicle involved was taken to a Carabinieri station for a more thorough investigation.

American and Italian investigators conducted a follow-up investigation of the vehicle and the area of the incident. No signs of a projectile making impact were found on the vehicle and no shell casings were found in the vicinity.

It was determined by the investigators that a severe thunderstorm in the area at the time of the incident caused the sounds suspected of being gunfire. Also, pressure changes caused by the storm were the possible cause of the window shattering.

# USAG commander recognizes hard-working employees during awards ceremony

The USAG Vicenza Quarterly Awards Ceremony took place March 31 in the Ederle Theater. The following Awards were presented by Commander Col. Virgil S.L. Williams:

**Scrolls of Appreciation:** Andrea Alderman, Andy Alvarez, Luz Andriolo, Candice Askins, Rossella Baccin, Anna Barana, Tamara Bell, Allison Bloom, Arianna Boarina, Nicoletta Boschetto, Kevin Boucher, Cristina Bowers, Aireen Brown, Patricia Brown, Becky Burnett, Jasmine Burns, Jennifer Cacho, Maura Carra, Kaithlin Cathcart, Samantha Cernock, Kristen Colquitt, John Corrigan, Anna Dalla Vecchia, Albert Decicco, Pitoon Ekarintaragun, Cornelia Evans, Lilliana Farisato, Blake Farley, Tamela Faulkner, Adele

Feltrin, Margherita Frasson, Silvia Freato, Eleonara Gamet, Francesca Gasparini, Bob Generelli, Annamaria Gennara, Cynthia Giesecke, Lorena Gonzalez, Austin Greer, Candice Harris, Lenny Harris, Lakeishia Hawthorne, Jim Hay, Geonte Haynes, Jeri Hickey, Andreina Howard, Charles Ingram, Emily Irving, Ricky Jackson, Mark Jacobson, Kobie Johnson, Ryan Kedley, Christian Kennedy, Jay Knight, Wendy Kollar, Manuela Lane, Yvonne Lanier, Sally Lualemega, Gloria Lunsford, Andre Luster, Martilda Marksman, Maria Marrero, John Martin, Norie McCall, Jeremiah McCurdy, Darryl McFarland, Adam Melchert, Matt Miller, Dorothy Moore, Michael Morris, Claudia Munaretto, Yisel Navas, Rebecca

Orders, Maricelyz Ortiz, Angela Owens, Genevieve Pace, William Patton, Sherrellah Payne, Sarah Penhallegon, Sean Penhallegon, Tim Pond, Paul Radich, Regina Ramos, Joshua Reinhart, Maria Rentas, Bertilla Rizzato, Jennifer Roberts, Pierre Rojas, Cristina Salas, Renata Sartori, Sandy Schoenberg, Daniel Scholosnagle, Lizzie Sexton, Julia Sheerin, Monika Shuler, Linda Smith, Yira Somera, Araceli Sotello, Ramona Stendardi, Sean Thomas, Barbara Todescato, Bernice Torres, Erika Torres, Silvia Trevisan, Angela Tupper, Darline Valcin, Sam Wallace, Gianese Ward Bedin, Laura Ward Bedin, Alex Weigel, Tammy Wilbur-Hoistad, Quandrea Williams, Chris Wolff, Connie Zacchino, Michela

Zanotto, Francesca Zotto, Philip Perez, Linda Smith, SSG Mike Kenny, LTC Timothy Stevenson, Stefano Giglioni, Tami Boutwell, Charlotte Alexander/Pryor, Dayna Brown, Lisa Douglas, Ebony King, Georgio Lovato, Joe Chavez, Marissa Alvarez, Christopher Hess, Howard Leibovitch, Juana Prados, Mario Solis, and Albertina Littleton.

**Certificate of Appreciation:** Jennifer Cacho, Margherita Frasson, Mark Jacobson, Yvonne Lanier, Martha Llitera, Andre Luster, Brandi Martwick, Adam Melchert, Glorymar Olmeda, Maricelyz Ortiz, Tara Piskator, Regina Ramos, Jane Richardson, Bertilla Rizzato, Hilda Rose, Gianese Ward, Quandrea Williams, and Aireen Brown.

**Officially Commended Award:** Becky Burnett and Wendy Kollar.

**Achievement Medal for Civilian Service:** Circe Aponte, Lori Barteau, Angela Crosland, Stephanie Curtis, Anthony Daniels, Charlie Decelle, R. Michael Fidalgo, Mike Garcia, Randie Gibson, Beatrice Giometto, Charles Hall, Tina Helmick, Paola Liberatore, Carlos Martinez, Gina Miller, Ana Mutter, Frannie Packard, Carolyn Parse-Rizzo, Tara Piskator, Robert Portillo, Jane Richardson, Barry Robinson, Luis Rodriguez, Hilda Rose, Heather Schantz, Chanel Thomas, Mike Ushko, Allie Vallery, Tim Volk, Arlana Young, Gina Little, Alfaire Ledbetter, Richard Hendrickson, Ron Reynolds, Angela Bethel, Brenda Simms, Patrick Hooper, and Stephen Tavares.

**Commander's Award for Civilian Service:** Rita Bonamego, Holly Gifford, Christine Kilbride, Peggy Schadler, David Sherrick, Eric Weisel, Ann Campbell, Annette Evans, Jolly Miller, Jamie Zawadski, Marilena Furlan, Patrick O'Connor, Steve Norton, Richard Wilczek, Diana Bahr, Dorothy Carlyle, Kelli Covlin, Laura Preve Kreider, Maggie Menzies, Michael Bethel, Annette Evans, Adeal Frater, Gary Geraets, Kambiz Razzaghi, and Marion Solonch-Smith.

**Certificate for Performance Award:** Maurizio Campesan, Andrea Cavaliere, Maurizio Cavaliere, Giancarlo Fraccaro, Francesco Lorenzini, Enzo Maron, Vanni Miotello, Antonio Pauletto, Silvio Pedon, Stefano Pianalto, Luciano Rampazzo, Lorenzo Rigo, Mirko Segato, Lorenzo Toniazio, Silvio Visona', Nicola Zancan and Pietro Zuffo.

**Certificate for Special Act Award:** Miranda Carosini, Boris Franco Gallio and Silvano Rizzo.

**Certificate for Length of Service (5 Years):** Dennis Severson; (10 Years): Claudio Bevilacqua, Alexander Menzies, Claudio Sottoriva, and Fabio Zorretto; (15 Years): Pietro Peruzzo; (20 Years): Liviana Francescato; (25 Years): Livio Scalco; (30 Years): Sira Santina Nardon; and (35 Years): Roberto Campanaro.

A special award was given to Siddiq Toure' for Child and Youth Services Youth of the Year.

## The Outlook

April 18, 2006 Vol. 39, Issue 15

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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 34 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. DSN 634-7000, FAX 634-7543, civilian telephone 0444-

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*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 Agency-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force.

**Submissions:** Send all submission for publication to [editor@setaf.army.mil](mailto:editor@setaf.army.mil). Submission should be made via email and must be received by Wednesday at noon for the following week's publication.

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

## Nutrition Tip from WIC Overseas

What is a serving? Here is a guide for accurate portions:

- Three ounces of cooked meat, fish or poultry is the size of a computer mouse.
- A medium piece of fruit looks like a baseball.
- A medium bagel is the size of a hockey puck.
- One ounce of cheese is the size of four dice.

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

## An educated community is a safer community

# Vicenza SARC, UVAs work to spread awareness

Story and photo by Sgt. Carlos Lazo  
SETAF Augmentation Unit

Certain situations in life can instill a sense of the unknown – of not knowing what to do next. Being sexually assaulted is one of those situations. A frightening experience, sexual assault can leave people with the inability to carry on with their lives. This feeling can be combated and avoided with the proper knowledge.

April is Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness month, and awareness is exactly what Tina Helmick, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, wants the community to have.

Helmick conducts classes on the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program for Vicenza and the surrounding area to

ensure everyone from servicemembers to DA civilians know how to prevent and respond to a sexual assault.

Tips on how to prevent sexual assault is one of the subjects Staff Sgt. Juan Barrios, a Unit Victim Advocate for the 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry (Airborne) always covers with his Soldiers. Using the “Buddy System” and knowing exactly who the person they are with is, is something always covered in weekend briefings, said Barrios. As a UVA, Barrios also helps Helmick get the information out by setting up classes for her to speak at and serves as a first-line contact for victims.

All UVA’s receive training on a quarterly basis, said Helmick. The training is broken up into various modules that cover

everything the UVA needs to know to assist a victim.

UVA’s always have the necessary information standing by in folders, known as “Ready Folders,” said Sgt. 1st Class Felicia Fisher, a UVA with 208th Finance Battalion, to help any victim. These “Ready Folders” have various information inside, from personal rights and reporting options to contact numbers for chaplain services, which victims need to know and are entitled to have.

The first thing all victims need to know is it is not their fault, said Helmick, and they can call her or any of the UVA’s, they are not limited in having to call their own UVA.

Once they contact a UVA or SARC, victims also have the option of requesting

between two types of reports for the incident. These two types are restricted and unrestricted reports. In restricted reporting, once the SARC or UVA is contacted, the victim is allowed to confidentially talk about the assault with the SARC, and receive medical treatment and counseling if requested, all without triggering an investigation or notification to their command, said Helmick. Medical treatment for the Vicenza community is provided but not limited to the Birthing Pavilion located on post, which is open 24 hours, and provides a secure environment for victims. Victims can also go to the Birthing Pavilion for immediate emergency care if necessary and pursue the restricted reporting from there, Helmick added. Emergency care can also be attained at the Health Clinic but doing so will automatically begin the unrestricted reporting, she said.

Unrestricted reporting is when the command is notified and an investigation is initiated, which includes the involvement of Military Police and the Criminal Investigation Department, said Helmick. The victim will not have to endure this by themselves though, as a UVA will be assigned to help them through the entire process.

Whatever type of reporting the victim chooses to pursue, Helmick always recommends to victims to preserve all evidence and not to feel ashamed. The preservation of evidence is so that in case of an investigation, the authorities will be able to prosecute those responsible.

All of this information is something Helmick and all of her UVA’s will continue to relay to individuals in the Vicenza community and the surrounding area on a more continuous basis.

Sgt. 1st Class Dolores Hernandez, a UVA with the Vicenza Health Clinic, said Sexual Assault Training used to be covered only twice a year by units. Now, with the more constant training, the community as a whole is more educated, aiding in not only informing potential victims, but in deterring would-be assailants as well.

For more information, contact your unit’s UVA or call Helmick at 634-6269.



The Sexual Assault Response coordinator for the Vicenza community briefs Unit Victim Advocates during a meeting on April 5 in the Davis Family Readiness Center. April is Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness month, and Helmick spreads the importance of being active about these issues by conducting classes for the local community.

## SSA WINS:

SSA wins top honors in Europe-wide competition, competes at Army level

From page 1

When asked about how the local nationals contribute to the continued success of SSA, Mercado said “They are the ones that do the day-to-day operations; they are the hands-on guys – the ones that make it happen.”

Winning is great, but it does not mean everything else takes a back seat until the competition is over.

“Not only did we compete and

win, but we’re also supporting the SETAF and 173d Airborne Brigade’s redeployment as well,” said Mercado. “It’s not that we are just concentrating on the inspection; we’ve got many other things we’re doing simultaneously.”

This will be the last year Mercado will be heading SSA into the competition. “There are going to be changes, due to the fact... some of



Italian employees who maintain all aspects of the warehouse, from ensuring all the required paperwork is correct and processed (above) to performing customer service for the SSA. Left: Two more of the local national workers, use computers at the receiving point to update records. Even with the competition, SSA continues its regular mission, thanks largely in part to the local national workforce.

the military positions are converting over to civilian positions,” he said.

Even though he won’t be with the SSA next year in their attempt to win for the sixth time in a row, Mercado had this to say about SSA’s chances, “I think with what we have [at SSA],

I’m confident we will win.”

USAREUR-level winners will compete for the Army Combined Logistics Excellence Awards and the opportunity to compete for the Department of Defense Phoenix Awards.

Winner for the USAREUR-level Table of Distribution and Allowances Small category is the USAG Vicenza Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity. See next week’s Outlook for a story on their achievements.



The



**ITO Daily Personal Property Briefings**

- **Inbound:** 8:15-9 a.m., 10-10:45 a.m., 1:15-2 p.m. & 3-3:45 p.m.
- **Outbound Work Sheets** (Form 1797/30-3 Customs): 9-9:45 a.m. & 2-2:45 p.m.
- **Outbound Documents:** 10:45-11:50 a.m. & 3:45-4:50 p.m.  
*Closed Thursdays 8-10 a.m.*  
 Call ITO: 634-8115/6990/6922/6923/6925/6926/6932

**No Pickup/Delivery Days for 2006**

- April 25 (Tuesday)
- May 1 (Monday)
- June 2 (Friday)
- Aug. 15 (Tuesday)
- Sept. 8 (Friday)
- Nov. 1 (Wednesday)
- Dec. 8 (Friday)
- Dec. 25 (Monday)
- Dec. 26 (Tuesday)

# Are you PSCing, ETSing soon?

## Transportation tips for soon-to-be travelers

By Sgt. Carlos Lazo  
 SETAF Augmentation Unit

After a year-long deployment, a brand new gas grill and a 36 inch television can make the transition of going back into a normal work environment that much easier. But for many of the returning servicemembers and their families, the time enjoying those new luxury items in Italy may be limited. Many, along with other servicemembers and civilians from the surrounding area, will soon be PCSing (Permanent Change of Station) back to the United States and all of their items are going with them.

Ensuring all those items are packaged and sent to the servicemember's next duty location is the duty of the Installation Transportation Office here. An estimated 4,000 pack-outs are expected this summer, said Marvin Key, ITO supervisor. An equal amount is expected to be coming in, he added. In order to more easily accommodate this, ITO is beginning daily Personal Property Mass Briefings. These briefings will include information on inbound and outbound worksheets, custom worksheets and all documents needed by servicemembers and civilians to make their move easier.

Key also recommends transitioning personnel and their spouses attend the briefings together. Most of the time, the spouse is the one present for pick-up, said Key. By the spouses attending, ITO can better explain the process to them, he added.

Before coming to ITO, the first thing people need are their orders. "We need the orders," said Karen Juli, acting chief, Transportation Division, Directorate of Logistics. "We can't do anything without them."

Servicemembers must also ensure that when they bring the copy of the orders, it has both the front and back side to it, she adds. That is mostly because the fund site is located on the back of the orders and is a necessary part of processing the servicemember's request. It is important to start this process as soon as possible, she said.

"Ideally, 30 days prior [to departure] is good," said Juli, when speaking about when servicemembers should come to ITO, although 40 or 60 days prior is also acceptable. "There have been cases when servicemembers come in with their orders one week and say they need to leave the following week," she said.

One way servicemembers can avoid this is by speaking to their unit personnel representative (S1) or to the 510th Personnel Services Battalion about getting their orders, especially if they know they will be leaving soon.

"The sooner the servicemember brings the orders to us the easier the process," said Juli. Since the office here is only a processing station, all requests go up to the Consolidated Personnel Property Shipping Office located in Grafenwoehr, Germany. CPPSO are the ones that book the carriers, she said, and that is why the sooner the servicemember comes in, the better.

Another way the servicemember can make the whole process easier for themselves and the ITO is by having an idea of the estimate weight of all their items, know what dates they want pick-up and bringing a strip map of how to get to their home.

A good way to estimate the weight, said Juli, is by giving each room in your house an automatic 1,000 pound weight, then multiply that by how many rooms you have.

"If they know how much they brought [from the states]," said Juli, is another way of knowing how much weight you will be sending back.

Servicemembers and civilians must also remember how much weight they are allowed to ship. For servicemembers, this weight is determined by their rank, number of dependents and their time OCONUS, said Key. In some cases, servicemembers spend 18 months in Germany then move to Italy and spend another 18 months here, said Key. When it comes time to PCS, those servicemember's put down 18 months when estimating their allowed weight, but in reality should be putting 36 months, said Key. This is because the entire time spent OCONUS, not just in one location, is what determines your allowed weight.

For civilians, their allowed weight is easier to determine, said Key. Civilians are always authorized an automatic 18,000 lbs. An additional 350 lbs are authorized for unaccompanied baggage, he added.

Knowing what dates you want the pick-up to be is useful because you have to be there when the movers come, said Juli. An agent can charge for a missed pick-up, she added. If you want a certain date for pick-up, but can not be there for it, you can have someone else there representing you such as your spouse or roommate, said Juli. No power of attorney is needed, just a written document given to ITO containing the name of the person

who will be at the pick-up on your behalf.

The pick-up cannot occur of course, if the movers do not know where you live or how to get there, said Juli.

"The exact area you live in is needed," said Key, emphasizing many servicemembers automatically believe they live in Vicenza because that is the location of post. The correct city or town is necessary since many of the surrounding cities have identical street names.

If you live in the downtown area, providing driving directions to the transportation office is extremely important, said Juli. This is because many areas downtown do not have sufficient parking areas for the trucks and planning arrangements must be made beforehand.

Transitioning personnel must be mindful of Italian holidays, when movers do not work, said Key. On certain holidays that fall on Tuesdays, the Monday before it may only have a limited crew working. That is because some of the workers may take an extended weekend with the holiday, he added.

Being aware of local holidays helps in choosing a more convenient day, an added plus considering summer is the peak time for the transportation office, said Key. It can take from 45 to 55 days for a shipment to the east coast to arrive, 70 to 75 days for the west coast, he added. If a POV (Privately Owned Vehicle) is being shipped, it is imperative the servicemember schedule a shipping date with ITO, said Key. Many servicemembers do not want to rent a vehicle when they get back, in which case they need to send their vehicles immediately so they can be waiting for them when they arrive, said Key.

For servicemembers who want to have their POV and or household items sent to offline places (outside the United States) either because of retirement or ETS, local taxes may have to be paid, said Key. As soon as the shipment arrives at the desired location, the servicemember may be required to pay the taxes, and their shipment can be held until they pay the amount, he added. This amount can be in the thousands, depending on the size of the shipment. More importantly, it can take up to two months for the government to acquire a company that will ship the items to the location, said Key, so it is important individuals wanting to do this come in and set it up in plenty of time before they leave. In case the shipment is over the allowed weight, ETSing servicemembers must pay on-the-spot, said Key. Retiring Soldiers may have the amount taken from their monthly pay, he added.

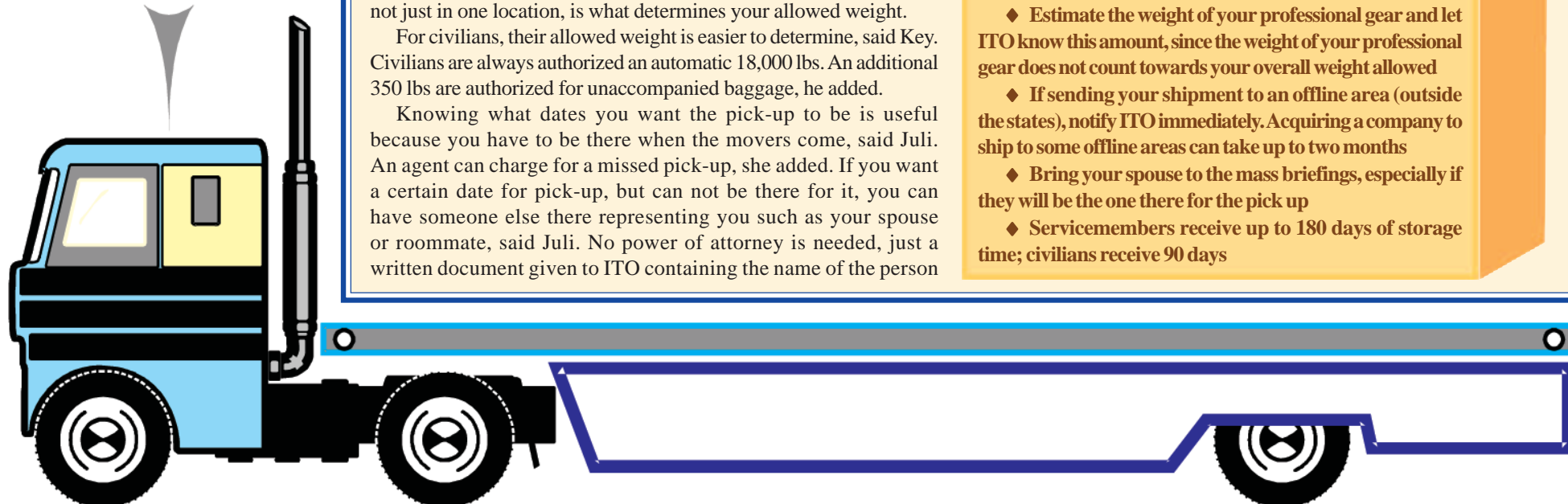
Transporting all of your household items does not have to be a big pain. With the right planning and preparation, it can go smoothly. The more smoothly the transportation goes, the more enjoyment from using that new gas grill and 36 inch TV will be.

For more information, call ITO at any of these numbers: 634-8115 / 6990 / 6922 / 6923 / 6925 / 6926 / 6932.

Information and worksheets can also be found on the USAG Vicenza Web site at [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil/sites/directorates/ito.asp](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil/sites/directorates/ito.asp)

**Tips & Facts**

- ◆ Be sure to bring a copy of your orders (front & back)
- ◆ Bring a strip map of how to get to your house with exact names of the street and town/city
- ◆ Have an estimated weight amount of all your household items before coming
- ◆ If you need to ship a POV, ensure it has an EPA sticker (EPA sticker not necessary for vehicles 25 years and older)
- ◆ POV cannot have more than two spare tires and a fourth of the gas tank full
- ◆ If you have any antiques, have the necessary customs forms filled out
- ◆ Have a planned pick-up date, being mindful of Italian holidays when movers do not work
- ◆ Estimate the weight of your professional gear and let ITO know this amount, since the weight of your professional gear does not count towards your overall weight allowed
- ◆ If sending your shipment to an offline area (outside the states), notify ITO immediately. Acquiring a company to ship to some offline areas can take up to two months
- ◆ Bring your spouse to the mass briefings, especially if they will be the one there for the pick up
- ◆ Servicemembers receive up to 180 days of storage time; civilians receive 90 days



# Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

## Visit an antique, photo or butterfly exhibition

The annual antiques exhibition trade fair in Padova will take place this year at the exhibition grounds from April 22-May 1. Find over 120 antique dealers present with over 10,000 items to include furniture, paintings, jewelry, silver and carpets. Open weekdays from 3 to 8 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Entrance fee is 7 euro. The exhibition grounds can be found after exiting Padova est, east autostrada exit and following signs for the "Fiera."

A photo exhibition is taking place in the church of SS. Ambrogio e Bellino, Vicenza. Over 200 black and white photos are on display, which were taken in Italy by, amongst other Italian photographers, Gardin, De Biasi, Ferri and Berengo. The photos reflect the period from at the end of WWII until the early 60's. The church is open for the exhibition Tuesday - Sunday from 3-7 p.m. until May 7. Entrance is free.

In the Entomological Museum in the town of Schio has over 10,000 butterflies of 250 different species on display. The exhibition of the butterflies is held in an area of 2,000 square meters and is divided into five sections behind glass: temporal, natural, geographical, scientific and ecological surroundings.

The show is an initiative of Giancarlo Paglia and his family who traveled throughout most of Italy, from Posina to Cervino from Val Senales to Mount Novegno, passing Tuscany and Liguria, searching for the different butterflies in Italy. The butterflies are the private collection of the Paglia family. The museum located in the industrial area of Schio in the "Tecnel" agency. Open everyday 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-8 p.m. until April 30. Entrance is fee 5 euro. There is a discount for families.

## A friendly walk in Mason or a march in Marostica

The club *Camminare per Conoscere* has planned a walk in the Mason Vicentino area on April 23. This walk will take you through the *Valle dei Mulini* where you

will see olive and the blossoming cherry trees in the area. Meeting place is at 9 a.m. in the square in front of the town-hall. Cost for this walk is 5 euro. If you would like to join the club the cost is 10 euro for membership. Other walks planned by the group are in Mossano, S. Valentino di Brendola, Pianezze di Arcugnano and Val di Sella. Mason famous for it's cherries will hold their 26th Cherry Festival-Market on June 4.

A non-competitive march will take place in Marostica on April 23 with a start time of 8 and 9:30 a.m. Meeting time is 7:30 a.m. in Piazza Castello. Distances are 4, 7, 13 and 21 kilometers. Cost is 1.50 euro. If you desire a token the cost is 5 euro.

## Visit a botanic garden

In Padova, just behind the Basilica del Santo, you can visit one of the earliest botanic gardens in Europe, created to teach medical students about medicinal plants. As a matter of interest, Europe's first potato was grown here in 1590. The garden is protected by a great circular wall, rebuilt during the 18th century, with statues and busts. The circular wall encloses four square gardens, two of which have circles within. The garden is open everyday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. Entrance is free.

## Festival of electric & acoustic collectable guitars

The town of Soave, province of Verona, is holding its 15th National Festival of Electric and Acoustic Collectable Guitars April 29, 30 and May 1. This event will run along three main streams: guitar exhibition and market; clinics and workshops; and evening concerts. A few of the stars performing will be Pete Huttlinger, Steve White, Lizzie Watkins, Laurence Juber and Tommy Emmanuel. For full details in English, visit [www.guitaranch.com](http://www.guitaranch.com).

## Country fest

In the town of Lanze, 10 kilometers from Vicenza, on the sports ground on Via Don Giovanni Stefani there will be three days of country music and dancing April

28, 29, and 30.

The gates will open at 8:30 p.m. each evening. On April 28 the Ohio Express Band will perform. April 29 sees the Fool Brand, and April 30 sees Eros DJ and Mister DJ.

Apart from the music and line dancing, there will also be a large food tent set up serving different Italian and Tex-Mex specialties. There will be an entrance fee on April 28 and 29 which includes a small drink. On April 30 entrance is free.

## Notes for Your Calendar

The fourth race of the Formula One season takes place at Imola in the Republic of San Marino on April 23 at 2 p.m.

The gardens of Villa Godi, in the town of Lugo, will be open to the public on April 23. Find food stands, and a market selling typical produce of the area.

Vicenza soccer team will play Triestina on April 23 at 3 p.m. Expect heavy traffic before and after the match around the Vicenza autostrada exits, the train station and the soccer stadium area. The match lasts for just under two hours.

The Gold Fair held in the exhibition grounds in Vicenza has been set for May 20-24. This exhibit is open of operators only. Expect hotel accommodations to be fully book during this period.

The next Sunday the shopping malls in the area will be open is July 16.

## The Rossi oasis and a butterfly garden

The Rossi Villa, located in the town of Santorso 26 kilometers from Vicenza, is surrounded by a landscape park designed by A. C. Negrin and divided into three parts. In the gardens find a picnic area, a play area for children, a gift store, food stand, courtyard animals and a garden dedicated to butterflies.

The gardens are open Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Entrance fee is 6 euro, for children 3-14 years of age the fee is 5.50 euro and includes a visit to the Butterfly garden, the Garden Rossi, the historical park of the villa and a little train trip. The villa itself is closed to the public.

# Now Showing

## Caserna Ederle Theater

|          |                             |           |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| April 18 | Underworld: Evolution (R)   | 7 p.m.    |
| April 19 | Big Momma's House 2 (PG13)  | 7 p.m.    |
| April 20 | Underworld: Evolution (R)   | 7 p.m.    |
| April 21 | Annapolis (PG13)            | 7 p.m.    |
|          | Running Scared (R)          | 9:45 p.m. |
| April 22 | Nanny McPhee (PG)           | 4 p.m.    |
|          | Running Scared (R)          | 7 p.m.    |
| April 23 | Chronicles of Narnia (PG13) | 4 p.m.    |
|          | Nanny McPhee (PG)           | 7 p.m.    |
| April 24 | CLOSED                      |           |
| April 25 | Annapolis (PG13)            | 7 p.m.    |

## Camp Darby Theater

|          |                              |        |
|----------|------------------------------|--------|
| April 21 | When A Stranger Calls (PG13) | 6 p.m. |
| April 22 | Freedomland (R)              | 6 p.m. |
| April 23 | Nanny McPhee (PG)            | 2 p.m. |

## Movie Synopsis

**RUNNING SCARED** - *Paul Walker, Wayne Brady* - Two 10-year-old boys get their hands on a mob gun with which a cop was shot. The father of one of the boys must take to the streets in a desperate bid to recover the weapon before the mob finds out it's missing.

**NANNY MCPHEE** - *Emma Thompson, Colin Firth* - A new nanny enters the household of the recently widowed Mr. Brown and attempts to tame his seven exceedingly ill-behaved children. The children, led by the oldest boy Simon, have managed to drive away 17 previous nannies and are certain that they will have no trouble with this one. But as Nanny McPhee takes control, they begin to notice that their vile behavior now leads swiftly and magically to rather startling consequences.

**WHEN A STRANGER CALLS** - *Camilla Belle, Katie Cassidy* - While babysitting, a high school student is terrorized by a stranger who calls her, asking "have you checked the children lately?" The police eventually notify her the calls are coming from inside the house.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.  
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.  
Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.

## Volunteer News - American Red Cross

### National Volunteer Week

In honor of National Volunteer Week, April 23-29, the American Red Cross and Army Community Service will be hosting a cake cutting ceremony April 24 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

### Volunteer Recruiting Drive

A Volunteer Recruiting Drive will be held at the PX on April 26 and 28 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to sign up for upcoming Red Cross volunteer orientations and receive information on volunteering in the community.

### Volunteer Opportunities

The Red Cross needs your help to become a volunteer or recruit new volunteers. Our needs are especially great due to block leave and people PCSing. There are many opportunities to serve the community and learn various skills. Some available volunteer job opportunities include casework chair, interpreter coordinator, health and safety coordinator, office volunteer, station chair, and youth chair. They have ongoing opportunities in the health clinic, vet clinic, post office and library as well.

### American Red Cross Volunteer Orientation

New volunteer orientations are held the first Tuesday of every month. Pre-registration is required. Stop by or call 634-7089.



## Post looks into future during Technology Expo

Holocom Networks Regional Vice President, Robert Murphy illustrates some of the features of the Protected Distribution System cable infrastructure for SIPR-NET to a SETAF Soldier. The Soldier visited some other Technology Expositions before, but it was his first time attending the one on Caserma Ederle.

About 150 community members visited the annual exposition sponsored by the 509th Signal Battalion at Club Veneto April 6.

"It is a good chance to meet the customers," said Jeremy Young, Hewlett Packard Account Manager Navy/DoD Personal System Group.

Young, who came from the states, explained that many visitors were interested in the new products and technology solutions on display.

About 22 companies, mostly from the states, but also from Germany, England and Italy, participated in the event showing their latest products in knowledge management solutions, network operations services, mobile/wireless computing, information services, computer hardware and software. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)



A Casa Toscana desk clerk assist a customer with his out processing procedures. Below: An outside view of Casa Toscana.

# Casa Toscana

Story and Photos by Chiara Mattiolo  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Recognition for excellence is always sweet, especially when it is well earned. The employees of Livorno's Casa Toscana can now enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Casa Toscana was named the Army's Lodging Operation of the Year in the small operations category.

The Lodging Operation of the Year award competition recognizes outstanding lodging operations Army-wide. The annual competition is based on self-assessments submitted in nomination packets and an on-site evaluation of finalists by a visiting panel of competition judges. Judging is based on how well a facility meets Army lodging standards of operations, services, and facilities.

The Livorno lodging property is comprised of 22 rooms consisting of nine guest rooms, four two-room suites, five one-bedroom apartments, three two-bedroom apartments, and one VIP suite.

"Potential facility improvements were identified when the hotel



Above: The proud staff of the Livorno Army lodging won the small operations category of the Army Lodging Operation of the Year Award for 2006.

transitioned to an Army lodging property in April 2001," said Casa Toscana Manager Barbara Kirylo. "The identified improvements were all in accordance with Army lodging standards for facilities.

"Following inspections and assessments, a facility improvement project costing a total of \$630,000 started in March 2005 and was completed by October of the same year," explained Kirylo.

During the upgrade work, the facility remained open all the time, to ensure quality service for the community. In order to do so, the project was divided into three different phases, with a three-day break between each phase.

"In those three days, we had to clean the renovated area, get and assemble all the new furniture, and move the old furniture from the next-to-be-worked area," said Kirylo.

"The key to success was really the team work," she said. "This is an extremely strong team – everyone of us was doing extra work and supporting in any possible way. We are all very proud of our success," Kirylo said.

The renovated facility now has TV, telephone and LAN lines in each bedroom and sitting room.

"During the renovation project, there were three employees that are no longer on the staff but need to be recognized for their exceptional performance and loyalty," Kirylo said. "They aided in the overall success of the Casa Toscana. These people are Kimberly Kollet, hotel clerk; Gertrude Oliver, hotel clerk; and Danielle Porvaznik, custodial worker."

For any information on Livorno lodging, call 633-7580 or commercial 050-54 75 80 or email at [Casa.toscana@darby.setaf.army.mil](mailto:Casa.toscana@darby.setaf.army.mil)



A custodial worker prepares a room upon a guest's departure.