



Parents of Vicenza military community students walk through the front doors on the first day of school Monday. For more back to school photos, see page 4.

Vicenza schools open for learning

Story and photos by David Ruderman
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

Vicenza Military Community schools opened Monday with more than 1,100 children arriving for the start of the academic year.

Registrations were up to about 250 at Vicenza High School in the week leading up to the start of classes. Principal Lauri Kenney said the school's emphasis on academic rigor and achievement would remain front and center in the year ahead at the school on Caserma Ederle.

"Our vision is to just keep plugging away and keeping our focus on the kids and on the classroom," said Kenney.

She noted the school's excellent Terra Nova and AP scores as indicators of the high performance of the student body as a whole. While Kenney's teaching staff remains acutely aware of the pressures present in a military community experiencing a deployment, and continues to be responsive to the social and emotional needs of their students, the administration and staff are going to ensure that the academic focus of day-to-day learning sets the tone at VHS, she said.

"We're going to make sure the kids know we care. We'll be keeping an eye on

the whole child, so to speak," she said.

Enrollment was more than 240 at Vicenza Middle School, compared to about 210 at the end of last school year, said principal Dr. Julio Gonzalez, as he greeted newcomers at an orientation event Aug. 23.

"It's the growth from the first year to this – and we're equipped to go to 500 – that is really exciting," Gonzalez said. "You'll see some growth this year."

Gonzalez said he requested additional teaching staff and was awaiting approval from Department of Defense Education Activity administrators in the U.S. "We've asked for two more. Will we get that right away? I hope so," he said.

"We are the only middle school in DoDEA in this region. It's more like the traditional American school, where the sixth- to eighth-grade are together. It's a developmental stage that is essential."

Gonzalez said he had charged his teachers with three main areas of focus for the year ahead: teams, exploring and advisement.

At the middle school level teaching teams work with larger than classroom-size groups of students to build learning activities that explore a range of subjects from various perspectives. Last year, for instance, a range of classes built teaching

See SCHOOL, page 4

DoDEA teacher of year speaks at Women's Equality observance

By Julie M. Lucas
Outlook editor

The Vicenza Equal Opportunity's Women's Equality observance headlined the vital roles women have played throughout the world. This year's theme is, "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote" which is fitting with the upcoming

election year. The featured speaker at the event was a local trailblazer, Angela Wilson, Vicenza Middle School teacher and the Department of Defense Education Activity's Teacher of the Year for 2012.

Wilson, who teaches language arts and forensics, began her speech talking about inventions that women would

be credited with including suspenders, windshield wipers, drinking fountains and car heaters to a crowd at Soldiers' Theatre Aug. 23.

"In this so-called 'man's world' women have shown their courage time and time again, and have proven themselves whenever it was needed," Wilson said.

Women's Equality is celebrated by the passing of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution 92 years ago that gives women the right to vote. A group of women called the Suffragettes spent 72 years petitioning the government trying to earn equal rights for women. Only one of the women lived long enough to

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Community page 4

See photos of back to school events; lists of important info



Sports page 8

Youth Flag Football team goes undefeated; Community members gather for pick-up volleyball games at the Fitness Center



73/55 Friday	70/55 Saturday	73/57 Sunday

Enjoy your Labor Day holiday Monday. Many post offices and businesses will be closed.

173rd PVT answers 'Why I Serve'

By Sgt. Michael Sword
Task Force 173rd Public Affairs

LOGAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan – When Pvt. Christopher Adams was in eighth grade, he knew he wanted to be a paratrooper. He had just finished the HBO mini-series *Band of Brothers*, about the men of the 101st Airborne Division and their fight through the battlefields of World War II. Seeing them jump from planes while taking fire and fight their way across Europe grabbed the attention and imagination of the eighth grade Adams, and he was sold. He knew what he wanted to do and he knew how to do it.

Now at 22 years old, Adams is deployed with Task Force 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team for the second time as a 240 gunner with Company D, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, helping to transition Afghanistan's Logar Province to the protection of the Afghan National Security Forces.

The path from his home in West Palm Beach, Fla., to the hill he sits on now overwatching a patrol, is paved with hard work, determination and a desire to realize the dream of being a paratrooper.

"Obviously, the war was going on so every day I was on YouTube watching videos of Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. "I started running to lose weight."



However, his motivation eventually waned and he ended up losing sight of his goal.

"I was a high school dropout," said Adams. "I just didn't like school and I was more interested in doing the party thing."

After Adams dropped out, he joined Job Corps to finish his high school diploma and earn a certification as an auto mechanic. But life had other plans.

"They had a pre-military program there," he said. "I was in it right away and I went full throttle. The instructor was a retired first sergeant and he kept me straight while I was there."

As Adams worked through the program, he had plenty of work ahead of him. In addition to classes and his pre-military program, he also had weight to lose before he would be able to join the Army. In October 2009, Adams got his high school diploma, and 80 lbs. lighter, joined the Army.

He arrived in Vicenza, Italy, to the 173rd Airborne and within a week joined the unit in Afghanistan in May 2010. As the unit looked to deploy a second time, Adams had a choice to make: leave the unit, or extend for another deployment.

"I extended to come on this deployment," he said. "There were too many new guys and I thought we needed more combat experience."

Now, more than a month into his second deployment to Afghanistan, he faces another choice. A choice that every servicemember must make eventually.

"I'm trying to decide to stay in or get out," he said. "I don't mind the Army life and I always wanted to be infantry and jump out of planes, so I'm leaning on staying in."

Sticks and stones may break your bones, but Facebook comments are forever

Commentary by Joyce Costello
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs Office

The joy of social media is that you can reach out to friends around the world, share your thoughts and photos, and express your contentment or discontentment about brands or bad neighbors.

But, along with the freedom of expression often comes the misunderstanding of intent behind the written word. With social network programs such as Storify, now even journalists who are not your friends on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube can take what you are saying online – the good, the bad and the ugly – and turn it into "a story" without even asking you directly for a quote.

I decided to do an experiment to see if I could create a story about the people who were honoring our fallen heroes in their own way, using Facebook quotes

gleaned from Storify. I discovered the Beaverton Valley Times of Oregon, hometown newspaper of fallen 173rd ABCT warrior, Pfc. Andrew Keller, was trying to find out what their local community members thought of renaming the Southridge High School football field as the Andrew Keller Memorial Field.

Folks such as Angie Simpson, encouraged her fellow citizens in Cherryville, Ohio, to bring flags down to Main Street to for an honor procession for another fallen Sky Soldier, Spc. James Justice. For this situation, social media proved to be an excellent tool.

However, if I wanted to write a scathing story about personal disagreements among members of a community, the story would not be so nice. In fact, it could be rather frightening from a personal security perspective, when one realizes that one's personal comments are not always

protected.

Once you've posted something online, despite deleting it, it can remain forever online.

According to Erik Qualman, author of "Socialnomics," news can now travel the world within 12 minutes. Add to that the notion, articulated by Chief of Army Public Affairs Maj. Gen. Stephen R. Lanza, that Soldiers have always been and will always be our best storytellers.

Taken together, the bottom line is that any time a member of the Army family joins social media, what they say can be taken by others to represent the truth about the Army.

Social networking is changing the way we communicate at breakneck speeds, so before you post – remember this: that while it might sound benign to you, consider whether you really want your personal thoughts, and the uses to which others may put them, to live online for the rest of eternity.

WOMEN: Equality theme for this year celebrates voting rights

Continued from page 1

see the amendment pass.

"It is hard for many of us in this room to imagine a time when women couldn't vote, own property, drive a car, go to college, play golf and so forth," Wilson said.

Since women were given the right to vote other accomplishments include winning Pulitzer Prizes, crossing the Atlantic Ocean in an airplane, becoming a member of the presidential cabinet, going to space and even being able to join the armed forces.

"Women have worked their way into the bloodstream of universities and hospitals, police academies and the military," said Wilson. "We are slamming gavels, writing novels, and catching criminals, flying to space, running, jumping, performing, dancing, literally and figuratively building bridges."

After her speech, Wilson was presented with a certificate from U.S. Army Garrison Deputy Commander James Walls and 1st Sgt. Fidelis Etim. Walls spoke about as a young child knowing how that many women had only recently earned certain rights and freedoms.

"Some of the women's mothers and even grandmothers weren't able to vote and that was a big deal," Walls said.

Finding someone to speak at this year's event was an easy choice for the Equal Opportunity Office.

"We are extremely fortunate to have someone like Angela Wilson teaching our children in our community," said Equal Opportunity advisor Master Sgt. Richard Colon. "Not only is she very important to the local community, but will be remembered by many for her contributions and excellent teaching."

Speak Out

What are you looking forward to this school year?



Virginia Pardew
VMS

"This year I am looking forward to making new friends."



Alex Hascall
VMS

"Seeing all my friends and learning new things, especially art."



Ethan Rodriguez
VMS

"I am looking forward to learning how to play in band to try something new."

By Laura Kreider

Day makes difference for deployed siblings

Story and photo by Sgt. Michael Sword

173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SHANK, Afghanistan — Sgt. 1st Class Mica Snell and his brother Staff Sgt. Justin Snell were born and grew up in Derby, Kan. Less than two years apart in age, they went to the same schools at the same time and more often than not, had the same friends. Justin moved to Green Valley, Ariz., when he was 16 and graduated high school there while Mica stayed and graduated from Derby High. After high school, Mica attended two years of college before joining the Army in early 2001. After Justin graduated he went to the University of Arizona for three years.

When Mica joined the Army, he enlisted as a PATRIOT Launching Station Enhanced Operator/Maintainer. He was assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas, and took advantage of the location, visiting Justin numerous times in Arizona.

Like many big brothers, when his Justin came to him and said that he wanted to join, Mica advised him to finish school and if he was still interested in the

Army after graduating, to commission and join. Like many younger brothers, Justin didn't listen and enlisted anyway, as an infantryman.

Mica was still at Fort Bliss when Justin joined and was assigned to the 112th Signal Battalion at Fort Bragg, N.C., in 2005. Later that year, Mica was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team and what followed would be a time in his career he's never forgotten. He and Justin were able to train together, jump together, attend unit functions together and Justin was even able to pin Mica when he was promoted to staff sergeant.

Soon after, the brothers would be separated by multiple deployments and changes of duty stations that made seeing each other almost impossible, including a stretch of almost three years between 2005 and 2008.

After a deployment to the Philippines, Justin redeployed in November of 2005 and was assigned to the scout platoon of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss, Texas.

"In the summer of 2009, Justin called me and told me that he was getting

married in Houston and wanted me to be his best man," Mica said. "Of course I accepted and met him in Houston.

"Little did I know that this would be the last time I would see him for over four years."

Before Justin returned from his first deployment, Mica had been deployed to Iraq. Justin re-deployed to Fort Bragg, switched units, and deployed to Iraq before Mica returned to Bragg. Justin followed suit, changing units and quickly deploying to Iraq for 12 months.

The deployments continued and the brothers continued to just miss each other.

In 2008, Mica was assigned to HHC, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team in Vicenza, deploying with them to Logar and Wardak Provinces, Afghanistan, in May 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom X.

After the 173rd's return from Afghanistan, Mica stayed busy and began to prepare for the Sky Soldiers' next deployment less than two years away. During that time, Justin called to tell Mica that he would be walking in his footsteps as his unit would also be in Logar and Wardak.

The closer it got to Mica's next deployment, the more he was able to find out, ultimately learning that the 173rd was headed back to Logar and Wardak. More importantly, Mica's unit would be replacing Justin's.

"I can remember driving to Rome with my dad during Thanksgiving of 2011 and at that time I knew there was going to be a chance we could meet," Mica said.

That feeling became stronger when Mica found out that the two of them would be moving through the same outposts and operating bases at the same

time.

"I knew we could meet when I found out that I was going to FOB Altimur and that Justin was moving from his combat outpost to Altimur during the same time that I was going to be there," said Mica. "When we left Aviano there was no doubt I was going to see him."

Mica and Soldiers of the 173rd departed Aviano Air Base, on a flight known as Main Body 4. Expecting to arrive at the transit center in Manas, Kyrgyzstan, in less than 10 hours, the Soldiers on MB4 would instead find themselves in transit for almost a week.

While the days passed by, Mica feared that his opportunity to see his brother was passing with them.

When he finally arrived at FOB Shank, Mica was already tracking his brother's movements, and knew Justin made it to nearby FOB Altimur. Many years and thousands of miles later, and the two of them were separated by no more than a short drive.

Fortunately for the two brothers, Command Sgt. Maj. Mickey Rutledge, command sergeant major of 1st Bn., 503rd Inf. Regt., 173rd ABCT, stepped in and bridged the gap.

Rutledge let Mica stay in place at FOB Shank an extra day. That extra day was all the brothers needed, as Justin rolled in shortly after.

The 1st Battalion representative there brought joy to another Snell family member, bringing the brothers to the other side of base where they could have a hot meal and call their mother to let her know that her boys were safe.

"There it is again," Mica said. "Another amazing experience in my career that involved my brother, the greatest warrior I know."



Sgt. 1st Class Mica Snell, right, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, Task Force 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team and his brother Staff Sgt. Justin Snell, scout platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, at Forward Operating Base Shank, July 10. The brothers ran into each other when the 173rd took over responsibility of Afghanistan's Logar and Wardak Provinces from 3rd BCT, 1 AD.

DoD announces OEF casualties

The Department of Defense announced the death of two 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Soldiers supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Pfc. Andrew J. Keller, 22, of Tigard, Ore., died Aug. 15, in Charkh, when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire. He was assigned to the 1st

Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment.

Spc. James A. Justice, 21, of Grover, N.C., died Aug. 17 at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, from injuries suffered Aug. 14 from enemy small-arms fire in Wardak province. Justice was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment.



Pfc. Andrew J. Keller



Spc. James A. Justice

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U.S. Army Africa Commander
Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Donahue II

USAG Vicenza Commander
and Publisher
Col. David Buckingham

USAG Vicenza
Public Affairs Officer
Grant Sattler

Editor
Julie M. Lucas

Photojournalist
Laura Kreider

Staff writer
David Ruderman

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Community news

SCHOOL: Enrollment up from last year, new teachers hired



Dr. Julio Gonzalez, right, Vicenza Middle School principal, greets a family on the first day of school Monday.

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models around the theme of the Spice Road, which resulted in a holistic approach to the core subject.

“It’s teams working together for kids,” said Gonzalez.

In terms of advisement, Gonzalez said the middle school is dedicated to monitoring and mentoring student development through the potentially difficult early adolescent phase of growth. “It’s critical, especially in times of transition, times of stress,” he said. “That’s why I love this age group.”

At Vicenza Elementary School, principal Chris Beane was intensely involved in procuring additional teacher slots as the first day of school approached. Enrollments had reached 630 in the week before opening.

Greeting parents and children assembled for a newcomer’s tour Friday, Beane announced that the school had just received approval from DoDEA headquarters in Alexandria, Va., to proceed with hiring actions to add several more teachers to the staff. As a consequence, administrators were working feverishly to shuffle classroom assignments and had to postpone the posting of teacher-student lists until Saturday.

“But this is beneficial to everybody. I’m so happy,” Beane said.

On opening day, all three principals were on hand outside their buildings to welcome students as buses rolled in and parents walked younger children to meet their teachers and find their classrooms. And the weather was perfect.

Beane said the energy and excitement of children returning to school was exhilarating.

“But the best feeling of all, really the best feeling, when the rush is over, about 8:15, you walk down the hall and see all the backpacks lined up on the hooks and you know they’re all back,” he said.



First-grade students in Veronica Snell’s class receive name tags on their first day of school Monday. Enrollment at Vicenza Elementary School reached 630 last week.

Open House events, openings

First day of kindergarten – Sept. 4

Vicenza High School – Sept. 6, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

First day of Sure Start – Sept. 13

Vicenza Elementary School – Sept. 13, 4-5:30 p.m.

Vicenza Middle School – Sept. 13, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Sure Start enrollment

Vicenza Elementary School makes the Sure Start preschool program available to qualifying 4-year-olds. Sure Start is a free, full-day preschool program designed for children of sponsors E-4 and below who meet a number of criteria. Selection is based on committee assessment. For information and an application come to the school office on Villaggio or call 634-7069.

National School Lunch Program

The National School Lunch Program provides free or reduced cost financial support for qualifying student lunches. Eligibility is based on family size and income; guidelines are available at the School Liaison Office.

Families must complete an application each year as guidelines do change. Whether you were enrolled in the program last year or are new family to the community, you must apply to determine eligibility for this school year. Visit the SLO in the Davis Hall Soldier and Family Readiness Center, building 108, and bring the sponsor’s most recent

military or civilian Leave and Earnings statement to determine eligibility. Call 634-5998 for assistance.

Bright Eyes Program

The Bright Eyes Program is a Financial Assistance Program administered by the School Liaison Officer and supported by the Vicenza Community Club that offsets the cost of qualifying children’s eyeglass requirements by \$150. If a child’s family has qualified for the National School Lunch Program, parents should immediately contact the SLO at 634-5998 for information on purchasing glasses from the specified Bright Eyes source to receive the offset.

School Liaison Officer

The garrison’s School Liaison Officer works in conjunction with the Child, Youth and School Services the Vicenza school community to address educational issues involving military children. Through exercising partnership the SLO organizes resources to provide assistance with issues concerning student transition, serving as the link between the installation and the school district. For information and assistance call Norie McCall at 634-5998 or 0444-71-5998.

Free online tutoring available

CYSS now offers free online tutoring services to Army affiliated students through www.tutor.com. Students should go to www.myarmyonesource.com and submit a one-time

registration to obtain a CYSS pass code. The source can be accessed from home or from the CYS Services Technology Labs. Educational support is available for kindergarten through 12th grade in math, science, English and social studies. Students work with tutors in an online classroom with an interactive white board. Go online to www.myarmyonesource.com/ChildYouthandSchoolServices/CYSServicesOnlineTutoring/default.aspx to get started.

Student Online Achievement Resources

SOAR is a no-cost online program that lets parents play an active role in their children’s education. After completing an online assessment, students are directed to individualized tutorials to improve specific skills, which parents can monitor and support. Go to www.soarathome.com to log in.

Support for home schoolers

CYSS offers support to Vicenza youth who participate in home instruction. Physical education and technology classes are offered throughout the academic year for children aged 5 and up, and various SKIES and EDGE classes are also available. Call the SLO at 634-5998 for details.

Back to School Bash set

The Vicenza USO will host a Back to School Bash Sept. 22 at Hoekstra Field from 1-5 p.m. featuring food, activities, demonstrations, giveaways and information tables.

Darby Military Community



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

Beach music: A group named The Roamies performs for the Darby Military Community at the American Beach Aug. 22. The group consists of Alexa James and Rory Partin, both from Los Angeles, with a guest guitarist.



Photo by Amy Drummond

Ball skills: The George Washington University basketball team worked with local youths on their skills while visiting the community at the Darby Military Community Gym Aug. 20. While visiting they also played a game against the Camp Darby team.



Photo by Amy Drummond

BOSS BBQ: The Camp Darby Military Community Chapel and Chap. (Capt.) Gino Hernandez sponsored a potluck barbecue dinner to bring together single Soldiers and Airmen at the BOSS lounge Aug. 23. Members of the community also prepared and brought dishes to the dinner.

Darby ates

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

Sports & Fitness 633-7438

The Fitness Center's Flag Football League is forming now so get yourself registered before the sign-up deadline of Sept. 7. Coaches meeting Sept. 10 at noon. For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 633-7438.

Can you go the distance? Open registration thru Sept. 12 for the 2nd Annual Camp Darby Duathlon to be held this year at the American Beach Sept. 15. For more information, contact Sports & Fitness at 633-7438.

Where else in the world can you find a finish line in front of the Leaning Tower of Pisa? Register now for the 30th Annual Run to the Tower, a 12 km (7.3 mile) run from Camp Darby to the Leaning Tower of Pisa Oct. 19. The first 400 entrants receive a free Run to the Tower 2012 T-shirt. For more information, contact ODR at 633-7775.

ITR

- ◆ Venice Trip, Sept. 8
 - ◆ Cinque Terre, Sept. 15
- Call 633-7589 for information.

Open Market in Forte dei Marmi

Every Wednesday and Sunday a very famous market takes place in Forte dei Marmi, Lucca.

This market is for people who love shopping. The market offers good prices and famous brands.

Volunteers Needed 633-8696

Girl Scouts of Camp Darby needs someone to manage volunteers and attend monthly meetings.

Religious Activities 633-7267

11:15 a.m. Protestant worship
5 p.m. Catholic Mass

Medieval Fest:

A festival held Saturday-Sunday near Padova in Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, will feature medieval food tasting and crafts.



Courtesy photo

Padova

Andrew Bird: Nov. 14 in Milan

Kris Kristofferson: Nov. 26 in Milan

Cirque Du Soleil - Alegria: Nov. 15-18 in Assago (Milan)

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

ODR trips

Aperitives in Valpolicella: Friday

Labor Day in Prague: Friday-Sunday

Regatta in Venice by train: Sunday

Rock climbing at Lake Garda: Sunday

Milan and the Last Supper: Sept. 8

Sea kayak on Lake Garda: Sept. 8

Wine down Wednesday: Sept. 12

Nice and half day cruise: Sept. 15

Adriatic Sea fishing: Sept. 15

Oktoberfest in Munich: Sept. 22

Horseback riding: Sept. 22

Adriatic Sea fishing: Sept. 29

Lugano, Switzerland: Sept. 29

Ladies Agriturismo hike and lunch: Oct. 3

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

*All events listed on this page are as reported to the Outlook office by press time. All events and times are subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Local events

Brintaal Celtic Folk Festival:

Thursday-Sunday, in Valstagna, about 34 miles north of Vicenza. Food booths; fantasy workshops for children; live Celtic music start nightly at 9:30 p.m.

Festa di Toara (Toara City Festival):

Friday-Monday, in Toara, about 17 miles south of Vicenza. Food booths open at 7 p.m. Music and dancing will begin at 9:30 p.m. On Sunday, at 7 p.m. model aircraft and helicopters acrobatic show; on Monday, traditional Toara town dinner – reserve your seat during the previous fest nights.

Festa dei Ossi de Mas-cio (Pig bones festival):

Friday-Tuesday, in Longare, about seven miles south of Vicenza. Carnival rides, bounce-houses, local wine tasting and non-alcoholic cocktails. Food booths open at 7 p.m. Live music and dancing nightly at 9 p.m.

Festa della Patata (Potato Festival):

Friday-Sunday, in Rotzo, Via Roma 49, about 39 miles north of Vicenza. Food booths featuring gnocchi with a wide variety of sauces open at 7:30 p.m. daily and on Sunday at 12:15 p.m.; cart horse parade on Sunday at 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; children entertainment on Sunday at 3:30 p.m.; live music and dancing at 9:30 p.m.

Medieval Festival:

Saturday and Sunday, in Montagnana (Padova), about 27 miles south of Vicenza. From 10 a.m. Medieval food and drinks tasting and local crafts and hobby exhibit and sale in Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II.

Festa del Baccalà (Dried Cod Fish Festival):

Saturday-Tuesday, in Gaianigo di Gazzo, about 11 miles east of Vicenza. Food booths featuring

local fish specialties open at 7 p.m.; charity raffle and large lighted parking lot available; live music and ballroom dancing nightly at 9 p.m.; fireworks on Tuesday at 11:30 p.m.

Festa del Gnocco :

Saturday-Sunday and Sept. 7-9 in Selva di Trissino, about 19 miles west of Vicenza. Bounce houses; food booths featuring a variety of home-made gnocchi and other typical dishes and local wines; local products exhibit and market; live music at 9 p.m.

Festa dei Gnocchi con la Fioretta (Gnocchi with Ricotta Festival):

Sunday, in Recoaro Terme, Via Lelia, about 28 miles northwest of Vicenza. Fioretta is a typical ricotta from Veneto. Food booths open at 11 p.m.; 11 a.m.-noon, live folk music and traditional mountain costume parade at 11 a.m.

Historic Regatta:

Sunday, in Venice. This regatta, famous for its spectacular historical water parade that precedes the race, is the most important event in the annual Venetian rowing calendar. It dates back centuries, probably as far back as the mid 13th century when Venice needed to train the crews of its Navy in the art of rowing. Nowadays there are four different races divided in terms of age and type of craft: the young rowers' twin-oared pupparini; the Women's twin-oared mascarete; the six-oared caorline regatta, and the twin-oared gondolini regatta. You can attend the Historic parade and the regattas from the platform set up near Campo San Tomà. Cost: €45; €22.50 (for young adults 6-18); free for children under 6 with no seat assignment and accompanied by an adult.

Luna Park - Carnival Rides for children and adults:

Ongoing through Sept. 16, in Vicenza, Campo Marzo, weekdays 4 p.m.-midnight and 3 p.m.-midnight on Sundays and holidays; Fridays and Saturdays 3 p.m.-1 a.m.

Il giro della Rua (The Wheel Parade):

Sept. 8, in Vicenza. This 2,000 person parade led by the Historic Alpini Band departs from Piazza Duomo at 8:15 p.m. and arrives to Piazza dei Signori where at 9 p.m. there will be the lighting ceremony of the historical wooden tower, symbol of Vicenza. "Rua" means "wheel" and it was originally the insignia of Vicentine notaries in the festival commemorating an ancient victory of Vicenza over its Paduan rulers in the thirteenth century. The Rua will be on display in Piazza dei Signori through Sept. 30. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to Sept. 15.

Free concerts, exhibits, events

Musicalcentro - Downtown concerts: in Vicenza

- ♦ Sunday: 9 p.m. in Campo Marzo, SKA-J Band
- ♦ Sept. 9: 11 a.m. in Giardini Salvi, piano concert; 5 p.m. in Piazza Matteotti, Yessica Y Emiliano:Tango!
- ♦ Sept. 16: 5 p.m. in Piazza Matteotti, Anna Cavedon Band
- ♦ Sept. 22: 5 p.m., Palazzo Trissino, Corso Andrea Palladio 98/a, Ottoni Ensemble
- ♦ Sept. 23: 11 a.m. in Piazza Castello, piano concert; 5 p.m. in Piazza Matteotti, Fuente Flamenca Ensemble
- ♦ Sept. 30: 6 p.m., Palazzo Trissino, piano concert
- ♦ Oct. 6: 5 p.m. in Giardini Salvi, Wind Band

Workout classes:

In Vicenza, Retrone Park, Via Malvezzi, Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.; Querini Park, ongoing through Sept. 7: Tuesday, 7-8 p.m., boot camp workout; Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. rumba; Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., abs, legs and gluteus workout; Fridays, 7-8 p.m., cardio toning workout.

Thai Chi, Zumba, and Jazzercise classes:

In Thiene, Villa Fabris, Via Trieste 43, about 13 miles north of Vicenza, ongoing through Aug. 31, Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:45-8:45 p.m. morning lessons Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10 a.m.

Italian Artistic Craft exhibit:

Ongoing through Sept. 2, in Vicenza, ViArt, Contrà del Monte 13. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 3-7 p.m.

Concerts

Norah Jones: Sept. 18 in Milan

Opera on Ice: Sept. 22 in Verona

Leonard Cohen: Sept. 24 in Verona

Jennifer Lopez: Oct. 11 in Casalecchio Sul Reno (Bologna)

Europe: Oct. 27 in Padova, Oct. 29 in Milan

The Cranberries: Oct. 28 in

Now Showing



Ederle Theater

Day	Movie	Time
Thursday	That's My Boy (R)	6 p.m.
Friday	Brave (PG)	6 p.m.
	Ted (R)	9 p.m.
Saturday	Sparkle (PG 13)*	noon
	Premium Rush (PG 13)*	3 p.m.
	Hit and Run (R)*	6 p.m.
Sunday	Sparkle (PG 13)*	noon
	Premium Rush (PG 13)*	3 p.m.
	Hit and Run (R)*	6 p.m.
Wed.	Brave (PG)	6 p.m.
Aug. 6	Ted (R))	6 p.m.
Aug. 7	The Amazing Spiderman (PG 13)	6 p.m.
	Magic Mike (R)	9 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Sept. 7	The Expendables 2 (R)*	
Sept. 8	The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG)*	6 p.m.
Sept. 9	Paranorman (PG)*	6 p.m.
Sept. 14	Magic Mike (R)	1 p.m.

Admission: *First run, adult, \$5.50, under 12, \$2.75; regular release, \$5/6 p.m. repeat releases, \$4.50/\$2.25; special pay \$3.50/\$1.75.

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

View MOVIE TRAILERS and more online at www.shopmyexchange.com/ems/euro/vicenza.htm



Sabina Benedini mourned

Longtime Vicenza Military Community member Sabina Benedini passed away Aug. 17. She worked for the Directorate of Logistics and IMMA for several years and later was known throughout the community as the "Commissary secretary." Our condolences to her family and many friends.

Record holiday greetings

Hometown News will record holiday greetings in Vicenza Sept. 18-19 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in front of the post theater. Record your holiday greeting to be broadcast on television stations in the U.S., Puerto Rico, America Samoa, Guam and AFN stations around the world. Taping will take place on a first come, first served basis.

Rocsi Diaz against bullying

Rocsi Diaz of BET's *106 & Park* and host of *Rocsi on the Radio* will meet with Vicenza High School and Vicenza Middle School students Sept. 10 to talk about bullying and how to defeat it. She will also attend a meet and greet at the PX from 2-3 p.m.

USO seeks info specialist

USO Vicenza is accepting applications for a part-time information specialist. They seek a hardworking, fun-loving person with a flexible schedule to accommodate some evenings, weekends and holidays. This is a position. Come by the USO Vicenza for details or call 634-8146 or 0444-71-8146. Applications must be submitted at www.uso.org.

Villaggio CDC accredited

Congratulations to the administration, teaching staff and families of the Villaggio Child Development Center in Building 703 for achieving official accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The term of NAEYC accreditation took effect Aug. 9 and is valid until Oct. 1, 2017. The Villaggio CDC is one of fewer than 10 percent of all early childhood programs in the United States that has achieved this distinction. "It was a lot of hard work and required true teamwork and dedication from the staff and families who worked on the self-study, but it was worth it to know that our CDC meets all of the high standards of a quality childcare

program and provides the best possible care for children," said Linda Tolen, Villaggio CDC Director.

EFMP Respite Care

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Respite Care provides a temporary rest period for family members responsible for the regular care of persons with disabilities. Members must be EFMP medically enrolled for consideration. For details contact the EFMP ACS office at EFMP@vicenzamwr.com or call 634-8582 or 0444-071-8582.

CYSS Registration

Parents can now make appointments to register or re-register their children for CYS Services. Parent Central Services is currently taking appointments for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. No appointment is necessary for making payments, enrolling in activities, updating immunizations or health assessments. Parent Central Services is open Mondays-Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. To make an appointment call 634-7219 or 0444-71-7219.

COLA to decrease

The Italy Finance Office announced that Soldiers will see a decrease of approximately 8 percent in their Cost Of Living Allowance in their end-of-month August pay. COLA is calculated based on the comparable buying power pay would have in the United States based on currency exchange rates. Soldiers are encouraged to complete the upcoming cost of living survey at the end of the year on which future calculations will be based.

Junk email filters in use

DISA Enterprise Services advises all system users that DoD Enterprise is currently blocking suspicious email and confirmed spam from entering your inbox. Emails identified as suspected spam are routed to your "junk email" folder. Users should periodically check messages in their Outlook junk mail folder to determine if messages are in fact spam or were sent by a trusted source. If a flagged message is not spam, you should highlight the message and click the "not junk" icon in the tool bar. A dialogue box will open. If the message was sent by a trusted source, check the box to always trust email from that source and click OK. The message will be redirected to your Inbox and the trusted source will not be redirected to the junk folder in future. Messages in the "junk mail" folder will be automatically deleted after 60 days. If you receive suspicious mail in your Inbox, contact your local service desk for assistance.

Estate claims

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of **Sp. James A. Justice** of 2nd-503rd Infantry, 173rd ABCT, should contact the summary court officer, 2nd Lt. Michael Boutte, at 320-366-4760 or by email at michael.e.boutte@us.army.mil.

michael.e.boutte@us.army.mil.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of **Pfc. Andrew J. Keller** of 1st-503rd Infantry, 173rd ABCT, should contact the summary court officer, Capt. Ben Ravitz, at 634-6303.

Mosquito spraying in Villaggio

Spraying for mosquitoes in Villaggio will take place today and Sept. 20 between 7-9 p.m. Children and pets should be kept inside with doors and windows closed. In case of rain, the treatment will be rescheduled.

Technology Exposition

The 509th Signal Battalion will host the annual USAG Vicenza Technology Exposition Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Golden Lion Conference Center. More than 25 exhibitors will demonstrate the latest in communications, video/media/presentation, distance learning, integrated services, transport, cloud computing, data management and storage, network encryption and other technologies. There is no charge and all military, civilian and contractor personnel are invited to attend.

Birth abroad briefings

Monthly briefings at the Vicenza Health Care Center for couples expecting a baby while stationed in Italy cover important topics including applications for the child's passport, Consular Report of Birth Abroad and Social Security number. Call 634-7721 or email maria.c.marcantonio2.civ@mail.mil or joni.elliott2@us.army.mil.

maria.c.marcantonio2.civ@mail.mil or joni.elliott2@us.army.mil.

GoArmyEd tuition deadline approaching

Sept. 25 will be the last day for Soldiers to request Tuition Assistance through *GoArmyEd* for classes beginning on or before Sept. 30, due to the Army's fiscal year closeout. There will be no exceptions. This does not impact requests for courses starting Oct. 1 or later. For assistance call the Vicenza Army Education Counselor at 634-8925 or your local school.

CID seeks agents

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is actively seeking qualified Soldiers to become CID special agents. To apply, contact the local CID office at 634-7723/7828 or go to www.cid.army.mil for details.

Lock your box

The Vicenza Postal Service Center reminds all community members to take one simple precaution to protect their mail and identity: Ensure your CMR box is locked after checking your mail. Turn the combination knob two complete turns after closing; check to make sure it will not open.

Family life consultants

Military and Family Life Consultants are licensed clinical social workers or psychologists here to help Soldiers and Families address difficult issues involving deployment and reunion, marriage, relationships, anxiety, depression,

stress, grief, loss and other matters. Consultations are free of charge and completely anonymous; no records are kept. MFLCs can work with individuals, couples or groups. Call 333-489-8967, 634-7500 or ask at ACS. For the 173rd ABCT MFLC, call 345-077-0476.

Pre-school Story Time

Pre-school Story Time gets under way every Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the library for children ages 3-5. The program is free of charge.

Religious activities

Chaplain Crisis Line

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

Sunday services

9 a.m.: Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation following Mass, or during duty hours

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

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

5 p.m.: Contemporary Christian service

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m.: PWOC Bible study. Dinner provided. No child care

5:30 p.m.: Catholic choir practice

6:45 p.m.: Gospel choir practice

Thursdays

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Women of the Chapel

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

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

Faith group contacts

Bahá'í Faith: Call Russell Menard at 389-133-4627 or 349-708-2535 or Giacomo Baravalle at 348-603-2283

Church of Christ: Call CW2 Michael Bickle at 345-469-9974 or 0444-335-135 or email vicenzaitalychurchofchrist@gmail.com

Islamic: Call 634-7519 (0444-71-7519)

Jewish: Call Paul Levine at 345-907-2108

Latter Day Saints: Sunday services, 9:30 a.m. in Vicenza. Call Chance Wilson at 327-869-8107 for details.

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



Photo by Laura Kreider

Chest pump: Instructor Christina Salas directs students in a lifesaving exercise at an American Red Cross CPR class Aug. 4. Another class will be held this Saturday. Call 0444-71-7089 for information.

DON'T BE LATE: Email briefs to julie.m.lucas.civ@mail.mil by noon on Monday, or by 4 p.m. Friday if Monday is a holiday.

Youth flag football team goes undefeated



Courtesy photo

The Vicenza Spartans Youth Flag Football Team finished their season undefeated with a record of 6-0.

Child, Youth and School Services

When the summer months begin to shine upon us and the youth from the Vicenza Community pack up the books and dust off the swim suits and bicycles, many families begin to embark on vacations around Europe or trips back home to the U.S.

For a handful of kids though, this time of year is when Child, Youth and School Services starts its flag football program. Flag football runs for roughly two months including six officiated games and is a great opportunity for those interested to get an introduction or more experience in the non-contact version of football, a fantastic option for youth.

This year's flag football season included two teams from Vicenza and for the first time, two teams from Aviano. After several great competitive battles between all the teams, Team 1 from Vicenza, the Spartans, emerged from the season as the undefeated champions. The Spartans went 6-0 as they managed to topple opposing teams week after week.

"It was a great season and a great learning experience for the kids," said Kyle Helvey, head coach of the Spartans. "I'm so proud of what they were able to accomplish."

Helvey, who also serves as the team's offensive coordinator, was joined by assistant coach Darren Davis, who served as the team's defensive coordinator. Games were played both here in

Vicenza as well as in Aviano.

"It felt good being undefeated," said Spartan Kaleb Helvey.

Although there were many great plays by the Spartans on offense and defense, one of the highlights of the season came after the Spartans defeated Aviano Team 2 by a score of 21-0.

Following the game, the head referee from Aviano requested all the Spartans players and coaches gather together so he could share something with them. He then said in all his years of coaching, the Spartans had some of the best sportsmanship he had ever seen and he was very impressed and proud of their efforts.

"That compliment says a lot not only about the players and coaches of the Spartans, but also speaks well for the families of the players and the Vicenza community," said Davis.

Throughout the duration of the season, the players are expected to learn offensive plays and defensive schemes in order to work as a team to compete for victories.

"Football is a bit more complex than many of the other CYS sports because the players have to study and learn an assortment of plays and how to react in diverse situations. We also see the sport as an opportunity to teach the players about competitiveness, mental focus, values and teamwork," coach Helvey said.

Congratulations to the Vicenza Spartans on their undefeated season.

Biggest Winner competition

Registration for Vicenza's Biggest Winner 2012 has begun and ends Sept. 14. You must register at the Fitness Center before the competition begins. On Sept. 15 at 10 a.m. the program kicks off with an opening ceremony, a machine how-to tour, fitness games and of course the weigh-ins. Cost is \$20. Blue Star Card holders receive a 10-percent discount. Get registered, get assigned a buddy and get going on changing your habits and reaching your goals in the next three months. Complete rules and information are available at the Fitness Center or online at www.vicenzaMWR.com. Call 634-7616 for more information.

Fall bowling league

Fall Bowling Leagues begin Sept. 12 on Wednesdays. Sign up now at the bowling center desk. Cost is \$12 per week per person. This league is for men and women over age 18. Don't have a team? No problem — they will find you one.

Adult Swim lessons

Adult beginner swimming lessons will help students become comfortable in the water and learn essential elementary swimming skills that include water adjustment, front and back float and an introduction to the front crawl and back stroke. This class is perfect for adults with little or no experience in the water. Classes are held at the Post Pool Sept. 11-Oct. 4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:45-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$50 and you should register at the Fitness Center desk.

Swimming pool hours

The Villaggio Pool is now open the following hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Closed Wednesdays. The pool will close for the season Tuesday.

The Fitness Center pool will go back to its original hours of operation, Tuesdays-Saturdays and be closed Sundays and Mondays.

Unit and rec play

Men's Soccer: Vicenza Post Soccer Team is currently looking for players. Practice is every Tuesday and Thursday at 7-9 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Soccer Field behind the Ederle Inn. For more information contact Wilmer Aguilar (team captain) at 634-8638 or 335-698-1961, or email wilmer.aguilarcorea.mil@mail.mil.

Back hand:

Pick up teams gather together to play volleyball at the gym. Games will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. for eight or more. For more information call the Fitness Center at 634-7009.



Photo by Laura Kreider