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Multinational effort enhances communication, cooperation

Story and photo by Sgt. Nathan Bowen
173d ABCT Public Affairs

NANGAHAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan - Communication and cooperation between Afghan and Pakistan border security forces is essential to the success of containing insurgents threatening both countries.

This led to the Afghan and Pakistan border security forces at Torkham Gate, holding a border flag meeting Feb. 28 with the 173d Airborne Brigade's Special Troops Battalion commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Milhorn.

The goal was to address security and communication issues, as well as the upcoming opening of the Khyber Border Coordination Center.

Preventing insurgent operations in the border area requires constant communication between the Afghan and Pakistan border forces, said Milhorn. He hopes to improve the chances of catching insurgents by supplying the Afghan and Pakistan Border Police with radio equipment so they can speak directly with each other.

Recent improvements at Torkham Gate include installation of an X-ray machine to scan incoming cargo trucks and entering personnel who regularly cross the border into nationwide databases.



Special Troops Battalion paratroopers and Afghan Border Police patrol the bridge between Afghanistan and Pakistan during a Border Flag meeting Feb. 28.

Pakistan Army Col. Qaiser Alam, Khyber Rifles' commander, talked about the importance of all three organizations – the Afghan Border Police, Pakistan Border Police and U.S. military – pooling their resources to combat a common enemy.

"A terrorist is a terrorist," Qaiser said. "He has no nationality, no religion, no color."

Among the plans discussed were future changes. Part of these plans, Qaiser hopes, will include new facilities on his side of the

border, alleviating some of the burden from the Afghan side.

Right now, there is no paperless communication between the three forces and, although only a few hundred feet apart, the checkpoints work independent of each other.

Improving communication between the forces will ultimately benefit both sides.

"Estimates by experts indicate that (Torkham Gate) has the potential to generate \$350 million in revenue each year – money that could be put back into government

projects," said Maj. Scott Sonsalla, Special Troops Battalion's executive officer. "Our goal is to improve the country through prosperity and security. Closing the border to illegal traffic does both."

Representatives from the Pakistan and Afghan security forces are looking forward to the Khyber Border Coordination Center opening and all organizations involved in securing the Afghan/Pakistan border have a dedicated point to consistently exchange ideas and information.

Sky Soldier receives Bronze Star for lifesaving effort

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Eric Hendrix
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FORWARD OPERATING BASE FENTY, Afghanistan—Sgt. 1st Class Michael Loetz received the Army's Bronze Star medal with valor for saving the life of an Afghan truck driver last year. The story behind the rescue is both harrowing and heartwarming.

The Distribution Platoon of Fusion Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry Regiment had just taken over combat logistical patrol operations and were taking a load of ammunition to troops dug in an area of the Korengal Valley May 30, 2007.

"I took over a platoon with a lot of brand-new privates with no experience," said Loetz. "The roads hadn't been improved at all. We were almost tearing the doors off the trucks because it was cliff on one side, rocks on the other."

Distro Platoon's mission is to take vital supplies to the locations where supply helicopters can't reach.

The platoon will often use the services of the local Afghan drivers and their rugged vehicles nicknamed "jingle trucks."

Loetz's platoon delivers ammunition, mail and everything in between to the war fighters in these hard-to-reach locations. It's a dangerous drive into the Korengal Valley.

"We got hit going up the road. It was just small-arms fire, but the jingle truck in front of me got hit," described Loetz. A firefight ensued, and the Afghan driver of the truck in front of him got out and crawled underneath the truck for safety.

After suppressing the enemy's fire, Loetz said, "We talked the driver out from under the vehicle, got him back in the truck and continued on."

At the top of the hill where the load of ammunition was to be dropped, Loetz talked with the local driver and told him that as long as he stayed with the platoon on the way back down, he would make sure that he got to the bottom in one piece. Then the worst happened.

"We got hit by an IED on the way back down," said Loetz, "at least three rocket-propelled grenades hit the side of the cliff below my truck and at least two hit the rock wall above it."

The jingle truck in front of him took some small-arms fire which tore up its front end.

"At that point we were separated from our lead element and we couldn't drive around the jingle truck on that narrow road," he continued.

In the meantime, Loetz's gunner was laying suppressive fire with the .50 cal.

"I said, 'the hell with it,' and I got out of the truck and went and grabbed the jingle truck driver. He was hiding under the rear axle of

his vehicle trying to avoid getting hit again."

Despite the hail of gunfire, Loetz put his own life in jeopardy, snatched up the Afghan driver and threw him in the backseat of his truck.

"He had no way to protect himself or defend himself. I had already promised him that we would take care of him.

You just don't go back on a word like that. I knew that if I didn't get him, he would stay right there and die," said Loetz.

The next step was to get the platoon back together and move on down the hill.

"I was thinking that I needed to move the jingle truck just enough to get my vehicle around it. There was just no room. So, I pushed it off the cliff."

Trying to push the truck off the cliff with a Humvee was not feasible because of the possibility of damaging their ride out of the valley. Loetz pushed the truck so that it

would roll off the side of the cliff. The jingle truck tumbled over 100 feet to the valley bottom.

Lt. Col. William Ostlund, commander of 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry Regiment talked about seeing the event unfold from the battalion operations center on Camp Blessing.

See Bronze Star on page 3



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Loetz, Fusion Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry Regiment conducts a radio check prior to a convoy logistics patrol in eastern Afghanistan.

Villaggio residents receive high-tech security gate Access by identification card, fingerprint only

Directorate of Plans, Training,
Mobilization and Security
Special to the Outlook

Beginning April 10, Villaggio residents can enter and exit the housing area at all hours – as long as they have their identification cards with them.

This change is a result of a new automated pedestrian entrance that has replaced the old walk-through gate in the rear of the housing complex. The project was initiated by Larry Kilgore, Antiterrorism, Force Protection program manager, as a Lean Six Sigma project.

“The current gate has guards only during certain hours,” said Kilgore. “This often made it inconvenient for people who needed to use the gate after hours.

After a careful analysis of the situation the command decided to look for a better way to do business while keeping the quality of our security posture at its current level.

“In Germany I saw they were using an experimental automated entrance that lets ID cardholders enter the post,” continued Kilgore.

“It has taken some time to install, check the system and work the bugs out, before we open it for the public,” he said.

The system is simple to use and allows access for items like bicycles and strollers to access the gate.

How the booth works

The process is simple, swipe an identification card and wait for a green light to appear.

Enter the booth and after the

door shuts behind you, place either one of your index fingers on the scanner. Once your identity is verified, the outer door will open and you exit the booth.

Instructions are on the entry and exit doors of the booth to assist those new to the system.

While the booth is in place the area will be closed completely April 3-9 in order to ensure all system bugs are worked out.

This system will free up our guards to handle other missions for the garrison, said Lt. Col. Keith Forsyth, USAG Vicenza director of Emergency Services.

“The force protection posture of the community will remain the same and at the same time, the customers of our installation now have 24/7 access to the Villaggio back gate,” said Forsyth.

As with any automated system a back up system is in place and should the power go out community members are not stuck in the booth.

The key to the success of this



USAG Vicenza commander, Col. Virgil S. L. Williams (left), opens the door of the new security gate on Villaggio for Lt. Col. Darryl Owens (right), his wife, Deidra, and daughters Danielle and Dominique. The booth should be operational by April 10. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)

booth is that community members must have their identification card processed through the Installation Access Control System (IACS) or

it will not work.

Direct questions to the Antiterrorism Force protection office at 634-8288 or 8984.

FMWR changes hours, fees on some facilities, activities

DFMWR news release

Funding-driven changes to some recreation facilities and activities include new hours of operation, fee schedules and customer cost-sharing and will go into effect April 1, according to Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation officials.

“We were offering services that went above and beyond the common levels of support garrisons normally provide,” explained Annette Evans, director of the DFMWR. “Funding for such additional services is currently not available and we’re adjusting our operations to stay within our budget and still offer the best possible programming for Soldiers and families.”

The **Body Shop** hours are: Monday-Friday from 5 a.m.-8:30 a.m.; 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.-8 p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The **post fitness center** hours are: Monday-Friday from 5 a.m.-8

p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The post library hours are Monday-Friday from 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Closed on Sundays.

Information, tours and registration hours are Monday-Friday 11 a.m.-6 p.m., weekends from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Auto skills center hours are Tuesday-Friday from noon-8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Arts & Crafts hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturdays from 3-7 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fee increases for trips, equipment rental, pay-for-service bus transportation and studio hours will be implemented at the Outdoor Recreation center, the ITR office and the Art Center.

Patrons should check with each of these facilities for details or consult the DFMWR activities calendar at the Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com.

Garrison, Italian business school exchange ideas

By Diana Bahr
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

Members of Caserma Ederle’s senior leaders met with fellow management gurus from the Vicenza-based Centro Universitario di Organizzazione Aziendale (CUOA) Foundation March 19 on Caserma Ederle.

The CUOA Foundation is a non-profit private school of management that offers post-graduate training.

In Italy, the CUOA Lean Center of Excellence tailors exportable management training and consultant packages to private organizations and public officials and organizations – many of which are in the European Union and Africa.

The common factor that brought these two groups together was the Lean Six Sigma program, or simply called Lean by the CUOA group. Lean Six Sigma is a business

improvement methodology which combines tools from both Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma.

Lean manufacturing focuses on speed and traditional Six Sigma focuses on quality. By combining the two, the result is better quality faster (from Wikipedia.com)

CUOA had extended an invitation to Caserma Ederle’s senior leaders to visit their offices on the west side of Vicenza in January and discuss Lean Six Sigma.

As the business of USAG Vicenza is support services and CUOA is interested in expanding its training to the service sector, the possibility of collaborating on garrison LSS projects was of interest to both parties.

The March 19 visit was arranged and Giuseppe Caldiera, director general of Fondazione CUOA; Dr. Paolo Bellamoli, director, International Projects for the foundation; Emanuela Zaltron,

CUOA Enterprise Center training manager; and Giorgia Dal Pont, a doctoral student in Lean Techniques in Services at the University of Padova, met with Renee Citron, deputy to the garrison commander, who then gave the group a tour of the post facilities.

To help the foundation group better understand how the garrison provides support services to the community, the group visited the community mail room, the central processing facility and Directorate of Logistics’ Installation Materiel and Maintenance Activity.

They then had a briefing from Angela Donald, an LSS green belt candidate and a PAOI staffer, about her current LSS project.

The group plans to meet again and further discuss the possibilities of a joint-venture between the two groups.

Speak Out

“What do you plan to do during your spring break?”

By Laura Kreider



Cristina and Jarod Bowers
Family members

We’re going to visit relatives.



Lisa O’Neill
VHS Teacher

We are travelling to Spain over the break to tour Madrid, Seville and Avila.



Gail Penrod
Family member

Take a couple of days to go to Naples.



Ellen Ralda
Family member

Relax at home with my family.



Michael Meyers
VHS 9th Grader

I plan to stay home and spend some family time while my father is back.

Commentary

Support for those back home source of inspiration, comfort

To the Soldiers of Task Force Bayonet and their friends and families,

I have just returned from leave and seen first-hand the tremendous support all our families are receiving from our rear detachments and our Army communities. The outstanding support and resolve shown by our loved ones in the rear continues to be a source of inspiration and comfort.

The FRGs have demonstrated repeatedly that they are truly there for our families in their times of need. I can honestly say that I can sleep comfortably knowing that our families have the support they need, no matter what problems

may arise. If someone in your family has a problem that you are not able to address or handle, make sure that the various unit rear detachment commanders get involved. That is why they are there and they really will go the extra mile to help.

Here in Afghanistan, we are now past the 10-month mark; a point where during a normal deployment rotation, we would be planning and packing for re-deployment. However, we still have several months to go, and must not lose focus on our task at hand. I know that the strain of the deployment is a major factor leading to frustration. It is imperative that this frustration not be taken out on anyone except the enemy. All must endure a few months more. We have already hosted our replacement unit on their pre-deployment site survey and they are coming to relieve us well-prepared for this complex mission.



Col. Charles Preysler

The security, development and governance in this region are improving thanks to all your hard work and sacrifice. I know we have made a lasting impact for the Afghan people. We are now paving roads in areas that have never before had them and allowing the provincial and district governments to spread their influence. We are training not only the Afghan Army but the National Police and the Afghan Border Police as well. These are the crucial steps to long-term success in this country and we cannot slow down now.

We are all invested in the progress and future hopes of Afghanistan.

Lastly, I would ask that you fight against any rumors about re-deployment timelines. We have as of yet developed neither the redeployment plans nor the timelines. It is still too early. We will not have firm dates until 30 days out as we can't lock in the airflow until we are 30 days out from redeployment. Any discussions about timelines for redeployment are absolute rumors and completely unfounded.

Rumors like these are a waste of time and emotional energy. Please help the brigade by preventing these rumors to spread. Thank you all, once again, for your outstanding efforts on both the front lines and the home front.

Sky Soldiers,
Col. Charles Preysler
Bayonet 6

Invest in your future, open a Thrift Savings Plan

By Kent Thompson

ACS Financial Readiness manager

In October 2000 the Army was successful in opening up the Thrift Savings Plan for all servicemembers, regardless of branch.

TSP offers the ability to contribute anywhere from 1 to 100 percent of the Soldiers' basic pay (up to \$15,500 for 2008).

The Soldier can choose which funds best suit his or her own style, change the amount of contributions as often as once a day, even change how much of their contribution goes to a wide variety of funds or combination of funds.

TSP is portable (can be rolled over into an

IRA, 401(k) etc.), has the lowest management fees of all available retirement funds, and can provide for a stable financial future.

Contributions come out before taxes, so you pay less taxes. A contribution of \$40 per month allows a Soldier to stash away \$9,600 a year – but could have more than \$20,000 to draw from, assuming a very manageable seven percent interest rate.

Three of the five basic funds have 10-year averages exceeding seven percent right now.

For more information about TSP or other financial matters, contact me at 634-8634, or at 0444-71-8634 from off post. My office is on the second floor of Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center.

173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team officer receives top military intelligence award

By Sgt. Maj. Kimberly Williams
SETAF Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Intelligence Center at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., announced the winner of the first Lt. Gen. Sidney T. Weinstein Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence Feb. 25.

Based on the results of the board, Capt. Timothy Culpepper, battalion intelligence officer for 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry Regiment (Airborne), was selected to receive the award.

Culpepper, who is currently serving in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, will be presented with the award at the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame luncheon June 27 at Fort Huachuca.

While deployed to Afghanistan, Culpepper implemented innovative approaches to intelligence collection, analysis, integration of new technologies, and committed himself to defeating corruption.

Culpepper's innate ability to build teams, integrate intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities on a dynamic battlefield, achieve unity of effort with all of the intelligence partners in his battle space, and expertly analyze the tribal dynamics in his unit's area of operation



Capt. Timothy Culpepper, battalion intelligence officer for 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry Regiment (Airborne). (U.S. Army file photo)

set a new standard for how to manage and develop a battalion-level intelligence section and organization while engaged in combat operations, according to his commanders.

"It's what you train for," Bronze Star recipient

Bronze Star, from page 1

"I remember very well watching the video feed and watching as the truck rolled over the cliff, thinking that it was one of our trucks and it took the breath out of me," said Ostlund.

On the road, Loetz was getting his convoy back together.

"We were still taking small arms fire and I got back in my vehicle and we were assessing the situation. By that time, Able Company had moved into an over-watch position and locked-on the opposite side of the valley," said Loetz.

The coordinated suppressing-fire effort gave Distro Platoon Soldiers the chance to get out of the kill-zone and back down the hill to safety.

Ostlund recounted getting the good news that Loetz's convoy had gotten out of the valley safely.

"We got word that not only did we not lose any Soldiers from Fusion, but we didn't lose a local national either. The local population is our center of gravity,"



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Loetz

continued Ostlund. "We need to maintain the respect and affections of the population and protect them. And if we put them at risk and don't do everything to protect them – then we're really not doing what we're supposed to be doing here."

The lanky platoon sergeant from whom those brand-new privates had learned a valuable lesson says only, "It's what you train for."

The Outlook

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At your service

Jolly Miller, USAG Vicenza Army Community Service's Relocation program manager is a familiar face to most of this community as she is a part of the in and out processing everyone goes through.

"My office is responsible for assisting relocating Soldiers, family members and Department of Defense civilians," said Miller. "We do this by providing them with the tools they need to ensure a smooth relocation process. This includes a newcomer's briefing, installation welcome packets, sponsorship counseling, the Benvenuti (Welcome to Italy) class, a loan closet and other services."

The Relocation Readiness office is located in Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center, bldg 108, and may be reached at 634-8525/7617, or 0444-71-8525/7617 from off post.



Jolly Miller
USAG Vicenza Relocation Readiness
program manager

Community events

Dumpster diving project gives snapshot of community's recycling efforts

Story by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Twice a year, the Environmental Division of the Directorate of Public Works monitors the dumpsters as a project started on March 2007.

"The purpose of the dumpster diving is to check waste sorting efficiency of USAG Vicenza personnel," said Carlotta Queirazza, Program Support contractor of the Environmental Division, DPW.

On March 20, Dumpster Dive III was held and the chosen dumpster for the project was again a bin located near Club Veneto. This made it possible to compare items from dumpsters located in the same area.

The staff worked along with Queirazza on sorting the items was composed of Salvatore Fazio, DPW, Environmental Management System contractor and Reginal Gillespie, Eco Center manager.

The results of Dumpster Dive III have been the following:

- Dry waste 30 percent (compared to DD I's 39 percent, and DD II's 21 percent)

- Total waste not properly disposed of was 70 percent (compared to DD I's 61 percent, and DD II's 79 percent) of which 66 percent were recyclable items (compared to DD I's 42 percent, and DD II's 71 percent).

"Overall, we can say that there has been an improvement compared to the dumpster dive that took place in October 2007," said Queirazza.

However, the DD crew found that organic waste found among the recycling items was the highest at 25 percent, followed by paper and cardboard with 18 percent, and glass and cans with 17 percent, according to Queirazza.

No hazardous waste, such as expired medicines or batteries, were found.

After the sorting and the weighing of each type of waste, the staff of AIM, which is the contractor that collects and disposes of the garrison's solid waste – placed the items in the proper container. Dumpster dives are carried out quarterly and the next one is scheduled for October.

For instruction on how to properly recycle waste, call the Environmental Division at 634-7166.



Eco Center manager Reginal Gillespie goes through some organic waste during a past DD. In the recycling items, the organic waste has been the highest fraction found with 25 percent, followed by paper and cardboard with 18 percent, and glass and cans with 17 percent according to Queirazza. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)



After sorting the trash into separate bags, the bags are then weighed to determine the type of trash and percentage of waste. (Photo by Niccolo' Costantini, Core Compliance contractor)



Reginal Gillespie, manager at the Eco Center, left, Carlotta Queirazza, center, and Salvatore Fazio, both from Environmental Division, DPW, separate the different waste fractions during the Dumpster Diving (DD) that took place at the Eco Center March. 20. (Photo by Niccolo' Costantini, Core Compliance contractor)

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Vicenza High School held its annual Spring Concert dedicated to our Armed Forces Thursday evening in the school gym. (Far left) Shusuke Nagata, alto sax solo performs *She Didn't Say 'Yes'* by Jerome Kern, Otto Harbach accompanied by the beginning band. (Top left) The VHS Chorus performs several songs including *Your Song* by Elton John and Bernie Taupin. (Left) Local Italian musicians, Zario Zuccato and Angela Borgo among others, performed

along with the various school groups. "It was a great time and an opportunity to meet and share a cultural experience," Zuccato and Borgo said at the end of the event. (Below) Geri Shimabukuro, VHS Music director, directed the beginning band and concert band, high school chorus and string ensemble with a variety of musical pieces from classics to folk and modern. The concert band, performs one of the closing pieces, *An American Songbook*, by Clifton Jameson Jones. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

Community events



Ready, set, run

Darby aates

Florence day trip

Apr. 11, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Transportation is \$45 for adults, \$39 for children (ages 3-10)

Spend a day in Florence at your leisure. Visit the Accademia Gallery, the Uffizi Gallery, visit many notable landmarks or just shop and enjoy a latte in the square.

Cavillino Matto Amusement Park

Apr. 12, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Transportation is \$20 for adults, \$14 for children (ages 3-10). Entrance fee of 18 euro is not included

The biggest amusement park in central Italy with roller coasters, kiddie rides and spectacular live shows.

Hotel booking service

Our database currently holds more than 40,000 hotels in all price categories everywhere: Italy, Europe, the U.S.A. and Asia.

Above: Two girls race to find hidden Easter Eggs at the Camp Darby Spring Fling, March 22. Some of the eggs had numbers that corresponded to extra prizes. (Photo by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs) Camp Darby's annual Spring Fling activities included an Easter egg hunt, egg painting, a cupcake decorating stand, face painting, fishing for toy prizes and a six-foot tall Easter bunny. (Right) a young girl scoops candy to fill her basket. (Photo by Gary Kieffer, Outlook editor)



Caserma Ederle's annual Eggstravaganza was held on Hoekstra Field March 22. The event began at 1 p.m. with children separated into age groups so the little ones could have a sporting chance against the bigger children. Hoekstra field was strewn with candy and children raced to pick up as much as they could. Other activities included crafts, a bounce house and photos with the Easter bunny (above). (Left) A barbecue followed the event at the new Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers lounge where community members were treated to a live concert by the group Godsons of Soul and a special appearance by Elvis. (Photos by Gary Kieffer, Outlook editor)



Tulips, trains, marathons and opera await visitors

Exhibitions

Vicenza: *Tempolibero* (free time) exhibition is at the fair grounds through April 6.

You can find ideas for vacations from camping to apartments to cruises for all tastes and pockets.

Also find outdoor furnishings and accessories and fancy goods and gifts from the most fun to the most useful from the most valuable to the cheapest.

Open April 1-4: 3:30-10 p.m.; April 5-6: 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. entrance fee 8 euro, free entrance Monday through Friday.

Jesolo: The fifth edition of National Swap Exhibition of Wildlife and Hunting handicrafts, April 5-6.

Exhibit includes hunting books, magazines, postcards and prints, will take place in the city's *Museo* Museum of Natural History.

Open April 5: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:30-6:30 p.m.; April 6: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. A contribution is requested for entrance.

Tulips on display

No need to go to Holland to see fields of tulips. In the setting of an 18th century castle, located in the town of *Pralormo*, province of Torino, you will be able to see more than 50,000 tulips, surrounded by fields and borders of more than 40 varieties of violets.

Also find exhibitions of flower arranging, how to cook with herbs and flowers, music concerts and see how a violin is made.

There are also stalls selling plants and gardening tools and embroidery kits. For the children there is an area where they can see small farm animals such as chicks, rabbits and ducks.

On the weekend there are shows,

games and entertainment. There is also a bar-restaurant in the park.

If taking a dog it must wear a muzzle.

During the month of April the gardens are open everyday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Open Sundays only May through October.

Entrance fees: adults: 6,50 euro, children 3 euro.

Details and directions in English from www.contessapralormo.com.

Local marathons

Padova: Saint Anthony's marathon will be held April 27.

Details, online registration online and the race course are available in English at www.maratonasantantonio.com.

The earlier you register lower the entrance fee.

Trieste: The 9th European Marathon (42,195 km); the 13th European Marathon (21,094 km run between two castles); and the 15th non-competitive Bavisela (7,6 km) take place May 4.

Start times and location of each marathon, as well as registration information, are on the Web site: www.bavisela.it (in English).

Traveling by train

Remember the following if taking a train in Italy – to validate your ticket before boarding – inspectors could demand a surcharge when checking. Look for the yellow box located in the stations and on the platforms. Slide your ticket in and it will be stamped.

If you can, book the Eurostar for all journeys to main tourist centers. Seat reservations are mandatory, but the speed and comfort of the trip is worth the extra cost, especially during peak travel seasons when

seating is at a premium.

Intercity trains are cheaper and can also be booked, but, unlike the Eurostar, there are no limits to who can board the train.

A full train means people sitting in the aisles, no food trolley and an obstacle course to the buffet car.

Inter-regional trains are similar to the Intercity but take longer and keep off the main tracks. For this reason they may be emptier and worth considering.

Online train tables and ticket prices are available from the Trenitalia Web site: www.ferrovie dello stato.it (in English).

Opera in Verona

The opera season opens in Verona June 20 with Verdi's *Aida* in the Arena of Verona.

Other operas to be performed through Aug. 31 are *Tosca*, *Nabucco*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Performances start at 9:15 p.m. Non refundable tickets available online from www.arena.it and range from 22,50 to 183 euro.

Guitar concert

Three guitarists Paolo Bonfanti from Genova, Chris Newman from London and Roberto Dalla Vecchia from Vicenza will perform in Vicenza's *Teatro Astra* April 4 at 9 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.robertodalla vecchia.com or Radio Varsavia music store, 5 Contra do Rode and cost 14 euro, cost at the box office on the evening of the concert is 16 euro.

Harlem Globetrotters perform in Italy

The Harlem Globetrotters will be

touring Italy in May.

The group are very popular here the tickets are going to be hard to come by if not bought early.

Their schedule is:

May 5: Trieste

May 6: Verona

May 7: Cremona

May 8: Milan

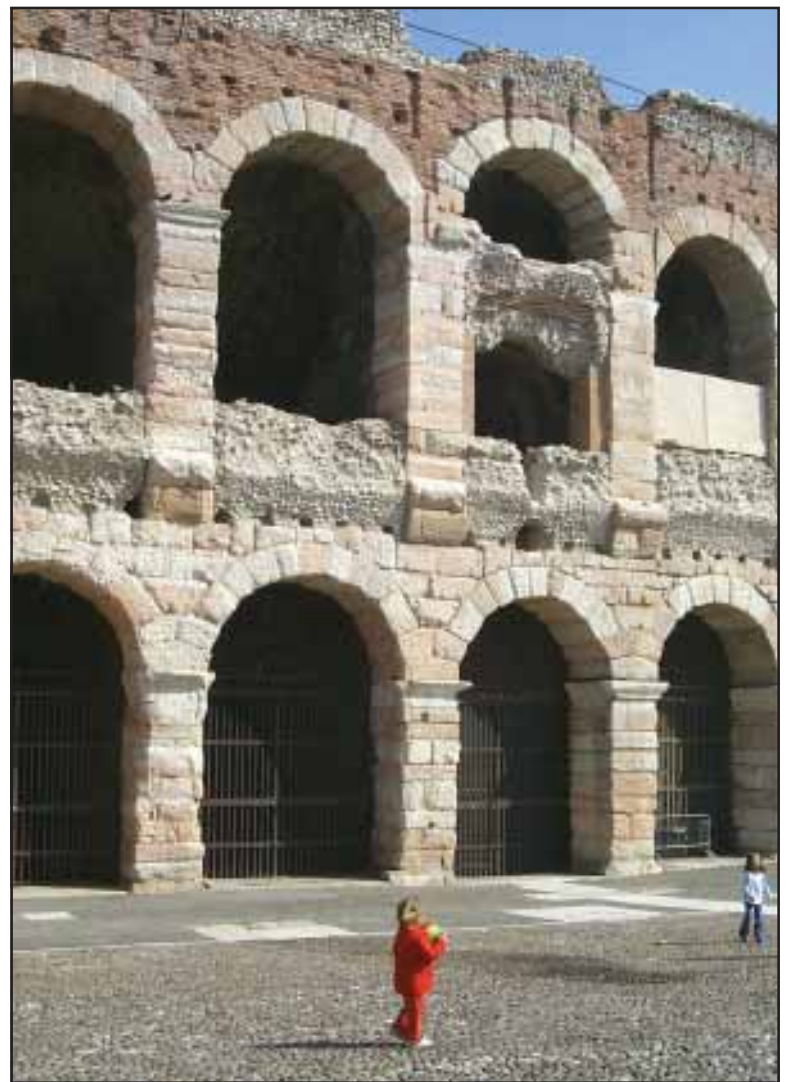
May 9: Torino

May 10: Cantu'

Games begin at 9 p.m., tickets range from 25 to 35.50 euro depending where they play.

Tickets available online from the Web site www.ticketweb.it.

It's in Italian only but easy to understand.



Opera season begins June 20 and takes place in Verona's Roman arena. Be warned that seats can get very hot during summer months. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

Now Showing

Caserna Ederle Theater

April 2	The Bucket List (PG13)	6 p.m.
April 3	27 Dresses (PG13)	6 p.m.
April 4	21 (PG13) 1st Run	6 p.m.
	Rambo (R)	9 p.m.
April 5	Cloverfield (PG13)	3 p.m.
	21 (PG13)	6 p.m.
April 6	Cloverfield (PG13)	3 p.m.
	Rambo (R)	6 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

April 3	Meet the Spartans (PG13)	6 p.m.
April 4	Rambo (R)	6 p.m.
April 5	Cloverfield (PG13)	6 p.m.
April 6	Horton Hears a Who (G)	2 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and over \$4, under age 12, \$2. The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Movie Synopsis

21 - Kevin Spacey, Jim Sturgess. The true story of the very brightest young minds in the country - and how they took Vegas for millions. Ben Campbell is a shy, brilliant M.I.T. student who — needing to pay school tuition — finds the answers in the cards. He is recruited to join a group of the school's most gifted students that heads to Vegas every weekend armed with fake identities and the know-how to turn the odds at blackjack in their favor. With unorthodox math professor and stats genius Micky Rosa leading the way, they've cracked the code.

CLOVERFIELD - Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel. Five young New Yorkers throw their friend a going-away party the night that a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city. Told from the point of view of their video camera, the film is a document of their attempt to survive the most surreal, horrifying event of their lives.

Marketplace
www.vicenzamwr.com/marketplace
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Fun Run kicks off Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and the Vicenza military community will sponsor a 5k Run Thursday.

The event is open to the community and begins at 6:30 a.m. on Hoekstra Field.

SETAF commander Maj. Gen. Frank Helmick will read the Sexual Assault Awareness Proclamation letter and a Sexual Assault Awareness quilt, designed by post units, will be on display.

Refreshments will be provided.

Army Emergency Relief campaign events

You can support the Army Emergency Relief campaign and satisfy your sweet tooth at the same time April 4 at 11 a.m. when the Junior ROTC students hold a bake sale at the post exchange.

Portions of your donation will help support the AER fund.

Then, April 5, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. you can help support AER and get a clean vehicle in the bargain when the USO holds a car wash in front of their building, 9A on Olson Ave.

Job opportunities

The **Distributed Learning System** has a part-time on-call position for a digital training facility manager. This position guarantees 10 hours per week with the opportunity for advancement.

For details, call Lakesha Hawthorne at 634-7989 or 0444-71-7989, from 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Child & Youth Services has numerous vacancies for Child & Youth program assistants to work in the Child Development Centers (ages six weeks-five years) and School Age Services (first - fifth grades) program.

Only U.S. citizen ID cardholders or citizens of NATO-member countries with social security cards are eligible to apply. Interviews, reference and background checks are part of the hiring process.

Contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center for details at 634-7266 or 0444-71-7266 from off post.

Youth services spring break

Spend spring break in Garmisch and Heidelberg socializing with other teens April 7-10.

Join in Heidelberg's version of the "Amazing Race" and have time for shopping.

For details call 634-7659. Sign up deadline is April 3.

Run, jump, swing with CYS sports and fitness

CYS Sports and Fitness is offering track and field April 14-May 22. Practice is held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Tennis runs April 15-May 20. Practice is Tuesdays 6-7 p.m.

Enrollment runs through April 10 at Central Registration for ages 6-12.

Call 634-7219 for information.

Lifeguard certification

Sports and Fitness offers lifeguard skills and certification

classes April 7-11, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Youth must be 16 or older.

Cost is \$140. Call 634-5181 to register before April 4.

Fitness center classes

The fitness center will launch the new session of the Les Mills classes:

April 14: Body Combat

April 15: Body Pump

April 16: Body Step

April 17: Body Balance

Participants can try one of the free sessions at 9:15 a.m., noon, 3:30 or 5:30 p.m.

All classes are held in the Body Shop fitness studios.

For details call the fitness center 634-5181.

FAP April events

April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month.

April 2: Family breakfast bash at 7 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

April 10: Internet safety for parents from 10 a.m.-noon at DSFRC.

April 16: Pooh Bear tea party with Freddy FAP at 3:30 p.m. in Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center.

All programs require registration by calling 634-7500.

Unit drivers' training

USAG Vicenza Directorate of Logistics drivers' testing office offers bus driver training during the month of April.

Forklift training is also available on an appointment basis.

Unit master drivers can contact DOL drivers' testing, 634-6912/6913, for details about training materials/requirements and testing.

USO chili cook-off

Bring in your best chili recipe to our cook-off and win a basket of goodies provided by Capitol Motors.

Sign up starts April 1, at the USO. The cook-off is April 19, at 1 p.m.

Wednesday night writers group

The first meeting of this group will be held April 2, 6-7 p.m. at the post library. All writers, published or not, are invited.

For details e-mail tamarapessah@hotmail.com.

Chart your course

April 2, Vicenza Parent 2 Parent invites middle and high school youth and their parents for a demonstration of Chart Your Course at 7 a.m. in the computer room next to the cafeteria. Participating parents will receive the kit for free.

For details contact Nancy November at vicenzaparent2parent@hotmail.com or 328-054-9709.

Quartermaster laundry closes to cash clientele

The quartermaster laundry will close to cash customers. All personal laundry must be picked up by April 3 from the new location in bldg 304.

The laundry service for Unit and Organizational laundry authorized

by AR 210-130 will continue to be processed through bldg 304.

Call Rodel Riel at 634-6893 for details.

Vicenza Community Club seeks board members

VCC board meets once a month to plan the next month's events and conduct club business.

Board elections will be held in April and interested community members should contact Lisa Meyers 0444-910-075 bkmeyers2@aol.com or Betsy Walters 329-784-4630, betsyjwalters@yahoo.com.

MOMs Club activities

All activities are cancelled April 7-11 for spring break.

Infant Playgroup: April 1 and 18. April 18 Mary Jo Rooney will speak about baby sign language. Playgroup meets at 11a.m. at the EDIS building #305.

Recipe swap is April 17 at 11a.m. MOMS night out is April 19

Book club meets April 21 at 10 a.m.

Park day is April 25 at 11a.m.

MOMS Club monthly meeting and board elections are April 28, 10 a.m. at the post chapel.

For details regarding MOMS Club and our activities please e-mail momsclubofvicenza@yahoo.com or contact Deanna at 0444-945-105 or Amber at 334-700-8443.

Homeschoolers field trip

A field trip for all home schoolers, sponsored by the School Liaison office, is set for April 5 to a dairy and cheese factory.

Meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Ederle Theater parking lot, and we will leave by car pool at 9:30 a.m.

To sign up or for more details contact the SLO at 634-5998 or stop by office, located in Davis Hall Soldier and Family Readiness Center.

Catfish Fry at Club V

Catfish baskets are \$5.50 every Wednesday at Club V from 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Call 634-7685 for details.

Cook Arabian cuisine

Prepare, cook and eat Arabian Cuisine with FMWR's SKIES Unlimited April 10 and 24 from 5-7 p.m. Open to youth ages 7-18.

Call 634-8051 for details.

Tennis & racquetball ladder

USAG-Vicenza Tennis & Racquetball Ladder program starts April 15.

FMWR's Sports and Fitness offers awards for the top eight players in Men's, Women's, beginners, intermediate, and open categories. Sign up for session one by April 10. Call 634-7009 for details.

5k Fun Walk/Run

Sports and Fitness hosts the April Showers 5k Fun Walk/Run April 12 at 10 a.m. at the North 40 track.

Sign up by April 8. be at the field by 9:45 a.m. Call 634-7009.

Month of the Military Child

FMWR honors America's

Military Children this month and is hosting a number of fun and educational events for the Vicenza community.

Call 634-7219 for details.

Reconnect during R & R

Army Community Service offers Battlemind and financial readiness techniques and provides resources April 2 and 9, 11:30 a.m.

Lunch and child care are provided. Call 634-7500 for reservations.

Romp, stomp playgroup

ACS playgroups meet April 2 and 9 at 10 a.m. for children younger than four years old.

Call 634-7500 for details and locations.

Autism/ADHD support group

April 2 at 11 a.m. join others at Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center to discuss challenges and solutions of living with Autism/ADHD. Sponsored by EFMP.

Call 634-7500 for details.

Employment, PCS transition

April 3 at 10:30 a.m., Army Community Service's Employment Readiness program helps you prepare what you do before you leave Vicenza, during the transition, when you arrive in your new location, and how to make your job search as successful as possible.

Call 634-6884 for details.

Stress relief through guided imagery

Learn techniques to reduce stress in your life April 7, noon at Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center.

This class offered by the Victim Advocate, Family Advocacy program. Call 634-6269 for details.

What to do with your money

April 8 at 3 p.m. in Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center learn how to choose the financial services and institutions that best meet your needs.

Sign up by April 7 by calling ACS Financial Readiness, call 634-7500.

Breastfeeding basics

Expecting soon or a new Mother? Gain the skills for a positive breastfeeding experience with ACS's New Parent Support program April 8, 9:30 a.m. at DSFRC.

Call 634-7500 to register.

Mysteries of Resumix revealed

The Employment Readiness Program manager is hosting a workshop April 9, 10:30 a.m. at Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center.

Learn the skills necessary to create, edit and review your resume in the Army resume builder and ANSWER programs.

Reserve your spot by April 8, call 634-7500.

April Journey series

Journey Series celebrates Month of the Military Child with events at Movieland Studios, family day out at Sigurta Gardens and more.

Call 634-7500 for details.

Religious activities

Caserna Ederle Chapel

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

Chaplain Crisis Line:

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

Saturday services

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

5 p.m.: Vigil Mass

Sunday Services

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass
9 a.m.: Protestant Sunday school and AWANAs (Sept. thru May in Vicenza High School)

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

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

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

4 p.m.: Lutheran worship
6 p.m.: Contemporary Christian worship

Monday

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

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

For details contact Jocelyn Cary at 634-7890 or 349-385-3476 or vicecb@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Noon: LDS Study
5:15 p.m.: PWOC evening bible study

Thursday

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

Noon: Weekday Mass
5:30 p.m.: Gospel service choir rehearsal

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

Friday

Noon: Weekday Mass
Noon: Muslim Khutba and prayer

Faith group POCs

Islamic POC is Mohamed Noeman at 634-6306.

Jewish POC is Dr. Stephen or Nancy November at 328-054-9709 or november6@msn.com.

Latter Day Saints (LDS) POC is Dr. Matt Ghiz at 349-500-7989.

Passover services

The Passover holiday starts the evening of April 19 and ends the night of April 27.

Passover seders will take place at the home the November's the first two nights. RSVP at november6@msm.com

Darby Chapel

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

8:30 a.m.: Catholic Reconciliation

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Mass
11 a.m.: Protestant worship

All briefs for this page must be received at editor@eur.army.mil by noon Wednesday, the week prior to publication.

Vicenza Cougars soccer teams beat, tie Sigonella

Story and photos
by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

After defeating Naples Boy's Soccer team March 21, Vicenza High School Boy's Soccer team kept their streak alive by defeating Sigonella Saturday.

The first half of the game was played hard and fast, but no goals were allowed.

The second half found VHS Cougars' forward, Jonathan Bowman, score the only goal of the game.

"Today it was a good game, the team played with high energy," said Bowman. "At first, we had a few problems keeping the ball where we wanted it to go, but it was a good game overall."

We have been practicing hard just trying to keep our fitness up as well as our skills," he said.

Not less hard than the Boys' game was the following game, where the VHS Girl's tied Sigonella 1-1.

The Cougars played mostly offense during the first half of the match, finally getting a goal before the half ended.

"I thought the game was amazing," said Jane Helmick, VHS Cougars' Girls' player and team co-captain. Helmick got the goal with an assist from Rachel O'Neill. Goalkeeper Shelby Gonzalez was credited with three saves.

"We really played very well together for our second game. For the upcoming games, we have to



(Above) Cougars' player Jonathan Bowman (left), No. 10, center, rejoices while running towards his co-players after scoring in the second half of the game. VHS defeated Sigonella 1-0. (Right) Cougars' player Felipe Diaz, left, uses his head to send the ball over the Sigonella player at midfield during the game.

keep playing together, know what we are doing on the field.

"I was glad to score - it is the first time this season, hopefully many more to come," she ended.

Unfortunately, Sigonella was able to tie in the second half, even though Vicenza kept the energy up for the entire 90-minute game.

VHS Soccer teams will play on post versus Marymount April 19. They then go to Aviano April 26, and then play a home game May 3 against American Overseas School of Rome. The last game before the Europeans at Kaiserslautern will take place in Milan on May 17.



(Above) Cougars Girl's soccer player, Lauren Vanderlugt (right), No. 2, heads the ball during a defensive play. (Right) Cougars Girl's Soccer team player Valeria Stanley (left), No. 13, left, follows up on the offensive action started by Janette Prados (right), No. 6, while Sigonella player Aleacia Miller, No. 8, tries to beat Stanley to the ball. Both teams played a hard and fast 90-minute game that saw a goal scored in the first half by Vicenza, followed by a goal in the second half by Sigonella, ending the game in a 1-1 tie.



Sports Shorts

Fun Run/Walk

The "April Showers" Fun Walk/Run will be held April 12 at the North 40 track.

Sign up by April 8.

Pre-brief is 9:45 a.m. and the race begins at 10 a.m.

Racquetball tourney for all levels

A racquetball tournament is set for April 18 and 19 for beginners, intermediate and advanced players.

A mandatory coaches meeting is April 18, 6 p.m.

Softball officials clinic

Softball officials clinic is April 14-18. This course offers certification for the following positions: official, scorer or time keeper. All coaches should also attend.

Adult frisbee football league

Frisbee football league for adults begins April 16.

There is a mandatory coaches meeting April 10, at 3 p.m. or 6 p.m.

Call 634-7009 for information on any of these programs.

CYS track and field

CYS Sports and Fitness is offering track and field training April 14-May 22 for ages 6-12. Youth must be a member of CYS and have a current health assessment to participate.

Practice is held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Get ready for the big meet May 17.

Call 634-6151 for information.

CYS tennis

Tennis season begins April 15 and runs to May 20. Practice will be on Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. Enrollment runs through April 10 at Central Registration for ages 8-12. Youth must be a member of CYS and have a current health assessment to participate.

Call 634-6151 for information.

Lifeguard certification

Sports and Fitness offers lifeguard skills and certification classes April 7-11, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day.

Class is open to ages 16 and older. Call 634-5181 to register before April 4. Cost is \$140.

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