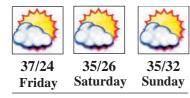


December 2, 2010

U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

www.USAG.Vicenza.Army.Mil

Vol. 43, Issue 47



There's still time to ship packages to the States in time for Christmas! See page 3 for shipping deadlines.

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Page 4 Mullen projects drawdown date for Afghanistan & Soldiers' Theatre show opens Friday

USAG Livorno page 5 Darby hosts holistic wellness fair

Community events pages 6 & 7 Find details for the Vicenza and area Christmas Markets



Post honors Native American Heritage:

Sgt. 1st Class Conrad Begaye, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, prepares to perform a "Grass Dance" at the Caserma Ederle Teen Center pavilion Tuesday as part of the **Native American Heritage** Month celebration. "I started dancing when I was 16," said Begaye. "There are two types of dance contemporary and old style - and what I performed was the contemporary." See more on page 8.

Photo by Laura Kreider

173rd ABCT Recognition Ceremony scheduled Tuesday

Staff report

The 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team will host a Recognition Ceremony Dec. 9 from 10-11 a.m. on Hoekstra Field. The Vicenza military community is invited to join the 173rd ABCT Soldiers, families and personnel for the ceremony.

"The purpose of the ceremony is to honor the sacrifices of our fallen Sky Soldiers and their families and to highlight the accomplishments of the brigade over the past year in Afghanistan," said Maj. Matthew Yandura, 173rd ABCT public affairs officer. The 173rd ABCT lost nine Soldiers during the deployment. Three of the paratroopers were stationed at Vicenza and six Soldiers were in Germany-based units. There are recognition ceremonies being held in Germany also to honor the Sky Soldiers who were killed in action during OEF X. The fallen Soldiers are: Sgt. Louis Robert Fastuca, D Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment; Spc. Matthew Robert Hennigan, B Co., 173rd Special Troops Battalion; Spc. James Anthony Page, A Co., 173rd Brigade Support Battalion; Spc. Matthew Eric George, A Co., 173rd BSB; See 173RD, Page 4



Caserma hosts holiday fest, bazaar Fri.-Sun.

By Annette Fournier *Outlook Editor*

Santa Claus may not bring his sleigh, but he will come to Caserma Ederle with horse and carriage rides and other family fun for the Holiday Festival Friday to Sunday.

The festival times are Friday from

Cub Choir. There will be opening remarks by Garrison Commander Col. Erik Daiga at 5 p.m. followed by the tree lighting.

The festivities accompanying the tree lighting will include a minitrain, Ferris wheel and carousel for children, and horse and carriage rides. There will be hot chocolate and cookies, vin brulè (warm, spiced wine) and chestnuts and other food and beverages for sale. At the crafts area in the Fitness Center, children can decorate wooden frames and magic-color scratch Christmas ornaments, make Santa and snowman stickers, a foam See FESTIVAL, Page 3

Community Camera & Sports page 8 Post leaders serve Thanksgiving dinner



File photo by Laura Kreider

Community members watch the tree lighting at Caserma Ederle in front of the Post Movie Theater in 2009. This year's tree lighting will be Friday at 5 p.m., but festivities begin at 3:30 p.m. and continue throughout the weekend.

3:30 p.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The festival begins with children's crafts and a bazaar in the Post Fitness Center beginning at 3:30 p.m. At
4:45 p.m., Santa Claus takes the stage at the Post Theater parking lot to give greetings, followed by a performance by the Cougar

Two-year pay freeze proposed for civilian federal employees

By Terri Moon Cronk

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama proposed a twoyear federal pay freeze to aid in reducing the federal deficit Monday.

The proposed freeze would not affect military pay, and would require congressional action to become law.

"[The freeze] would save \$2 billion over

the rest of this fiscal year and \$28 billion in cumulative savings over the next five years," the president said in announcing the proposal.

Obama said federal employees must help bear the burden of economic sacrifices to put the federal budget back on track along with Americans in the private sector, but he acknowledged the pay freeze proposal is a decision that did not come easily. This is not just a line item on a federal register. These are peoples' lives.

President Barack Obama

"This is not just a line item on a federal register," he said. "These are people's lives. They're doctors and nurses who care for our See PAY, Page 2

Garrison news Spiritual resiliency goal of WTU's Rome, Vatican City visit

ERMC Public Affairs

Standing at ground level, raising his eyes to the stone and brick walls of the Coliseum in Rome, Spc. Jonathan Locke was not thinking about architecture. His thoughts turned instead to resiliency and spiritual strength.

Locke was one of the Soldiers and family members of the Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe who visited Rome and Vatican City on a retreat focused on building spiritual strength - one of the key components of the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program.

The participants visited a number of sites supporting the trip's theme, "Memorials of Faith." These were sites where early Christians faced torture or death for their beliefs.

The retreat was sponsored by the Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe Chaplain's Office and supported by the Vicenza garrison and Europe Regional Medical Command chaplains.

"We've had a number of retreats for wounded warriors and their families north of the Alps," said the WTB-E's Chaplain (Capt.) Eric Dean. "The opportunities for the folks from Vicenza to join us on them were few."

Dean worked with the USO Rome to provide visits to Vatican City, the Coliseum, the Pantheon and other historic sites where Christians and others had overcome persecution.

"Standing here, thinking about the places we've seen, I understand truly that when you come through something like the early Christians (did), you build something," Locke said. "I know what Soldiers go through when they're injured and can't do their job. But I also know that if I stay with my plans to return to duty, I plan to help others understand what (being assigned to a Warrior Transition Unit) is really like - how helpful it can be."



Photo by Phil Tegtmeier

Chaplain (Capt.) Eric Dean, right, the Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe chaplain, explains the history of the Roman persecution of early Christians in the Coliseum.

Like Locke, Spc. Carlos Mendoza from the Kleber Warrior Transition Unit thinks that most Soldiers lack a clear understanding of WTUs.

"If you come to a WTU, you come to heal," Mendoza said. "That's your job. That's your focus."

Mendoza said that he was going to go back from the retreat even more dedicated to returning to duty.

"I want to stay in the Army. I think I can still be valuable," he said.

Veneto roads shrouded by 'most dangerous driving hazard'

USAG Vicenza Safety Office

Statistically, it's the most dangerous driving hazard in existence.

It's the time of year, especially in the Veneto region, where drivers are confronted with the challenges of an extremely dangerous meteorological condition - fog.

Driving in fog requires complete un-distracted attention. A slight misjudgment or error can result in a catastrophe, and after only a few minutes, attempting to see through fog can be completely nerve-wracking. It can be like driving blindfolded.

The recommendation when confronted with fog is to not drive, or if caught on the roadway, park at a safe location and wait for the fog to clear. Remember, you're gambling with your life and perhaps the lives of your loved ones when you decide to continue down that foggy road.

However, the simple and safe solution is not always the most practical, so use these tips if you must drive in fog

Slow down and increase your following distance. The following distance is more than three seconds in ideal conditions, so give yourself extra space in fog.

Turn on your fog lights, and make sure your high beams aren't turned on by mistake. Low beams direct light down onto the road and help other drivers to see you. Most European cars have a switch that turns on extra-bright auxiliary rear fog lamps.

Keep an eye on your speedometer. Studies show that some drivers unconsciously increase their speed over time in fog. Most fog-related traffic fatalities occur because someone was driving too fast and couldn't stop in time to avoid a collision.

Always use your defroster and

windshield wipers in foggy conditions and remember that driving in fog after dark becomes even more dangerous. Stay off the roads after dark if at all possible.

• Drivers have a limited sight distance and fog can leave roadways slick. Signal early and apply brakes slowly so others know your intentions.

If you can't continue, pull into a parking lot and wait for the fog to clear. If that's not possible, pull your vehicle completely off the road. Use the right edge of the road (aka fog line) as a guide rather than the center line to avoid running into oncoming traffic or becoming distracted by their headlights. Turn off your headlights and put on your flashers, or hazard lights, so other vehicles can see you and know that you are not on the road.

Finally, when confronting fog, rain or snow on the road, use common sense to stay safe.

PAY: Government may freeze other spending

continued from Page 1

veterans, scientists who search for better treatments and cures, men and women who care for our national parks and secure our borders and our skies. Americans who see that the Social Security checks get out on time, who make sure that scholarships come through, who devote themselves to our safety."

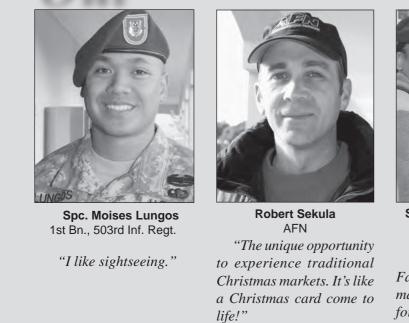
When Obama took office in January 2009, he immediately froze salaries for senior White House officials.

Earlier this year, he also proposed freezing salaries for all political appointees throughout the government, White House officials said.

Obama noted today that he also has proposed a three-year freeze on all nonsecurity discretionary spending, a step he said would bring that spending to its lowest level as a share of the economy in 50 years.



What do you like about celebrating the winter holidays overseas?





Spc. Shawnna Hardin & Spc. La-Drina Bell USARAF "We like that the Dining

Facility takes the time to make a good holiday meal for those of us who cannot go home."

Pfc. Max Schwyter

1st Bn., 503rd Inf. Regt.

"I enjoy snowboarding in the area."



Circe Aponte USAG Vicenza DHR

"Being able to enjoy the different customs and traditions that each country in Europe has."

By Laura Kreider

2 THE Outlook

Garrison news

VCC auctions decorated **Christmas trees for charity**

Story and photo by Laura Kreider Outlook staff

The Vicenza Community Club board is doing a silent auction for decorated Christmas Trees to raise money to help underprivileged children in the community have happy holidays.

The trees will be in the post gym throughout the post's Holiday Festival, and will be available for people to view and place their bids from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, when the winners of each tree will be announced.

The VCC purchased the trees and 13 local community organizations volunteered to "sponsor" them for the auction according to Loraine de Oliveira, the VCC Ways and Means chairperson. The Ways and Means committee is handling the project.

"All the trees are unique in their theme and design and each one has something special," she said.

These sponsoring organizations include: the American Red Cross, U.S. Army Africa Family Readiness Group, the Vicenza Health Center, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, the Vicenza Vet Clinic, the Vicenza Dental Clinic, the Parents Teachers Students Association, the 14th Transportation Battalion, Cub Scout Troop 295, Army Community Service, Community Bank, the Catholic Women of the Chapel and the MAKO Sharks.

The VCC also sponsored a tree.

"We are selling raffle tickets for that tree and it will not be up for auction with the others," she said.

The trees will be on display in different areas on post, many in the foyer of the health center, including the clinic's Nutcracker Tree.

The Red Cross donated "collector" ornaments to go on their vintage style tree. The USARAF FRG's tree has ornaments that came all the way from the continent of Africa, the 14th Transportation's tree



Community members look at some of the trees that will be available for auction at the Holiday Bazaar Dec. 4.

has a gingerbread village, and the Dental Clinic had the idea for a "Jewelry Tree," decorated only with earrings, rings and bracelets, just to name a few.

"I am amazed at the creativity and level of enthusiasm that all of our sponsors have put into making this event a success. The Angel Tree and the many

children it supports stand to benefit from all that enthusiasm."

De Oliveira hopes that the Christmas Tree Auction will become a yearly event.

"It truly exemplifies the mission of the Vicenza Community Club and that is giving back to this wonderful community," she said.

FESTIVAL: Features rides, shopping, kids' crafts

continued from Page 1 handprint and Christmas cards, and play a beanbag toss game. Crafts will continue Saturday if materials are still available.

The Holiday Bazaar in the fitness center will include vendors from Italy, the Netherlands, Germany and Poland. It will feature furniture, jewelry, wine, cheese, art, Christmas ornaments and more. There will be a silent auction and raffle drawing for pre-decorated Christmas trees Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the fitness center. The winners will be announced around 4:30 p.m., just after the conclusion of bidding.

Usually the festival is a oneday event but was expanded to three days this year.

"The festival is longer this year because it's the first time we've ever done a Holiday Bazaar and we thought it would be great to piggy-back it off of



File photo by Laura Kreider

Children ride the carousel at the 2009 Holiday Festival at Caserma Ederle. The festival begins Friday from 3:30 p.m.-7 p.m., with the tree lighting at 5 p.m. The festival continues Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Activities will be at the fitness center and Post Theater parking lot.

Sarah Penhallegon, community activities coordinator with the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

the Tree Lighting to get people "People should come to the The horse and carriage rides in the Christmas Spirit," said event because it will be fun will not be available Dec. 5.

for both Soldiers and families," Penhallegon added. "They can enjoy free rides, good food, and go shopping."

CFC-Overseas extends donation deadline to Dec. 15

USAREUR News Release

The 2010 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas has extended its original Dec. 3 cut-off by 12 days.

The extension now allows federal employees to contribute to the campaign through Dec. 15.

CFC is the world's largest charity campaign impacting millions globally through the donations of military and government civilian personnel and their family members. DoD contractors and foreign national employees by the U.S. government may give also.

The campaign, the only authorized solicitation of federal employees in their workplaces, raises millions of dollars annually and features over 2,300 charities around the world. The charities can be searched at www.cfcoverseas. org/donate/?search.

It's possible to give to local programs by choosing "FSYP" on a pledge card. The funds are returned to the installation of origin to be used for Family Support and Youth Programs. In 2009, more than \$600,000 was returned to overseas military communities to support programs.

CFC offers contributors the opportunity to give using the traditional paper pledge card or through e-Giving, a fully automated giving option. Accessible on-line, the program allows contributors to give via credit/debit card or e-Check. Instructions guide contributors through the process. Visit www.cfcoverseas.org/donate for more information.

The Outlook December 2, 2010 Vol. 43, Issue 47

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The Outlook is an unofficial publication authorized and provided by AR 360-1. All editorial content of *The Outlook* is prepared, edited and approved by the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Public Affairs Office in Bldg. 109 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza. Italy. The office's DSN number is 634-6363, off post at 0444-71-6363 or e-mail: editor @ Circulation is 2,000 per week.

eur.army.mil.

The Outlook is published weekly by the USAG Vicenza PAO, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO AE 09630. It is printed by Artigiana Grafica, Montegalda (VI), 0444-636-427.

Editorial publication is an authorized section for members of the U.S. Army overseas. Contents of The Outlook are not necessarily the official views of. or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Command-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Africa.

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

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



Mail call:

Corey Kerzmann, supervisor (right), and Michael Locke. postal clerk, unload packages at the Postal Service Center Tuesday. For mail to arrive by Christmas, deadlines are Friday for parcel airlift and Dec. 10 for priority and first class mail. Those shipping five-plus packages can make an appointment between 8-10 a.m. to receive personal service. Call 634-7032.

> Photo by Laura Kreider

Garrison news

Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne **Brigade Combat** Team train for their deployment to Afghanistan at the Joint Multi-National **Training Center** in Hohenfels, Germany, in this file photo. Government officials are preparing to drawdown forces in Afghanistan beginning in July, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen said Sunday.

> File photo by Gary Kieffer

Mullen: US to begin Afghanistan drawdown in July

By Jim Garamone *American Forces Press Service*

The United States is "very committed" to begin drawing down its forces in Afghanistan in July, but large numbers will remain, Navy Adm. Mike Mullen said Sunday.

"We will start drawing down troops next July," Mullen told Fareed Zacharia, host of the CNN program, GPS.

Drawdowns will be based on conditions on the ground and recommendations from commanders, he said. It is too soon to know the numbers of troops and locations the drawdown will affect first, he added.

"We're very committed to beginning the drawdown then," he said. "But there will continue to be a large number of U.S. and allied troops on the ground in Afghanistan after July 2011."

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs also said reconciliation talks with the Taliban must be done from a position of strength, and that any talks between the Taliban and the Afghan government right now "are talks about talks."

Reconciliation is a very important process for Afghanistan, Mullen said, and when that can happen, political progress will follow.

"We need to do that from a strong position, and we're just not there right now," he said. "The Taliban don't think they are losing and the likelihood that they are going to take any significant steps with respect to reconciliation is low."

Turning to Iran, Mullen said he believes Iranian officials still are working to develop and weaponize nuclear devices, despite their public words to the contrary. The U.S. has been thinking about military options against Iranian facilities for some time, but "I still think it is important to focus on the dialogue, to focus on the engagement, but do it in a realistic way," he said.

The United States needs to look at Iran and decide whether the nation is going to "tell the truth, actually engage and actually do anything," he said. Iran has a history of gamesmanship, and American leaders need to take this under consideration, he said.

Mullen also spoke of al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, saying that the Yemen-based terrorist group continues to be a problem. The recent bombs on cargo aircraft emanated from Yemen and the group is actively recruiting members to attack the United States, he said.

173RD: Ceremony honors fallen Sky Soldiers, families

Sgt. Raymond Chavez Alcaraz Jr., C

Sgt. Kaymond Cl Co., 173rd BSB; Staff Sgt. Vinson Bryon Adkinson III, A Co., 173rd BSB; Pfc. Nicholas Scott Cook, B Co., 2nd Bn., 503rd Inf. Regt.; Sgt. Lucas Tyler Beachnaw,

Headquarters,

Headquarters

Co., 2nd Bn.,

503rd Inf. Regt.; and Spc. Russell

Edward Madden,

D Troop, 1st

Squadron, 91st

Cavalry Regt.



Beachnaw



Cook

Families of some of the fallen Soldiers will attend the ceremonies.

The ceremony will also serve to uncase the brigade colors and to honor the safe return of the

and to honor the Fastuca safe return of the troopers who redeployed to Caserma

Ederle in the past weeks. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be relocated to the fitness center gymnasium.

For more information, call 634-6030.





Pfc. Martin Munnich receives an autograph from Jared Fogle, spokesperson for the Subway restaurants, Nov. 22 at the mall. Fogle lost more than 300 pounds by changing his diet and exercising.

Subway spokesman Jared visits Caserma Ederle to promote healthy lifestyles

Photo by Laura Kreider

Performers in the Soldiers' Theatre holiday show, "Making Spirits Bright" practice the song and dance, "Yule be Swingin", Tuesday night.

Soldiers' Theatre holiday show opens Friday

By Annette Fournier *Outlook Editor*

Soldiers' Theatre holiday production, "Making Spirits Bright", opens Friday and runs through Dec. 12 with performances Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

The production is a two-act musical revue of holidays songs. It features dance, classical-style holiday songs and some comedy numbers that put a twist on the traditional, said Jerry Brees, Soldiers' Theatre entertainment director. "Making Spirits Bright is the perfect way to kick off the season and get the community into the holiday spirit," Brees said. "The talented and energetic cast is great and having so much fun performing the hysterical comedy numbers, exciting arrangements of familiar songs, traditional music and a special tap dance."

Opening Night is sold out, but tickets are still available for all other performances. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for youth. The cast will also perform the show off post at the Ca' Balbi Theatre in Vicenza Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. Story and photo by Sasha Sibilla Outlook Intern

Jared Fogle, Subway's spokesperson, signed autographs and spoke with community members at a meet and greet session at the Subway in the Food Court Nov. 22.

Crowds of curious community members waited patiently to take pictures and meet the man who lost more than 300 pounds by changing his diet and exercise habits.

Fogle also visited the schools to speak to middle and high school students about his life, his struggles with obesity and the importance of making healthy choices, Fogle said.

"It was a great experience meeting service members and their families in Vicenza and sharing my story with them," Fogle said. "I told the kids about my life and how exercise and healthy foods are so important for a happy and healthy lifestyle."

Fogle had tried many weight loss plans unsuccessfully, and at age 20, weighed 425 pounds. He was finally able to stick to a diet plan. Shortly before visiting Caserma Ederle, he completed the New York City Marathon.

Wellness fair spotlights holistic fitness

Story and photo by Vincenzo Leto USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The annual Health and Wellness Fair was held at Camp Darby Nov. 18 at the Fitness Center.

The fair was part of the efforts currently going on within the USAG Livorno Garrison and across the Army in support of the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness program.

While the name of the program calls specifically for Soldiers, its intent is to equip and train troops, family members and Army civilians to maximize their potential and face the physical and psychological challenges of sustained operations. The program is intended to teach the Army community to build resiliency and holistic fitness, according to the CSF website.

Under this concept, the fair was an opportunity for the whole Camp Darby community to receive a wide set of information about overcoming physical and mental challenges, and creating spiritual growth and financial freedom.

Additionally, blood pressure checks, vaccine shots for the incoming seasonal flu and self help books geared to improving personal relationships were also available.



Lacy Wolff, director of the Army Wellness Center-Vicenza, conducts a VO2 test for Linn Weaver at the Camp Darby Health and Wellness Fair Nov. 18. Weaver will be able to use the results to better tailor his personal workout routine.



731st Munitions Squadron, pays a surprise visit to his children at school the day before Thanksgiving Day. Lego had just returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

Photo by Joyce Costello



Friends of Darby association award women's scholarship

Story and photo by Chiara Mattirolo USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The Friends of Camp Darby awarded the quarterly \$300 Women Empowerment Scholarship to Sarah Hansen Nov. 10. Bethy Vallejo, vice president of the





Camp Darby

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

Bowling alley eatery The snack bar at the bowling alley is closed until Jan. 10.

Spouses education opportunity

The deadline to apply for the Army Emergency Relief Overseas Spouse Education Assistance Program for Term 3 is Dec. 13. Scholarships are available for spouses of active duty Army Soldiers who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree and reside with the Soldier at the overseas command. Applications are available online at http:// aerha.org. For more information. contact ACS at 633-7084.

FRG holiday party

Bring your family and listen to Christmas carols and stories, grab some snacks, hot apple cider and enjoy the holiday spirit Dec. 9 at the school cafeteria beginning at 3 p.m.

School music concert

Enjoy the sounds of the holiday season at the Livorno Unit School Winter Concert Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the school.

ACS classes

ACS is offering the following classes:

- Good credit scores, Tuesday at noon;
- Card making class, Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.;
- · Reentering the work place, Wednesday at 4 p.m.;
- Consumer rights, Dec. 9 at noon.

Call 633-7084 to sign up.

SAS/YS field trip

The CYSS Christmas field trip is Dec. 21.

ITR trips

Upcoming ITR trips are:

- Bologna Motor Show, Dec. 11;
- Milan International Fair, Dec. 11;

Friends of Camp Darby, said the group was glad to present the scholarship to Hansen.

"Darby is a great community in which I am glad to represent the Friends of Camp Darby," she said. "Our association is proud to present this scholarship to Sarah and to help young women pay tuition and pursue their education."

Hansen said the scholarship will help her finish her degree.

"This scholarship will help me pay for my last two classes on fraud accounting and governmental accounting," said Hansen. "I do not have a job right now and I have a 10-month-old baby. This is going to be a great help for me."

Hansen is studying to earn her degree in Economics next year. In her spare time, she volunteers at Army Community Service as the Yellow Ribbon Facility

Bethy Vallejo, the vice president of the Friends of Camp Darby (right), presents Sarah Hansen with a \$300 Women's Empowerment scholarship Nov. 10.

manager.

"It took me ten years to complete my studies due to continuous changes in duty location," said Hansen. "My efforts prove that if you work hard enough, you can reach your goals."

Hansen said she received great support from the Camp Darby community.

"I think that being stationed here

represented a big chance for me to finish my studies," she said. "Being in a small community is much easier. You get to know everybody by name and you know who to (go) to if you need help."

The deadline to apply for the next award is Jan. 14. Applications are online at the Friends of Camp Darby link at www.usag.livorno.army.mil.

- Pisa Market, Dec. 12;
- Vicenza shopping trip, Dec. 18;
- Wine Tasting, Dec. 19.

Darby Community Club

Right Arm night, Dec. 10 at 4 p.m.

BOSS-sponsored holiday party, Dec. 17

New Year's Eve Bash on Dec. 31

Religious Activities

9:40 a.m. Catholic reconciliation 10 a.m. Catholic Mass 11:15 a.m. Protestant worship 10 a.m. Protestant Sunday school

11:15 a.m.: Catholic CCD Don't miss the Mouse Christmas play on Dec. 12 at 11:15 a.m. and Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.

Out&About

Christmas Markets:

The Christmas market illuminate downtown Vicenza. From this weekend until Jan. 9, visitors can sample local products and specialties, see the Santa Claus Village, shop the market stands, listen to Christmas music and see the lights. See below for dates and times and check out the other local Christmas markets.

> Photo courtesy of Vicenza Press Office

Local festivals & shows

Vicenza Christmas Market:

Corso Fogazzaro and Corso Palladio, ongoing through Jan. 9, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., features products from Italy and abroad.

Christmas Sweets: Piazza dei Signori, Friday - Monday, 40 stands with local Christmas sweets and stands from all over Europe.

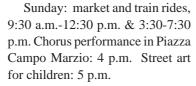
Santa Claus Village: Piazza San Lorenzo, open daily through Dec. 25 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Dec. 24: 8 a.m-11 p.m. Christmas presents and decorations, seasonal plants, fruits and vegetables, hot chocolate and mulled wine.

Christmas tree lighting ceremony: Sunday, 5 p.m., Piazza dei Signori. The Christmas tree comes from Gallio. The ceremony will end with a concert performed by local groups.

Carousel rides for children: Saturday-Dec. 24, in front of the Teatro Olimpico. Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-8p.m.; weekdays 4-8 p.m.

Christmas musical wishes: Wednesday, 11 a.m., Piazza dei Signori, presented by the Veneto Bersaglieri Band.

Christmas market: Ongoing through Dec. 19 in Vicenza, Bertesinella Church Recreation Center, Via da Montegallo 4.



Wednesday: market: 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 3-7:30 p.m. Train rides: 3-7:30 p.m. Chorus performance in Piazza Campo Marzio: 4 p.m. Street art for children: 5 p.m.

Asiago Christmas market:

Saturday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.& 3:30 -7 p.m. in Piazza Carli, about 37 north of Vicenza.

Bassano del Grappa Christmas market:

Ongoing through Dec. 26 in Piazza Libertà, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursdays and Saturdays 2-7:30 p.m.; Market in Piazza Garibaldi, Tuesday-Sunday, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Antique wooden Carousel in Piazzotto Montevecchio, where Santa and his elves will transform the historical center in a fairytale world. Saturday, Sunday and holiday afternoons a miniature train will take children and adults around the historical center.

Costozza Christmas market: Sunday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. in Piazza

da Schio, Longare, about 8 miles south of Vicenza. Gallio Christmas the "High Promotion" from Sandrigo: 3 p.m. Woodstock Choir performance: 8:45 p.m.

Noventa Vicentina Christmas market:

Saturday, about 20 miles east of Vicenza, 4 p.m. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, entertainment and Christmas music.

Sandrigo Christmas market:

Saturday, 3:30 p.m. and Sunday at 10 a.m., in Piazza Duomo e Piazza SS Filippo e Giacomo, about 9 miles north of Vicenza. Christmas market, agricultural products exhibit and sale, concerts and shows for children.

Run Santa Run:

Corri Babbo Natale Corri is Dec. 18 in Vicenza, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The charity fundraiser run starts and ends at Campo Marzio, the park near the main train station. Entrance fee: €8, includes a lightweight Santa suit to run in and refreshments at the finish; €5 if you bring your own Santa suit. Pre-register or sign-up and pay at 10 a.m. at the event. Proceeds go to Italian charities and local flood victims. To register, call 0444-513-585. For assistance, call Anna Terracino at 634-7169 or e-mail anna.terracino@eur.army.mil.

Feast of Immaculate Conception:

Dec. 8, there are celebrations throughout Italy and churches

the Melodi Orchestra. Wednesday: food stands at noon and 6 p.m. featuring local salami with red chicory and other local specialties; 9 p.m. ballroom dancing with the Parioli Orchestra. Snail Fair:

Wednesday in Crespadoro, Piazza Municipio, about 25 miles northwest of Vicenza, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Food booths, crafts and local products exhibition and market, folk music.

VicenzAntiquaria:

Antique show & market Saturday-Dec. 12 in Vicenza, Via dell'Oreficeria 16. Saturdays, Sundays & Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; weekdays, 3-8 p.m.; Admission fee: €10. American military and families: €7 - Show ID to obtain the discount.

Antique Market:

Saturday, 9 a.m.- 7 p.m., Thiene, in Piazza Chilesotti and Corso Garibaldi, about 18 miles north of Vicenza.

Painting exhibition:

Exhibit of local artists' paintings Saturday-Dec. 22 in Vicenza, Scaletta 62, Contrà Porta Santa

by Anna Terracino

Lucia 62. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 5-7 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. – noon.

Conservatory students in concert:

Saturday, 5 p.m. in Vicenza, Conservatory, Contrà San Domenico 33.

Quilts & Quilts exhibit:

Ongoing through Dec. 8 in Bassano del Grappa, Palazzo Bonaguro, Via Angarano 77, about 22 miles northeast of Vicenza. Exhibit open Monday-Friday 3-7:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Gospel night:

Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. in Sossano, Aurora Movie Theater, Via Roma, about 17 miles south of Vicenza. Immaculate Conception Concert:

Wednesday, 6 p.m. in Vicenza, St. Giorgio Church, Viale Fusinato 115.

Explore the sky:

Astronomical Observatory of Arcugnano, Tuesday at 8:30 p.m., Via S. Giustina, 127, about five miles south of Vicenza. View the sky and the planets in great detail with the observatory's telescope.

Sporting events Renault International

Roller Cup:

Wednesday in Modena, Palapanini.For more info in English and tickets, visit *www.ticketone. it/EN/*.

ODR trips

Make plans now to spend Christmas in Vienna. ODR takes you there for two nights on Dec. 24. Ski Folgaria Dec. 11 or hop on the Rome Express Dec 11-12. Visit Florence Dec. 12 and Klagenfurt and Villach, Austria Dec. 18.

See the Outdoor Recreation schedule online at *www.Vicenza MWR.com*.





Monday-Friday 3-7 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and Dec. 8: 9:30 a.m.-noon & 3:30-6 p.m.

Fairy-Tale Gardens: Sunday-Dec. 8 and Dec. 11-12, 10 a.m.- 7 p.m. in Giardini Salve, Piazzale De Gasperi. Staging of the most popular fairy tales with lights, sounds, colors and more than 300 costumed people. Food booths featuring traditional Christmas sweet and local specialties.

Arzignano Christmas market:

Saturday, Sunday & Wednesday, Via San Zeno 32, about 16 miles west of Vicenza.

Saturday: market, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 3-7:30 p.m. Train rides: 3-7:30 p.m. Street art for children: 4:30 p.m. Christmas tree lighting and chorus concert: 6:15 p.m.

market:

Saturday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 3:30-7:30 p.m. in Piazzetta Giardini, about 40 miles north of Vicenza. Shows, street artists, musicians, jugglers, fireeaters and a reindeer petting zoo.

Nogarole Christmas show and market:

Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday & Wednesday, about 21 miles west of Vicenza.

Saturday: market opens 3 p.m.; children's entertainment: 3:30 p.m. Sunday: market opens 9 a.m.; Sheepdog exhibition on football field: 2:30 p.m. Show for children

with "Campanello": 4 p.m.

Tuesday: market opens 6 p.m.; Gramolom concert: 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday: market opens at 9 a.m. Show for children with

hold special masses. Government offices, banks and schools are closed. Many stores stay open. Free guided visits to Roman Cryptoporticus:

Vicenza, Piazza Duomo. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.noon & 2:30-4 p.m.; Wednesday: 10 a.m. – noon. A cryptoporticus is a covered gallery that was a characteristic feature of the ancient Roman villas. It was usually designed to provide shade and a cool place for walking.

Radicchio Rosso Festival:

Red Chicory Festival Sunday and Wednesday in Asigliano Veneto, about 23 miles south of Vicenza.

Sunday: food stands at noon and 6 p.m.; live music and dancing with

inaay		0 p
	The Town (R)	9 p.m.
Saturday	Tangled (PG)	3 p.m.
	You Again (PG)	6 p.m.
Sunday	Tangled (PG)	3 p.m.
	You Again (PG)	6 p.m.
Weds.	The Town (R)	6 p.m.
Dec. 9	The Town (R)	1 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Friday	The Town (R)	6 p.m.
Saturday	Due Date (R)	6 p.m.
Sunday	Megamind (PG)	1 p.m.
Dec. 10	Unstoppable (PG 13)	6 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and older, \$4, younger than 12, \$2. The Ederle theater box office opens one hour prior to show.

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

or www.aafes.com/ems/euro/livorno.htm.

Community briefs

Kids' holiday shows

The community is invited to the schools' holiday presentations. All shows will be in the VES Multi-Purpose Room.

Dec. 2: The Cougar Cub Choir performs "Welcome Home to Vicenza!", dedicated to returning Soldiers, from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Tuesday: The kindergartens and first grades present "The Littlest Reindeer" from 9-9:30 a.m. and 6-6:30 p.m.

Dec. 14: The fourth and fifth grades present "A Christmas Carol" 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m.

VES SAC meeting

The Elementary School Advisory Council meets Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. at VES. Open to the community. For more info, e-mail *missyhuggins@hotmail.com*.

DoDEA survey

Parents with children in DoD schools are asked to complete the DoDEA 2010 Customer Satisfaction Survey by Dec. 15. A high response rate provides schools with info about their programs. Visit www.dodea.edu to participate.

Art of chocolate

Learn the Art of Chocolate Saturday with the Arts & Crafts Krafty Kitchen Class. Create a personalized stocking Dec. 8.

Wheel throwing

Learn the basics of pottery wheel throwing at the Arts & Crafts Center. Class will be Friday and Dec. 10 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$50 and includes all materials.

Kids' craft club

Parents, bring your children to the Arts & Crafts Center and take advantage of their increasing supply of crafting materials. Kids Craft Club is every Wednesday from 4-6 p.m.

Family game night

Families are invited to Family Game Night Wednesday, 6-7 p.m., at the Post Library. Bring your favorite board game or play on our Wii, and enjoy refreshments. Call 634-8419 for more information.

Art exhibit

CYSS is hosting an art exhibit Monday-Dec. 31 at the library. Stop by the library and vote for your favorite artwork.

AFTB Level III

Chapel schedule

Spanish Catholic Mass (Our Lady of Guadalupe) Dec. 11, 7 p.m. Advent Penance service Dec.

13, 5:30 p.m.

Protestant Children's Christmas Musical Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 24

Catholic Children's Christmas Pageant, 3:30 p.m.

Catholic Family Mass, 4 p.m. Protestant Candle Light Service, 7 p.m.

Catholic Midnight Mass, midnight

Dec. 25 Catholic Mass, 10 a.m.

Dec. 31 Catholic New Year's Eve Mass,

5:30 p.m. Gospel Watch Night Service, 10:45 p.m.

Chapel children's choir

The Chapel Children's Choir is looking for children ages 5-15 to perform in the Christmas musical Dec. 17. Practices are Sundays at 2 p.m. at the Chapel Annex. Children do not have to be chapel members to participate. For more info, contact Dana Brue at 327-131-6510 or *dana.brue@us.army.mil.*

AUSA membership

Those interested in joining the Mediterranean chapter of the Association of the United States Army can e-mail osvaldo. delhoyo@us.army.mil. For more info, visit www.ausa.org.

Sale for active-duty

The Thrift Store is having a 50-percent-off sale for all merchandise (except consignments) for active-duty Soldiers Wednesday and Dec. 15. The sale includes military clothing and transformers. To receive the discount, Soldiers must be in uniform or show an active-duty ID.

Driving in Germany

In Germany, a new law states that to operate POVs on icy, snowy or slushy roads, all wheels must be equipped with M + S tires (tires that meet the criteria stipulated in Appendix II Nr.2.2 of Directive 92/23/EC as amended). The law applies whenever winter driving conditions exist. Vicenza military community members should check

weather and road forecasts before leaving for Germany on tires that don't meet the new standard.

Country night

Thursdays are Country Night at the Lion's Den, 8 p.m. - closing.

Army vs. Navy

Come watch the Army vs. Navy Football Game Dec. 11 at 8:30 p.m. at the Lion's Den. Pre-game nacho and taco buffet starts at 8 p.m. Cost is \$10. GO ARMY!

VCC luncheon

Join the Vicenza Community Club for the Winter Wonderland Luncheon Dec. 15 from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Arena. Cost is \$15 per person. Pay and RSVP online at *www.vccitaly.org* by Dec. 10.

Bowl for a buck

Match Santa's score Saturdays in December and receive a coupon for \$1 off a game of bowling

Teen scavenger hunt

The Teen Center and Club Beyond will host a scavenger hunt at Villaggio for all high schoolaged youth Dec. 18 from 7-10 p.m. The meeting point is the Villaggio Youth Center. Call 634-7659.

Freddy FAP

Freddy FAP visits Puerto Rico Dec. 15, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Freddy FAP is Family Advocacy's world traveler. He visits countries brings back activities for families. For more info, call 634-7500/6202.

Multi-cultural spouses

The Multi-Cultural Spouses club's holiday pot luck luncheon is Dec. 17, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. share your favorite dish from your home country. Everyone is welcome! For more info, call Relocation Readiness at 634-7500/8525.

MOMS Club events

- Monday: Playdate 11:15 a.m.
- Dec. 8: Indoor playdate, 4 p.m.
- Dec. 13: Book club, 10:30 a.m.
- Dec. 14: Toddler play, 10 a.m. For more info or to join, e-mail momsclubofvicenza@yahoo.com.

Homeschool events

• Fridays (except Dec. 24), Italian Enrichment, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

• Friday: Mom's night, 7 p.m.

Community Calendar Highlights

Friday-Sunday: Holiday Festival & Bazaar Wednesday: Immaculate Conception Italian holiday Dec. 23: Training holiday Dec. 24: Federal Holiday

• Monday and Dec. 13: Art Enrichment, 1:30-2:20 p.m.

• Dec 9: Field trip to Verona Arena Nativities, 10:30 a.m.

For info, e-mail *vicenzahome schoolconnection@yahoo.com*.

AFAP issues

Army Family Action Plan is collecting issues for the 2011 AFAP Conference. Submit your issues at *www.vicenzamwr.com/acs_afap. html.* The deadline for issue submission is Dec. 30. For more info, call ACS at 634-8526/7500.

Closures Wednesday

Wednesday is an Italian holiday. Many offices and services will be closed or offer limited services. The Central Issue Facility, the Supply Services Activity and POV inspection will be closed. The Installation Transportation Office will provide limited services.

Outlook publication

The final edition of *The Outlook* for 2010 is Dec. 16. The first edition of 2011 will come out Jan. 7.

Book swap

Swap gently-used children's books or donate them to children in Africa. The book exchange is Friday to Dec. 9, 12:30-1:30 p.m. (Mondays-Fridays) in the Vicenza Elementary and Middle School Multipurpose room. Leave books for Africa in drop boxes at ACS or VES/VMS. For more info, contact *ajspy@hotmail.com*.

Holiday show

Tickets are on sale for the Soldiers' Theater's production of "Making Spirits Bright", a song and dance review of holiday favorites. Shows are Friday - Dec. 12, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for youth. Call 634-7281 or visit the theater for reservations.



Religious activities

Chaplain Crisis Line

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

Sunday services

8 a.m.: Sacrament of Reconciliation, or by appointment

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass

(Daily Mass is held weekdays at noon)

9 a.m.: Protestant Sunday school and AWANAs (September-May at Vicenza High School)

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

11 a.m.: Protestant worship 1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship

5 p.m.: Contemporary Christian service

Mondays Noon: LDS scripture study

Tuesdays

9:15 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

Wednesdays

3 p.m.: Praise dance practice

3:30 p.m.: Middle SchoolClub Beyond meets in VHScafeteria September-May5 p.m.: Contemporary

Praise band practice

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

5:30 p.m.: High School Club Beyond meets at the Teen Center September-May. Call 340-139-4073 for information.

5:30 p.m.: Catholic choir practice 6:45 p.m.: Gospel choir

Thursdays

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Women

practice

of the Chapel

AFTB Level III–Making a Difference through Leadership, is Tuesday - Dec. 9 from 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. Expand your leadership and communication techniques, learn about mentoring, leadership, and managing group conflict. For more info, call 634-7500.

Scholarship deadline

The deadline to apply for the Army Emergency Relief Overseas Spouse Education Assistance Program (term 3) is Dec. 13. Spouses of active-duty Soldiers pursuing their first undergraduate degree and residing with the Soldier overseas are eligible. Applications are available at *www.aerhq.org/*. For more info, call 634-8524 or stop by the AER office in ACS.

Photo by Laura Kreider

Bank on it: Staff members of the Caserma Ederle branches of Italian Banca Nazionale Del Lavoro, Community Bank and Global Credit Union pose for a picture with a poster showing a new motto designed to represent the three banks' relationship to Caserma Ederle at a fellowshipbuilding event at the Arena Nov. 18. The event was coordinated by Luciano Prestipino, BNL manager. "The motto 'Together we serve' tells it all," said Prestipino. "It means that there is no competition but one focus and one mission...take care of the customer." 5:30 p.m.: Gospel service choir rehearsal7:15 p.m.: Gospel service Bible study

Faith group contacts Islamic: Call 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for info. Jewish: Call Paul Levine at 345-907-2108. Latter Day Saints: Call Chance Wilson at 327-869-8107. Sunday services, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. downtown. Scripture study held Mondays, noon-1 p.m. at the chapel. Call the Caserma Ederle chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for more information on religious activities.

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

Community camera

A snapshot of events making news in and around the U.S. military community in Vicenza...





Photo by David Ruderman

Black Friday shoppers: Black Friday could have been more appropriately called white Friday as the first snow fall of the season blanketed Caserma Ederle, but that didn't stop shoppers from looking for deals at the PX. Shoppers only had until noon, however, when the snow prompted officials to close most post services. By early afternoon the snow had changed over to rain, and post services resumed regular hours Saturday.

Photo by David Ruderman

Frosty Friday: Family member Esther Ruderman makes a cool friend from the snow that fell Friday.



Photo by David Ruderman

Helping out: Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, U.S. Army Africa commander (right), and Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Miller, USARAF G-6 command sergeant major, serve up the Thanksgiving feast at the South of the Alps Dining Facility Nov. 25.



Heritage celebration: Sgt. 1st Class

Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, performs a "Sneak Up" war dance at the Caserma Ederle Teen Center pavilion Tuesday as part of the Native American Heritage Month celebration. The dance was traditionally performed before or after a big hunt or battle, Nestell said. The event also featured a food tasting and remarks by Maj. John Elrich, 173rd ABCT.

Photo by Laura Kreider Michael Nestell, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2nd

Congrats!: Players from the Vicenza Flag Football league pose with their trophy from the IMCOM-Europe Unit Level Flag Football Championship at Hohenfels, Germany, Nov. 5-6.



Fitness Center opening early

As of Monday, the Fitness Center will open at 5:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. Weekend hours are 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

12 Days of sports

Sports, Fitness and Aquatics is hosting lunchtime games for 12 consecutive days beginning Tuesday. Call 634-7887 for information.

CYSS volleyball

Teens ages 11-13 are invited to join the Middle School Volleyball program. Call 634-6151 for info.

All-Army Volleyball

Applications are now being accepted for the men's and women's All-Army Volleyball Teams. Apply by Dec. 15 for coach positions and by Feb. 1 for athletes. Find more info at www.allarmysports.armymwr.com.

Basketball & cheering

Enroll kids ages 3-15 for basketball and cheerleading by Wednesday at the CYSS Parent Central Services Office at Davis Hall. Space is limited. CYSS registration must be valid through the end of the season (Jan. 12 - Feb. 26). Practices begin in late December. Call 634- 6151 for info.

CYSS sports survey

Give CYSS Sports and Fitness feedback about youth sports and fitness. Take a survey at www. surveymonkey.com/s/CYSS_Survey.

Snow sports workout

Skiers and snowboarders can join a coached workout at the fitness center Tuesdays at noon. Call 634-6240 for information.

Volunteers needed

The Mako Sharks Swim Team hosts its final home meet Dec. 12, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Post Pool. They are seeking volunteers to serve as timers and for other duties. No prior training is required. For info, e-mail john.j.casey@us.army.mil or call 0444-912-612 and leave a message.

CYSS coaches needed

Potential coaches must pass a background check, and will receive training and certification.

Contact 634-6151, alex.ruiz5@ eur.army.mil or Krista.Cahill@eur. army.mil for information.

Volleyball officials clinic

A volleyball officials clinic is

Vicenza took 3rd place at the eightteam competition.

The 43rd Signal Battalion from Heidelberg, Germany, took first place and NATO from Shape. Belgium, took second.

"I am very proud of the players because they showed the dedication and determination to keep playing and winning with injuries," said Kenyatta Colbert, Vicenza team coach. "It was a hard task playing four to five games a day."



Photo by Laura Kreider

SOLDIERS & CIVILIANS COMMUNITY UNIT/REC OPEN PLAY SPORTS

2010-2011 Basketball League:					
Team	Win	Loss			
USARAF	1	0			
14TH TRANS	1	0			
464TH MP PLT.	0	0			
D CO 2-503RD	0	0			
DO WORK	0	0			
ALL IN	0	0			
TEAM LOYALTY	0	1			
PUSH DA ROCK	0	1			

Monday 6 p.m. DO WORK vs. ALL IN 7 p.m. D CO 2-503RD vs. PUSH DA ROCK **Tournament & Leagues** 2011 USAG-V Racquetball Tournament, Jan. 21-22. Male & Female Divisions, categories: Beginners (0-2 years experience), Intermediate (2-5 years experience), Advanced (more than 5 years experience), Opens & Doubles. Sign up by Jan. 14.

2011 USAG-Vicenza Unit/Recreational Volleyball League, starts around Feb. 24, Coaches meeting Feb. 17 at 2 p.m. in the Fitness Center second floor conference room.

2011 Unit/Recreational Dodge ball League, starts around Feb. 8. Coaches Meeting, Feb. 2 in the Fitness Center second floor conference room.

Jan. 10-15 at 6 p.m. in the Fitness Center upstairs conference room. Those interested can get certified or recertify as an official, learn the rules, meet other officials, make some money and have some fun! Prior experience is not necessary. Officials, scorers and timers are needed for the season. Sign up by Jan. 5 at the Fitness Center.

Unit & rec play

Basketball: 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for 10 or more, fitness center.

Volleyball: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays for 8 or more players, fitness center. Men's Soccer: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for 11 or more players.

Women's Soccer: 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesdays for 8 or more players. Call 634-7009.

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