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First sergeants course marks Vicenza first

Story and photo
by Rick Scavetta
U.S. Army Africa
Public Affairs

Sixteen senior noncommissioned officers graduated March 6 from the First Sergeants Course – the first program of its kind held at Caserma Ederle.

The ceremony at the post theater was a fitting tribute to the role first sergeants play during the Year of the NCO.

“If the noncommissioned officer is the backbone of the Army, the first sergeant is the heart and soul,” said Command Sgt. Major Jeffrey Hartless, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, to the graduating class. “Remember that your Soldiers’ eyes are always upon you.”

The graduation marked the completion of an intensive distance learning course designed by the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy to prepare selected NCOs to become company first sergeants.

When an NCO is selected, he or she receives a lateral appointment from master sergeant.

But the Army also requires attendance of the First Sergeants Course. Upon completion, they earn what NCOs call an “M



Sixteen senior noncommissioned officers graduated March 6 from the First Sergeants Course, during a ceremony at the post theater.

designator,” identifying them officially as first sergeants.

First sergeants run the company and are responsible for much of what goes on at company level to include assigning daily tasks, overseeing officers and enlisted Soldiers, scheduling training, managing awards and considering promotions.

“My job is to take care of Soldiers, to train and mentor them, to deploy with them, get our missions done and return

home safely,” said 1st Sgt. James Hill, first sergeant for Company B, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment. “This course offered great information to help me do that better.”

“Having the course here allowed me to be here for my wife and also oversee my company to take care of Soldiers’ issues,” he said.

The course consists of a 60-day individual program, followed by 21 days of classwork, said Master Sgt. Chad Anderson, the

173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team’s chief intelligence NCO who assisted with the course instruction.

“They learn everything about administrative and combat operational tasks,” Anderson said.

In the past, NCOs from Vicenza would travel to Vilseck, Germany to attend first-sergeant training.

Now Vicenza-based NCOs access the course through
See First sergeant on page 3

Interactive DVD offers new approach to suicide prevention training

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

Last fiscal year, 138 Soldiers committed suicide, according to military statistics and five additional cases are still pending confirmation. In January 2009, 12 Soldiers committed suicide with another 12 cases still pending. In February, two Soldiers committed suicide and another 16 cases are still pending confirmation.

To confront this issue head-on, an Army-wide “stand down” for suicide-prevention training began in February and continues through March 15.

In what is hoped to be a more effective approach, an interactive DVD, *Beyond the Front*, was developed and follows a Soldier and an NCO who are going through difficult situations.

The facilitator guides participants through the DVD and lets them decide what decisions the Soldier and the NCO make in dealing with problems, according to Betsy Walters, Health Promotion

coordinator, USAG Vicenza, USACHPPMEUR.

The decisions the group makes determine the outcome for the Soldier and the NCO, and it doesn’t necessarily end well.

Unlike real life, participants can go back and make different decisions and change the outcome, according to Walters.

Beyond the Front training stresses how people may turn to suicide not because they want to die, but because they want the pain and stress to stop, according to the USAG Vicenza chaplain, Lt. Col. Bill Phillips. The training addresses the stigma associated with seeking help and also what services are available to seek help, he said.

During a Blogger’s Roundtable March 5 on suicide prevention, Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli said the interactive video is “some of the best facilitation for training that I’ve seen in 36 years in the Army.”

See Beyond on page 2

MP works to help others remember force protection

By Peter Huller
USAG Vicenza
Antiterrorism officer
Special to the Outlook

It’s not every day that your child comes home with a story about force protection, but my daughter Lali did recently.

As I met her and her siblings at the Caserma Ederle library after work, she told about how a military police officer executed what we in antiterrorism call a “random antiterrorism measure.” (She didn’t know we call it that, but she knew it was some kind of “antiterrorism thing.”)

The officer in question was Spc. Jonathan Mejia and what he did was to identify and collect

unattended backpacks and other items in the library.


He then attempted to find the owners of each of these backpacks.

Apparently this has become a bit of an issue with the library because students
See Force protection, page 3




Spc. Jonathan Mejia, 464th Military Police Company, checks a bag left unattended on a table in the Caserma Ederle library for identification. (Photo by Diana Bahr, USAG Vicenza Public Affairs)

The Noncommissioned Officer
PATTERNS OF SUCCESS



Sgt. Karen Shevelev
Unit: HQ, U.S. Army Africa
Current Position: Military Justice Paralegal NCO/Court Reporter
Age: 25
Hometown: Port Reading, NJ
Years in Service: 4
Mentor: Sgt. 1st Class Guerra. The most technically proficient paralegal I have ever worked with. She gives me daily insights on how to be not just a better paralegal, but a better NCO. Sgt. 1st Class Guerra's tact, professional demeanor, and ability to calmly resolve any issue that comes her way are qualities I wish to emulate.
Motto: If you talk the talk, you better walk the walk.
Definition of an NCO: A leader, someone who can be entrusted to get the mission accomplished while at the same time ensuring to care for their Soldiers and develop them professionally.
Advice for junior enlisted Soldiers: Always know how to perform at the next higher skill level. You never know when you will have to fill those shoes.
Reason for Success: As an NCO, I realize that junior Soldiers look to noncommissioned officers to set the standard. I have always tried to do the right thing. I take pride in my job and I understand the responsibilities that come with being an NCO.
Defining moment as an NCO: Winning the 2008 USAREUR Paralegal NCO of the Year board.

VISIT THE ARMY'S WEB SITE DEDICATED TO THE YEAR OF THE NCO AT: WWW4.ARMY.MIL/YEAROFTHENC0



Source: SETAF PAO OUTLOOKgraphic

SAS worker goes extra mile to bring green to post

Equal Opportunity Office
Press Release

March is designated as National Women's History Month to ensure that the history of women will be recognized and celebrated in schools, workplaces and communities throughout the country.

This year NWHM acknowledges women who are making a difference in the "green" movement on a local, state, national or international level.

The Equal Opportunity office asked the Caserma Ederle community to nominate women of all ages who are working to protect the environment.

Brief biographies of all 2009 honorees are on the NWHM Web site: www.nwhp.org.

Margherita Frasson

Margherita Frasson pays close attention to conserving the environment in the workplace. She turns off unnecessary lights in the building and offices.

Two years ago she placed a paper and plastic recycle point in the Child, Youth and School Services offices. Frasson ensures indoor and outdoor areas are cleaned from litter.

She has coordinated with the Directorate of Public Works buildings and grounds division to recycle the green plants from Villaggio and have them



Margherita Frasson (right), administrative assistant at School Age Services, shows two youngsters the proper way to dispose of plastic bottles. Frasson was honored at a luncheon March 6 with three other Caserma Ederle women for their helping make a difference in the green movement on post. (Photo by Diana Bahr, USAG Vicenza Public Affairs)

planted in the SAS area. She also reminds the janitorial staff to dispose of waste according to the recycling criteria.

She also ensures that all exhausted toner cartridges are taken to the appropriate recycle points.

Frasson goes this extra mile because she cares about protecting our environment and keeping our community free from waste.

Frasson has been recycling glass and paper since she was a child; before environmental consciousness developed as "a trend." She is truly concerned about saving energy and preserving the environment's resources.

She is also teaching her daughter to be concerned with preserving the environment and to take measures whenever possible.

Beyond the Front helps teach suicide prevention

Beyond from page 1

He said the purpose of the video is to reduce the stigma of seeking help, to teach Soldiers to recognize the signs of suicide and how to provide help to a battle buddy.

There's no single solution to the problem, Chiarelli said, characterizing it as "very, very complicated."

About half of the Soldiers who committed suicide last year had sought treatment from mental-healthcare providers, Chiarelli said. Yet they still committed suicide.

Only 5.4 percent of the suicide victims had been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, said Col. Elspeth C. Ritchie, a psychiatrist who serves as director of Strategic Communications for the Army Medical Department.

About 60 percent of those who committed suicide had relationship problems, said Col. Thomas Languirand of Army G-1. Some also had compounded legal problems, financial problems, or work problems, the panel explained.

If you or your buddy are having a hard time dealing with the many difficult issues that life tends to throw our way – be they relationship, financial or medical – help is available. Call Behavioral Health at 634-7604 or contact the Military Family Life consultants for an anonymous meeting at 637-7500. A chaplain is available 24/7 by calling 634-KARE (5272) or 0444-71-5272. Finally, if you feel a friend or family member is in danger, call the military police at 634-7233 or 7626 or toll-free at 800-064-077.

Speak Out

What do you know about OPSEC? -By Outlook Staff

OPSEC is a process of identifying friendly actions that adversaries can observe and interpret to gain critical information. For details call Peg Clevenger, USAG Vicenza security manager, Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization, at 634-8998.



Jessica Wright (left) and Julie Castro
Tellers, Global Credit Union

"We believe that OPSEC means not revealing any sensitive information that could hurt our husbands or their mission."



Angelita Wilczek
VCC Thrift Store manager

"I'm not sure what OPSEC means."

(Editor's note: Call Peg Clevenger for OPSEC training at 634-8998)



Capt. Dave Kopecky
HHC, 173rd ABCT

"OPSEC means taking appropriate measures to prevent any informational leaks to unauthorized individuals."



Liliana McCarthy
VCC Thrift Store volunteer

"OPSEC means being aware of your surroundings."

Vicenza's first first sergeants course yields 16 graduates

First Sergeant from page 1
video conferencing that allows them to interact with instructors at Fort Bliss.

It's better for the Soldier and the Army to have the training held at home station, said Doug Askins, SETAF-U.S. Army Africa schools officer.

"It saves the Army money to teach locally," Askins said. "And everyone here is going to work together for the next couple of years in this command – that's a big plus."

Master Sgt. Tamika Anderson, a human resources specialist who serves as equal opportunity advisor for SETAF-U.S. Army Africa, will soon become a first sergeant.

The experience and input

from her peers were key, she said. "It was important to network with other first sergeants," said Anderson. "It gave us an opportunity to discuss the challenges we will face."

Graduation certificates were awarded to:

Headquarters Support Company SETAF-U.S. Army Africa

1st Sgt. Katrina Burnett, Master Sgt. Tamika Anderson and Sgt. 1st Class Sean Horval

1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry

Sgt. 1st Class Oscar Herrera, Headquarters and Headquarters Company; 1st Sgt. Timothy Shuler, Company A; 1st Sgt. Jason Young, Company B; 1st Sgt. Clifford Foster, Company C;

1st Sgt. David Smith, Company D; and 1st Sgt. Don Anderson, Company E.

2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Patterson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company; 1st Sgt. Christopher Schofield, Company A; 1st Sgt. James Hill, Company B; 1st Sgt. Shane Sport, Company C; and 1st Sgt. Stephen Zaleski, Company D.

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza

1st Sgt. Gilberto Aviles

509th Signal Battalion

Sgt. 1st Class Vernon Stevenson.



Command Sgt. Major Jeffrey Hartless, USAG Vicenza, congratulates Master Sgt. Tamika Anderson, equal opportunity advisor for SETAF-U.S. Army Africa, upon her completion of the first sergeants course.

Kitchen safety challenge for kids (and parents)

USAG Vicenza Safety office

Kitchen safety is one of the most important aspects of safety in the home. Parents are

encouraged to work with their children to see if they can identify all of the hazards.

Take the time to check their work and teach them how to be

safe in the kitchen.

Have fun with this and encourage your kids to be safe always. *Hint: this kitchen has six hazards.*



Graphic provided courtesy of http://www.sensoryworld.org/kitchen_safety.html webmaster.

Postal service asks patrons to pick up parcels upon notice of delivery

By Richard Hendrickson
Chief, Admin Services
Division

The Postal Service Center is asking that patrons who receive yellow cards or pink forms showing a parcel is waiting for pick up, claim them as soon as possible.

While it is understood that patrons may forget what they ordered and not be prepared to take delivery at the time of pick up, please do not come to the service counter and ask the clerks to bring the item up for viewing. Once you hand in the ticket, you are responsible for removal of the item from our shelves.

To save money, labor, time, and to get the package out of the service center as soon as possible, patrons are asked to assume I am what you ordered or had family or friends ship.

As a reminder, the maximum item that can be sent through the U.S. Postal System is 70 lbs. and 130" in circumference.

This is a close-knit community and there is almost always someone available who can help carry items that may be too heavy or bulky for the owner.

The Postal Service Center hours of operation for the post office, community mail room and service center are Monday-Friday, 10 am. - 5:30 p.m.

Military police take measures to teach, enforce force protection

Force protection, from page 1
come in, drop off backpacks and other items and then leave the area.

Suddenly, a group of tense sixth graders rushed up to Mejia to claim their items. He was only too glad to return the backpacks to their rightful owners, but not without a quick

briefing on the danger of abandoning bags in public places.

He reminded the youth that in some places, security personnel will actually destroy the item as a precautionary measure.

"The library is part of our daily patrol route," said Mejia. "We come through after school

lets out and make sure that bags aren't left lying around and the youth are behaving themselves."

To these pre-teens, leaving a backpack in a place like the library might not seem like a big deal, however, in the world of force protection, this is the type of situation that force protection officers try to avoid. Just like at

the airport, the goal is to report unattended items to someone, either the librarian, a military police officer or another adult.

Our installation antiterrorism program needs people like officer Mejia and the rest of the community to be watchful and concerned about our collective security.

By being skeptical of what seems suspicious and reporting it in an accurate and timely manner, we can maintain a strong force protection posture and keep those who would do us harm at bay. As always, remember: S5I - see something suspicious, say something immediately.

The Outlook

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At your service Exceptional Family Member Program



Jean Sweeton

Jean Sweeton is the Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator. "I assist with all aspects of the EFMP program," she said from her office located in Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center. "This includes in and out processing, during which time I connect families with special needs to resources in the community (i.e. special education folks at the school, EDIS, or clinic).

"I screen and interview

applicants for the EFMP Respite Care program," she said. "I handle a lot of the administrative aspects of respite care and the EFMP program as a whole.

"I also help Soldiers with command sponsorship issues," she said.

The EFMP office is located in DSFRFC, bldg 108, room 25. Hours of Operation are 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and the phone number is 634-7912 or 0444-71-7912 from off post.

Community events

CIAO brings taste of Italy to community



Above, Rodolfo Soranzo, from Villa Sceriman, pours a glass of wine for a CIAO participant to taste during the Wine 101 class held March 6. CIAO stands for the Combined Italian American Organization and is an annual event held by the Vicenza Community Club. This was a banner year for the event as 148 community members signed up, according to Richard Breen, VCC president.

Story and photos by Diana Bahr
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

CIAO, which stands for the Combined Italian American Organization, is an annual event held by the Vicenza Community Club.

The March 6 event held at a

local restaurant, *Dai Gelosi*, offered classes and tastings on local wine, cheeses and olive oil; along with a wellness series featuring information on massage therapy, yoga and make-up application.

Participants could also learn about cruises, daytrips in the Veneto region or just relax and make new friends or hang out with old friends.

"The best part of the day was being able to take time to chat with friends," said Lorraine Breen, whose role as colonel and commander of the U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza keeps her busy.

"I really liked the classes that were

offered and thought the event was well organized," said first-time attendee Angie Ramos.

"I really enjoyed the Women in History class held by A.R. Jones," said attendee Federica Morretti, who manages the Self-Help shop on Villaggio and offered translation services for the floral arranging class. "She

made these women and their deeds come alive. Now, I want to read more about them."

One of the challenges of putting on the yearly event is offering classes that will entice repeat attendees to come back, according to Andi Fehl, VCC publicity chair.

"Having new and old members in the VCC is great," she said. "They bring in fresh ideas and ensure a variety of classes that we hope will appeal to a large crowd. As the numbers for this year surpassed years past, I think we succeeded."

(Far left) *Dai Gelosi* chef, Giuseppe, shows CIAO attendees mini-pizzas made with local meats and cheeses. (Left) Danielle Twilley trims the branch of a Chrysanthemum during the CIAO's floral arrangement class.



Girl Scouts from Vicenza military community participate in candle lighting celebrating international professional business women

USAG Vicenza Public Affairs Press Release

Girl Scouts from the Vicenza military community attended a candle-lighting ceremony March 6 in the 15th-century Gonfalone Chapel downtown Vicenza.

The event was to celebrate the work of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, which unites women around the world.

The primary aim of the organization is to develop the

professional and leadership potential for women at all levels.

The candles symbolize the ambitions and endeavors of dedicated women in every country around the world, according to Carla Laura Petruzzelli, president of the local Italian associated club.

"Each white candle represents a federation. Each blue candle stands for a country where there is at least one associated club, and the pink candles are for individual

members," said Petruzzelli.

BPW International has affiliates in 80 countries on five continents.

In keeping with the international spirit of the ceremony, some of the participants from the Vicenza military community lit candles for more than one country.

Left to right: Girls Scouts from the Vicenza military community Emily Tucker and Tahara Allen, light candles with assistance from Cristina Santon. (Photo courtesy of Michael Leahy)



Camp Darby unit wins Air Force-wide award

Story and photos
by Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The U.S. Air Force recently announced that Camp Darby's 31st Munitions Squadron was named the 2008 Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award (MEA) winner for the missile and munitions category.

According to 31st MUNS commander, Lt. Col. Tammy Cobb, the hard-working members of the 31st Munitions Squadron are the reason they were able to compete for this

"We are U.S. Air Force Europe's premier munitions hub," said Cobb, "responsible for transporting munitions by rail, road, and ship while maintaining a local \$405 million conventional munitions stockpile in pristine condition.

"We won the MEA at the USAFE level last year, but winning the award at the Air Force level is incredibly prestigious, and truly a once-in-a-career opportunity," she said.

For the Airmen putting in long hours working in the ammunition storage area, receiving this recognition meant a lot.

"This is a very big Air Force award and for me it was pretty amazing because we are such a small base and many people don't even know this exists,"



Airman 1st Class Kyle Simpson (left) and Airman 1st Class Jesse Camacho, both 31st MUNS precision maintenance specialists, prepare the guided missile test machine used to inspect ammunition.

said Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Burge, 31st MUNS precision maintenance crew chief. "We work pretty hard and we're always busy so I think this award gives everybody credit for what we do on a daily basis maintaining ammunition."

Airman 1st Class Randy Bibey, 31st MUNS munitions storage specialist, added that "winning this award shows our camaraderie and how we help everyone work together."

According to Cobb, the 31st MUNS competed against every

munition, munitions support, and missile maintenance squadron in the Air Force and will now be competing against units in every branch of the military.

The MEA trophies will be presented May 7 at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.

Darby Dates

ACS classes

Call ACS at 633-7084 to register or learn more about the classes below:

Financial training for women

Women, grow in your understanding of the financial world and learn skills that will help you for the rest of your financial life at this March 31 class.

Single Soldier, Airman meal

Single Soldiers and Airmen are encouraged to stop by ACS March 31 for a free meal. Dine in or take it to go.

New parents class

March 31: Parenting 101 aims to inform new parents of proper care and nutrition of children and what services they are eligible for.

Story hour at the library

The weekly story hour every Wednesday for children ages 3-5 years.

Call the post library at 633-7623 for details.

Karaoke night at the DCC

April 2, stop by the DCC for karaoke night.

Call the DCC at 633-7855 for details.

Free fitness classes

Check out Eileen's list of free fitness classes.

There's something scheduled almost every day of the week.

Call the Fitness Center for details at 633-7440.

Florence trip

This April 4 trip takes you to Florence to spend the entire day at your leisure.

Visit the Uffizi Museum, the Accademia Gallery, shop at the outdoor market along the Ponte Vecchio or just enjoy the scenery of this magnificent city at an outdoor café.

Call ITR for details on this trip and other activities at 633-7589.

Ski Abetone March 15

Call ODR for details and prices at 633-7775.

New Family Readiness Center opens its doors



A young child decides to test out the toys in the children's playroom in the new Camp Darby Servicemember and Family Readiness Center. The room has video monitoring and large windows so children can play while parents talk to their deployed spouses in the tech room.

Story and photo
by Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The Camp Darby Army Community Service's Servicemember and Family Readiness Center opened its doors Feb. 27 with a ribbon cutting ceremony, according to Evelyn Watkins, Army Community Service division chief.

"The SFRC has a yellow ribbon room with four computers for e-mail, video production capability, web-cams, a family lounge with TV and DVD, recliners for relaxation, a children's play room with all sorts of activities for the little ones, a training room, a kitchen, information and referral," said Watkins.

Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, director of the Army Diversity Task Force, helped cut the ribbon and said this opening ceremony had particular importance to her.

"When the Secretary of the Army decided he wanted a one-stop shop for Soldier readiness centers, I was pleased we were able to justify and commit funds to this cause," said Pinckney.

As servicemembers and their

families toured the new center, many like the Cereceres family were glad to have a place to keep in touch with their deployed loved ones.

"I think this was a wonderful idea to help the servicemembers and the families stay in touch when one's spouse is deployed," said Zulma Cereceres.

Surveying the new computer systems with the latest in video teleconference hardware, her husband, Air Force Staff Sgt. Felix Cereceres added, "this really brings us into the new age of technology."

Additionally, the community took advantage of the opening ceremony to welcome home servicemembers who recently returned from deployment.

"It is with great pleasure that we recognized and honor those who have placed their life in harm's way and it was very fitting that we were able to do that at the new SFRC," said USAG Livorno command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez.

The SFRC is located in building 428, behind the education center.

Celebrate Father's Day in Italy, support your local musicians

Father's Day La Festa del Papà

This month Italians celebrate la Festa del Papà, which is Father's Day.

It's held March 19, the same day when they celebrate St. Joseph, the father of Jesus.

Stores all over Italy will be offering specially-wrapped gift items for family members to buy for their fathers.

Typical sweets are the St. Joseph's Day cream fuffs or *Zeppole di San Giuseppe*.

They are more common in southern Italy but they can also be found in some local *pasticcerie* (pastry stores), such as the Sicilian pastry across the street from Gate 2.

Saint Joseph Festival & Spit-Roasted Quail Fair

March 14-22, in Villaganzerla, about nine miles south of Vicenza.

Events on March 14, 8:30 p.m. Alpini Choir Concert, Parish Church.

On March 15: 2:30 p.m., Alpini's gathering and performance of the Vicenza's Alpini band; 8:30 p.m.: ballroom

dancing with Ketty Piva Orchestra.

On March 21, 9 p.m.: ballroom dancing with the Mirage Band.

On March 22 at 3 p.m. Salsamerika: Caribbean dance contest; 9 p.m. Noche Latina – Latin American music and dances. Gastronomical stands and raffle.

Chocolate Fair

March 14-15, in Cologna Veneta, about 25 miles south of Vicenza.

Free giant bounce houses for children. Food booths. Live music, dances and martial arts show.

Taste many different kinds of chocolate. Free hot chocolate, tea and mulled wine for everyone.

Battle of the Bands

March 30, 10 p.m., in Padova, Banale Club, Via Bronzetti, 8.

A band formed by three Vicenza High School students, *An Orange Factory*, participates in the Emergenza Festival, a contest for emerging

musicians featuring hundreds of concerts in many locations around over the next several months.

The audience determines who advances simply by clapping after each band finishes performing, which means having a lot of supporters in the audience helps.

Larry Carlton concert

March 19 at 9 p.m., in Roncade, New Age Club, Via Tintoretto, 14, about 50 miles east of Vicenza. Tickets are 23 euro.

Free concerts, exhibits, classes

Fantastic Woman – Painting and sculpture exhibition, Vigardolo, S. Maria Assunta Church, Via Vigardoletto, about four miles north of Vicenza.

Open daily until March 15. Monday – Saturday from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.; Sundays 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Daion Hillbillies in concert – acoustic country music, March 12, 9:30 p.m., in Vicenza, Birrificio Birracrua, Strada Vicinale Monte Crocetta, 6.

Butelis Byrzgalo + Bad Black Sheep, Postpunk From Lituania + Altrock from Vicenza - post-punk concert, March 12, 9 p.m., in Vicenza, Bar Sarteia, Corso San Felice, 362. Strada Vicinale Monte Crocetta, 6.

Fabio Cardullo Acoustic Band in concert, March 13, 9 p.m., in Arzignano, Enoteca Palladio, Via IV Martiri.

1900-2000 History of a Century, March 14, 9 p.m., in Ospedaletto, Church Recreation Center, Via Giroto, 6. Play performed by the amateur theatrical company of La Fraglia, an institute for disabled.

An English script is available by e-mailing anna.terracino@eur.army.mil.



Karla Bernasconi (left) and bandmates from Vicenza High School perform in a recent concert. The band, *An Orange Factory*, is participating in the March 30 Emergenza Festival, a contest for emerging musicians featuring hundreds of concerts in many locations around over the next several months. The festival begins at 10 p.m., in Padova, Banale Club, Via Bronzetti, 8. The audience determines who advances simply by clapping after each band finishes performing, which means having a lot of supporters in the audience helps.

Conservatory students in concert, March 14, 5 p.m., in Vicenza, Santa Chiara Chapel, Contrà Santa Chiara.

Explore the sky, Astronomical Observatory of Arcugnano, March 17, 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.

Tama Sumo Universal Experience Jazz not Dead Festival, March 17, 9 p.m., in Vicenza, Bar Sarteia, Corso SS Felice.

Organist Alessandro Canale in concert, March 17, 6 p.m., in Vicenza, Via Levà degli Angeli, 11.

Annual Stravicenza races

March 22, starting at 10 a.m.: Offered are three distances: 1.5km, 4.5km and 10km. The start and finish will be in Piazza dei Signori.

Deadline to register is March

19. You can register at StraVicenza Point, Loggia del Capitaniato, in Piazza dei Signori, March 20 (4 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.), March 21 (10 a.m. – 1 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.) and March 22 (7:45 a.m. – 9:45 p.m.).

You can also register online at www.stravicenza.it.

Information is available at 0444-920-549.

Cost is 4 euro and 2 for children younger than 14.

The cost includes your number, snack and medical coverage.

Note also that March 22 is no drive day in Vicenza, so participants are requested to park their car in the Stadio, Via Cricoli or Via Farini parking lots and take the bus to the city center.

Buses and parking in the above lots are free from 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The web site, in Italian only, is www.stravicenza.it.



Singer-songwriter Franco Carniato (right) gets ready to perform on stage at Costabissara last month as the La Fraglia theater director Gigi Goldin coaches his star musician. La Fraglia is an Italian cooperative for disabled persons and has a theater group that includes volunteers from Caserma Ederle. The next performance is at Ospedaletto, March 14, 9 p.m. Contact Anna Terracino for details at 634-7916.

Visit Verona, bike along a river, hit the slopes

Call ITR at 634-7094 for details on the trip below and upcoming trips:

Visit Italian Craftsman

March 17: ITR takes you to the showroom of Arte del Legno to gather ideas for home décor with Italian style furniture.

Then head for Lincetto where you'll find the 18 karat gold jewelry Vicenza is famous for.

The last stop on the tour

will taste the wine of the Colli Berici.

Call Outdoor Rec at 634-7453 for details on the trips below or for information upcoming trips:

All Level Bike Ride

March 28: Ride along the Mincio River between Peschiera and Mantova on this easy, level path.

The ride is approximately 45 km and is appropriate for all levels of riders.

Padova Paintball

March 22: ODR offers a paintball trips to Padova.

Transportation is \$10 and the field fee is 10 Euro. You can rent equipment for an additional fee if you don't own your own.

Snowboard Trips

Hit the slopes every weekend with ODR.

Free snowboard instruction with transportation is available.

Now Showing

Ederle Theater

March 12	Delgo (PG-13)	6 p.m.
March 13	Yes Man (PG13)	6 p.m.
	Seven Pounds (PG13)	9 p.m.
March 14	Fired Up (PG13)	3 p.m.
	Yes Man (PG13)	6 p.m.
March 15	Bedtime Stories (PG)	3 p.m.
	Fired Up (PG13)	6 p.m.
March 18	Bedtime Stories (PG)	6 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

March 12	Nothing Like the Holidays (PG13)	6 p.m.
March 13	The Express (PG)	6 p.m.
March 14	Delgo (PG)	6 p.m.
March 15	Marley & Me (PG)	2 p.m.

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

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

Looking to buy or sell items? Check out MWR's Marketplace at www.mwrmarketplace.com.

UMUC scholarship

UMUC's spring session two runs March 23 -May 16. UMUC is offering \$100 scholarships for active duty enlisted servicemembers, spouses and dependents.

Go to www.ed.umuc.edu/financial_aid/europe_book_award.php and fill out the online form.

For details on the current term and scholarships call UMUC 634-7055 or e-mail: vice@ed.umuc.edu.

USO St. Patrick's Day

USO offers St. Patrick's day dinner March 17 at 5 p.m.

The USO has an opening for a part-time information specialist. Applicants must possess a U.S. passport, Social Security number; Soggiorno and ID card to apply.

Call the USO for details at 634-7156 or drop off your resume and cover letter. The USO is located in bldg 9A.

CDC closure

The Child Development Center bldg 398 will be closed March 13 for staff training.

All children normally cared for in bldg 398 will be provided care at CDC 395, which operates 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

For details call 634-5008 or 634-8433.

Free child care with SAS

Children in grades 1-6 are eligible to receive five free hours of hourly care each month through the School Age Services program. Call SAS at 634-8253 for details.

Interested in teaching Red Cross classes?

The American Red Cross is also planning a CPR/AED/First Aid Instructor class. Call the Red Cross for details.

CDC staff training

The CDC in bldg 398 will be closed March 13 for staff training.

All children normally cared for in CDC 398 will be provided care at CDC 395 which operates 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Call Michelle Sterkowicz at 634-5008 or Luca Harbeson at 634-8433 for details.

Chapel offers free family wellness series

The chapel Family Life Center is offering a Family Wellness series, "Survival Skills for Healthy Families" with Chaplain (Maj.) Eugene Schneider. The classes are from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

A light meal and childcare are provided.

March 17: Adult Relationships in Healthy Families

March 21: As Children Grow, Solving Family Problems, Passing on Values

Call the post chapel at 634-7519 for details or e-mail Chaplain Schneider at eugene.schneider@eur.army.mil.

SETAF Retirement ceremony

SETAF-U.S. Army Africa will conduct a Retirement Ceremony March 19 at 4 p.m. in the Ederle Theater. This event is open to the public.

Lunch, learn session

University of Phoenix is hosting a Lunch & Learn MBA information session March 18, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about the master of business administration program.

The event is free and held at the Vicenza Education Center.

Please RSVP to Ana LaForgia by March 16 by e-mail to ana.laforgia@phoenix.edu or call 634-8928. The next MBA ground program starts April 13.

Finance cash cage changes hours

Beginning March 17 the Finance cash cage will be open between 9 a.m.- noon and 1-4 p.m.

The cash cage is closed on federal holidays and training holidays.

Freddy FAP visits Armenia

Take a trip to Armenia March 18 at 3 p.m. with Family Advocacy.

Families will be designing their own jewelry and learning how to prepare Armenia's favorite dessert.

The event is held at Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center, reserve in advance by calling 634-7500.

Soldiers' Theatre production

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* is playing at Soldiers' Theatre.

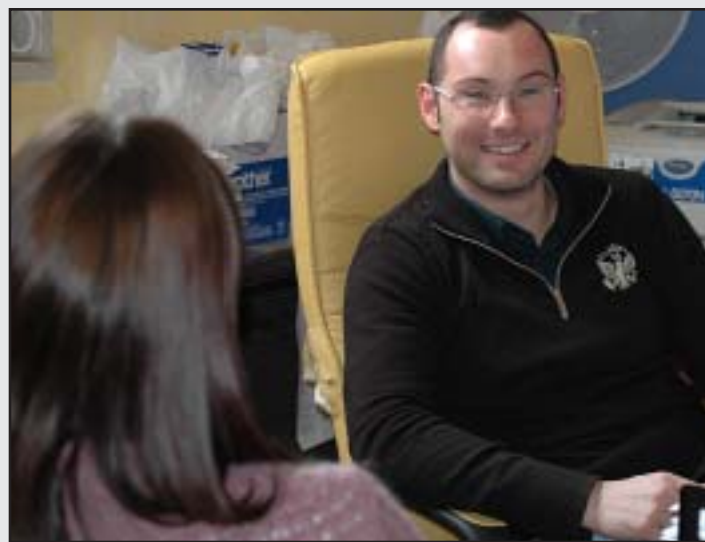
Performances are scheduled for March 13-15, 20-22 and 27-29. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

The box office is open Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or call 634-7281.

AER campaign kick off

The 2009 Army Emergency Relief campaign kicks off March 17 at 2 p.m. in Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center.

Soldiers helping Soldiers is what this campaign is all about.



Michele Fracaro, Telecom liaison, works with a customer. Fracaro's office is now inside the USAG Vicenza Housing office, off post on via Casermette.

TELECOM office now located in Housing

Telecom liaison is now located inside the housing office outside gate 4 on via Casermette. The new office is inside the door on the right at the top of the first flight of stairs in the housing division. Hours are Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m.- noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m.; Thursdays 10 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Direct questions to Michele Fracaro at 634-6327 or 6328 or e-mail: michele.fracaro@eur.army.mil.

AER provided more than \$232,000 in loans from 2007-2008 and continues to support all valid requests for assistance.

Auditions for Soldiers' Theatre comedy

Auditions for Soldier's Theatre's May production of "Don't Dress for Dinner" will be held March 23 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. No experience is necessary and you will enjoy this hilarious comedy. Call 634-7281 for information.

Make saving fun

March 17, 9-10 a.m. learn how to save and be ready for those emergencies that crop up with this free class by Financial Readiness held at Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center.

Call 634-7500 to register or find out about upcoming classes.

Art Center classes

March 19, 4 p.m.: Come to a quilting mixer and share patterns, ideas and samples while you enjoy refreshments.

If you are new to quilting there is a beginner class March 28 at 8 a.m.

March 21, 3 p.m.: A makeup artist will show you how to take your make up from day to night time glamour.

March 25, 6 p.m.: Learn the basics of making your own greeting cards.

Call 634-7094 for details.

YS spring break trip

Youth in grades 7-12 can join Youth Services on a trip to Naples April 5-10.

Teens will visit Pompeii and hike Mt. Vesuvius, enjoy outdoor activities and a barbecue with other teens from Naples and Sigonella plus take a trip to downtown Naples.

For details and cost call 634-7659 or register before March 31 at Central Registration.

Villaggio shuttle for youth only

for youth registered with Youth Services programs, a special shuttle bus supervised by YS staff runs after school through the end of the school year.

This shuttle bus is for youth only and departs in front of the Teen Center at 3 p.m. to take participants to the Villaggio Youth Center.

At 4:45 p.m. it departs from in front of the Villaggio Youth Center and returns to the Caserma Ederle Teen Center arriving at 5 p.m.

It departs again at 5:15 p.m. from the Teen Center for the Villaggio Youth Center.

For details call 634-7659.

American-style dining

A quiet place to eat, near the Ederle Inn and schools, is Café Central.

Open Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., it serves American-style breakfast and sandwiches or pasta and salad.

Café Central is located in central processing facility.

The menu is available on the Web site: www.vicenzaMWR.com.

Religious activities

Call the Caserma Ederle chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for details 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.: Roman Catholic mass

Sunday Services

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass
Mass is held weekdays at noon.

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

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

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

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

Monday

Noon: LDS Scripture Study
5:30 p.m.: High School Club in the Teen Center. (Oct.-May)

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

3 p.m.: Praise Dance practice
3:30 p.m.: Middle School club meets in VHS cafeteria Sept-May.

5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

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

Thursday

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

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

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

Faith group contacts

Islamic: Spc. Kasimov, 329-034-3511

Jewish: Sandy Schoenberg at 634-6202 or sandy.schoenberg@eur.army.mil.

Latter Day Saints (LDS): Scripture study is held each Monday, noon-1 p.m. at the Chapel. Sunday services, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. downtown. For details, call Sean Peterson, 335-8219492.

Darby Chapel

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

9:40 a.m.: Catholic Reconciliation

10 a.m.: Catholic Mass

11:15 a.m.: Protestant worship
Protestant Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m.

Catholic CCD is at 11:15 a.m.

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

Darby takes European hoops championship

Story and photo
by Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Teams from Aviano, Spangdahlem and Kleine Brogel converged upon Camp Darby March 6-7 for the 2009 U.S. Air Force Europe Central Region Basketball Championships.

The 52nd Communications Squadron, from Spangdahlem, Germany, won its first game against 31st Security Forces Squadron, Aviano, Italy, with a score of 60-48.

The 31st Munitions Squadron, Camp Darby, squeaked past 701st Munitions Squadron, Kleine Brogel Air Base, Belgium, 52-50.

Kleine Brogel then defeated Aviano, 54-49, while Camp Darby again won by two points against Spangdahlem 40-38.

When Spangdahlem defeated Kleine Brogel, 46-34, it went to the finals against Camp Darby.

Spangdahlem defeated Camp Darby, 47-46, but had to play a second game to determine who would take first in the

tournament.

Camp Darby came roaring back to defeat Spangdahlem 49-40, said Jimmy Roddy, Camp Darby fitness center director.

After the finals, the "All Tournament Team" was announced.

Camp Darby players honored were Richard Clinch, Adrian Casey, John Williamson and Chet Reed.

From Spangdahlem it was Chris McDaniels, Walter Pierce and Richard Togia.

Kleine Brogel players were Andrew Figney and Shawn Collotte. Filling out the ranks was Doug Henderson from Aviano.

"The MVP was Spangdahlem's Maurice Hardy," said Roddy.

Roddy adds that an open invitational softball tournament will be held at Camp Darby over Memorial Day weekend.

Teams can register at the Camp Darby sports office or by calling Roddy at 633-7438.



Spangdahlem's Maurice Hardy (left) takes to the air while Camp Darby's Jason Peay, 23, attempts to block his shot during the 2009 U.S. Air Force Europe Central Region Basketball Champions Finals held at Camp Darby March 6-7. Camp Darby will host an open invitational softball tournament at Camp Darby over Memorial Day weekend. Call 633-7438 for details.

Sports Shorts

Dodge Ball tournament set for March 20-21

Gather up five friends and enter the March 20-21 Dodge ball tournament.

Awards include 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams plus individual awards.

There is a mandatory coach's meeting set for March 17, 2:30 or 5:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center.

Call 634-7009 to register or find out about other unit sports or individual athletic opportunities.

Aqua aerobic instructor sought

The USAG Vicenza Sport and Fitness office is looking for certified aqua aerobics instructors.

Instructors will be needed beginning June 15, Mondays and Wednesdays each week for noon classes.

Classes must be given in English.

Those interested should contact Joe Reeder at 634-5181 or 0444-71-5181 from off post.

Life guard training course offered

The USAG Vicenza Sports and Fitness office will offer a training course April 6 for those interested in becoming a life guard.

This certification class costs \$145 and is approximately 35 hours.

Those ages 16 and older can register at the Fitness Center or call 634-6536 for more information.

Youth rock climbing

CYSS Sports & Fitness offers rock climbing for youth beginning in April. Ages 6-10, meet Mondays 3:30-5 p.m. starting April 13.

Ages 11-18 meet Wednesdays 3:30-5 p.m. starting April 15.

Classes will cover basic rock climbing. Instruction and equipment and a T-shirt are included in cost of \$35.

Registration for this class is March 9-30.

Call 634-6151 for information.

CYSS Track and Field

Youth ages 6-15 are encouraged to join the track and field season which runs April 14-May 29.

Practice is on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30-6:30 p.m. Enrollment is continues through March 30.

Call CYSS youth sports at 634-6151 for details.

Unit teams are forming now for volleyball, dodgeball and soccer. Individuals are sought to compete in powerlifting, boxing and the Army 10-Miler. Call Ricky Jackson, USAG Vicenza Sports, Fitness and Aquatics, at 634-7009 or e-mail ricky.jackson@eur.army.mil.

USAG Vicenza Sports Update

Soldiers' volleyball league standings

Team	Win	Loss
Lucky	2	0
USAHC	1	1
BSB Riggers	1	1
Angels	0	2

Soldiers' league volleyball scores

March 4

BSB Riggers 15,25,18 vs. Lucky 25, 21, 25

USAHC 25, 25 vs. Angels 6, 14

March 6

BSB Riggers 25, 25 vs. Angels 13, 11

USAHC 14, 18 vs. Lucky 25, 25

Soldiers' league Dodge ball scores

March 4

AFN Vicenza, 0, vs. Secret Squirrels, 6.

Dentac, 2, vs. Secret Squirrels, 6.

Dentac, 3, vs. Secret Squirrels, 6.

Soldiers' league soccer scores

March 7

ASD Setteca 2 vs. USAG Vicenza, 1.

Youth Sports hosts Italian girls' basketball team

Story and photo
By Diana Bahr

USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

A hastily-put-together girls' basketball team made up of 9 to 12-year-olds from Youth Sports valiantly took on an older Italian girls' team from Vicenza March 6 in the Teen Center gym.

"Julia and Angelo Sibilla are volunteer coaches for CYS and have a friend who helps with the Italian team," said Georgia Salyer, CYS Sports and Fitness director. "Julia introduced us and the Italians asked about a match. I thought it was a great idea and began to pull together an all-girl team.

"The problem," continued Salyer, "is that our teams are all coed and the older girls were in Germany at the IMCOM-Europe basketball tournament. I sent out e-mails, made some phone calls and was lucky that John Segura, Doug Yocum and Steve Silk were available to coach the girls."

The biggest challenge, according to Segura, was putting together a team of girls who haven't played together before—and doing it in a week.

"We practiced twice, for an hour each time," he said. "All the girls knew from the beginning that it would be a tough game as the Italian girls were older (13



Naomi Yocum (right) shoots for the hoop during the March 6 basketball game against a local Italian girls' team. The team was put together in a few days and made up of girls from three different levels and ages 9-13. The Italian girls were ages 13 and 14.

and 14 years of age) and they play together regularly as a team. But our girls wanted to play anyway."

The girls played four, 8-minute quarters in front of a small, but noisy cheering section. Despite the lack of practice, the Vicenza girls showed promise in passing, defense and shooting ability.

"I liked playing against the Italian girls' team a lot," said 12-year-old Naomi Yocum. "I had lots of fun, but I think we should have a little more practice time

so we could get better. Other than that I think it was great. If I could play on this team again I would really love to."

After the final score of 50-19, the teams met on the court to shake hands, exchange tokens of appreciation and snack on assorted American sweets donated by parents of the American girls.

"We look forward to holding another game in the future," said Salyer. "Despite the low score, the girls all enjoyed themselves and are interested in a rematch."