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173rd hit hard

Combat ops take their toll in Afghanistan

KUNAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan – In two separate actions last week, the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team lost seven Soldiers due to enemy actions.

Five Soldiers from Chosen Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry Regiment, 173rd ABCT, were killed in Aranus, Afghanistan, when their patrol came under direct enemy fire on Nov. 9.

The Soldiers killed were: Cpt. Matthew C. Ferrara, 24, of Torrance, Calif., Sgt. Jeffery S. Mersman, 23, of Parker, Kansas, Spc. Sean A. Langevin, 23, of Walnut Creek, Calif., Spc. Lester G. Roque, 23, of Torrance, Calif., and Spc. Joseph M. Lancour, 21, of Swartz Creek, Mich. Nine other Soldiers were wounded in the action.

All were part of an element that was returning from a meeting with village elders in Aranus, Afghanistan when their patrol was ambushed by insurgents from multiple positions with small-arms fire and rocket propelled grenades.

Two Soldiers with A Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, Schweinfurt, Germany were killed near Bermel, Afghanistan, Nov. 12.



Capt. Matthew Ferrara



Sgt. Jeffery Mersman



Cpl. Lester Roque

Killed were: Capt. David A. Boris, 30, of Pottsville, Pa. and Sgt. Adrian E. Hike, 26, of Callender, Iowa. The two Soldiers died of wounds suffered when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device

Soldiers and Marines gathered to remember six of the fallen heroes at a memorial ceremony conducted Nov. 17 at Camp Blessing in Kunar Province, Afghanistan.

The five were Soldiers assigned to the 2-503rd, 173rd ABCT. The other was Marine Sgt. Phillip A. Bocks, assigned as an Afghan National Army Embedded Tactical Trainer with the 2nd Kandak, 3rd Brigade, 201st Corps. He was an embedded tactical trainer assigned to work with the Afghan National Army and worked closely with the 2-503rd paratroopers.

Memorial ceremonies will be held on Caserma Ederle, Vicenza, Italy, and at Ledward Barracks Chapel in Schweinfurt, Germany, in late November.



Cpl. Sean Langevin



Spc. Joseph Lancour



Capt. David Boris



Sgt. Adrian Hike



Running of the Herd

Story and photo by
2nd Lt. Monika Comeaux
173rd Brigade Support
Battalion

FORWARD OPERATING BASE FENTY, Afghanistan – “On the 8th of November, the angels were crying as they carried his brothers away... There were few men left standing that day,” sings the country band Big & Rich in their ballad commemorating the fall of 48 American Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade in 1965 in Operation Hump, war zone D, in

Vietnam.

Forty-two years later, members of the 173rd ABCT, other service members and civilians deployed to Forward Operating Base Fenty, Afghanistan, honored the fallen Soldiers of Operation Hump by participating in a 24-hour run.

Participants ran along a roughly three-and-a-half mile route lined by miniature American flags and passed a bayonet, which is depicted on the unit patch of the 173rd ABCT, to one another in lieu of a baton.

“I think it is great that

everybody is going to come out here and support one another,” said 2nd Lt. Kate Fullenkamp, platoon leader, Company A, 173rd Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne). Her platoon of 40 entered with not one, but two, seven-man teams. There would have been more volunteers, but mission requirements did not allow all of her Soldiers to participate.

“We had more than seven people who wanted to do this, but we picked the best seven,” said Pfc. Ikechuku Odi, Co. A, 70th Engineer Battalion. The engineers ran two laps every day when they didn’t go outside the wire, in preparation for the challenging race.

“Our tactic is simple: run as fast as you can,” he said, after completing his first lap in a little over 22 minutes.

“Some people are out here for the physical aspect. But there are people that are out here because it is fun and you enjoy it,” said Fullenkamp.

The rules of the run were pretty simple. “Basically it is a 24-hour relay with seven-man teams. One runner must be running at all times,” said 1st Sgt. Drake F. Sladky, Company C, 173rd BSB, one of the masterminds behind the event.

According to Sladky, the idea of organizing the run came shortly

after they received a disk containing the music video, *8th of November*, from James Bradley, a member of the 173rd Association. “We knew that we had to do some sort of race in commemoration of that date,” Sladky explained.

“Everybody in the company helped out, mostly by getting sponsors for the race day and organizing the registration,” Sladky said. As a result, a total of 21 teams signed up.

“We were really lucky; we started early and got sponsors. The 173rd Association sent the race T-shirts. Niles Harris, (the Vietnam veteran who was the inspiration for the country song and was himself injured Nov. 8, 1965), sent about 200 autographed T-shirts,” said Sladky.

Some of the shirts ended up as prizes, but the majority were sent out to subordinate units of the 173rd who are deployed to other forward operating bases and weren’t able to participate in the run.

The winning team completed a total of 51 laps, covering, ironically, 173.4 miles in the 24-hour period, and consisted of: Staff Sgt. Luis D. Rivera, Pfc. Ikechuku Odi, Pfc. Vincent A. Fiorillo, Pfc. Joshua M. Contryman, Sgt. Eric E. Chappel, Sgt. Bradley J. Edmonds and Spc. Tin T. Tran—all combat engineers.

Garrison news

Speak Out

“How will you be spending Thanksgiving day?”

By Laura Kreider



Spc. Pia Guevarra

USAHC - Vicenza
I will be spending Thanksgiving with my loving husband at my coworker's house. She treats me and my husband as her own kids.



Christine & Claire Weld

Family members
I'm going to share a delicious meal with some of the great friends I've made in the Vicenza military community.



Sgt. 1st Class James Pozin

HSC SETAF
My wife and I will be having some spouses of deployed Soldiers over for Thanksgiving dinner.



Pfc. Jennifer Rogers

14th Trans n.
I'm going to be celebrating Thanksgiving with close friends and calling my family back home.



Chris Wolff

Outdoor recreation
I will be with my family in Greece scouting new dive locations for Outdoor Rec.

Thanksgiving message

On this uniquely American holiday, Thanksgiving Day, set aside time to slow down and take note of all the blessings in our lives.

From 1621 when the Pilgrims settled in America, we have built a nation where all men and women can live free, enjoying the bounty of the land. Through the years Soldiers and their Families have fought and sacrificed for the land they came to know and love. Every Thanksgiving we give thanks for the freedoms and treasures of the land.

As we gather around our tables this Thanksgiving Day, remember those who can not be with their families this season because of their commitment to ensure freedom for all. Soldiers everywhere work, fight and bleed for the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

Melissa and I are proud to be part of the SETAF team which contributes so much to ensure future generations can live in a world without fear. We owe a debt of gratitude and thanks to every member of the U.S. military and to their Families who carry a heavy burden in order to keep our nation free.

Enjoy the bounties of the season, take joy in the people who surround and support you and be safe in your travels over the holiday. Buckle up, travel with a buddy, drink responsibly, and most of all, take time to give thanks for all you have.

From **Maj. Gen. Frank Helmick,**
SETAF Commanding General



The spirit of Thanksgiving

By **Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Scott R. Carson**
Deputy SETAF Chaplain

President Abraham Lincoln, while reflecting upon the manifold blessings America enjoys, penned the following words establishing Thanksgiving Day as a national holiday:

“No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God... It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.”

We are truly a blessed nation and a blessed people. Our service members stand on freedom's frontiers in Afghanistan, Iraq, and around the globe, defending our nation's greatest ideals: freedom, democracy, peace and tranquility. And we acknowledge our Creator as the author of these human

endeavors. Some seek to take these God given rights away. Some would enslave and chance to inflict terror upon our loved ones.

We are the tip of our country's spear – fighting, or preparing to join the fighting, in a just and righteous cause. And our people in our homeland are interceding daily in their thoughts and prayers that we might be divinely protected and swiftly victorious.

In the tradition of the Plymouth Colonists, who first observed the Feast of Thanksgiving, let us express a collective appreciation for the bountiful harvest of a supportive nation and the opportunity to serve together, with our coalition partners, preserving the values ardently defended by our forefathers.

This Thanksgiving, I personally give thanks for you, our nation's men and women who bravely and sacrificially serve during this current conflict, and for the Families who lovingly support each military member in his/her commitment to our country's principles.

You are why our nation is the greatest on earth and why the Lord above has blessed us beyond all measure. May you enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with a sincere and grateful heart.

God bless you and God bless America.

It's going to cost you now

Using MPS in Central Command area of operations

Soldiers and civilians who are preparing to deploy should be aware of the restrictions using the Military Postal Service and Intratheater Delivery Service in the U.S. Central Command area of operations to send items to and from Southwest Asia.

Soldiers and civilians in the USCENTCOMAO are allowed to mail personal property to Southwest Asia through the MPS at no cost. However, deployed personnel who want to send their property from Southwest Asia back to their parent units or consolidated mailroom address must pay for the postage.

USCENTCOM established this policy to prevent overburdening the MPS logistic system. Deploying personnel who plan to send large items to Southwest Asia should be aware of this policy.

For further information call Matthew Stanley at DSN 634-8266 or visit your base post office.

At your service

Michele Fracaro, telecommunications assistant, is at your service 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon – Fri. Fracaro has lived in Vicenza all his life and worked in federal service for a little over two-and-a-half years. Fracaro is ready to help get phone and internet access to U.S. civilians and military families living in government lease or private rental. “If anyone needs to get in touch with family stateside or downrange, the best way is home phones or internet, we are happy to help” said Fracaro, whose easygoing nature and welcoming smile are hard to miss.

To contact them via e-mail at Michele.fracaro@eur.army.mil or alice.andretta@eur.army.mil or call DSN: 634 6327/ 6328.



Michele Fracaro
telecommunications assistant

The Outlook

Nov. 20, 2007 Vol. 40, Issue 46

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The Outlook is an unofficial publication authorized and provided by AR 360-1.

All editorial content of *The Outlook* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Public Affairs Office in building 3 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. Telephone DSN 634-7000, FAX 634-7543, off post at 0444-71-7000, fax 0444-71-7543. E-mail: editor@eur.army.mil

The Outlook is published weekly by the USAG Vicenza PAO, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO AE 09630. It is printed by Centro Stampa Editoriale SRL, Grisignano (VI) 0444-414-303.

Editorial publication is an authorized section for members of the U.S. Army overseas.

Contents of *The Outlook* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Command-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force.

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

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

Test your state of mind

Though the below quiz is not a formal assessment tool, it may help you get a sense of your state of mind or pay closer attention to how a colleague, friend or family member may be feeling.

If you answer yes to any of the questions below - for yourself or for an acquaintance - it's important to know that your Army community has

a wide variety of agencies and individuals you can turn to for help.

See the directory below the quiz for contact information.

1. Are you experiencing depression (decreased concentration, poor sleep, decreased appetite or libido)?

2. Have you made a serious attempt to hurt

yourself or do you have a specific plan to do so?

3. Are you in debt?

4. Are you having difficulty controlling your temper?

5. Are you recently separated, divorced or widowed?

6. Do you have a serious or chronic

illness?

7. Do you feel disoriented, confused or have difficulty making decisions?

8. Are you consuming more than five alcoholic drinks per occasion or using drugs?

9. Are you feeling cut off from family and friends?

Vicenza Chaplains
Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Phones: 634-7519 or 0444-71-7519
24-Hour Crisis Line: 335-832-0372
Livorno Chaplains
Mon - Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
633-7257, 633-8336,
or 050-54-8336 or
7257
Bamberg Chaplains
Phone: 469-8853,
24-Hour Duty
Chaplain: 469-7492
Schweinfurt
Chaplains
Office Number: 354-
1570,
24-Hour Duty
Chaplain: 016-227-
04691



Chaplain

Vicenza: Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesdays from 9:30a.m. to 6p.m. Located in Vicenza High School, Room 61. Phone: 634-7127/0444-71-7127 Bamberg: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Locations:
Bamberg Middle High School
Phone: 469-7630 or 0951-303-103
Schweinfurt Middle school: Yorktown Village, Bldg 458
354-6813 Phone: 0931-702-8431 (Middle school); 0951-889-6265 (High School)

Substance Abuse Counseling Services



Army Community Service



Vicenza: Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center, Bldg 108
Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Military & Family Life consultant - 24/7: 333-489-8967
Livorno
Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Bldg 407
Bamberg
Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Military & Family Life consultant: 469-9194 or 0175-600-8373 and 0175-253-3020
Schweinfurt
Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 354-6933, 09721-96-6933
Bldg 242, Ledward Barracks
Military & Family Life consultant: 0175-379-4691, 0151-100-23585



Chain of command or supervisor

Vicenza Social Work Services.
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-noon; 1-4:30pm
Located in the Vicenza Health Center.
Phone: 634-7604, 0444-71-7604.
Livorno Social Work Services
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-noon; 1-4:30pm
Phone: 633-7077, 050-54-7077
Social Work Services
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Bldg 7253 (18th Street & Artillery Drive)
Phone: 469-7793 or 0951-300-7793
Schweinfurt Social Work Services
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Schweinfurt Health Clinic, Room 418
Phone: 354-6276 or 09721-96-6276

Behavioral Health Unit



Vicenza and Darby hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., closed noon-1 p.m.
Located in Bldg 163 on Caserma Ederle
Phone: 634-7554, 0444-71-7554
Bamberg: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Located in Bldg 7251
Phone: 469-1710/ 0951-300-1710
Schweinfurt: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Abrams Center, Bldg 444, second floor
Phone: 354-1710, 0972-196-1710



Army Substance Abuse Program

Call us, We can help

Family Advocacy Program



Vicenza: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center, bldg 108
New Parent Support Program: 634-7567 or 0444-71-7567
Vicenza Sexual Assault : 634-5878 or 0444-71-5878
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator/ Victim Advocacy/Family Advocacy Program Manager: 634-7314 or 7489, 0444-71-7314/7489
Installation Victim Advocate: 634-6269 or 0444-71-6269
Livorno: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Bldg 407
633-7486, 050-54-7486
Bamberg: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Bldg 7487
Sexual Assault Helpline: 0162-510-2917
Victim Advocacy/Family Advocacy Program manager : 469-8218 or 469-8397, 0915-300-8218, or 0951-300-8397
Schweinfurt: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Bldg 242, Ledward Barracks
Sexual Assault Helpline: 371-3550 or 01622-71-1413 or 00800-027-72858
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator/Victim Advocacy/ Family Advocacy Program : 354-6435 or 09721-96-6435 or 01622-71-1413



Financial Readiness

Vicenza: Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center, Bldg 108
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Financial Readiness: 634-8634
Livorno
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Bldg 407
Financial Readiness: 633-7636, 050-54-7636
Bamberg
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Family Readiness Manager: 469-8674 or 0951-300-8674
Schweinfurt
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 354-6933, 09721-96-6933
Bldg 242, Ledward Barracks
Financial Readiness: 354-6435, 09721-96-6435



Your family

Vicenza: Mon-Wed and Fri: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Thurs: 1-4:30 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
634-7484, 0444-71-7484
Livorno: Mon-Fri, 8 am-noon, 1-4:30pm, Closed Thursday mornings until 1 p.m.
Phone: 633-7357, 050-54-7357
Bamberg: Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
469-1750 / 7772 /7977, or 0951-300-1750 7772/ 7977



Your doctor

Emergency care through Klinikum/Bamberg patient liaisons.
Schweinfurt: USAHC, Ledward, Bldg. 201
Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Third Thursdays of the months, 1-6 p.m.
Phone: 354-7901, 0972196-7901



Military Police

Hotline*00-800-0277-2858 or 370-3550 or 06221-173550
Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Web site www.per.hqusaureur.army.mil/sexualassault/

Emergency Numbers
Vicenza Military Police: 634-SAFE (7233)/7626 or 0444-71-7233/7626.
Toll free: 800-064-077
Vicenza Family Assistance Center /24-7 at 0444-71-7500 or 634-7500.
Livorno Military Police: 633-7575, 7510, 050-43-7575, 7510
Bamberg Military Police: 469-8700 or 09153008700.
Schweinfurt Military Police: 354-6766 or 09721-96-6766
USAREUR Sexual Assault



A friend

Community events

During this time of thanksgiving, what are you thankful for?

"I am grateful for my dear wife and our maturing family who have accompanied me in this deployment and whenever possible. Most of all however, I thank God for His reliable word so that I always have something good to share with others."

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Stevan Horning, 173rd ABCT Rear-Det.



"I am thankful for my family and friends, also that I am living a prosperous life."

Master Sgt. Javier Abad, 509th Signal Battalion

"I'm thankful to have all my family here and to have my friends."

Laura Ortega, Vicenza High School



"I'm thankful for family, food, pies, my trip to Germany and all my friends, especially Laura and Allegra. Also I'm thankful not to have school."

Tia Lopez, Vicenza High School

"I'm thankful that the Army changed the age limit for enlistment so people like me can come in the Army and make a difference."

Pfc. Juan Ramos, SGS Information Management



"I am thankful for my wife of 23 years, my three children who have graduated from college this year and my daughter who is a straight-A student. But I am most thankful to be an American, not just an American, but a veteran American."

Marshall Fowler Dining facility manager



"I am thankful for the freedom that we have, and for those who served before us to afford those freedoms. I am also thankful to have my wife's support as I serve today."

Staff Sgt. Patrick Malone, AFN-South



"I want to thank God for my family and friends. I am thankful for my wife, who is my number one supporter. I want to thank the great leadership and mentorship that I receive from the leaders of SETAF G-6 and the 509th signal."

Staff Sgt. Edwinli Figueroa G-6 Operations NCO

Community events

'Pardon our dust'

Town hall meeting updates Villaggio residents

Story by Jon Fleshman
Photos by Gary L. Kieffer
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

Soldiers and their families were promised two things at the start of the Villaggio town hall meeting Oct. 13: "A great deal of inconvenience, dust, noise, ditches and construction equipment;" and, "The best group of people any organization can have who will do their level best to make it as painless as possible."

Kambiz Razzaghi, the chief of the Transformation Construction Management Office, was referring to the impact of the renovation and construction projects starting in the housing area this month and including utility system upgrades, a youth facilities renovation, the addition of a pedestrian gate, and the construction of a child

development center, an elementary and a middle school.

"SETAF has embarked on one of the largest construction programs the U.S. Army has had in Europe in the last 30-40 years," Razzaghi told the audience, referring to the master plan known as "Vision 2020" which includes the state-of-the-art school campus and child care facilities on Villaggio.

But the first improvement to rock their world, according to the subject matter experts at the meeting, will be the utilities upgrade that will temporarily turn their front yards into trenches and their back doors into their only entrances. The first phase of the seven-phase upgrade starts this month and the final phase should be done by the summer of 2009, said Bill Delozier, chief of the engineering branch for the directorate of public works. He said



Bill Delozier encourages Villaggio parents to remind their children about the dangers of construction sites.

residents will receive at least two weeks notice before the renovation starts in their area.

DPW will try to schedule power and utility outages on Wednesdays after 48 hours notice and the outages should never last more than eight hours at a time, Delozier

said. The housing office will provide bottled water during the outages.

Delozier stressed the need for parents to make their children aware of the hazards of construction sites. He asked them to be especially alert to the whereabouts of their children while the excavation with earth

moving equipment was ongoing and while there were deep ditches throughout the neighborhood.

Based on the audience's questions, additional information will be provided about the bus routes, bus stop and shelter; the pedestrian path; and, residents who must conduct a PCS move while their front yard is a muddy hole in ground. Dave Murr, the director of public works, said his team will consider all questions and work with residents to find solutions. He said there will be an information bulletin board at the Villaggio shoppette with the renovation and construction phases, the projected schedule and the upcoming outages.

Villaggio residents were provided these telephone numbers:

- Corps of Engineers office: 0444-71-8636
- DPW: 0444-71-7606
- Emergency 24 hours: 0444-71-7092.



Dan Bichanich points out how the construction enclave will impact the bus stops on Villaggio.



Julie Guerrero expresses her concerns about the safety issues involved in the changes at the bus stops.



Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, SETAF commander, renders a salute to the fallen Soldiers during the Veterans Day ceremony. (Photo by Pfc. Crystal Abbott, SETAF PAO)

SETAF honors veterans

American Soldiers, civilians and Italians celebrated Veterans' Day with a ceremony on Hoekstra Field, honoring those Soldiers who served in defense of their country.

During the ceremony, which took place Nov. 14,

the Southern European Task Force received a special honor in the form of a new campaign streamer for its service in the country of Afghanistan from February 2005 through February 2006, during Operations Enduring Freedom.

Enjoy Thanksgiving at Club Veneto

Due to the ongoing construction at the South of the Alps Dining Facility, the Thanksgiving meal will be served at the Club Veneto on Caserma Ederle. Hours for the special meal are noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 22.

The entire Vicenza community: Soldiers, families, U.S. civilians, and the local national employees and their families, are invited to celebrate Thanksgiving together. Price for the meal is \$6.05; for Soldiers and families, E-4 and below, \$5.15. There is no supplemental charge for meal card holders.

This year's meal features: roast turkey, glazed ham, roast beef, grilled steaks and crab legs; served along with cornbread dressing, brown and giblet gravy, sweet potatoes, shrimp fried rice, mashed potatoes, potato salad, vegetables, salads and desserts, a real family style celebration dinner.



Senior leaders will be on hand to serve Thanksgiving dinner to Soldiers and their families at the Club Veneto this year on Caserma Ederle.

Out & About

By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Happenings in Vicenza

Malls open: The Palladio mall, located near Villaggio will be open Nov. 25 from 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m., and the *Piramidi* in Torri from 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.;

Art: The Butterfly Stoke is the name of the art exhibition that is taking place in the church SS Ambrogio e Bellino, downtown. The works by Enrico Mitrovich can be seen until Dec. 23 on Thursday and Friday from 3-7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m. Entrance is free;

Book market under the arches in Piazza dei Signori daily during the month of November.

Circus set up near the Vicenza Est autostrada exit until Nov. 26, the performances that last 2 hours 20 minutes and have an interval of 20 minutes were you can visit the zoo; there are two performances a day: at 5 and 9:15 p.m., entrance fee: adults 15, 20 or 25 euro; children 2-8 years old: 10, 15 or 20 euro. There is only one performance on Nov. 26 at 5 p.m.

Classical music of India will be played in the Stucchi Room in Palazzo Trissino, Corso Palladio on Nov. 24 at 5 p.m., entrance is free;

Winter visiting times for some of the monuments, museums etc: Teatro Olimpico, Palazzo Chiericati and the Museo Naturalistico Archeologico: Tuesday through Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; the Museo Risorgimento e Resistenza, located just past Mount Berico church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:15-5 p.m., all sites are closed on Mondays.

Films in their original language are being shown at the Odeon cinema, located on Corso Palladio every Monday at 5, 7 and 9 p.m.

until the end of March. Entrance fee 4,50 euro. Check out www.odeonline.it for schedule in Italian only.

Events in the Veneto area

Jesolo ice rink open in Piazza Mazzini until Jan. 31;

Verona mark your calendar to visit the International exhibition of over 400 nativity scenes in the Arena which starts on Dec. 1;

The zoo, *Parco Faunistico Cappeller*, located in Cartigliano, province of Vicenza, is open only on Sundays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. until Feb 14, closed during the month of Dec. Lots of animals, birds, reptiles to show the children. Entrance fee: adults 8 euro; children 2-12 years old 6 euro.

Madonna della Salute

On Nov. 21 **Venice** will celebrate a religious festivity *The Madonna della Salute*.

This event remembers that irreplaceable possession that is good health. It recalls one of the most virulent plague epidemics in the area from 1630-31 and how the Doge, when all remedies seemed to no avail, made a solemn vow to build a church dedicated to the Virgin.

When the plague diminished, construction began on the church that is on a little island on the Grand Canal.

Every year, beginning in the morning an unending procession of people walk over a "votive" bridge, made of boats, which links the Grand Canal to the little island.

As is the case of other religious feast-days, a fair very soon sprang up next to the church selling fritters, cotton candy and seasonal candy but above all, candles to take into the church.

High school musical – The Ice Tour

Disney's High School Musical: The Ice Tour is the one and only fusion of songs, dance and team-spirited fun inspired by the smash hit. *Get'cha head in the game* and celebrate the sounds, the songs, the bop and the pop in this all-new ice show starring a cast of world-class skaters. To be held in the 'PalaSharp' **Milan** Nov. 28-Dec. 2 tickets on line from

www.vivaticket.it

Florence marathon

The **Florence** marathon, to be held on Nov. 25 is one of the top 20 international marathons which stages men's and women's events, as well as a non-competitive 10 km fun run and a special mini-run for children, in front of a supportive crowd.

Half the course winds through the historical center, starting at Piazzale Michelangelo going over

and past places like the Ponte Vecchio, the Cascine Monument and the National Park, the marathon ends at Piazza Santa Croce.

Runners come from all over the world to compete and last year there were over 6,000 foreign professional runners in the marathon. The marathon starts at 9 a.m. in Piazzale Michelangelo. Information and enrollment in English from www.firenzemarathon.it



(Above) The entrance of the "Rassegna Internazionale del Presepio", or International display of the Nativity Scenes, an annual exhibit that takes place inside the Arena in Verona. The show, which is at its 24th edition, features about 400 nativity scenes from around the world. (Below, left) A scarlet Ibis is one of the many attractions at the Parco Faunistico Cappeller in Cartigliano.



Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

Nov. 21	Shoot 'em Up (R)	6 p.m.
Nov. 22	Shoot 'em Up (R)	6 p.m.
Nov. 23	Resident Evil:Extinction (R)	6 p.m.
Nov. 24	Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium(G)(1st)3 p.m. Mr. Woodcock (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Nov. 25	Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium(G)(1st)3 p.m. Mr. Woodcock (PG-13)	6 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Nov. 22	CLOSED	
Nov. 23	Mr. Woodcock (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Nov. 24	Resident Evil:Extinction (R)	6 p.m.
Nov. 25	Bee Movie (PG) (1st Run)	2 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and over \$4, under age 12, \$2.

The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Movie Synopsis

MR. WOODCOCK - *Billy Bob Thornton, Seann William Scott* John Farley, author of a self-help book about letting go of the past, violates his own advice when he returns to his hometown. John learns, that his mother, Beverly, is engaged to be married to Mr. Woodcock, the gym teacher whose sadistic exploits were the bane of John's youth. Rated PG-13 (crude/sexual content, language, drug reference) 87 min

MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM - *Dustin Hoffman, Natalie Portman* Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium is the strangest, most fantastic, most wonderful toy store in the world. In fact, it's a magic toy store and everything in it comes to life - including the store itself. The emporium asks only one thing of its customers - you must believe it to see it. Rated G 90 min

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Community notes

SETAF Holiday Ball

The SETAF G-4 is hosting this year's Holiday Ball at Ristorante Dai Gelosi in Quinto Vicentino, Dec. 15.

The event is open to all SETAF service members, civilians, family and invited Italian guests. The event begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 10 p.m.

There will be a DJ and dancing in the discothèque. The attire for the evening is dress mess, dress blues, class A's or formal gown and suit and tie for civilians.

Tickets are available through each staff section representatives, and the cost is E1-E4, 10€; E5-E7, 17€; E8-E9, WO1-CW2 and O1-O3, 20€; and 04 and above, CW3 and above, and all civilians, 25€ each. Host nation and DA civilians and contractors 25€. For more information call Sgt. Major Ochart at DSN 634-8702 or 634-7720 amaury.ochart@us.army.mil.

USO classes

Beginning Italian, Level 1; cost \$112; starts Jan. 7- Mar. 10.

2007 USO Overseas Holiday Drawing: enter to win a new Volvo C-30 T5 at www.uso-overseas-holiday-drawing.com <<http://www.uso-overseas-holiday-drawing.com/>>; starts 1 Nov.

Make your own "Since You Went Away..." Video; holiday greeting for their Soldier

Talk to your Soldier via Webcam

For more information call DSN: 634-7156/CIV: 0444 71 7156 or stop by the USO.

Entertainment Center naming contest

Got the perfect name for the new Entertainment Center? Be eligible for prizes when you enter your choice. Choose one of the following names or submit your own idea; Mountain View Center, Victory Center, Ederle Hub, Heroes, High Point Center or Patriot Center. To be eligible for prize drawings your entry must include your name, age and phone number. Send entries to BOD@vicenzamwr.com <<mailto:BOD@vicenzamwr.com>> or drop your green entry form in the box at the Post Library. Entries will be collected on Dec. 14 and the winners will be notified before Jan 1st. The name will be announced and prizes awarded when the center open in the fall of 2008.

Jobs working with kids

If you enjoy working with children and youth you can have fun and earn between \$9-\$13 dollars per hour. CYS needs caregivers and CYS will provide all the training that you need.

Caregivers are needed worldwide so there is always a job at your next duty station.

Call the Civilian Personnel Assistance Center at 0444-716597 or DSN 634-6567 to apply. There are also opportunities to become a childcare provider in your own home. Call 634-7615 to find out more.

Support Wounded Warriors

Our wounded Soldiers at Landstuhl are required to pay for their own haircuts.

Take a moment to support our

troops through "Clip to Cut" sponsored by Frito-Lay. Just purchase any Frito-Lay bag item in November and clip the UPC code from the bag. Drop your UPC code off at the Frito-Lay display in any European Commissary.

Up to \$10,000 will be donated by Frito-Lay to provide free hair cuts to our Wounded Troops

Folgaria ladies day ski trip

Hey Ladies, get free lift tickets on Saturday, Dec. 15, to Folgaria, courtesy of your ODR. Pay only \$15 for transportation. Folgaria is an excellent ski area for beginners. Call for more info at 634-7453.

Family Child Care homes available

FCC homes offer a warm, homelike environment with fewer children so more personalized care is possible. Developmental care and programming is also provided. Often a FCC provider has more flexible hours than the CDC can offer.

These homes in Villaggio receive the same health, fire and safety inspections as the CDC does and the providers are certified and have cleared background checks.

Call CYS central registration at DSN 634-7219 or 7206.

Holiday mail dates

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by Christmas, mail must be sent by the mailing dates listed below:

Nov. 27-SAM parcels

Dec. 4-PAL parcels

Dec. 11-Priority mail

Dec. 11- First Class mail

Dec. 20-Express mail

Mail early to ensure delivery.

Christmas mailing advice from DOL Customs:

The following are simple rules to follow to avoid customs issues on your packages arriving by the U.S. Postal Service/CMR.

Always ensure that the shipper uses the complete APO address only. Do not place words such as Vicenza or Italy anywhere on the address or customs forms.

Never write country of destination on customs paperwork or the package address. Always use U.S.A. in place of any blocks requesting country.

If you have a package which was routed through the international channels and you need assistance, contact customs. For assistance, e-mail your

name, phone number and a brief description of the assistance required at: Vicenzacustoms@eur.army.mil. Customs will contact you as soon as possible.

For more info call DOL Customs at DSN: 634-7978 or FAX: 634-6938.

Vicenza Health Center Thanksgiving schedule

Thursday, Nov. 22, Thanksgiving Day, Closed.
Friday, Nov. 23, Closed
Saturday, Nov. 24, Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 25, Closed

For urgent concerns or for medical emergencies at any time, go directly to the San Bortolo Hospital Emergency Room. call Patient Liaisons at 0444-75-3300 or 0444-928166). Pregnant patients can call the Benincaso Pavilion at 0444-71-6667 (DSN 634-6667).

To request an ambulance call 0444-71-7114 from off-post, or 114 from any DSN phone on post

For any comments or concerns, call the Clinic Patient Advocate at DSN 634-7952 (commercial 0444-71-7952), or e-mail VZHCPatRep@amedd.army.mil

Villaggio school groundbreaking Nov. 27

The community is invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony on Villaggio Nov. 27 at 1 p.m. The event celebrates the new Vicenza Elementary, Middle schools complex and new Child Development Center and School Age Services facilities.

Thanksgiving at Ca' Bruzzo

Join ITR for lunch at Ca' Bruzzo Winery on Nov. 22, leaving at 11:30 a.m. Sign up with ITR by Nov. 21. Call 634-7094 for more information.

Discover ITR

Shop, tour, taste, explore with ITR this December. Discover the Miracoli Antique Market in Venice, Christmas Markets in Austria, and the Modena Balsamic Vinegar Factory. Reserve your spot and get more information from ITR at 634-7094.

Suicide awareness

Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training will be held at the post theater on Wednesday, Nov. 28. The first session will begin and 10 a.m. and the second will begin at 2 p.m. This required training for all government civilians and is also open to the public.

173rd holiday potluck

The 173rd Airborne Brigade is hosting a Holiday Potluck for soldiers and family members of HHC, 1-503rd and 2-503rd, from 2-4 p.m. Dec. 2 at Club Veneto.

Santa Claus will drop by to take pictures with the kids which can then be fitted to a holiday frame that may be decorated.

There will be additional arts and crafts stations to include making footprint reindeer, graham cracker houses, snowflakes or fluffy snowmen. Children can also try to put Santa back together with a Santa puzzle.

Families will also be able to record a video message to send to their soldier downrange.

Please bring a holiday dish to share. Food dishes may be dropped off as early as 1:45 p.m.

For more information contact your company level Family Readiness Group.

Christmas in Austria

Travel to Vienna, Salzburg with ITR for Christmas markets, Dec. 23- Dec. 26. Enjoy shopping, guided tours and an optional Sound of Music Show. Cost per adult, \$399. Sign up deadline is Dec. 3.

New SKIES Unlimited music lessons

SKIES *Unlimited* now offers music lessons in violin and flute. Lessons are available by appointment on Mondays and Thursdays for violin and Tuesdays for Flute. Enroll at CYS Central Registration 634-7219.

Signup to vote

Voting signup station from 11a.m.-1p.m. in the AAFES food court every Thursday from now until the half day schedule, except Thanksgiving Day.

Dates are Nov 29, Dec 6, 13. Stop by and get your Federal post card application.

New Tax Relief office hours

Effective Wednesday, Nov. 21, the Tax Relief office will be open Monday through Friday from 11a.m.-4:30p.m. and closed on federal holidays. Call for more info at 634-7905.

Pancake feed

Club Beyond Teenagers are serving the entire community pancakes and other breakfast foods for dinner.

Monday, Dec 3, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Buffet style so come when you want. At the Vicenza Chapel's activity room

This night is meant to get the word out and help support this year's service project to the Czech Republic.

Visit a gondola workshop

Join ITR to a Venetian Craftsman's Workshop on Nov. 25, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. See how a gondola is created and built and learn about the history of gondolas, during the 1 hour tour. Then enjoy some free to go where you wish in Venice with and ITR trip assistant to answer your questions. Call ITR at 634-7094.

American Red Cross courses

CPR, Dec. 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Cost: \$30.

Baby Sitting, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Dec. 8. Cost is \$25. Family Fun Night

Thrift Savings Plan limits

The 2008 Thrift Savings Plan deferred limit is \$15,500. This limit remains unchanged from the 2007 deferred limit.

The 2008 TSP total contribution limit is \$46,000. This limit includes all TSP contributions and has been

Religious Activities

Ederle Chapel

For details call the chapel at: 634-7519 (0444-71-7519).

Weekday Mass

Mass is now held at noon Wednesday-Monday.

Saturday services

4-4:30 p.m.: Sacrament of Reconciliation, or by appointment
5 p.m.: Roman Catholic Mass

Sunday services

9 a.m.: Catholic Mass
10:45 a.m.-noon: Catholic Religious Education
11 a.m.: Protestant worship
1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship and Children's church
4 p.m.: Lutheran Services
6 p.m.: Contemporary worship

Muslim services

The khutba and prayer will take place in the post chapel conference room Fridays, just after noon.

Jewish services

Jewish services and traditional Sabbath meals are available each Friday night and Saturday. Please contact Dr. Stephen and Nancy November at november6@msn.com

Club Beyond

For details about Club Beyond youth activities, contact the chapel or Jocely Cary at 340-385-3476.

Darby Chapel
For details call the chapel at: 633-7267 (50-54-7267).
8:30 a.m.: Catholic Reconciliation
9:30 a.m.: Catholic Mass
11:15 a.m.: Protestant worship

increased from the limit of \$45,000.

The limit on TSP catch-up contributions for 2008 is \$5,000.

If you are at least age 50 and if you have made the maximum amount of deferred contributions for the calendar year, you can make catch-up contributions to your TSP.

For more information regarding the TSP visit the TSP website at www.tsp.gov or the myPay website at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> or stop by the finance office.

Battlemind Training

Learn techniques and how to tap into resources that will help you and your Family reconnect during upcoming R&R. Childcare is available. Several dates are available for this training; Nov. 21 and 28, 11:30a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations are required so call ACS 634-7500.

Family fun night

Club V will host Family Fun Night, Nov. 30, 6 p.m. Come and eat yummy pizza, drink sweet lemonade, and have a super time.



(Above) Gegio's MTM team captain Massimo Mazzari, slips and misses the ball while SETAF Lions player Damiano Mantiero goes for it.



(Above) Marin Ortega, center, prepares to pass the ball to Igor Brunello during action at midfield.

Garrison players hit Italian leagues

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

The SETAF Lions are a local soccer team that plays in an Italian amateur league composed of 12 teams within an area of about 20 miles around Vicenza. The USAG Vicenza community team is composed of American Soldiers and some Italian civilians and friends who have been playing together the past seasons.

The SETAF Lions played a hard fought game on Caserma Ederle Nov. 3 against the San Florian team, which is on top of the local soccer league. On Nov. 10 the Lions met the Gegio's MTM another of the 12 teams that participate in the local league.

Currently, the SETAF Lions are midway in the league after having playing six games.

"This week (Nov. 10) we had the chance to include Marin Ortega, who is back from Afghanistan for two weeks," said SETAF Lions coach Angelo Baso, who has been with the team for several years.

"He plays as a midfielder, and he has been part of the team since the Championship 2005/06. He will also play the next game before heading back to Afghanistan again," Baso said.

The next match will be hosted on the new multi-purpose field behind the Ederle Inn against the CSI Grantorto team on Saturday Nov. 24 at 2:30 p.m. while the Championship ends in May 2008.

"Because some of our team members are Soldiers who deployed, we always welcome new players who can support the team," he added.

For those interested in playing or watching, the USAG Vicenza community soccer team schedules practice on Tuesday and Thursday from 7-8:30 p.m.

For information call the coach at DSN 634-7304.



(Above) SETAF Lions Maurizio Ciruolo, No. 15, heads the ball high during an offensive play. While (Below) Lions player Igor Brunello, center, heads the ball just a little over the goal.



Sports Shorts

CYS coach clinics

These clinics are designed to train volunteer coaches in their responsibilities. Clinics will cover basketball and cheerleading.

Dates for coaching clinics are: Nov. 20, Dec. 1, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 634-6151 for more details.

More free bowling

Ederle Lanes adds two more nights of free bowling. You now get free lane rental on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays and bowl up to three games per person.

Shoes are still only \$1. Call Ederle Lanes for information 634-7013.

Thanksgiving football

Catch all the action of Thanksgiving Football on the huge TV screens at Club V, 5p.m. on Nov. 22. Enjoy free nachos and appetizers.

Fit-4-Life

Fit 4 Life is getting ready to start its second cycle of the school year. This teen-focused healthy life-style program will kick off with an information session for parents and participants on Tuesday, Nov. 27, at 5p.m. in the Body Shop classroom. The program runs Tuesday afternoons from 3-5p.m., starting Dec. 3. For more information, call the Health Promotion Office at DSN 634-8828.

Pasta Bowl

The second annual Pasta Bowl will be held on Wednesday Nov. 21

The game will be played on the new multi-purpose field which is adjacent to the Eco Center directly behind the Ederle Inn.

Tailgate starts at 6 p.m. with a ribbon cutting to follow at 6:50 p.m. Kick off is at 7 p.m..

The Pasta Bowl this year is a game of Flicker ball between senior officers and senior enlisted. There will be a special performance by the SETAF Chorus during half time and then a wrap up with an award ceremony and post game party at Club V. The entire community is invited to attend.

Italian soccer league

Play adult community soccer for free on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m., starting Nov. 19-April 1. Round up all your soccer friends and enjoy this opportunity to play in the Italian soccer league.

Three point basketball

Shoot your best three point shots in the basketball competition, Dec. 7, 6:30p.m. at the Fitness Center (Participants meet at 6p.m.). Men and women, Americans and LNs—everyone is invited to join in the fun and compete. Tell all your friends and don't forget to sign up by Dec. 4.