

Stitzel joins U.S. Army Africa as new CSM

Story and photo by Sgt. Terysa King
U.S. Army Africa PAO

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Stitzel joined U.S. Army Africa as its senior noncommissioned officer in an assumption of responsibility ceremony Friday at Hoekstra Field. Despite the chill in the air and small flakes of snow, the ceremony was packed with USARAF and 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Soldiers to welcome Stitzel and his Family.

Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Donahue II, commanding general of USARAF, presided over the ceremony. He commended the formation of USARAF Soldiers for braving the elements to maintain their military bearing.

“You look like the professionals you are. You give our new command sergeant major an idea of the standards that exist within our command,” Donahue said.

After passing the USARAF colors, Donahue praised Stitzel for his attention to detail, and his impressive resume that landed him the position of USARAF’s top NCO.

“I had to smile the whole time walking out there, I was afraid he (Stitzel) was going to critique my facing movements. It’s great to have a Soldier on board who knows what standards are all about,” Donahue said.

Donahue spoke of the great responsibilities that lay ahead in Stitzel’s future as the USARAF command sergeant major. Aside from maintaining standards and discipline in the Vicenza military community, Donahue spoke of Stitzel’s responsibilities to U.S. Army Europe and Africa.

“I have some advice to give you but it’s not your typical advice since you’re not going into a typical job. The first principle is a safe, stable and secure Africa is in the best interests not only of African countries, but also the United States. The second principle is one President Obama articulated across Uganda in 2009. He talked about Africans who are best able and best postured to solve African security challenges. We need to seek African solutions for African problems. We firmly believe in that approach for U.S. Army Africa. We must accept their needs, and find solutions that work for them that can be done in their own way,” Donahue said.

Despite the responsibilities ahead of him, Donahue is certain Stitzel is the right person for the job.

“Sgt. Maj. Stitzel, I know you’ll work hard, often



Photo by Barbara Romano

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Stitzel, U.S. Army Africa, renders a salute during the playing of the National Anthem at the Assumption of Responsibility ceremony Friday. [Click here for more photos.](#)

with little to no guidance from me or anyone else. I know that’s no problem for you. I know you’re ready to hit the ground running. Welcome to U.S. Army Africa, Southern European Task Force. I look forward to being your teammate for the next two years,” Donahue said.

Even though he has only been in Italy for two days, Stitzel said he is eager to work and rigorously enforce Donahue’s policies and regulations. He took the time out to thank all the senior leaders who helped him transition and looks forward to being USARAF’s command sergeant major.

“To the Soldiers on the field, you are a representation of this entire command, and all the Soldiers in Italy. It is my honor to be here. It is an honor to be of service to you and to our nation, so you can trust I will be out there giving out my guidance,” Stitzel said.

Before closing his speech, Stitzel made sure to recognize the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Soldiers, as he was once attached to the 173rd ABCT.

“It’s so great to be on post and see all those maroon

berets; you don’t know how much that motivates me every morning. We’ve shared a lot of the same ground, we lost a lot of the same blood, and I’m honored to be here,” Stitzel said.

Stitzel entered the U.S. Army in 1987 and attended Infantry One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga. He attended and graduated from several Noncommissioned Officer schools as well as the U. S. Army Drill Sergeant School, airborne school, air assault school, pathfinder school, master fitness trainer course, infantry company course and jumpmaster course.

He holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Park University and is pursuing a master’s degree in Public Administration from Central Michigan University.

Stitzel served in infantry and airborne units at the battalion, division and regimental level. His previous assignment was the regimental command sergeant major at 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, The Old Guard, Fort Myer, Va.

Angel Tree Project helps military Families

The Angel Tree Program kicked off at the Arena during Info-X Nov. 7. The program runs through Friday. Angel Tree gifts may be dropped-off at ACS or the Post Exchange.



Photo by Laura Kreider

By Patrick Robinson
Outlook intern

When walking into the post exchange you might notice a Christmas tree with pieces of paper attached. It’s that time again for the annual Angel Tree project.

In 2007, the Angel Tree project was launched by Army Community Service in order to help Soldiers who did not have the extra funds to buy holiday presents for their children. It was created by first sergeants; they, along with their

noncommissioned officers in charge, nominate Soldiers by completing a form that gives the needed information, such as gender, age, clothing size, and likes, about the children in those Families. The Angel Tree Project is centered on donations.

“There is no set dollar amount and we leave it up to the person contributing to decide on the amount they can or will spend,” said Hanna Leong, a victim advocate and one of this year’s Angel Tree associates. “School age children can

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Darby news page 5

DMC turns on holiday lights in ceremony; ACS offers numerous programs to community



Sports page 8

Reindeer Games provide holiday-themed challenge; VHS wrestlers bring home a gold in Aviano



36/36 Friday	39/32 Saturday	45/36 Sunday

This weekend is the final showing of “That Holiday Feeling” at Soldiers’ Theatre.

What to check with children's fevers

By Capt. Abigail Patterson
U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza

Cold and flu season has arrived. It seems that everywhere you look, children are sniffing, coughing and sneezing. The question is, at what point do you take your child to the doctor?

When you call for an appointment, the clinic needs to know a few simple things to help take care of your child.

How old is your child? Very young children (less than three months) have a very low threshold for being ill. It is important for them to know when they are sick.

What is their temperature and how long have they had it? Children younger than three months old with a temperature of 100.4 F or higher and children of any age with a persistent fever over 104 F need to be seen right away. Call the Pediatric Clinic or the Nurse Advice Line if a fever lasts longer than 24 hours for children younger than two years, or lasts longer than 72 hours in children two years and older.

What have you done to treat your child?

There are several methods you can use to help your child before you take them to the doctor.

To begin try removing layers of clothing from your child to help reduce their fever. Do not bundle them up or cover them in blankets unless they are actively shivering. Make sure your child is drinking plenty of fluids. It takes a lot of work for your child's body to rid itself of a fever and they can become dehydrated. That being said, make sure your child does not over exert themselves. For children older than two months old, you only need to give Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen if they are uncomfortable.

Fever alone is not a reason to give medication. If you choose to medicate your child, check with the pharmacy or the Pediatric clinic for appropriate dosing. These medications are based on the current weight of your child. It is possible to overdose. Do not give your child Aspirin unless pre-approved by their provider.

Does your child have any other symptoms? If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea with a fever and is unable to keep

down any fluids, you need to take them to the Emergency Room. If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea and can keep down fluids, continue to give your child fluids in small amounts. It is best to give them watered down Gatorade or Powerade or Pedialyte. Stay away from juices as they can make the diarrhea worse.

You need to call the Pediatric Clinic or Nurse Advice Line right away if your child has any of the following symptoms: looks very ill or unusually drowsy, very fussy, has stiff neck, severe headache, severe sore throat, severe ear pain, unexplained rash, has immune system disease, is taking steroids, seems to be getting worse, or still acts sick despite the fever decreasing. You must take your child to the Emergency Room if they have a seizure.

If your child is sick, keep them home from school and daycare. To reach the Pediatrics Clinic, call 0444-61-9000 or 636-9000. For the Nurse Advice Line, call 800-877-660.

For more information on fevers and other childhood issues, visit www.healthychildren.org.

Speak Out

What are you going to ask Santa to bring you for Christmas?



Madilynn Baugh

Family member

"I am going to ask Santa to bring me a baby doll."



Trinitee Edwards

Family member

"I'd like a snow cone maker, an ice cream maker to make my own ice cream and a makeup kit including eye shadow and lip gloss."



Claire Leap

Family member

"I am going to ask for a toy kitchen."

By Laura Kreider

Females of Caserma Ederle join together in unity

By Julie M. Lucas
Outlook editor



Photo by Laura Kreider

Female Soldiers, Officers and civilians sign up for a drawing at the Female 2 Female at the Golden Lion Dec. 6. The goal of this Taskforce Initiative is to integrate and support military and civilian women into the Vicenza community through networking and informational events. [Click here](#) for more photos.

Girl power was alive and in the air as females from around Caserma Ederle joined together Dec. 6 for the first Female 2 Female event. Spouses, civilians, and Soldiers mingled together, while playing an icebreaker game with the name of a famous woman placed on their backs. An introduction was given by Julia Sibilla, Army Community Service community program manager, who was one of the many people working to bring the event to life.

"I'd like to see us as an installation have a network for females to share information and have a better experience for newcomers," Sibilla said.

Ifat Levine, a former Israeli Defense Force officer shared her experiences with the audience.

"I lay in my bed with an M16 under my pillow, in full uniform, but couldn't sleep because of all the mosquitos," Levine said. "I woke up with sunlight on my face, sweating."

Following the speaker, women were given free time to continue to make connection in the community. Chris Wolff, Outdoor Recreation director, gave a brief presentation about trips with ODR and had

a giveaway for a trip voucher.

One participant, Sgt. 1st Class Melissa Wakefield got involved with this event because she wanted to help be a mentor.

"F2F is dedicated to making sure that the Female Sponsorship program is a priority and gets improved upon. The idea of knowing how easy it is to get involved in the wrong crowd or scared to venture out in a new location can be tough," Wakefield said. "Since I can relate to going to a new location in my career when I was a single female Soldier, I can relate to this program. For the future I would like to see females in our community step up and share their stories, so people can get a more personal feel for this program and understand the true need."

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Health Promotions office Mickie McNamara, who was also one of the foundations in starting the social, was happy with the outcome.

"We are extremely pleased with the turnout. I overheard one female Soldier thanking Ifat for the inspiration she provided — that says it all because our goal for this inaugural event was to create dialogue and networking opportunities among females in the VMC," McNamara said.

Future events are in the working stages. Look in copies of the Outlook for announcements for the events.

Sidestep holiday weight gain with planning

By Capt. Carly Eckard
U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza

Most people have mixed emotions about the upcoming holiday season. The excitement and celebrations become muddled with fear of buffet tables, holiday treats and weight gain.

According to a study conducted at the National Institutes of Health,

the average person expects to gain about five pounds during the six weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's.

However, multiple studies confirm that most people gain only about one pound during this time frame. Also, it appears that those who have the best intentions of maintaining a strict diet and exercise routine during the holidays tend to gain more weight than those who focus less on weight gain.

What does this mean? Should I just not care? Well, no, but worrying less about holiday weight gain and focusing more on moderation and balance can actually be beneficial. Here are some tips to navigate the holiday food scene:

To avoid overeating at holiday parties and meals, start off on the right foot and eat a small meal or snack prior to the event. Arriving hungry can increase temptation for high calorie snacks and lead to overindulgence.

Bring something to share that is healthful. Think of salads, fresh vegetables, seasonal fresh fruits, whole grain side dishes or mixed nuts. Try looking for healthy recipes online or substitute some healthier ingredients in recipes that you already use. Fruit purees, such as applesauce and bananas, can be substituted for butter and oil in many baking recipes, and cutting back on added sugar can really help decrease the calories.

At the buffet table, think small. Take a salad or dessert plate and fill half with lean protein and vegetables. Take small portion of a few things that you really enjoy and skip the rest. Limit foods such as rolls, chips and crackers. These starchy, high calorie foods are available year-round and will simply take space and add extra calories to your plate.

Make smart beverage choices. Sugar-sweetened beverages can easily contain 10-15 teaspoons of sugar, and more calories than holiday desserts. Also watch out for drinks with multiple high calorie ingredients such as sugar, fat and alcohol (think eggnog). Try some low or no-calorie beverages like sparkling water and flavored coffees and teas.

Want to eat healthier in the New Year? Stop by the Wellness Center or call 0444-61-9000 to make an appointment with a dietitian. You can also call 0444-61-9519 to find out about group classes and programs such as Army MOVE! Weight Management classes, commissary tours, video discussion groups, cooking classes and more.

TREE: Donations make local holiday brighter

Continued from page 1

always use warm coats, gloves, scarves, hats and fun school supplies."

Teenagers often times are harder to find a gift for and because of that, gift ideas are provided on the trees; some of the more popular gifts for teenagers are gift cards, iPod accessories, headphones, bath sets and fragrances.

According to Leong the program has helped more than 310 Families and 680 children in the last five years with the numbers of those assisted growing each year. In order to have given these Families and children gifts, organizations and individuals alike have been very active and generous in their participation and donations.

Each year, a notable number of groups, community, student, and private, have taken part in the Angel Tree Project; however, individuals and families also take part in the project. The Angel Tree Project is sustainable only through the support of these groups and individuals.

"I have seen how donations from the Angel Tree Project create a positive effect and it is great knowing that a small gesture from our community can make such a difference to our Sky Soldiers and their families," said 1st Sgt. Timothy Jensen, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team rear detachment.

An additional tree is located at ACS with angels to choose. This Friday will be the last day to select an angel from the tree at the PX and place a gift in the box. Gifts can also be dropped off at the front desk at ACS.

Colorectal cancer screening available at USAHC

By Dr. Todd Lucas
U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza

Still looking for that perfect holiday gift for a loved one? For those with a family member aged 50 or older, what better holiday gift than an appointment card to discuss colorectal cancer screening with a health care professional tucked gently in their stocking?

Yes, seriously. Did you know that colorectal cancer is the second most common form of cancer in women and third most common form of cancer diagnosed in men worldwide? Did you know that approximately one third of these patients will die from this disease?

The good news is that the number of new cases of colorectal cancer and the number of deaths from it have been decreasing over the past decade. A significant reason for this may be related to the increased number of people being screened for colorectal cancer.

Colorectal cancer typically starts as a small growth in the lining of the large intestine called a polyp. Although the vast majority of polyps would never turn into a cancer, a small percentage of them would, if given enough time. Most colon polyps and many early colon cancers have no symptoms. As the cancer grows, it may start causing signs such as visible blood in the stool or symptoms related to bowel obstruction such as bloating and abdominal pain.

Once colon cancer is advanced enough to cause significant symptoms, it is more likely to have spread beyond the point at which it can be successfully treated.

Screening tests for colorectal cancer are intended to catch the cancer at an earlier stage, when it is more likely to be managed successfully.

As a general rule, in a person without symptoms, inflammatory bowel disease or a family history of colon cancer, screening should begin at age 50. The gold standard is the colonoscopy, which can now be performed here at the U.S. Army Health Center. If you or a family member are aged 50 or older, you have most likely received letters or phone calls from the health center offering you this important test. If not, you can start the process yourself.

An alternative to scheduling a colonoscopy at this time is fecal occult blood testing option. This test is quick, easy, painless and essentially risk-free. Its drawbacks are that it is not good at finding polyps before they turn into cancers, it is not as sensitive at finding cancers as a colonoscopy, and a positive result is often due to something non-cancerous. A positive result is usually followed by a colonoscopy to investigate further.

The U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza has the capability to perform both fecal occult stool testing and endoscopic examinations, including full colonoscopies under sedation. But you cannot benefit from the screening if you don't take the test. The most important decision for individuals is to take control of their own health care and ask about screening in the first place.

Talk to your primary care provider about your individual situation to determine the timing and method of colorectal cancer screening that is best for you. Call 636-9533 or 0444-61-9533 and give yourself the gift of health this holiday season.

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Photo by Laura Kreider

Staff members of the Caserma Ederle branches of Italian Banca Nazionale Del Lavoro, Community Bank and Global Credit Union bowl during the annual fellowship-building event at the Arena Nov. 16. The event was coordinated by Luciano Prestipino, BNL manager, who has been coordinating it for the past two years.

Innsbruck Christmas Markets offer variety of gift ideas



Shoppers buy bags of flavored nuts and sweets from a vendor at the Innsbruck Christmas Markets Saturday. Innsbruck, Austria features five markets with 180 booths of products of gifts, food and beverages. Innsbruck is less than four hours drive north of Vicenza. [Click here](#) for more photos.

Commentary and photos by Julie M. Lucas
Outlook editor

Whether you have been in the Vicenza military community one month or 10 years, the Outdoor Recreation trip to the Innsbruck Christmas Markets will offer a variety for your senses.

(with a stop on the way) you arrive in one of Austria's picture postcard cities. The downtown area has the typical stone-lined, curving streets you are familiar with in central Europe. Innsbruck settled in the valley of the Inn river and surrounded by Alpine mountains, offers five different market areas. If traveling by bus you will walk through a forest garden and approach what evokes a

fairytale of a guarded medieval city. After walking 100 feet, you will be greeted by one of the more popular sights in the city, the Golden Roof. Chances are, you won't be able to see the building façade for the huge Christmas tree with more than 1,300 lights, marking the first market. The first thing I'd recommend is finding a Gluhwein or punch stand and getting yourself a cup of warm spiced wine, known in Italy as vin brulé. I was surprised at how many different varieties there are: regular, white, light (less sugar) and non-alcohol for children. You will notice people walking around with colorful coffee cups. To get your own cup it will cost around €2,80 and a deposit of €2, which you will get back if you return the cup. I chose to keep my cups as cheap keepsakes.

Once you get a warm beverage, now you can focus on the wares for sale. The more popular items are Christmas tree ornaments and decorations. Some are made of wood, cut into intricate designs. Some stalls have glass balls, painted with scenes for winter or religious. If you didn't prepare well for bad weather, you can easily pick up some wool gloves, sweaters or hats. Numerous gifts can be purchased ranging from home decorations to food. Cheese stands, pastries and Speck are just a few of the foods that can be purchased to take home for later.

Other markets in the area include one just off the river that has pony rides for children, a giant carousel, puppet theater and story time. The modern market offers glass, crystal and is located in the heart of the city. The Panoramic Market is a distance but an experience getting there. You will have a great view of the city after riding a cable car to 2,256

meters. At this point, your stomach might start to rumble from the aroma of fried food wafting in the air. If the weather is agreeable, you can pick up fried potatoes, wursts and other meats, a traditional pretzel, even cups of warm soup. When traveling I like to eat typical local cuisine and treat myself. I usually duck down alleyways to find off the beaten path hole-in-the-wall places. After a fantastic lunch of schnitzel, potatoes, salad with a crisp Riesling, I was ready to battle the crowds again. Later in the afternoon, I highly recommend trying some of the many desserts available, including an apple strudel, packaged to take home for less than €10.

The side street paths are called Fairytale and Giants Alley and are decorated up high above the doorways with famous children's stories, such as Snow White. If you want to get away from the hustle and bustle, Innsbruck has an Alpine Zoo and an ice skating rink.

More than 180 stalls will remain open until Jan. 6. Upcoming weekend events include singing groups and concerts on the weekends. If you don't have plans for New Year's, a fireworks show will be set off Dec. 30 and Dec. 31. An international DJ will be spinning at the biggest indoor New Year's Eve party with a laser show.

For more information about market hours, maps, lodging and all other questions visit, <http://www.christkindmarkt.cc/1-1-Home.html> or <http://www.innsbruck.info/en/home.html> (both pages in English) or go to ODR and ask about other upcoming trips. If you haven't skied in Europe, they offer trips every weekend to a different destination.



Glühwein, a hot spiced wine known as vin brulé in Italy, is available to purchase at the Innsbruck Christmas Markets in many different varieties such as white, light, non-alcoholic and original. A deposit is required on each cup you purchase, which is given back when you return your cup. [Click here](#) for more photos.

ACS provides new programs at DMC

By Peggy J. Schadler
Family and MWR Marketing

Army Community Service can help make your time in the Darby Military Community a better experience. Evelyn Watkins, DMC's Family Advocacy program specialist said, "We are anxious to find ways make life easier for our service members and Families assigned here. We have so many resources that the average person doesn't even realize."

Watkins has just recently returned to the Darby Military Community after her assignment in Fort Bliss, Texas. Joining her team and mission to help families are Amy Congdon, Victim Advocate contractor, Gabriella Musi, administrative support assistant, Luisa St. Pierre, an ACS contractor.

"In addition to our regular staff, we receive regular assistance visits from the Vicenza ACS and a Military & Family Life Consultant who rotates each quarter," said Watkins.

The MFLCs are licensed clinicians who provide a valuable service of non-medical counseling, which is both free and anonymous with no records kept.

New staff always brings new ideas, and we have recently incorporated several that are a hit in the Darby community. The monthly newcomer briefing dubbed Culture College (Benvenuti) is considered one of the best welcome programs you will ever find. It is a weeklong adventure filled with field trips, language classes, post briefings, a taste of local cuisine, lots of shopping and plenty of cultural photo opportunities.

Another great idea the new staff has brought back to life, is a way to say thanks to our single servicemembers with a free monthly home-cooked meal. This program supports the single servicemembers within the DMC by providing them a venue to enjoy a free home-cooked meal and a chance to meet fellow servicemembers in a relaxing atmosphere.

DMCs playgroup, the Tuscan Tots, is growing by leaps and bounds. The highly interactive playgroup meets every Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m. and provides children with opportunities to



Parents work with their children to make gingerbread homes during Tuscan Tots, a playgroup that meets Wednesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Yellow Ribbon Building. Photo by Amy Drummond

enhance their social, emotional, physical and intellectual development, as well as educating parents on children issues. The Tuscan Tots have actually outgrown the ACS building and have recently settled into the newly renovated Yellow Ribbon Building.

The Yellow Ribbon Building was designed as a place for all servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians and families and includes a cozy family lounge with television and gaming capabilities, a Yellow Ribbon Room with four email stations and teleconferencing capability. It also has a terrific children's playroom, complete with a wide array of toys, books, games and small scale furniture. There is a full kitchen and also a small conference room for meetings and trainings and social events. Even with their small ACS staff, we

are able, with the community's assistance, to staff with volunteers. Those interested in volunteering should contact Watkins at 633-7084.

The ACS staff has big hearts and is anxious to serve the community. There are not many installations around the world where you can get one-on-one assistance for such topics as deployment, employment classes, "Smooth Move" briefings, financial classes, Army Emergency Relief and Air Force Aid, Victim Advocacy and Family Advocacy, just to name a few.

With support from the ACS Program managers from USAG Vicenza, who visit monthly, they can also offer you assistance for other programs such as Survivor Outreach Program, Exceptional Family Member Program, New Parent Support Program or Army Substance Abuse Program.

Darby ates

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

Artistic Nativity Scenes in Cigoli (San Miniato Pisa) Presepe artistico di Cigoli

Through Jan. 13 in the Pieve di San Giovanni Battista in Cigoli (PI) the 12th display of the Artistic nativity scene. This is one of the biggest nativity Scenes in Tuscany. The church can be visited daily from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and from 2:30-8 p.m.

CYSS.

633-7629

- SKIES Unlimited Instructors Wanted! CYSS is looking for SKIES Unlimited instructors to teach dance, voice, guitar, piano, martial arts, gymnastics and Zumba. Anyone interested can contact CYSS at 633-8084.

- Youth Center is looking for tutors for many high school subjects. Students from the International School of Florence need tutors to assist them with their studies. If you are interested in being a tutor, contact the Youth Center at 633-7629.

Sports and Fitness

633-7438

A new Cardio Circuit class is being offered on Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Fitness Center.

Religious Activities

633-7267

Sunday

9-10 a.m. Catholic Mass

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Protestant Service/

Christmas Play

Dec. 23

5-6 Catholic Mass

7-8 Protestant Candle

Light Service/Christmas

Dinner

Dec. 25

5-6 Catholic Mass

Dec. 31

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Protestant Service

5-6 p.m. Catholic Mass

Flip the switch: Children in the

Darby Military Community help

DMC Deputy Garrison Manager

Larry Kilgore flip the switch

to light up a tree during the

ceremony Dec. 8. Children had

an opportunity to take photos

with Santa as well as shop at

the holiday bazaar.

[Click here](#) for photos.



Photo by Chiara Mattiolo

Santa Claus run:

This annual charity event will take place at Campo Marzo Dec. 22 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The entrance fee is €8, which includes a Santa suit and hot chocolate and cake after the race. For more information call Beatrice Giometto at 634-7109.



Courtesy photo

Local events

Corri Babbo Natale Corri, or Run Santa Run, will be held Dec. 22 in Vicenza. The Vicenza Press Association and the City of Vicenza are co-sponsoring the seventh annual Run Santa Run charity fundraiser downtown 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., starting and ending at Campo Marzo, the park near the main train station. The €8 entrance fee includes a lightweight Santa suit to run in and hot chocolate and cake at the finish (€5 if you already have a Santa suit). Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome and there is special recognition for the agency or association with the most participants. The course is under two miles and may be easily completed walking. Persons may pre-register to receive their costumes before race day, or may sign-up and pay the day of the event at 10 a.m. All the money raised goes to Italian charities. In the first six editions more than 10,000 people have taken part in the event and €33,371 has been raised. For more info, call Beatrice Giometto at 634-7109 or 0444-71-7901.

Christmas markets

Asiago: *Giardini di Natale* — Christmas gardens, Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-7 p.m., Piazza Carli; food booths featuring local specialties and typical Christmas sweets and crafts.

Bassano del Grappa, ongoing through Dec. 26, Piazza Garibaldi, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., closed on Monday morning; Piazza Libertà 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. closed on Monday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. Saturday, from 4 p.m., in Piazza Garibaldi Christmas caroling; in Via Roma hot chocolate and holiday sweets. Sunday, from 4 p.m., in Piazza Garibaldi, glassblowing demonstration; holiday music and dancing in Via Roma.

Bolzano: ongoing through Dec. 23, Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sunday

9 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Walther, about 120 miles north of Vicenza. More than 80 stallholders in their typical little huts offer traditional seasonal gifts (handmade wooden, glass and ceramic products along with Christmas tree decorations, delicious seasonal pastries and many original gifts), plenty of food specialties available plus *vin brulé* (hot mulled cider); children's Christmas market where kids can take an active part baking Christmas cookies and making small Christmas decorations and presents.

Breganze: Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., in Piazza Mazzini, about 12 miles north of Vicenza; food booths with *vin brulé* and roasted chestnut; Laverda motorcycles exhibit; 2:30 p.m. magic show for children, balloon creations, giant soap bubbles, and face painting; Christmas caroling.

Camisano Vicentino: Saturday-Sunday, and Dec. 22-23, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Via Roma, Via XX Settembre; entertainment with music, songs and Santa Claus.

Cison di Valmarino, Castelbrando: Saturday-Sunday; Via Brandolino 20; opens at 10 a.m.; singing Santa Claus at 3:30 p.m.; 3:30-5:30 p.m. Santa Claus on his sleigh.

Gallio: Saturday-Sunday, and daily from Dec. 22 to Jan. 6, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m., in Piazzetta dei Giardini, about 40 miles north of Vicenza; Wooden outdoor booths featuring local holiday sweets, hot chocolate, mulled wine local crafts and gift items. Entertainment with jugglers, musicians, fire-eaters, street artists, gnomes, elves, and acrobats. Shows and workshops for children, and a reindeer petting zoo.

Garda: *Natale tra gli Olivi* — Christmas market among olive trees, ongoing through Jan. 6, Piazza Catullo and Lungolago Regina Adelaide; local and Tyrolean products; entertainment for children; folk music and dancing;

Malo: Sunday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Marconi, Piazza del

Comune 8, about 21 miles northwest of Vicenza; food booths featuring local products and entertainment for children.

Merano: ongoing through Jan. 6, a.m.-7 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Friday 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturdays and holidays 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; closed Dec. 25; in Piazza Arena, Piazza Terme and Passeggiata Lungo Passirio, about 140 miles north of Vicenza.

Schio: Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 22-24, Jan. 6, from 3:30 p.m. in Piazza Falcone e Borsellino and Piazza Rossi, about 16 miles northwest of Vicenza; Santa Claus little hut, mini train rides, ice skating rink.

Thiene: *Natale di Fiaba* — Fairytale Christmas, Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Santa Claus village in Piazza Chilesotti, fairytale avenue in Corso Garibaldi, Winnie and Heidi magic worlds in Piazzetta Ferrarin; wonderland in Piazzetta Rossi, and Toyland in Piazzetta Montello.

Valdagno: Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza Roma and Palazzo Festari, Piazza del Comune 8, about 21 miles northwest of Vicenza.

Verona: *Mercatini di Santa Lucia* — Saint Lucia Christmas market, Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m., in Piazza Brà; over 300 booths feature holiday sweets, gift ideas, toys and the traditional carousel; the square is lighted by a huge steel comet star sculpture surging from the Arena into Piazza Brà. Nuremberg Christmas market, ongoing through Dec. 21, Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-11:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday and days before holidays 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; in Piazza dei Signori, wooden stands featuring holiday gift ideas, *vin brulé*, holiday sweets, typical German bread and sausages.

Vicenza: *Natale* — Christmas, Saturday-Sunday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. in Campo Marzo, local biological products. *Natale in Piazza delle Erbe:* Fridays-Sundays through Dec. 23, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., in Piazza

delle Erbe; local products, wines, and nature craft exhibit and sale. *Aspettando il Natale* — Waiting for Christmas: Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-9 a.m., in Vicenza, Corso Fogazzaro and Piazza San Lorenzo; biological natural products exhibit and sale; crafts and gift ideas market.

Free concerts, exhibits, events

Christmas Concert:

Saturday, 8:45 p.m., in Vicenza, City Theatre. Info and tickets: <http://www.tcvi.it/it/eventi/2012-2013/sinfonica/151/concerto-di-natale>

Gospel Concert - New Generation Gospel Crew and Joy Singers:

Sunday, 5:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m., in Vicenza, City Theatre. Info and tickets: <http://www.tcvi.it/it/eventi/2012-2013/fuori-abbonamento/225/gospel-in-vicenza->

Now Showing

Ederle Theater

Thursday	Premium Rush (PG 13)	6 p.m.
Friday	Won't Back Down (PG)	6 p.m.
	Playing For Keeps (PG 13)*	9 p.m.
Saturday	Won't Back Down (PG)	3 p.m.
	Playing For Keeps (PG 13)*	6 p.m.
Sunday	Playing For Keeps (PG 13)*	3 p.m.
	Playing For Keeps (PG 13)*	6 p.m.
Wed.	Won't Back Down (PG)	6 p.m.
Dec. 20	Won't Back Down (PG)	6 p.m.
Dec. 21	House at the End of the Street (PG 13)	6 p.m.
	End of Watch (R)	9 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Dec. 21	Won't Back Down (PG)	6 p.m.
Dec. 22	End of Watch (R)	6 p.m.
Dec. 23	Life of Pi (PG)*	1 p.m.
Dec. 28	House at the End of the Street (PG 13)	6 p.m.

Admission: *First run, adult, \$5.50, under 12, \$2.75; regular release, \$5/\$2.50; repeat releases, \$4.50/\$2.25; special pay \$3.50/\$1.75. The Ederle theater box office opens one hour prior to show. **View MOVIE TRAILERS and more online at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ReelTimeTheatres/reeltime-landing.htm>**

Concerts

Spirit of New Orleans — Gospel Choir: Dec. 20 in Lucca

The Jacksons: Feb. 12 in Milan
Michael Jackson — **The Immortal World Tour, Cirque du Soleil:** Feb. 23-24 in Assago (Milan)

Walking with Dinosaurs: March 6-10 in Assago (Milan)

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band: June 1 in Padova

Mark Knopfler: July 12 in Piazzola sul Brenta (Padova)

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

ODR trips

Marmolada ski/snowboard trip: Saturday

Bolzano Christmas market and Vipiteno: Saturday

Gubbio and the World's Largest Christmas Tree: Sunday

Rome express: Dec. 22

Val Senales ski/snowboard trip: Dec. 22

San Martino Christmas Eve ski/snowboard trip: Dec. 24

Alleghe ski/snowboard trip: Dec. 29

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

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

News briefs

VHS Concert tonight

Tonight at 7 p.m. the Vicenza High School Music Department will present its seasonal concert highlighting the Advanced Choir, Advanced Band and introducing the newly formed Rhythm and Blues Band under the direction of Gary Marvel. The show is open and free to the public, though donations would be greatly appreciated.

Combined Chapel Choir Christmas Cantata Concert

Come and celebrate the Advent season with a Combined Chapel Choir Christmas Cantata Concert Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Vicenza Military Community Chapel.

Vicenza CPAC closure

The Vicenza CPAC will be closed Friday to conduct its annual organization day. Normal hours of operation will resume on Monday.

COR, GPC, FOO training

The 414th Contracting Support Brigade sponsors quarterly training Jan. 29-30 for Contracting Officer Representatives, Government Purchase Card holders and Field Ordering Officials training for all U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza personnel who need acquisition planning and requirement document

development. The training is for new personnel or to recertify those already trained. Reserve attendance by Jan. 11 at 634-5894.

Tax Office seeks staff

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is hiring personnel to work in its Tax Center to provide free tax filing assistance for qualified members of the Vicenza Military Community. They seek volunteers with tax or accounting experience to work during the tax season, which runs from late January to June 15. Contact Capt. Faiello at 634-8170 or edward.s.faiello@mail.mil.

Sign up now for Financial Peace University

Find financial peace of mind in the New Year with a 13-week Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University training. The Vicenza Chapel Community has arranged a winter session of FPU that will cover eliminating debt and making smart financial decisions no cost to participants. The program meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 9 in the Vicenza Chapel Activity Room. Spouses of deployed Soldiers can begin classes now and be joined by their spouses upon their return. The chapel will provide lunch, but parents need to make separate child care accommodations. Spaces are limited. Contact Hilary Keatts at hilarykeatts@yahoo.com or 329-772-2657 now to sign up.

Finance Office closed

The Italy Finance Office will be closed on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 18, for its annual holiday party.

Ederle power outage

Caserma Ederle will experience a post-wide power outage next Saturday, Dec. 22, from 5-9 a.m. as all new photovoltaic power sources are switched to the AIM grid.

USO Christmas party

Join the USO Saturday for a Christmas party starting at 1 p.m. Santa will visit from 3-5 p.m. and photos will be available. A traditional dinner with all the trimmings will be served at 5 p.m. The event is open to all ID card holders and their guests.

UMUC-Europe spring registration under way

Register now for University of Maryland University College-Europe Spring 2013 Session 1 courses. Registration ends Jan. 9 for online classes, Jan. 13 for hybrid classes. The session begins Jan. 9. For a full class schedule go to <http://webapps.umuc.edu/soc/europe.cfm>.

• Go to www.ed.umuc.edu/fieldstudy for details on field study classes.

• Find out about substantial new student scholarships and textbook awards at www.ed.umuc.edu/financialaid.

Shoppette: Dec. 24, 5 a.m.-8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 26, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Dec. 31, 5 a.m.-8 p.m.; Jan. 1, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Villaggio Express: Dec. 24 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26 and 31, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Jan. 1, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Burger King: Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26 and 31, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Anthony's Pizza, Subway: Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26 and 31, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Charley's: Dec. 24, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 31, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Popeye's, Taco Bell: Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26 and 31, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Theater: Dec. 24-25, closed; Dec. 26, 6 p.m.; Dec. 31, closed; Jan. 1, closed.

Barber Shop, Cellular Phone, Family Hair Care: Dec. 24, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Beauty Salon, Gifts Galore, The Cleaners: Dec. 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Gnam Gnam: Dec. 24, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

EUROPACAR, Optical Center, Petals and Blooms, Rug Gallery, New Car Sales: Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

STRIPES: Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Greek Gyros, The Grill, The Furniture Store, Ironing Service: Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

DJ & Hopps: Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Ciao Café: Dec. 24, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Laundrette: Open 24 hours.

TKS Internet Services: Dec. 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Dec. 25-26, closed; Dec. 31, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Religious activities

Vicenza Chapel 2012 Holiday Schedule

Sunday, 5 p.m. - Protestant Children's Christmas musical program

Wednesday, 6 p.m. - Combined Chapel Choir Christmas Cantata Concert

Dec. 24, 7 p.m. - Protestant Candlelight Service

11:30 p.m. - Catholic Caroling in the Chapel

Dec. 25, 12 a.m. - Christmas Midnight Mass

10 a.m. - Catholic Mass

Dec. 31, 9:45 p.m. - Gospel Watch Night Service

Jan. 1, 10 a.m. - Catholic Mass

Chaplain Crisis Line

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

Sunday services

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

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

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

5 p.m.: Contemporary Christian service

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

5 p.m.: Contemporary Praise band practice

Wednesdays

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

5:30 p.m.: Catholic choir practice

6:45 p.m.: Gospel choir practice

Thursdays

9:30 a.m.: Military Council of Catholic Women

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

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

Faith group contacts

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

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

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

Jewish: Call Paul Levine at 345-907-2108

Latter Day Saints: Sunday services, 9:30 a.m. in Vicenza. Call 389-268-5605 or email drbob143@gmail.com.

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

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



Photo by Julie M. Lucas

Holiday challenge:

Above, a team from the post exchange, dressed as cartoon characters throw "snowballs" during the Reindeer Games Nov. 30. This was the second year for the challenge. At right, a youth team pulls the team's "sleigh" through a tube, during the challenge. Despite poor weather, youth and adult teams finished the battle. [Click here](#) for more photos.



Photo by Laura Kreider



Photo by Saralynn Manville

Perfect pin: Vicenza High School Senior Connor Smith pins an opponent from American school of Rome during a wrestling meet Saturday. VHS took first place. The next meet will be Jan. 12, which is also the first home meet here at Caserma Ederle.

CYSS sports

Coaches needed for bambino basketball, age group 3-5. For more questions or information, call 634-6151.

Unit and rec play

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

Volleyball: 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays for eight or more, Fitness Center.

Frisbee golf: 6 p.m. Wednesdays, North 40 field.

Tennis: Open play Singles and Doubles on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

New players are always welcome. Call 634-7009 or individual POCs.

Rugby Team Open Play

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 join players at the N-40 Football Field to play.

Basketball Open Play

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Come out and join the fun. Call 636-9632 to take charge and help this get started.

Women's basketball

Women's basketball practice held Sundays from 4-5 p.m. at the post gym. All female community members welcome to attend. Focus is on fun and having a great workout. POC is julia.sibilla@us.army.mil.

Know of an event we're missing? Email the *Outlook* at

editor@eur.army.mil

We gladly accept story ideas, photo and story submissions. All submissions are subject to editing.