

The Signature

Vol. 19 No. 41

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

Friday, October 18, 2002

NASSIG earns Italian Safety Award

By Don Durnil

Contributing writer

On Sept. 26, Capt. Ken Bitar, NASSIG Executive Officer, Mr. Robert Hall, Safety Manager, Mr. Nino Russo and Mr. Antonio Campanella, safety professionals from the NASSIG safety office traveled to the Italian Safety and Health Conference in Modena, Italy, near Bologna, to receive the prestigious award for safety excellence presented by the Italian Association of Safety Professionals (AIAS).

NASSIG, as well as NSA Naples, received the award in recognition for implementing the Navy Occupational Safety and Health (NAVOSH) Strategic Plan Process Review & Management System (PR&MS). By so doing, Sigonella was the first base in Italy to integrate PR&MS with Italian Legislative Decree 626/94, an Italian law derived from European Occupational Safety and Health directives.

The award was presented to Bitar on behalf of the Sigonella community by Dr. Ing. Giancarlo Bianchi, the president of AIAS, at a banquet held to honor the award recipients (featured). Bitar had some appropriate words of acceptance stressing, "Winning any award requires hard work, team spirit, and a synergistic integration of a competent workforce to excel. Our employees are not segregated by Italian or American, but function as a team to accomplish one goal".

Hall added, "This was a culmination of nearly two years of effort initiated by our local national safety staff. The first step was for our safety professionals, both Italian and American, to receive training on the Italian laws. Next, all our managers and supervisor, military and civilian, had to be trained and brought on board. At first this was all new to everyone, as we only implemented U.S. standards up until that time. Then in the year 2000, we began also implementing the PR&MS system. This involved a system similar in character to the Italian decrees, in that it was more of a safety system than a process enforcing compliance standards. It requires more participation on the part of managers, supervisors, and workers."

According to Hall, this participation was essential to get results in the oriented safety management system, and would not be possible without the strong upper management support.



Photo by Maria Greger

an Interview with a Rock Star

By Maria Greger

3 Doors Down visited Sigonella Tuesday, Oct. 8, to entertain NASSIG with a great concert. The next morning, before they were to take off and go on the road again, *The Signature* was given the opportunity to interview Todd Harrell, the band's bassist. Todd is one of the three original band members. Despite giving an energetic performance the night before, the bassist was still enthusiastic about the interview and luckily wide awake.

At the NAS II Air Terminal, Todd, wearing blue and white overalls with a white shirt, sat down, a bag of chips in hand, to chat and answer a few questions. The friendly blond

haired and sparkly, blue-eyed rocker was extremely down to earth and never ceased to smile.

Maria: What made you decide to do a military tour?

Todd: *We wanted to come out here and support the military troops. Our people approached the people who set up the tour for us. So, basically, we knew someone who knew someone that was able to give us the chance to do this.*

Maria: How is the tour progressing? Is it what you expected?

Todd: *It's been going really good. The*

3DD continued on page 9



Photo courtesy of AIAS

Capt. Bitar, NASSIG XO, with safety award presenter Dr. Ing. Giancarlo Bianchi.

New program to enrich families

By SN Michelle Watkins

Staff writer

Driving around NAS I, one can see the many changes that are taking place. All of these changes will impact Sigonella and improve the quality of life. One change that is coming in the near future is the WIC program.

WIC stands for women, infants, and children. It is a federally-funded program to help aid pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood results by providing nutrition education, monthly supplemental food and information about healthcare services and promoting breastfeeding. "It is important to note that the program will not be just handing out vouchers. Eligible participants will take part in nutritional counseling, health education and referrals,"

said Suzanne Plemons, Community Health Nurse.

According to Plemons, a goal of the program is to improve the health of pregnant women, new mothers, and their infants. A 1990 study showed that women who participated in the program during pregnancy had longer gestation periods, higher birth weights, and lower infant mortality.

In order to qualify for WIC, recipients must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be a member of the Armed Forces, or a U.S. Citizen employee of a U.S. military department, or a U.S. citizen of a DOD contractor, or a dependent.
2. Household income must fall below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income guidelines.
3. Have an identified "nutritional risk". This includes: anemia, underweight, maternal age, history of pregnancy complications, poor pregnancy outcome, poor eating habits or inadequate dietary patterns. Included in the categories are women who are pregnant, breastfeeding (up to one year), or



Nutrition Services and Administrative (NSA) costs include nutrition education, preventative and coordination services (such as health care), and promotion of breastfeeding and immunization

postpartum (up to six months), infants up to the age of one, and children from the first to the fifth birthday.

Financial eligibility will be verified by LES and pay stubs, however some military income will be excluded. Once a person meets the qualifications, a WIC representative decides if there is a nutritional risk by taking a medical history, doing physical assessment (height, weight, and

WIC continued on page 8

Inside this Edition

Direct Line... page 2

Italian News... page 4

Sig Pride... pages 8

AFN Lineup... page 10

Sig Sports... page 12

Il Mercato... pages 14 & 15

Italian phrase of the week...

Sono sposato e ho bambini.



(I am married and I have children)

SECURITY BLOTTER



*Helping make the
community aware*

CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE 624-6389

Oct. 7 - Oct. 14

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

Traffic accidents without injuries - 17

Traffic accident with injuries - 4

Car break-ins - 1

DUI - 3

DUI's 2002 - 26

DUI's 2001 - 33

The

Signature

The *Signature* editorial office is located at:

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

PSC 812 Box 3020

FPO AE 09627.

Telephone: 095-86-5440; DSN 624-5440

Commanding Officer

Capt. Timothy L. Davison

Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Steve Curry

Deputy Public Affairs Officer

Alberto Lunetta

Asst. Public Affairs Officer

JO1 Craig Coleman

Editor

JO3 Jay Price

Staff Writer

SN Michelle Watkins

This civilian enterprise (CE) newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services overseas. Contents of *The Signature* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the United States Navy. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or *City Crier, Inc.*, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. *The Signature* is published weekly by *City Crier, Inc.*, PSC 812 Box 3020, Shawn Kelley, Publisher. Telephone: 349-391-6027. Editorial submissions are welcomed from all NAS Sigonella departments, divisions and tenant commands. Editorial submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs Office via e-mail at any of the addresses located below the staff's names, guard mail stop #68 or hand-delivered no later than close of business Friday preceding expected publication date. All advertisements in this publication are the property of *City Crier, Inc.* Any reproduction of advertisements in *The Signature* is unauthorized without the written consent of the publisher.



Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG
Commanding Officer



Happy Birthday Shipmates! I must say we look pretty good for being 227 years old. We might be a year older but I assure you we are a much wiser Navy. We have been through a lot over the last year or so and we are doing a fantastic job at what we do.

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on Oct. 13, 1775 by authorizing the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America.

In the Secretary of the Navy's birthday message, he states:

"As we honor the birth of the United States Navy, we are a nation at war. Our Nation's strong and decisive response to the terrorist acts of Sept. 11 has demonstrated America's patriotism and resolve to the entire world. Nowhere has that duty to Country been more evident than in our Navy and Marine Corps.

President Bush, in his words to Sailors and Marines following those strikes declared, "You were among the first to fight in the first war of the 21st century. You were ready. You performed with skill and honor. And you have made your nation proud."

President Bush had it exactly right - and on behalf of our commander in chief, I salute you."

What a powerful statement of appreciation from our leadership about how we conduct our business on the land and on the seas. The Navy and Marine Corps team has always been prepared through our entire history to engage the enemy both abroad and on our shores.

At NAS Sigonella, we are committed and determined in our resolve in this war on terrorism. We are here to provide the logistical support that is needed to keep the fleet running and our forces serving overseas prepared for this battle. We fight the fight and keep watch over our nation, our families and our fellow shipmates. We stand ready for the call.

So, Happy Birthday Shipmates! Thank you for what you do. God bless you, the Navy and our great Nation.

The Pulse

New HPV awareness tool

A replacement for the Pap Smear

Article courtesy of USNH Sigonella

The Pap smear is an important part of preventative healthcare, and by extension, force readiness. They are required annually for all active duty women and are recommended annually for all sexually active women and all women over age 18. Navy medical facilities process almost 250,000 Pap smears per year.

New FDA Approved Test. Until very recently, the preparation of the Pap smear has changed little since its inception in the early 1940's.

Within the last few years, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved two new methods of preparing Pap smears that promise to reduce some of the shortcomings of conventional Pap smears. These two methods are generically referred to as liquid-based cytology (LBC) (also known by brand names such as ThinPrep®). In addition, the FDA recently approved a new test to detect the presence of the Human Papilloma Virus in cervical samples.

This test promises to greatly improve the management of patients with smears that fall into the "gray area" (the technical term for these smears is "ASCUS").

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV): the not so good, the bad and the ugly. You may have heard of "HPV" before. The Human Papilloma Virus is a virus that is transmitted by unprotected sexual intercourse. There are many viral strains. Low-grade strains can cause "venereal warts" or "genital warts" (condyloma). However, more important is that the high-grade strains can cause a serious precancerous condition called high-grade dysplasia. If high-grade dysplasia is not treated, it can lead to potentially fatal cancer of the uterine cervix (the portion of the womb that connects to the vagina).

Benefits to patients. What is ASCUS? ASCUS refers to cellular changes seen by the pathologist during microscopic examination that are not clear as to whether they are reactive changes (for example, due to an inflammatory process) or due to HPV viral changes. ASCUS slides are a large source of repeat clinic visits for follow-up examinations.

Because this new method has improved accuracy, it can help better sort out these "gray area" cases, and that reduces the need for repeat office visits and repeat procedures. Besides sorting out cases between those of high versus low concern, the LBC method helps reduce the number of unsatisfactory or marginally satisfactory slides.

The pathologist is able to essentially see all of the cells (rather than have many cells hidden from view, as in thick traditional smears). The patient can be assured that a normal smear really is normal.

A New Standard of Care? LBC is one of the emerging methods to better test for, prevent, and treat cases of cervical cancer. This new method is part of USNH Sigonella's systematic program for early detection and prevention of cervical cancer using the most modern and up to date screening methods; it is currently being implemented beginning Sept. 30, 2002.

From the patient's perspective, the experience of the new Pap smear procedure will not seem any different. Also, USNH Sigonella currently is setting up its own cytology lab (which will improve "turn-around time" from doctor visit to availability of test results). When in-house processing begins, they will be processed using the state-of-the-art LBC method.



NJP Results

An E-4 was found guilty of conspiracy, false official statement, property other than military property of the United States-waste, spoilage, or destruction, and false swearing. The member was awarded 60 days restriction, forfeiture of \$758 pay per month for two months (one month suspended for six months), and reduction in rate (suspended six months).

An E-3 was found guilty of disrespect toward a superior commissioned officer and disorderly conduct, drunkenness. The member was awarded 60 days restriction, forfeiture of \$619 pay per month for two months, and reduction in rate.

An E-2 was found guilty of disorderly conduct, drunkenness and indecent language. The member was awarded 60 days restriction, forfeiture of \$552 pay per month for two months, and reduction in rate.

An E-2 was found guilty of false official statement, drunk on duty, and assault consummated by a battery. The member was awarded 45 days restriction, forfeiture of \$511 pay per month for two months, reduction in rate, and extra duties for 45 days.

An E-2 was found guilty of failure to go to appointed place of duty, property other than military property of the United States, and disorderly conduct, drunkenness. The member was awarded 60 days restriction, forfeiture of \$619 pay per month for one month, and reduction in rate (suspended six months).

An E-2 was found guilty of assault consummated by a battery and awarded 30 days restriction, forfeiture of \$619 pay per month for one month, reduction in rate (suspended six months), and extra duties for 30 days.

Births

October 5, 2002

Carey and Thomas Monaghan
Gavin Thomas Monaghan
21 ½ inches, 8 pounds 7 ounces

October 6, 2002

Cristina and Lance Voss
Brandon Lance Voss
19 ½ inches, 7 pounds 3 ounces



Tortilla Croutons

By Bea Cook

Contributing writer

Cooking spray
6 corn or flour tortillas (cut into narrow strips)
1-teaspoon ground cumin
½ teaspoon chili powder
½ teaspoon granulated garlic

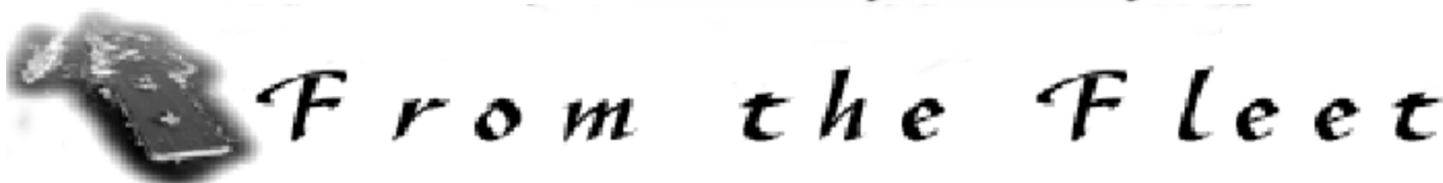
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 C). Spray a baking sheet lightly with cooking spray. Combine tortilla strips, cumin, chili powder and garlic in a bowl. Toss well. Spread strips on prepared baking sheet. Bake until crispy, about 20 minutes.

S.A.F.

Dogs: 2
Cats: 1
Puppies: 4
Kittens: 2



Call 624-3200 for the Stray Animal Facility if you are looking for a particular animal (i.e. Breed, size, color or age).



From the Fleet


USS George Washington in preparation to Exercise Destined Glory.
A US Navy photo

Naval Forces participate in Exercise Destined Glory

By Chief Journalist (SW) Jason Chudy
Navy Region Europe Public Affairs

NAPLES, Italy (NNS) — More than 5,000 crewmembers from USS George Washington (CVN 73), Carrier Air Wing 17 and four other Navy ships are currently taking part in NATO exercise Destined Glory 2002 off the western and southern coasts of Italy.

Destined Glory runs through Oct. 15 and includes Naval, air and land forces totaling 61 ships, 100 aircraft and more than 8,000 personnel from 12 nations. It is NATO's largest Mediterranean amphibious exercise.

"Any time U.S. forces have the opportunity to operate with our NATO allies in a multinational environment ... it not only enhances our own inherent capability but enhances our ability to work in a coalition," said Vice Adm. Scott Fry, who serves as the commander of NATO's Naval Striking and Support Forces Southern Europe and the U.S. Sixth Fleet. "The real benefit of NATO forces exercising together is the ability to rapidly bring these forces together when required to go to sea in real-world operations."

From Spanish landing ship Castilla's bridge on the day of the exercise's kickoff, French, British and Spanish warships were spread out through Naples Bay, including the aircraft carriers HMS Ark Royal and Spanish Principe de Asturias. The ships were in port for a pre-sail brief then headed back into the Tyrrhenian and Ionian seas at the end of the weekend.

The warships are operating in a number of different battle groups. One multinational amphibious task force is sailing to a landing site at Capo Teulada in southern Sardinia and another near Monte Romano north of Rome. Once ashore, the forces will conduct live fire exercises at nearby ranges.

Fry said that Destined Glory 2002 has been in the planning phase for about a year.

"I cannot over-emphasize the complexity of this exercise," he said during a press conference on Castilla. "Not only are we bringing together Navy, Air force and Army units to create a joint force, but we are doing this with 12 different nations."

Destined Glory is an annual exercise in its sixth year. Last year's exercise was cut short when some of the participating units were reassigned to the eastern Mediterranean in support of NATO's invoking its mutual defense article after the Sept. 11 attacks on the U.S.

Navy announces implementation of CWO5

By Chief of Naval Personnel, Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5 (CWO5) is now a reality in the Navy, a move that provides the Navy with an opportunity to grow a more technical force to meet the demands of today's more technical Navy.

By law the total number of authorized CWO5 billets may not exceed five percent of the total number of CWO billets. The Navy expects to phase in 84 CWO5 billets over the next five years beginning with the FY04 promotion cycle. No additional billets will be created as a result of this implementation, as the CWO5 positions will be drawn from the current warrant officer billet base.

"Chief warrant officers are the foremost technical experts in the Navy," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. "Keeping these highly skilled, talented leaders serving longer helps the Navy increase its talent pool and provides this dedicated community more opportunity to serve."

The implementation aligns Navy CWOs serving in joint duty billets with their service counterparts. Also, CWO5 provides senior leaders the authority commensurate with the responsibilities they have in certain key assignments.

Retaining these highly trained, educated and experienced officers at the very time that they are poised to make valuable contributions to the Navy underscores the need for CWO5.

"The original idea of the CWO Program was to retain us for 30 years," said CWO4 William Bailey, training and operations officer, Naval Construction Training Center, Gulfport, Miss. "Currently, CWO4's have topped out by their 20 or 22 year mark. Promotion to CWO5 is great incentive to stay for 30 years."

The bottom line to adding CWO5 is providing technical experience and leadership at a time when the Navy needs these skills and attributes most. It will enhance combat readiness in the Fleet as well as be a boost to the entire CWO community.

"CWO5s will be used to provide enhanced training, technical expertise and operational experience for sea duty billets," said Cmdr. John Fahling, limited duty and warrant officer community manager for the chief of naval personnel. "Their extraordinary technical leadership and experience will be a great asset to the Fleet."

Refer to NAVADMIN 337/02 for more details on CWO5 implementation, available on the Web at www.bupers.navy.mil, under Messages.

'Tricare for life' celebrates first anniversary

Special News Release from the Department of Defense

WASHINGTON (NNS) — This month, "Tricare For Life" celebrates its first anniversary of providing wraparound coverage to more than 1.5 million Medicare-eligible military retirees, family members and survivors.

"These new health care benefits have dramatically improved the quality of life for our Medicare-eligible retirees and their families," said Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs and director, Tricare Management Activity. "In our first year, we have received over 30 million claims, and paid out more than \$1.7 billion in health care benefits."

Beneficiaries have written letters of thanks and admiration for the new program. One of Tricare For Life's earliest users, Lucille Rutkowski, said the program gave her the will to go on after being diagnosed with breast cancer.

With Tricare For Life, Rutkowski was able to concentrate on getting well while the automatic cross-over between her Medicare and Tricare claims took care of the financial aspects of her care.

"The 'behind-the-scenes' story that ensured a successful implementation of this program was the unprecedented cooperation and mutual assistance between the government, the private sector companies that help deliver Tricare benefits and the beneficiary associations who are in regular communication with their members," stated Winkenwerder.

Eligibility and claims processing issues were quickly identified by the beneficiary groups, communicated to the government, and resolved.

The Department of Defense conducted a recent survey of Tricare For Life users to find out how they were receiving information about their health benefits and if these sources were helpful.

The number-one source of Tricare For Life information was the beneficiary letter that DoD mailed prior to the program start date (according to 85 percent of respondents).

Uniformed services publications were the number-two source for health benefits information, followed by the Tricare For Life telephone help line, civilian publications, beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinators, Medicare and the Social Security Administration, health care providers and the Tricare Web site.

The majority of respondents rated most of these sources as "very helpful."

According to Winkenwerder, "The Tricare For Life program and the partnerships it generated are now benchmarks for DoD program success - and perfectly complement the Tricare Senior Pharmacy Program, which was implemented April 1, 2001."

In its first year of operation, the Tricare Senior Pharmacy Program filled 11.6 million prescriptions with low-out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs for Medicare-eligible DoD beneficiaries age 65 and over.

For beneficiary Clarence Creel, who uses both Tricare For Life and the Tricare Senior Pharmacy Program, his annual saving on health care premiums and prescriptions tops \$6,000.

As Tricare For Life enters its second year of operation, Tricare Management Activity is making continued efforts to reach beneficiaries who may not know of the rich benefits and potential savings available to them.

For more information on the program, interested parties are encouraged to call 1-888-DoD-LIFE (1-888-363-5433), or visit the Tricare Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/tfl.

Tricareonline.com arrives World-Wide this month

By TRICARE Management Office Public Affairs
CYBERSPACE (NNS)

Starting October 2002, tricareonline.com will be implemented, in phases, at all military treatment facilities worldwide. It will offer Department of Defense (DoD) beneficiaries, managers and providers an array of interactive features and capabilities that are accessible anytime from any laptop or personal computer. Some features are available now for all beneficiaries, such as a personal health journal, symptom checker, prescription checker, 18 million pages of consumer health information, disease management tools, and TRICARE claims and benefits information.

The first wave of interactive capabilities that TRICARE is implementing with this phase-in are available only for TRICARE Prime, Plus and special category patient beneficiaries who will have access to features such as online appointment scheduling with their MTF primary care managers. More interactive capabilities will be added over the next year, such as prescription refills and renewals and scheduling for a broader range of specialty and clinic appointments. Requests for routine tests and limited patient-to-provider e-mail also will be forthcoming in 2003.

Tricareonline.com is one of the most significant changes in the military health system since the creation of TRICARE itself. As a dot-com, it is accessible from any personal computer or laptop in the world with an Internet connection. Once fully deployed, all TRICARE patient, provider and manager transactions will be routed through a single, secure, electronic portal. By linking 8.7 million beneficiaries, managers and providers, tricareonline.com is the largest program of its kind in military and civilian health care.

Beta testing of tricareonline.com recently was completed in Regions 1 (National Capitol Area), 9 and 11 and Germany. Provider and beneficiary responses exceeded expectations. The program is designed to be intuitive and is easy to navigate, even for new Internet users. The sophistication of the style, features and capabilities moves TRICARE to a new level. Beneficiaries not located in the regional areas listed above should check with their local MTFs within the next several months for their projected TRICARE Online implementation date.

For more information, click on www.tricareonline.com or call the Worldwide TRICARE Information Center toll free at 866-DoD-EWEB (866-363-3932).



Schedule changes for AMC

The CAT B, which brings many servicemembers to Sigonella and takes many back home when they transfer, has a new schedule. The CAT B now brings new Sigonellans to the base on Mondays and makes the return flight to the U.S. on Tuesdays. "According to the old schedule, it came on Friday and left on Saturday," said YN1 Alvin Blue, Fleet and Military Passenger Assistant.

The Monday flight from the U.S. arrives early in the morning; the return flight leaves even earlier Tuesday morning with check in two hours prior. But passengers can leave the terminal after check in. "If you do leave, be sure you're back in the terminal before the departure time," said Blue. "And let somebody know you're leaving so that they can get you if you're needed earlier."

With new Sailors arriving, their sponsors are close at hand. "Most sponsors show up early," said Blue. "They wait for their sponsored in the arrival area. Sometimes they need help finding the person they're here to pick up." Once sponsors and sponsored are together, there may be more questions. The most common, according to Blue, is "Where's the nearest ATM?"

For the answer to more difficult questions log on to www.spaceattravel.com, or call the AMC Terminal at 624-5575.

Substitutes Needed

Stephen Decatur High School needs qualified substitute teachers for Middle School and High School. Interested people should have some experience with teaching or experience as a teacher's aid.

Military spouses are welcome to apply. U.S. Citizenship and a high school diploma are required for employment. Applications are available year round. Everyone interested should contact Maria Bailey at 624-4285 or fax 624-3248.

DEFY Meeting

The DEFY Phase II October Gathering in the Stephen Decatur cafeteria. Lunch will be served during the meeting and there will be a variety of activities for everyone. For more information please contact UTC Bender at 624-6880 or HM2 Powers at 624-4844.

Haunted House

Public Works is having a Haunted House at NAS I in the old Adventures Unlimited Bldg. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers, soda, and beer on site. Children ages seven and below are welcome from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. for \$1.50. All are welcome from 6 p.m. to midnight for \$3. Donations go toward the command's MWR fund.



NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass

Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41st Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Worship

Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 11 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 6 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Latter Day Saints

Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ

Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays

Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m.
(NAS I & II Chapels)
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study 4:45 p.m.
(NAS II Chapel)
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-2947.

By Alberto Lunetta
Community Relations

Italian News

SICILIAN CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

Fiat workers protest layoffs

As *La Sicilia* reported last week, thousands of Fiat workers have been protesting over a massive and drastic restructuring plan that would mean the loss of 8,100 jobs throughout Italy.

In Sicily, the *Termini Imerese* factory near Palermo, which produces the *Punto*, will be closing down and about 1,800 workers will be out of work.

This announced restructuring would not only be a disaster for the economy of the island but also a tragedy for many families that have only a single income.

Fiat announced that the restructuring would only last a year but workers are afraid they won't get their jobs back.

Many of them have been working for over 20 years and they know that it would be very difficult to get another job in Sicily where the unemployment rate is high and companies tend to hire people younger than 40 years old.

Fiat wants to offer workers a special unemployment fund called *Cassa Integrazione* that is designed to guarantee workers who work on reduced hours or are temporary "suspended" (owing to company crisis) the payment of their remuneration up to a limit of 80 percent through restructuring.

During this period, employees' salaries are paid by the employer and reimbursed by the State.

Workers have been putting heavy pressure both on the company management and the Italian government to reverse the decision.

Sicilian unions have been staging a series of strikes, rallies and roadblocks that have been affecting the viability in the Palermo area, especially highway's entrances and exits.

Umberto Agnelli, head of the Agnelli family

which owns *Fiat*, said it is "a sad but necessary restructuring plan."

Fiat is a leading Italian car company comprising *Alfa-Romeo* and *Lancia* brands and *Ferrari* (90 percent owned) that employs the majority of the private-sector workers in Italy. Fiat is also 20 percent owned by General Motors.

A troubled industrial group, Fiat suffered significant financial losses this year in its automobile division.

Several secondary smaller companies dependent on Fiat factories will also face crisis.

"We are trying to find an alternative solution that doesn't leave thousands of Italians without jobs," said Premier Silvio Berlusconi.

First female Italian Coast Guard Officer

As reported last week in *La Sicilia*, Lt. j.g. Flavia La Spada made history becoming the first female Italian Coast Guard Officer on active duty in Sicily.

Twenty-eight year old La Spada was assigned to the *Capitaneria di Porto* (Coast Guard) Public Works Office in Porto Empedocle, a small town located near Agrigento.

Porto Empedocle is a strategic Coast Guard base that is actively committed in coping with clandestine immigrants.

"I chose this wonderful career because it is challenging and exciting, and I suggest other girls to enlist in the uniformed services as well.

Many people characterize military personnel as severe and inflexible.

On the contrary, I believe that service members enjoy a considerable degree of flexibility and creativity," said La Spada.

A native of Rome, La Spada is born into a mili-

tary family as she is the daughter of a senior Carabinieri Officer and is married to a Carabinieri Captain who is in charge of the Carabinieri Station in Agrigento.

She resolved to join the Coast guard after living for a couple of years in Sicily and she attended the Livorno Naval Academy in Tuscany.

Religious festival in Capo d'Orlando

On Oct. 22., a religious festival will be held in Capo d' Orlando, a beautiful town on the Tyrrhenian Sea in the Messina province. Beginning in the early morning, devotees will walk up to the sanctuary located on a promontory that hosts a little silver statue depicting the Virgin Mary.

The cult of this Madonna dates back to the 17th century when, according to legend, on the night of Oct. 22, 1598, two brothers saw a pilgrim (whom they later identified as Saint Cono) leaving a small box containing a statue of the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus.

The statue was taken to the nearby village of Naso, but violent earthquakes and other "divine signs" induced people to believe that it had to return to the Capo d' Orlando's Sanctuary.

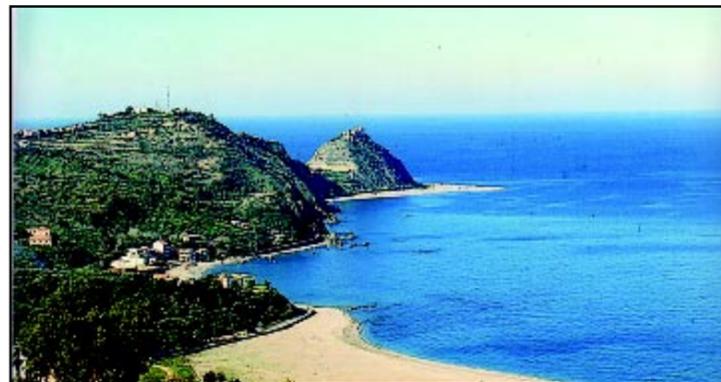


Photo courtesy of Capo d'Orlando Tourist Office

On Oct. 22., Capo d'Orlando, beautiful coastal town on the Tyrrhenian Sea in the Messina province, will host a religious festival that dates back to the 17th century. Since early morning, devotees will walk up to the sanctuary located on a promontory that hosts a little silver statue depicting the Virgin Mary. A fair featuring food and arts and crafts is open throughout the day. Fireworks are performed in the evening.

Holy mass is held at noon. A fair featuring food and arts and crafts is open throughout the day.

Fireworks are performed in the evening. For more info call Capo d' Orlando Tourist Office at 0941-902822.

Arancino festival in Pedara

On Oct. 19-20, Pedara will host a festival celebrating the Sicilian Arancino, a tasty fried rice ball filled with ragu, cheese, chicken, salmon or spinach and more. On Oct. 19, booths will be open at 6 p.m. in the Villa Comunale (public gardens). Later at 8 p.m., there will be a Latin-American performance. On Oct. 20, stands will open at 10 a.m. There will be a music show at 8 p.m. that night.

3DD

continued from front page

Sailors have been treating us really well. It is surprising seeing the military from this point of view and what you guys do day in, day out. It really makes you think differently. I now think differently of the military than I did before this tour. The tour is going great. I mean it's been a little rough, you know, two of the guys are sick, but it's been fun.

Maria: There is a song called "Not Be Forgotten" that you are playing on this tour, but last night I noticed a song called "Taliban" on the set list taped to the stage, is that the same song?

Todd: Yeah! Brad originally titled it "Taliban". So we stuck with that for the set list. We won't release that song on the next CD. We wrote that song after 9-11 for you military people. It's great cause now that we're doing this tour we can play it for you guys. But, yeah, we won't release the song cause some people may misunderstand its meaning.

Maria: I'm sure a lot of people are curious to know how the band got it's name. Is it true that you guys came up with it when you drove by an abandoned building with DOORS DOWN painted on it?

Todd: Yeah, we were driving down this road, I think we were going to go shop for clothes or something. We were having such a hard time coming up with a name. I mean we just couldn't think of anything. So, yeah, we drove by this building and it was all broke down. There was only three of us then. So I said, "Hey, guys how about 3 Doors Down?" And they were like, "Yeah, all right." Well, the name just stuck after that.

Maria: As group what inspires you to get on the stage and rock?

Todd: The fans! Definitely the fans. They keep it real for us so we're keeping it real for them. It's just a great feeling. I mean, I must have played "Kryptonite" a thousand times but it's amazing the response we get, it's just great.

Maria: With Brad Arnold (lead vocalist) writing the lyrics, how do you come together to create the song?

Todd: We get together, all together, and

sit down, look at what Brad has written. Then we write our perspective parts, put our own ideas up and work with that. All of our songs tell a story. We each have something to bring and put into the mix. We take that and just mix it all up and there's the song.

Maria: What kind of new sound can we expect to hear on the new CD (*Away From The Sun*)? How did the producer, Rick Parashar (Nickelback and Pearl Jam), influence you?

Todd: Definitely a more mature sound. Rick is great. His knowledge really added to the new CD. It's just great how he spruced up some of the songs. He really knew how to work with the sound because of his experience from working with other bands before. The CD drops on Nov. 12 and there's the internet; you can get anything from the internet fast.

Maria: After all of the tours you have done so far do you guys still get pre-show jitters?

Todd: Usually no. But the other night when we played at the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON I was really nervous. We were right there on the flight deck but, you know, you get on the stage and strike that first cord, man, and it's all good from there.

Maria: What do you have planned after the completion of this tour?

Todd: Well, we'll be going back to the United States to do some press up in New York. Then we'll be getting ready for another tour which starts, I think around the end of November. It'll be a US tour.

Maria: When did you know the music gig was for you? Did you have other plans and just fall into this or was this what you were going for?

Todd: Well, we've just always done this. We love to do this. It wasn't planned. When we were signed on for a record deal we weren't hunting for it. It just happened. We love to jam and we were doing just that when this opportunity came along. Then "Kryptonite" exploded and we just went from there.

Maria: Well, thank you and good luck. Enjoy your trip.

Todd: Oh no problem, this was great. I hope to come back and play for you guys again!



Photo by Maria Greger

Matt Roberts is 3 Doors Down's lead guitarist. Above he shows his talent during the live show on NAS II.



Friday, Oct. 18 Saturday, Oct. 19 Sunday, Oct. 20 Monday, Oct. 21 Tuesday, Oct. 22 Wednesday, Oct. 23 Thursday, Oct. 24

Week at a glance

Week at a glance

For information...

HOROSCOPES

ARIES: You can enjoy your involvement in organizations that make charitable contributions. Things may not be as harmonious as you would like with colleagues or employers this week. Your ideas are good and career moves can be realized. Pleasure trips will be favorable and bring about possible romance.

TAURUS: You may meet that special person if you attend fundraising functions. Look into events that you might find interesting, and compromise by doing a few things that you both like to do. Problems with relatives and friends could surface. Travel if it's needed to start the ball rolling.

GEMINI: You will tend to overeat this week. Don't expect anyone else to pay your bills for you. Any intimate relationships with colleagues will lead to gossip that could easily affect your position. Think about your priorities.

CANCER: Don't be too quick to blame others for your bad mood. Your moneymaking opportunities will flourish. Be sure to take time for old friends or relatives you don't get to see that often. Resist any idle chatter.

LEO: You will get out of shape easily if you don't keep on top of things. Get ready to discover love, passion, and the desire to enjoy all that life has to offer. Travel will initiate new friendships or love connections. Try not to overspend on friends or family.

VIRGO: Minor fevers or infections will develop if you're over-stressed. Make arrangements to spend quality time together with a loved one. You may come down with minor infections if you have allowed yourself to get rundown. This will not be the time to give too much to your children.

LIBRA: Secret affairs could cause upset. Try to avoid serious discussions with loved ones. You can put in some overtime and make extra cash. Consider a trial separation if you and your mate just can't come to terms.

SCORPIO: A friendship might suffer if money becomes an issue. This is probably causing upset and confusion on the home front. Don't let any money slip through your fingers this week. Be sure that you have all the facts before you take action.

SAGITTARIUS: If you haven't already, consider starting your own business. Follow your gut feeling regarding your business ventures. Be prepared to step into the limelight if you wish to promote your ambitions. Trying to deal with your mate will be unproductive and possibly hurtful.

CAPRICORN: Don't let your emotions interfere with your efficiency. You might not be as reserved on an emotional level as you'd like. You may have difficulties with in-laws or family members. You can't lock your partner up and if you keep restricting their freedom you may be left out in the cold.

AQUARIUS: Don't let others bully you into agreeing with them. You will be popular with acquaintances; however, loved ones could feel left out and insecure. Friends may not understand your situation. Try not to overspend on friends or family.

PISCES: You're in the mood to spend money. You can make new connections if you play your cards right. Don't get involved in secret affairs or underhanded involvements. You can get good solid advice from relatives or close friends you trust.



THE MOVIE CONNECTION



Theater Schedule

Friday, Oct. 18

5:30 p.m.: The Adventures of Pluto Nash (PG-13)
8 p.m.: Serving Sara (PG-13)**

10 p.m.: Signs (PG-13)

Saturday, Oct. 19

11 a.m.: The Master of Disguise (PG)
2 p.m.: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG)**

4:30 p.m.: Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13)

7 p.m.: Blood Work (R)

9:30 p.m.: XXX (PG-13)

Sunday, Oct. 20

1 p.m.: The Country Bears (G)

3:30 p.m.: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG)

6 p.m.: Serving Sara (PG-13)

Monday, Oct. 21

5:30 p.m.: Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13)

8 p.m.: Blood Work (R)

Tuesday, Oct. 22

5:30 p.m.: Signs (PG-13)

8 p.m.: Serving Sara (PG-13)

Wednesday, Oct. 23

5:30 p.m.: XXX (PG-13)

8 p.m.: The Adventures of Pluto Nash (PG-13)

Thursday, Oct. 24

5:30 p.m.: The Master of Disguise (PG)

8 p.m.: Austin Powers in Goldmember

Friday, Oct. 25

5:30 p.m.: XXX (PG-13)

8 p.m.: Blue Crush (PG-13)**

10 p.m.: Blood Work (R)

Saturday, Oct. 26

11 a.m.: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG)

2 p.m.: The Adventures of Pluto Nash (PG-13)

4:30 p.m.: Blue Crush (PG-13)

7 p.m.: Serving Sara (PG-13)

9:30 p.m.: Signs (PG-13)

Sunday, Oct. 27

1 p.m.: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG)

3:30 p.m.: The Master of Disguise (PG)

6 p.m.: Simone (PG-13)**

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing, (PNO- no children admitted)
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at 624-4248).

Blue Crush (Rated PG-13)

Nothing gets between Anne Marie and her board. Living in a beach shack with three roommates including her rebellious younger sister, she is up before dawn every morning to conquer the waves and count the days until the Rip Masters surf competition. Having transplanted herself to Hawaii with no one's blessing but her own, Anne Marie finds all she needs in the adrenaline-charged surf scene, until pro quarterback Matt Tollman comes along. Like it or not, Anne Marie starts losing her balance and finding it as she falls for Matt. Cast: Michelle Rodriguez, Matthew Davis, Kate Bosworth.

Simone (Rated PG-13)

Al Pacino plays a movie director whose leading actress suddenly drops out of his latest film. Without letting the public know, he uses a revolutionary program to replace the actress with a fully computer-generated starlet, named Simone, partially played by newcomer Rachel Roberts. As audiences worldwide are swept up by her instant success, he cannot bear to admit his fraud to the world or to himself, hiding her "true identity" from the prying press and studio brass, until his invention threatens to ruin his life. Cast: Al Pacino, Winona Ryder, Rachel Roberts II.

TRIVIA

How many different ways can the first four moves of chess be played?
What city has hosted the most presidential conventions?
How many inches are in a mile?
90 percent of all species that became extinct were which type of animal?
In Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First?" routine, which position was not mentioned?
(Answers on page 7)

Best Sellers-- Espresso Makers



DeLonghi BC0110 Cafe Figaro
Briel Sintra Espresso
Krups 985-42IL Cafe Duomo
Briel Multi-Pro Stainless
DeLonghi BC070 Cafe Nabucco



They did what? Pruning!

When I was seventeen, I pruned the future of my own family tree. Some friends and I had heard that you can make a plastic two-liter bottle explode by using dry ice and water to create pressure inside the capped bottle. We gathered up as many plastic soda bottles as we could, obtained dry ice from the icehouse, and planned targets for this particular brand of mayhem. After the first 'dry ice bomb' had gone off, we were left disappointed with the length of time it took to actually blow. One idea was to use warm water to drive a faster reaction with the dry ice. This created a more reasonable time, but we became greedy. Instead of warm water, we made it hot, thinking to get it to explode even faster! Yours truly was the one to try it. I added ice, poured scalding hot water into the bottle, and capped the 'bomb.'

I recall an immediate ringing in my ears, and blood, and plastic shards. Due to the way I had been cradling the bottle, my groin and thighs took most of the damage from plastic shrapnel. At the age of thirty, I still have many scars to remind me, not to mention the fact I still cannot have children!

Off the Rack!

Scooby-Doo

The childhood team comes to life, as real stars become Mystery Inc. Fred (Freddy Prince Jr.), Daphne (Sarah Michelle Gellar), Velma (Linda Cardellini), Shaggy (Matthew Lillard) and an animated Scooby-Doo team together to solve the Spooky Island Amusement Park haunting.

Each carries the same one-dimensional clichés of their character, as Velma put it to Daphne, "You come with your own ransom note," and Fred's ego is as strong as ever, "I do a tremendous amount of teamwork." As the phrase "Jinkies" seemed to be a little over used, the whole movie seemed as if it were a normal episode of Scooby-Doo.

What episode would be without the famous moving eyes in the picture frames, or Shaggy and Scooby inevitably walking into a kitchen in the middle of a dungeon? How about the savory Scooby-Snacks?

This movie was perfect and even had the guest appearance of Scrappy-Doo too. The only part of the story I didn't like was that they didn't do the full explanation of how they found the bad guy, solving the mystery by all the clues they had gathered, then de-masking the villain.

The oddity in this episode, and I refer to it as an episode because of the innate realism of the characters, is that in each cartoon the gang proved there was no such things as goblins, ghouls or ghosts, and for some reason this episode had to prove it wrong with a supernatural plot of side villains.

Out of all the actors, I have to commend Matthew Lillard for his amazing characterization. Lillard, who was gifted enough to look similar to Shaggy, was able to imitate the rolling walk and bobbing head and was able to express the relationship that Shaggy and Scooby had with one another. Lillard would also scream as loud as he could before each take to match the scratchy voice, he later wound up with laryngitis. I commend him for his efforts.

This is a great movie, errr... episode; I don't think anyone should miss it.

By JO3 Jay Price

WIC

continued from front page

blood work), and reviewing a 24-hour diet recall. Once eligible recipients get nutritional counseling and vouchers for food. Foods that are included in the WIC program are targeted at specific nutrients, such as protein, vitamin C and A, iron and niacin. Vouchers will be provided for up to three months at a time and may be redeemed only at the commissary. Different vouchers and packages are provided for different categories of participants. Special infant formulas and certain foods may be provided when prescribed by a physician or health professional for specific medical conditions.

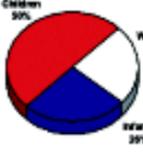
WIC participants who move can continue to receive WIC benefits until the certification period expires as long as there is proof that they received WIC benefits in another area or state. They are able to do this by showing their verification of certification (VOC) given to them by WIC personnel.

WIC is only a short-term program. Those using WIC graduate at the end of one or more certification periods, the time they are eligible to receive benefits. Depending on whether the participant is pregnant, postpartum, breastfeeding, an infant, or a child, the eligible individual usually receives WIC benefits from six months to up to a year. Participants can reapply after this period.

“Studies have shown that the WIC program improves the health/nutritional status of participants. The goals of the program are for healthier moms and children which translates into a healthier Sigonella community,” said Plemons. WIC is set to start Nov. 22 in the Old Flight Line Clinic.

- More than 7 million people get WIC benefits each month.
 - Participation has risen steadily since the program began.
 - In 1974, the first year WIC was permanently authorized, 88,000 people participated. By 1980, participation was at 1.9 million; by 1985 it was 3.1 million; and by 1990 it was 4.5 million.
 - Average monthly participation for Fiscal Year 1999 was over 7.3 million.

3.7 million were children
1.9 million were infants
1.7 million were women.



- Children have always been the largest category of WIC participants.

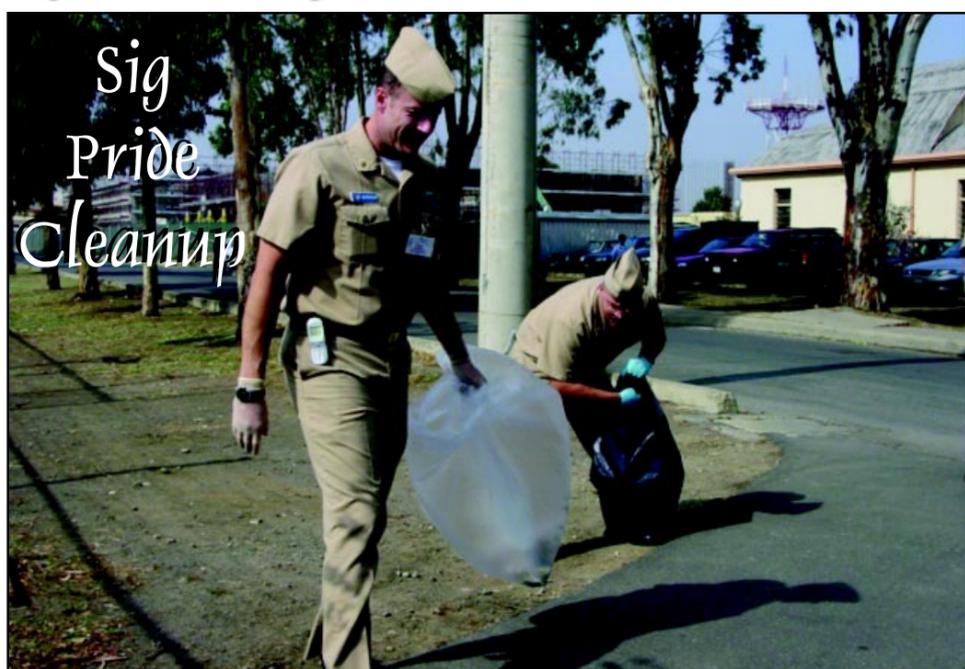


Photo by JO1 Craig Coleman

PCC Bradly Morrison of NASSIG Supply and the Fleet Mail Center (left) and SKC Jimmy James of NASSIG Supply Systems were two of the many Sigonellans who participated in the first Sigonella Pride Day Oct. 9. Every department and tenant command on base was represented during this unprecedented campaign to clean up our work and home environments. Military members were not the only people to don the plastic gloves provided by the base Safety Dept. Students from Steven Decatur Elementary School also joined the volunteers. MWR brought the spirit of fun to the campaign with a special trash scavenger hunt, offering prizes to the people who found specially marked trash items.

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines
(Effective from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002)

ALASKA

	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
Family of 1	\$19,851	\$1,655	\$ 382
Family of 2	\$26,844	\$2,237	\$ 517
Family of 3	\$33,837	\$2,820	\$ 651
Family of 4	\$40,830	\$3,403	\$ 786
Family of 5	\$47,823	\$3,986	\$ 920
Family of 6	\$54,816	\$4,568	\$1,055
Family of 7	\$61,809	\$5,151	\$1,189
Family of 8	\$68,802	\$5,734	\$1,324
For each add'l family member, add	+6,993	+583	+135

Notes:

- To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines.
- BAH (BAQ+VHA) is subtracted from the gross pay stated on the LES when determining eligibility for military personnel.

The NEX giveth, the Chaplains taketh away

Did you ever wonder what the Navy Exchange does with returned items that can't be resold? With damaged items? Or, with marked-down items that don't sell?

NEX regulations allow some still-usable items to be transferred to only one place—to the Religious Ministries Department—for donations to bona fide charitable institutions.

Recently, a generous donation of returned or imperfect infant care items was recently transferred to the Sigonella chaplains by the Navy Exchange. All these items were provided to three local child care institu-



tions.

In this picture, some items found a welcome home at Istituto San Antonio in Caltagirone where the Suore del Sacro Cuore (Sisters of the Sacred Heart) care for more than 25 infants, toddlers and young children.

Do you have a Web site you would like to share with the community?

E-mail us at colemacl@nassig.sicily.navy.mil



By SN Michelle Watkins

Family Fun

www.family.go.com

Make your own holiday wreath and other crafts. This site hosts a craft finder, game files, beginner paint projects for kids, and much more. Look up crafts for every season, and learn how to do projects such as homemade chalk, tie dyed socks or personalized flowerpots. It also has thousands of family idea and activities, and recipes. For advice chat with craft experts.

Broncos Fan Page

www.denverbroncos.com

For all those Bronco fans, this is site for you. Find out the latest stats and check out their schedule. Scan the virtual gallery and read the player's bios and the teams history. Check out the latest coverage of games, and read feature stories. You can even take a survey or take a look at the Bronco's training camp online with photos, audio and visual capabilities.

Start Cooking

www.cooksrecipes.com/candies/carmel-recipes.html

Ever wanted to learn how to make nougat candy or taffy. Well want no more. This site has recipes from candy to even pet food. It even has recipes for diabetics. Be sure to read the cooking tips, culinary articles, and know-hows. It also has conversion, temperature charts, and more. But don't stop here; it gives you links to other sites.

Trivia Answer

- 1) 318,979,564,000 moves 2) Chicago
- 3) 63,360 inches 4) Birds 5) Right field

Check this out!



Web Extra!

Kids guide to Fido

www.geocities.com/kidsanddogs/index.html

Kids learn what it takes to take care of your dog. Find out what they are afraid of, read about good dog behavior, training behaviors, about different dog breeds and how they have different needs. Fix bad behavior problems with obedience lessons. Read dog books or poetry, look at pictures or submit your own, or take quizzes. They can also play scavenger hunt online or test their brainpower with riddles. This is the ultimate site to learn about taking care of your dog.

Seaman to Admiral the long way

By AT1 Jose Riveradavid

AIMD Public Affairs Officer

From Senior Chief Petty Officer, to Chief Warrant Officer, to Lieutenant Junior Grade. Seems like quite a move, but, it is possible and, it has been done. Recently, Lt.j.g. Jose L. Peralta, Quality Control Officer from Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD), accomplished this collection of successes. In a ceremony conducted at AIMD, CWO3 Peralta was commissioned as Lt.j.g Peralta. The move from the Chief Warrant Officer Program to the Limited Duty Officer Program within the Aviation Maintenance Field is a very difficult one. Peralta was one of only 11 chief warrant officers to be selected for this conversion throughout the Navy.

Peralta joined the Navy in January 1983 as an E-1, and since then, he has been awarded five Navy Commendation Medals, seven Navy Achievement Medals, three Good Conduct Medals, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He has also received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and is currently pursuing a Master of Science Degree in Aviation/Aerospace Maintenance.

Also recently, during the celebrations of Hispanic Heritage Month, a committee from the Personnel Support Detachment here at NAS Sigonella selected Peralta, as Hispanic Figure of the Month. According to Lt. Ricardo Arriaga, PSD Officer-In-Charge, this selection was made because "he (Peralta) is a very well liked and respected member of the Sigonella community." He was also invited as the guest speaker during a luncheon organized and coordinated by Arriaga, and YN1 Jordan at PSD. During his speech, Peralta thanked God, for the support and encouragement given to him by his wife and his two kids, which made it possible for him to reach his position of today. "Do not let closed doors stop you, do your job, do it well, and keep moving forward," shared Lt.j.g. Peralta during the luncheon celebrating his commission.

Iranian carpet ban lifted

By Robert Szostek
USEUCOM Customs PAO

MANNHEIM, GERMANY - Iran and some other countries are embargoed by the United States. However, a new dispensation allows travelers and household goods shippers to send Iranian carpets, rugs or tapestries to the United States. Iranian foods are also exempted from the embargo.

"The only condition a shipper must fulfill is that carpets, wall hangings, or tapestries must be for the shipper's personal use. They may not be for resale," said Michael L. Burkert of the USEUCOM Customs Executive Agency. He also added that many foods are banned from importation to the United States to prevent infestations of foreign pests. Iranian products still have to meet these restrictions. Meat products and fresh fruits and vegetables are of special concern to U.S. agricultural authorities. However, Burkert explained there are no agricultural restrictions on Iranian products commonly available in Europe such as dried fruits, dried nuts and caviar.

It is important not to confuse this relaxation of the Iranian embargo with sanctions against other nations, such as Iraq, Cuba, North Korea, Libya and Yugoslavia. Full details of all U.S. embargoes are available online at www.treas.gov/ofac/ from the U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Antiques can harbor unwanted guests

By Robert Szostek
USEUCOM Customs PAO

MANNHEIM, GERMANY - Antiques buyers can get more than they bargained for when buying handicrafts or furniture in antique shops, at flea markets and swap meets. "Antique furniture and decorative wooden items are sometimes infested with wood boring insects such as wood worm, termites and powder post beetles," said Delcio Rivera, the European Command's adviser from the Department of Agriculture. "Examine carefully any such item for evidence of wood borer infestation before buying it," he advises.

Taking these items home can spread the infestation to your other home furnishings. It could also mean that military customs inspectors will flag your household goods for inspection and possible fumigation by the Department of Agriculture when you move to the USA. U.S. laws ban harmful insects from entering the States that are economic or agricultural pests.

Evidence of active insect infestation includes holes or chambers on the surface that appear to be recently "excavated." Traces of wood powder or sawdust in and around such holes are further signs of infestation.

Enjoy shopping for that unique addition to your home but look for the clues that suggest you might be buying some unwanted and expensive house guests too.



Photo by PH1 Shane McCoy

Lt. Cmdr. Klas "Santa" Ohman, from aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), helps move a replica of the 1902 Wright brothers' glider from a protective tent for assembly before its final flight. Ohman is one of only three military pilots with the honor of flying the glider during the commemorative event "Return to Kitty Hawk," scheduled for the first weekend in October.

Carrier pilot learns secrets of Wright Brothers

By USS Kitty Hawk Public Affairs

JOCKEY'S RIDGE STATE PARK, N.C. (NNS) — A USS Kitty Hawk-based naval aviator completed an archeological expedition here today, retracing discoveries made by the pioneers of aviation 100 years ago.

Lt. Cmdr. Klas "Santa" Ohman, an F/A-18C Hornet aviator and Navy test pilot, completed numerous flights in the 1902 Wright brothers glider, the first aircraft to incorporate yaw, pitch and roll controls, a technology that paved the way for powered flight and aviation as it is known today.

Oct. 8, 1902 was the day the Wrights first flew their glider with three-dimensional control. The event "Return to Kitty Hawk" took place Oct. 5-8, commemorating the historic feat.

Ohman was impressed by the experience.

"The 1902 glider is challenging to fly," said Ohman, an Athens, Tenn., native. "Reenacting the flights helped us better understand the challenges the Wrights faced in their journey to develop aviation."

Joining Ohman at various times in Return to Kitty Hawk were Army AH-64A Apache pilot, Capt. Tanya Markow, Air Force Capt. Jim Alexander, an MC-130 Combat Shadow pilot and Air Force Maj. Dawn Dunlop, an F-15E Strike Eagle pilot.

Not only did the military pilots experience aviation history first hand, but their efforts were designed to further the future of the aviation industry by inspiring young people. Some 30 media outlets were on hand to help tell the story of Return to Kitty Hawk.

"I think the participation of our military pilots illustrates the commitment of our military services to our future," said Nick Engler, director of Wright Brothers' Aerospace Company, maker of the replica. "There's no doubt we created some excitement here. Our goal is to inspire the next generation of aviators to keep the country moving forward in the aviation industry."

Rediscovering the thinking and process of the aviation pioneers was enlightening for all involved, according to Ohman. "It's quite an honor to be able to show what the Wrights went through."

Engler is an aviation archeologist, based out of Dayton, Ohio. His company's mission is to educate and inspire young people to pursue aviation careers. He describes aviation archeology as a new area of academia, a subset of industrial archeology. Whereas history relies upon the written words of historians, archeology attempts to rediscover lost facts of historic events by recreating processes that occurred but may not have been completely documented.

"I could write a book from what we learned here," Engler said. "There was much the Wright brothers did not document. The coolness in the cockpit, the detailed observations that our military aviators made explained things we now know the Wright brothers had to deal with."

Although Engler had engineering plans for the 1902 glider, he suspected there were modifications not recorded.

Ohman surmised that the Wrights might have used turnbuckles to maintain taught elevator cables, ensuring more precise pitch control. He also concluded that the brothers were good athletes, noting the physical demands from reenacting the 1902 flights.

Both Ohman and Engler cemented an already high level of respect for the hard work and perseverance of the inventors.

Our experience illuminated the genius of the Wright brothers," Engler said.

In sum, Ohman logged a total of 25 flights in the glider. He trained in a hang glider for two days, and spent hours in between flights discussing the merits of the Wrights' engineering feats with other military and civilian pilots on hand at Return to Kitty Hawk.

Flag Football Results

Oct. 7	PWD vs. COMSTA Security vs. VP 16o NMCB 5 vs. VP 16e	12 - 0 6 - 0 0 - 21
Oct. 8	AIMD vs. COMSTA Hospital vs. VP 16o	8 - 14 14 - 3
Oct. 9	FLC vs. Security	6 - 28
Oct. 10	PWD vs. PSD OPS vs. NMCB 5 HC 4 vs. VP 16o	13 - 12 35 - 2 6 - 0
Oct. 11	Hospital vs. HC 4 PSD vs. FLC OPS vs. AIMD	8 - 6 14 - 8 24 - 22

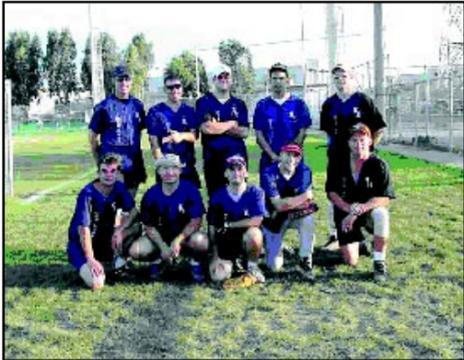


Photo by Tony Geron

BRAVO ZULU MAD DOGS

By Tony Geron

Contributing writer

The Naval Hospital's Flight Line Clinic Softball team, the "Mad Dogs", closed this year's season with a trophy presentation to their Commanding Officer at a recent Hail and Farewell Ceremony. Capt. Garner

heartedly congratulated them on their successful season, adding the two trophies to the command's collection.

The "Mad Dogs" finished this season with a very successful 8-3 record, placing third in regular season play. They placed second in post-season play with a 6-2 record, faltering only in the final game, losing to the Black Stallions of HC 4. Coach Craig Johnson led the Mad Dogs throughout the season with optimism and a great deal of organization. From scheduling practices to managing work schedule conflicts, Coach Johnson successfully led his team to the playoffs. His hard work, dedication, and patience this season was greatly appreciated by his team, his shipmates, and his fans.

The team sends a sincere thank you to all their fans and families for their support and sacrifice throughout the season. They would also like to thank all of the teams who participated in this year's season, it was a lot of fun and it was great to see the other teams' competitive spirits on game days.

Navy researchers acclaim breakthrough

By Jan Davis

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Navy Medicine is playing a breakthrough role in opening the door to uncovering the mysteries of one of the deadliest illnesses in the world - one that kills more than a million people each year.

Navy Medicine researchers were key in decoding the malaria-causing Plasmodium falciparum parasite genome, a formidable task that took more than six years in a combined effort by military and academic scientists in the U.S. and Europe. Mapping the malaria genome will be an important step to the development of malaria vaccines and drugs.

P. falciparum, the most deadly of the malaria parasites, has more than 5,000 genes in 14 chromosomes. Mapping the parasite's genes is a major step toward understanding how to develop effective malaria vaccines and drugs. No licensed vaccine currently exists, and preventive drugs are becoming less effective due to the development of drug resistant malaria strains.

Four research articles that Navy Medicine researchers were instrumental in developing will be published in a special section of the Oct. 3 issue of *Nature* magazine. The Navy's research will also get special recognition by the magazine's editors.

Members of the Navy research team published in *Nature* are: Capt. Daniel Carucci, Medical Corps, who is the director of the malaria program at the Naval Medical Research Center; Martha Sedegah, Ph.D.; Robert M. Anthony; Army Col. J. David Haynes, Medical Corps; Kathleen Moch; John B. Sacci, Ph.D.; Adam A. Witney; James Pedersen; and retired Capt. Stephen L. Hoffman, Medical Corps. Hoffman was also director of the Navy's malaria program from 1987 to 2001.

Navy Medicine's interest in developing effective interventions to malaria is rooted in the impact the disease has on troops deployed where the disease is rampant. The vanguard of malaria research for the Navy is located at the Naval Medical Research Center in Silver Spring, Md.

"In this century, in every conflict where malaria was endemic, there were more man-days lost to malaria than to bullets," said Carucci. "We became involved (in *P. falciparum* gene mapping) from the first because we felt that knowing the sequence of the genome would provide insights toward developing strategies for vaccine and drug development."

Developing a vaccine against a complex organism such as malaria is much more daunting than developing one against simple viruses. *P. falciparum* has a complex life cycle, involving different stages of development, two hosts (the *Anopheles*

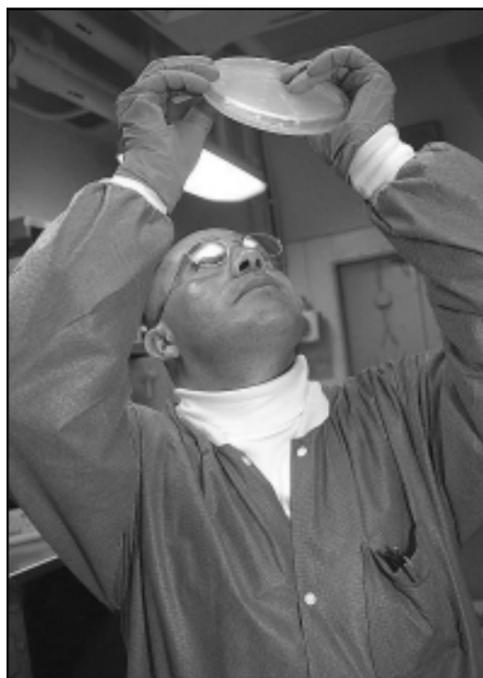


Photo by PHAN Jessica Davis

mosquito and humans), two different target cells in the human host (liver and red blood cells) and a mystifying way of evading the immune response, including the ability to constantly alter the protein coat exposed to the immune system.

Navy Medicine is already working on malaria vaccines, using the information garnered from the *P. falciparum* genome project. Carucci and his research team are taking a novel approach to developing a vaccine using DNA-based strategies.

Navy researchers have been using this approach to develop malaria and other vaccines, including dengue and anthrax, since the mid-1990s. DNA vaccines are made up of tiny amounts of genetic material that are used by the human cells to generate immunity against the pathogen.

Carucci and his team have successfully tested DNA malaria vaccines in the lab and in humans, proving their safety and ability to generate immune responses. The Navy team is combining information from the Malaria Genome Project with novel vaccine delivery methods that may be the best "shot" yet in the fight against malaria.

According to the World Health Organization, as many as a half a billion people may contract malaria each year. Worldwide, more than a million people die from the disease annually, mostly children in Africa.

Press conferences co-sponsored by *Nature* and *Science* were held today in Washington, D.C. and London to announce the medical breakthrough and its significance to world health.

HM3 Carlos Aguilar looks at bacterial growth on a petri dish in the ship's medical department. Homeported in Norfolk, he and the USS *George Washington* are regularly deployed, conducting combat missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Photo by AE1 Paul Hevner

The War Eagle Crew, VP 16, supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, Deliberate Forge and Joint Guardian.

War Eagles on patrol

By Lt. Ian Hawley

Contributing writer

Two months ago, the "War Eagles" of Patrol Squadron Sixteen started arriving in Sigonella. They immediately began flying missions in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Deliberate Forge, Joint Guardian, as well as Direct Support for 6th fleet assets in the Mediterranean.

As an integral part of Deliberate Forge and Joint Guardian, the Commanders of both SFOR and KFOR joint forces wanted to see for themselves what the "War Eagles" could help them accomplish. So in two separate flights, the "War Eagles" flew into Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Pristina, Kosovo. In Sarajevo, one crew picked up members of SFOR command forces and gave them a better understanding of the capabilities of the P 3 in support of Operation Deliberate Forge.

In Kosovo, the other crew picked up General Lynch, the Assistant Chief of Staff of KFOR forces in the region, along with other staff members and took to the air on a similar orientation flight demonstrating similar capabilities. The General was so impressed with the support he was receiving; he added an entirely new facet to P 3 operations in support of Operation Joint Guardian.

In Operations Enduring Freedom and Direct Support, the "War Eagles" have made an active impact in the international war on terrorism. Flying sorties around the clock, the "War Eagles" have ensured the safety of ships and shipping lanes across the Mediterranean as well as protecting all American ships and assets in the theater. Orion crews also have been actively searching for assets associated with Al Qaeda and Usama bin Laden in order to prevent future terrorist attacks against any nation.

All the missions flown thus far have displayed the overwhelming adaptability of the P 3 Orion and the men and women of VP 16 as they continue their successful Mediterranean deployment.



Photo by PH1 Eric Kleinkopf

International volleyball invitational held here

By Alberto Lunetta

Deputy PAO

From Oct. 11 through 13, Sigonella hosted the "First Annual Columbus Day Invitational Volleyball Tournament." Eight Italian and American teams participated in the event. The tournament was divided into two brackets: the American Division including U.S. Navy teams from Bahrain, Rota, Gaeta and Sigonella and Italian Division including Ameritalia (a joint NASSIG and Italian Air force 41st Stormo team), CUS Catania (University of Catania), ST Microelectronics and Polizia di Stato (Italian Police).

MWR sponsored and organized the event providing invitations, BBQ, awards, score keeping, officials, use of two gymnasiums and new nets. "This tournament was a huge success thanks to the MWR Sports Coordinator Ron Weems and to the effort of our Tournament Director Eric Latham who has breathed life back into the sport of volleyball here in Sigonella," said Doug Hasselbring, MWR Athletics Director.

In the final matches, Ameritalia defeated ST Microelectronics in two sets 25-22, 25-16 and NASSIG team won over the Rota team in three sets: 25-20, 23-25, 15-13.

NASSIG CO Capt. Tim Davison and Col. Giorgio Francesco Russo Commanding Officer of Sigonella Air Base and the 41st Stormo attended the final matches and awarded the medal and trophies to the top three teams of each division. There was also an All-Tournament team selected for both divisions.

"It was an incredibly competitive game and I am proud of both our NASSIG team and the two American players who are perfectly integrated with the Italians in our joint team Ameritalia, a perfect example of sportsmanship and Italian-American community relations," said Davison.

"I believe the most beautiful thing of this tournament is the opportunity to spend some time together with our American friends playing sports. Such events help promoting the growth and the development of good working relationships between the two communities within the base," said Russo.

"Our Italian-American team Ameritalia is the result of a joint team spirit and cooperation in sports activities between the Italian Air force and U.S. Navy. We are planning to participate in several tournaments," said Lt.Col Antonio Gibilisco, 41st Stormo Italian Air force PAO and Sports Coordinator.