

The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

Vol. 20 No. 25

June 27, 2003

Sigonella veteran visits base after 23 years

AN Michelle Hartgraves
Staff Writer

If you take a walk around Naval Air Station Sigonella, you will see new buildings being built and others being torn down. Try to imagine NAS I without the food court, commissary, and NEX. If you were stationed here before they were re-located to one convenient location, remember the inconvenience of having to run in all directions just to get errands done. Now try imagining what life was like for those stationed here 23 years ago.

Rodney Chapman, a Navy veteran, visited Sigonella recently during his honeymoon. Chapman wanted to see all the changes that have taken place since he was stationed here from 1978 to 1980. During his tour of the base, he and his wife Helen spent time at the NASSIG Fire Station with the Crash Crew where they were able to ride in a new and improved fire engine. Chapman, a former Crash Crew veteran, enjoyed seeing all the changes. "So much has changed since I have been here. I hardly recognize it," said Chapman.

Even though there have been many changes, Chapman was able to find comfort in his old buddy and co-worker Angelo Pavone, who still works for the Crash Crew. The two were able to have a cup of coffee together, share stories and look at old photographs.

"The base was pretty basic then," reflected Chapman. "To pass the time people would visit different towns." Chapman and his friends liked to travel to Catania and Paterno on a weekly basis. The base offered few other

Veteran page 11

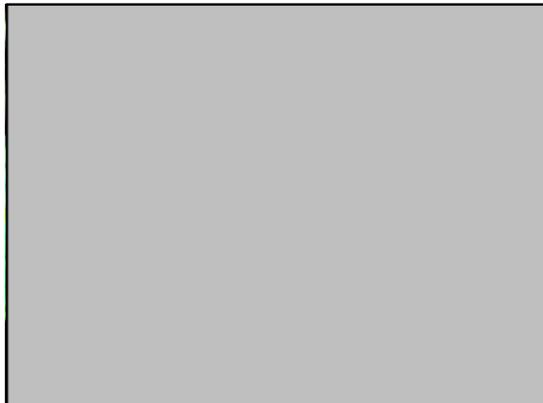
Sigonella children have fun while learning valuable lessons

AN Michelle Hartgraves
Staff Writer

Each summer children are faced with the same situation, how to spend their free time. A flurry of activity can help ease boredom and keeps them occupied. Each year, the base provides fun programs that gather the kids of the community together.

The Chapel held its annual Ecumenical Vacation Bible School this year with a turnout of 150 children eager for the activities that awaited them.

Children ages five to 11 years old were eligible for the program. The activities were led by 47 volunteers including teenagers showed up to lend a helping hand.



Children taking part in this weeks Ecumenical Vacation Bible school sing songs that emphasize the week's theme.

Bible School, page 11

Reserve Battalion NMCB 26 assists with NASSIG'S facility projects



A Sailor is working on a tactical semitractor, used to haul heavy equipment.

JO2 David Hamilton
Staff Writer

"We Build, We Fight." For more than 60 years, Seabees have over and over demonstrated their skills as builders and fighters. From the islands of the South Pacific, the jungles of Vietnam, the mountains of Bosnia, and the sands of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, they have built and fought for freedom.

Reserve Navy Mobile Construction Battalion Two Six (NMCB 26), from Selfridge Air National Guard Base, in Detroit Mich., is living up to that motto. With the ongoing effort of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), this reserve unit continues to play the role of the good ambassador, supporting the renovation and construction projects of Naval Air Station Sigonella.

When driving on NAS I you may have noticed four gray towering columns behind the Child Development Center (CDC). This is one of several projects that NMCB 26 has been tasked with com-

pleting by the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC). The columns are the foundation for the lights of the new improved sports complex on NAS I. In addition to the lights, NMCB 26 is constructing sanitation facilities for the fields, all as a continued effort to improve the quality of life for Sailors and family members here at NASSIG.

An additional challenge to NMCB 26, accustomed to meeting American building codes, is the necessity of meeting host nation guidelines. EA1 Brian Vongunten is the battalion's quality control petty officer. He is responsible for checking the progress of projects and making sure they are meeting the specifications. "It has been a learning process for the crew working on the roof of the sanitation facility," said Vongunten. "In the states most roofs are built out of wood utilizing wood trusses, as where here, they are using concrete trusses." This however has not slowed the Seabees down.

In addition, the reserve Seabees had to adapt to using the metric system, applying units of mea-

sure such a millimeters, centimeters, and meters. "We didn't necessarily have to learn it, since it is used in the states by mechanics and some tradesman," said Kuhne. "However, this is the first time for many that it is applied exclusively in their work."

Lt.j.g. Patrick Kuhne, Officer in Charge (OIC) of NMCB 26, welcomes the challenge of augmenting the active duty battalion at Camp Olsen. "I have 43 of the hardest workers anyone could ask for," said Kuhne. "They are the ones who do the work and deserve the credit."

Going to the local [do-it-yourself] store is not an option when it comes to having the proper materials to do a job. The majority of the materials that are used are purchased locally. "We are very fortunate to have Material Liaison Officer Mike Fisella, a local national with more than 25 years of experience, to assist with the procure-

NMCB 26, page 11

Division Keeps Sigonella 'All Fueled Up'

JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

It's what keeps the aircraft flying, the trucks running, and Naval Air Station Sigonella moving. Fuel is a very important commodity for the base.

The Sailors at the NASSIG Fuels Division ensure that quality fuel is delivered to those who need it, on time. Called "Grapes" due to the purple shirts they wear on ships, the "fuelies" as they're called here, don't have an easy job. They drive big yellow tanker trucks seen lumbering the flight line, pumping gallon after gallon of fuel into the aircraft that need it.

They are in charge of all the fuel on the base and they make sure those who need the fuel, get the fuel. They take care of all aircraft on flight line, the ground support equipment, duty vehicles, the Algese luggage equipment, and even the boats from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eight (EODMU 8). "If it takes fuel, it comes from us," said ABF1 Ron Howton, Fuels Division leading petty officer. This fuel includes jet fuel, diesel fuel, and regular unleaded gasoline.

"We're open 24/7," said Lt. Cmdr. Timothy Dudley, fuels officer. "We service all U.S. military and foreign aircraft, people with government vehicles, all tenant commands, the Italian air force, and we help service Augusta Bay as well. We take care of a lot of people."

Fuels makes sure to distribute what is called clean, clear, and bright fuel that is within Navy Standards. "It's a term we use," said Howton. "We make sure it's clean fuel, clear meaning there's zero sediments with nothing floating

Fuel page 12



Members of the Fuels Division test one of the hydrant fuel pits on the NAS Sigonella flight line. The hydrant system is designed to fuel all wide-bodied aircraft a lot quicker than using trucks. The system can pump 600 gallons a minute and allows the aircraft to pull right up to them.

Today's Hometown Weather

Orlando, Fla.



Orlando ●

High 91° F - Low 74° F
Scattered Thunderstorms



Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

Summer time has arrived and I'd like to discuss summer safety. We can have a lot of fun this summer by hitting the swimming pools and beaches, traveling around the island or in Europe and visiting with family and friends, but it's vital that we do it safely.

I have enjoyed seeing many "gatherings" around the Marinai, Mineo, and 205 housing complexes. Shipmates joining each other and their families for barbecues and good times. Now, that's what our neighborhood communities should be doing. But good times must be balanced with responsibility. Never leave your BBQ grill unattended. When you are done grilling, please cover the grill with the lid. This will prevent a youngster from touching the hot coals or grill. Again, watch your consumption of alcohol...it affects your ability to think clearly and hinders your response time. Never drive while intoxicated; have someone else drive you home.

When at the pool or beach, protect yourself and your children with a good SPF sunscreen (30 or higher is best). Also, for those of us that are hair-impaired or follically-challenged, wear a hat! By taking care of our skin now, we reduce the risks of getting skin cancer later. If your children do not know how to swim very well, please let the professionals at the MWR swimming pools teach them. If they are young, make them wear the authorized floatation devices located at the pools. Also walk around the pool...never run. There are several cases on record of people running around the pool areas that have fallen and either cracked their heads open or broken an arm or leg. Never dive into the shallow end of the pool.

When you go to the beautiful Sicilian beaches, watch for prevailing currents. If you venture too far off shore, the currents can take you to places you don't want to go. Be careful with the beach itself. Some beaches are cleaner than others. Some of the beaches have rough lava rocks and pebbles while Fontaine Bianche near Syracuse, is covered with near-white sand. By the way, it is probably best to leave your car in a protected area. Just pay the attendant a few Euros to watch it...better safe than sorry!

By taking leave when traveling around Europe, we have an accurate account of where you are and meet the requirements of the Status of Forces Agreement. Our force protection posture prescribes that we must know where every Sigonellan is and how to contact each of you immediately in case of an emergency. That's why we need to have good phone numbers on your leave papers. Remember, if you are planning a trip off the island (even to mainland Italy or other European destinations), you must take leave.

The summer can be fun for everyone if we just take a few precautions and keep a watchful eye on each other's safety.

Stay safe Sigonella...have fun this summer!

The Pulse

Ultraviolet radiation added to list of human carcinogens

Capt. Lynn Utecht
Dermatologist, Naval Hospital Rota, Spain

The United States federal government has officially identified ultraviolet radiation (UVR) as a cause of cancer. The latest Report on Carcinogens, listed UVR from both sunshine and artificial tanning machines as "known human carcinogen." The Report points to the overwhelming evidence connecting UVR to cancers in the skin.

Tanning from any source, sun or tanning beds, not only increases skin cancer risk, but it also accelerates skin aging — wrinkles, sagging skin, and ugly, irregular

brown pigmentation of the skin. Experts estimate that 50 to 80 percent of lifetime sun damage occurs before age 18. For this reason, sun protection and sun avoidance in children is a must. Always seeking the perfect tan, teens are the most difficult population to convince of the dangers of skin cancer and skin aging from the sun. What can you do to protect them? Avoiding the sun and artificial tanning machines is the best way to decrease the risk of skin cancer and slow the aging of the skin from UVR. Obviously, no one can avoid the sun completely so here are some guidelines to minimize the damage from the sun.

- Try to stay out of the sun from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Look for sunscreen bottles that say UVA and UVB coverage of SPF 15 or higher.
- Apply the sunscreen everyday, even when it is cloudy. If you are going to be in the sun for a long time, reapply sunscreen 20-30 minutes after going outside, then reapply every 90 minutes, more often if swimming or sweating.
- Don't forget the lip balm when applying sunscreen.
- Wear protective clothing such as a broad-brimmed hat, long pants and long sleeved shirts.
- Wear sunglasses that provide 100 percent UV protection.
- Remember that the sand, water and snow reflect the sun. (You can get burned even under an umbrella at the beach and so can your baby.)

SECURITY BLOTTER



CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

June 16 - June 22

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 8
- Traffic accident with injuries - 7
- Car break-ins - 2
- DUI - 2
- DUI's 2003 - 28
- DUI's 2002 - 35

Putting learning resources at the fingertips of Sailors

JO1 Jd Walter, Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs Office

NORFOLK, Va. - Writing a paper or need information for college, work, or pleasure? Need more material than you can find through Internet searches, or can't get to the local library? Try visiting Navy Knowledge Online and tapping into the Gale Expanded Academic ASAP, and Student Resource Center - College Edition.

Brought to NKO by the Naval General Library Program, the Gale resources are the result of a partnership between the library program and The Gale Group. The partnership provides Sailors access to full text resources including over 40,000 primary source documents and one of the most comprehensive collections of magazines and journals in virtually all subject areas. A member of the Thomson Corporation, Gale is a world leader in eResearch and educational publishing for libraries, schools, and businesses.

Also being featured on NKO, courtesy of the

Naval General Library Program, is Peterson's, another Thomson Corporation, is dedicated to connecting individuals, educational institutions, and corporations through their numerous online products. Featured on NKO are sample CLEP and SAT tests and CLEP Study Guides. Other materials available include college and university, distance learning program, financial aid, test preparation, and career exploration materials.

"These resources are the perfect fit for NKO," said Capt. James Kantner, Naval Personnel Development Command Knowledge Management Director. "We are creating a learning environment that is dedicated to providing Sailors the tools and resources to excel, whether the Navy creates them or not."

The Naval General Library Program in this partnership with NKO is continuing its transformation into a brick and click organization providing research services to Sailors Afloat and Ashore that began in 1995 with Library Multimedia Resource Centers installed onboard ships and submarines.

To explore Gale or Peterson's visit <https://www.nko.navy.mil> and click on My Education.

Costly Internet connections: The full story

By Peter Vietti, Housing Office PAO

Most Americans are aware of the dangers of 900 numbers in the United States and the high telephone charges that can be associated. In Italy the same costly charges can be incurred when dialing 709 numbers. These numbers are typically used to access websites containing adult content, but are not limited to just these sites.

The Housing Office has been dealing with some of the Sigonella community affected by these web dialer scams. All ISDN and RGT (analog) Telecom dial-up access subscribers are susceptible to these charges. ISDN and analog technologies require the user to dial a phone number to access the Internet, which exposes them to per-minute and long-distance charges. Those who live in 205, Marinai, and Mineo have been protected because of the need to dial 99 to get an outside line. Telecom subscribers utilizing ADSL services are also not at risk.

Without realizing it an extra dial-up connection is downloaded to the computers dialup options. This

Fraud, page 8

Fire safety note

Station personnel are reminded that the possession, use, storage, transport, sale or distribution of any form of fireworks aboard station or in leased blocked housing is prohibited. This means 205, Paterno, Mineo, Marinai, Camporotondo, etc. Fireworks paraphernalia include cherry bombs, sparklers, ash cans, flares, bottle rockets, roman candles.

Most firework injuries involve the eyes or hands of their victims, and are caused when fireworks are either thrown at, planted near, mishandled, or prema-

turally explode from short fuses. The loud noise associated fireworks can startle the elderly and also injure an infants hearing.

The fireworks display we all enjoy at NAS 1 every Independence Day are arranged and conducted by Italian professionals trained, equipped and licensed to perform that function. The Fire Prevention Division of the Emergency Services Department may be contacted at 624-5200 to answer any questions that you may have concerning this issue.

Don't sweat the small stuff

By Chaplain
Richard Townes
 Command Chaplain

In his best selling book, Don't Sweat the Small Stuff...and it's All Small Stuff, Dr. Richard Carlson quotes psychologist William James, "The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitude." How does your attitude affect your life?

I have often heard the expression "attitude is everything." Chuck Swindoll states "Attitude, to me, is more important than.... the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home..... We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it."

So often we find ourselves in certain situations, confronted with certain problems or dealing with certain people, that prompt us to react negatively in ways that undermine the quality of our lives. Carlson Dr. Richard Carlson goes on to state that "Often we allow ourselves to get all worked up about things that, upon closer examination, aren't really that big of deal."

For example, we get overly frustrated when, at 4:30 p.m., we find ourselves stuck behind several construction trucks. All we want is turn right onto 192 and head home, instead, there we sit, waiting, and waiting, and waiting. Or maybe we get bent out of shape because the commissary is out of our favorite meat.

We all have those issues which push our BUTTONS. One of my RPs recently saw me get "spun up" because of a computer problem. That sailor probably thought "What pushed all of Chaplain Townes' buttons?" What unimportant issue spins you up, and bends you out of shape?

To keep the little things from taking over your life, try these simple tricks: count to ten or call time out, exercise, be proactive not reactive, find a hobby, attend Chapel services or join a Bible study, but mainly remember not to sweat the small stuff - and it's all small stuff.

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NAVY NEWS

Argentinean Warship Joins Enterprise Strike Group in Exercise

By Lt. j.g. Ligia Cohen, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command Public Affairs



The USS Enterprise (CVN 65) conducts a port turn after an emergency break away drill with the Military Sealift Command Fast Combat Support Ship USNS Leroy Grumman (T-AO 195).

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — The Argentinean destroyer ARA Sarandi (D 13) arrived at Naval Station Norfolk June 20 to join the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) Carrier Strike Group and Destroyer Squadron 18 as part of Exercise Solid Step.

The goal of Exercise Solid Step is enhanced interoperability between the Argentine Armada and the U.S. Navy, through the incorporation of an Argentinean destroyer into a U.S. Carrier Strike Group (CSG).

Exercise Solid Step is a Chief of Naval Operations' initiative under the executive management of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, Rear Adm. Vinson E. Smith. As multinational maritime operations are becoming increasingly more important, Exercise Solid Step seeks to enhance Argentine/U.S. Navy interoperability by addressing the challenges associated with sustained integrated operations.

"With the incorporation of Sarandi into the En-

terprise Carrier Strike Group, we are taking a gigantic step in supporting our theater plan to build coalition partners as a multinational force multiplier," said Smith. "Exercise Solid Step will not only build interoperability between the U.S. and Argentinean Navy, but will also set guidelines for future efforts with other partner nations in the Western Hemisphere."

The exercise will be conducted in two-phases. Phase One incorporates the Argentine destroyer in the U.S. Navy's Interdeployment Training Cycle, to include Carrier Strike Group work-up and interoperability exercises, such as Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX). Phase Two is a proof of concept phase where Sarandi will demonstrate her interoperability, and deploy with the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group.

Solid Step constitutes the first time a non-NATO ally integrates with a U.S. strike group and provides an excellent opportunity for both navies to address

the different aspects of sustained integrated operations, including training, logistic, maintenance, rules of engagement, and command and control.

"Sarandi's integration is a great opportunity to leverage the ship's tactical capabilities within the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group," said Rear Adm. Jim Stavridis, Enterprise CSG commander. "It is also an opportunity to exchange rich naval traditions between both our countries and navies."

Commissioned in 1982, Sarandi is an Almirante Brown destroyer with a crew of 224 sailors. It has a helicopter detachment embarked with two AS 555 Fennec helicopters, which provide over the horizon targeting capabilities and supports the ship's anti-submarine warfare mission.

Through efforts like Solid Step, the U.S. Navy continues fostering professional and cooperative relationships with friends and allies to maintain readiness and build coalition capabilities, in order to create force multipliers in response to crisis around the world.

Navy Accepts Delivery of Ronald Reagan

From Program Executive Office for Aircraft Carriers Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Navy accepted delivery of the newest aircraft carrier, PCU Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), June 20. The ship design and construction was executed under a contract awarded to Northrop Grumman Newport News (NGNN) in December 1994.

Reagan's first deployment is scheduled for 2005 from her San Diego homeport, which is home to two other U.S. aircraft carriers.

Reagan is the ninth of the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers. Expected to be in service for 50 years, Reagan will carry out our nation's tasking in both peacetime and in times of crisis. Its nuclear propulsion plant will power the ship for more than 20 years without refueling, providing virtually unlimited range and endurance, and a top speed in excess of 30 knots.

Reagan towers 20 stories above the waterline, and at 1,092 feet long, is nearly as long as the Empire State Building is tall.



Sailors aboard the Precommissioning Unit (PCU) Ronald Reagan took the world's newest aircraft carrier out to sea for the first time during Builder's Sea Trials off the coast of Virginia.

The ship displaces approximately 97,000 tons of water and has a 4.5-acre flight deck. The carrier will serve as home to approximately 6,000 Sailors and 80 plus combat aircraft.

The ship's four catapults and three arresting gear engines enable rapid and simultaneous launch and recovery of aircraft. Catapults thrust 60,000 pound air-

craft 300 feet, from zero to 165 miles per hour in two seconds, while arresting cables are able to bring a planes traveling in at 150 mile per hour to a complete stop in about 320 feet. The ship will carry approximately three million gallons of fuel for its aircraft and escorts, and enough weapons and stores for extended operations without replenishment.

Design improvements include a completely redesigned island, integrated ship systems with increased capacity to support future upgrades and improved facilities for female personnel. In addition, Reagan has extensive repair capabilities, including a fully equipped Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department, a micro-miniature electronics repair shop and numerous ship repair shops. The ship is equipped with a fiber optic based network for improved communication and machinery monitoring.

THE ENERGY BLOCK

"KILL-A-WATT"...It is your Job. Walking through the hallway I came across this slogan posted on the billboard in one of the PWD spaces. How many times had I walked by and not even bothered about the implications? Numerous. To reiterate a prior article, for every kilowatt-hour of electricity you save, you also avoid pumping over two pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. "KILL-A-WATT" is all our jobs because carbon dioxide is the number one contributor to global warming.

When not at home turn it off. Open the windows for the breeze and if you enjoy a cool house before going to sleep turn on the AC an hour prior to going to bed. Porch lights can be installed with motion sensors if security is an issue, saving possibly hundreds of dollars a year on the electric cost. Leaving the area? Please turn off all gas lines and ask a neighbor to check on your house from time to time. Coming home to a spoiled refrigerator or freezer is not a good welcome home. Lets try to plan ahead and avoid the accidents that can be avoided. It is going to be getting hot soon, so lets pay some special attention to those pets. Keeping them out of the direct sun and supplying them with plenty of food and water. Also children can be affected with too much sun. Always carry sun block in the car. The rays being reflected off that passenger window can be brutal.

*DID YOU KNOW: The amount of solar radiation that reaches the earth's surface in approximately three days equals roughly the energy content of all known supplies of fossil fuels.

LETS USE, NOT ABUSE

Recap CORNER

We will start the new enclave area for the MWR Complex in September. As the old hands at Sigonella will know, the enclave will be a completely fenced construction area that separates the MEGA III construction activities from the NAS I base. This allows the contractor to come and go without going through the gates and driving on the base roads. This simplifies security and reduces traffic on the limited base roads and at the gate in the peak traffic periods. The enclave for the MWR complex will run from SS192 (to the East of the Main Gate) to the old library area. The road will be between the old Laundromat (currently the Loan Locker and Housing Office) and barracks 173. The enclave will cut Forrestal Road and when the enclave is in place the only access between the gate and the commissary-exchange will be on the North-South Road. The MWR complex will complete in late 2005 or early 2006 on the site opposite the new Galley-Club (See picture).

How SIG 2.3 Affects You: The installation of the new natural gas line is in its final phase in Halsey Road at the corner near the Child Development Center on NAS I. Other utilities work is continuing at the end of Halsey Road near the Stephen Decatur School, through the end of June, but the parking area will be available for Freedom Fest. The pick up and drop off area for the NAS I-NAS II bus stop remains changed to the parking lot at the side of the CDC and will continue for another week until the gas line is complete. School is out until September, so the loop road will be open. On June 23 we will start installing the sewer line in Forrestal Road in front of the old library. Also in September, we will close Sherman Road to install the new electrical line in the center of the road.

If you have any questions about SIG 2.3 construction, contact Lt. Darren Hale at haled@nassig.sicily.navy.mil



Reserve Online Services Moving to NKO

By JO2 Mike Miller, Commander Naval Reserve Forces Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS (NNS) — Now more than ever, Internet access and computer savvy are necessary, even critical, for both Reserve and active-duty members in order to keep up with fast-changing Navy technology.

To assist members in gaining quick access to Navy information, the Commander Naval Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC) is moving all Reserve online services presently found at the Naval Reserve Knowledge Online (NRKO) portal, www.nrko.navy.mil, to the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) portal www.nko.navy.mil, by October 2003. One centralized "portal," or Web site, will then serve both Naval Reserve and active-duty personnel to access several different links.

The initial portals selected for transitions to NKO include the Naval Reserve Order Writing System (NROWS, formerly known as NOWS), Navy and Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI), Knowledge Management (KM), Reserve Liaison Officer (RLO) and Mobilization (MOB). Together, these portals allow Res-

N@VY
KNOWLEDGE ONLINE

servists to assess and shepherd their careers online.

To access NKO, log on to www.nko.navy.mil and click on the "I'm a New User" button. From there, you will be asked to provide personal information that will be validated against Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) to ensure consistency and user privacy.

The core services of NKO are accessed through the tool bar located on the left of the screen. In addition to buttons for Learning Centers, Training Support Centers, Naval Missions and Communities, an icon has been added for the Naval Reserve. Under this heading, Knowledge Centers, such as NROWS, KM, RLO, NMCI and MOB can be accessed.

"A certain degree of Internet literacy and access are now essential in the Naval Reserve. Not having Internet access today is like not having a telephone was in 1970," Lt. Cmdr. Dale Drake said. Drake is Commander Naval Reserve Forces Command Information Technology Systems Development program manager. Asked whether he thought new Naval Reserve affiliates should be counseled in the importance of Internet literacy, Drake said yes, adding, "It's not just the Reserves; this is the main way information is exchanged in any business - in the military, as well."

CNRFC point of contact for the NRKO to NKO initiative is Lt. Cmdr. Dale Drake, (504) 678-6090.

News Briefs

Jobs Available

Stephen Decatur Secondary School is looking for substitute teachers and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) tutors. AVID tutors work with college bound students in a special class and are paid hourly substitute pay. To be an AVID tutor, one needs to be committed to the program, able to motivate young people, and believe that a college education is important. Call 624-4285 to find out more.

NEX Job Fair

Navy Exchange is hosting a Job Fair on June 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Exchange will be conducting on the spot interviews for positions in sales, cashiers, and stock. Full time, part time, and flex positions will be offered. NEX Job Fair will be held at the Administrative Conference Room on the 2nd level of the Exchange. Call 624-4276.

School Sports Physical

There will be a Sports Physical Clinic for the upcoming school year on Aug 28. All middle and high school students planning to play sports during the school year can stop by the school cafeteria from 9 a.m. to noon. You can pick up the physical form at the hospital or SAO office and complete prior to clinic. Parents must be present with student unless he/she is already enrolled in teen clinic. No appointments are needed. First come first serve. Call 624-4281/4284.

World Championship Tournament

The U.S. Women's Field Hockey Team will be participating in the World Championship Tournament in Catania from July 5 thru 13. Competing teams include U.S., Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand and Spain. ITT will be sponsoring a trip to cheer on the U.S. team when they face Japan on July 12. Call 624-4396.

Commissary closing

NAS I Commissary will be closed all day on Wednesday, July 9 for software updates to the scanner system.

Volunteers Needed

Red Cross is looking for volunteers to fill the following positions: Station Chair/Volunteer Coordinator and caseworker. Other opportunities are CPR, data entry, first aid and other health services programs. For those already a volunteer there will be a volunteer orientation on June 10 and 24 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. All red cross volunteers are required to attend. Call 624-5446.



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Catania to host international field hockey tournament

Whether you are a field hockey buff or you just want to support the U.S. national team, you should not miss to attend the "Second Women's Champions Challenge," that will be held in Catania from July 5 to 13. This prestigious field hockey event, pits some among the best national teams from all over the world including the United States, Italy, Germany, New Zealand, Japan and Spain. Yet, this championship is the third most important tournament in the world behind the World Cup and the Olympics. Teams will compete over seven days to qualify for 2004 Athens Olympics. Only the winning team qualifies for the games. The tournament entry is Euro 5. It will be played at the Dusmet Stadium in Catania.

For more information and directions to Dusmet Stadium in Catania please call ITT at 624-4396 or Mr. Santi Motta at 347-4523292.

Following is the schedule of the tournament:

July 5 - Japan vs New Zealand -5:00 p.m., USA vs Spain 7 p.m.- Italy vs Germany - 9 p.m.

July 6 - New Zealand vs USA -5:00 p.m., Germany vs Japan 7 p.m.- Spain vs Italy- 9 p.m.

July 8 - Japan vs Spain - 7 p.m.- Italy vs USA - 9 p.m.

July 9 - USA vs Germany - 7 p.m.- Spain vs New Zealand - 9 p.m.

July 10 - New Zealand vs Germany - 7 p.m.- Japan vs Italy - 9 p.m.

July 12 - Germany vs Spain - 3 p.m.- USA vs Japan - 5 p.m.-Italy vs New Zealand - 9 p.m.

July 13, final matches - 5th and 6th place -4 p.m.- 3rd and 4th place (Bronze Medal) - 6:30 p.m. -1st and 2nd positions (Gold Medal) - 9 p.m.

Music Festival begins in Taormina

Every year, the Taormina Music Festival brings internationally renowned artists to the Island. The festival, which runs through Aug. 9, is held at the ancient Teatro Greco or Greek Theater. The theater serves as a magnificent backdrop for the festival as it offers amazing views of Etna and the Sicilian coastline. The theater dates back to the 3rd century BC and features an exceptional acoustics. It is the second largest in Sicily after the one in Siracusa.

July 5 at 9:30 p.m. — Myung-Whun Chung. A prize-winning conductor and pianist, he is particularly noted for his interpretations of the music of French composer Olivier Messiaen. Born in Korea in 1953, Chung began his musical studies as a pianist, and made his debut with the Seoul Philharmonic at the age of seven. To date he has conducted the most famous orchestras in the world including the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonic Orchestras, the London, Boston and



Picture by dgliaudi

The concert of Canadian jazz singer Diana Krall on July 9 is one of the highlights of the upcoming Taormina Music Festival. A popular music event, it brings internationally renowned artists to Sicily.

Oliver Stone, Pedro Almodovar, and Brian De Sakamoto twice.

July 9 at 9:30 p.m. — Diana Krall. Born in 1966 in Nanaimo, British Columbia (near Vancouver), Krall, a famous Canadian jazz singer, began studying the piano when she was only four. Encouraged by her father, a talented stride pianist, she was raised on jazz, and by the time she was 15, she was performing jazz classics in restaurants and bars. In the early 1980s, Krall attended the Berkley College of Music on a music scholarship and then moved to Los Angeles, where she lived for three years before moving to Toronto. In Los Angeles, famous jazz artists such as pianist/singer John Rowles and bassist Roy Brown noticed her talent and helped her to grow as a professional singer. In 1999, she released the album "When I Look in Your Eyes," that became an international best seller and earned her a Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance and Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical. Ever since, she has earned the respect and the admiration from jazz critics and fans around the world.

July 10 at 9:30 p.m. — Elton John. One among the best pop singer in the world, John was born in 1947 in England. Since the age of four he's been playing

the piano. In the late 1960s, he met up with lyricist Bernie Taupin and they quickly became a successful song-writing team. In the years that followed, he earned a worldwide popularity charting a Top 40 single every year from 1970 to 1996. Today, John is still a remarkably popular artist and many of his songs including "Your Song," "Rocket Man," "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road," and "Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me" are now contemporary pop standards.

July 20 at 9 p.m. — The Trisha Brown Dance Company. Founded in 1970 when its legendary artistic director Trisha Brown branched out from the experimental Judson Dance Theater, began by performing in alternative spaces in New York's Soho district. Today the company, which performs at major theatres and opera houses around the world, continues to produce work ranging from solos to large-scale choreography, and chamber and grand operas.

July 22 at 9 p.m. — Caetano Veloso. One of Brazil's greatest contemporary songwriters, Veloso was born in a small town in the northern state of Bahia in 1942. Soon after his family moved to Salvador, where he spent his youth and studied at the University of Arts. His music blends Caribbean, African, Brazilian and North American pop music.

July 23 at 9:30 p.m. — Simply Red. This talented Manchester soul-pop band led by singer Mick Hucknall has been one of the most popular and successful groups of the 1980s. They emerged in 1985, with the classic album "Picture Book." The 2003 tour will showcase songs off their new album, called "Home," that revisit the band's r&b/jazz roots.

Aug. 3 at 9 p.m. — Noa. An Israeli pop superstar, Noa was born in 1969 in Israel from Yemenite roots. Later, she was moved to the US as a baby and grew up in New York but then moved back to Israel where spent her mandatory military service singing for the troops with her pure and powerful voice and afterwards realized that this was what she wanted to do for a living. Career highlights include singing "Ave Maria" at the Vatican in front of 100,000 people, including Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa, performing at a sold-out show in Carnegie Hall, opening concerts for Sting and singing at a major peace rally in Tel Aviv. Noa is accompanied by percussion and by guitar. Noa also composed the theme song from Italian director/actor Roberto Benigni's Oscar-winning film "Life is Beautiful". She sings in English and Hebrew blending western music with traditional eastern melodies.

Aug. 9 at 9:30 p.m. — Lucia Aliberti. Italian soprano Aliberti is a natural vocal talent. She is a specialist in the bel canto repertory including Vincenzo Bellini, Donizetti, Rossini and Verdi's operas.

For additional information and tickets, click on the following web site: www.ticketone.it. You can also call Taoarte 0942-21142. Tickets will also be on sale at the following travel and ticket agencies: La Duca Viaggi 095-7222295, Ticket's 095- 7225340 and Il Drappaggio 095- 7410585.

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SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

						27		28	
						JUNE		JUNE	
						Base ICR 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. ICR Class Room Call 624-4291		Kayaking Class on the Beach AU Call 624-4271	
29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bagheria Villas & Seafood Restaurant in Sferracavallo ITT Call 624-4396	Special Additions 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Community Bldg rm 203	JULY European Exercise Tour climb, walk and run around Europe without leaving the gym Sign up at either Fitness Center	Kayaking Classes limited to eight AU Call 624-4271	Anger Management every Thur 5 to 6 p.m. NAVHOSP 2A-III Call 624-4291	Fourth of July	Freedom Fest 5K Fun Run pre-register July 4 race day registration is 6:30 to 7:15 race starts at 7:30 a.m. NAS I Fitness Center	6	7	8
Caccamo Castle & Roccapalumba ITT Call 624-4396			Scioli & Avide Winery Trip ITT Call 624-4396	10	11	12			
				Elton John in Concert ITT Call 624-4396	Dive-In Movie cool off while watching a movie and eating BBQ NAS II Pool Liberty Call 624-5187	World Championship Tourney U.S. Women's Field Hockey Team vs Japan ITT Call 624-4396			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
Lipari Express tour the island of Lipari ITT Call 624-4396	Conversational Italian Classes ITT Call 624-4396	Youth Bowling Bargains until Aug 2 ages 16 and younger TENPINS Call 624-4302	Rainbow Playgroup every Wed. 10 to 11 p.m. 205 Housing	Photo Safari Meeting 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Golden Anchor Call 624-3718	Frozen Friday free popsicles while supplies last Take 5	Visit Palermo ITT Call 624-4396			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
Eraclea Minoa & Beach ITT Call 624-4396	National Ice Cream Day free ice cream sandwiches while supplies last Take 5	Kool & the Gang with Earth, Wind and Fire ITT Call 624-4396		Etna Land Water Park AU Call 624-4271	Caltigirone Candelighting Festa di San Giacomo Liberty Call 624-5187	Hike of the Month: Pantallica Gorge & Anapo Valley Liberty Call 624-5187			

Word Find

Golfers

N V A Q Q Y L Z E H Z B H J L X K Y F K B Z P W C
 Z O N N V E P O C F Y P O A V R Z R W E B B M D Z
 K T T W E W Y N V U I Y W T A K C R U J W C U N B
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| ARMOUR | FURYK | KERR | MORGAN | ROSALES | WADKINS |
| ARNOLD | GEDDES | KIM | NICKLAUS | SINGH | WATSON |
| BECK | GILL | KITE | NORMAN | SNEAD | WEBB |
| BOWIE | HANSON | LEE | OLAZABAL | SORENSTAM | WOODS |
| BUNCH | IRWIN | LEHMAN | PALMER | STOCKTON | ZOELLER |
| COLES | JACOBSON | LIN | PARK | TESKE | |
| CRENSHAW | JENKINS | LOVE | PERRY | TREVINO | |

TRIVIA

What fish, supposedly extinct for over 100 million years, was caught off the African coast in the Indian Ocean in the 1930s?
 The word "Tsunami" comes from the Japanese words that mean what?
 What device detonates the air/gas mixture on an internal combustion engine?
 In what country did fondue originate?
 What fell from the sky killing a carpenter working on his roof in Dusseldorf, Germany on Jan. 10, 1951?
 (Answers on page 11)

Movie Connection

MWF's Theater Schedule

Friday, June 27

- 5:30 p.m. **Bullet Proof Monk (PG-13)**
- 8 p.m. **Identity (R) ****
- 8 p.m. **Phone Booth (R)**

Saturday, June 28

- 2 p.m. **Holes (PG)**
- 4:30 p.m. **It Runs in the Family (PG-13) ****
- 7 p.m. **Bruce Almighty (PG-13)**

Sunday, June 29

- 1 p.m. **Finding Nemo (G)**
- 3:30 p.m. **X2: X-Men United (PG-13)**
- 6:30 p.m. **Bullet Proof Monk (PG-13)**

Monday, June 30

- 5:30 p.m. **Anger Management (PG-13)**
- 8 p.m. **X2: X-Men United (PG-13)**

Tuesday, July 1

- 5:30 p.m. **Bruce Almighty (PG-13)**
- 8 p.m. **Identity (R)**

Wednesday, July 2

- 5:30 p.m. **X2: X-Men United (PG-13)**
- 8:30 p.m. **It Runs in the Family (PG-13)**

Thursday, July 3

- 5:30 p.m. **Phone Booth (R)**
- 8 p.m. **Bullet Proof Monk (R) ***

Friday, July 4

- 3:30 p.m. **Malibu's Most Wanted (PG-13)**
- 6 p.m. **The Hulk(R) ****

Shout

DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

FFSC: Smoother Movers See the Center

From Fleet and Family Support Public Affairs



GREAT LAKES, ILL. (NNS) — Fire Controlman 3rd Class Cedric Patterson understands the importance of a well-planned move — and the value of a resource like the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC), when there is no time to plan.

When assigned to Fire Controlman 'A' School at Great Lakes, Patterson did not plan to move his family. Then his wife had a sudden change in health and could no longer take care of herself and their four children without help.

So Patterson's family moved from their hometown of Jacksonville, Fla., to Great Lakes at a moment's notice with nothing but their clothes.

"I didn't think I had anyone to turn to, and I didn't have the money to buy the things we needed because I was just an E-3 at the time, and my wife wasn't able to work," said Patterson, 35. "I was lucky to get base housing as fast as I did, but I had nothing to put in it. We had no beds, blankets or even enough food for everyone."

He was directed by one of his instructors to the Relocation Assistance Program (RAP) at the FFSC.

"RAP met all my family's needs and provided extras, like teddy bears for the children, from their own homes," said Patterson. "They even made sure we had plenty of food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, and connected us with a service that supplied Christmas gifts for the children."

RAP provides assistance to Navy officers, Sailors and their families during the relocation process at every base around the world. The program provides information about moving entitlements and support for locating new housing, including maps, site books and one-on-one assistance with specialists.

At each base, RAP offers a lending locker that will provide newly arrived families with household supplies. In addition, RAP frequently offers seminars on home buying and moving tips.

"This situation could have been a disaster," said Forrest Powell, a retired master chief and relocation specialist at FFSC Great Lakes. "But the Navy takes care of its own."

So Powell did everything in his power to make Patterson's new house a home. "I didn't even know what to ask for, because I needed everything and I didn't know where to begin," said Patterson.

Powell took Patterson to the United Services Organization (USO), where he picked out all the furniture his family would need. By the end of the week, every room in the Patterson house was furnished.

Patterson was worried at first, because he knew he wouldn't be able to pay for the furniture that was being given to him. He was assured that no money was necessary for the furniture, and he just needed to bring it back when he was finished using it.

"You've just got to ask for it, and we will find it," said Powell. "We can provide you with enough information so that you can have almost everything prepared before your move."

Powell then took Patterson to the lending locker, where they got all the kitchen supplies and linens Patterson and his family would need, and gave him contacts for a food pantry that would help to fill the family's cupboards.

"I was skeptical about using RAP, because with most government services, you just FFSC, page 10

Fri. June 27

Let Liberty take you out for some great Italian food. They will pay up to 10 euro for your meal, bring extra euro if you plan to eat more. Call Liberty for more information at X5187.

Sat. June 28

Join Adventures Unlimited for the first kayaking class offered at the beach. After the class enjoy a short paddling trip in the sea. Call AU for more information at X4271/X3718.

Visit Linguaglossa with ITT, where we'll stop to visit a nature museum. Later we'll eat lunch at an agrituristic farm, sample the wines and visit the town of Castiglione. Call ITT at X4396/X4777.

Spend your day admiring Capo Bianco. You will get the chance to go swimming in the sky-blue waters nearby. Then we will visit the ancient valley of Agrigento. Then we'll have pizza at a typical Sicilian restaurant. Call ITT for more information at X4396/X4777.

Sun. June 29

Visit Bagheria and see a number of villas. Then continue to the beach town of Sferracavallo for some world-class seafood. Call ITT for more information at X4396/X4777.

Pick up the family and relax at Marina di Ragusa. Spend the day at the Baja Beach Club. The area is located close to the town as well as the Castellana water park, if you wish to enjoy the waterslides. Call ITT for more information at X4396/X4777.

Mon. June 30

BINGO! Come down to Live Wire for a BINGOrific good time. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m., games start at 6:30p.m. Large jackpot every week. Come early for a good seat.

Tues. July 1

Get out of the barracks and play some pool with Liberty. Compete and win for big prizes. 7 p.m. at Barracks #170, NAS I.

Weds. July 2

A very important date for a very important festival the Feast of the Virgin Mary, the protector of the city of Enna. Visit the Cathedral, Lombardi Castle and the Museum Alessi. Call ITT for more information at X4396/X4777.

This week on...

- Mon. Jun 30 - C.S.I. Miami**
AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM
 - Tue. Jul 1 - 7th Heaven**
AFN Sports 7:00 PM
 - Wed. Jul 2 - Boston Public**
AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM
 - Thu. Jul 3 - Frasier**
AFN Atlantic 8:35 PM
 - Fri. Jul 4 - The Bachelor**
AFN Sports 8:00 PM
 - THE VOID MORNING SHOW ON 106.0 ZFM WEEKDAYS FROM 6 AM - 9 AM**
 - "SIGONELLA REWIND" EVERY THURSDAY AT 8:25 PM AND SUNDAYS AT 11 AM ON YOUR LOCAL AFN CHANNEL**
- afneurope.net/sigonella

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing
 (All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at

SPORTS

Marines/Normandy Share Fleet Week Fisher Cup

By IT2 Rodney Williams, Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center St. Louis

NEW YORK (NNS) — Sailors from USS Normandy (CG 60) and Marines of the Special Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) may have walked away with bragging rights and the Fisher Cup award for top sports command at Fleet Week, but all the Sailors and Marines left the competition having had a good time.

Nearly one-third of all the Sailors and Marines visiting New York City for the 16th annual Fleet Week celebration participated in the Fisher Cup competition. Seven sporting events, including golf, bowling, basketball, softball, arm wrestling, tug-of-war and soccer, comprised the competition.

This year, SPMAGTF and the Normandy team tied for the championship — a Fleet Week first. Both teams won two events each.

The competition started May 22, with basketball and bowling. Normandy's Sailors set the tone of the competition early by winning both events, but couldn't claim the top spot again.



The Arm Wrestling competition, held Friday, saw the Marines make their move, winning the first of their two events. There were eight different categories to compete in, with awards given to the top three finishers. The Marines took first and second place in the women's competition, and also claimed the left-handed light-weight title.

Sonar Technician Second Class Arvin Combs of USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29) picked up the first of his two awards, earning him the "Arms of Steel" award, for winning as a super heavyweight in both left- and right-handed categories.

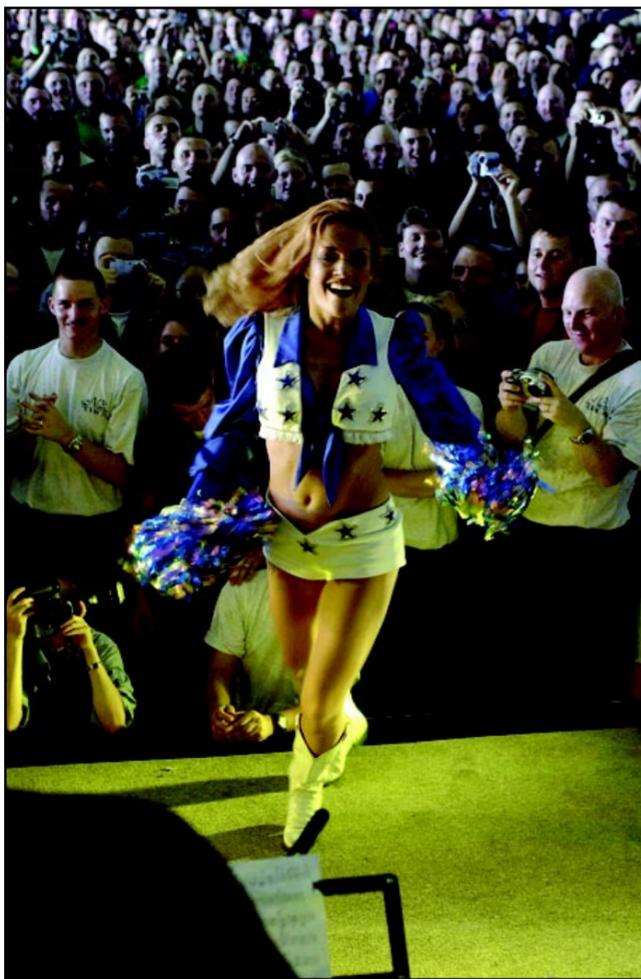
Marty Soven, who coordinates arm wrestling tournaments here in New York City, was impressed with the attitude of the contestant's heart,

sportsmanship and fairness. "They truly have that giving it all sprit that brings out mutual respect toward each other," he said.

The Marines continued their winning ways in the Tug of War competition, finishing ahead of Groves and USS Boone (FFG 28). But the Marines then ran into the stumbling block that has tripped up every military tug-of-war victor for the last eight years - the undefeated New York City Police Department.

Dan Tusinski, Northeast Region Fleet Readiness coordinator, was pleased with the unity and sprit of both Sailors and ships involved in the event. "Despite the inclement weather, this was a success, because of the high level of sportsmanship, overwhelming attendance and camaraderie of all involved. This Fleet Week exceeded all expectations."

Go team, go



U.S. Navy Photo

A Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader performs on stage during a United Services Organization (USO) show aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68). Nimitz Carrier Strike Force and Carrier Air Wing Eleven (CVW-11) are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Operation Iraqi Freedom is the multi-national coalition effort to liberate the Iraqi people, eliminate Iraq's weapons of mass destruction

The Lane

Freedom Fest Fun Run

Come out and help your command earn points toward the Captain's Cup. T-shirts and awards given. Call 624-4483 or 624-5243

Red, White & Blue four-person best ball Golf tournament

Get your team together for this tournament taking place July 12 at Il Picciolo Golf Club. A small entry fee and greens fees are required. Call 624-2710.

European Exercise Tour

Starting July 1, you can climb run and walk your way around Europe without leaving the Fitness Center. Find out more by stopping by either center.

Spin Class Mural Contest

Spin class mural runs until end July. Winner announced in August. All drawings should be dropped off at the NAS II gym. The drawings will be voted on and the winner revealed. The winner will received a \$100 gift certificate for an ITT trip. Drawings must include Spin cycles. The drawing pick will be commison for the Spin class room at the gym.

Q Who was the first Baseball player given an intentional walk with the bases loaded?

&A Nap Lajoie

Fraud from page 2

connection will set itself up as the default connection and the computer will then use it to dial every time a person goes to connect using that dial-up connection. Once installed the person surfing the Internet will be automatically be disconnected from the Internet and then a new dial up connection begins. Sometimes this can happen without the person being aware of the change that has taken place. What one does not realize is that this new connection is a fee based 709 number that will cause considerable charges on the subsequent phone bill. It should be noted, these charges are not only limited to the 709 exchange. Unfortunately, Telecom customers do not have any recourse to have the charges removed or reversed.

There have been many fraudulent cases reported against this form of web dialing scams. One way to see if you have been affected is to go to the control panel of your computer and check the network and dial up settings for an extra dial up connection. A simple way to see if a 709 or other unidentifiable connection has been established is to right click on the connection icon in

question and choose properties. To remove an unwanted connection simply right click on the icon and choose delete.

How can you prevent this from happening to you? When a website or pop-up ad offers to download a free software program, photo, or music file, simply choose "no" or "cancel" and exit the site. Most of the fraudulent web dialers are downloaded to your computer using these methods of enticement advertising. Customers may also request ADSL service, which is not susceptible to this type of fraud because it does not use a dial-up to gain access to the Internet. One may also look for software that is capable of detecting or preventing this type of fraud. If one is incapable of obtaining ADSL technology because of Telecom geographical constraints, it will be necessary to revert to the following summarized protective measures:

1. Check you dial-up settings for an unrecognized dial-up number.
2. Decline to download free software
3. Upgrade to ADSL service.
4. Shop for protective software.

FFSC from page 7

wait and stand in line," said Patterson. "But with the FFSC and RAP, there is no waiting."

Powell still visits the family, and often brings household supplies for the family and surprises for the children, who fondly call him granddaddy.

"I have a really great job with plenty of rewards," said Powell. "It is a hands-on helping program, and Cedric is a good example of what the program can do."

Patterson completed 'A' school with outstanding grades and was the class leader. He is working in the Great Lakes security department until September, when he will move to the Dam Neck Fleet Combat Training Center in Virginia Beach, Va., to continue his fire controlman training.

"I was at my wits' end before Mr. Powell's help," said Patterson. "He has made sure that nobody in my family wants for anything."

June and July are peak times for permanent change of station (PCS) moves. The FFSC advises all servicemembers on the move, especially those headed overseas

or to unfamiliar areas, to visit with a RAP specialist at their local FFSC well in advance. Planning and preparation are keys to a smooth move, and RAP can help. The program is designed to help all servicemembers—single or married—make their transition to another base easier.

The FFSC provides operational, mobility and counseling support to servicemembers and their families, helping them adapt to Navy life. FFSC services are a benefit free to all, including activated Reservists, retirees and Department of Defense civilians in overseas locations.

There are 55 FFSCs and 67 delivery sites worldwide. For more information on FFSC and programs like RAP, or to locate the nearest center, visit FFSC on the Web at www.ntcgl.navy.mil and select family support. E-mail FFSC headquarters at mill_ffsp@navy.mil, or call the center's 24-hour information and referral hotline at (800) FSC-LINE.

SECNAV Visits Wounded War Heroes

BETHESDA, Md. (NNS) — Acting Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Hansford T. Johnson, visited National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) June 13 to thank Sailors and Marines injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) for their service and sacrifice for their country.

This is one of many visits Johnson has made to NNMC since the hospital started receiving OIF patients in late March. He said the visits are inspiring.



Hansford Johnson

"I didn't sleep the night before my visit to the hospital," said Johnson. "I sat up contemplating the words I would say to these young men who have sacrificed so much for their country."

"When I spoke to each one of them individually, it was a casual kind of meeting, but at the same time, it was my opportunity to express the Navy's gratitude to them," Johnson continued. "Our country is very proud of these young men. They are heroes in their own right. It is truly an honor just to be in their presence."

Johnson spent time visiting individually with Cpl. Randy Glass, Cpl. Hector Delgado, Lance Cpl. Andrew

SECNAV, page 13

Coalition Enlists Italians In Mine Warfare Effort

MANAMA, Bahrain (NNS) — In the spring of 1941, R.N. Sagittario, a lone Italian Navy torpedo boat under the command of Capt. Giuseppe Cigala Fulgosi, was escorting a German convoy destined for the invasion of Crete, when her crew sighted a British force of three cruisers and several destroyers incoming on their position.

Fulgosi ordered a bold attack with his lone ship, catching the British by surprise and ultimately saving the convoy.

Today, a ship bearing the heroic captain's name sails 1,500 miles from the conflicts of that day, in different but just as deadly seas.

ITS Fulgosi is the lead ship of an Italian mine hunting group under the operational control of Commander, U.S. Task Force 55 and tactically controlled by Commander, U.S. Mine Counter Measures Division 31. The offshore patrol vessel and her crew of 72 operate as a logistical and command and control platform for the mine hunting group.

Completing this group are the two Lerichi-class mine hunters, ITS Chioggia and ITS Viareggio.

"Just having them here contributes to the readiness of forces in the area and the refinement of coalition mine warfare operations," said Commander, Mine Countermeasures Division 31 Operations Officer Lt. Fahez Nadi. "They have been receptive to our concept of operations and how business is conducted in the Arabian Gulf."

The Arabian Gulf is a vital body of water sitting in a region that historically breeds instability. It must constantly be surveyed for threats in order to maintain the peace, stability and economic prosperity of the region. The surveillance and response to these threats are the jobs of the U.S.-led coalition's mine warfare activities, currently made up of vessels from the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia and Italy.

"Foreign navies always bring something to the table. Whether it be equipment or techniques, we learn each other's styles, tactics and behaviors," said Nadi. "The more we work together, the better we get."

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ment of supplies."

Another project that the Seabees have been tasked with is replacing the front perimeter fence. Assistant Officer in Charge of Operations (AOIC/OPS), Master Chief Dan Murphy is responsible for overseeing the projects. "Replacing the security fence is only at its initial phase," said Murphy. "We are basically laying the ground work for when the active duty battalion returns."

Seabees will lay six to eight feet of concrete and then mount a 12 foot chain link fence to add to the heightened force protection at NASSIG. "When this two year project is complete it will not only add a physical presence to the base, but visual as well," added Murphy.

In order for any of the projects to be completed the equipment must go through a pit stop at Camp Olsen. CM2 Craig Nelson spends many hours repairing heavy operating equipment. Recently, Nelson was working on a tactical semitractor, used to haul heavy equipment to and from remote job sites. He was replacing the air compressor and steering system, alternator and tires. "This work keeps us pretty busy on a daily basis," said Nelson. "We replace what we need to replace, do the safety checks, and the vehicles are good to go."

Camp Olsen, located on NASSIG, is the base of operation for these highly devoted Seabees. The camp is named for Lt. C. Milford Olsen, a Seabee and the first casualty in the invasion of mainland Italy.

Bible School from page 1

The Bible school lasted half a day for one week and the smiles on the faces proved the children had a good time. During the week the different age groups rotated between 30-minute stations playing games, learning Bible lessons and making arts and crafts focusing on the week's theme "Supercool Undersea Bible Adventure" or SCUBA. Even snack time incorporated the theme and daily lesson.

Before the groups were broken up, they gathered together to sing songs about the day's lesson and get a visit from Scuba Scooby, the undersea diving dog, the school's mascot. Each day they learned something new and at the end of the day everything was combined to reinforce the theme.

"The goal of Vacation Bible School is to bring more children to knowing God and to get more children and their families to come to church," stated Olga O'hern, one of the co-directors for Vacation Bible School.

Additional objectives of the program include encouraging them to learn about the Bible and to grow to love to read the Bible according to Cathy Ward, co director.

"I have heard that some children go back home to find what they learned that day in the Bible," said Ward. O'hern added "They even act it out at night."

"You teach them in a fun way and they will learn," said O'hern. At the close of the week both directors hope that each child learned a valuable lesson from this years Vacation Bible School.

Fuels from page 1



A Sailor monitors the fuel coming from a 5,000 gallon tanker on the NAS Sigonella flight line. The fuel is being pumped into a hydrant system in order to test its functionality.

around in it, and bright meaning there's zero water in it because if fuel has water, it will be cloudy." Fuels has a special lab where they run various tests on the fuel such as determining how many parts per million of water it has, how many milligrams per liter of sediment it contains, and its flash point.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), the Fuels Division handled a lot of fuel. "On average, we were doing over 200,000 gallons a day. On a normal day when there's nothing going on it's between 60,000 and 90,000 gallons a day," said Howton. "We are a major stopping point for everything heading over [to Iraq]. We had the KC-135 refueling wing here, which does mid-air refueling. They were getting their bulk fuel from us and then taking it up and refueling the bombers and fighters going to Iraq. We're in direct support of the war fighter."

"We had to come up with some pretty unique solutions during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and OIF," said Dudley. This included modifying their fueling system so that the Air Force aircraft could use it. "These guys did all kinds of great things."

"When OIF started, we were working six days on, one day off for like 13 to 14 hours a day," said ABF2 Edwin Vazquez, a duty section leader. "We were really working hard. It was a luxury to eat lunch sometimes, that's how much we were handling at the time."

To help lessen the load on the fuelies, a

hydrant system that has been down for years is now being brought back into use. "This hydrant system will allow us to work smarter, not harder," said Dudley. "It will take half the time to fill an aircraft than by filling it by truck. That means the aircraft get turned around on fuel a lot quicker."

The three hydrant fuel pits are designed to fuel all wide-bodied aircraft a lot quicker than using trucks. The system can pump 600 gallons a minute and allows the aircraft to pull right up to them. "In the overall scheme of things, it's going to benefit everyone on the airfield," said Dudley. "This project makes it a lot easier, and takes less toll on fuel trucks and our drivers," said ABF2 Dwayne Lowry, Fuels Division maintenance LPO.

Systems such as this require maintenance to keep them up and running. "The [Fuels Division Maintenance Section] is always busy because a lot of our stuff is very old, and hasn't been used in a while," said Dudley. The various nozzles, hoses, and other parts that can break could cause big problems. "That's why preventive maintenance is so necessary, to keep the older parts from breaking," said Lowry. "We're trying to maintain them as long as possible."

Safety is also big part of the mix at Fuels. "[You have to] have a lot of attention to detail because when you hop into a fuel truck, you're sitting in front of 5,000 gallons of fuel," said Howton. "If something

happens like you happen to run into something and crash, you could have a major disaster on your hands. It's like strapping on a bomb and driving out there on the flight line."

Distributing quality fuel to the aircraft on the flight line is also a safety concern. "If anything happens to an aircraft, god forbid if an aircraft crashes, the first place they come is the fuels division to check our log books to make sure the fuel wasn't the cause," said Howton.

"We have a safety petty officer, and aviation safety petty officer, personnel that does nothing but quality assurance (QA), and we have a maintenance division that goes over everything for safety," said Howton. "We cover safety from several different areas. There's no room for error."

The Fuels Division works around the clock to meet the fuel needs of NAS Sigonella. "They work extremely hard," said Dudley. "We never know what the business is going to be from day to day...we never know what's going to happen."

"If we weren't here the base wouldn't operate," said Howton. "Nothing would be moving."

"Our job is behind the scenes," Dudley continued, "and something that people expect and don't really know is there until it's not there. We pride ourselves in trying to think of solutions to serve the customer in the best way we can."

Veteran page 11

activities such as the Movie Theater, bowling alley, golf course, and had their own "Navy Beach," now called South Beach. The golf course was later closed due to unexploded mines on the course.

Living accommodations were very different as well. "The buildings were very old, and most lived in flats in Motta like I did," stated Chapman. NAS I also hosted officer and enlisted families as well as single Sailors. Where the hospital now sits once stood a family housing unit. Single Sailors found themselves more cramped living three to a room in

tight spaces.

"The facilities are much better now. There are a lot more buildings now. I am very impressed with the changes on NAS I," said the mesmerized veteran. New construction sites stand where the old commissary, Seven Day, NEX, barbershop, and Vulcano Pizza used to be. These buildings were only temporary buildings used until new ones were built. The old NEX served as the hospital, and the post office served as the emergency room during Chapman's day.

Besides the new NEX/Commissary,

the food court was Chapman's favorite change. "I love all the fast food choices that you have. It is an amazing difference, we had only one fast food restaurant on base and a geedunk area."

Many changes have taken place for a veteran looking back 23 years ago. Stories of the past paint a picture of what life was like for Sailors and their family. Many changes have taken place since then to improve the quality of life for those stationed in Sigonella, Sicily.

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Derrig, Cpl. Steven Eichenberger, Electrician's Mate 1st Class (SU) William Knight and Pvt. Jason Keough.

"Getting to speak to Mr. Johnson was a great experience," said Glass. "He is friendly and easy to talk to. I appreciate the fact that he made a special trip to the hospital just to see us."

As Johnson made his rounds, he commented on the hospital's dedication to service, and hospital ship USNS Comfort's (T-AH 20) recent deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of OIF.

"This command proved to the entire nation that they can really pull together when their country needs them most. During OIF, the teamwork between the ship and the hospital was exemplary... The level of care provided at NNMC is simply the best. The staff serves their customers with great distinction... Comfort crew did a superb job on deployment," said Johnson. "Now, it's wonderful to see Sailors getting the liberty they deserve... The Navy can truly be proud of this hospital and all that it has accomplished."

Trivia Answers

- 1) Coelacanth
- 2) Harbor Wave
- 3) Spark plug
- 4) Switzerland
- 5) a six-foot long shaft of ice

Births

June 11, 2003

Imelda and Mark Wynalda
Marcus Alexander Wynalda
19 ¾ inches, 8 pounds

June 11, 2003

Cristie and Steven Schmidt
Steven Bruce Schmidt
19 ¾ inches, 8 pounds 5 ounces