



# The Signature

## Signonella, Sicily

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### TOP STORIES

**C**iting additional guarantees for Sailors operating on the tip of spear, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Vern Clark said he supports ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea during an April 8 Senate Armed Services Committee hearing.

Page 3

**A** team from Navy Personnel Command (NPC) will visit the NAS Signonella area to provide support and training during the week of April 19-21.

Page 8

**S**ince arriving at NAS Signonella in early February, the Tridents of Patrol Squadron 26 have been involved in several rewarding community projects. A visit to the Pecorino Institute for Handicapped Children during the first week of April was no exception.

Page 9

**T**he white bunny. The plastic eggs filled with candy. The pastel colors. The baskets. The baked ham. They were all present this year as Easter came to Naval Air Station Signonella.

Page 10

**N**ot every Sailor has a high security clearance or access to top-secret documents but that doesn't mean those Sailors can't give away secrets to the enemy.

Page 13

### Inside

Directline	2
Chaplain's Corner	2
Healthwatch	3
Navy News	3
News Briefs	3
Calendar	4
Liberty Call	4
Italian News	6
School News	7
Classifieds	18

## VP-26 aids in rescue near Malta

Story by JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

Members of Patrol Squadron Two Six (VP-26) currently deployed to Naval Air Station (NAS) Signonella aided in the search and rescue of about 40 people in the Mediterranean on April 9.

The black rubber boat, which was said to be packed full of refugees, began taking on water about 65 miles south of the island of Malta. A person on board the boat with a cell phone called in for assistance and was in communication with the Rescue Coordination Center in Malta.

A VP-26 P-3C "Orion" Search and Rescue (SAR) Ready team received the call at 1:45 a.m. on April 9 about the situation and took off at 5:30 a.m. An ATL3 "Atlantique" assigned to the Italian Air Force 41<sup>st</sup> Stormo

also received the call to aid in the search and rescue. "Someone from the boat used their cell phone and frequently would call the rescue coordination center on Malta to relay information to us and to the Italian plane," said Lt. Cmdr. Chip Barnes, mission commander. "We took off and split up the area with the Italian aircraft."

At about eight and a half hours into the flight, VP-26 combat aircraft four, the "Plug Uglies," spotted the boat adrift in the Med. "When we found them they were bailing water," said Barnes. "From then on we were just talking to the rescue center, trying to vector in a Maltese Coast Guard boat to find them."

"They were very happy when they saw us," said Lt. Colby Morgan, plane commander. "They were waving their arms. They were very packed into that little boat."

The rescue boat was 45 minutes away at this point and the P-3 was getting low on fuel. "We had one more

fly-by left, so we decided, based on the overloaded condition of the boat and the fact they were bailing water, to drop the search-and-rescue kit," said Barnes. The search-and-rescue kit consists of two life rafts and a survival kit. This was the first time in five years a VP-26 crew has dropped a kit such as this.

The boat crew's initial situation was unclear. "We don't know if maybe they were in another boat that sank, but the boat they were in ran out of gas," said Morgan.

The members on board were taken to safety by the Maltese Coast Guard.

"The rescue center called on our way back and said their rescue craft had picked them up," said Lt. Jason Romero, a pilot on board. "The Rescue Coordination Center" thanked us and wished us a happy Easter."

## Breaking rules + Getting caught = Trip to NASSIG traffic court



YN2 Nick Danz, traffic court clerk, talks with Lt. Steve Curry, traffic court judge, between cases on April 7 in the Navy Legal Services Building.

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

You're cruising the Sicilian roads on your new sporty fast-as-lightning motorcycle, slipping past cars left and right. The last thing on your mind is you standing in your dress blues in front of a traffic court judge, but that's just what you'll have to do now that you've been caught breaking the rules.

A traffic court clerk contacts your command and explains that you must attend traffic court. The memory of that moment comes back to you as you stand in front of the judge while he tells you that the one moment of indiscretion has cost you your driving privileges.

This situation was similar to the first case held in an actual Naval Air Station Signonella traffic court on April 8. A Sailor was caught improperly passing and speeding 20 miles per hour or more over the speed limit on the roads

near Sicily.

Facing Traffic Court Judge Lt. Steve Curry, the Sailor confessed to the violations, saying he sometimes loses his head. He also offered the fact he was selling his motorcycle and would not buy another. The Sailor lost his motorcycle driving privileges for two weeks and had to attend a mandatory Driver Improvement Course (DIP). Curry warned the Sailor if he did not attend the course he would revoke his driving privileges for six months. If the Sailor receives any more tickets, he would face a judge again.

Anyone taking to the roads should think of the consequences of their actions. "They should expect that their actions will lead to certain consequences," said Curry. "We take traffic safety and traffic violations very seriously on this base to ensure their safety and the safety of others." The consequences can range up to the loss of driving privileges for a year.

"The most common thing we have is speeding and improper passing," said YN2 Nick Danz, Traffic Court clerk. "For two offenses of speeding you would lose driving privileges for three months. For two tickets of improper passing you can get a one-week suspension. The most popular ones are receiving three traffic tickets for parking. You have to attend traffic court and you can lose your base driving privileges for 30 days." NASSIG (NASSIG Motor Vehicle Enforcement Program) has more about traffic regulations.

The results of people violating the traffic rules can affect not only those who committed them, but those around them. Danz said a single father who committed a DUI was hit hard by a traffic court ruling. "He wound up having to send his child back to the States because he could no longer drive his child to school or take care of him because he lost his driving privileges," said Danz.

Court, page 12

## NAS II Fitness Center renovation underway

Story by JO1 Craig Coleman  
Staff Writer

Starting Monday, NAS II Fitness Center patrons will find their favorite cardiovascular equipment is not where they left it.

The cardio equipment is moving to the southwest end of the gym's basketball court while the cardio room, upper and lower weight rooms, locker rooms showers, sauna, gear issue and administrative offices are renovated. This is the opening move of a \$900,000 plan that will see the entire fitness center remodeled.

Locker rooms and showers in the fitness center closed April 12. The project is scheduled for completion in nine

months, but the exact opening dates of specific facilities will vary. "Our hope is to be back in the Fitness Center area by fall," said Gerry Morris, MWR Athletic Director. "However, the facility will still be under construction."

Limited cardio equipment, free weights and selectorized equipment will be available in the temporary gym. The availability of fewer cardio stations is expected to be one of the biggest challenges faced by patrons.

"That is part of the growing pains we face," said Morris. "The amount of cardio equipment will be reduced because of the amount of electrical power available on the courts. The power supply in the building is one of the reasons it's being renovated."

Because approximately half of gym will be filled with

equipment there will not be enough space available for command PT. "We are so reduced in space that there is no way we can offer [space for P.T.] for everybody," for Morris.

The renovation of the locker rooms means that most patrons will use the facilities at the NAS II pool for post-workout showers. The pool has five male and four female showers available. Lockers are also available at the pool, but most are already checked out, according to Morris, so patrons should not leave valuables unattended.

The fitness center project is divided into three phases. After completion of the cardio room/locker rooms phase work will begin on the racquetball courts. The

Gym, page 13



# Direct Line

**Capt. Ken Bitar**  
NASSIG  
Executive Officer

The enemy is here. It's me. It's you. It's the driver in front or behind you and the driver in the oncoming lane ahead of you.

Capt. Davison is on travel and I have the opportunity to comment on this important topic: Driving in Sicily.

This year we have made huge strides in telling our Sailors to pay attention while driving. Accident numbers and DUIs are considerably down from last year's numbers. Last year, we had traffic accidents at the rate of 2.17 per day and 58 DUIs. So far this year, our traffic rate is just under two per day and we have had five DUIs. That is a drop from almost five per month to just over one per month.

Last Saturday evening, the night before Easter Sunday, two NASSIG Sailors driving in a government vehicle were involved in traffic accident that resulted in the death of a local national and injuries to other passengers. Alcohol was apparently NOT a factor.

The circumstances of the accident are still under investigation. Regardless of what information is gained from the investigation, the accident reminds us of the inherent dangers of driving in Sicily. This tragedy should remind us to always consider safety first when driving.

We are speeding, talking on cell phones and not giving our full attention to driving on roads in Sicily. The "moving violations" mentioned above are not as regulated here in Sicily as we may be use to in the States. But that doesn't mean it is smart or safe to drive without being focused on the challenge of dark, windy roads with no shoulder and standing water.

Do we need to be traveling as fast as we sometimes do? Are you really in that big of a hurry? The consequence of being involved in a traffic accident surely outweighs the police/insurance/repair inconvenience of one. If fault, injury or death result, lives and careers are altered.

We stress DUI and alcohol incidents with our young Sailors. Two of the most tragic accidents I have seen in two years involved cars attempting to pass other vehicles. No one group has a monopoly on this temptation. We have seen it done by Italians, 18-year-olds, civil servants, contractors, dependent spouses, as well as a naval officer. We must exercise extreme caution when passing, particularly when visibility or road conditions are poor. It is much easier to avoid an accident than to deal with one.

Slow down.....it will happen again tomorrow if we do not! There are NO WINNERS in a traffic accident. In an instant, your life could change forever. Drive with two hands on the wheel (nine and three) and always drive at least two seconds behind the vehicle in front of you. Resist any temptation to drive like an Italian. Drive SLOW and stay safe!

# NJP Results

Violation of the UCMJ art. 111 (Drunken operation of a vehicle.) Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 45 days (suspended 30 days for six months); extra duty for 45 days (suspended 30 days for six months); forfeiture of \$669.00 pay per month times two months (suspended one month for six months); reduction to next inferior pay grade (suspended for six months).

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I recently witnessed the nightmare of what to expect when checking-out of housing when I accompanied a friend to his check out. 1. He was charged for the fluorescent lighting, which we both attempted to locate on the economy nearby (Abate, SMA) with no luck. We were informed by the inspector that self help has this lighting but were told by their manager they are not allowed to hand them out, or exchange them for non functioning lights. 2. He was charged for not tilling small sections of his yard where he had removed weeds. We asked if a tiller was available at self-help and were told yes but it's not for use by the residents. The question came up about how we were supposed to tiller our yards/lawns, the reply was "you can use your hands". I could probably go on all day but to make a long story short, in the end he paid a hefty amount just to get checked-out of housing and to him it was worth it because he was just frustrated with the way his check-out was going. His!

Inspectors seemed more concerned with negotiating a price he should pay, then providing him with any form of help. This will be my third time checking out of Government housing and have never heard the horror stories involved in checking out of housing that I have heard since being stationed over here. Is this the nightmare that awaits us all who reside in housing?

Luis A. Soto

# Naval medicine expands malaria vaccine development

By Doris M. Ryan, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — A team of Navy and civilian researchers recently formed a partnership to expand the Navy's malaria vaccine development program.

The Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) and GenVec, a biopharmaceutical company, signed a two-year cooperative research agreement March 31 to develop and evaluate potential new vaccines. The

Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI), part of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is providing major funding.

"This is a natural follow-on to our molecular vaccine development program," said Dr. Denise Doolan, head of the NMRC Malaria program's pre-clinical research and development efforts. "This agreement represents a unique partnership of government, industry and the public sector."

The effort brings together GenVec's unique vaccine delivery system and NMRC's expertise in

malaria and vaccine development. Using a laboratory model, Navy researchers will test several vaccines that include a combination of specific proteins expressed in different stages of the malaria parasite's complex life cycle.

The parasite's genome contains over 5,300 proteins," said Doolan. "We are looking at five of those proteins in this study. Three are expressed in the liver-stage of the parasite, and two others are expressed in the blood stage."

# Personal and unwritten rules for life



By Chaplain Richard Townes Command Chaplain

I am more and more realizing that we are the products of the personal rules we create for ourselves...the personal rules we chose to live by. I thought it would be fun to create a little quiz that all my readers could take as a way to reflect on how our personal and often unwritten rules help determine much of who we are. There are many rules that we create for ourselves, but I offer you a few to show you what I mean. So, here goes...

- 1) Drinking rules:
  - a. I drink till I get stupid, act stupid and do stupid things.
  - b. I drink a little and on some occasions.
  - c. I never drink.
- 2) Money rules
  - a. I spend it all and spend it fast.
  - b. I save a set amount each payday.
  - c. I spend more than I make, stay in debt, and borrow more.
- 3) Education rules
  - a. I talk about going to school.
  - b. I went to school and I am already smart enough.
  - c. I am in school and plan to learn more about many things.
- 4) Food rules
  - a. I eat whenever and whatever I feel like it.
  - b. I moderate when and what I eat.
  - c. I eat a lot because I enjoy going on diets.
- 5) Honesty rules.
  - a. I will lie to keep out of trouble or make me appear better than others.
  - b. I try to be honest in my life.
  - c. I will lie to keep my friends out of trouble.
- 6) Faith rules
  - a) I believe in God but pray only when I am in trouble or want something.
  - b) I believe in God but never pray.
  - c) I believe in God and pray regularly.
- 7) Time rules
  - a) I keep so busy doing what I like to do that I do not have time to do what I should do.
  - b) I chose to do little so I can spend my time complaining there is nothing to do.
  - c) I plan my time to include time with others, for others and for myself.
- 8) Fitness Rules
  - a) I have a secret plan to stay healthy but do not use it.
  - b) Exercise only on the day before I take the PRT.
  - c) I have a routine for fitness and use it.

These examples of "unwritten rules of life" are only a small number of the rules we live by. Ask yourself "What are my rules for sexuality?" "What are my rules for language?" "What are my rules for being a Dad or Mom?" "What are my rules to keep my marriage strong?"

In my own life, I have found that many of my problems are the result of breaking a good rule or having a bad rule. I have also found that the best rules for life are the ones I make for myself that challenge me to make myself the best I can be. Take a look at your rules...are they good ones or just easy ones? Your rules for life are creating who you are becoming.

# 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 41\*  
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)  
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

**Protestant Traditional Service**  
Sunday 8:15 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)  
Sunday 11 a.m. Fellowship Hall (NAS I)

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)  
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**United Pentecostal Church, International**  
Sunday Noon Chapel, (NAS II)

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Jewish Shabbat Service**  
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Weekdays**  
Catholic Mass 4:30 p.m. Monday & Tuesday 11:30 a.m. Thursday & Friday (NAS I)  
Monday thru Thursday at 11:30 a.m. (NAS II)  
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study 4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel) 5 p.m. (NAS I Chapel)  
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-9049.

# HEALTHWATCH

## Why is colon testing so important?

Lt. Cmdr. Joseph R. McPhee, Surgeon

So what is colorectal cancer? Colorectal carcinoma is the third most common cancer in men and women. According to the American Cancer Society, 147,000 new cases were expected in 2003 with 57,100 deaths. This accounts for 10 percent of all cancer deaths. Risk factors for colorectal cancer include: 1) Age 50 or greater 2) A personal or family history of colorectal polyps or cancer 3) Inflammatory Bowel Disease 4) Smoking 5) Alcohol consumption 6) Obesity 7) Physical inactivity 8) High fat, low fiber diets. There is also some evidence that non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications, such as aspirin, may reduce cancer risk.

Studies have shown that people don't just all

of a sudden have colorectal cancer. Rather there is a progression from a benign (non-cancerous) change in mucosal cells that progress into a cancerous state. There appears to be an orderly progression of cellular transformation from normal colonic cells, to small polyps, to large polyps, and then to carcinomas. Without getting into too much detail, the reasons why these cells change lies in a series of genetic alterations leading to a progressive disordering of the normal mechanisms that control cell growth. The important thing to take out of all this scientific lingo is that we can catch a colorectal cancer before it actually becomes cancerous.

There are very few early signs or symptoms of colorectal cancer. More advanced disease may present with rectal bleeding, blood in the stool, a change in bowel habits, or crampy abdominal pain. Given the fact that early signs and symptoms are limited, colorectal cancer screening becomes that much more important. Just as with mammograms for breast cancer and Pap smears for cervical cancer, screening for colon cancer is of utmost importance. Current recommendations for individuals with "low risk" include a yearly rectal exam with fecal occult blood screening starting at the age of 40. At the age of 50, "low risk" patients should also undergo a sigmoidoscopy or barium enema every three to five years, or a colonoscopy every five to 10 years. If significant risk factors exist, a family history of colon cancer, these additional studies should start at the age of 40.

I personally recommend to my patients that a screening colonoscopy be performed every 5-10 years starting at the age of fifty. The procedure itself is relatively painless. The most difficult part of the colonoscopy

Healthwatch, page 13



CRIMESTOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

April 4 — April 11

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

Traffic accidents without injuries - 3

Traffic accident with injuries - 2

Car break-ins - 3

DUI - 2

DUI's 2004 - 5

DUI's 2003 - 58

<b>Commanding Officer</b> Capt. Timothy L. Davison	<b>Deputy Public Affairs Officer</b> Alberto Lunetta	<b>Staff</b> PH3(SW) Belal Currence
<b>Public Affairs Officer</b> LT. Steve Curry	<b>Asst. Public Affairs Officer</b> JO1 Craig Coleman	JO3 Steve Weaver AN Michelle Hartgraves
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# NAVY NEWS

## CNO supports ratification of Law of the Sea treaty

By JOC Walter T. Ham IV  
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Citing additional guarantees for Sailors operating on the tip of spear, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Vern Clark said he supports ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea during an April 8 Senate Armed Services Committee hearing.

The Law of the Sea treaty reaffirms the sovereign immunity of warships and public vessels, and the right to transit through vital international straits and archipelagic waters. It also provides an international framework to counter excessive maritime claims of countries that seek to restrict access to international waters and airspace. In addition, the convention maintains a nation's right to conduct military activities and operations in exclusive economic zones without the need for permission or prior notice.

"I just want to be on record as saying that we would never recommend a treaty that would require us to get a permission slip from anyone to conduct operations or that would restrict our intelligence activities around the world," Clark stated, "because we know that those kind of freedoms are essential to our mission."

"The real issue for me is people," said Clark, who appeared before the committee with Department of State Legal Advisor William H. Taft IV. "Twenty-four by seven, 365 days a year, our Sailors are operating at the tip of the spear. A third of our fleet is forward deployed this morning. Sometimes we must place them in harm's way to do our country's business, and they do so willingly."

"As the chief of the Navy, I'm looking for every possible guarantee I can find to ensure our Sailors' safety and to keep them from needlessly going into harm's way. That's why I believe we need to join the Law of the Sea Convention," the CNO testified. "So our people know when they're operating in defense of this nation far from our shores that they have the backing and authority of widely recognized and accepted law to look to, rather than depending only on the threat or use of force, or customary international law that can be too easily changed."

The Law of the Sea Convention will help the Navy fully leverage the strategic mobility needed to successfully fight the global war on terrorism, Clark said. The CNO added



Adm. Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) listens to questions by members of the Senate Armed Services Committee as he shares the witness table alongside the Honorable William H. Taft, Legal Advisor to the Department of State as they give testimony on military implications of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

that ratifying the treaty would align the U.S. Navy with its 13 partners in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), an initiative designed to disrupt the flow of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems and related materials around the world. The convention also supports the Navy's missions of protecting vital sea lanes of communication and interdicting the flow of illegal drugs.

"It first defines and then preserves our navigational freedoms," the CNO said. "It also provides the operational maneuver space that I need for my Navy to conduct peaceful operations at sea and combat operations. I also believe that it's very important, because it puts the United States of America where it should be, and that is in a position of leadership to protect these vital freedoms and to shape the future direction of the treaty."

"Entry into the convention will support, in my view, our necessary leadership role in maritime matters. We are an island nation. This will position us to initiate and influence future developments in the Law of the Sea," Clark said. "Ratification puts us on the inside of the discussion, when it occurs, to ensure the Law of the Sea continues to protect our people and our maritime interests."

## Successful JTFEX for Stennis Carrier Strike Group

By BM1 Tina Martinez  
Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet Public Affairs

ABOARD USS JOHN C. STENNIS (NNS) — Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) 04-1 off the Southern California coast has drawn to a close, and Rear Adm. Patrick Walsh, commander, Carrier Group 7 said he's very pleased at the incredible way the entire strike group worked together.

JTFEX, which officially ended April 7, was the last major preparation before the Stennis Carrier Strike Group deploys in May.

During JTFEX, the strike group's skills were put to the test. Over the past several days, the carrier and its accompanying ships and aircraft dealt with scenarios involving air strikes and support missions, anti-submarine warfare and Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO). Each event measured the strike group's logistics support, search and rescue techniques, and command and control ability. Every obstacle was intended to push the strike group to the limit, and to challenge each and every crew member.

Walsh said he uses two key elements to gauge the strike group's success: confidence and persistence.

"I'm looking for confidence in the crew, the aviators, and operators at sea," he said. "I want technicians to stay focused and to be able to accomplish a variety of missions under difficult conditions."

Walsh said he defines persistence as "the ability to keep going, even when you're discouraged, when there's opposition, even when you've failed previously." He feels persistence is a skill that cannot be found in a book or a class, but "has to be experienced."

While JTFEX is a procedural practice, it is also an opportunity to test the limits of the crew. Evaluators tested the crew's persistence by seeing how long they could go before they had to take a break during the exercise. The troops put in 12-hour days, attended briefings and debriefings, went to bed and then got up the next day to do the same thing all over again.

Stennis Commanding Officer Capt. David Buss said his crew once again met the challenge. "There are more than 5,000 people aboard, and they were able to focus around a

JTFEX, page 8

## The Energy Block

Talk about some tough times ahead for NAS Sigonella, we will begin with the energy crunch. Due to the higher than usual electrical usage, the higher euro dollar conversion rate, the higher fuel bills, and the seamlessly endless waste, waste, waste, we are going to be approx. \$800,000 short in our utility budget. This is money that we just do not have. Now is the time for NASSIG to come together as a whole, tighten its belt and reduce, reduce, reduce its electrical and water consumption. Folks, I have said it before, the utility bills will get paid and because of this, concessions must be made, and certain privileges that we have so far thus enjoyed are going to be lost.

So, to tackle this issue we here in the energy dept, along with the electrical branch have raised questions as why we are using over three megawatts of electricity on NAS II at 3 a.m. in the morning. So night monitoring is being done and here are some suggestions:

1. Each facility must ensure that all unnecessary P-way lighting, bathroom lighting, office and storage areas are secured when not in use. This must include overhead desk areas, food courts, and the 15 or so 150w heat lamps at the galley.
2. All computers monitors and TVs must be secured if possible. Not just allowing to go into the sleep mode. One device has little effect but when adding a couple of thousand will generate a substantial cost to the base.
3. All electric devices need to be secured at the end of a workday. This should include copier machines, printers, fans, chargers etc. Any device that is not critical to the mission should be eliminated.
4. Ball field lighting can and must be secured when no longer in use.
5. All laundry facilities lighting secured in the late hrs, and during the day. Occupancy sensors are being installed in the near future but until then need to be secured by hand.
6. Ovens, in food preparation areas shall not be left on overnight.
7. All neon advertising lighting needs to be secured when facility is unoccupied.
8. Turned off Excess exterior lighting. This should include parking areas, compound areas, building lights, and hangar lights that are not being used. If all can not be secured then areas that are not in use should be.
9. Buildings that are being serviced by HVAC should have all doors between corridors closed to prevent unnecessary heating and cooling in areas that were not designed for. Close all doors and windows leading to the outside.
10. A large part of our energy bill is spent making potable water. So, water costs money. Make water conservation a part of your every day routine.

These are just some of the things that were found to be deficient. We must do a better job and it must come from each and every individual within this base. If allowed to continue we may find ourselves with many, many, inconveniences. Any Suggestions please contact CE2 Underwood x2064 or Mr. Perry x6062. Please help us help everyone. Any and all suggestions will be helpful.

Let's use, not abuse

## Sexual Assault Victim Intervention

SAVI offers a Sexual Assault Hotline staffed with trained Advocates who man the SAVI Hotlines 24/7. The number is 335-642-8312 or 335-606-6146.

## FMF Warfare changes affect junior Sailors

By Ellen Maurer  
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Navy officials approved changes to the enlisted Fleet Marine Force (FMF) warfare specialist program in late February, now requiring all active-duty junior enlisted Sailors assigned to FMF commands to complete qualifications within their first 18 months aboard. The change affects junior corpsmen, dental technicians and religious programs specialists.

Under previous regulations, E-1s through E-4s in these ratings were not required to earn the FMF warfare designation; this was only mandatory for 2nd class petty officers and above.

"Everyone serving with the Marine Corps should be an expert in their jobs, and this is how they demonstrate their expertise," said Chief Hospital Corpsman (FMF/DV/P) Brian Hollen, Marine Forces corpsman career planner, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. "Being a corpsman with the Fleet Marine Force is an important job—every bit as important as the guys on the gray hulls underway and the submarines under the water."

Other changes to the FMF instruction allow medical and dental treatment facility personnel assigned to operational platforms augmenting Marine Corps commands to participate in the FMF warfare program. All full-time support personnel assigned to Marine Forces Reserve commands can earn their FMF warfare devices now.

"Most of these changes were initiated to fill in holes that had been left unintentionally when the first FMF instruction was signed back in 2001," said Hollen. "We wanted to include all the personnel who aren't permanently assigned to an FMF group, but provide a significant amount of support to Marine Corps forces through augment and Reserve programs. We felt they should be allowed to participate in the FMF warfare program, too."

Enlisted personnel deployed for a minimum of 90 consecutive days in direct support of Marine combat or peacekeeping operations may pursue the pin. However, eligibility does not apply to those deployed in support of Marine training missions. Clarifications are made within the new instruction, OPNAVINST 1414.4A.

To earn the FMF warfare device, Sailors must not only meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the instruction, but also be recommended by their chain of command. Candidates must pass written and oral board examinations and receive at least one observed evaluation, scoring no less than a 3.0, and have a minimum "promotable" advancement recommendation.

"It's a visible sign to all the Marines you're serving with, if you're wearing that FMF pin, you are there to support them," added Hollen. "You're more than just part of the medical department—you're part of that Marine unit."

## Driver's education takes an electric turn

By JO1 Jd Walter  
Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — The Center for Personal Development released a relevant Driving for Life. Avoiding the Fatal Four, in March, an interactive multimedia eLearning course to help Sailors and Marines stay safe when behind the wheel.

The course, co-developed with the U.S. Marine Corps, is designed to fulfill both services' Traffic Safety Program requirement. Available on Navy eLearning and accessed through Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) My Education Driving for Life complies with Department of Defense and Department of Navy requirements (DoD Instruction 6055.4 and OPNAVINST 5100.12) that every Sailor and Marine under 26 years of age complete a driver training course. The course covers proactive driving, reactive driving and imminent collisions.

"The Revolution in Navy Training has shown us we have to be more creative with course development and delivery," said Capt. William Marlowe, CPD commanding officer, "so eLearning was a natural choice. But given the nature of our subject matter, we had to be sure that we weren't just throwing something together to satisfy a requirement. We want our Sailors and Marines to come away with a greater appreciation of the responsibilities they have as drivers, as well as teaching them tactics to be safer on the road."

The eLearning format also allows Sailors to return to the Web-based training to refresh their skills after initial completion. Successful completion of the course, scoring 80 percent or better, is documented in NTMPS [Navy Training and Management Planning System] and reflected in Electronic Training Jacket, also accessible through NKO.

To learn more about Driving for Life, or to enroll in the course, log on to Navy Knowledge Online at www.nko.navy.mil and proceed to Navy eLearning found on the My Education page.

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## News Briefs

### Correction

In the April 9 edition of The Signature we incorrectly reported that emergency trouble calls take up to four days for a response. Emergency trouble calls should be responded to in 24 hours or less.

### Sigonella Idol

Sigonella Idol 2 tickets for the May 15th show at Jox will be on sale in the Commissary during select days beginning April 16th. Ticket prices are \$15 for E7 and above; \$10 for E6 and below. Price includes hors d'oeuvres. A cash bar will be available. Tickets are limited so you had better hurry! Proceeds go towards the Stephen Decatur Scholarship fund as well as a generous grant to spouses seeking higher education.

### Gas Coupons

Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) U.S. Contracting Office awarded contracts to supply fuel for Italy by AGIP and ESSO Gas Stations. Rationed tax-free fuel coupons are to be redeemed only at these stations in Italy.

The Tamolil Gas Station between NAS I and NAS II is not an authorized dealer. Using unauthorized gas stations will result in losing your tax-free fuel coupon privileges. At the current selling price of \$44.50 for 100 liters equals approximately \$1.68 per gallon versus \$3.78 per gallon at most off-base stations without tax-free coupons.

For further instructions or questions, please contact NEX Fuel Office at 624-4541.

### 3-on-3 basketball

The Sigonella military lodge #160 is holding a 3-on-3 basketball tournament May 1 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Marina. There is a small fee to enter and prizes will be given for winners. Call Dewayne Benjamin at 335-779-0430 for details.

### Earth Day

10th Annual Motta Road cleanup will take place April 24. Meet at 8:30 a.m. to register at NAS1 Community Park. Buses will start boarding at 8:45 a.m. for litter pick-up along front and back Motta Road. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Appreciation lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the park.

The first 100 volunteers will receive an Earth Day t-shirt. Call PW-Environmental at 624-2722 or 624-6931 for more information.

### Library Moving

The library will be moving to the new Community Building #318. To prepare for the move, it will be closed April 25 to May 4. All books checked out between April 4 to 15 will not be due until May 5 when it will be in the new location.

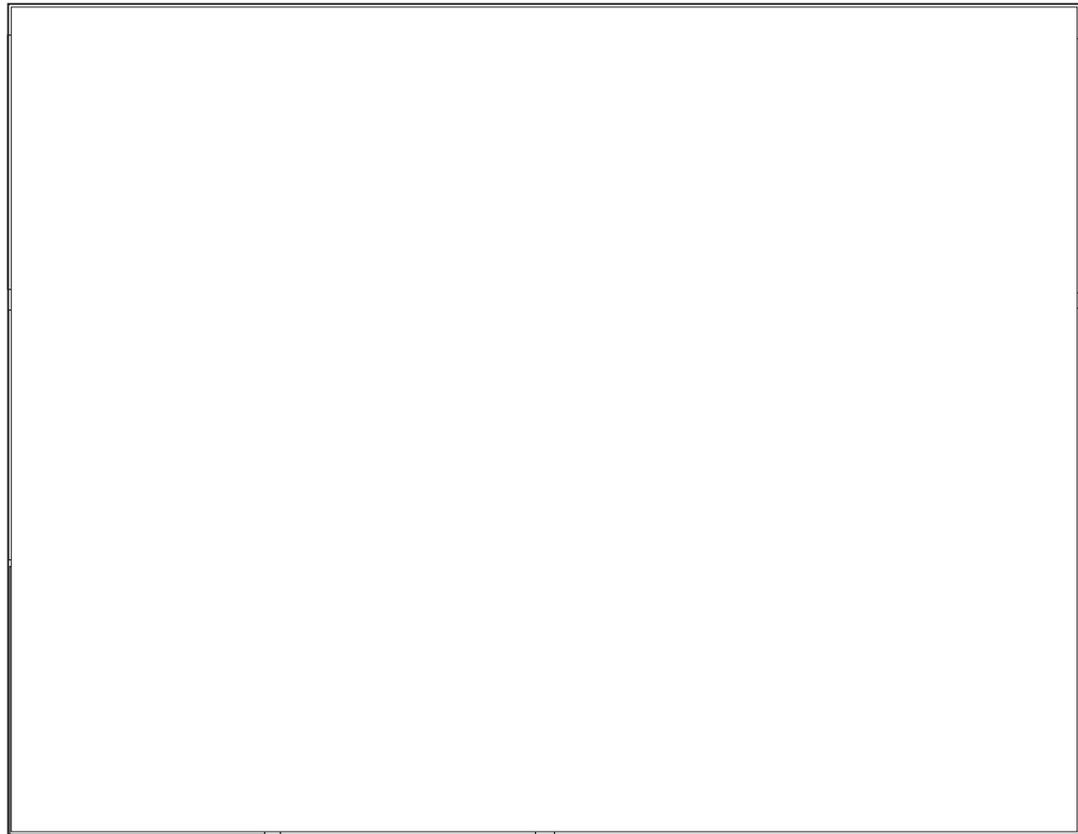


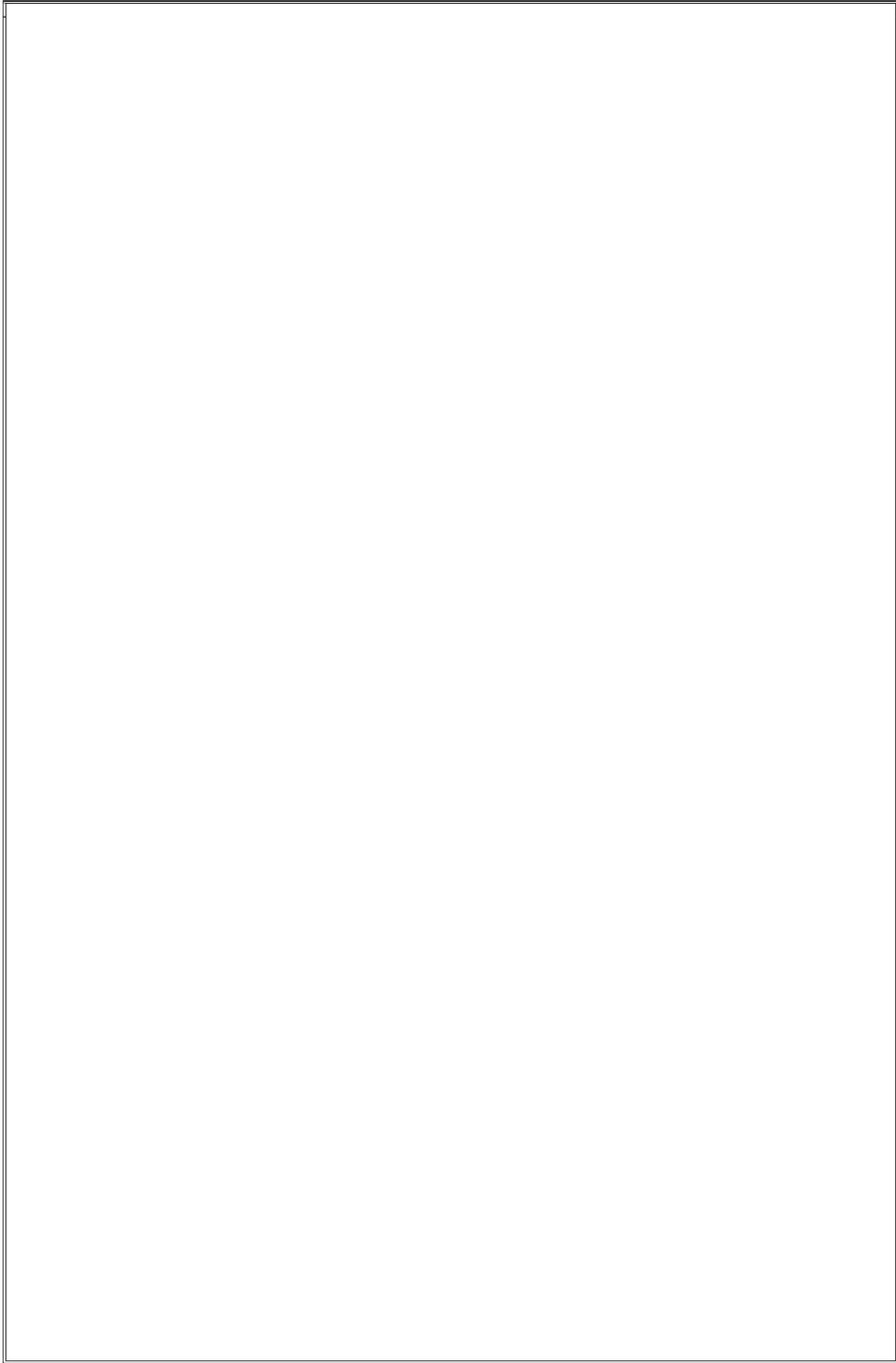
**SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

						16 April	17 Catania History I ITT Call 624-4396	17 Babysitter Training Red Cross 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 624-5446
18 Siracusa II & Seafood Restaurant ITT Call 624-4396	19 PTO Meeting 2:30 p.m. m B-25	20 Healthy Preganancy, Healthy Baby Course Red Cross Call 624-5446	21 Hypnotist Chuck Milligan Live Crater Pub 8 p.m. 18 years and older	22 Photo Safari Meeting 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Call 624-4488	23 Taormina by Night & Limoncello Factory ITT Call 624-4396	24 Marzamemi Fishing trip AU 624-4271		
25 Vizzini Ricotta Cheese Festival MWR Call 624-5271	26 XBOX Unreal Championship Tourney signups start at 5:45 p.m. Take 5	27 Red Cross Volunteer Orientation 10 to 11:30 a.m. Red Cross Call 624-5446	28 Spades and Pizza Night sign ups start at 5:45 p.m. Win prizes for the most points only at Take 5. Call 624-5602.	29 Marriage Prep Workshop until April 30 8:30 to 4 p.m. NAS I Chapel Call 624-9049	30 CDC Awesome Aloha Day 3 to 5:30 p.m.	1 May MWR Kite Festival Call 624-5271 for more information		
2 Cefalu & Castelbouno Agrituristic Farm ITT Call 624-4396	3	4 Navy's first official seal was adopted in 1780	5 CDR Alan B. Sheppard Jr. became the first American in space	6	7	8 Anniversary of Naval Aviation, Navy ordered first airplane, A-1, 1911		

<b>Community Call</b> <b>Fri., April 16</b> Learn the fun art of stamping. Class is limited to 20 participants. Sign up with ITT. Call 624-5271.	<b>Sat., April 17</b> Explore Mt. Etna on horseback. Experienced riders will guide a three hour trek up the volcano. Enjoy beautiful trials, beautiful views and a little snow. Wear warm cloths and pack a bag lunch. Dont forget your camara. Call AU at 624-4271.	<b>Sun., April 18</b> Tour the historical island Ortigia which is linked to Siracusa by bridges. Visit the Cathedral, the Fountain of Aretisa and Museum Bell'Uomo. After the tour, relax and dine at a restaurant in Ortigia. Call ITT at 624-4271.	<b>Mon., April 19</b> Be a part of the NASCAR Thunder action on XBOX. The fastest racer wins a prize. Signups start at 5:45 p.m. at Take 5.  Buy one movie and get one free at the theatre. Tickets must be used the same day.	<b>Wed., April 21</b> Dont miss Hypnotist Chuck Milligan at 8 p.m. in the Crater Pub. Free for all U.S. ID cardholders.  Wednesday is Karaoke and All Request Night at Jox Sports Bar. Drink specials from 5 to 7 p.m.	<b>Thurs., April 22</b> Learn photography techniques and prepare for upcoming photo excursions with Photo Safari. Meeting held in the Works, next to the Navy Lodge from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Call 624-4488 for more information.
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By Alberto Lunetta  
Signature Staff

# Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

## Vizzini hosts Ricotta and Cheese Festival

Make sure you attend the annual *Sagra della Ricotta e del Formaggio* (Ricotta and Cheese Festival) that will be held on April 24 and 25. On the first day of the *sagra* (festival) starting at 4 p.m., local cheese makers perform the *Mescita* (the preparation of the ricotta) in Piazza Marconi and piazza S. Maria di Gesù in the city's historic center.

In the evening, a classical music concert is performed at the cathedral at 8 p.m. During the festival, visitors can also taste other local specialties such as *Cudduruna* and *Impanate*. They are plain pizza shells topped with sun-dried tomatoes (*Cudduruna*) or vegetables (*Impanate*) such as broccoli, spinach and more. Festivalgoers can learn how ricotta is still made according to the ancient tradition.

The name ricotta derives from the word *Recocata* that in Latin means cooked twice. Ancient Romans used to serve it to important guests and offered as a sacrifice at religious ceremonies. Ricotta became very popular in the Middle Ages. Bartolomeo Sacchi, a 15<sup>th</sup> century novelist, wrote a vivid description of the ricotta making: "When the cheese is taken from the caldron, the whey is heated so that any remaining fat will float to the surface. The country people call it ricotta because it is cooked twice to extract the cheese from the buttermilk. Ricotta is extremely white and has a rather pleasant flavor."

Ricotta is considered more as a milk product than a cheese. The whey obtained from the curd of fresh sheep milk is poured into a pot, named *Quarara* and placed over a gas burner set an inch or two off the floor. Ricotta forms when proteins from the whey separate, rise and coagulate. Once ready, the cheese has a granular structure and is white in color. The flavor is tasty and appealing. It must be consumed fresh otherwise it acidifies. Ricotta is eaten as fresh cheese or used in baking



The annual Vizzini Ricotta and Cheese festival is held on April 24 and 25 encompassing ricotta-making demonstrations, Sicilian carts parades, photo exhibitions, musical entertainment, local produce, arts and crafts, and wine and cheese tasting.

and in fillings for lasagna, ravioli, and other pasta dishes.

If mixed with sugar, candied fruits, and chocolate drops it is a perfect filling for *canoli* and other pastries.

Yet, some of the fresh ricotta is set aside to harden and is heavily salted. After a week, *ricotta salata* (salted ricotta) is ready to be shredded over pasta and other tasty dishes.

On April 25, *Mescita* is performed starting at 7 a.m. Visitors to the festival can enjoy long live music, Sicilian carts parades, photo exhibitions, arts and crafts, music shows, wine and cheese tasting throughout the day.

### What to see

Vizzini, a town placed between two hills, is located on the northwestern slopes of the Iblei Mountains about 40 miles from Catania. Its altitude ranges from 187 to 919 meters.

Vizzini was first a Greek town, then it fell under the Roman rule and later Byzantines, Arabs,

Normans, Swedes and eventually Spaniards conquered it.

In 1693, Vizzini was half destroyed by a terrible earthquake. Its reconstruction took more than 100 years. The natural disaster spared the medieval part of the town. Most of the 20 churches located in the historic center were rebuilt in their original beauty.

The *Chiesa Madre* (cathedral) and the Church of San Giovanni Battista are among the city buildings worth to be visited.

The *Chiesa Madre* partly resisted the 1693 earthquake and was rebuilt on the old Senatorial Palace and on the remains of Benedictine monastery founded by Gregory the Great, patron of the town.

On the left flank of the church a beautiful Catalan Gothic style portal decorates the entrance portal. A wooden ceiling by Natale Bonaiuto and two paintings by the Florence master Filippo Paladini embellish the interiors.

San Giovanni Battista is the biggest church of the area. Stuccos from Natale Bonaiuto and splendid altars in Rococo style decorate the interiors.

Your Vizzini tour must also include the Capuchin Convent. The Capuchins are among the first religious orders that settled in Vizzini. Dominican and Augustinian Convents were also built in the area. The fascinating painting *Deposizione* (the Deposition) painted in 1607 by Filippo Paladini is preserved in the Capuchins Church.

Vizzini is also famous for being the setting of "*Cavalleria Rusticana*" and "*Mastro Don Gesualdo*," two famous novels from Sicilian writer Giovanni Verga (1840-1922). Verga wrote realistic novels on the life of the poor peasants and fishermen of Sicily. If you'd like to read them but you don't speak Italian, you can look for the English translations by David Herbert Lawrence (1885-1930). Verga spent his childhood on his

property in Vizzini at his beautiful family house (*Palazzo Verga*) located in piazza Umberto I, the main square.

Vizzini can be easily reached by taking the Tangenziale highway toward Siracusa. Once you arrive at the Primosole Bridge (located above the river Simeto) turn right and take the national road 194 for Ragusa and after 26 miles you will find the crossroad for Vizzini.

For more information and detailed schedule call Vizzini City 0933-968203 (Italian speaking only) or 0933-966348/ 0933-966338. You can also contact the Catania Province Tourist Office at 095-7306222.

## Artichoke festival in Niscemi

Get into the spirit of the season at the annual *Sagra del Carciofo* (Artichoke festival) running from April 22-25 at *Piano Mangione*, a district located in the south-eastern part of the town. The festival celebrates the locally grown and tasty artichoke named *Violetto di Niscemi*. Artichoke production in Niscemi, which is over 100 years old, is central to the town's economy, and supplies the 12 percent of the world's retail requirement.

Festival-goers can also taste delicious *carcioffini* (marinated artichoke hearts that are typically packed in clear glass jars), a specialty of the area.

This year's festival includes arts and crafts stands, a trial motorbike show (April 24 at 6:30 p.m.), city band and cheerleaders performances (April 25 at 10:30 a.m.), Sicilian cart parades (April 23 at 5 p.m.), live music (every evening starting at 9 p.m.), Moroccan food specialties (April 22 at 8 p.m.), *caccuciolata* or free grilled artichoke tasting (April 23, 24 and 25 at 8 p.m.) and more fabulous artichoke delicacies.

For more information and detailed schedule call Niscemi Economic & Trade Office at 0933-881631 (Italian speaking only) or Caltanissetta Province Tourist Office at 0934-530411.





## Word Find

Brightest stars

P F S U J V X A I N B H A X O G X L K F D D B F F  
 H R M Q E Y D N B B S E D O D Z U D E L D E G A B  
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ACRUX	CAPELLA	REGULLUS
ADHARA	CASTOR	RIGEL
ALDEBARAN	DENEB	RIGIL
ALTAIR	FOMALHAUT	SHAULA
ANTARES	GACRUX	SIRIUS
ARCTURUS	HADAR	SPICA
BECRUX	KENTAURUS	SUN
BETELGEUSE	POLLUX	VEGA

# SCHOOL NEWS

## ImageMakers contest winners

**Courtesy of MWR**  
 ImageMakers National Photograph Contest sponsored by MWR Youth Activities and the Boy and Girls Club of America was held Wednesday, April 7 at Crater Pub. The contest was divided into four categories: Color Process, Black and White Process, Digital, and a Photo Essay.  
**Winners:**  
 Color Process: Devon Jacobs 10 -12 years "The Palm"  
 Kiara Hay 13-15 years "The Blue Sea"  
 Keenan Jones 16-18 years "The Roof"

Black & white process: Crystal Morales 13-15 years "The Shores of Siracusa"  
 Digital: China Jones 13-15 years "Mosquito"  
 Keenan Jones 16-18 years "The Rose"  
 Photo Essay: Crystal Morales 13-15 years "The World, The Little Sister"  
 Winning photos will be sent to the regional competition in Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.  
 Photos that were not chosen were auctioned off during the exhibit. The money will go back into the MWR Youth Activities ImageMakers Photography Club.

## Overseas committee chair needed

The Sigonella Girl Scout Counsel is looking for an Overseas Committee Chair for the 2004-2005 Girl Scout year. If you are interested in this position please contact the below listed personnel for more information. Previous Girl Scouting experience is welcome but it is not required. Training is provided through by the USA Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic. This volunteer position requires an application to be submitted to the referral committee for selection. This is the head and heart of the girl-scouting program in Sigonella. Applications need to be submitted by 27 April 2004 to allow for interviews and training opportunities.  
 Position descriptions and Applications can be obtained by calling Stacey Kelley at cell: 3357303592 or e-mailing bcc3burrx4@yahoo.com or Ginger Schwebel at 624-1388 or e-mailing gingers@psd.sicily.navy.mil.

## Girl Scouts Referral Committee

Are you looking for ways to volunteer within the Sigonella community? The Sigonella Girl Scouts are taking applications for Referral Committee members. This is strictly a voluntary position, which helps the local Girl Scout neighborhood by reviewing volunteer applications and submitting recommendations to the Neighborhood Counsel.  
 The committee is made up of five Volunteers which meet quarterly to review applications for volunteer positions within the Sigonella Girl Scout Neighborhood. This ensures the placement of volunteers into the positions requested and needed within the Neighborhood.  
 Applications for this committee need to be submitted no later than April 23 to allow for review and processing. The representatives of the USA Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic will also review the applications received and place the members on the board.  
 Position descriptions and Applications can be obtained by calling Stacey Kelley at cell: 3357303592 or e-mailing bcc3burrx4@yahoo.com or Ginger Schwebel at 624-1388 or e-mailing gingers@psd.sicily.navy.mil.

## Stephen Decatur Elementary and Secondary School Registration

It's registration time at the Stephen Decatur Schools. Registration of all returning and new students is imperative to the school's mission. Staffing and budget are based on the number of students registered for the following school year. Administrators are unable to staff the appropriate number of classes without an adequate count of returning and new students. Registration schedule is as follows:

**Kindergarten - April 22** (Kindergarten students must be five years old by October 31. There is no waiver for this age requirement. Drop by the elementary office for the registration packet anytime prior to April 22nd.)

**Grades 1-12 - April 23** (Parents must update the registration information at this time and sign the required documents. There is no need to pick up any registration information prior.)

**Location - School Library**  
**Time: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

## Easter dinner at Take 5 for NASSIG



Sailors from all over Naval Air Station Sigonella stopped by Take 5 on NAS II Saturday to enjoy the food MWR provided for a homestyle Easter meal.

*Loose lips sinks ships  
 remember to use OPSEC*

## TRIVIA

- 1) I bend in three places and can beckon or accuse. I'm known to make a very good point. What am I?
- 2) True or false, a rhinoceros' horn is made from compacted tough hairs?
- 3) Name the ballparks where these teams play; San Francisco Giants, Florida Marlins and Detroit Tigers?
- 4) You are beside a large harbor. One of the world's largest steel span bridges is to your left. Behind you is a fantastic opera house with a roof of sails. Where are you?
- 5) When did Marco Polo do his trading; 7th, 9th, 11th or 13th century?

(Answers on page 8)



<p><b>Friday, April 16</b></p> <p>6 p.m. The Passion of The Christ (R)</p> <p>8:30 p.m. The Cooler (R)**</p>	<p><b>Monday, April 19</b></p> <p>6 p.m. 50 First Dates (PG-13)</p> <p>8 p.m. Babershop 2: Back in Business (PG-13)</p>
<b>Theater Closed Tuesdays</b>	
<p><b>Saturday, April 17</b></p> <p>1 p.m. Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen (PG)**</p> <p>3:30 p.m. The Perfect Score (PG-13)</p> <p>6 p.m. You Got Served (PG-13)</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, April 21</b></p> <p>6 p.m. The Big Bounce (PG-13)*</p> <p>8 p.m. The Passion of The Christ (R)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, April 18</b></p> <p>1 p.m. Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (PG)</p> <p>3:30 p.m. The Passion of The Christ (PG-13)</p> <p>6 p.m. The Big Bounce (R)</p>	<p><b>Thursday, April 22</b></p> <p>6 p.m. Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (PG-13)</p> <p>8 p.m. Against the Ropes (PG-13)</p> <p><b>Friday, April 23</b></p> <p>6 p.m. Twisted (R)**</p> <p>8:30 p.m. Hidalgo (PG-13)**</p>

\*\*\* 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 x4248)

# Navy Personnel Command launches Career Management Symposium for NAS Sigonella area Officers, Sailors and Spouses

**From Command Career Counselor's Office**

A team from Navy Personnel Command (NPC) will visit the NAS Sigonella area to provide support and training during the week of April 19-21. Events will offer career information to area Sailors and families to facilitate informed career decisions.

Sailors and their spouses are invited and encouraged to attend Career Information Briefs to obtain information on making informed career choices. They will see a fair and balanced comparison of current Navy and private sector compensation, benefits and quality of life opportunities as well as the latest status of NPC initiatives. NPC personnel will conduct the briefs for officer and enlisted personnel, with support from private

sector job placement and human resource personnel. Spouses are welcome to attend any of the scheduled Career Information Briefs. There are also separately scheduled briefs for spouses in the evening.

The schedule of events will also include an NPC Career Management and Manpower Brief for commanding officers, executive officers, command master chiefs and command career counselors on Navy retention issues from fleet units, a review of recent personnel initiatives and a glimpse of the vision for the future. Detailer community briefs and one-on-one counseling by detailers will also be provided based on community needs.

Enlisted detailers from PERS-40 have been available to provide detailed career information, guidance, and planning

assistance to Sailors and various commands. They also give a thorough description of the detailing process and JASS operations.

Officer detailers from the Aviation Warfare community (PERS-43) will offer community-specific briefings and one-on-one detailer interface.

Promotion/Advancement Briefs, will present the latest information on promotion and advancement boards for officers and enlisted personnel respectively, as well as give a brief description on board procedures.

For more information on the Career Decision Fair, please contact CMDCM(AW/SW/FM) Evangelista or NCC(AW/SW) Dobison at 624-5924.

Visit the Career Management Symposium link at website [www.staynavy.navy.mil](http://www.staynavy.navy.mil).

## Career Management Symposium Schedule

Monday, 19 April	Tuesday, 20 April	Wednesday, 21 April
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Enlisted Detailers Available Location: Various	8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Enlisted Detailers Available Location: Various	8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Enlisted Detailers Available Location: Various
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Retention Team Training For: Command/Dept/Div CC's Location: TAKE 5	8:30-11:30 a.m. Junior Aviation Officer Career Management Brief For O-4 and Below Loc: TAKE 5	8:30-11:30 a.m. Junior Aviation Officer Career Management Brief For O-4 and Below Loc: BLDG 562
1:30-3 p.m. NPC Career Management and Manpower Brief For: CO/XO/DH/CM/ CPO/CDC Loc: CO Conference Room	8:30-10 a.m. Senior Enlisted Career Management Brief For: E-6 & above/CWO/LDO Loc: BLDG 562	8:30-10 a.m. Senior Enlisted Career Management Brief For: E-6 & above/CWO/LDO Loc: TAKE 5
6 p.m. Enlisted Information Spouse Brief (Hosted by FFSC) Loc: (NAS 1 Chapel)	1-2:30 p.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief For: E-5 and Below Loc: BLDG 562	1-2:30 p.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief For: E-5 and Below Loc: BLDG 562
	3-4 p.m. Enlisted Selection Board Brief For: E5-E8 Loc: BLDG 562	3-4 p.m. Enlisted Selection Board Brief For: E5-E8 Loc: BLDG 562
	6 p.m. Officer Career Info Spouse Brief (Hosted by FFSC) Loc: (NAS 1 Chapel)	



Career Management Symposium Point of Contact: NCC(AW/SW) Dobison, 314-624-5924

Navy Personnel Command, Center for Career Development (CCD)  
CDR Garry Maynor, (901) 874-2402; DSN: 882-; Email: [garry.maynor@navy.mil](mailto:garry.maynor@navy.mil)  
CMDCM(AW/SW) William Andersen; (901) 874-4225; DSN: 882-; [william.andersen@navy.mil](mailto:william.andersen@navy.mil)

**Navy Personnel Command, PERS 4**  
PERS 40 Enlisted Distribution (Detailers will be located throughout Dept/Tenant CMD designated areas-TBA)  
EMCS(SW/AW) William Stieve      CEC(SCW) William McDermott      ITC(SW/AW) Ricky Brandon  
ATC(AW) Leslie Branch      SKCS(SW/AW) Vladimir Navarez      PNC(AW) Alfred Travis  
AEC(AW) Joseph Dorpinghaus      ADC(AW) Michael Alexander      AZC(AW) Linnea Montford  
MA1 Lanita Clemens      HM1(FMF) Shon Falconer      HM1 Donatt Dennis

## Frequently Asked Questions about Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society's Spousal Tuition Assistance Program

**What is STAP?**  
STAP is a needs based tuition assistance program that provides financial aid in the form of Grants. A Grant (unlike a loan) is given to the recipient without the expectation of its being repaid. STAP is intended to improve the employability of spouses by increasing their level of education before returning to the United States.

**Who is eligible to apply?**  
Any spouse who lives with an active duty military member while stationed in an overseas duty location is eligible for STAP. The applicant must be seeking a degree (undergraduate or postgraduate) or a certificate in a specialized area. For example, an applicant who already has a degree, but wants to take a class to learn a foreign language would not be eligible for the program. Full-time attendance is not required.

**How much assistance can I receive?**  
An applicant may receive up to 50% of their tuition or no more than \$300 per term for undergraduates (\$1500 per year) or \$350 per term for postgraduates (\$1750 per year).

**How do I apply for STAP?**  
Visit your local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society for an application. Once you have completed the application set an appointment for review. You must bring the completed application, the military members most recent LES (Leave and Earning Statement), and your most recent pay stub (if applicable) to the appointment.

**What requirements must I meet to be eligible for STAP?**

STAP is a needs based program designed to alleviate some of the financial burden of attending school. To prevent any possible hardship, the applicant will demonstrate the ability to pay their portion of the tuition. Although the Society encourages participation in the program, they do not want to encourage anyone to live beyond what their budget can reasonably handle. Once an applicant has received assistance, a "C" average must be maintained to be eligible.

**Who will make the determination of my eligibility?**

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society volunteers and employees are qualified caseworkers able to determine eligibility. They will carefully prepare a budget based on information provided by the applicant. The determination will be made after careful analysis. First time applicants require approval from the local Director, after reviewing the budget with the caseworker.

Because every budget is unique, the only way to know for certain whether you can take advantage of this program is to go through the application process. Visit your local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to obtain your application today.

Founded in 1904, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is a private non-profit charitable organization dedicated to helping service members in times of need. For further information on the Society and the services we provide please visit our website at <http://www.nmcrrs.org>.

### JTFEX from page 3

single mission, and made sure that every day, they contributed their part."

Buss said the biggest challenge during a JTFEX is to bring people from all different backgrounds together, and to learn team-building quickly and effectively. He said the Navy put the crew under high-stress situations, and they did an excellent job carrying out the mission.

"This [JTFEX] is a graduation of sorts," said Buss. "And being certified ready to deploy is really icing on the cake."

The pilots involved in the exercise use JTFEX training for the maximum effect possible, and not just to sharpen their arrested landing skills.

According to Deputy Chief of Staff Capt. John McCandlish, the live-fire exercises allowed the pilots to hone their bombing skills, as well. McCandlish also praised the young enlisted men and women who kept the flight deck up and running all hours of the day and night.

Buss said his distinguished visitors remarked that while the flight operations were impressive, they thought the junior Sailors who kept everything in motion were the real story.

Nearly 9,000 officers and enlisted personnel aboard 11 ships and submarines participated in JTFEX. There are 60 to 70 planes aboard Stennis, including S-3B Vikings, EA-6B Prowlers, F/A-18C Hornets and F/A-18E Super Hornets, F-14 Tomcats, and H-60 Seahawks.

# You Drink, You Drive, You Lose.

### Trivia Answers

- 1) Index finger
- 2) True
- 3) Sbc Park, Pro Player Stadium and Comerica Park
- 4) Sydney, Australia
- 5) 13th Century

# The Road to Pecorino

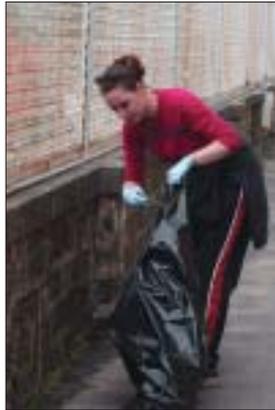
By Lt. J.g. Jeff Blankenship  
VP-26

Since arriving at NAS Sigonella in early February, the Tridents of Patrol Squadron 26 have been involved in several rewarding community projects. A visit to the Pecorino Institute for Handicapped Children during the first week of April was no exception. A team of thirty-six Tridents and three SEABEES from NMCB 74 descended upon the facility the morning of the April 2 determined to make a difference.

The group first began work on the children's playground, an area in desperate need of repair. The slide, swing set, and surrounding landscaping presented many dangers to the 30 resident children who attend the Institute full time and the over sixty children who attend on a daily basis. The Trident volunteers made quick work of the projects at hand, leaving plenty of time to interact with the children and staff. Mr. Poppalardo, the liaison between the Pecorino Institute and the Navy, ensured the volunteers enjoyed an outstanding lunch while dining with some of the children. Following lunch, the volunteers took time to clean the chapel in preparation for the Palm Sunday service. Lt. Eddie Salazar of Combat Aircrew Twelve reflected in the moment stating, "It is great to see such a large number of Tridents working together to improve the community."

The volunteer program coordinator, AW1 Brian Griggs, meticulously plans and executes the squadron's community relation events. "It's an honor to be a part of something meaningful to both the local community and the Navy community here at NAS Sigonella. The children at the institute make every trip a special one."

Six Tridents were fortunate enough to return to the Institute to attend the Palm Sunday service. The Archbishop of Catania offered the service and the local community in attendance gave the Tridents a very warm welcome and "thank you." PR1 Susan Mann has been involved in the project on a weekly basis. She was exceptionally happy to see the repairs made in time for an Easter egg hunt and cookout planned for the holiday weekend. Mann, who enjoys volunteering with Habitat for Humanity while in Brunswick, Maine, noted how



SK2 Jennifer Defabbio picks up trash from the perimeter of the playground at the Pecorino Institute.

"the children were very welcoming, shared hugs and thanked us repeatedly. I was glad to be a part of it".

The goodwill efforts at the Pecorino Institute are an on going project. For the past 40 years military service members have been participating in efforts to improve the Pecorino Institute, and the organization will continue to receive aid from the Navy after the Tridents leave. If you would like to make a contribution to the Institute, donations of toys and clothing can be made by contacting the NAS Sigonella Chaplain's Office. The efforts at the Pecorino Institute are a significant one, and the Tridents are proud to be a part of this on going relationship and will continue to aid the organization in any way they can.



AZ1 Ross Johnson and IS2 Josh Didier shovel dirt and debris from around the swingset at the Pecorino Institute.



Volunteers from VP-26 and NMCB-74 clear a pile of debris from the playground at the Pecorino Institute.

# Tridents Lend a Hand in Souda Bay

By AEC(AW) Terry Stange  
VP-26



The "Tridents" of Patrol Squadron TWENTY-SIX (VP-26) have long been known for their giving spirit and volunteer work. So when Paul Farely, the Public Affairs Officer for NSA Souda Bay, needed help with a critical project in the local community, it was not surprising that he turned to the VP-26 Souda Bay Detachment for assistance. In true Trident spirit, Lt. Cmdr Sean Ensign and his team jumped at the chance to get involved. With tools and paintbrushes in hand, the Trident volunteers were off to the Chania Daily Care Center for Children with Special Needs in Souda Bay, Crete.

The center, operated solely from donations, was founded in 1996 by the parents of children with special needs. Unfortunately, local schools did not offer any special programs to aid handicapped children, so the families with special needs pulled together to raise enough money to form the Chania Daily Care Center. Initially, the Center was only big enough to accommodate 15 children. As the demand for attendance increased, a new, larger facility was pursued.

With contributions from the community and donations from the families involved, the Center was able to procure a larger building, increasing their capacity to 25 children. Despite the added space, the new facility needed many renovations. Eight classrooms, several hallways, and three offices needed minor repair and maintenance work as well as a fresh coat of paint before the new Daily Care Center would be ready for its grand opening. With the task clearly outlined, Team Trident was on the move, first refurbishing the Center and then moving furniture and equipment from the old facility to the newly renovated larger one.

With VP-26's assistance, the Daily Care Center was given a face-lift and will reopen with minimal inconvenience to the families who use the facility. Those Tridents helping out with the renovation included AD1 Christopher Perez, AM2 Micheal Oliver, AE2 Natasha Smith, AT2 Diana Suggs, AME2 Daniel Swanson, AD3 Randy Penrod and AO3 Robert Beard; collectively contributing over 100 man-hours of labor and lots of elbow grease. Aviation Machinist Mate First Class Christopher Perez probably said it best when reflecting at the end of a long day's work, "As is always the case, this has been an incredibly rewarding experience. To see the difference all the volunteers made in such a short time was amazing. The families could not have been more appreciative of all that was accomplished." The center is currently completing their final touches and will reopen in mid-April. Team Trident has been invited back to attend the opening and all involved are looking forward to seeing the smiles on the children when they see their new school.

Conserve energy ... if you don't need it turn it off.



# The hunt for the pastel plastic

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

The white bunny. The plastic eggs filled with candy. The pastel colors. The baskets. The baked ham. They were all present this year as Easter came to Naval Air Station Sigonella.

Hundreds of children and their parents gathered behind the Building 170 barracks to search through the tall grass for those elusive plastic eggs containing the goodness that only sugar can provide. Kids who could barely walk up to those whose middle name could be "run" (zero to six year olds) scooped up all the eggs they could.

In the area in front of Adventures Unlimited the much more experienced "seekers of the sweet eggs," those being the seven to nine year olds, made the eggs disappear within a matter of seconds. I watched as an area full of plastic "pastelness" was transformed into barren landscape in around 15 seconds.

The eggs children now hunt have for centuries been a symbol of fertility and rebirth for many cultures. Before Christianity was introduced, eggs were painted bright colors to celebrate the sunlight of spring. In Egypt and Persia, eggs were presented to friends during the spring equinox to honor the beginning of the season. Although the "hunt" probably stems from games such as the egg "roll" and "toss," it's safe to say it's a tradition that will last a long

while.

As for my own recollections of Easter, I remember my grandfather taking me to one such hunt as a kid when it was raining. After a few courses of "Rain rain go away, please come back another day" it mysteriously stopped raining. When the lady with the funny looking glasses yelled "Go!" I remembered searching through a playground full of kids for the elusive golden egg, which brought the ultimate reward — a two-foot solid chocolate bunny. I never found it.

With memories of the past aside, MWR sponsored this year's memories and also doled out hot dogs, cookies, soda, and most importantly — candy. A giant Easter bunny, who looked remarkably like a human, passed out stuffed bunnies to the eager Easter children.

Other Easter activities included a free Easter luncheon on April 11, which was held at Take 5 for those who were food deficient. Honey Baked ham, mashed potatoes, rolls and more were gobbled down. Also many trekked out to see the film "The Passion of the Christ," which hit the base theater last weekend.

Although my fond memories of the chocolate bunnies and the sugar high afterward that sent me into a frenzy by the Easter egg hunt time, are long gone, it's good to see that the children of NAS Sigonella carry on the tradition and representing the "hunt" in grand style.



(Above) What would Easter be without out candy? There was plenty of candy provided for the sweet teeth of the young and old of Sigonella on April 10. This youngster tries to decide on one of the many colorful candies laid out before her.

(Left) Some of the youngest at NASSIG needed a helping hand in finding those precious eggs filled with various candy.





(Clockwise from above)

When the command was given to "go," the seven to nine years old rushed to find the eggs, some of which were very easy to find and some that were hidden in some nooks and crannies.

If you didn't have a basket, you didn't have a problem -- this hunter of the eggs just used her basball hat.

If you didn't have a hat, you also didn't have a problem -- this hunter of the eggs just used his hands.

Even the Easter bunny was on hand to hand out little bunnies to the children in attendance.



Court from page 1



"He had to send his child to someone else to be taken care of and move back on base into the barracks."

"It can affect the shipmates they work with because they won't be able to drive the duty vehicle or things such as that," said Curry.

As of April 12, there have been 170 traffic accidents at NASSIG, 28 of those with injuries. "The Americans need to stay within their driving skill box over here, and we have gotten out of it," said Woody Olatin, Traffic Safety specialist. We are not in America where we can take our big SUVs (Sport Utility Vehicles) and drive on our superhighways and not pay attention."

Speeding on the roads is a major concern. You may have seen the signs all around the bases and housing areas saying things like "Slow Down." "Why is everybody in a such hurry to get home to watch that one TV station," said Olatin. "They just need to slow down."

An excuse that some may use for their driving includes "blending in" with the culture and driving like the locals do. "You're not an Italian," said Curry. "It's not an excuse. We're guests in this country. We must and will obey their laws even if they don't."

There are ways for people to avoid going to traffic court. "They need to drive safely, drive slow, drive defensively," Curry said. "They just need to pay attention to what they're doing on the roads and obey the rules and regulations."

"Senior people need to step up to the plate and lead by example," said Olatin. Olatin said if anyone in the Sigonella community has ideas to make the driving situation better to contact him at the Safety Department at 624-5630.

So heed those warnings you see around base and on TV and "Drive to Arrive."

For more information of traffic court, click over to [www.infosig.sicily.navy.mil](http://www.infosig.sicily.navy.mil) and click on traffic court clerk. To test your knowledge on traffic safety, check out the website <http://infosig.sicily.navy.mil/safety/>, click on traffic safety and then the POV safety quiz. Also check out the "0.7 seconds" presentation for why you should wear a seatbelt.



(Top) Lt. Steve Curry, traffic court judge, holds up the drawing of the situation which a Sailor drew in court on April 7.

(Left) A Sailor and his character witness stand before Curry.

(Above) YN2 Nick Danz, Traffic Court clerk, takes notes during a traffic court hearing on April 7.



## April Operations Security Awareness Slogan Contest

1st — 72 Hour Special Liberty and MWR Information Tours and Travel (ITT) Trip  
 2nd — Information Tours and Travel (ITT) Trip and family bowling passes  
 3rd — Family movie pass  
 Most funny — three movie passes and three bowling passes  
 What is OPSEC? Operations Security prevents the inadvertent compromise of unclassified indicators, sensitive or classified activities, capabilities, or intentions at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels.  
 Translation — a lot of unclassified information put together can equal classified  
 Everyone is invited to participate! Make your slogan funny, straightforward, serious or how ever you want it. Email it to Opsec@nassig.sicily.navy.mil  
 With the following information:  
 Your name  
 Rank or position  
 Command  
 Telephone number  
 Winners will be chosen at the end of April so take your time and make it good.  
 There is no limit to how many entries you can have.

### Healthwatch from page 2

is the bowel prep the night before. It's a same day procedure that takes about an hour. Anesthesia is used and individuals often wake up afterwards amazed that the exam is over. Risks include colonic perforation and bleeding, both which occur less than 1% of the time. I choose colonoscopy over sigmoidoscopy or barium enema because it gives the physician the ability to see the entire colon and remove the polyp if found. Sigmoidoscopy only sees about one-third of the colon and the barium enema, does not allow one to treat the lesion when found. If you are over 50 with low risk or 40 with a higher risk, contact your primary care physician for a referral to the general surgery clinic for your screening colonoscopy.  
 On the horizon is the virtual colonoscopy, which uses a cat scan to reconstruct the colon and is totally non-invasive and used to see if any abnormalities exist. If abnormalities are found then the colonoscopy does need to be used for further testing of the abnormalities. The virtual colonoscopy may become the standard of care in the next 10 to 15 years.

# April is OPSEC month at NASSIG

Story by JO1(SW) Brian Johnson  
 Staff Writer

A Sailor goes out to eat with some friends and throughout the evening discusses his job and where he works, where some of his co-workers are deployed and when they are coming back. Within days his base is attacked by a terrorist organization.  
 Not every Sailor has a high security clearance or access to top-secret documents but that doesn't mean those Sailors can't give away secrets to the enemy. That was a fictitious scenario military members come dangerously close to every day they don't practice good OPSEC.

April is designated Operations Security Month at Naval Air Station Sigonella to get the word out about what people can do to practice good OPSEC.

"OPSEC is unclassified, yet important information, that includes, ships movement, deployment schedules, places, names, ranks, numbers of people, social security numbers, the list goes on and on," said Lt. Michael

### Gym from page 1

final phase will be the renovation of the basketball court, where a new simulated wood grain polyvinyl floor will be installed. "It's very shock absorbent," said Morris. "The wood paneling we chose originally was abandoned due to the wear and tear the floors would receive, as the NAS II gym serves many functions beyond basketball and volleyball." Morris said the renovation will also include repairs to the roof, which has leaked water onto the court for years.

The project was originally scheduled to begin in November 2003, but was renegotiated at MWR's request. "When we looked at the final design we felt it was lacking," said Morris. "The finished product wouldn't allow us to offer a great facility." The current plan was subsequently approved.

Morris is optimistic that, while the project will cause some inconvenience to patrons of the NAS II gym, the hassles of limited facilities will be well worth the problems when the renovation is complete.

"We are going through some growing pains and will have to adjust," Morris said. "But next year MWR will have a new facility on NASI, plus this fitness center will be remodeled, the renovation of NAS II ball fields will be complete and [the turf] mature. This will be a rough year, but next year we'll be in a much better position."

Husband, NASSIG operations security officer.

The best way to keep information from falling into the wrong hands is to "use common sense, if it doesn't seem right to discuss where you are, then don't, if you think someone may be trying to listen to your conversation then don't talk about anything they want to know" Husband said.

There are many more people than just terrorists to keep our operations secure from. "Personal OPSEC is important too ... last year there were over 800,000 cases of identity theft in America alone," Husband said. "Criminals who want to use all types of information for personal gain as well as other governments are listening to what we have to say about where we work and what we know."

But just keeping quiet doesn't mean the bad guys can't get the information. "The James Bond stuff does happen, people do dive into dumpsters to get documents with important information on it," Husband said.

The cure for this problem is relatively simple and cheap too. Husband explained that the remedy is a crosscut shredder, which can be purchased relatively

cheaply at many retail stores. "People should using shredders at home as well as at work for flight plans and anything containing names or account numbers."

In his research about America's enemies Husband looked at what kind of information Al Qaeda wants its operatives to find out and what he discovered is disturbing. "These guys are smart, they want to know everything they possibly can," Husband said. "They want to know things like school bus routes and times."

"It is necessary to gather as much information about the location as possible. For instance: transportation, the area, appearances, and setting ... information about government personnel, officers, important personalities, and all matters related to them (residence, work place, times of leaving and returning, and children." — the Al Qaeda handbook

Husband said it's important to keep in mind that terrorist "don't want to hit a hard target they want to hit soft targets, they want to hit that busload of children not the front gate. So use common sense. People may think you are being paranoid, but at least you not giving away secrets."



Photo by PR3(SW) Basil Currence

Beginning this week the basketball court of the NAS II gym will be split in half to accommodate weight machines and other gym equipment during the gym renovation.

## Don't be a statistic ... slow down!



*The Signature*  
 Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at sigsignature@yahoo.com. Ads run for two weeks and are run on a space available basis and must be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/American base employees.  
 Ads must be 40 words or less. The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Jerry Boritzki @ 095-307-412 to pay for an advertisement.

**Paid Ads**

**1990 Mercedes 200E** Gas. Black. Asking 2,500 Euro. Call 095-0307077.

Center of Taormina - for rent beautiful apartment, one bedroom, living room, kitchen, TV, air conditioning. Rent on weekly or monthly basis. For reservations call Silvia at 340-3571699.

Tired of housecleaning? Italian house cleaner with 17 years experience working for Signonella. Provides on and off base services. For 125 Euro will clean four times per month. Call x1485.

Manicures and Pedicures by Katie in Marinarai Housing. Call 624-1454 for appointment. Candless soft music and cookies. Gift Certificates available.

**Automotive**

**1991 BMW 520.** Black, 6 cyl 24 valve, only 74,000 km, dual climate controls, power everything including sunroof, alloy wheels, etc. condition. 5,500 Euro. Call 095-7212133 during evenings.

**1991 Lancia Dedra.** Heat, new alternator, new engine, Italian brand radio. Have to buy own speakers. Asking \$1,500. Call Brandy Morris at x5120 or 338-3117826.

**1971 Mini Minor Mk3.** Red. Motor and body in good condition. All original. \$3,800. Call 339-401979.

**2002 Harley Davidson Superglide Sport.** Purple Pearl with blacked-out engine. 5000 miles. Like new. \$14,500 OBO Call AE1 Morse at 095-89-6932 or 340277245.

**2000 VOLVO V70 OIL OPTIM.** Optional: Wheel 17" - TV - Planetary Gear - GSM Loudspeaker - Electrical Leather Seats - Automatic, A/C, 21,000 Euro. Call 095.869910 -or x9910.

**2001 Harley Davidson Sportster 883.** 1,000 original miles. White Pearl Paint. Forward Controls. Cover, two helmets, shop manual. Outstanding condition! \$5,850. Call x1526.

**1998 Dodge Neon** White 4 door with 79,000 miles. 5 speed with A/C New tires. \$3500 O.B.O. Call Mike at x5935 or 095306225.

**1991 Alfa Romeo 164 Turbo** (gas). Runs great. Great family car, A/C, PW, PS, AM/FM Cassette, brakes recently replaced and new tires. \$1,500. Call Ozzie at 335-578-9885 or x6590.

**1990 BMW 320i.** Metallic blue, four doors, A/C, power locks and windows, great in body and engine. Asking \$2,600. For more info call x6041 or 3477252937 and ask for Dante.

**1996 Peugeot 406 turbo.** 4 doors full options, in perfect condition asking price \$2 400. Call Joe at x338-2185499.

**1989 Toyota corolla sedan.** Blue rebuilt automatic transmission, new tires, new radiator, ac, am/fm radio, CD player, asking \$4,000 firm. Available end of May. Call marvis at x0202.

**1995 Honda Steed (Shadow)** teal green, perfect to see the island on. Transferring must sell 1500.00. Motorcycle is AFI plated, and has air conditioning. Call x1264

**1990 LANCIA DEDRA L6 LTR.** White climate control, new timing belt, oil, filters, 2,000 euro. For info call Ciccio 3477818470.

**15 Passenger Dodge van** for sale. Perfect for family and trips. All maintenance done on schedule. Must sell soon. \$2800 with room to negotiate. Please contact Larry @ spade181@yahoo.com.

**1994 SAAB 9000 Turbo.** Fully Loaded, to include Leather Interior, ABS, Airbags, Climate Control, New Clutch, Battery, Timing Belt, Tune up, Fluids & filters, brakes. Asking 3900.00 euros Call 340 600 3960.

**1990 BMW 318Si,** white, 2-door, 5 speed transmission, Italian cover plates, good running engine. Asking \$3000 OBO. Call x5284 (work), x1307 (home) or 333-296-2693.

**1992 Renault Clio.** 5 Door, Grey Color. Great Condition, auto inspection passed. asking \$2000.00 Call Liliانا at 347-8463588.

**1993 HONDA LX.** Four door, air con, cruise control, automatic, power, central lock, etc. 119,000 miles. Well maintained & AFI plated. \$3200 Below BB 095 52 0298.

**1988 SAAB 9000i** asking \$2200. AFI plated. Call x1382.

**1979 GS 850N Suzuki.** Asking \$400 dollars for it. If interested call Larry at 333-501-4491 or email at mlrunner2002@yahoo.com.

**2000 BMW 323ci Convertible.** Only 8500 miles. Like new. Blue with gray leather interior. Fully automatic cloth top with glass rear window. Can be converted to US Specs and shipped back to the States. Navy Fed Credit Union will finance and the rates are LOW! Asking \$27,500. Check out the blue book value on this one. Call Tony at 347 521 5514. or 095-727-8072 after 6 p.m.

**2000 Daewoo Lanos Se,** 32,000 miles automatic, A/C, PW, AM/FM, cassette, runs great. In good condition. Asking \$7,000 O.B.O. Call: Alex Jones at x3535, 340-6016071 or e-mail alexjax33@yahoo.com for more information.

**1993 Fiat Croma 2.0i Sedan.** Full optional, p/w, p/s, abs, climaromic, new tires really good conditions 1,800 O.B.O. Euro. Call Rob at 3386170392.

**1994 BMW 318i.** Black, 4 doors, Km 93000, Full Optional, ABS, Air Bag, Automatic A/C, Stereo-CD Changer, Alarm, European Specs, Manual transmission, Great Conditions. 6,500 Euro/\$8292 OBO. Call Rick at x4690 (08:00-16:45) 338/5326171 (after 4:45.

**1996 Dodge Stratus.** Auto w/AC. 4 door. 2.4 L. Very

reliable family car. Body and engine in good condition. No major problems. \$5,500 O.B.O. Call 333-1890702. Avail 1 JUN.

**1993 Renault 19 w/120K** New, clutch, new brakes and shocks. Great car for here small and fast. Call Chris at x5451/ days 333-114-8734.

**1996 Alfa Romeo 155 Twin Spark.** Dark blue, 5 speed, CD player, A/C, power windows & locks, AFI cover plated. Car is in great shape and very reliable. Asking \$3,800. Call 335-768-3760 or x1247.

**2000 Jeep Wrangler Sport 4.0** Liter engine, 4 WD, Automatic, white/tan, CD, A/C, car alarm system, draws 400 liters, less than 30,000 miles, AFI cover plated. Asking \$17,000. Call 335-768-3760 or x1247.

**1993 Audi 80.** Great family or touring car. Has Extras. \$3,500 O.B.O. Call Andrew at 340-9735432.

**1989 Fiat Duna.** 4 door, AFI plated, no A/C, been a reliable car. asking \$1500 call x1422.

**1991 volvo 4 door 740 sedan.** Automatic transmission, motor and engine in very good condition, power windows & doors, sunroof, ac, 178,000 miles. New tires, timing belts. available to sell 4/21. asking 3,500.00 call Dan or Caren 095-52-2320.

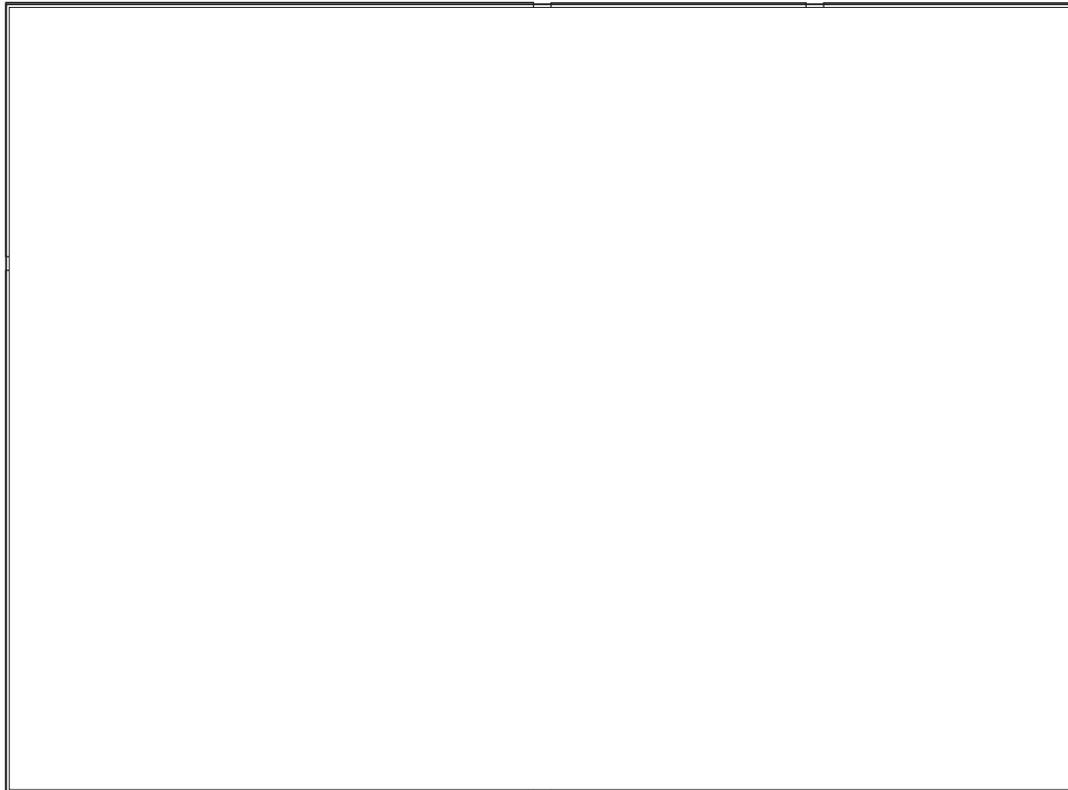
**1989 Volkswagen GTI Hatchback.** 5 speed, runs great, body good condition, power window & doors, sunroof, 90,000 miles. new tires, struts, water, pump, radiator, clutch. available to sell 4/25. asking \$1,700.00 call dan or caren 095-52-2320.

**1992 Alfa Romeo 164 Turbo,** 4 door, power windows, power door locks, alarm with keyless entry and AFI plated. \$2000.00. Call 624-1444 after 1700 or 333 762 3550 between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. email: stanickml@hc4.sicily.navy.mil.

**1989 Honda Transalp Motorcycle 600cc** endure, American spec 11xxx miles, supertrapp exhaust, new chain, sprockets, battery, grips, filters, plugs, and tires. Runs great. Perfect bike for sicily. \$2500 obo. Contact AT3 Starnes @ x6586 (daytime) 320-152-6171 (evenings).

**1991 BMW 520i** A/C, excellent condition! Asking 2,500 euro. Call Enza @ 328-458 6401.

**1995 Grand AM Gt,** white, power everything, tinted



**Send II Mercato advertisements to sigosignature@yahoo.com**

windows, 4 doors automatic, new tires, new brakes, new ac unit, cd player, asking 4000 obo. if interested, please call x3508.

**2000 Ford KA** blue, A/C, power steering/windows/locks, dual airbag, alarm. Great gas mileage, 66500. Call 624-6406 (days) 095-727-1402 (eves).

**Pets**

7 month old German Shepard needs a loving home. All shots up to date and house broken. She loves going for walks and playing fetch. She's a great dog with a great personality. 624-0633 or 340-821-6467.

Black female mixed puppy approximately 6-12 mos. old. Good with other dogs. Call x1536 for more info.

**For Sale**

Two Italian made heaters, \$10 each: Italian plug extension cord, \$2; transformer, \$10. Call Brandy Morris at x5120 or 338-3117826.

Wedding gown: size six, fits also three, white satin with beaded spaghetti straps. Beaded lace split back, tulle train. Never been worn, \$750. Call 338-8760310.

Fes Sale! 7'3x2'7" Black Italian dining room table with four chairs \$400 O.B.O. British Sky satellite digital decoder box, \$ 350. Call x0355.

DVD player (multi-system) bought at NEX five-months-ago, \$65. Baby Stroller (big) w/ sun protector \$25. Call Jason at 095-522242.

Sewing Machine, \$50. Call x1526.

Air conditioners- Four window type air conditioners, three European spec, one American spec. All 220 VAC \$100 each. Call x1526.

Baby light-up&music crawl and cruise \$20, large net evenflow babywag w/suction sides size adjustable \$15, sound and light-up baby kick toy also turns into a toddler toy \$10, 2 light purple crib bumpers \$5ea., 2 toddler harnesses \$2ea., jenny lynn changing table w/ pad \$35, baby walker foldout trays with toys attaches, plays music \$25. Call Amanda at 095522134.

Crib, mattress & bumper \$60; musical crib toy \$15; baby carrier (new) \$10; baby Entertainment unit \$15; 21 in TV w/remote \$30; black computer desk \$10, Cole Haan boots size 5 1/2 used only 3 times \$75. Call x3547 or 349-4910744.

Return throw net (for sports) new \$20, set of 5 collectors edition Budweiser steins all for \$200, Maternity clothing + uniforms B.O., Cannon printer+extra stuff(needs ink) \$25, Call x1264.

Panasonic VCR w/ remote barely used \$0.00. Hand made India quilt very big-dark maroon and gold, \$100.

Friends the best of, season 5, and season 6 all for 50.00, lots of movies between 2-and 4-, 2 sets of English egg coddlers (Royal Worcester porcelain) still in original box \$50, for both. Eddie Bauer car seat new born to booster barely used, \$70. Call Christin at 1264.

Color television with remote. \$75.00 Heat press (110 v) w/transfer paper \$175.00 Car Seat, good condition \$25.00 Please call Mike or Beth at x1267.

Computer for home use. Microsoft etower733i with CDrom and 56k modem, Packard Bell full color monitor. Hewlett Packard Deskjet 696c, color printer, keyboard, mouse, standard speakers, perfect condition, asking \$400 obo. Call Jon or Pam at 095-998570.

Sagem MC820 Cell Phone with Omnitel Chip. With Box, English Manual and Charger \$50.00. Call 3339044050.

Ashley Geronimo black leather couch and love seat, like new, \$800 O.B.O.; Olympic size weight bench and weights \$100. Call 338-143-7491; X6904 ask for Brent.

Italian b/w leather couch and single sofa, black bedroom set, no mattress. White table with extension six-people, four modern chairs. Needs to be sold by April 26. Be prepared to pick up. Call Nilsa at x6435 or 335-1202163.

PCS items for sale. All 220V, three transformers \$30-\$45, three ceiling fans w/lights \$25-\$45, three standing fans \$10each. Call P.O. Best at x1324.

Italian language materials. Univ. of Maryland textbook, Oggi in Italian, 7th edition- \$20 (\$95 new on Amazon!); Cassell's Italian Dictionary, \$5 (\$25 new); Barron's Mastering Italian course \$15 (book + 15 compact discs, \$90 new). Call Erica at x1201/095-86-1201.

Selling two Intec Racing Wheels- "feel the bumps, crashes, and more with vibration feedback." For PlayStation, PlayStation2, PSome, Xbox, and GameCube. New in boxes (used once.) All needed cables included. Were \$60 new, asking \$20 for both OBO. Call Erica at x1201/095-86-1201.

Sofa and love seat Blue, Very Good \$5280.00. Medium Dog Kennel \$25.00, Ceiling FAN w Lights \$30.00. Kitchen or Bathroom Cabinet top/bottom pieces, \$30.00 call: 095 52 0298.

Dining room table set w/ built in leaf and 6 chairs. Light brown with fabric backing on chair back and seat areas. \$275 for all. Vespa/cooter helmet w/face shield, silver, brand new, \$30; Pair of heavy medium blue draperies, \$20; 220 volt car polisher, \$15; Covered cat litter box & car/airplane carrier, \$10 for both. New American BBQ tanks, \$10 (\$29 in the NEX), Very fine (625 holes per sq. in.) Mosquito nosem screen mesh material (\$4/ yd), hardware, wood framing material. Cellular phone accessories, Nokia batteries, wall charger, cigarette lighter adapter, base cradle, carrying case - \$25 for all. Motorola Timeport cigarette lighter adapter, carrying

case, owner's manual, - \$25; TIM chip w/credit - \$35 for all. Call 095-472-199 or 3488040463.

Loden Green full size sleeper sofa. Call Joy 624-9226 from 0915-1600 Or 095-52-9169 after 6 p.m..

Free to anyone 51/2 yr old Husky/Shepard mix. Need to get rid of due to PCS. Will pay you to take him. Very loving and playful. Loves cats. Call 624-3574 or 624-5122.

**Lost**

Wife giving you a hard time because you lost your wedding band? Found at Beauty Inn tanning booth. Call or write Bobby with description at 3485420473 or bobeb323@excite.com for return.

**Wanted**

Wanted white baby changing table. It can be any brand and a reasonable price. Contact Kristen at ex5285 or 349-476-7164.

Wanted pet sitter for 1 cat and 1 dog for the summer. Sitter to watch pets in their own home while we're away. Call Diane at 095-727-9899.

Gardener for my San Pietro Clarenza Home. 2 trees need to be trimmed, 1 is an olive tree. Plus some basic yard work and possible landscaping. Please do not respond if you are afraid of dogs. If interested call Joy 624-9236 from 0915-1600 or 095-52-9169 after 6 p.m.

Someone to baby-sit that speaks English in home at San Nicolo (Aci S. Filippo) Via Oliva S. Gauro #4. Call Riccardo Leoni at 095-765-5710.

**Yard Sale**

Large multi family yard sales. Mariani housing Saturday May 1st. 8a.m.-12p.m.

Multi-family yard sale, baby girl clothing, toys, baby shoes, adult clothing, adult shoes, home decorations and more. Friday, April 16 from 8:30 a.m. to noon and Saturday April 17 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mariani housing complex number 2223 C on Verona ST.

There will be a furniture in-house (garage) sale on May 1 - 2 (Saturday and Sunday). Please call Luigi 3334717661 or Pat 3337612533 for directions.

**Jobs**

Visiting Nurse: part time (20 hrs/wk) m position is actively being recruited by the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Sigonella Office. Must have a current license from any state in comus, current CPR certification, OB experience and a valid driver's license, med/surg , geriatrics, and home health education highly desirable. Must have reliable transportation available to make home visits. Must be us citizen or a command-sponsored spouse of an active duty service member and a registered resident alien with authorization to work in the U.S. competitive salary. Closing date will be April 21, 2004. Stop by bldg 319 to pick up an application.

**Public Notice of Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Survey**

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and the Navy Medical Inspector General (MEDINSGEN) will conduct a joint accreditation survey of Naval Hospital Sigonella, to include Branch Medical Clinics Souda Bay and Bahrain, from 28 April 04 to 5 May 04.

The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission and United States Navy standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which, accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview with JCAHO must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to:

Division of Accreditation Operations  
Joint Commission on Accreditation of  
Healthcare Organizations  
One Renaissance Boulevard  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

The Joint Commission will acknowledge such requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Concerns may also be brought to the attention of the Medical Inspector General by calling 1-800-637-6175 or DSN 312-295-9018.

