



# The Signature

## Sigonella, Sicily

Vol. 21 No.23

June 11, 2004

### TOP STORIES

**S**queezed between hot and humid weather and the upcoming rainy season, 42 Seabees from NMCB-74 are working quickly to complete three construction projects in the West African country of Ghana.

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**T**he Department of Defense announced June 3 that the Navy's newest Seawolf-class nuclear-powered submarine Jimmy Carter will be christened June 5 during an 11 a.m.

Page 3

**T**he celebrations in honor of San Giovanni Battista have been part of the Acitrezza community's life for over 300 years. Trizzoti (Acitrezza townspeople) keep alive a tradition that not only displays religious devotion to the saint but also shows the strength of the special relationship that the town has with the sea.

Page 6

**I**f you ever wanted to get away from it all and have all your cares go away...Citta' del Mara is the place to go.

Page 12

**D**rinking. Driving. Seatbelts. Safety. Words sailors hear and see on a daily basis, but whose concepts will be especially important in the next few months.

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## SDS seniors say goodbye to high school

Photo by PH3(SW) Betsi Currence  
Staff Photographer



The Stephen Decatur Secondary School graduating class of 2004 listens to a speaker during their graduation ceremony. The event included guest speakers and dance performances by members of the graduating class. Twenty eight students graduated from Stephen Decatur High School for the year of 2004. The ceremony took place Saturday June 5 in the piazza area by the new community building on NAS 1.



**You've got your orders. It's PCS time. What do you do first? This series will examine the steps necessary to make your permanent change of station a smooth move. First stop - PSD**

By JO1 Craig Coleman  
Staff Writer

The Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) at NAS Sigonella can be a busy place, with every chair in the waiting area occupied and a long list of names scrawled on the check-in sheet. Now more than ever.

June through August is the traditional high traffic period for PSD, when the average number of transfers doubles that of any other period of the year. One cause of the congestion in summer is family transfers.

"A lot of people wait until after school ends," said DK1(SW) Ronald Zimmermann, team one operations supervisor. "They extend out until the school year is over because they don't want to split up the year for the kids."

Although the volume of business done at PSD increases in summer the processes don't change.

"It's the same operation, just more of it," said PN1 David Berryhill, PSD adjutant. "The technicians are a little busier, but we maintain the same type of service we always do. It just increases our workload."

PSD Sailors and civilians at all levels of the organization stress the importance of turning in a properly completed transfer packet as soon as possible.

According to Jakelyn Melendez, personnel



Various paperwork waiting to be filled out sit in the NASSIG Personnel Support Detachment.

clerk, transferring personnel should start with PSD as soon as they receive Leaving, page 11

## 101 Critical Days of Summer heat up 'Feedback'

By JO1 Craig Coleman  
Staff Writer

Naval Air Station Sigonella's command master chief tackled summer safety and other issues on "Feedback," a live call-in television show produced by American Forces Network (AFN) Sigonella June 2.

CMDCM(AW/SW/FMF) Anthony Evangelista addressed the 101 Critical Days of Summer, the days and months between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend, when accidents and other safety mishaps outnumber those occurring the rest of the year.

"Summer's here and folks are looking to get out and enjoy the community," Evangelista said. "But we have to continue to emphasize the fact that we need to do things safely and we have to take care of one another as shipmates."

One step taken by the command to ensure the safety of Sailors is the designation of dangerous environments as "off-limits."

"When we're in a situation or particular places that give us pause or reason to take precautions we need to do that," Evangelista said. "The commanding officer has done that with two local pubs. Most of the issues we had there had alcohol as a catalyst, but there were some other issues that caused us to place those establishments off-limits to active duty personnel."

Several callers asked the command master chief questions about the policy of private swimming pools in government housing. Evangelista said that pools are allowed as long as housing occupants adhere to base housing instructions, which stipulate that the pools be temporary, secured when not in use, placed in the backyard and emptied frequently.

"We're not anti-pool," Evangelista said. "Just be responsible, use some common sense and please keep them safe."

"We'd like you to place it (the pool) in the backyard where it can be secured so that a child can't fall into it," Evangelista said. "We'd like you to have the type of pool you empty once in a while so that mosquitoes and other bugs don't get in there and to move the pool around the yard so you don't have a permanent indentation."

The six-foot diameter size restriction is an energy-saving policy. Feedback, page 14



# Direct Line

**Capt. T.L. Davison**  
**NASSIG**  
**Commanding Officer**

"There are no such things as limits to growth, because there are no limits on the human capacity for intelligence, imagination and wonder." — *Ronald Reagan*

When President Reagan began running for office, I was just designated as a Naval Aviator and thus began my naval career. President Reagan was an influential speaker, politician and leader during this two terms in the White House. He survived an assassination attempt, colon cancer, inflation, the Cold War and more. By his encouragement and dedication to freedom, the Soviet Union eventually broke down the walls and democracy began to spread across the Iron Curtain. Through his leadership, he increased defense spending by 35 percent over his presidency just to show that peace could be obtained and maintained through strength.

Leadership is learned and it must be put into practice everyday. As leaders, we must take an active role in our Sailors lives, both on base and off, their families, the workplace and more. Sailors must see the khakis in the workspaces more than ever. This intrusive leadership style enables us to be around our Sailors more and really get to know about their careers, goals and sometimes, their problems.

Being a leader means setting the example at all times, saying what you mean and meaning what you say, and being there when the going gets tough. Your actions definitely speak louder than your words.

The Naval Center of Leadership, headquartered in Little Creek, looks at ways to better equip our chiefs and officers with leadership skills. They offer the Front Line Leader Development Program, Facilitator Training, Division Officer training and more. How can you handle conflict management if you don't know how to recognize that your department or division is having any conflicts? The Navy would be remiss if it didn't equip our potential leaders with further education. The NCL unit here at NAS Sigonella can assist you with many of these classes and educational opportunities.

President Reagan once said, "The United States remains the last best hope for a mankind plagued by tyranny and deprivation. America is no stronger than its people — and that means you and me. Well, I believe in you, and I believe that if we work together then one day we will say, "We fought the good fight. We finished the race, we kept the faith." And to our children and our children's children we can say, "We did all that could be done in the brief time that was given to us here on earth."

We are strong because our leaders have made us strong. Everyone has opportunities to become a leader...only some choose to take it!

## HEALTHWATCH

**Corpsman gets NAM for helping stranger**

Submitted by: **LT Campbell and HM2 Smart**



HM3 Jessica L. Retherath was awarded the Naval Achievement Medal for unselfish heroism in providing medical life saving support to critically ill airline passenger



### CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

May 31 — June 6

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 11
- Traffic accident with injuries - 2
- Car break-ins - 10
- DUI - 3
- DUTs 2004 - 16
- DUTs 2003 - 58

On April 8, 2004 on a flight from Rome, Italy to Philadelphia, with what started off being an emergency flight home to visit her ill mother and turned into a flight of fate, HM3 Jessica Retherath provided medical lifesaving support to a critically ill airline passenger.

While sitting on the air plane waiting for the passengers to finish boarding, Retherath noticed a passenger who was trying to find his seat and having extreme breathing difficulty and was sweating profusely. Immediately, she confronted the senior flight attendant and explained her concern for the passenger and offered herself for assistance if needed. Before the plane took off, the flight attendant confronted the passenger about his condition and suggested he not fly if there was an issue. The gentleman stated that he had pneumonia a few years ago and that he would be fine once he had time to sit down and relax. After much debate the crew decided to fly as scheduled. The plane then took off from Rome headed to its destination approximately eight hours away.

Two and a half hours into the flight Retherath was awakened by vigorous shaking to a panicked flight crew. The gentleman she had previously warned them about having serious trouble breathing and was turning blue. Three hours from their destination and unable to land the plane, Retherath jumped up and began to help the senior flight attendant with emergency medical treatment. Oxygen and many other medical interventions were performed in an attempt to stabilize this patient. Retherath was in constant contact with a physician on the phone who was giving her direction for care. After two hours of constant emergency medical treatment provided by Retherath, the plane was able to divert its course and landed in Gander, Newfoundland.

Healthwatch, page 17

# Going beyond sunny days on an African deployment

**JO2 Lily Daniels, Commander,**  
**U.S. Naval Forces Europe Public Affairs**

ACCRA, Ghana — Squeezed between hot and humid weather and the upcoming rainy season, 42 Seabees from NMCB-74 are working quickly to complete three construction projects in the West African country of Ghana.

The Joint Forward Operations Location (JFOL) project is part of a regularly scheduled West Africa Training Exercise.

The JFOL project will serve as a multi-purpose facility to be used for emergency evacuations, as a humanitarian assistance operations center and a Joint Task Force headquarters.

The first phase of the exercise calls for the construction of a warehouse and berthing facility.

A restroom and shower facility, an operations center and a galley will be completed during future exercises.

The Seabees also are building a medical clinic (Haatso) and improving a soccer field as humanitarian civic assistance projects.

Teams of Seabees are working on the projects alongside local Ghanaian Soldiers from the 49th Engineer Regiment. Working together benefits both services with joint construction training.

"Everything has been good between us and the Seabees," said Cpl. Kepi Victor, a carpenter in the 49th Engineer Regiment working on the Haatso Medical Clinic. "It's a good project to work on, and it will help out the people a lot."

Each of the projects are about 95% complete, however when the torrential rain pours it only allows for a partial days work.

"The rain is slightly frustrating because the crew is near completion of the exterior of the clinic," said Builder First Class (Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist) John P. Steen.

project crew leader for Haatso Medical Clinic. "We've already had to overcome some material differences and delays. The material was all locally procured, and not all of the sizes are the same as what we normally work with."

Due to the differences, the crew needed to construct a ceiling truss structure from scratch. The truss system supports the roof, and is normally obtained from a manufacturer.

The clinic project began as a muddy, grassy field. The crew filled in part of the field to level it out, so rainwater wouldn't flood the finished building.

After the foundation was dug, up went cement columns and the remainder of the structure.

That structure now houses nine examination rooms, two restroom facilities and a lobby. Only a portion of electrical wiring, plumbing and painting remains to be finished.

The clinic is targeted for underprivileged women and children, which could possibly include some of the children attending school next door to the clinic.

"Except for when it rains there are about 30 kids hanging on the fence next to the clinic watching us everyday. We've put some of our money together, and we've donated uniforms to about five of the kids," said Steen.

Although the rain does slow construction, it does bring a slight advantage to the JFOL crew, as it allows them to see how well the newly installed berthing area drainage system works.

A successful drain gets the crew moving for preparations of craning metal containers onto the pad. The facility will consist of metal containers locked together, which accommodate up to 64 people.

At one end of the fenced-in soccer field, locals watch workers installing playground equipment.

## They did what?



**By Chaplain**  
**Tommy Myhand**  
**Command**  
**Chaplain**

The other day, I was listening to Paul Harvey on AFN as he shared this story. A couple took their camper and went on vacation. They reached their destination and parked their vehicle. After a while they decided to take a hike. While they were gone someone tried to siphon the gasoline tank. Well, the bandit accidentally siphoned the sewage tank of the camper! Needless to say, this person got a mouthful of raw sewage. He left the contents of his stomach there at the scene of the almost-accomplished "crime". I really believe this bandit learned a lesson. Of course, we often read or hear of people who do really dumb things. Usually we think: "They did what?" or, "I can't believe it!" or, "What were they thinking?"

Did you hear about the man who went out to remove a beehive from his garden? He did not quite know how to do this but knew that bees would sting and he would have to burn the hive. So, covering his head with a

plastic bag and securing tightly he went out to burn the hive. His wife found him dead a few hours later. The plastic bag had protected him from the stings, the smoke fumes and from receiving oxygen. Then there was the guy who went bungee jumping. He tied about 60-70 bungee cords together and jumped from a very high place. His funeral was four days later.

Just this past week there were two sailors in Catania identified where where several serious incidents reported. Again, I have to say, "They did what?" I share this because I don't want any of you to get in trouble or get hurt. Smart Sailors will not even put themselves in a place where they could be guilty by association. An ounce of clear thinking could spare people from some bad consequences. Please be careful. I am trying to keep some of you from becoming the next poster child for "What were you thinking?" I encourage each and every one of us to take the right action in every circumstance.

Recently, I had someone siphon my gasoline tank in Motta. I could only wish I would have had a portable "Johnny On The Spot" tank under my truck. This way both of us could have had a bad taste in our mouths!

The young adults are as eager to play on the newly leveled field, as the children are to try out the swings, seesaw and slide. Only a few minor finishing touches from the crew, and they will soon be back on the field.

During the exercise, Reservists from NMCB-15 came to do their two-week annual training. Their contribution assisted the crew in completing portions of the projects.

"It's always a pleasure to go somewhere, and do something for others," said Steelworker First Class (SCW) Patrick Santen, from NMCB-15.

To an outsider, having only a couple of weeks to finish the projects may seem almost impossible, but for the crew of NMCB-74 this is a walk in the park.

Replace the ships and aircraft with bulldozers and dump trucks, and that's a typical Seabee deployment.

They will return to their base at Camp Mitchell in Rota, Spain to join the main unit once the exercise is over, and will continue on to their homeport of Gulfport, Miss.

## NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

**Catholic Mass**  
 Sunday 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 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)

**Muslim Jumuah**  
 Friday 12:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I) Classroom

**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.

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# NAVY NEWS

## USS Ronald Reagan pays veterans' respects

By JO2 Shane Tuck,  
USS Ronald Reagan  
Public Affairs

USS RONALD REAGAN, At Sea (NNS) — The ship's ceremonial guard and crew members of USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) stood at attention, May 30, to pay their respects during the ship's first burial at sea ceremony.

According to Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW) Joe Swartout, Ceremonial Guard petty officer in charge, the ceremony honored 11 veterans and family members.

"Our purpose today is to continue one of our honored and sacred naval traditions — the burial at sea," said Capt. James Symonds, commanding officer, USS Ronald Reagan. "It is a hallowed event that gives recognition of our final tribute to honor our nation's veterans."

One Ronald Reagan Sailor fulfilled her great grandfather's request for a burial at sea aboard an aircraft carrier.

Information Specialist 2nd Class Takiesha Waites, Operations department, committed to sea Paul Lester Waites, a U.S. Merchant Marine from January 1940 to October 1971. His burial was the first to be honored on board Ronald Reagan.

"It's fitting, as well as historic, that the first burial at sea from the decks of our ship is conducted by one of our own," said Symonds.

Satisfying her great grandfather's final request was an uphill struggle, and took years for Waites to accomplish.

"I felt a sense of closure because my family waited two years for this occasion," said Waites. "It was a blessing and privilege for the command to present me the opportunity to participate in the ship's first burial at sea."



The ship's Ceremonial Rifle Guard present arms during a Burials at Sea ceremony held aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Ronald Reagan is underway circumnavigating South America on her way to a new homeport in San Diego, Calif.

The Ceremonial Guard spent many hours training to ensure the event was meaningful to all those involved and those who observed the ceremony, as well.

"The Ceremonial Guard trained for more than 500 hours, on and off duty, for this event," said Swartout. "Because the ceremony honored one of our shipmate's family members, we strived for greatness to express our respect."

"I'm always pleased to see our Sailors of the Ceremonial Guard," said Symonds. "They bring us honor while continuously exemplifying military dignity, professionalism and pride."

The event's coordination with Memorial Day made its timing especially appropriate.

"This ceremony exemplifies the high-standing traditions of the Navy," said Chaplain (Cmdr.) Steven Smith, command chaplain. "It's our honor, duty and privilege to respect these elder warriors' final request."

For related news, visit the USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) Navy NewsStand page at [www.news.navy.mil/local/cvn76](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/cvn76).

## Seven Carrier Strike Groups Underway for Exercise "Summer Pulse 04"

Special release from the U.S. Department of Defense

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Department of Defense announced June 2 that this summer, simultaneous deployment of seven aircraft carrier strike groups (CSGs) will demonstrate the ability of the Navy to provide credible combat power across the globe by operating in five theaters with other U.S., allied and coalition military forces.

"Summer Pulse 04" will be the Navy's first exercise of its new operational construct, the Fleet Response Plan (FRP). FRP is about new ways of operating, training, manning, and maintaining the fleet that results in increased force readiness and the ability to provide significant combat power to the President in response to a national emergency or crisis.

Beginning this week and continuing through August, the Navy will exercise the full range of skills involved in simultaneously deploying and employing carrier strike groups around the world. Summer Pulse 04 will include scheduled deployments, surge operations, joint and interrelated exercises, and other advanced training and port visits.

Under the FRP construct, the Navy can provide six CSGs in less than 30 days to support contingency operations

around the globe, and two more CSGs can be ready in three months to reinforce or rotate with initially responding forces, to continue presence operations in other parts of the world, or to support military action in another crisis. Summer Pulse 04 will exercise the logistics and shore infrastructure necessary to execute a large scale surge operation, stress the operational concepts in the Navy's Sea Power 21 strategy, and improve Navy interoperability with numerous allies and coalition partners, as well as other U.S. military forces.

The seven aircraft carriers involved in Summer Pulse 04 will include: the Norfolk-based USS George Washington (CVN 73) CSG and the San Diego-based USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) CSG, both currently deployed, and Yokosuka, Japan-based USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63). The Mayport, Fla.-based USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) CSG will begin a combined and joint exercise early this month, followed by a scheduled overseas deployment. The Norfolk-based USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) CSG will conduct a scheduled training exercise followed by overseas pulse operations with the Norfolk-based USS Enterprise (CVN 65) CSG, beginning early this month. USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) will conduct Strike group, page 17

## 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.

## USS Pinckney comes to life In ceremony at NBVC Port Hueneme

By JO1 Lynn Kirby and JO3 Erin Huff  
Naval Base Ventura County Public Affairs



The Navy's newest guided missile destroyer PCU Pinckney (DDG 91) sailed past downtown San Diego for the first time on the way to its homeport Naval Base San Diego. Pinckney's commissioning ceremony will be held May 29, 2004 at Port Hueneme, Calif., when it will officially become a United States Ship (USS). The ship is named in honor of Navy Cook 1st Class William Pinckney, who received the Navy Cross for his courageous rescue of a fellow crew member aboard USS Enterprise (CV 6) during the Battle of Santa Cruz Island October 26, 1942.

CBC PORT HUENEME, Calif. (NNS) — More than 6,000 people gathered at Wharf 3 on Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) to witness the official commissioning of the Navy's latest AEGIS guided-missile destroyer, USS Pinckney (DDG 91), May 29.

The order was given to "man the rails and bring our ship to life," by Henrietta Pinckney, ship's sponsor and the widow of the ship's namesake.

Cmdr. Robert Byron, the plank owner commanding officer of Pinckney, emphasized how important the Sailors manning her rails would be in her future success. He said that more than the steel and electronics, the Sailors are the ship.

"The heart of this ship is its Sailors," Byron said, adding that they come from 46 states and more than half a dozen countries. "We are America."

Mrs. Pinckney was thrilled to have the honor of participating in the ceremony and seeing her late husband honored in such a noble manner.

"Everything about the ceremony was beautiful. I was not expecting so many people," said Mrs. Pinckney. "I will probably go home and cry, not sad tears, but tears because I'm so happy."

The ship is named after Navy Cook 1st Class William Pinckney, one of only four African-Americans to earn the Navy Cross in World War II. He received the Navy Cross for his courageous rescue of a fellow crew member aboard USS Enterprise (CV 6) during the Battle of Santa Cruz. When an explosion killed four of the six men at his battle station in an ammunition handling room, Pinckney and Gunner's Mate James Bagwell attempted to exit through a hatch to the hangar deck above. Bagwell was too weak to climb the ladder.

Although Bagwell was taller and 20 pounds heavier than Pinckney, Pinckney carried him over his shoulder up the hatch to safety, then returned to look for more survivors. Pinckney was badly burned and riddled with shrapnel. After leaving the Navy in 1946, he worked as a cook on Merchant Marine vessels. After 26 years, he retired to his native South Carolina. He died of cancer in 1976.

James Bagwell II — the son of the Sailor Pinckney saved — sat on a platform of dignitaries that included the principle speaker Honorable John Young Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Rear Adm. Charles S. Hamilton, program executive officer, ships; and Rear Adm. Christopher M. Moe, deputy surface warfare For combat systems weapons.

Naval Base Ventura County personnel played a significant role in the success of this milestone event for the ship and her crew. In addition to coordinating with Northrop Grumman and the Navy League for the execution of the ceremony, there were also numerous events over the last week to welcome the crew to Port Hueneme.

"We are incredibly proud to host this commissioning ceremony and to help bring her [Pinckney] to life," NBVC Commanding Officer Capt. Paul S. Grossgold said. "There was a lot of work from a lot of base personnel that went into this; it was a real team effort with the community."

During the ceremony, Byron took a moment to remember a tragedy that struck the ship's crew in March. During a field trip to visit the resting place of the late Pinckney, one of the five chartered buses carrying the ship's crew was hit in a head-on collision, killing three crew members and injuring another 70. Eleven of those 70 have yet to return to full duty aboard Pinckney, and could not be part of the ceremonies Saturday.

"I was amazed that so many of those injured thought not about their own injuries, but whether or not they would be able to stay assigned to Pinckney," Byron said. "But we're here, we're here, we're ready. The mind, soul, heart, and spirit of a Sailor are everything. Shipmates support and defend each other. We're a family today..."

Pinckney is homeported in San Diego as a member of Destroyer Squadron 1.

## News Briefs

### Housing announcement

Due to low occupancy rates in government housing newly arriving service members with dependents will be required to move into government housing.

Military families will be given the choice of accepting the longest vacant unit in Mineo or Marinal housing complex, or assignment in either 205 or an outlying complex.

The changes are due to a housing occupancy rate requirement of at least 98 percent. The base currently has a government housing occupancy rate of 82 percent. The occupancy rate is expected to lower further with the opening of 118 new units at Marinal in July.

Members living on the economy who apply for government housing will receive the same housing options as new arrivals. If they don't choose either option they will be removed from the housing list and may reapply after 90 days. In addition those members moving in from the economy will only be moved at their own expense. For more information contact the housing office at 624-4311.

### Road closure

A section of the NAS II North Perimeter Road will be closed for approximately four weeks from Monday, June 14 until Monday July 12 for construction work on the new motor vehicle fuel station. The road will be closed between the Public Works Compound and DRMO. An email with a map will be sent out the week before construction begins on the NAS Sigonella Distribution List.

### Off Limits

Macintosh Bar and Banachers are now off limits to the entire Sigonella community. The establishments are not safe for Americans based on several incidents that have occurred. The area will be patrolled to ensure compliance with this order.

### Volunteers needed

The MWR Library is looking for volunteers for the 2004 Summer Reading Program "Don't Bug Me, I'm Reading." Volunteers may read to kids on Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. for Story Time or help with activities on Wednesday at 10 a.m. The program starts in July and runs until August. Call Daniel Flores at the MWR Library at 624-3875.

### Sealed bid sale

Fleet Management Center Vincenza will be selling GSA exchange vehicles in June. Inspection dates in Sigonella are June 9-11. Cars can be viewed at "Volcano Car Rental." Bids are due no later than June 21. For information call 634-6266 or 633-8274.

## The Energy Block

You, The People...

Hats off to all that have worked so hard to help reduce the electrical consumption here at NAS SIGONELLA. Though, we are not exactly out of the woods yet, with the budget shortfall that is, we have managed to save enough money for a comfort zone. As most now know, air-conditioning system startup has been approved and in the next two weeks will be brought online. Which, brings me to user responsibility. It is imperative that we maintain a tight restriction on all of our usages. Such as, turning off units and systems when not needed, including weekends. Unlike last year when Enel had one rate for the mornings and a different one for the evenings and weekends we will now have an increase of a separate rate for the mid-mornings. This happens to be the peak of our usages. To reduce our costs during these maximum rate periods we must change our schedules whenever possible.

1. To minimize the cost of producing water, water our lawns and wash our cars in the early mornings, late afternoons and early evenings. For fund-raiser car washes, ensure that spray nozzles are provided for the hoses.
2. If you turn on ball field lights, turn them off before you leave. Security has been doing this but the three or four hours that they may be on has now cost us \$30 or \$40 each time. Folks these are 2,000 watt bulbs.
3. Please be vigilant for water breaks, streetlights or outside building lights left on during the day, and doors and windows left open at the barracks. Please secure lighting when leaving your office space along with CPU's, monitors, and copy machines during the weekends.

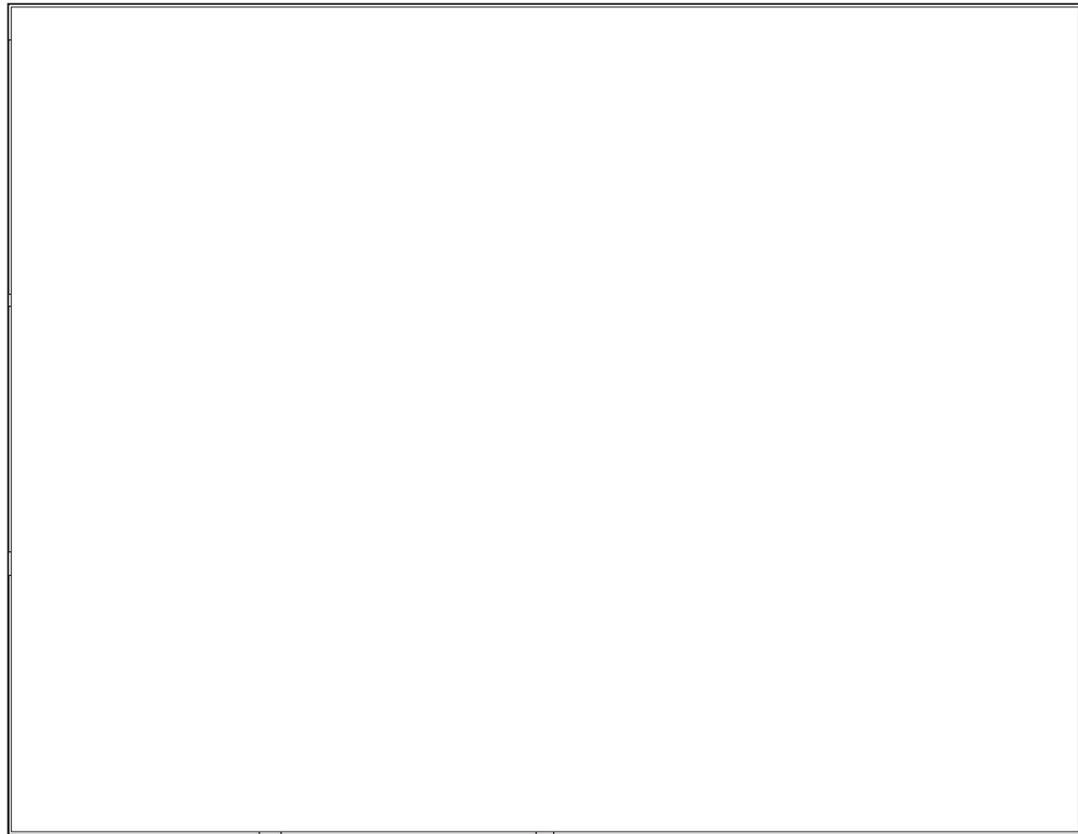
4. Did you turn off the outside lights before you went to bed or left for work in the mornings? Those incandescent bulbs actually consume electricity, 95 percent wasted heat.

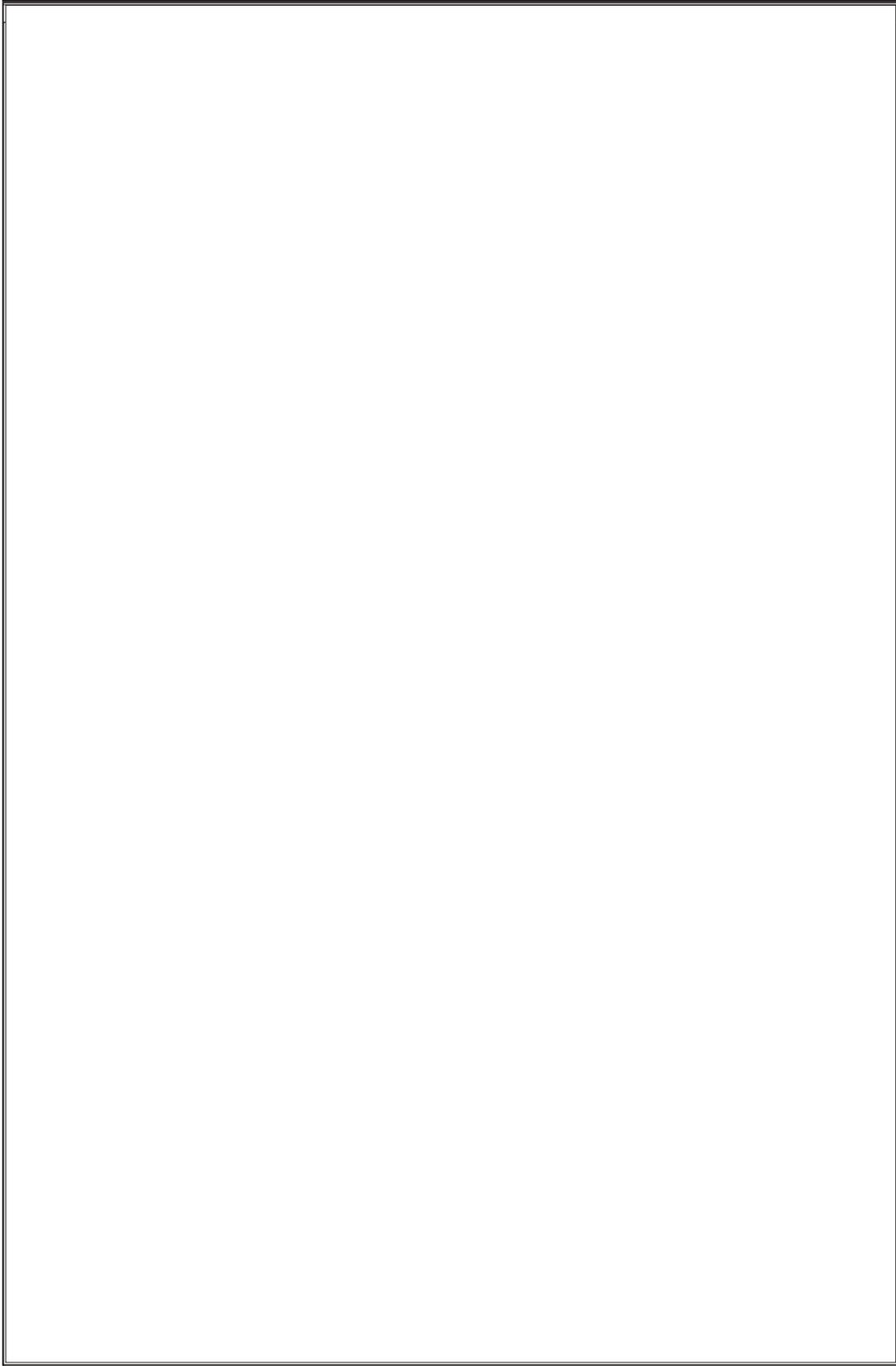
Just a few things that we as an activity should help each other with, lets all stay alert, stay safe, and watch ourselves and our loved ones in the very hot coming summer months

Let's use, not abuse



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>COMMUNITY CALENDAR</b>					June	11 <b>Summer Luau Matinee Party</b> MWR Theater Call x4297 for more information
12 <b>Night of Champions Bodybuilding Championship</b> MWR Theater 6 p.m.	13 <b>Lipari Express</b> ITT Call 624-4396	14 <b>BINGO</b> Crater Pub cards on sale at 5:30 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. Call 624-4396	15 <b>Tournament Tuesdays</b> Take 5 Xbox, cards, dominoes and more. Call 624-2034	16 <b>First Secretary of the Navy, Benjamin Stoddert, took office, 1798</b>	17 <b>Free Admission Night</b> Base Theater Call 624-4297	18 <b>Catania History I</b> ITT Call 624-4396
19 <b>Mt. Etna Classic - Individual Golf Tournament</b> Il Picciolo Golf Club 9 a.m.	20 <b>Father's Day Special</b> Dads get free admission Base Theater 624-4297	21 <b>U.S. Constitution ratified in 1788</b>	22 <b>Arrivederci Sigonella</b> Community building 12 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 624-4922	23 <b>Coast Guard reserve established in 1939</b>	24	25 <b>Catania by Night</b> Depart NAS II 5 p.m. Depart NAS I 5:30 p.m. ITT 624-4777
26 <b>NAS I pool trip</b> Depart Mineo 11:30 a.m.	27	28 <b>Naval Air Station Sigonella Change of Command</b> NAS I Piazza 9 a.m.	29 <b>Cruisin' &amp; snorkelin' in Marzamemi</b> sign up at the NAS I Teen Center 624-4018	30	July	1
2 <b>Cefal &amp; Castelbuono</b> Depart NAS II 7:30 a.m. Depart NAS I 8 a.m. ITT 624-4777	<b>Sat., June 12</b> Stop by the Base theater from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and see the Hardest bodies in Sigonella. Call 624-4301 for more information.		<b>Sun., June 13</b> Visit Lipari, one of the seven Aeolian islands. Explore Lipari and enjoy lunch at an agriturismo as well as seeing an archeological museum and the castle. Call ITT at 624-4777 for more information.		<b>Mon., June 14</b> Stop by the Crater Pub for some BINGO action. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m. and early-bird games start at 6:30 p.m. There will be BINGO on Memorial Day. Cash prizes for winners.	
<b>FRI, June 11</b> Surround yourself with nature and sleep under the stars with a trip to Forte Village. Call AU at 624-4271 for more information.		<b>Wed., June 16</b> The Ten Pins Bowling Center is having "He Pays, She Pays" games every Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. He pays for all the games and she enjoys them. Shoe rentals will be reduced to 50 cents.		<b>Thurs., June 17</b> Free admission night at the Base Theater so you can save all your money for pocorn and soda.		







By Alberto Lunetta  
Signature Staff

# Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

## Acitrezza community celebrates St. John the Baptist Festival

The celebrations in honor of San Giovanni Battista have been part of the Acitrezza community's life for over 300 years. Trizzoti (Acitrezza townspeople) keep alive a tradition that not only displays religious devotion to the saint but also shows the strength of the special relationship that the town has with the sea. Through a spectacular pantomime named *U pisci a mari* (The fish in the sea), local fishermen celebrate their ancient seafaring and fishing heritage. To them the sea is a primary source of livelihood but at the same time it can be a negative force.

As Monsignor Giovanni Lanzafame, an historian of Sicilian folklore, wrote: "Some say that the pantomime that is staged in Acitrezza is actually an ancient propitiatory rite aimed at bringing good luck to the fishermen during the swordfish fishing activity. Despite the jubilation displayed during the festival, I believe that the life of the fishermen is somehow imbued with a sense of melancholy. Even though they work hard, they don't always bring fish home."

The festival runs from June 23 through 25. Highlights include religious processions that will be held throughout the historic center and along the seaside. Spectacular performances such as the above mentioned *U pisci a mari* pantomime and the Calata dell'Angelo (Descent of the Angel) will also be staged. The Parrocchia di San Giovanni Battista (St. John the Baptist Parish) is the hub of this religious festival and it preserves the wooden statue depicting San Giovanni Battista and the saint's relics.

### Origins of the Festival

Prince Stefano Riggio, the founder of Acitrezza, built the Parrocchia di San Giovanni Battista in 1693 to replace another church erected in 1678 and dedicated to San Giuseppe (Saint Joseph) that was destroyed by a violent earthquake. Shortly after that erection of the church, the people of Acitrezza asked for the making of a statue depicting San Giovanni Battista. Historians have conflicting opinions on who carved this beautiful sculpture. Some believe that the sculptor was a *trizzoto* named Castorina or Lo Faro. Legend says that the artist shut himself up inside the Palazzo del Principe di Acitrezza (Palace of the Prince of Acitrezza) for three months and carved the statue taking as a model a member of the Giletti family from Acitrezza. Yet stories say that the eccentric sculptor would accept food only if it was lowered from the palace's roof whose tiles were temporary removed. Therefore, nobody saw the statue (statue) until it was completed. When the sculpture was finished, it was placed in small niche above the main altar named *Cammaredda* where it is still preserved up to today. The statue is over 300 years old but it is still perfectly preserved, a detail that has

contributed to the mystique surrounding this amazing piece of art. The remarkable anatomical details make the statue look almost alive!

### Festival Schedule

On June 23, the eve of the main festival day, Holy Mass is celebrated at 7 p.m. In the evening, the saint relics are brought in procession, (around 8 p.m.) escorted by the city band, through the historic center.

June 24 is the climax of the celebrations. Festival starts at 10 a.m. with the moving unveiling of the statue. Later at 10:30, the archbishop of Catania celebrates a solemn Holy Mass at the St. John the Baptist Parish. In the afternoon, *U pisci a mari* is staged in the Umazza district at 5 p.m. and begins with a group of fishermen in castoff clothing (a straw hat, a red shirt, tattered shorts, and a yellow sash; yellow and red are the colors of the saint) tied together by a rope walking towards the pier while dancing and singing among a large crowd. Three performers jump on a boat that is decorated with flowers, and yellow and red ribbons. The fourth actor a skilled swimmer, who plays the swordfish, dives into the water. The fifth performer plays the Raisi or crew leader. He places himself on the highest point of the pier giving directions to capture the fish. Once the swordfish is sighted, the Raisi shouts phrases in ancient Sicilian inciting the fishermen to catch it. After several attempts, the fish is eventually caught. The fishermen hoist it aboard and try to butcher it. But the swordfish manages to escape twice. The fishing goes on and the fishermen capture the swordfish again (this time it is a real one, usually a dead shark or tuna fish). But once again, while the fishermen are about to praise the tastiness of the fish, it escapes disappearing into the sea. The fishermen give up in despair, argue and overturn the boat. The pantomime is over.

Later at 7 p.m., a solemn procession starts from piazza Giovanni Verga. Devotees screaming: *Viva San Giovanni* (Long live St. John) escort the statue depicting the saint through the following roads: Provinciale, Leopolda, Litteri, Calamanzana, Diestro Chiesa, Cappello, Fontana Vecchia, Lungomare Ciclopi, Porto Nuovo (a stop at the pier, where the Stile of S. Giovanni Battista is placed, is performed; flowers are offered to the saint), Magni, Gibuti, Gondar, Guamaccia, Grasso, Tunisi, Capparelli, Piazza delle Scuole, Largo Medusa and back to the Parrocchia di San Giovanni.

At 10:30 p.m., the Calata dell'Angelo (Descent of the Angel) is staged in piazza delle Scuole. This performance features the descent of an angel that pays homage to the touring statue of the saint on behalf of the city districts. At the end of the tour (around 11:30 p.m.), devotees perform the *Cussa* (the run) that consists of covering the last route of the procession (via Provinciale) running while carrying the statue.

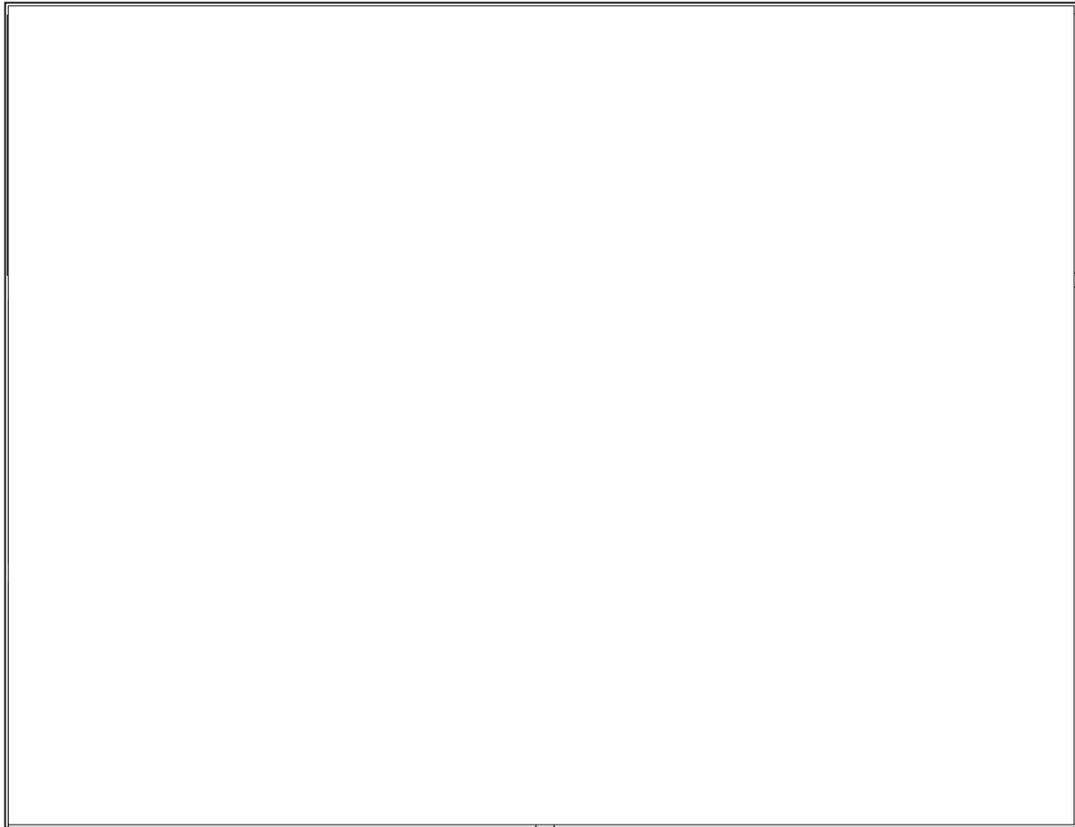


The spectacular pantomime named *U pisci a mari* (The fish in the sea), which takes place on June 24 in the afternoon, is one of the highlights of the traditional celebrations to honor St. John the Baptist running from June 23 through 25 Acitrezza. Decorated streets and houses, processions, Holy Masses, performances and fireworks are the main features that characterize this unique religious festival.

A spectacular firework show ends the festivities while the statue is placed back into the Parrocchia di San Giovanni.

On the last day of the festival, June 25, holy mass is celebrated at 11:30 a.m. at the St. John Parish. In the evening at 7 p.m., a procession leaves from piazza Giovanni Verga. The saint is paraded through the following roads: Provinciale, Ricca, Muscara, Ferretti, Spagnola, Livorno, Scalazza (stopping at the Church of S. Maria la Nova), Dusmet, Calabretta, Marina, Vico Musumeci until late at night. During the procession at 8 p.m., the Calata dell'Angelo show is replicated in via Provinciale. At midnight amazing fireworks will be staged. The festival will then end with the *Cussa* performance.

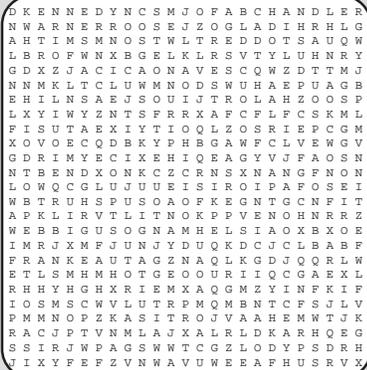
For more information call 095-276003 (Italian speaking only) or click the following websites:  
[www.parrocchiaacitrezza.it/festasangiiovanni](http://www.parrocchiaacitrezza.it/festasangiiovanni); [www.acitrezzaonline.it/sangiovannibattista](http://www.acitrezzaonline.it/sangiovannibattista)





## Word Find

Secretaries of the Navy



- |          |           |          |            |          |
|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|
| ADAMS    | DANZIG    | HIDALGO  | LIVINGSTON | SULLIVAN |
| BALL     | EDISON    | HUNT     | NITZE      | SWANSON  |
| BORIE    | ENGLAND   | IGNATIUS | O'KEEFE    | THOMAS   |
| BRANCH   | FORRESTAL | JOHNSON  | PAULDING   | TOUCEY   |
| CHAFEE   | FRANKE    | JONES    | PIRIE      | UPSHUR   |
| CHANDLER | GARRETT   | KENNEDY  | ROBESON    | WARNER   |
| CLAYTOR  | GATES     | KIMBALL  | SMITH      | WEBB     |
| CONNALLY | GOFF      | KNOX     | SOUTHARD   | WELLES   |
| DALTON   | HAMILTON  | LEHMAN   | STODDERT   |          |

# SCHOOL NEWS

## SDHS spring sports wraps successful season

By Junior Keenan Jones

**Track:**  
In the history of Stephan Decatur High School, a girl relay team has never qualified for Germany. This year it has changed due to the performances of Crystal Morales, Crystal Sampson, China Jones, and Tiffany Brown. The boys relay team was also on the edge for qualification but failed by less than a second. Overall, in the Mediterranean Track Championship the boys' team placed third. However, the girls' team came back disappointed

even though all the athletes competed to their full potential.

This season two individual event athletes qualified for Germany: Jade Garth (shot-put and discus) and Keenan Jones (open 400 meter dash). Jade Garth was the only representative from Stephan Decatur to travel to Germany to compete for the school. Garth finished fifth in the shot-put, and seventh overall in the discus. "Out of all my years of coaching I've never seen this level of performance and success from this school," Coach Gene Rinaldi said.

**Soccer:**

Both the boys' and girls' soccer teams played well this season. The girls' team came close to qualifying for the European Championship but lost by a shoot-out in overtime during the Mediterranean Championships held in Aviano, Italy, May 15. Overall, the girls finished in third place beating Ankara, Turkey in the consolation match. The boys' team also came back disappointed after having a rough time during tournament. They gave all their opponents tough matches but were still unable to gain enough victories to place.

Sigonella brought back home five players who were awarded All Conference plaques. These players were Shirae Gasporra, Tonya Madison, Whitney Lynch, Mike Badidas, and Paul Nicholson.

**Tennis:**

Both of the tennis teams had tough matches in the Mediterranean Championships. Sophomore Elena Clark was the only player from Sigonella to place in this competition. She placed third in the girls' singles matches. Ryan Peralta came just a few points shy of gaining the third place title. Overall, he finished fourth in the men's singles competition. All of the tennis athletes played well and showed good sportsmanship during the tournament.



Sophomore Jade Garth is the only one of the successful SDSS track stars who made the trip to European Championships in Germany. He placed fifth in shot put and seventh in discus.

### TRIVIA

- 1) What was the final decisive battle of the Revolutionary War?
- 2) True or false, the great Chicago fire was the worst in American history?
- 3) An obscure fictional ship is Lydia, who is the skipper of Lydia?
- 4) This is the second largest country by area yet it only borders one other country, what is it?
- 5) What is the fear of women called?

(Answers on page 13)

### Movie Connection

SDHS's Theater Schedule

<p><b>Friday, June 11</b></p> <p>1 p.m. <b>Shrek 2</b> (PG)</p> <p>6 p.m. <b>Johnson Family Vacation</b> (PG-13)**</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Hellboy</b> (R)</p> <p><b>Saturday, June 12</b></p> <p>6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Night of Champions Bodybuilding Competition seating is limited — so come early. Show may not be suitable for children.</p> <p><b>Sunday, June 13</b></p> <p>1 p.m. <b>Home on the Range</b> (PG)</p> <p>3:30 p.m. <b>Johnson Family Vacation</b> (PG-13)</p> <p>6 p.m. <b>The Girl Next Door</b> (R)</p>	<p><b>Monday, June 14</b></p> <p>1 p.m. <b>Home on the Range</b> (PG)</p> <p>6 p.m. <b>Troy</b> (R)</p> <p><b>Theater Closed Tuesdays</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 16</b></p> <p>6 p.m. <b>The Passion of the Christ</b> (R)</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Johnson Family Vacation</b> (PG-13)</p> <p><b>Thursday, June 17</b></p> <p>6 p.m. <b>Van Helsing</b> (PG-13)</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Hellboy</b> (PG-13)</p> <p><b>Friday, June 18</b></p> <p>1 p.m. &amp; 6 p.m. <b>Harry Potter</b> (PG-13)**</p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Kill Bill Vol. 2</b> (R)**</p>
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\*\* 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)

### Summer School

Begins June 14  
0900-1400

### Teens learn job skills with new Summer hire program

By Junior Paul Nicholson

This year students hoping to work summer hire will have to do things a little differently. A new program has replaced the old summer hire program, which is more realistic for both the employer and the employee. This new program is available through the Morale Welfare and Recreation organization.

The new Teen Summer Employment Program requires more interaction between the boss and the employer. The new program offers for interviews in which the students will report at the appropriate time and be questioned. The manager asks the students various questions about their responsibility, character, and judgment skills. After they have interviewed the list of hopefuls they will choose them and call them over the phone to tell them the good news.

The old summer hire program was run through the Family Service Center and accommodated more students last year but the new budget cuts on military spending forced the program to come to an end. The old program ran only half the summer, whereas the new one runs the entire year making it possible for the student to make more money.

The window to sign up has already ended and the job search began in June. The phone calls will be made by mid June and you can expect to see students working any time afterwards at just about any MWR facility. Jobs are available for students at the NAS 1 Gym, NAS 2 Gym, warehouse, theater, Teen Center NAS 1, Teen Center Mineo, Child Development Center, Youth Program, Marketing Office, Auto Hobby Shop, library, Adventures Unlimited, Aquatics, and the MWR Business Office.

### Overseas Committee Chair Needed

The Sigonella Girls 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 is the head and heart of the girl-scouting program in Sigonella.  
Please contact Ginger Schwebel at 624-1388 or e-mailing schwebel3@yahoo.com

### Girl Scouts Referral Committee

Are you looking for ways to volunteer within the Sigonella community? The Sigonella Girl Scouts are looking for volunteers for Referral Committee members. This committee helps the local Girl Scout neighborhood by reviewing volunteer applications and submitting recommendations to the Neighborhood Counsel.

The committee is made up of 5 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.

For information contact Ginger Schwebel at 624-1388 or e-mailing schwebel3@yahoo.com.

### Be Prepared: Girl Scout Motto

The Overseas Committee of Girl Scouts for Sigonella is preparing for the coming year of Girl Scouting. In an effort to minimize vacant volunteer positions at the beginning of the 2004-2005 year the Sigonella neighborhood is advertising for volunteer positions to be filled. The following is a listing of some of the positions that can be applied for

within the Neighborhood: Leaders for all age groups, Troop consultant, Registrar, Secretary, Events Coordinator, Public Relations, Awards Program Manager, Overseas Awards Program Manager, Community Service Manager, Cookie Chairperson, Fundraiser Coordinator, Individual Technical Experts.

# The Stallion Stampede 10K Trail Run and 3K Fun Run/Walk 31 July, 2004

Benefiting the Survivors of the HC-4  
Helicopter Accident on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003



There is a small fee to enter. Prizes will be awarded to the first four male and female finishers in the 10K race. T-shirts will be given to all who register.

Hot dogs etc. will be available for sale after the race/fun run/walk.

It should be a fun event and we hope to raise lots of money for the scholarship funds for the four children as well as the memorial fund for Petty Officer Cox. For more information, e-mail stallionstampede2003@yahoo.com.

Don't be stupid  
Sigonella  
Stay safe this summer



## NCIS Crime Stoppers REWARD OFFERED

for any information leading to the recovery of and/or the identification, arrest and conviction of person (s) involved with the following crime:

On February 18, 2004, at the U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella Air Cargo Facility, a United States Postal Service registered mail box originating from Ramstein Air Force Base enroute to Bahrain (via the Air Cargo Facility) was reported missing. The registered mail item was last accounted for the morning of February 18, 2004. The return address was from the Department of the Army, Commander, 266th Finance Command Unit 29001, APO, AE 09007 and was addressed to the Disbursing Officer, Admin Support, Unit SWAB Bahrain. This registered mail box contained \$1.6 million in new sequentially marked \$100 bills and weighed 38 lbs. This box can be easily identified with the red registered mail sticker and multiple red postal service stamps on the package (see below example).



*Identities of any persons providing information will be kept confidential.*  
If you have information or know someone who does, please contact  
NCIS Special Agent Jeff Grant at  
DSN: 624-9210 or from off base at 095-86-9210.



# SPORTS

## Navy NASCAR Team makes pitstop to visit Pentagon Sailors

By JOZ(SW/AW) Kristin Fitzsimmons  
Office of Information - Navy Visual News

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Navy-sponsored NASCAR team, led by team owner Armando Fitz, driver Casey Atwood and crew chief Jay Guy, stopped by the Pentagon June 3 to visit with some of the Sailors they represent on the track before heading to the June 6 Busch Series race in Dover, Del.

Atwood, in his second season driving the No. 14 Navy "Accelerate Your Life" Chevrolet Monte Carlo under the ownership of FitzBradshaw Racing, calls his sponsorship with the Navy motivating. Guy said representing the Navy has been a highlight of his 18-year racing career.

"I've been in racing since 1986, and this is the coolest sponsorship I've ever been a part of," said Guy. "It's just really neat to feel a little more pride when I come to work in the morning at the track and have 'Navy' on my shirt. It's definitely an honor, and it's something

to be proud of, representing you all."

After touring the Pentagon, Fitz, Atwood and Guy ate lunch with Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Vern Clark and Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gary Hoewing. Atwood and Guy then took time to meet with Sailors in the CNO's conference room.

"Today, I feel like I had a conversation with a unique shipmate," said Electronics Technician 1st Class (SW/SS) Craig Elstak, assigned to the Top Hand division of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Washington. "Atwood, like me, represents the fleet ... in and out of 'uniform'. I don't know who chose Casey, but they made a great choice."

New and old NASCAR fans sat around the CNO's conference room talking to Atwood and Guy about several different racing topics, some of their favorite Navy experiences, and received autographs before the duo headed on their way.

"I think visits like this are a great morale booster," said Yeoman 2nd Class Katherine Ward, assigned to Director Naval Intelligence. "It gives

Sailors the opportunity to meet one-on-one with the Navy car driver, and ask several different questions that they would not normally be able to if they went to a race."

Atwood and the FitzBradshaw team expressed their pride and enthusiasm for the men and women they represent during the brief visit.

"I just wanted to thank everyone for supporting our race team," Atwood said. "It is a thrill and pleasure, and we are definitely honored to be associated with the Navy."



Casey Atwood, right, driver of the Navy sponsored NASCAR Busch Series No. 14 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, smiles as he talks with Sailors in the Pentagon. Atwood and members of the FitzBradshaw NASCAR Busch Race Team are on their way to Dover International Speedway in Delaware for the MBNA America 200 race.

## Navy heavyweight crew places fourth at National Championship

Courtesy Navysports.com

CAMDEN, N.J. — The Navy heavyweight crew team concluded its 2004 season by seeing its first varsity boat place fourth and its second varsity shell place fifth at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association National Championship, Saturday on the Cooper River in Camden, N.J.

The varsity shell entered the three-day championship as the No. 5 seed in a field of 24 boats and crossed the finish line in Saturday's grand final in a time of 6:02.96. Top-seeded Harvard posted a time of 5:53.18 to win its second-straight title by five seconds over No. 2 seed Washington (5:58.03) and by an additional second over third-seeded California (5:59.49). Navy finished ahead of the No. 4 seed Princeton (6:03.16) and the unseeded Dartmouth team (6:08.71).

The second varsity team also competed in a grand final Saturday, placing fifth with a time of 6:21.40. The Mids were the No. 8 seed at the start of the regatta. Second-seeded Washington upset No. 1 seed Harvard by just over two seconds to win the championship in a time of 6:06.94.

Navy's freshman eight boat placed third in the petite final and ninth overall in its division, completing Saturday's course in a time of 6:24.61, three-tenths of a second in back of second-place Syracuse.

Navy's freshman four and open four boats each placed sixth in their respective petite finals, while the varsity pair entry won the third level final and the varsity four without coxswain placed second in its third level final.

Saturday's Results  
Varsity Eight  
Grand Final - 4th of 6, 6:02.96 - 4th (of 24) overall

Harvard - 5:53.18; Washington - 5:58.03; California - 5:59.49; NAVY - 6:02.96; Princeton - 6:03.16; Dartmouth - 6:08.71

Second Varsity Eight  
Grand Final - 5th of 6, 6:21.4 - 5th (of 21) overall  
Washington - 6:06.94; Harvard - 6:09.07; Minnesota - 6:09.92; California - 6:15.62; NAVY - 6:21.40; Cornell - 6:26.97

Freshman Eight  
Petite Final - 3rd of 6, 6:24.61 - 9th (of 24) overall  
Penn - 6:21.70; Syracuse - 6:24.31; NAVY - 6:24.61; Cornell - 6:29.45; Northeastern - 6:33.02; Boston Univ. - 6:41.76

Varsity Four  
Did not race Saturday - 21st of (24) overall  
Varsity Four w/o Coxswain  
3rd Level Final - 2nd of 6, 7:08.00 - 14th (of 18) overall  
Fordham - 7:05.30; NAVY - 7:08.00; Delaware -

7:15.32; Minnesota - 7:15.44; Florida Tech - 7:18.66; Army - 7:37.05

Open Four  
Petite Final - 6th of 6, 7:28.92 - 12th (of 17) overall  
Cornell 'B' - 7:16.25; Brown - 7:20.92; Georgetown - 7:16.25; Princeton - 7:25.57; Wisconsin - 7:26.94; NAVY - 7:28.92

Freshman Four  
Petite Final - 6th of 6, 7:19.85 - 12th (of 23) overall  
St. Joseph's - 7:09.21; North Carolina - 7:11.57; Marist - 7:12.41; Wisconsin - 7:15.12; Michigan - 7:18.42; NAVY - 7:19.85

Varsity Pair  
3rd Level Final - 1st of 6, 7:58.38 - 13th (of 18) overall  
NAVY - 7:58.38; Boston College - 8:00.27; Purdue - 8:03.19; Oregon State - 8:05.36; Michigan - 8:14.55; Grand Valley - 8:19.23





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C



Leaving from page 1

orders. "That's your number one thing," Melendez said. "Once you've got a hard copy of your orders you can come in. You give us a copy and we give you a package."

Zimmermann said transferring personnel should submit the paperwork as soon as possible so processing may begin. There are several elements of the transfer that could pose problems if not dealt with early, including overseas screening, dependent entry approval and pet travel issues. "Pet vaccinations need to be up-to-date," Zimmermann said. "As soon as you know you're transferring during the peak months you've got to get your [pet] reservations in because they run out of room [for pets] very quickly."

"The transfer packet has a list of requirements they need to fill before they are eligible for transfer," Berryhill said. "As long as they take care of those in a timely manner their transfer will go smoothly."

The number one mistake made by members during a PCS, according to Melendez, is waiting to fill out and turn in the packet. "They put it to the side and they think, 'I'll do it later,'" Melendez said. "They think that because they have orders they're going to leave on a certain date because that's the date they have in mind. They forget that they still have to come see us to leave the island."

There is no need to be intimidated by the transfer packet. Your transfer technician will walk you through the process and answer any questions you may have.

Packages consist of several elements, including an advance pay sheet, dislocation allowance (DLA) application, temporary living allowance (TLA) sheet, dependency sheet, dependent transportation application.

Melendez warns that many people staying in TLA forget to bring the paperwork stating that they have moved out of their government or economy quarters. "If you're living on the economy and you don't bring this in your [overseas housing allowance] is still running – and that's money you're getting paid that you are not entitled to," she said. Melendez continued, stating that the overpayment will be recollected by DFAS.

"We tell members to bring us your TLA claim sheet plus your original receipt, so we can process it, and they can get their money"

Melendez said. "Make sure your lease is stamped [by the Housing Department] and make sure you do not move into TLA before Housing clears you from your current residence."

Another possible sticking point is the application for dependent transportation. All family members require passports in order to travel.

"When you fill out the sheet you need to have all the passport numbers and when they expire," Melendez said.

For servicemembers married to foreign nationals, other country passports are accepted for transfer purposes, but the family member must be command-sponsored to be assured a seat on the Air Mobility Command (AMC) aircraft. "Immigrant visas are required for all foreign nationals to enter and stay in the U.S."

DLA is given to offset the incidental costs of moving. The money is usually given to the member 10 days before the transfer. Melendez warns that this money is

only for people who will live on the economy when they reach their final destination.

"If they're single, E-5 and below they have to have permission [on command letterhead] from the next command saying that they are going to live out in town in order to receive the advance DLA," Melendez said. "Because if we give it and they don't live out in town they're going to yank it right back. For some people that's a lot of money because they [DFAS] take it all at one time."

Authorization to travel via homeport allows servicemembers transferring to a seagoing command to stop first at the new homeport.



**PNSA Robert Phillips helps Tenisha Guevara and AD1 Wilfredo Guevara at the ID Card window in the NASSIG Personnel Support Detachment (PSD).**

"You [may] want to go home, set your family up first, before you go to school or to wherever the boat is," Melendez said. "This helps you go set up your family or set up your things, then go wherever you've got to go."

Berryhill advises servicemembers who may be having trouble with any part of the transfer package to inform their transfer technician as soon as possible.

"We may be able to assist them if they run into a snag," Berryhill said. If they do not let us know and one part of their process is holding up 10 others they are going to get into their red zone, running out of time to get things done."

"The NASSIG check-out sheet is required to be completed prior to leaving the island," said PNC(AW) Ginger Schwebel, team operations officer. "If you show up at PSD on the last day and it's not completed we will not allow you to transfer." Schwebel noted that Housing Department stamps seem to be one of the major hold-ups for personnel transferring. "Ensure you clear housing early," Schwebel said.

Once you've started on your transfer package if you live in government quarters or on the economy it's time to begin the check out process with the housing office.





## Citta' del Mare: City of the sea



A picturesque view looking towards the beach from the Citta' del Mare resort near Palermo. The resort has something for everyone: fun, sun, swimming pools and lots of food!

*By Lt. Steve Curry  
Public Affairs Officer*

If you ever wanted to get away from of it all and have all your cares go away...Citta' del Mare is the place to go. Citta' del Mare, an all-inclusive resort located on the north coast of Sicily near Palermo, has it all. This resort is completely family-oriented and has everything for all ages.

On a recent ITT trip, the Curry clan packed up the suntan lotion (in my case, sunblock) and headed to NAS I to catch the bus. As it happened, I wasn't the only one who came up with the idea to get away for the Memorial Day weekend. Four busloads of Sigonellans headed down the Catania-Palermo autostrada in search of sun, fun and relaxation.

After a three-hour drive through the beautiful Sicilian countryside, we arrived at Citta' del Mare. Hostesses were waiting outside of the reception area and we dropped off our luggage, which was conveniently taken to our rooms for us. Our room had enough space to spread out some but did lack some of the modern-day conveniences we all enjoy, coffee makers, big fluffy towels, and extra pillows.

The best thing about our room was the view. Watching a Sicilian sunset from the coast is a truly amazing site. The sun's colors seemed to dance on the water, flashing its reflections on the hillside. The water's blue and green colors definitely matched the resort's theme...relaxation at its best.

"It's a good way to spend the weekend away from the normalcy of Sigonella and it breaks up the monotony of going back and forth from home to work everyday," said Connie Harig.





Joe and Heidi Roberts liked the chance to get away from work and hang out with some friends. "It's nice not to have to worry about where to eat, what to do and everything is basically taken care of for you," Heidi added.

Meals are served as a come-and-go style at set times during the day. You have several places to choose from, The Grill, a more rustic atmosphere experience or Le Isole, a more modern up-to-date restaurant style atmosphere. No matter where you go to eat, the Sicilian way of cooking is highlighted and you don't leave the table feeling hungry.

When asked what she like best at Citta' del Mare, Anne Marie Watt noted it was the pools, convenience and peacefulness. She even took her parents, Gretha and Malcolm Brooks, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant for a complete family weekend away and

they loved it there too. "Coming here was a great way to relax and reconnect with the family," added Anne Marie.

The resort has everything...pools, waterslides, miniature golf, dancing, yoga and more pools. The resort will also drive you down to their beach area and pick you up when you are done. They have windsurfing, kayaks, catamarans and more for you to take advantage of. If you really want a heavenly experience, make an appointment for some spa services. The variety of services, massages and facials are reasonable in price and the staff is more than accommodating.

If you leave Citta' del Mare saying you were bored, you definitely need to see a therapist for an attitude adjustment.

It's a fantastic place to get away from it all.



Above: Some great caves to explore and walking paths are located near the resort.

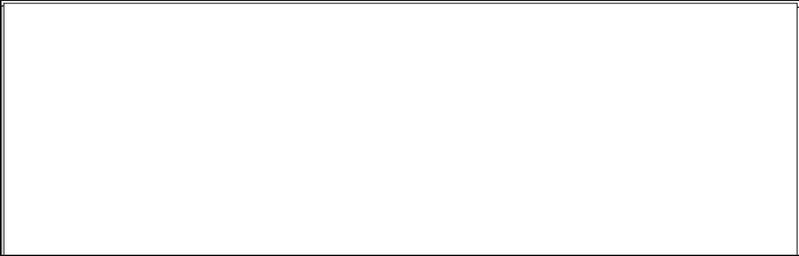
Top right: Sunset at the resort...

Bottom right: One of the many pool areas where you can relax, swim and work on your tan!



**Trivia Answers**

- 1) Yorktown, Virginia
- 2) False, Peshigo, WI was on fire the same night and 250 people were killed.
- 3) Horatio Hornblower
- 4) Canada, by contrast Russia, the largest country borders 14.
- 5) gynecophobia



# Take it easy this summer , make it through critical days



Steve Lebeda, Safety Director, hopes slogans like "Speed Kills," and "Click it or ticket," stays with Sailors during the critical days of summer.

By Alexis James  
Staff Writer

Drinking. Driving. Seatbelts. Safety. Words sailors hear and see on a daily basis, but whose concepts will be especially important in the next few months. May 28 marked the beginning of the 102 Critical Days of Summer, days when Navy and Marine Corps members are more likely to die from a motor vehicle or recreational accident.

Last summer, 44 people died in a car-related accident—one third of those deaths could have been prevented if the victims had worn their seatbelts, many others were alcohol or speed related. These areas are the subjects of many Navy campaigns—"Click it or ticket," which is part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's campaign. "It's okay not to drink in today's Navy," "Speed kills,"—slogans that are so prevalent, Steve Lebeda, Safety Director, hopes they stick with Sailors. "That's what we're about," he says, "trying to get the awareness out."

This awareness doesn't only come from messages on banners or roadblocks. Lebeda emphasizes the important job leaders have to remind their subordinates to make safety a habit when they leave work. "Ask the questions: where are you going, are you going to be leaving late." He believes the safety responsibility also rests on the commands' shoulders. "The last command I was at, they actually didn't schedule you for your duty day if they knew you were going to take a trip, go on leave and you were going to be driving Lebeda says. "What we found was a lot of people were having accidents because they had duty

the night before." He encourages this type of "intrusive leadership" as a way to keep Navy members as safe as possible.

These safety precautions should be practiced every day, on and off the job, but is particularly crucial during these 102 days, says Lebeda because, "You're out more, it's longer days, you have a tendency to do more things in the summer time."

**"You're out more, it's longer days, you have a tendency to do more things in the summer time."**

Steve Lebeda, Safety Director

And for Sailors stationed in Sigonella, Lebeda recognizes it's potentially a difficult environment to stay safe in. "It's an exotic atmosphere, you come to a foreign country and ... people drive differently. Speeds go up, they see the speeds around them, then [Sailors] themselves have a tendency to speed. Then of course if you mix a little alcohol you have a recipe for disaster too."

But driving ability isn't the only thing affected by one too many drinks—drowning is the leading cause of death in recreational accidents. Heat stress deaths are also related to recreating, since people are less likely to pay attention to the signs of heat stress when they're socializing and having fun, says Lebeda. His suggestion for avoiding these accidents? Do it with MWR. "One, you're going to have fun, two you're going to be in a structured group, three, you're going to learn the correct way, the safe way to do [the activity], and ... normally there's no alcohol."

To get safely through the 102 critical days, Lebeda offers three tips: slow down, fasten your seatbelt, don't drink and drive. They may not cover the reasons, the statistics and the instructions, but the safety slogans put up around the base are good ideas to keep in the front of your mind.

## Feedback from page 1

Large pools are restricted because they require filtration, which would increase the base's utility bill.

"A filter has to run all the time," Evangelista said. "We've got to be good stewards. People think because they live in housing they can use all the electricity and water they want. That's true, to a degree. We want you to be comfortable but we'd like you to understand that filters running all the time are an electrical draw that we're concerned about."

Evangelista also pointed out that the swimming pool at NAS II is open seven days-per-week and that the pool at NAS

I will be open five days-per-week starting June 14.

That date coincides with the start of the school summer vacation period. Evangelista said that there are initiatives designed to give teens summer activities, citing MWR's No Limitz and summer hire programs.

"I know folks get concerned because school's about to be out and we're wondering what our children are going to do," Evangelista said. "There are things to do. The community and the base support that. We're going to rely on good parents to fill in the gaps for us, and that is critical."

Another hot topic was air

conditioning. Evangelista said that Public Works department began turning on air conditioning units June 3. Thermostats must be set no higher than 78 degrees and turn off at night and on weekends.

"If we follow the pattern from last year we'll begin with the barracks and berthing areas first, then work toward the work spaces," Evangelista said. "So air conditioning is coming, but please be mindful of the fact that we have a utility bill and it's a must-pay bill."

A caller asked why Mineo housing residents don't receive more gas coupons than residents of Maramai. Evangelista said the coupons are a

benefit provided by the Italian government and the amount of coupons received is based on the engine size of the primary vehicle.

"It's specifically generated based on the cc output of your vehicle. It's nothing to do with where you live. If you look at the price (with coupons), it comes to about \$197 a gallon. In the states, in some places in California, it is in the high \$250 range."

Another caller complained about large pieces of furniture left near the dumpsters at the entrance of Mineo housing. Evangelista said residents must use the proper receptacles for the trash they throw away. Large refuse should not be

put into the smaller green dumpsters. The large yellow dumpsters are designed for furniture and other large pieces.

"We have dumpsters all over the place," Evangelista said. "Find one that's not full and use the right one."

"Feedback" host JOC(SW) Jeff Wells addressed issues concerning AFN radio reception, saying that many American digital radios don't pick up the signal due to an Italian regulation requiring AFN to use even frequency numbers, while most American radios are designed to pick up odd frequency numbers. He recommended that all community members maintain a manual-dial radio in order to pick up AFN, particularly during emergencies.





# Play Ball! VP-26 Tridents at play on the field of dreams

Photos by PH2 John Roark  
VP-26 Tridents Public Affairs



Above: Lt. j.g. John Thoe gets ready to strike out his opponent.

Top right: Lt. j.g. Christopher Smith hits a two run shot.

Bottom right: Lt. Cmdr. John Hensel from VP-26 hits a ground ball during a game on June 1.



## New location for Navy College Office

By JO1(SW) Brian Johnson  
Staff Writer

The Navy College Office moved to a new location in the now quite popular Community Building on NAS 1.

The new location offers Sigonellans seeking off duty education more room. "Aside from being a much nicer and newer building we have three additional classrooms," said Jeff Fishman, Navy College director. "The space gives us the potential for more classes."

The spaces also offer more than just room for students. "We also have new TVs and DVD

players in each classroom for [audio-visual] support for the teachers," Fishman said. "We also have newer better computers that provide a faster connection and new programs," Fishman said.

It's too late to enroll in the current term but the next one is just around the corner.

If you are interested in furthering your education stop by or call the Navy College at 624-4516 or 624-4517 anytime to figure out what you can do. The next term students can register for starts Aug. 23 and runs until Oct. 15.

## Elementary students have end of year program

By Delores Jenkins  
Stephen Decatur Elementary

The kindergarten class of Ms. Delores Jenkins, and the first grade class of Ms. Ellie Stoll, combined today to present an end-of-year program, "The Three Billy Goats Gruff", and "A Bridge Crossing to First Grade". The children did a magnificent job, and the teachers are very proud of them.

Ms. Jenkins' kindergarten class decided to perform this project with the first graders, in an effort to give the children the opportunity to do a cooperative reading study with older children. This also provided a forum for the kindergarten introduction to first grade.

Reading is a main focus of our curriculum, and

presentations such as this one make reading fun and the experience a pleasant one. The children will hopefully learn the great importance of learning to read, and the many fun projects that they themselves may create.

The kindergartener's "crossed the bridge" to first grade, were introduced by a first grade buddy, received a certificate from Ms. Jenkins, and then were presented to Ms. Stoll who will be one of their first grade teachers next year.

After the program, there was fun for all at our picnic in back of the new primary facility.

Thanks to all the parents, who have volunteered so faithfully this year, thanks to the Public Affairs section who made it possible for us to visit NAS 11 and the security dogs, the fire station, and HC-4.

This has been a terrific school year!

Last but not least, we would like to thank our Principal, Dr. Fran Austin, and our Asst. Principal Mr. John Fletcher for all their support and encouragement this year. Agood ship must have great captains, and we at Stephen Decatur Elementary School are sailing along beautifully! Have a terrific summer!



Ms. Delores Jenkins' kindergarten class and Ms. Ellie Stoll's first grade class perform their end of year program.

## Mineo housing given new fountain by mayor

By Alexis James  
Staff Writer

In what used to be an amphitheater sits a new fountain in the middle of a "mini-piazza." Its not a scene from an Italian duomo or city plaza—it's the newly-redone center of Mineo housing, and the fountain, a present from the City of Mineo, is the finishing touch.

Mineo the city has roots tracing back to the fifth century B.C. The modern inhabitants of this ancient city want their relationship with *Residence degli Aranci*, the Mineo housing area, to improve and grow. "You are here because we have an alliance," said Mayor Guiseppe Castania. "We don't want to see you as soldiers, we like to see you as friends."

Friends and neighbors gathered for the dedication of the new fountain—political officials and residents of Mineo joined those of the *Residence degli Aranci* community. Base Commanding Officer, Capt. Tim Davison and Castania cut the ribbon, officially opening the area to the residents. The new fixture completes a "piazza" that includes a covered area with tables, a coffee shop, the commissary and a brick courtyard.

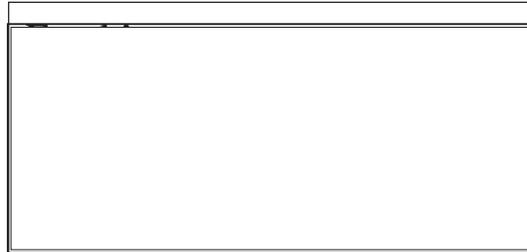
In the addition to forging a closer relationship with the city of Mineo, the fountain brings the



Guiseppe Castania, mayor of Mineo stands next the fountain he donated to the Mineo housing are.

military community together. "We are trying to invest in making this a better place to live, and this [fountain] is the centerpiece of that," Davison said.

## Buckle -up Sigonella It's the law



## How do I bring my foreign-born spouse to the U.S.: NLSO explains the process

From the Navy Legal Service Office Staff

Are you one of the many members of the military who got married, or is thinking of getting married, while overseas? If so, you may have some serious planning and paperwork ahead of you if you bring your foreign spouse back to the United States. If you do intend to return to the U.S., applying for your foreign-born spouse to become a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) ("green card" resident) of the U.S. can prevent several problems. Some of the problems that can occur when a foreign spouse does not have green cards include: Limitations on the amount of time that spouse can remain in the U.S., difficulty working and filing taxes in the U.S., and the inability to obtain benefits from the U.S. Government.

### A valid marriage:

The key requirement for a foreign-born spouse to become a Lawful Permanent Resident (to obtain a green card) of the U.S. is his/her valid marriage to a U.S. citizen or a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) of the U.S. (note that with marriages to LPRs, procedures vary and there is usually a longer processing time). The validity of the marriage is dependent upon the law of the jurisdiction where the marriage occurs. Certain marriages will be presumed invalid when, for instance, the spouse is below a certain age, or there is evidence of incest or bigamy. Also, under U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) guidelines, the marriage must also be consummated to be valid. However, actual proof of the last requirement is not required.

USCIS investigates into whether the marriage was entered into for the purpose of immigration. If the marriage is never consummated and the couple dissolves the marriage within three years of arrival, there will be a presumption of invalidity. Other factors which will invoke scrutiny are: the length of time the spouses knew each other, how many times they had seen each other prior to the marriage, or whether they presently reside together or have

never resided together. The fact that the spouses are separated will not automatically negate the validity of the marriage; however, the spouses must still be married when the immigration benefit is conferred. The penalties for immigration fraud can be as severe as a prison sentence and/or a hefty fine.

### The visa process:

#### STEP 1: Petition for Alien Relative, the I-130

The first step toward obtaining an immigrant visa for a foreign-born spouse is for the U.S. citizen spouse, as the sponsor of his/her foreign-born spouse, to file a petition (Form I-130) to establish immediate-relative qualification. On this form the U.S. citizen is the petitioner, and the alien spouse is the beneficiary. For overseas applicants in Italy, this form should be filed at the U.S. Embassy in Rome or U.S. Consulate General in Naples. The documents to be filed with the I-130 petition include: a birth certificate, marriage certificate (note that it may have to be officially translated and certified), and a filing fee of \$185. The petitioner must also show that he/she can financially support the alien spouse, using Form I-864 (the Affidavit of Support).

If the I-130 petition is denied, an appeal is possible, but notice of the appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of the denial (within 33 days if you receive the decision by mail). Extensions have been granted in the past on a case-by-case basis to service-members who received late notifications due to deployment.

#### STEP 2: Obtain Immigrant Visa from U.S. State Department

After the petition I-130 is filed with the appropriate American Embassy/Consulate and receives approval, the couple will be sent an appointment package. This package notifies the applicant of an interview date (for both the petitioner and the alien spouse) and describes the specific requirements of the visa, as well as where to go to have the required medical examination.

Prior to the interview, the petitioner and his/her alien spouse should gather the following documentation: a completed Form DS-230 (Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration), valid passport, birth certificate (plus a notarized statement explaining any name discrepancies), a police certificate from all places the alien spouse has lived since age sixteen, evidence of financial support, two immigrant visa photos, and proof of the marriage and husband/wife relationship. The required fees include: \$335 to process the DS-230, plus the additional cost of the physical exam. All fees are subject to change at the discretion of the USCIS; however, it is actually the U.S. State Department, and not USCIS, that controls the issuance of visas.

The interview is primarily conducted to verify the marital relationship and to rule out the major grounds for exclusion. Following the interview, the visa will either be approved or denied.

Note that if the alien seeking admission desires to have his or her children admitted as well, a separate petition (Form I-130) and visa application (Form DS-230) must be processed for each child.

#### STEP 3: Conditional Permanent Resident status based on Marriage to a U.S. Citizen

The spouse of a U.S. citizen is granted conditional permanent residency if, at the time of his/her admission into the U.S., the marriage to the citizen is less than 2 years old. The alien spouse is given conditional resident status on the day he/she is lawfully admitted to the U.S. on an immigrant visa. If the couple has been married for at least 24 months, then the alien spouse enters the U.S. as a Lawful Permanent Resident, without condition.

Conditional permanent residency status is given due to occurrences of marriage fraud. Couples must prove that they did not get married to evade the immigration laws of the U.S. The "conditional" status lasts for 2 years. During the conditional period, USCIS can terminate the foreign-citizen spouse's residency if USCIS determines that the marriage is fraudulent, was entered into for pay, or was ended by annulment or divorce.

During the 90 days before the second anniversary of the alien spouse's admission into United States, both spouses must file a joint petition—Form I-751 (Petition to Remove Conditions of Residence)—to remove the condition

so that the alien spouse can become a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR). The fee for the I-751 is \$200. It is important to note that the USCIS is very strict about the timeliness of this joint petition. The alien spouse's legal status terminates at the two-year anniversary of her/his admission into the U.S. He/she may be placed into removal (deportation) proceedings if the joint petition is not filed at the proper time! (Note, however, that if you are no longer married to your spouse, or you have been battered or abused by your spouse, you can apply to waive the joint filing requirement.)

USCIS will interview both the U.S. citizen and his/her alien spouse separately to verify that marriage is bona fide (in good faith). Interviewees can expect that some of these questions may be personal. Even if the spouses' marriage is strained and "without hope of revival," the joint petition can be approved if the USCIS is convinced that the marriage was entered into in good faith.

#### STEP 4: How Can the Non-citizen Spouse Become a U.S. Citizen?

The foreign-citizen spouse can apply to become a U.S. citizen (a process called naturalization) once (s/he has been an LPR for 3 years and has been married to and living with a U.S. citizen for 3 years. The foreign spouse's time as a conditional LPR counts towards the 3 years.

There is also a special provision for expedited naturalization for the foreign-citizen spouse of a U.S. citizen servicemember stationed (PCS) abroad, when the spouse accompanies the servicemember overseas. See Immigration and Nationality Act section 319(b) and 8 CFR section 319.2.

Note that if you are an American citizen, you may also bring your alien fiancé(e) to the U.S. to marry and to live by filing a Petition for Alien Fiancé(e), Form I-129F. For more information on this or any other USCIS procedure, you may visit <http://www.uscis.gov>. For assistance with more complex situations, you may reach the U.S. Consulate General in Naples at 081-583-8111, the U.S. Embassy in Rome at 064-674-2434, or may call the NLSO at DSN 624-5258 to schedule an appointment.

## Navy hospital announces new phase in Vietnam Head Injuries Study

By JO3 Erica Mater  
National Naval Medical Center Public Affairs

BETHESDA, Md. (NNS) — National Naval Medical Center leaders announced in May that the hospital is the site for a 30-year post-injury follow-up study to determine the long-term effects of a traumatic brain injury sustained in combat in Vietnam veterans.

The Vietnam Head Injury Study (VHIS) Phase III is being used to determine the long-term effects of head injuries on general cognition, memory, and long-term neurological, psychological and social functioning.

Experts hope the study will help establish how memory and cognition may decline in an aging head-injured population. Doctors also expect to better examine the role of the frontal lobes of the brain in social cognition and complex thinking, such as reasoning and planning.

"The VHIS has, in some cases, single-handedly been the reason for better care and benefits for veterans," said Jordan Grafman, Ph.D., the principal investigator for VHIS and chief of cognitive neuroscience at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.

The distinguishing factor between this new study and other head injury studies is that all registrants for VHIS were healthy and employed pre-injury. All participants have Armed Forces Qualifications Test scores, which indicate prior levels of intelligence and functioning.

"As long as there are conflicts, [head injuries] will be an issue, and if what we do can help future generations of veterans, then we have accomplished one of our major goals," said Grafman.

According to Grafman, VHIS is one of the longest-running neurobehavioral studies ever to be conducted. The study began with a Phase I in 1974 and included more than 1,000 participants.

The current Phase III study will be conducted over the next three years.

For related news, visit the Naval Medicine Navy NewsStand page at [www.news.navy.mil/local/mednews](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/mednews).

## Moms club of Marinai

The MOMS Club of Marinai will be holding a membership drive on Thursday, June 17 at 10:30 am. The event will be held in Marinai housing on via Sorrento. The park is right across the street and there will be a small pool for the kids!

We hope to see you there! Call 624-1277 for more information!

## FILAM supports Swordfish

*Courtesy of the Sigonella FILAM Association*

Sigonella's FILAM Association presented a check for \$200 to the Sigonella Swordfish youth swim team, on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> in appreciation for their success in providing a healthy activity for Sigonella's youth. A delegation of FILAM officers visited the NAS II Pool, home of the Swordfish, to present the check.

The Swordfish swim team provides a year-round program open to all dependent children of military and DOD civilian employees. It's important to provide support to programs like theirs to keep the youth busy and teach them discipline, competitiveness, and sportsmanship said FILAM President Nito Rosal. Margie Castro was surprised at the age of swimmers; "I didn't know the program was open to children that young" she was also surprised at the number of swimmers.

Currently the team has 50 active swimmers, expecting to grow to approximately 65 this fall when the European Forces Swim League (EFSL) season starts.

The league is open to all European forces dependent children ages 19 and below. Rich McKeown, head coach of the Swordfish, accepted the check on behalf of Ms. Debbie Kazman, Team President. The money will be used to defer the cost of team sweatsuits for the children.

### Healthwatch from page 2

Finally, the plane landed and the patient that she had so attentively cared for was transferred to the local paramedics. The senior flight attendant remarked, "She kept the critically ill passenger as calm and stable as any physician of 30 years could have done." She further expressed that if it wasn't for Retterath's life saving interventions the passenger wouldn't have survived.

Because of her actions, HM3 Retterath was awarded the Naval Achievement Medal and it read, "...her confident, take charge attitude, combined with accurate assessment skills and exceptional ability to provide rapid medical assistance led to the life-saving stabilization of one of our own, a retired Marine."

### Strike group from page 3

operations in the U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command theaters during the ship's interfleet transfer from Norfolk, Va., to its Pacific Fleet homeport of San Diego.

The near-simultaneous deployment of seven carrier strike groups provides the Navy and the joint combatant commanders an opportunity to exercise the FRP while maintaining the ability to respond to crises around the globe, enhance regional security and relationships, meet combatant commander requirements including forward presence, and demonstrate a commitment to allies and coalition partners. Summer Pulse 04 is scheduled to conclude in August.

For more information on the Summer Pulse 04 events and to schedule coverage opportunities, please contact Fleet Forces Command media office at (757) 836-3600.

For more news from the Department of Defense, go to [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil).

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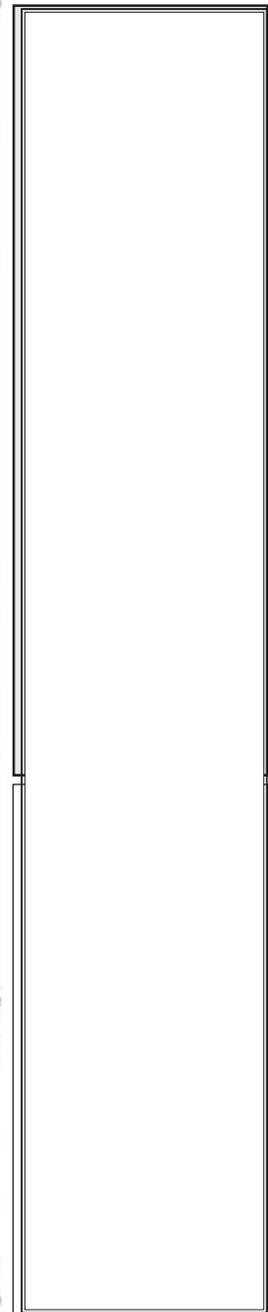
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*The Signature*

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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.

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Italian and Spanish teacher gives private lessons call 347-1860211.

**Automotive**

1994 Toyota Carina 4 Door, 5 Speed, Power Windows, Power Brakes, Electric Sun Roof, Chilling A/C! Very Dependable AFI Plated and available June 24th. \$2,500 624-0696 Date.

1999 Ford Fiesta Studio. Silver, 2dr, 5 speed. Power windows, A/C, Dual airbags, AM/FM/CD Player. New battery/tires. Great gas mileage, car is in great shape. Available 15 June 2004. \$4,500. Call Mike at 624-9251 before 1600 or 624-0165 after 1700.

1995 Ford Windstar \$2700 (below Blue Book). Reliable family van. New tires, shocks and brakes. A/C front and rear. Tinted glass. Automatic. AM/FM Tape. Call Larry 335-5998550.

'95 Toyota Previa Mini-van, Excellent Condition Very well maintained and Reliable. Great for travel. Seats 7, A/C, Dual Sun Roofs, Automatic Trans, Remote door locks, power windows - more. \$6,500 call Todd 349-6069414

1989 Fiat Tipo, gray, 5spd, front PW, PL. \$900. Available 18 June. Call Tanya @ x3525, or 3403580963, or P.O. O'Neil @ x6496.

2002 Jeep Wrangler. Dark Green/black soft top. Great shape, other than small dent on left front fender, \$13,000. Lots of extra stuff; Mickey Thompson rims. Wet Akole seat covers, stock front and rear bumpers, bikini top, soft half doors. Contact Ben Johnson at 624-2251 0800-1600 or 624-0375 1800-2100.

1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme 4 dr. Automatic with A/C, PW, PB, PS, PL. Cruise. Excellent car. Many new parts. \$3500 O.B.O. Call Cliff @ 624-0385 after 5:00 p.m.

1994 Nissan Quest Minivan Automatic, A/C. Power Windows and Lock Draws 40L, Excellent Running Condition Asking Price \$7,500 or OBO. Call Ted @ 335-8337655 or 624-6198 E-mail: Filampv02@yahoo.com

1988 250D Mercedes black, very clean, good familycar with plenty of room. Just passed safety inspection and is awaiting new owners. New engine put in summer 2003. New brakes and tires. AM/FM radio, Pioneer CD player. Power windows and locks. Draws 300 liters per month. Manual transmission, European specs. Asking \$2,000 O.B.O. Call 095-520598 or 340-8547215 ask for Mike or Melissa.

1991 Opel GSI 2.0 liter low mileage sporty and very dependable. Fast rally serie. 12 disc CD player Pioneer system. \$2,900. Call 348-662789.

1999 Fiat Barchetta Riviera 1.8., 16V, red 2 seater convertible, 43,000 km. Full options, ABS, A/C, Power Windows. New tires. Excellent condition. Asking 9,200 euro. Call 347-2601265.

1996 Fiat Punto, white, 2 door, 1000cc engine. Only 77,000 km and in excellent condition. Asking price is euro 2350.00. Call 347-585654 or 624-6041 and ask for Joe.

1994 Opel Astra GSE, white, 2000cc, sunroof, A/C, P/W, P/L, 80,000 km. \$3400. Call 338-7272971.

1993 Audi 8. Excellent car for touring Italy or just to and from work. Power windows, door, am/fm CD player. In excellent condition maintained regularly. Great for family or touring. \$3000.00 OBO. Contact Andrew 624-6425 or 340-9735432

1985 Mercedes 230E. Runs good. Automatic, \$1,500. Contact James at 624-5779 (work, days) 340-857-4486 (cell). fraleyja@hotmail.com

2002 Volvo V70. 20,000 miles. 5 speed manual transmission, A/C, stereo with CD & cassette. Light beige, tinted windows, seats 7, shoulder belts all middle and 3rd seat, 2 built-in child seats. Good condition. Maintenance record available. Call 624-1477.

2002 Peugeot 206, 45,000 km, 5 speed standard transmission, A/C, stereo w/cassette deck. Dark blue body, tinted windows. Seats 5, with shoulder belts in all rear positions. Good condition. Maintenance record available. Available after August 1. Call 624-1477.

2000 RENAULT TWINGO. Power everything w/ remote entry, cover plated, AC, tune up and filters changed, sunroof, CD player, great gas mileage. 2 Door hatchback fits 4 adults. Runs and looks great. Available now. Call Samantha at 348-0009633 or x5261. \$5,500 OBO.

1994 Nissan Sentra, white, 4dr, 5-speed, a/c, AM/FM radio. Asking \$500 OBO. Car needs work, call for details, home 095-7116383, cell 335-8315049.

1992 Lancia Dedra 1800i in great condition asking price \$2200.00 call me on my cell 338-2185499.

1990 Mercedes Benz. 1 woman driven, runs great, good a/c & heat. Power windows/locks, burglar alarm, 5 speed, facplate stereo \$2500.00 OBO. Must sell before July. PCSing, 300 liters. Ms. Evans: Wk 624-3210 / Hm 095-30-6803 / email /Mamie\_Evans@hotmail.com.

1993 Nissan Sentra E, \$2500.00 A/T, Air-conditioned AM/FM/Cassette radio, 148,000 miles. No body damage, looks and runs great. New front/rear brakes and front tires. Available NOW. Call 624-5845 or 340-6703401.

1990 Rover 214 si, 4 Doors, gray, AFI cover plates, good condition. \$1600 OBO. Call 095-998465, x6561 or 340-7193650.

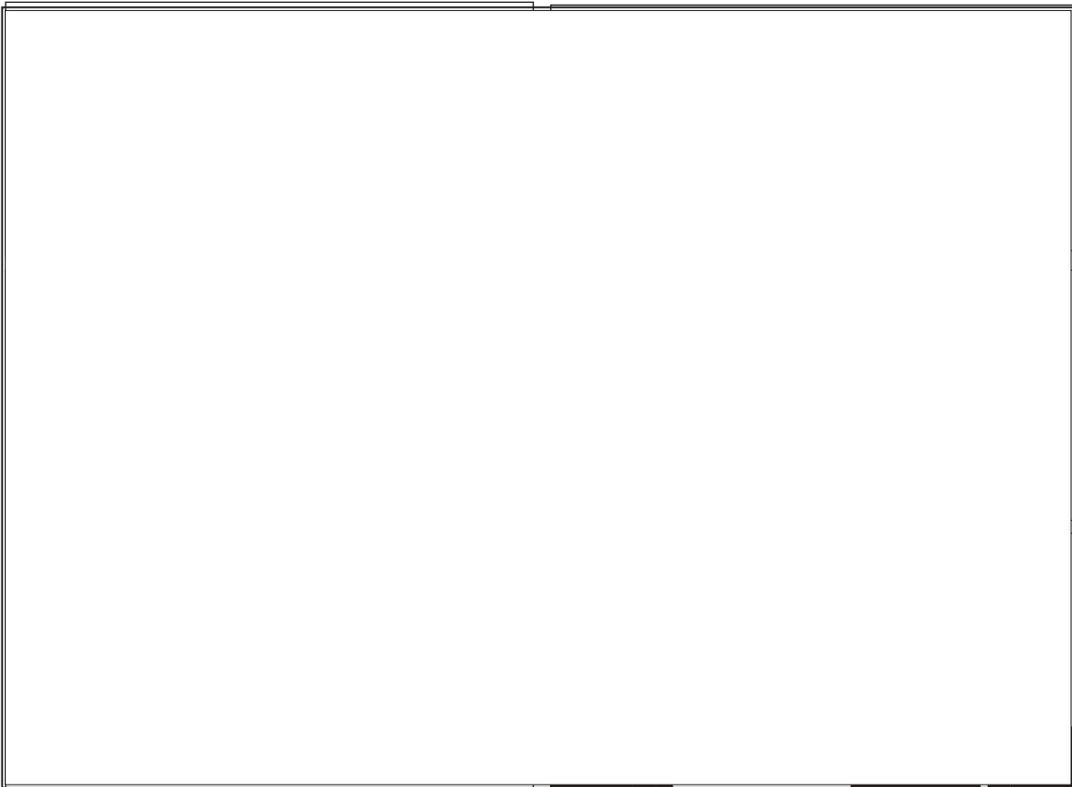
1983 VW Polo, 2 doors, gold, AFI plates, good condition, asking \$1200 OBO. Call 095-998465, x6561, or 340-719-3650.

1990 Plymouth Laser, red, 5-speed, AM/FM Cassette. Good dependable car. \$1500 OBO. Call 333-4203440 or 624-3541 after 7:00 for more information.

1993 Alfa Romeo 155. Excellent condition, \$900 OBO. Call 333-2733562.

1968 Autobianchi 500 Giardinetta. Beautifully preserved, totally original vintage 500 Belvedere Sintonavogoni! Suicide doors and convertible top. Runs and drives great! Must see to believe condition for this rare example of an unusual and fun car, asking \$3,500 o.b.o., for pic's see www.sigtrades.com. Ask for Aldo at x4599 or 338-4898796.

1992 BMW 320i Sedan. Looks new! Runs great! Black leatherette. Like-new tires. Power windows, locks, steering, brakes. Alarmed, air-conditioned, 5-speed, heater, rear window defogger, radio/cassette detachable faceplate. Available mid



## Send all Mercato advertisements to sigosignature@yahoo.com

July, \$5900. Call 624-2691 or 095-877805.

**1993 Volvo 960 Turbo.** Fully Loaded, A/C, power, leather, upgraded brakes, shocks & springs still in box, new belts, 17 racing rims w/ new tires, great gas mileage, disc changer, alarm system, very clean, must see!! \$3800 O.B.O. Call Tiffany or Courtney home x0292, work x6368, cell: 333-2867863.

**Fiat Camper Van.** Has: diesel engine, natural wood interior, galley, hot water shower, head, furnace, sleeps 4, \$2000.00 OBO. Can be seen on NAS 1 in front of school. Contact Chief Nabb at the DoDDS school at 624-4285.

**1996 Neon.** 4 door, 5 speed, 2 new tires, 56,000 miles, available now, \$1800 OBO. Call 347-6953743.

**1991 Rover 416 GSi.** Second owner. All original parts in excellent condition inside and out. Maintained regularly with no problems. Power windows and locks. Great A/C and heater. 5 speed. Radio and CD stereo. Must see! \$2800 O.B.O. Call Gina at 67425110, 340-5637139 (cell).

**1996 Plymouth Neon.** 70,000 miles, a/c, automatic, 2-dr, teal; great car \$4500. PCS June 28th. Call Judy at 624-6734 or 340-1475935

**1996 Renault Clio.** 100,000 Kilometers, standard, no a/c 4-door hatchback; terrific car \$2300 PCS June 28th. Call Judy 624-6734 or 340-1475935.

**2003 GSXR 1000.** US Spec. 3200 miles, blue/white, Power Commander, Yosh Tiri Oval Exhaust, Eurotail Undertail, FAST, BEAUTIFUL, BRAND NEW. 2 Shoei RF-900 helmets, Joe Rocket Leather Jacket, JR Racing Gloves, Rear Stand. \$10,500 serious inquiries only. Dave Shipman (W)095-866577 (H)095-520859.

**1989 ALFA ROMEO 164.** Dark grey, 5-speed, 4-door, power locks, cd player, power steering, A/C, reliable, \$2100 OBO. Contact Ryan at 624-5352.

**1994 Baretta.** Automatic, PS/PB/ABS, A/C, driver's side AB. Interior/exterior in fair condition, runs great! \$3000 OBO. Call Gene at x6406 (day), 095-727-1402 (eve).

### Pets

Free 2yr old Tabby Cat. Neutered, chipped & shots up to date. Very friendly and affectionate, loves being around people. Cannot take back to the states. For pictures or information call 340-3601482 or e-mail las\_1971@hotmail.com.

Loyal, playful, protective female pup needs loving family to give her treats, toys, and cuddles. 1 yr old. Red-gold color, 30lbs, spayed. JR at 340-5637136 or x6368.

WANTED: Loving home for my loving cat. Spayed, de-

clined, chipped, ash gray, and friendly. Wonderful surprise for your spouse or child. Call Mike at 340-8925347/2732.

6 month old female Dalmatian, house trained, loves kids. Must sell, paid 150.00 euro let go for \$100.00. Call Brian or Patti Robinson if interested 624-1346 home 339-2184123 cell.

FREE to good home. One year and 2 months old, male Neapolitan Mastiff. Full blooded without papers. Very playful. Needs room to run and someone to give him lots of attention. Is good around kids but doesn't realize his own size or strength. Need to get rid of ASAP. Do not have time for him with the expected arrival of my 2nd child. Call Shawna at x5578 or 333-365-9519 or Cherie at 339-629-1933.

FREE to good home. One and a half year old female Sicilian mutt. Small Long haired dog. Very playful and friendly but needs a lot of attention and love. Just had puppies about 4 months ago. They too are free to a good home. 2 males - half mutt half Neapolitan Mastiff. Black with brindle legs. Not sure what size they will be. At present age they almost as big as the mother. Do not have time for them with the expected arrival of my 2nd child. Call Shawna at x5578 or 333-365-9519 or Cherie at 339-629-1933.

Free cat. White, part siamese, female cat. Has all shots and is chipped and spayed. Call Josh or Kelly at 624-0695 if interested.

### For Sale

Elegant cherry wood furniture: dining table with four chairs \$200. Mirror with two sconces (accents dining set) \$40.00, coffee table with two matching end tables \$75.00, sofa table \$75.00. Misc: two lamps with lampshades \$30.00, bamboo style patio set with tempered glass includes umbrella and base \$175.00. Must see! Contact Liz or Tee 624-1502.

Sony 200 CD changer, excellent condition - \$100 OBO Call 624-0219

AFN Decoder with original box, paper work, and a satellite dish. Available now. Asking \$450.00. Call Vincent WK # 624-4250; Cell # 340-6119930.

3 carpets available. One is black floral, two are beige. 9' X 6', \$20 each or \$50 for all three. Eddie Bauer "Pack and Play" portable playpen/bassinet, \$40. Contact Mike or Michelle at 624-0165. Located in Mineo.

Bed, 250 cm x 250 cm for \$400.00 because it cannot fit in 205 housing. For more info, please contact 624-3618 or 349-4759407. It is an Italian bed and in good condition.

Fire Wood (approx. 1/2 cord) - \$25; Tile 3 3/4" square rose colored ceramic tiles (71) - all for \$20; Playstation games, computer games, videos, and CD's - \$3 each; Audio cassettes - \$1 each; Lawn chairs - \$5 each.

Prices Reduced!! Must sell - 220V radiator heater - \$30; 220V electric heater - \$5; 220V standup fan - \$10; Child's desk - \$10 Call 095-789-0029 or 3497517458

Horseback Riding Helmet (SEI) approved made by Lexington Safety Products in the USA, size 7 1/8, color is black velvet - \$30 or best offer. Call 095-789-0029 or 3497517458.

for sale are 2 cell phones one is a crickson data phone with stylus paid 200euro selling for 60 dollars siemens 842 cell phone with mp3 player selling for \$100, selling window air conditioner for \$70.00 paid over \$300.00 220v,only used for one season excellent condition. 2 vacuums 220v hover selling for \$40 with all attachments samsung vacuum excellent condition for \$30.00 and last Italian bed and mattress for guest room paid over 200euros selling for \$100, please call Aga or Jason at 095998063 or 3478051256 or 340-3359466 work 624-6590.

White leather couch and love seat - \$500. Sage couch, chair and half With ottoman \$500. Small computer desk with chair \$50. Call: 335-768-3760 or 624-1247 after 1800.

AFN Converter \$300.00 Available July 20. Call 335-8400-594.

PCS sale: 1 neutral gray carpet 9x12 perfect condition-\$50. 1 A/C 220volt from NEX only used one summer-\$200. 1 A/C 110 volt-\$100. 1 A/C 110 volt-free because not in perfect condition. Call Steve or Katie x3526 before 8pm.

PCS sale: 1 220 volt dishwasher- perfect condition, a few years old-washes dishes beautifully. Fis 205 housing laundry rooms- even 2 bdrm. Have instruction manual and will give you the supplies I have for dishwasher. Only asking \$150. Call Steve or Katie x3526 before 8pm.

Text books for sale. 2-Math 107-Algebra, 2-intermediate algebra. 50% less than school price. Call Tony or Lisbeth 095-522066 or 624-2309.

PCS Sale. Various items: portable phone, cell phone, sleeper couch, covered outdoor swing, food processor/blender, vacuum, 2 transformers (500 & 1500W), the topped kitchen table, European ext cords and plugs. All appliances 220V. 095-86-1477.

PCS sale: Sony DVD player, single-load with Remote originally paid \$150.00. Asking for \$80.00. Call 624-4399 or 624-3051 before 11 Jun if interested.

HOOVER Floor Mate floor cleaner for sale. Only 6 months old and used 5 times. Sells in the NEX for \$150.00 asking \$80. It will dry vacuum, wet vacuum, and scrub your tile floors. Works really well. I still have the box and instruction manual. Call Josh or Kelly at 624-0695

JVC 7012 Multi-function Silver Receiver & JVC 7CD Black Disc Changer Brand new. Barely used and receiver still has

original box and all manuals. Purchased Changer as display at NEX but have used very seldom. CD Changer: \$100.00 Receiver: \$200.00 Call Nick @ 333-845-1151, 095-309502 or 335-5979669.

Aiwa Car CD receiver and JVC cassette receiver w/ 12 disc CD changer and remote for sale. CD Changer never used, few scratches but still brand new. JVC Receiver works great and remote is fully functional with changer and deck. Changer comes with mount plates and all manuals included. Changer adapter cable not included. All for \$200.00 Call Nick @ 333-845-1151 ,095-309502 or 335-5979669.

Wardrobes \$50. 4-drawer filing cabinet, \$5; 2 5x7.5 green area rugs, \$5 ea; 1 5x7.5 gray area rug, \$5; coffee pot, juicer, lamps, mixer, 220V, \$5 each. Entertainment center, \$5. Call Judy 624-6734 or 340-1475935.

### Wanted

I'm looking for some outdoor furniture... A decent sized table with umbrella and chairs to seat at least four would be ideal. If you'd like to sell at a reasonable price give me a call @ 624-3644.

A glider or rocking chair. Please call Melissa at 338-8196802 or 095-860666.

Calling all knitters! Local knitting club starting up. All levels of experience welcome. If you are interested in joining us, please visit www.shriekofnature.com/knit or email Deb at sicilyknitter@yahoo.com for more info.

CELLO WANTED. Looking to buy or rent a cello. Please call 624-1485.

### Lost and Found

If you lost your cell phone at the Crater Pubs on or about 14 May, you can go to NAS 1 Security to claim it.

### Jobs

Be part of a team committed to supporting the USN and your family! Navy Exchange Sigonella is currently looking for prospective associates To fill the following positions: Sales Clerk, Customer Service Clerk, Supervisor Sales Clerk, Visual Merchandise, and Personalized Service Clerk. For more information, visit the Personnel Office on the second floor of the main Navy Exchange, or contact Enno Curcuruto at 624-4276/4275.

The US Naval Hospital, Sigonella, is soliciting for one part-time personalized service contract for a medical surgical unit registered nurse. Closing date 11 June. Sources must be eligible for US employment and US board certified. Solicitation packages are available at the supply department, purchasing office, NAS II. Call Mr. Barbagallo at 624-5725 and Nellie Barone at 624-3791.

