

The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

Vol. 21 No.36

Sept. 10, 2004

TOP STORIES

Knowing how to handle a dental emergency can mean the difference between saving and losing a tooth.

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Task Force Uniform (TFU) announced the completion of a solicitation for contracts, Aug. 31, for various uniform accessories to be used in an upcoming wear test of service and working uniforms.

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Vinimilo, which is one of the largest annual events in Sicily, provides tasting and sales from a plethora of Sicilian wineries with music, food, arts and crafts and entertainment. The 24th annual vino festival will be held Sept. 11-12 and will be open all day long.

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Most Sigonellans restrict their online shopping to retail outlets and auction sites, but that is about to change. The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) recently announced the resumption of the Internet coupon program.

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Everything you need to know about off-duty special interest groups will be showcased on Sept. 18 during Sig on Display.

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61 years later

The town of Cassibile honors signing of Armistice

Story and Photos by JO2 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Monday was Labor Day. For some it is the unofficial end of summer marked with barbecues and fun. For others it marks the time when going back to school is right around the corner. And still for others, it's the celebration of those who work hard for a living.

This past Monday was also a time to reflect on those who went beyond working hard during the conflict known as World War II. The "labors" of the Americans and their Allies during WWII to liberate Sicily, and ultimately all of Europe, were remembered in a ceremony in the small town of Cassibile, Sicily.

It was in this very town on September 3, 1943, that the signing of the armistice halting hostilities between Italy and the Allied nations was held. Pietro Badoglio, head of the Italian Army and prime minister, gave this radio address on Sept. 8 following the signing.

"The Italian Government, recognizing the impossibility of continuing the uneven struggle against the overwhelming enemy power, with the intent of saving further and more serious calamities to the nation, has asked General Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the Allied forces, for an armistice. The request has been accepted."

It was a very important day in the history of Sicily, which saw the Allied troops storm the island just months before during the beginning of *Operation Husky* (the Allied invasion of Sicily and the start of the Allied assault on German held Europe.)

A small delegation of members from Naval Air Station Sigonella represented America at the sight of the signing of the armistice. Even though it was a holiday, two members of the NAS Cassibile, page 12

VP-16 bids farewell to a 'Master' Chief

By JO2 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

On Sept. 3, the "War Eagles" of Patrol Squadron Sixteen (VP-16), and the Navy as a whole, saw the retirement of a Master Chief Petty Officer with 31 years of Navy experience.

AFCM (NAC/AW) Nick Mellos, a native of Port Huron, Mich., has been a familiar, if not famous face in the annals of naval aviation serving with a number of patrol squadrons and even the Navy flight demonstration squadron, the Blue Angels.

At first glance, anyone can tell that Mellos has been around and seen and done many things. His grin reveals a missing tooth and the confident way he walks through the halls of VP-16, talking with Sailors all the way, reveals much about this master chief.

Before his final role as maintenance Master Chief for VP-16, Mellos started up through the ranks with TRARON THREE ONE at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, as an aircraft reciprocating engine technician. He then went on to serve with the famed Blue Angels as a jet engine technician. He then moved on to be a P-3 Orion flight engineer with Patrol Squadron's EIGHT and TEN (VP-8,10), out of Naval Air Station Brunswick, Maine.

After a tour with Commander, Patrol Wing ELEVEN in Jacksonville, Fla., and another with VP-10, Mellos was assigned to Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron ONE (VQ-1) at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash. It was with VQ-1 that he had an encounter he won't soon forget.

On a mission near China, the EP-3E Aries II aircraft on which Mellos was flying encountered trouble. "It was a scheduled ten hour mission," said Mellos. "When it was one minute from the time to turn and head home, the kids in the back of the airplane passed a message that we were going to be intercepted. This really was not uncommon."

Uncommon or not it was not a

comfortable situation for the crew. "In what seemed like hours, which actually spanned the timeframe of maybe seven minutes, the Chinese F-8 and our EP-3 had a midair collision," Mellos continued. "There were things going on in that airplane that are just unwritten procedurally in the manual...how to react and what to do. Every one of us in that flight station fell back on our basic training as an aircrewman. All our

Navy training came to be at one place at one time."

"We lost altitude, the aircraft went out of controlled flight, and Lt. Shane Osborn recovered the aircraft and we went through the iterations, do we ditch, do we bail out?" Mellos said. They found that land was only 13 miles away and decided to put the aircraft down. "Once we got the Mellos, page 9



AFCM (AW/NAC) Nick Mellos gets a thorough drenching after his last flight on board a Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN (VP-16) P-3C Orion.



Direct Line

Capt. Joe Stuyvesant
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

Do you remember the excitement of the first day of school? I sure do. There was always the feeling in the air that this was the year that big things were going to happen and that anything was possible — much like the way baseball fans feel about the start of baseball season — no matter how well (or poorly) their team did last year. We as parents, teachers and mentors need to fan the flames of enthusiasm in our students. Let them know they are special and encourage them to do the best they can and go farther in this new year. We are excited to have the teachers and students back to school and look forward to working together in the pursuit of education.

We've taken the teachers on a base tour of NAS II showing them the reasons we are here...supporting the Fleet. We have shown them the Fire Department (and of course, Sparky), the Military Working Dogs, HC-4 and VP-16. Our operational and logistical assets are working hard keeping the Fleet engaged on the waterfront with the supplies, people and support they need.

Likewise, as the base takes care of the Fleet, the parents of the children who attend classes at the DoDDS schools need to take care of the school. By joining the Parent-Teacher Organization at the elementary school or the Parent-Teacher Student Association at the secondary school, parents can be involved with their child's school. They help out the school in various ways. Last year, the PTO through their fund-raising efforts donated more than \$12,000 towards the elementary school's needs. Their end-of-school carnival was a huge success.

If your child brings home a membership form for the PTO or PTSA in the next couple of weeks, please take a couple of minutes and fill it out. Take advantage of this great opportunity to help your child and their school.

Let's all have a great school year. Go Knights. Go Jaguars. Go Parents!

**Be safe Sigonella...
drive to arrive.**



Traffic tickets issued from Aug. 28 though Sept. 6.

Number of tickets in parenthesis.

- (2) Violation 1: Driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor (0.07 percent or greater on or off base)
- (4) Violation 19: Speeding over 10 but less than 15 miles per hour above the posted speed limit
- (3) Violation 20: Speeding one to 10 miles per hour above the posted speed limit
- (3) Violation 21: Improper passing
- (2) Violation 26: Failure to obey traffic signals or traffic instruction of an enforcement officer or traffic warden; or any official regulatory traffic sign or device requiring full stop or yield right of way, denying entry, or requiring direction of traffic.
- (4) Violation 27: Operating a vehicle with no driver's license in possession
- (1) Violation 31: Improper overtaking
- (9) Violation 32: Other moving violation
- (2) Violation 34: Using a cellular phone while operating a motor vehicle
- (7) Violation 37: Failure of operator or occupants to use available restraint system devices while moving (operator penalized)

Traffic Statistics	Traffic accidents with injuries: 0
	Traffic accidents without injuries: 10
	Car break-ins: 3
	DUI/DWI: 2
	DUI/DWI's 2004: 22
	DUI/DWI's 2003: 58

Commanding Officer Capt. Joe Stuyvesant	Deputy Public Affairs Officer Alberto Lunetta	Volunteers Alexis James
Public Affairs Officer Lt. Steve Curry	Asst. Public Affairs Officer J01 Craig Coleman	Nicole Hamaker
The Signature editorial office is located at: Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily PSC 812 Box 3020 FPO AE 09627 Telephone: 095-86-5440; DSN 624-5440		
Editor J02 Steve Weaver		

HEALTHWATCH

What to do for dental emergencies

Courtesy USNH Sigonella

Knowing how to handle a dental emergency can mean the difference between saving and losing a tooth. If someone has suffered an injury to the mouth such as a tooth fracture or avulsion (knocked-out), they need to get to the dentist's office as quickly as possible, preferably within 30 minutes or less.

Knocked-out Tooth: It's important to retrieve the tooth. Hold it by the crown and rinse off the root if it's dirty with water. Do not scrub it or remove any attached tissue fragments. If possible carefully place the tooth back in its socket. If this is too difficult to do, keep the tooth moist by one of the following means and go immediately to the dentist.

1. Store the tooth in commercially available solutions

which can be purchased at a local drug store

2. Place the tooth in a container of milk

3. Place the tooth inside the mouth, between the gum and cheek

Broken tooth: Rinse your mouth with warm water to keep the area clean. Use a cold compress on the area to keep the swelling down and get to your dentist's office quickly.

Objects caught in between teeth: Try to gently remove the object with dental floss and avoid cutting the gums. Do not use a sharp instrument. If you're not successful in removing the object, go to the dentist.

Cut lip, gums, or tongue: Rinse with cold water to remove foreign particles. Apply cold compress to the cut or bleeding area

to keep down the swelling. Go to the dentist as soon as possible for an evaluation.

Toothache: Rinse the mouth with warm water to clean it out. Use dental floss to make sure food or foreign objects aren't lodged around the tooth. Don't ever put aspirin or any other type of painkiller on the gums or around the aching tooth because it can cause a burn on the tissue inside the mouth. If discomfort still persists, contact the dentist. When you arrive at the dentist's office, he or she will do an oral examination to see which tooth is bothering you. The dentist may also want to take x-rays to help in the diagnosis. Treatment can then begin to alleviate the pain and address the problem. Some common reasons for a toothache include: decay, gum disease and physical trauma such as being hit in the mouth.

NJP Results

E-3

Violation of the UCMJ, Art. 91 (Insubordinate conduct toward a petty officer) and Art. 117 (Provoking gestures)

Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG) for 60 days; reduction to pay grade of E-1; and forfeiture of \$596.00 pay per month for two months (suspended for six months).

Note! Reduction to next inferior pay grade vacated from previous NJP.

E-2

Violation of the UCMJ, Art. 86 (Unauthorized absence)

Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG) for 60 days and forfeiture of \$596.00 pay per month for two months (suspended for 6 months).

Note! Reduction to next inferior pay grade vacated from previous NJP.

Farewell Thoughts



By Tommy Myhand
Command Chaplain

I just can't believe it! Three years have gone by and now my wife Debbie and I will be "PCSing." I experienced a reality check a few weeks ago as the shippers were packing up our household goods. It seemed like only yesterday that they were unloading the four and one half crates. I watched in wonder and amazement as they loaded what has become seven crates. My thought pattern was along the lines of "where did all this extra stuff come from?" We collected a few odds and ends here and there. For example, we now possess a lava top table, a nice living room suite from a shop in Malta and of course, some dishes from Patti. This is not to mention the stuff from the exchange! Well, all this "stuff" is nice but it is not the most important thing we will be taking home with us. No, a lot of great things that have happened over the course of three years will be going with my wife and I.

The things we are taking with us are mostly inside us — things that have made great memories. Allow me to share a few of the highlights and events Debbie and I have participated in. There have been Navy Balls and SeaBee Balls, there were Fil-Am events, retirements, changes of charge and changes of command. There have been many fun-filled Metanoia Youth

Group events sponsored by the Chapel, as well as church picnics, potlucks, and dinners with friends. There have been things that made me laugh and smile and wonder, joyful events that are common to all of us! I could go on and on, but I believe the greatest memories that will go with us will be the memories of coming into contact with so many of you.

I am convinced that some of the most awesome people in the military are here in Sigonella. Many of you have contributed to making our first tour in the Navy very significant and incredible. I can only hope and pray, that if you know me, your memories of me would be similar.

I guess I could harp on some of the bad and the ugly things that have happened while we have been here: my truck being stolen, the several tanks of gasoline that have been siphoned from my vehicle, and so on. Maybe I could focus on other breaks we have had or the many times we have tried to figure out safe driving. But, this is the stuff I plan to leave behind. The good people, good things and happy memories of Sicily and Sigonella far outweigh these. My wife, my cat, my rabbit and I will be leaving soon. We will take the good with us; we will leave the bad behind. Please know that I have been truly blessed by being here with all of you. Thank you for adding to my life and helping me to see the good in each situation. I wish each and every one of you Godspeed, fair winds and following seas.

Arrivederci from Chaplain and Debbie Myhand.

NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

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

Protestant Traditional Service
Sunday 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 Jumuaah
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

SECNAV urges Navy/Marine Corps team to vote



Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England takes time to sit down and fill out his absentee ballot for the upcoming national elections. England is making it his personal goal to ensure that every Sailor and Marine has the opportunity to vote in the upcoming election.

By Lt. Cmdr. Jamie Morrison, Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Gordon R. England urges every man and woman in the Navy and Marine Corps, civilian personnel and their families to register, get an absentee ballot and cast a vote this election year.

"You wear the cloth of the nation, and defend democracy and the right of all Americans to vote," he said. "I encourage all of you to register and vote."

According to a post-election survey conducted by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) on the 2000

general election, 68 percent of all naval personnel voted and 62 percent of all Marines voted. These percentages are below the Department of Defense average of 74 percent for that election.

SECNAV is challenging all hands to exceed the 2000 percentages, and show that the Navy and Marine Corps Team strongly believes in the democratic election process. The right to vote is a freedom granted to every civilian, Sailor and Marine and should be exercised Nov. 2, he said.

According to Polli Brunelli, the FVAP director, the importance of the 2004 election cannot be overstated.

"The offices of President and Vice President, 34 senators, the entire House of Representatives, 13 governors, and hundreds of local officials will be elected this year," she said. "The Department of Defense is dedicated to the rights of its members to remain a part of the electorate wherever the defense of our nation requires them to be, and we encourage everyone to participate in the elections."

For those overseas, it is relatively easy to obtain an absentee ballot.

"You can obtain a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for absentee ballots from your unit voting assistance officer, who will assist you with the procedures for registering to vote in your state," said Brunelli. "You can also obtain the online FPCA form from the FVAP Web site at www.fvap.gov."

The most important aspect of voting is getting the registration completed early enough to eliminate any potential issues.

"Do it now to eliminate potential problems later," said England. "In our country, we have the right to vote as a result of the sacrifices of U.S. service men and women like you. You've earned this right, and your vote counts."

TFU completes solicitation for working, service test uniform contracts

From Task Force Uniform Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Task Force Uniform (TFU) announced the completion of a solicitation for contracts, Aug. 31, for various uniform accessories to be used in an upcoming wear test of service and working uniforms. The contracts for all components of the wear-test uniforms are now nearly complete.

This solicitation outlined the final components that will be required from potential bidders to construct the test uniforms for TFU. The contracts for the Navy Working Uniform (NWI) for E-1 through O-10, and year-round service uniform for E-6 and below have already been awarded.

A variety of colors are currently being looked at as options and are being considered based on colors that have been traditionally found in the Navy's history. The practicality of those colors are to be tested in a working environment, said Chief of Naval Operations-directed Command Master Chief (SS) Robert Carroll, the director of TFU.

"Once we have the finalized concept uniforms completely constructed, we will be able to release photos of the wear-test uniforms," said Carroll.

The wear-test sites have not yet been determined; however, various logistical supply points in the major fleet concentration areas were identified in the solicitation.

The sites for the wear test are currently being developed

through the fleet and force master chiefs, based on those commands' ability to support all components of the wear-test program. It is anticipated that more than 1,000 participants at 17 sites will test the NWU, and more than 500 Sailors at 11 sites will test the year-round service uniform. These final numbers and site locations may vary, depending on command/unit availability to participate.

"The individual commands that are now being identified by force master chiefs must represent their warfare community, be working in an industrial environment (for the Navy Working Uniform), and adequately represent Navy demographics," said Carroll. "Commands must also be reachable for the duration of the wear-test period, operating within consistent communication capability. The most important piece is they must volunteer."

"Individuals volunteering must also be above-average performers, have enough time remaining at their current command to complete the wear test, and be within Navy readiness standards," he said.

With nearly all of the contracts awarded, TFU is beginning to look ahead to how the Sailors involved in the wear-test will provide feedback about the new uniforms.

"We're now concentrating on the method by which we'll communicate with the Sailors throughout the wear test, which we plan to do via electronic communication," said Carroll. "Our goal is to receive real-time data from our participants. That's something we've never done before."

Navy looks to Sailors to improve voluntary education program

From Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) — In an effort to bring the Navy's Voluntary Education (VOLED) Program in line and up-to-date with the Revolution in Navy Training, and to expand educational opportunities for Sailors, Vice Adm. Alfred Harms Jr., commander, Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), has established a Navy Voluntary Education Working Group.

The working group is tasked with conducting a complete review of the VOLED program and soliciting input from the fleet to improve the program for the future.

"This working group has been chartered to evaluate Navy VOLED organizations, processes and programs," said Jennie Humes, deputy director, Voluntary Education Department at the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC) in Pensacola. "The group will conduct an overarching review of the entire VOLED process, to see where overlaps exist, identify duplicated services, and conduct a full assessment of the program," Humes added.

To accomplish this task, an evaluation team will be formed to conduct site visits to Navy commands in Norfolk, Va.; San Diego, Mayport, Fla.; Washington, D.C.; Hawaii; and Bremerton, Everett, Bangor and Whidbey Island, Wash. These visits will include meetings with regional commanders, commanding officers, on-base

institutions and individual Sailors, and will facilitate open, two-way dialogue concerning VOLED issues.

In addition to the site visits, targeted online education surveys will be made available to both Sailors and commands to further the VOLED program review.

The working group has randomly selected Sailors to participate in the surveys from a database of more than 180,000 personnel who are presently enrolled in various VOLED programs. Lt. Paul Salevski, NETC Plans and Policies department, said the working group is seeking input from a wide range of Sailors.

"We're looking for feedback from Sailors — both officer and enlisted — who are actively involved in VOLED programs, and also from those who have not used these programs," Salevski said. "This would give us a true overview of VOLED's current status and help us guide its future implementation."

Individual inputs from Sailors, commands, on-base institutions and Navy College Office staffs will play a crucial role in the evaluation of the VOLED process as it presently exists, and at the same time, help the VOLED working group develop recommendations to bring the program in line with the Navy's education strategies. The working group hopes Sailors will display a genuine concern for their VOLED opportunities by taking the time to participate in the online survey.

Humes, who is currently detailed to NETC to

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 Florida Sailors help namesake state after Hurricane Charley

By JO2 Christina M. Shaw, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — After Hurricane Charley devastated parts of Florida in August, Sailors from the submarine USS Florida (SSGN 728) banded together to take a trip down to their namesake state.

Using money out of their own pockets, the Sailors took the trip in order to take part in a massive effort to provide victims of Charley with the necessities needed to ease the suffering. The crew saved money by staying with relatives of another Florida Sailor in Venice, Fla.

"I have family in South Florida," said Chief Machinist's Mate (SS) Jeffrey J. Their. "The state of Florida has done a lot for our ship, and this was just one small way to pay them back."

Working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Florida National Guard, the crew spent the majority of their time passing out ice and water while getting to know the people of South Florida.

"It was sad to see the level of devastation and damage to the South Florida area," said Chief Electronics Technician (SS) David Meares, a native of Yorktown, Va. "I could not believe what some of the people were left with. A lot of them had nothing left to live in or a place to go to except the relief stations."

"Many were left with nothing but the clothes on their backs," added Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman (SS) Donald Abele, a native of Gloucester, N.J.

Charley, one of the first hurricanes to hit the United States this season, caused more than \$7.4 billion in damage to homes, businesses and personal possessions, more than any other hurricane in Florida since Hurricane Andrew, according to an American Red Cross preliminary survey.

During the trip to Florida, temperatures were sweltering. To these Sailors, it was well worth the challenges of bearing the heat.

"Over the past 23 years, the state of Florida and her people have supported the boat," Abele said. "We felt it only fitting to repay their support."

"In addition, after going through Hurricane Isabel here in Hampton Roads last year, we have a small understanding of what these people are going through," Abele continued.

During the relief efforts, Florida Sailors distributed more than 95,000 pounds of ice, and 54,000 gallons of water to a total of 55,000 cars in the six days they were there.



Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman Donald B. Abele helps pass out ice to citizens of South Florida at an aid station set up by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Abele, along with several other Sailors assigned to the Ohio class ballistic-missile submarine USS Florida (SSBN 728), traveled to their namesake state to help relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Charley.

News Briefs

Expired Fuel Coupon Refund Procedures

Sept. 30, 2004 will be the last day current fuel coupons dated Oct. 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004 can be used.

New coupons will be available for purchase Sept. 20, 2004 at the NEX Cash Office at NAS 1 and Personalized Services at NAS II. The purchase of the new coupons will be taken from the October ration allowance and will not be accepted for fuel purchases until October 2004.

New POL coupons can only be used from Oct. 1, 2004 through Sept. 30, 2005 at AGIP or ESSO Stations.

Old coupons can not be exchanged for new coupons. Refunds will be given for the dollar amount of remaining liters.

Refunds will be given beginning Oct. 11, 2004. Refunds will continue to be given until June 30, 2005 for fuel coupons dated Oct. 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004.

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

Home school support group

H.I.S. Home School Support Group will be having a family potluck on Sept. 17 at 5 p.m. at the old teen center on NAS. Anyone interested in Home schooling in Sicily is welcome.

Call Kellie Zach 624-0158 for more information.

New insurance office

GEICO Insurance Company will have a new office, as of Sept. 15, in the Motor Vehicle Registration Office building #724 on NAS II.

The Navy Exchange recently awarded GEICO a long-term contract, which will enhance the Quality Of Life for the Sigonella community by locating GEICO and MVR0 under one roof which eliminates the necessity of commuting between bases.

Several services will be available to include new vehicle insurance policies, renewals, policy payments, and damage claim processing.

Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and closed Saturday and Sunday. The new DSN telephone and facsimile number will be 624-9427.

Hospital closures

NAVHOS clinic and the Flight Line Clinic will be closed Sept. 20 for a change-of-command ceremony.

Girl Scout registration

Register for Girl Scouts at the MWR "Sign on display" on Sept. 18 from 11 to 5 p.m. on NAS I.

Look for the Girl Scout table for more information on joining.

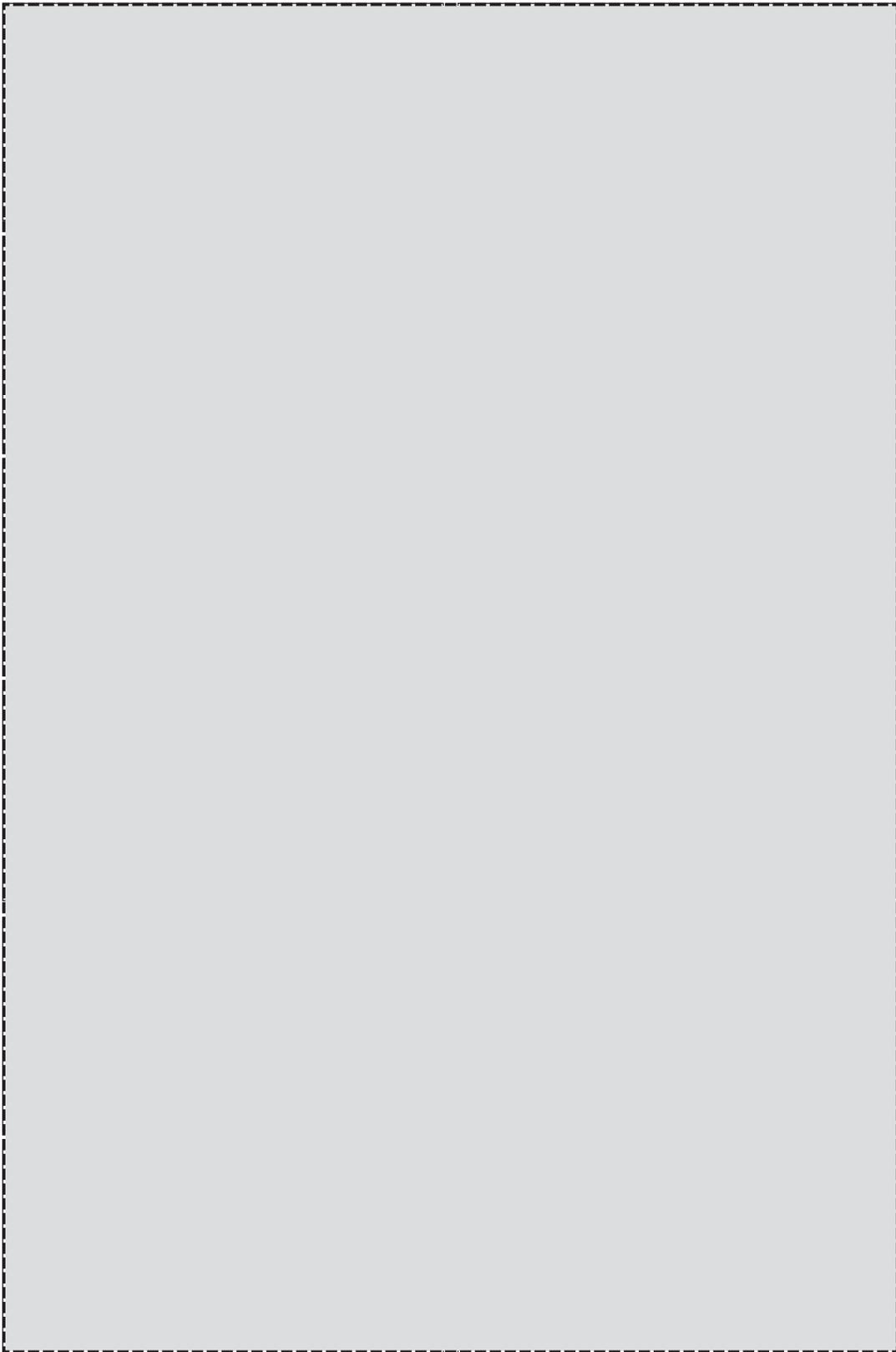
SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

						Sept.	10		11	Adult, Infant, Child & First Aid Red Cross 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 624-4900				
12	Community Flea Market 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. NAS I Gym Call 624-5271	13		14	E-4 Exam 6:45 a.m. NAS I Gym Call 624-6397 for more information	15		16	Photo Safari Meeting 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Old Teen Center behind NAS I gym Call 624-4396	17	Acireale & Shopping ITT Call 624-4777	18	Sig on Display NEX Parking Area 11 a.m. 5 p.m. Call 624-5271	
19	Single Sailor Free Dinners Every Sunday 5:30 p.m. NAS I Chapel	20	NAVHOSP Change of Command 9:30 a.m.	21	Volunteer Orientation Red Cross Office NAS I Comm. Bldg. 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Call 624-4900	22	Hometown Holiday Greetings Send taped, holiday greeting to your family Sept. 22 - 24 PAO Call 624-5440	23		24	Dental Assistant Training Program Deadline for applications Red Cross Office Call 624-4900	25	Babysitter Training Red Cross Call 624-4900	
26	Lipari Express ITT Call 624-4777	27	Intramural Fall Volleyball Games start NAS I Gym Call 624-5238	28	Navy Fitness Training For CFLs and ACFLs Call 624-4301	29		30		Oct.	1	International Dine-Out ITT Call 624-4777	2	Etna Off-Road ITT Call 624-4777

THURSDAY Call	Sat., Sept. 11	Sun., Sept. 12	Mon., Sept. 13	Tues., Sept. 14	Wed., Sept. 15
Fri., Sept. 10 Stop singing in the shower. Show your friends what you've got. Stop by Jox Sports Bar at 8 p.m. for their Karaoke night.	Visit the small town of Corleone and enjoy an exquisite lunch and wine tasting at the agrituristic farm. You might even have the chance to see them harvest the grapes. Call ITT at 624-4777 for more information.	Admire the Capo Bianco, known as the Turkish Steps because of its unique limestone rock formation. The, dive into the sky-blue waters nearby before exploring the ancient valley of Agrigento, which is home to more than 10 temples. Call ITT at 624-4777 for more information.		Stop by Take 5 for thei Tournament Tuesdays. The fun begins at 6 p.m., sign up at 5:45 p.m. Xbox, spades, poker, dominoes, foosball...Take 5 has it all. The weekly winner will have their picture posted on the "Wall of Fame" board in Take 5. Free pizza and sodas for all players and prizes awarded to tournament champs.	It's free admission night at the base theater. Unwind with free movies all night.







By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Wine Festival in Milo

Vinimilo, which is one of the largest annual events in Sicily, provides tasting and sales from a plethora of Sicilian wineries with music, food, arts and crafts and entertainment. The 24th annual *vino* festival will be held Sept. 11-12 and will be open all day long. For more information and detailed schedule call Milo's tourist office at 095-955423/438 or 095/955138.

Wheat Festival to be held in Raddusa

Don't miss this exciting *Festa del Grano* (Wheat festival) running from Sept. 11-12, that will take you back to a time when threshing was not done by machines. In the 1950s, Sicilian farmers performed the *Pisatura* or threshing with horses. Firstly they stockpiled the wheat into a circular space called *Aia*. Then, one farmer placed himself at the center of the *Aia* and had two horses run on the wheat in circles. Thus wheat was separated from the stalk by the horses' hooves. Eventually, the *Spagghiata* was performed. The harvest was thrown upward with a winnowing fork and the grain returned to the ground while the chaff was carried away by the wind. This old-fashioned threshing tradition, which is one of the festival's highlights, will come alive on Sept. 12 at 4 p.m. in piazza Milite Ignoto, a square located in the town's historic heart.

Not far from this piazza and along viale Regina Margherita (main road) the city administration will set up stalls that will be offering free tasting of wine and dishes made using local produce such as *pane condito* (freshly baked bread dressed with olive oil, salt, chili peppers and oregano, available on both festival days at noon); *Cuccia* (soup prepared with whole hard grain, legumes and dressed with spices, available on Sunday at 8 p.m.) and *Pasta of San Giuseppe* (egg *tagliatelle* and *ditaloni* pasta cooked in a soup of legumes (bean, chickpeas, lentils, spices and wild vegetables, available on Saturday at 8 p.m.).

Festivalgoers will also have the chance to taste other local delicacies that will be available at the *putie*

(local shops, small drugstores) that will be open in the city historic center. Visitors can also taste *Frittate Yotive* (vegetables' omelets flavored with cinnamon), *Cardi Panati* (breaded thistles), *Carciofini Inceneriti* (barbecued artichoke hearts dressed with mint, garlic, olive oil and parsley), *Coniglio Selvatico alla Cacciatora* (rabbit marinated with red



A threshing show with horses, which is undoubtedly one among the festival's highlights, will be staged on Sept. 12 to display how this activity was performed in the 1950s.

wine, onions, carrots and spices and cooked slowly in tomato sauce and potatoes); *Pasta con la Mollica* (egg pasta dressed with breadcrumbs and wild fennel), capers' salads and *Minulato* (wafer covered by anarretto cream). Following the *pisatura*, local bakers will knead their bread the "old-fashioned way" during the *mpastata do pani* that will be performed at 6 p.m.

Since the *Grano* festival is truly a blend of events, it will also feature spectacular parades in period costumes and Sicilian carts and folklore shows, which will be held on Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. and Sept. 12 at 11 a.m., making their way through the streets of the historic center. Live music, kicking off on both days at 9:30 p.m., will also entertain festival visitors.

To round out the festival, decorated tissue paper hot air balloons will also be flown on Sept. 12 at 7 p.m.

History of the city

Historians believe that the name Raddusa derives from the Arabic language meaning "break stones or stone quarry." The first news of a stronghold named Raddusa date back to 1300, when the Arabs divided

Sicily into three administrative regions (Mazara, Demone and Noto). At that time, Raddusa was part of the Noto region. Five hundred years later, Marquise Francesco Maria Paternò, a local nobleman who needed manpower to till his uncultivated properties and to work in the numerous sulphur mines of the area, obtained permission by the King of Sicily to found a town in 1810. Paternò then invited and encouraged local farmers, who lived in the surrounding towns such as Caltagirone, Mineo, Villarsa, Mazzarino, Reggio, Riesi, Militello, etc., to move into Raddusa offering his lands on perpetual lease. In 1820, the new community was annexed to the town of Ramacca. Eventually, Raddusa became an autonomous town in 1860.

Raddusa has an interesting *Chiesa Madre* or cathedral that is worth a visit. Erected in 1850 by architect Giuseppe Maggiore, it features precious Corinthian style stuccoes.

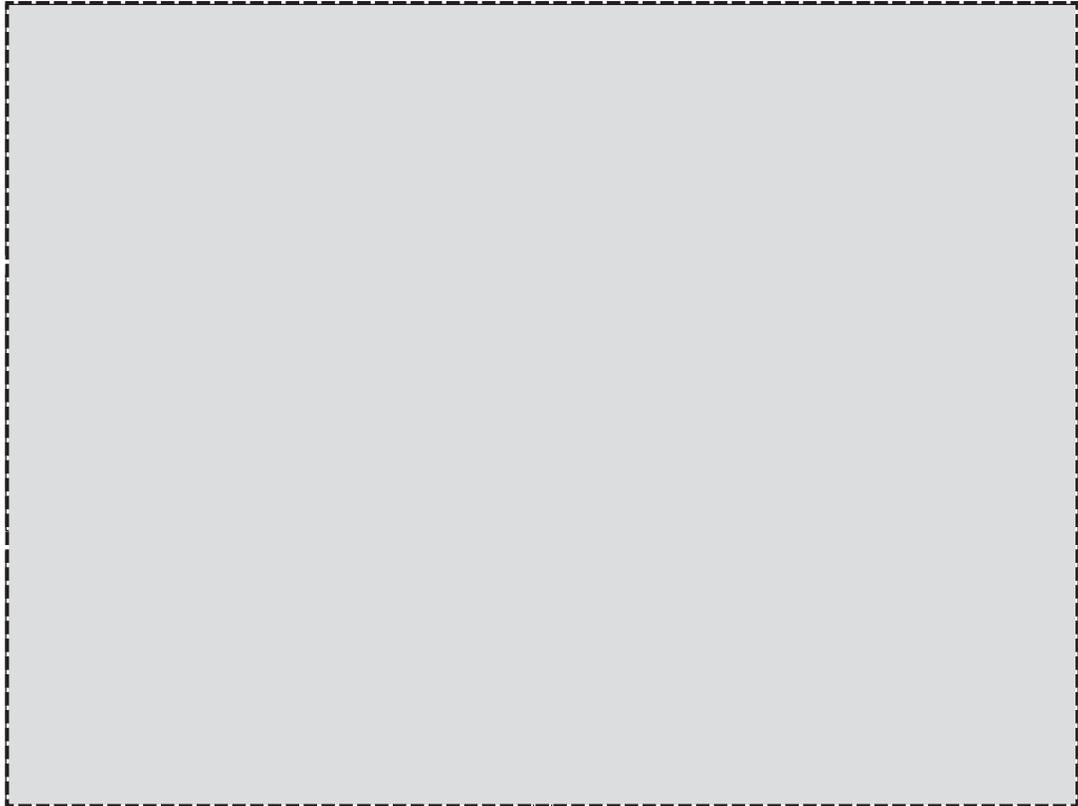
How to get there

Raddusa is fairly easy to reach. Exit Agira on the Catania-Palermo highway (A-19).

For more information, detailed schedules or trips to the local historic sites call the city's tourist office at 095- 667003.



Between Sept. 11 and 12, the town of Raddusa will host a festival that will bring old farming traditions alive. The festival will also feature arts and crafts, folklore and period costume parades, trips to local historic sites, traditional food tasting and live music.



Slips, falls and back injuries: new mishaps, but few new causes

Courtesy Naval Safety Center

As Navy commands work to cut the number of mishaps in half, a logical starting place is to attack the major causes of mishaps and injuries. And when safety experts study the data, they find that slips and falls remain one of the most common ways that people hurt themselves at work. Back injuries remain a leading type of injury. Most of these mishaps are easily preventable, often by using common sense.

According to Capt. Charlene Brassington, head of the Naval Safety Center's Occupational Safety and Health directorate, "You can get a back injury from picking up a pencil if you happen to bend down and twist wrong and thus put an unusual kind of stress on your back. Many back injuries come from working parties, when Sailors are moving cases of sodas or large packages, carrying material up and down ladders in an awkward posture, and not getting help when they're supposed to. They'll lift something they know they probably can't lift by themselves but they'll do it—or

try—anyway."

A typical recent mishap involved an E-1 climbing a ladder from a ship's main-deck passageway to a berthing compartment. He lost his balance and fell, breaking his arm. The mishap made him miss an estimated 30 workdays. Another recent example was an E-5 on liberty who ended his day with drinks and a relaxing meal at a local restaurant before returning to his ship. Back aboard ship and while climbing a ladder, his foot slipped between two rungs and lodged in such a way that his momentum caused four breaks in his leg. He lost an estimated eight months.

Ladders are not the only areas where slips and falls result in serious injury and lost workdays. Whether afloat or ashore, in uniform or a DoD civilian, slips and falls inevitably result from poor situational awareness or unsafe practices.

Back-injury prevention techniques are well-known, explains Capt. Brassington. "Good physical condition reduces the risk," she says. "If you do stretches and

exercise and increase the flexibility of your back and your spine, and if you pay attention to how you lift and move and don't stress and strain, then your risk of back injury is low."

Age plays a role, but older people can protect their backs by staying in shape. "You are more apt to get a back injury as you grow older because you're not as flexible and your spine has less cartilage to act as a shock absorber," Capt. Brassington says. But even people who have injured their backs are often told to keep moving, stay flexible, and to exercise to increase circulation and warm up their muscles.

Safety Center mishap data point to an excellent way to avoid one kind of falls: to always use a step ladder when reaching for something high on a bulkhead or in the overhead. Yet mishap reports show an amazing variety of things that people have tried—unsuccessfully—to substitute for ladders.

About the Naval Safety Center: Established in 1951, the Naval Safety Center is the Navy's leading organization that conducts safety investigations, analyzes mishaps, and provides safety information to the Fleet. The Center serves communities in aviation, afloat, shore and recreation/traffic, ground operations, and occupational safety and health. Commander, Naval Safety Center reports directly to the Chief of Naval Operations, provides assistance to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Safety, and supports over 4,200 Marine and Navy commands worldwide to promote safety and safety processes and to preserve the lives of our service members. Our web site is at <http://safetycenter.navy.mil>.

About the 50 percent-Mishap-Reduction Campaign: On May 19, 2003, the Secretary of Defense challenged DoD to achieve a 50-percent, across-the-board mishap reduction by the end of FY05. In fiscal year 2003, mishaps killed 106 Sailors, and cost the Navy \$737 million in equipment damage and lost resources. Of the mishap cost, \$694 million was in aviation mishaps. Sixty-six of the deaths were on the highway. The mishap-reduction challenge aims at 10 targets. Four involve Class A mishaps (which cause \$1 million or more in damage, destroy an aircraft, kill someone, or leave someone totally disabled): total operational, aviation (which alone accounts for 94 percent of the costs), afloat and ashore. Four other targets involve fatalities: traffic (which accounts for more than half the total deaths), off-duty, afloat and aviation. The other two are the number of destroyed aircraft and civilian lost-time injuries.

NASSIG New Arrivals

August 16, 2004

Jaimey M. Britton
William James Britton
8 pounds 5 ounces
22 inches

Brandi L. and Dwayne M. Louis
Ruby Leigh Louis
5 pounds 15 ounces
19 inches

August 18, 2004

Laura Georgina and Lorenzo Lara
Diego Lara
6 pounds 4 ounces
19 1/2 inches

August 19, 2004

Kimberly M. and Stephen T. Nichols
Gabriel Isaiah Nichols
7 pounds 8 ounces
20 1/2 inches

August 21, 2004

Tatia T. and Michael D. Gibson
Noelani Sanae Gibson
7 pounds 9 ounces
20 1/2 inches

August 23, 2004

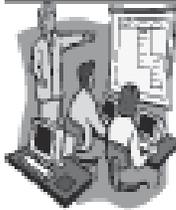
Shawna M. Eddings and Louis A. Marroletti
Eric Marroletti
7 pounds 5 ounces
20 inches

August 25, 2004

Darla A. and Michael Anthony Saine II
Michael Anthony Saine III
8 pounds 10 ounces
21 1/2 inches

August 27, 2004

Kelly Janelle and Michael James Larson
Nathan Michael Larson
8 pounds 1 ounce
21 inches



Are you in need of a classroom or conference room for any training purposes or meetings? We offer a wide variety of classrooms with amenities such as Computers, Internet ready rooms, TV's, VCR's, DVD's, and etc. If you wish to

reserve any classrooms or conference rooms please contact Base Education and Training Department at 624-9408.

MWR Mark Your Calendar

Family Extravaganza today

Stop by Mineo Housing tonight from 6 to 10 pm. Have dinner on us and enjoy an evening of fun and games with your family. Parent and child teams participating in competitive events will receive a raffle ticket and be entered into a drawing. Over \$250.00 in prizes will be given away.

Community Flea Market

Sunday, Sept 12
NAS 1 Gym
10 am - 2 pm
It's post-summer shopping at its best. Find the latest deals on things you didn't know you needed. Today is the last day to sign up at ITT. The \$20 registration fee includes one table and chair and must be paid at the time of sign up. Call X5271 for more information.

Liberty Hard Rock Café Dine-Out

Saturday, Sept 18
7 - 11:30 pm
Calling all single sailors! Enjoy a night of delicious American-style food and live entertainment. Sign up at

Take 5 by Thursday, September 16. Bring extra euro for food and shopping. Free transportation

Power Reading

Leadership books are now available at the library on NAS 1. The bibliography list includes: CNO suggested leadership and management books CO's Top Ten reading list Navy Knowledge Online Enlisted professional reading

Signonella Massage

Relax with a massage from a professional massage therapist. Signonella Massage is located at NAS 1 Activity Zone behind NAS 1 Gym. For appointments, email signmassage@yahoo.com or call X3813.

TEENotes

September 10: Back-to-School Dance; 6 - 11pm
September 17: Hard Rock Café; 6 - 11pm
September 18: Mineo Hard Rock Café; 5 - 8pm

Free Volleyball Clinic NAS 1 Gym

Tuesday - Friday, Sept 14 - 17
5 - 6:30 pm
Pick up fundamental skills and strategies and gear up for MWR Intramural Fall Volleyball.

Sign up now

Captain's Cup Intramural Bowling league starts the third week of September and last for 16 weeks. Call the TenPins Manager at 624-4302.

Vet Services

The Vet Clinic will only be open for Vaccinations and production sales September 13 - 17. For more information call X 4258.

Crater Pub Events:

Bingo is Back

Bingo cards go on sale starting Monday, 13 September at 5:30 pm.

Early bird bingo starts at 6:30 pm! Over \$4,000 in three jackpots. Free popcorn! Door prizes! Ice cold beverages 17 games are played.

Welcome DODDS teachers
Friday, 17 Sept; 4 - 7 pm
Free bar munchies, hors d'oeuvres, DJ and karaoke.

Latino Celebration

Friday, Sept 17; Music 8pm
Dance Contest 10pm
Celebrate National Hispanic Month with hot latino music. After you're warmed up, enter the dance contest for special prizes. All contestants will get a free t-shirt.



Friday, September 10
3 pm Sleepover (PG) 90 min
6 pm Spiderman 2 (PG13) 128 min
9 pm Harold and Kumar go to White Castle (R) 87 min-FS
11 pm Alien VS Predator (PG13) 101 min

Saturday, September 11
1 pm A Cinderella Story (PG) 96 min
3 pm Anchorman (PG13) 91 min
6 pm I, Robot (PG13) 114 min
8:30 pm Catwoman (PG13) 105 min
11 pm Bourne Supremacy (PG13) 109 min

Sunday, September 12
90 min
ator (PG13) 101 min
harg to White Castle

r 13
13) 126 min
20 min-H

r 7
ED ON TUESDAYS

Wednesday, September 15
3 pm Sleepover (PG) 90 min-LS
6 pm Spiderman 2 (PG13) 128 min-LS
9 pm Harold and Kumar go to White Castle (R) 87 min

Thursday, September 16
6 pm Alien VS Predator (PG13) 101 min
8:30 pm I, Robot (PG13) 114 min

Cinema hours have changed. New hours:

Mon: 5 - 9 pm
Tue: Closed
Wed: 11 am to 9 pm
Thur: 5 - 9 pm
Fri: 11 am - 11:30 pm
Sat: 12 pm - 11:30 pm
Sun & Hol: 12 - 7 pm

Note: Concession closes 30 minutes after the last movie begins.

Free Admission Night
Wednesday, September 15
Relax and unwind with free movies all night!



Navy Recruiting Accelerates at "World's Fastest Half-Mile"

By **Journalist 1st Class Sonja Chambers, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs**

BRISTOL, Tenn. (NNS) — Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Nashville and Naval Reserve Recruiting Area Southeast showed Navy pride at Bristol Motor Speedway, nicknamed the "World's Fastest Half-Mile," Aug. 26 and 27.

Sailors manned the Navy booth at the event, handing out bags of Navy items and greeting the public.

"The interaction with the fans is tremendous," said Chief Navy Counselor Scott Morgan, Naval Reserve Recruiting Area Southeast field trainer.

"Any time you can get that many uniforms out in front of 160,000 people in a place that's landlocked, I think it's a good idea," said Senior Chief Navy Counselor (NAC) Steve Redd, NRD Nashville district trainer. "Two races ago, I must have taken about 15 pictures with people that just wanted pictures taken with service members. You have to constantly be able to tell them, we appreciate the opportunity to meet them."

Each visitor to the booth fills out an information card. A letter is later sent to every card address thanking the visitor for their interest in the Navy.

"People may not be qualified to join the Navy, but they can take the items we give them home to family members or turn them over to someone who might be interested," said Morgan. "We get a lot of people that come up to us and shake our hands, thanking us for what we do, which is good because recruiters need to remember why we do what we do. Even if we never recruited anybody, it would still be worth it."

In addition to the booth presence at the event, two Sailors from Navy Recruiting Command experienced the thrill of being in the pits at a NASCAR event, the Food City 250.

Chief Cryptologic Technician (Communications) (SW) Brady Duff, a recruiter from Navy Recruiting Station Frankfort, Ky., and Equipment Operator 2nd Class Gary McCollister, a Reserve recruiter working out of Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center Knoxville, Tenn., served as honorary pit crew members for the No. 14 Navy "Accelerate your life" Chevrolet Monte Carlo driven by Casey Atwood.

Neither Duff nor McCollister had been to a NASCAR race before.

"It was very exciting [to be in the pits]," said Duff, Zone Recruiter of the Month. "I've gained a whole new respect for those guys driving those cars and those on the pit crew. It takes a lot of teamwork to do what they do so quickly."

McCollister, Top Reserve Recruiter in Zone, also enjoyed the experience.

"I had a great time. The race was outstanding, and the pit crew stole the show," McCollister said. "I have never seen anybody move so fast, and will never forget the sights and sounds of the pit."

Both recruiters were tire catchers for the pit crew during the race and helped prep the pit area. They also helped work the Navy booth before the race.

"Having worked the booth at two races, I think it is a good way to show the race fans that the Navy is there for everybody," said McCollister. "Being able to talk to people from all over the U.S. in one place is good for the Navy. People who might live in a small town that a recruiter might not be able to get to would ask questions," he said. "I spoke to this guy from a town that only had 1,100 people in it and no recruiting station nearby. The race helps get the word out there very well."

The No. 14 Navy "Accelerate your life" Chevrolet Monte Carlo finished tenth in the race.

Sailor Sets World Record in Bench Press

By **JO1 (SW) Jay Cope, Naval Air Station New Orleans Public Affairs**

NEW ORLEANS (NNS) — Navy Counselor 1st Class James Burdette attached to Patrol Squadron (VP) 94, set a new world record in the 181-pound weight class Aug. 14 with a bench press of 540 pounds. The record lift was made while he was competing in the American Powerlifting Association sanctioned Panhandle Open in Mobile, Ala.

Burdette competes in the drug tested open category. His meet winning lift in that category broke the previous record for that classification by 15 pounds. Burdette also lifted 500 pounds in the squat competition and 505 pounds in the deadlift event for a competition total of 1,545 pounds. His event total was second only to a lifter competing in the 308-pound weight class.

Burdette's previous best in competition was 520 pounds, but he surpassed that in his workouts in preparing for the competition and had told the organizers of the event that he was confident he could break the record at their meet.

He's hardly done, though, as he has his sights set on passing the 565 pound record bench press in the non-drug tested category for his weight class. If Burdette is successful, the 181-pound weight class would be the only one where the drug tested lift is higher than the non-drug tested.



Mellos from page 1

aircraft on deck, we were greeted by the Chinese military and taken away from the aircraft, taken to lunch, asked if we were OK, and then taken to the barracks."

"After we landed we totally shifted from being aircrewman and flyers to being our own chain of command. We're our own entity," Mellos said. "I was the only chief petty officer on the crew of 24. My role was well defined as the senior enlisted advisor to Lt. Osborn. Professionally speaking, as a chief petty officer taking care of Sailors, there was no greater moment in my career where I had to use every basic tool or course of instruction that was given to me throughout my career than then. I just loved taking care of those enlisted aircrewmen. Rallying them and doing what I could to boost their morale in between all the interrogations, the accusations that I was a spy, and all kinds of other interesting things."

"I should have been retired at that point and gone ashore," Mellos reflected. "I had 27 years in ... I really didn't need this. I didn't need to be looking out a window with black curtains with no TV, no phone,



Master Chief Mellos walks in the PATRON hangar during his retirement.

no radio and no contact with anyone other than my faith in my country and faith in our government, that they would exhaust all resources to get us home." Mellos was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his role in the situation.

But Mellos was sure he hadn't retired for a reason. "In retrospect, I still think after all these years, God kept me around in the Navy to play that one role," Mellos said. "I was there to ensure that our Sailors returned with honor."

Mellos can count China as only one of the places he's visited in his career. He can also count places like Japan, Brazil, Panama, Puerto Rico, Scotland, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Turkey and Greenland as places he's seen. But going home is the best travel of all for Mellos. "All the travels I've been on, trips I've taken overseas, I always find myself enjoying where I'm at for about a week and after that week I just have this inner desire to go back home, because I love it at home. I've been to countries that were poor, desolate, with governments that didn't stand for the same values that ours does. It just makes going home that much more rewarding. And of course that's where our families are."

In all his tours, which consisted of 12 deployments and 9,000-plus flight hours on board P-3C and EP-3E aircraft, Mellos considers them all to be equal. "There is no one tour, no one squadron, no one aircrew, no one maintenance department any better than the other," he said. "Every one of the places, squadrons or people I've been with have had some unique defining moment that just made that tour a pleasure to be on. It was a pleasure to serve with those Sailors."

It was also a pleasure for the Sailors serving with him.

"He's always there for his people," said AM2 (AW) Jared McCarty. "He's a great guy and he takes care of his people."

"He's really down to earth

“Every one of the places, squadrons or people I've been with have had some unique defining moment that just made that tour a pleasure to be on.”

**AFCM (AW)
Nick Mellos**



... a people person," said AE3 David Coker. "He doesn't put himself above anyone. If you screw up he's going to let you know, if you do well he's going to let you know."

"He's a people person," said ATCS (AW) Brian Wylie, VP-16 maintenance senior chief. "He loves his Sailors. [He's] a 31 year master chief and he's still out on the hangar deck talking to the airmen."

"He's the kind of guy that once you know him, you feel like you've known forever," said CWO4 Dennis Jones, VP-16 maintenance material control officer. "Certainly the kind of guy you won't forget. Everyday is an adventure with the Master Chief. He's absolutely dedicated, energetic, entertaining and extremely knowledgeable. He's a red, white and blue American and a legend in [the maintenance] community."

Mellos was hesitant at first when asked to describe himself. "I'm so used to describing others and taking care of others. I would say a father and a Sailor who cares a great deal for his country and what our country stands for ... and that it's worth serving for. So everybody back home doesn't have to live under fear of dictatorship ... they can choose their form of government. That's what Nick Mellos stands for."

Mellos flew his last mission on Sept. 15 and was welcomed home with a spray down of water by members of VP-16. He liked to be where the action was. "I do go flying from time to time, once or twice a month just to give some old school to some of the younger ones and to go out and enjoy the feelings of days gone by," he said. "Kind of like going home and seeing an old girlfriend."

Mellos will be heading home for good, but his legend will live on. "His knowledge, his skills, his personality and his love of the Navy," said Jones. "Certainly all those things will be missed not only by VP-16 but by the Navy."



AFCM (AW/NAC) Nick Mellos, who recently retired from his position as Maintenance Master Chief of VP-16, shares information with CWO4 Dennis Jones, VP-16 maintenance material control officer.



Internet coupons accepted at Sigonella commissary



The DeCA Commissary on NAS I.

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Staff Writer

Most Sigonellans restrict their online shopping to retail outlets and auction sites, but that is about to change. The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) recently announced the resumption of the Internet coupon program.

Internet coupons are now accepted at commissaries worldwide and according to Redo Nolletti, Sigonella deputy store director, they are beneficial for both customers and the commissary.

"There is a mutual convenience [in internet coupon use]," Nolletti said. "The customer saves money, the store will receive coupons and probably sell more - the higher the sales, the better the stock."

According to a recent DeCA press release, DeCA and other grocery retailers stopped accepting coupons printed by customers a year ago while the industry developed means to combat their fraudulent use.

Restrictions are now in place to prevent coupon fraud. "The coupons must have a bar code the computers can scan and they can't be for a free product," Nolletti said. "You can't use more than one coupon for an item and the bar code proves that the coupon is authentic, was released by the manufacturer and intended for that purpose."

Photocopied or facsimile-generated

coupons remain unacceptable at all commissaries.

"Internet coupons are a popular median customers use to save money, so we wanted to work out a way to provide this service," said Scott Simpson, DeCA's chief operating officer. "We've analyzed this issue and these requirements should adequately protect us against fraud while giving our customers the kind of service they want."

Internet coupons may be found at manufacturers' Web sites, sites that specialize in coupons and various other locations.

DeCA's Web site, www.commissaries.com, will re-establish links to Internet grocery coupon sites later this month. Nolletti highly encourages Sigonellans to go online in search of bargains.

"The customer should use any method available for savings," Nolletti said.



Patrons check out at the Commissary registers.

SEND A HOLIDAY GREETING

"This is Petty Officer Sailor, with the Security Forces at Naval Air Station Sigonella wishing my MCM in Hometown, USA happy holidays. I love you and miss you!"

How would you like to send a taped, holiday greeting to your family members back home?

Personnel from the Army and Air Force Hometown News Center will be at NASSIG on September 22-24, 2004 to video tape your holiday greeting and send it to your hometown television and radio stations.

All military personnel, DOD civilians and family members who are stationed at NASSIG during the holiday period are eligible to participate.

For commands/personnel to schedule a time-slot contact JOC Linda Brinkley, Public Affairs, at 624-5440.





Sig on Display to showcase off-duty fun

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Staff Writer

Everything you need to know about off-duty special interest groups will be showcased on Sept. 18 during Sig on Display.

Various clubs, youth groups, parent organizations, professional organizations and all four on-base universities will set up tables on the median between the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) and Navy Exchange (NEX) sections of the DeCA/NEX

complex parking lot from 11-5 p.m.

Sig on Display is the first event jointly sponsored by MWR, NEX and DeCA. Much of the entertainment will have a distinctly local flavor.

"We want to show you what's available for you here in Sigonella when you've got free time," said Ruth Slavin, NEX store manager.

MWR will provide entertainment in the form of a Sicilian dance group and a Sicilian flag-throwing

troupe. "It's the kind of entertainment you see at a local festival," said Lana Morano, MWR community activities



director. "We want people to see the local stuff. Here is what you can do in the community and here is what you can do off-base."

The NEX will offer free Sicilian wine and limoncello tastings, a Sicilian pottery-making exhibition, a book signing by author Mary Taylor-Simeti and various sales throughout the store.

The events were chosen due to the popularity of similar past

events and because of their local ties. Taylor-Simeti has written numerous books about Sicilian cuisine, life, history and about Sicilian Princess Constance of Hauteville, mother of Holy Roman Emperor and Sicilian King Frederick II.

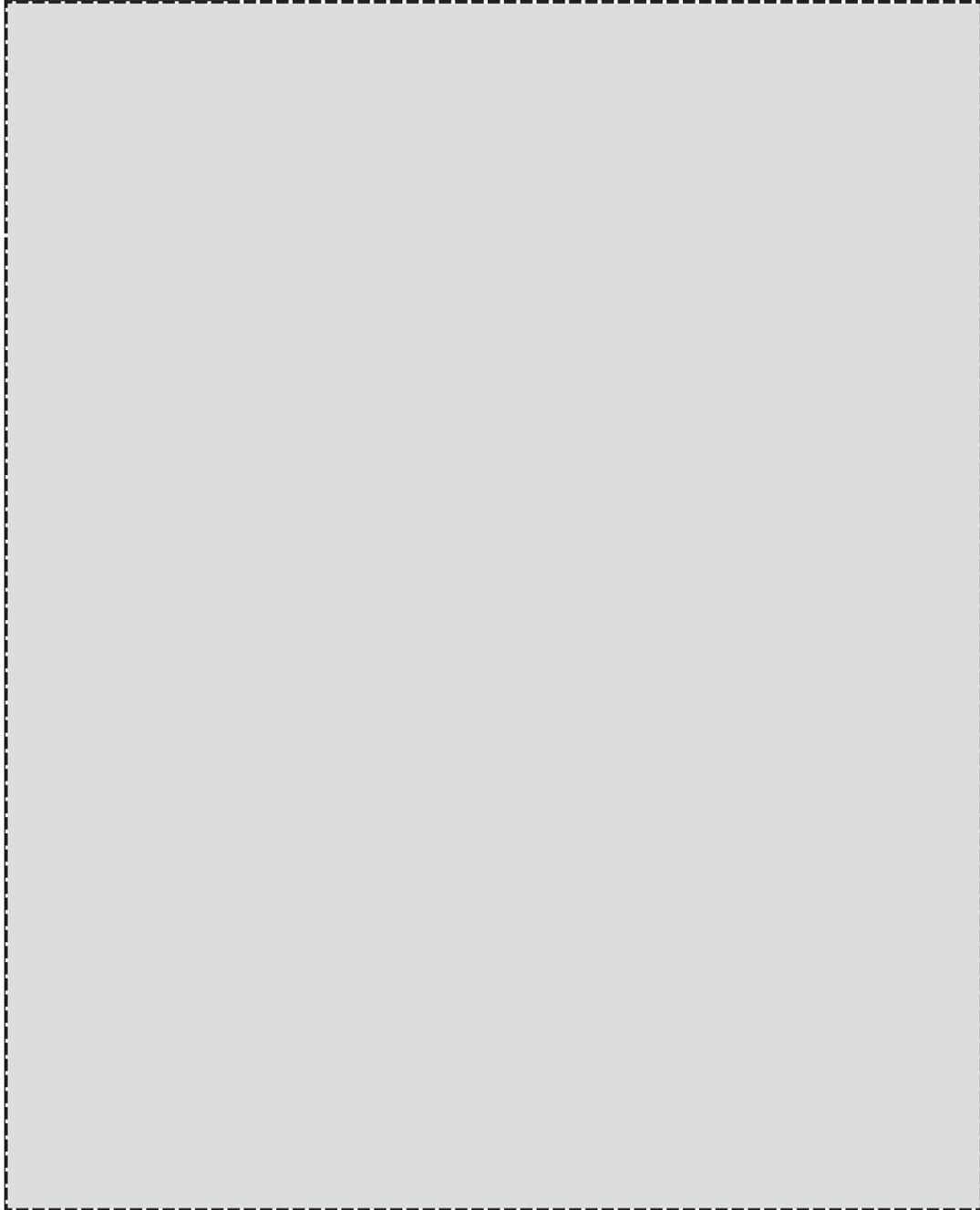
"They are all things that have a Sicilian or Italian flavor and some are things that everybody likes - like saving on popular items.

DeCA will provide a free cookout for the event,

featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks, plus the Sigonella case lot sale, during which hundreds of items are sold at up to 68 percent off the normal price.

The commissary's deputy store director, Redo Nolletti, is excited to be working with other base organizations for the betterment of Sigonella.

"We're working together to support the community," Nolletti said. "It's what we should all be doing all of the time. It's all about team."





Cassibile from page 1

Signonella color guard "labored" to take up the American colors to march and stand side-by-side with their Italian counterparts.

In the courtyard where a monument stands, etched with the date of the signing, the Americans joined Italian military members, officials, police and curious locals for a wreath laying ceremony. Anthems and taps were played after the wreath was placed and Father Vincenzo Marino gave prayers to honor those who gave their lives.

"Today we recall the many sacrifices and sufferings which began 61 years ago," Marino said. "In those terrible years, peoples and nations fought on battlefields. The sacrifices of those who have given their lives have brought [God's] gift of liberty, freedom and brotherhood between peoples and nations. Welcome into your heavenly presence those who gave their lives during the Second World War and those who today give their lives to protect freedom and liberty for all people."

After the event, the organizer of the ceremony Franco Imprescia, President of the Kakiparis Association, reflected on its importance. "Remembering what happened in the past should warn us and advise us on the fact that we should have peace at any cost," he said.

He said the presence of the Americans was an essential part of the ceremony. "It's very essential because the sacrifice of the American servicemen is so meaningful for us," Imprescia said. "We should remember that because of the intervention [of the Americans], it brought the end of hostilities."

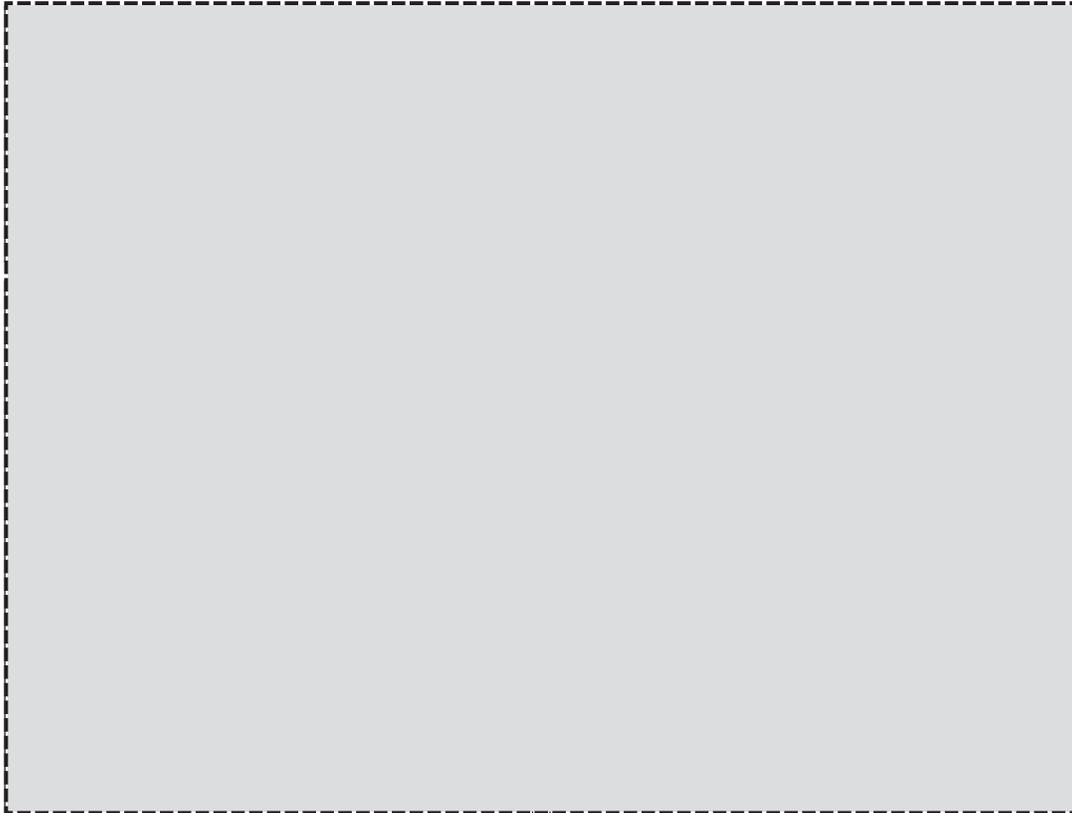
"The sacrifice that the Americans gave in the past and are still giving for maintaining peace and order in the world is very important to us," Imprescia continued.

Two members of the NAS Signonella color guard found their experience on Labor Day to be positive. "It's



Left: CM3 Jerri Tukes (left) and AD3 Melania Mezei carry the U.S. colors through the streets of Cassibile, Sicily, on Monday.

Above: The Italian Army color guard commander marches forward to salute the honored guests present at the ceremony.





A wreath is placed on the monument marking the spot of the signing of the armistice between the Italians and Allies on Sept. 3, 1943.

good to show something positive," said CM3 Jerri Tukes of the Public Works Department. "Someone coming out here in uniform, dressed nice, just to show the good side of what we do." Of being a representative of America in Sicily at this event, AD3 Melania Mezei of AIMD said "It's an awesome feeling." Local Italians came up to the duo to have their picture taken with them after the festivities.

Events like these not only foster good relations between two countries, they serve to remind us not to repeat the mistakes of the past. "You can't move on to the future unless you remember your past and learn from your mistakes," said Tukes.



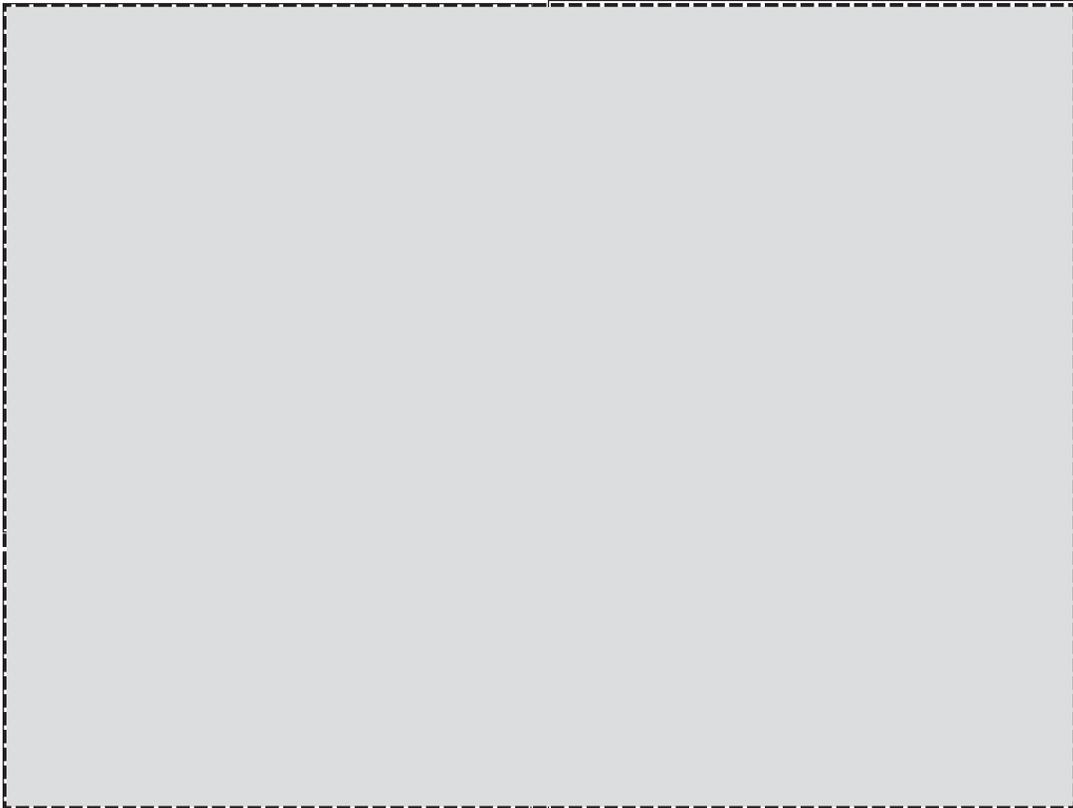
A member of the Italian Polizia salutes during the playing of the Italian national anthem.



Left: Members of the Italian Army present arms during the ceremony in Cassibile. Italian Officials, police and fire departments, Carabinieri and others gathered at the sight of the signing of the armistice.



Right: CM3 Jerri Tukes bows her head while Father Vincenzo Marino reads a prayer during the ceremony.





Il Mercato

The Signature

Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at sigsignature@yahoo.com. Ads run for two weeks and are run on a space available basis and **must** be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/American base employees.

Ads must be **40 words or less**. *The Signature* no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. If someone would like these types of services in *The Signature* they can call Jerry Boritzki @ 095-307-412 to pay for an advertisement.

Paid Ads

Mountain Bike. Disk Brakes, 21 gear, 2004 Carbon frame. Call 338-3565580.

Now offering wireless network setup. Share your files, folders, printers, and even your high speed internet connection between two or more computers without any wires. For more information visit www.wirelessns.biz or call 624-0124 or 349-8618735 anytime.

For rent: 3 Bedroom, 2 Baths, Central Heat, A/C, in Camporotondo. Call 095-520385 or 339-5214200.

Can't find it? Try the Sigonella Yellow Pages <http://reina.homedns.org>

Transferring? Retiring? Investing? Home For Sale in Chesapeake, VA. Buy now while interest rates are low, move in July 2005. 4BR 2.5 BA, Cul de sac lot, Privacy Fence Prior Homorama subdivision w/ Clubhouse, Pool, Tennis Call 335-7861945, 624-2915 or hiranlamb@aliceposta.it

2001 BMW Z3, 1900 cc, gray silver color, Full opt. with open roof. Like new, good price. Call Alessandro at 347-4834201.

1998 Honda VTR 1000cc Firestorm, two cylinders, yellow, great condition. Asking \$4,200. Call Giacomo at 339-7748228.

Automotive

2003 Honda Civic LX, 4 door, dual airbag, alarm, power door locks, power windows, A/C, AM/FM stereo with CD player. Bought last August. Excellent condition. \$14,300 O.B.O. Call Jaime or Angelica at 624-0119.

1993 Toyota Tercel, U.S. specs, 2 door, 4 speed, excellent condition, runs super on totally rebuilt engine (2002), cold A/C, asking \$2,400 O.B.O. Call Steve or Gary @ wk x5365 or 335-5789897 or x9896.

1993 Peugeot 106 954 XR, 124,000 km, 5 manual speed, 3 doors, AM/FM radio w/cassette, green color, 5 seats. Asking euro 1.500. Call Daniela at x1730 (Work) or 338-3101865 (cell phone) or e-mail d.novita@tiscali.it

2002 Peugeot 206 2.0 HDI, immediately available, 95,000 km, 5-speed manual transmission, dark blue, power locks and windows, 5 doors, excellent condition, CD Player, AM/FM radio, air conditioning. Asking Euro 10,000. Call Daniela at x1730 (W) or 338-3101865 (cell phone) or e-mail d.novita@tiscali.it

1995 Opel Cadett S.W. White, 1.7 fuel injection, Pioneer radio, alarm system, electric windows, excellent condition. Asking *2500.00 Call Alfio 624-6894.

2001 Audi TT Quattro, AWD, 6-speed manual, US spec, 225hp model, gray with blue leather, xenon, heated seats, CD changer, Bose, on-board computer, great gas mileage. Asking \$22,000. Contact AE2 Shannon Adams w: x5322 h: x0261 c: 347-6081791.

1970 Fiat 500 with 650 engine, runs great. Asking \$2500 O.B.O. Call Doug x0342 evenings.

2001 Ford KA, White, 2dr, 5 speed, power windows, A/C, dual airbags, AM/FM/CD player, new tires. Excellent condition, great gas mileage. Purchased new, dealer maintained. Asking \$6500 (negotiable). See at NEPMU-7 on NAS II. Call Kim at 348-7485241/340-7766101 or

624-9251 (leave a message).

1990 Alfa Romeo Turbo, Blue, 5 speed, CD player, very nice interior/exterior. Great island car, asking \$2200, available now. Call 624-0107 or 339-7081674.

1987 VW Golf, 5 speed, 4 door, runs great. Please call Ralph at 340-7165906 or 624-5487. \$1200 or BEST OFFER...MUST GO...PCSing.

1990 Alfa Romeo 164 turbo, Pinnin Ferrina special edition, AFI Plated fully loaded, looks sharp, runs great. \$3,000 O.B.O. Must See. Call Andy 333-3850352 or 095-7910169 or ext 6654.

1995 Chevrolet Lumina, automatic, A/C, new brakes, tires, struts, battery, alternator, AM/FM, CD, original owner. Asking \$3500 O.B.O. Contact Wayne at x6905 or 624-1286 (leave a message).

1972 Mini Minor, red, all original, motor is in good condition. Asking \$2,200. Call 624-3762 or 339-4011979.

1997 VW Jetta, 4 door, red, loaded. Original owner, AFI, automatic, 3.0, 6cyl=300ltrs, re-painted 2003, cold A/C, moonroof, dual ABS. Runs great. Asking \$4,000. Avail 5-10 Sept. Call BMC Deal 0031-2810-323722 / 0031-6945054816/after Sept. 5 call 349-8721682.

1992 Lancia Dedra with A/C, power windows and locks, in good condition. Asking \$1250. Call 347-7585654 and ask for Joe.

2002 Ford Taurus station wagon in exceptional condition with only 15,000 miles. Metallic charcoal gray, loaded with safety, sport and comfort packages. Full 5-Star safety rating. Will seat 8 people when rear folding beach seat is open. Asking only \$13,000. Ideal for Sicily or back in the states. Call 624-2821 or x1207 for details.

2003 Honda Hornet, 900 cc, 3000 km, asking *7,000.00 (can be discussed). For further information call 095-869910, 624-9910 or 338-3648052.

1987 VW Golf, 5-speed, 2 door hatchback. Current safety inspection, AM/FM CD, new brakes, new clutch, clean interior, all right body. Reliable transportation,

maintenance receipts in glove-box. Good island car. \$1350.00 O.B.O. Call Kyle at x3642.

1991 Mercedes 200e, excellent condition, 4 cyl, 5-speed, power everything, new tires & rims, CD player, and wood grain interior. Very well kept, 2 previous owners. Asking \$3200 O.B.O. Call Chris at 338-6627729 or at home x8504.

1990 Rover 620i, metallic black, A/C, power locks, power windows, full optionals. Asking *1600. For more info call 347-7252937 or 624-6041 and ask for Dante.

2001 Suzuki VS800 Raider, US spec, only 4900 mi, windshield, saddlebags,issy bar, custom cobra exhaust, passenger seat, lots of chrome, cover, looks/sounds like HD, perfect condition, was \$4850, now \$4250 - MUST SELL NOW! Call Work: x3960 or Home x1283 (before 9pm M-F).

1994 Lancia Dedra station wagon, winter green, clean and well cared for. Safety inspected last week. Brand new tires and muffler. Runs strong and is very reliable. Roof rack and quality CD/radio. Asking \$3,000 negotiable. Call Chuck at x9201.

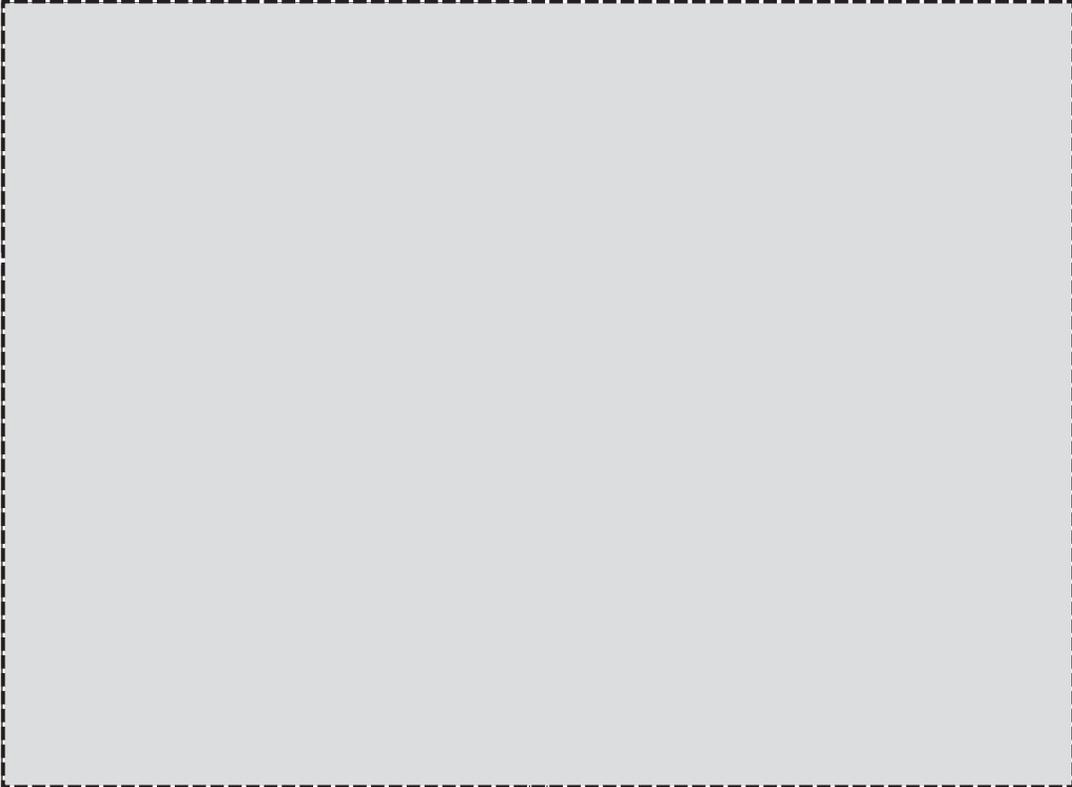
1994 Opel Calibra 2.0i, dark grey, 2 door, full options, abs/airbag aluminum rims, tilt steer and more. Not AFI. Asking \$3300. Call 340-9808927.

1996 Toyota Corolla, blue, AFI plated, 4 door, 4 cyl, automatic transmission, cold AC, new tires. Excellent dependable car. PCSing, available Oct 1. \$3000 OBO. Call 624-0294 or 340-6422127.

1988 BMW 735i, blue, A/C, power everything, leather, wood trim, new radiator, new A/C compressor. Serious inquiries only please. Asking \$4500 O.B.O. Must sell now—PCSing very soon. Call 335-6817831.

1983 Moto Guzzi 650cc motorcycle, model Harley. Motor OK, customized with reservoir of Harley 883, handlebars Harley, etc. Pot chrome additional in gift. Asking \$2200. Call 339-2264639.

1984 Mercedes Benz 190 E, Power windows, power locks, new brakepads, good engine, AFI plates. Runs great. Available



Send II Mercato advertisements to sigosignature@yahoo.com

anytime. Asking \$700 O.B.O. Call James at 348-9348326.

Fiat Camper Van. Has: diesel engine, natural wood interior, galley, hot water shower, head, furnace, sleeps four. Asking \$1500 O.B.O. Can be seen on NAS I in front of the school. Contact Chief Naab at the DoDDS school 624-4285.

2001 Mercedes sl200Evo. 6-speed, black met, leather seats, electronic heating seats, double clima, cruise control, JVC MP3 hi-fi, maintenance record available, satellite alarm anti-theft on request. Call Paolo 338-2330863 (cell).

1992 Alfa Romeo 155. 2.0 liter engine, 84,000 km, black alloy wheels, air conditioner, many new parts, looks and runs great. Asking euro 2,900. Call 340-6003960.

1983 Mercedes Benz 280 SE. V6 Automatic transmission, draws 400 liters. PW, PS, ABS, sunroof, orig. AM/FM radio, tires, brakes and rotors - less than 4 months old, will be available 9 Oct. Asking \$3000. For more info contact Brian or Mia at 095-309593.

1993 Fiat Croma. manual transmission. PS, PW, CD player, draws 300 liters. Great reliable car, available early October. Asking \$2000. Call Brian or Mia at 095-309593.

1988 Chevy van. Seats 8. Rebuilt motor with warranty. Asking \$2000. Call 624-5164 (daytime).

1993 Peugeot 205 convertible. Power windows, power locks, very reliable 1400cc engine. Asking euro 1,800 O.B.O. Any test, anytime. Call 339-5355922.

Pets

Free to a good home. Trained 11-month-old female dog. Needs more attention and guidance than I can give. Great with kids. Call 624-0246.

Free to good home: 9-month-old black Labrador with white on chest and paws. Well cared for, playful, affectionate, loves children and not aggressive. All shots are up to date. Comes with kennel. Unable to take with me during transfer. Call 335-6817831 or 095-306527.

Free to good home: Female Pit bull. 2 yrs old and sweet as can be. Good with kids and other animals. Comes with kennel, brushes, nail clippers, 2 collars, and 2 leashes. Landlord doesn't like dogs so I have to let her go. Don't judge a dog by its breed, judge a dog by the dog. Call Johnathan Cell: 348-8567778 Home: 095-463002.

Free to a good home, black and white kitten around 10 weeks old. Friendly, VERY playful, and loves to cuddle. All shots are up to date and has chip. He is on the list to be declawed and neutered, but you do not have to have it done. Comes with toys, litter box and food accessories, but no

animal carrying case. Can no longer keep him due to our children's allergies. Call x1504.

For Sale

Computer desk, \$35.00, comfortable king chair, \$10.00, modern entertainment center that fits up to a 35 inch TV with glass cabinet, \$40.00 (paid \$300.00), single bed frame with mattress, \$10.00, small transformer, \$10.00, BBQ grill (round/ no gas) \$10.00. Please call extension x0277 or 095-860277 anytime.

PCS sale: small round plastic table with 4 chairs, umbrella holder, plastic chaise longue, gas grill with Italian bombola—all for \$40. Call 095-802305.

Wood kitchen island with granite top, rack for wine and one drawer. Purchased from the exchange, \$150 firm. Call 095-802305.

21" color JVC TV w/remote 110-240v multi-system, still have original box and packing. Used for two months before moving on base. Asking \$150. Contact Kay or John at x1415.

For Sale: multiple transformers, \$45.00 ea, Italian refrigerator, \$150.00, Italian dishwasher, \$150.00. Call Andy 333-3880352 or x6654.

Two systems for the price of one! A Pentax Optio 230 digital camera (2.0 megapixel) with color LCD screen and a JVC digital signal processing compact VHS Pro-cision 5-head camcorder with a 2.5 inch color LCD monitor for \$300.00. Complete with all accessories and boxes. Call 624-2821 or 624-1207.

Queen size sofa bed \$200, recliner rocking chair \$100. Both in good condition. Call 624-1277.

White kitchen ceiling fan, \$10.00, Motorola tri-band cell phone w/charger, \$45.00, assorted light bulbs/adapters/power strips, \$25.00, ceramic blue bathroom light cover, \$10.00. Call Kim at 348-7485241 or 624-9238 or 340-7766101.

Freezer, \$50, jogger stroller, deep purple Expedition, \$45, aquarium swing, \$50. Contact Bertha 624-1425.

Samsung DVD/VCD/CD/MP3 player. Remote included. Like new, very good condition, \$80. Sony mini hi-fi stereo system. 3-changer, game sync, hybrid dual woofer. Remote included, dual voltage, \$50. Free Italian VCR. Siemens dual-band cell phone, chip included, less than one year old, \$100. Call Vic at 624-0321 (home) or 348-8108485 (cell).

Leather Sofa and Loveseat. Caramel colored with brass nail trim. Paid \$2200 at Exchange 3 years ago. First \$500 takes both. Call 335-8314496 or 095-271826 for more info. Good condition and a great deal!

Nokia cell phone with Color LCD screen for sale. Comes with chip. Contact Bailey at X6308 or 338-6241072.

3 wardrobes for sale. They are all in good shape. Two have drawers and closet doors and one is just a closet. Asking \$25 a piece. Call Carl at W-624-6607, H-624-1610.

Weber gas BBQ grill with cover, \$100. Only a few years old. All you need is a bombola/gas tank. Please call 624-1396.

Precious Moments Enesco Collection collectibles will be for sale at NAS I gym Flea Market on September 12th. Come Take A Look!

PCS sale. Entertainment center holds up to 32" TV, \$350, 29" multi-system TV, \$300, light gray sofa, \$100, 2 storage cabinets (3'X6' and 2'X6'), \$60 & \$50, 2 hanging light fixtures, \$30 ea; dual voltage microwave, \$50; stand fan, \$15; 220V hair dryer, \$10. Call Mia at 095-309593.

Graco double stroller, \$30. White bedroom set includes 4 post bed with mattress and box spring, dresser with mirror, desk with hutch, and nightstand. Great starter set, \$250. Computer Armoire, \$250. Call 624-5164 (daytime).

Wanted

Seeking a babysitter/nanny to care for my child in Mineo. Baby will be born in September, care will be needed starting end of October, or early November. Care will be for 2 or 3 days during the week, and only occasionally on weekends when my husband and I both work. Pay is negotiable. Only serious inquiries please. Contact Hannah at 624-0321 or 347-681-2167.

Seeking Weber charcoal grill or gas, any one type in good condition. Please call cell 348-5116588 or e-mail elquinn@tsocali.it

Wanted: used infant car seat. Please call Tonya at 624-0219.

Yard Sale

Yard Sale at 2205B in Marinai, Saturday September 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Clothes (girls sizes 10, 5, 3t, maternity winter size 1x1, misses size 10-13), some baby items, infant boys clothing, toys and housewares.

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, Personalized Service Clerk, Sales Clerk Cashier. For more information, visit the Personnel Office on the second floor of the Main Navy Exchange, or contact

Enzo Curcuruto at 624-4276/4275.

MWR is hiring immediately, one Animal Health Aid and one Technician to work at the Vet's office on NAS I—Apply at the MWR Main office at NAS II- 624-2560/2385.

The US Naval Hospital Sigonella is soliciting for one Personalized Service Contract for a "Case Manager Registered Nurse." Closing date 10 Sep 04. Source must be eligible for US Employment and US Board Certified. Solicitation packages are available at the Supply Department, Purchasing Office, NAS II. POC are Mr. Barbagnallo at Ext. 624-5725 or Ms. Nellie Barone at Ext. 624-3791.

HRO Ads

Protocol Officer, GS-0301-09. Office of the Commanding Officer, Protocol Office, Sigonella. Announcement SIG04-029103(R). Open Until Filled.

* **New 2004 Announcement* Education Aid/Technician, GS-1702-03/04.** MWR Department, Child Development Center NAS Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-EDTECH. Open Continuous.

* **New 2004 Announcement* Recreation Aid, GS-189-03.** MWR Department, Recreation Services Division, Youth Activities Branch, Various Locations, NAS Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-RECAID. Open Continuous.

Supervisory Recreation Specialist, GS-0188-07. MWR Department, Recreation Division, Sports and Athletics Branch, NAS Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-028531 (RR). Open Until Filled.

Auto Hobby Shop Manager, GS-1101-07. MWR Department, Recreation Services Division, Auto Skills Clinic Branch, NAS Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-032261. Closes 10 September 2004.

Recreation Assistant, GS-0189-04/05. MWR Department, Recreation Division, Auto Skills Clinic Branch, NAS Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-032262. Closes 10 September 2004.

Water Treatment Plant Operator, UC-5409-07. Public Works Department, Operations Division, Utilities Branch, Water Treatment Plant Section, NAS Sigonella. Announcement Number LN004-027784. Open Until Filled. Italian citizens only.

Dental Hygienist, UA-0682-05/04/03. U.S. Naval Dental Center Europe, Branch Dental Clinic Sigonella. Announcement number LN004-031300. Open Until Filled. Italian citizens only.

