

Carnival Kicks Off The Transition Across Italy From Enlisted To Officer

Pages 8 & 9



To Officer

Article and Photos by MC2(AW) Jason T Poplin
Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment Sigonella

Sailors of Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella were given an opportunity to attend a brief which introduced the Navy's Seaman to Admiral-21 (STA-21) program Jan. 24. Hosted by Base Education and Training, attendees received information which covered topics such as program and eligibility requirements in addition to an overall program description and familiarization.

The STA-21 program offers personnel of the enlisted community the opportunity to accelerate their careers through commissioning into a specialized field of their choosing. Upon selection, STA-21 candidates will be assigned to a Naval Reserve

Officers Training Core affiliated university of their choosing to obtain their bachelor's degree.

"It's a great opportunity for sailors to get their college degree, which is of significant importance in today society," said Gabe Gasparra, NAS Sigonella's Training Officer.

"It's really a 'win win' situation for the member that gets selected for the STA-21 program because he or she will get to go to college full time while maintaining their pay, benefits, and other entitlements in addition to retaining advancement eligibility."

Reactivated in 1994, the STA-21 program is a combination of pro-

Story continued on page 12

St. Agata Veil displayed in Sigonella

Article by Alberto Lunetta
Photo by Mike Scott



In two days, the Catania townspeople will celebrate one of the most important religious festivals in Sicily that honors Saint Agata, the city's patroness. But Sigonella had already a special festival's anticipation on Jan. 24, when the Italian Air Force 41st Stormo hosted one of the most

The precious Veil of St. Agata, which dates back to the 3rd century AD, was recently showcased at the Madonna di Loreto Italian Air Force's Sigonella base Chapel. According to tradition, over the centuries, this most venerated relic rescued several times Catania from Etna's eruptions.

important holy relics of the saint, the precious red-colored veil of St. Agata.

This was an unprecedented event that was made possible thanks to the dedication of the 41st Stormo's Italian Air Force Chaplain Giovanni Salvia, who obtained the authorization, directly from the Catania Archbishop, to host this popular relic at the Madonna di Loreto base Chapel.

"This is the first time in the history of the Sigonella 41st Stormo, that the St. Agata Veil was brought to the base chapel. The Catania Archbishop Salvatore Gristina was glad to grant us the privilege to

include Sigonella in the traditional St. Agata relic parishes' tours because we are part of the Catania Archdiocese. As we always do, we are sharing this deep spiritual experience with our friends from the American military and civilian communities," explained Chaplain Salvia, who has already been the 41st Stormo chaplain for five years.

"I'm really impressed and I'm so happy that we had the opportunity here at Sigonella to see such a venerable part of Catania's history," said Mike Scott of public works environmental division.

The veil was displayed for the

Story continued on page 5

WEATHER UPDATE	Feb. 1 H:64F L:48F	Feb. 2 H:63F L:45F	Feb. 3 H:63F L:44F	Feb. 4 H:63F L:45F	Feb. 5 H:65F L:49F	Feb. 6 H:67F L:49F	Feb. 7 H:63F L:37F

TOP STORIES	Page 3	Page 5	Page 6	Page 10	Page 13
Marking a milestone in the construction of the U.S. Navy's newest aircraft carrier, George H. W. Bush (CVN 77), the ships name-sake took part in the catapult system testing on the ship's flight deck, Jan. 25. George H. W. Bush signaled the launch of two dead loads off the deck of the carrier, which is currently under construction.		The FFSC is mandated to perform specific functions for deployed personnel and their family members. This summary tells how the FFSC supports sailors and families dealing with deployment.	Every year, thousands of Catanians swarm the streets of the historic center to publicly show their lifelong devotion to their beloved "Santuzza," or young saint (the St. Agata's (nickname given because of her young age). Find out her story in this weeks Italian News.	Naval Air Station Sigonella had another record-breaking year with the Base-2-Base Run, hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), with over 150 participants. MWR has been hosting this race from NAS II to NAS I for at least the past 15 years. Find out how this years event turned out.	The NMCRS is celebrating it's 104th anniversary this year. This organization has maintained its traditional needs-based approach in providing financial assistance and education to active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families, but in modern times it has addressed increasingly, the contemporary issues.

INSIDE	Direct Line	Navy News	Community Calendar	MWR Corner	Il Mercato
	2	3	4	11	14

TRAFFIC NUMBERS

	Feb.	2008	2007
Accidents	0	27	276
Without Injuries	0	21	232
Injuries	0	6	44
DUIs	0	0	8
Traffic Deaths	0	0	0

PLEASE, DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!

DIRECT LINE

NAS Sigonella sadly lost two members of its community this past weekend. This sad event brings about a time when we as a community must pull together to bear this loss and keep their family and friends in our hearts.

Born January 7th, 1991, Michael Hancock transferred to Sigonella during the summer of 2006, and joined the Sigonella NJROTC Unit August 28th, 2006. Successfully completing Basic Leadership Training located at Rota, Spain during November 2006, he returned to our school as a leader and role model for his friends. An active member of all NJROTC teams, and became an integral part of the NJROTC family. He was later selected to attend the AFJORTC Leadership Seminar in Germany, and received training for his role as the Unit's Executive Officer. An outstanding cadet, he was scheduled to become the Unit's Commanding Officer next school year.

After graduation from high school, he planned to enlist in the United States Army

NASSIG COMMANDING OFFICER CAPTAIN THOMAS J. QUINN

and continue to lead others by example. His recent departure from us has shown how much he affected our lives, as a Unit and the Sigonella Family. Though Michael has left, he will never be forgotten, and will always be in our hearts. His integrity will serve as a model for us all.

I would like to thank everyone who attended yesterday's memorial service for Michael Hancock. Your presence went a long way to cherishing this young man's memory.

MASN Mark Gipson was a well-liked, professional Sailor, who took great pride in serving his country with the United States Navy. Upon reporting to the NAS Sigonella Security Department in September 2007, he excelled in his duties and responsibilities. He was always eager to learn and seek out information concerning his duties as a Master-at-Arms, and he was quickly becoming a well-rounded and very knowledgeable Sailor. He was a soft-spoken, yet very personable man, who continuously had a smile on his face and

positive attitude. He was a very caring person who was "always there" for his many friends. An avid supporter of his community he selflessly volunteered numerous hours to such organizations and projects as: The Security Association, Fall Fest, National Night Out, and the Navy Ball. As a single Sailor away from home during Christmas, he organized a "Secret Santa" gift exchange among the members of his Patrol Section.

This was a great success and was much appreciated by his shipmates. He even bought 2 gifts for shipmates, when he found out that they would not be receiving any gifts. MASN Gipson will be greatly missed by his many friends and peers. MASN Gipson's family and friends, his country, and the United States Navy will always remember him as incredible Sailor, who lived his life with Honor, Courage and Commitment.

We will pay tribute to Mark Gipson's life today in the NAS I Chapel starting at 1400. All Hands are invited to attend.



Health WATCH

Encourage Kids to Eat More Fruits & Veggies

Article courtesy of CDC

Eating fruits and vegetables is part of a healthy diet for both children and adults. Finding creative ways to encourage fruits and vegetables in your child's diet can be fun for the entire family. There are more fruits and vegetables available in fresh, frozen, canned, and dried forms than ever before. Taking the time to introduce a variety of fruits and vegetables to kids can help develop a lifetime of healthy habits. More information and recipe ideas are always available from your base Registered Dietitian.

1. Keep a bowl of fresh fruits on the counter. Refrigerate cut up fruits and vegetables in small bags for easy snacks on the run.
2. Serve fruits and vegetables at every meal. Add grated or cut vegetables into entrees, side dishes, and soups. Top off cereal with fruits or add frozen fruits to smoothies.
3. Set a good example. Snack on fruit and order low-sodium, low-fat salads, soups, or vegetable sides when at restaurants.
4. Pack the refrigerator, freezer and cup-

board with pre-cut, frozen and canned vegetables so that it is easier for you to prepare meals and snacks that include vegetables.

5. Challenge family members to reach their daily fruits and vegetable goal. Reward the winner with a prize of his or her choice.

6. Ask that fruits and vegetables be offered at school functions, after school programs, and in vending machines.

7. Let children choose which fruits and vegetables to serve and how to incorporate them into their favorite meals.

8. Make fruits and vegetables fun. Try dressing up sandwiches with faces and smiles made from fruits and vegetables.

9. Keep trying. For some foods, it may take multiple times before a child acquires a taste for it.

10. Encourage friends or relatives to offer vegetables and fruits to your children.

In addition to fruits and vegetables, a healthy diet also includes whole grains, fat-free *Story continued on page 13*

NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

DS Chapel in Catania
Sunday
1 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ
Latter-day Saints

NAS II Chapel
Monday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Tuesday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Wednesday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Friday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Sunday
4 p.m. Catholic Mass

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings
Monday, Wednesday and Fridays
11:30 a.m.

NAS I Chapel
Sunday
8:45 a.m. Catholic Mass
10:45 a.m. Protestant Worship
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6 p.m. Bible Study

Mineo Community Center
Sunday
9 a.m. Protestant Worship
12 p.m. Catholic Mass

Maranai Community Center
11 a.m. Protestant Traditional Service

Call 095-86-3801 for the Chaplains Office
Call 095-86-1225 for weekly Jewish services

My Name Is Gossip

Article by Fr Ken Rodes



A woman repeated a bit of gossip about a neighbor. Within a few days the whole community knew the story. The person it concerned was deeply hurt and offended. Later the woman responsible for spreading the rumor learned that it was completely untrue. She was very sorry and went to a wise old sage to find out what she could do to repair the damage.

"Go to the marketplace," he said, "and purchase a chicken, and have it killed. Then on your way home, pluck its feathers and drop them one by one along the road." Although surprised by this advice, the woman did what she

was told. The next day the wise man said, "Now go and collect all those feathers you dropped yesterday and bring them back to me."

The woman followed the same road, but to her dismay, the wind had blown the feathers all away. After searching for hours, she returned with only three in her hand. "You see," said the old sage, "it's easy to drop them, but it's impossible to get them back. So it is with gossip. It doesn't take much to spread a rumor, but once you do, you can never completely undo the wrong."

Speech is a gift from God. It was meant to praise Him and affirm our fellow human beings. *Story continued on page 12*

Commanding Officer
Capt. Thomas J. Quinn

Public Affairs Officer
Lt. Jonathan Groveman

Deputy Public Affairs Officer
Dott. Alberto Lunetta

Editor
MC2 Joshua Wink

Staff Writers/ Photographers
MC1 Brian Goyak
MC2 Jason T Poplin
MC2 Joshua Wink

Interns and Volunteers

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

This civilian enterprise (CE) newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services overseas. Contents of The Signature are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the

Department of Defense (DoD), or the U.S. Navy. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD or Stampa Generale S.r.l., of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The Signature is published weekly by Stampa Generale S.r.l., Sig. Bruno Brandi, Publisher, Naval Support Activity, Capodichino (Naples), Italy - Tel. 081-568-7884, Fax 081-568-7887. E-mail: stampagenerale@tin.it. Editorial submissions are welcomed from all Naval Air Station Sigonella departments, divisions and tenant commands. Editorial submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs Office via thesig@nas-sig.sicily.navy.mil, guard mail stop #68 or hand-delivered to our office no later than the close of business on the Friday proceeding the expected publication date. All articles submitted by non-staff members will be considered contributing writers. The Signature will not publish any anonymous articles. All advertisements in this publication are the property of Stampa Generale S.r.l. Any reproduction of advertisements in The Signature is unauthorized without the written consent of the publisher.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Be prepared to be on your own for at least three days. Seven is better! The BASIC FIVE: Water, Food, Heat, Cash, Radio; Family Communications Plan: Phone Numbers & Rally Points; Public Protection Strategies: Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place; Web info: Ready.gov; Emergency info: AFN 106.0 FM; Questions? Call the EM Office at 624-2630, 8265 or 2621.

WEEKLY TRAFFIC/ SAFETY UPDATE

Traffic Court Results

- E4 - Failure to utilize restraint and failure to report involvement in an accident and fleeing the scene. Member was awarded 11 points and 30 suspension of license.
- E5 - Improper passing. Member was awarded 4 points and DIP.
- E5 - Inattentive driving. Member was awarded 3 points.
- E5 - Driving too fast for conditions failure to report involvement in an accident and fleeing the scene. Member was awarded 10 points.
- E7 - Negligent driving. Member was awarded 2 points.

NAVY News

Carrier's Namesake Tests Catapult



Pictured left to right, President of the United States George W. Bush, former President and ship's namesake George H. W. Bush, and President of Northrop Grumman Newport News Shipyard Mr. Mike Petters, look on as ship's Sponsor Doro Bush Koch christens CVN 77, the aircraft carrier George H.W. Bush. George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) will complete construction and be delivered to the Navy in 2008, and is the final Nimitz-class carrier to be built.

Article from Precommissioning Unit George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) Public Affairs

Marking a milestone in the construction of the U.S. Navy's newest aircraft carrier, George H. W. Bush (CVN 77), the ship's namesake took part in the catapult system testing on the ship's flight deck, Jan. 25.

Former United States President and World War II naval aviator, George H. W. Bush signaled the launch of two dead loads off the deck of the carrier, which is currently under construction at Northrop Grumman Newport News (NGNN) Shipyard. Dead loads are large, wheeled, steel vessels weighing up to 80,000 pounds, simulating the weight of actual aircraft.

Making brief remarks, Mr. Bush said he was pleased to attend the event and that it was hard to comprehend the honor of having the aircraft carrier named after him.

The ceremony was attended by

NGNN President Mike Petters, Bush's Commanding Officer, Capt. Kevin O'Flaherty, as well as several flag officers and commanding officers from local and regional commands. Also in attendance were Sailors from PCU Bush and NGNN Shipyard workers who were involved with the ship's construction.

The event afforded PCU Bush Sailors the opportunity to meet Mr. Bush and share a few words.

"It was a unique experience to meet our ship's namesake. I didn't think we would be able to meet him and shake his hand," said Ship's Serviceman Seaman Hakeem Henderson. "He thanked me for the work I was doing to get the ship ready, which meant a lot."

Bush was presented a yellow "shooter" jersey from O'Flaherty as well as a cowboy hat-shaped hard

hat. A "shooter" is the Sailor who signals for the launch of the aircraft during flight operations.

"His participation in the test launches is important because it gives Mr. Bush an opportunity to get an idea of all the construction and training that goes into testing the ship," said O'Flaherty. "It's the first time we're proving that this ship is on its way to performing its mission."

"For the Sailors in Air Department, it's particularly exciting because our entire purpose is to launch and recover aircraft and this testing is a big milestone for us and the ship," said Cmdr. Michael Jensen, PCU Bush Air Department.

Mr. Bush said that ships had changed since he last flew off the deck of a carrier, but what hadn't changed were the pride, patriotism and devotion to duty of their Sailors.

PHOTO FROM THE FLEET

Check in weekly to find out what our fellow shipmates are doing around the fleet.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Kim Smith

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st. Class Calvin Overway, assigned to Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 502 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, clears the area surrounding a hole discovered during Operation NANNON II. The hole was found near a safe house in south Baghdad during a joint operation by U.S. and Iraqi soldiers.

NEWS BRIEFS

Marriage Enrichment Workshop

-- Sponsored and Conducted by: Spiritual Fitness (CREDO) and the Sigonella Chapel --

This workshop is for married couples and is a great investment in your marital relationship! The workshop is designed to help good marriages become great marriages! While attending, couples will have an opportunity to focus on their relationship - where it is ... where it has come from ... and where it is heading. Couples will have an opportunity to develop deeper intimacy, learn more about their mate's emotional, physical, and spiritual needs, and practice new communication techniques.

The workshop will be held Saturday, 2 February, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Applebee's Upper Conference Room. For get more information, please contact Chaplain Amador by email

or by phone at 624-3805, or SIGN UP at the NAS 1 Chapel.

(There is a limit of forty couples for this workshop)

All Marinal Residents, please share this with your family members

The local Gas Company has added an odor additive to help detect any leaks. Because of this, if you should detect an odor of gas in your residence you must immediately vacate your unit and use a neighbor's phone to call 911. The Sigonella Public Works Department is working with the local gas company to better understand these new changes and to formulate a long-term plan for residents. In addition, the Housing Department will establish a schedule for the local gas company to inspect each Marinal residence in the coming days and will have that published to residents shortly.

Tutor Etna
ial

Monika

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA COMMUNITY CALENDAR					1 February Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel Nearly New Shop Open 10a.m. - 1 p.m.	2
3	4 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	5 St. Agata Day <i>Italian Holiday</i>	6 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	7 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater Banking and Checkbook Mngt. - FFSC	8 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	9
10	11 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	12 Volunteer Orientation 10 - 11:30 - NMCRS Ricotta Cheese Wksp. - FFSC	13 Budget for Baby 10:00 - 12:00 NMCRS Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	14 Ombudsman Assembly Topolino Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	15 Credit Management -FFSC Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	16
17	18 President's Day <i>American Holiday</i> Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	19	20 Survive and Thrive -FFSC Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	21 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	22 Benvenuti -FFSC Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	23 Nearly New Shop Open 10a.m. - 1 p.m.
24	25 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	26	27 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	28 Cooking Class - FFSC Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	29 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	1 March
2	3 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	4	5 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	6 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	7 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	8
9	10 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	11	12 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	13 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	14 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	15

Motta

Apples

Stags

Marchi

Did you know?

Living beyond your means is a prescription for disaster? Does more than 25% of your take-home pay go to paying bills? Are you making only minimum payments on bills due? Are you taking out new loans to pay off old ones? Are you missing payments? Are you stalling one creditor to pay another? Are you having frequent family arguments over money? The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society can help you improve your financial picture. NMCRS Volunteers and employees work hard to help Sailors, Marines, and their families pull themselves out of deficit budgets and into savings plans. Call today to schedule an appointment.

NMCRS: Service with a Smile!
 Contact your Sigonella NMCRS Office today! Call 624-4212 for more information. Office Hours: Monday - Friday 0900 - 1600.
 NMCRS: Seeking New Volunteers!
Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society



Bldg. 319 (NAS 1)
Monday-Friday
7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
DSN 624-4291
Commercial 095-56-4291

FFSC Deployment Support Programs and Services

Article Courtesy of Fleet and Family Support Center

One of the FFSC program areas receiving a great deal of attention is Deployment Support. Part of that is because the FFSC is mandated to perform specific functions for deployed personnel and their family members. The following is a summary of how the FFSC supports sailors and families dealing with deployment:

Information & Referral

FFSC provides a variety of information and materials in all of our program areas, which includes Deployment Support, Life Skills (Anger/Stress Management, Communication), Financial Management, Employment Assistance, Relocation, New Parent Support, Family, Couples & Individual Counseling, Ombudsman Support and Family Readiness.

FFSC staff members maintain contact with all IAs and their spouses/family members throughout their deployment, providing support and assistance, as well as useful information and materials.

The Deployment Support Program provides workshops and briefs for individuals as well as commands. These include the following:

- Pre-deployment briefs
- Deployment briefs
- Post-deployment briefs
- Return & Reunion briefs (Couples & Singles)

IA Discussion Group - This group is open to all IAs, service members who have deployed or will deploy, as well as spouses and family members. The group provides an opportunity to meet recently returned IAs and their spouses, as well as provide infor-

mation about resources and support services available to help manage the challenges that can occur during a deployment phase.

- The next group meeting will be held on Monday, 28 Jan from 1100-1230 at the FFSC Conference Room. Anyone that is interested can call or stop by the FFSC to sign-up and receive more information.

What About the Children -

This class discusses the effects of deployment, separation and family crisis on children.

- FY08 Schedule: 0800-1100 on 15 Jan, 20 Feb, 18 Mar, 15 Apr, 20 May, 17 Jun, 15 Jul, 19 Aug and 16 Sep.

Financial Counseling for

Deployers - This service provides individual financial counseling for on-going support for emergencies and/or financial concerns during the deployment cycle.

New Parents Support for IA Families - Licensed RN's maintain close contact with all IA families with children 5 years and under during deployment cycles in order to help minimize the stress on spouses with young children.

Other FFSC Services:

Collaboration with other departments/organizations/commands to provide activities, events, care packages and other support as needed. Additionally, the FFSC is continually querying the community to ensure that staff are providing the support and assistance identified as important by the population we serve.

For more information about deployment support services, please contact the FFSC at 624-4291.

Cold Noses

WARM
HEARTS



A reminder to the community that feeding feral or wild animals on the installation is prohibited.



Sigonella's Stray Animal Facility (SAWS) has many cats and dogs just looking for a warm home and someone to love. Each week the Signature will feature animals in need of adoption.

For more information contact the Stray Animal Facility at 624-3936 or Rose Cummings at 334-383-8786.



Tulsa (Right) is a great dog who needs a family to love him. He loves to walk and play fetch.. Oscar (Left) is a boy who would love a home to call his own with a warm bed to snuggle into.

St. Agata continued from page 5

entire morning during which a holy mass, which was attended by NASSIG and 41st Stormo personnel, was also celebrated.

"I'm extremely excited as I've never seen anything like this before! I'm looking forward to see the St. Agata Festival in Catania," said Lt. Chris McCarter.

"Looking at the flow of people, which also includes our American friends, coming to see at veil today, I can tell that this is a very important event which I hope it will be written in the history of the 41st Stormo. We must thank our chaplain for his tremendous commitment in making this happen," said Lt. Col. Rocco Massimo Zaffarana.

Relics have an enormous significance for Catholic pilgrims and are often reputed to perform miracles. It is believed that the St. Agata veil has more than once saved the town of Catania from Etna's eruptions. Legend has it

that in 251 AD (a year after Saint Agata's martyrdom), as Etna was again threatening Catania, panic-stricken Catanians turned to their protecting patroness, whose veil was placed in front of the advancing flow of lava that miraculously stopped.

According to another tradition, during another eruption in May 1886, Catania's Cardinal Dusmet carried the same veil to the approaching flow of lava that had led to Nicolosi's evacuation. The molten mass stopped just at the doors of the town.

"It's an unbelievable honor to be at a Mass where they had a veil from St. Agata. I know it means so much to the people of Catania and as a Catholic I think it probably means more to me than most Americans because of the way I was raised. I wish both my parents would both be here, they would have loved the ceremony! I will see the festival from the Prefect house," said NASSIG Commanding Officer Thomas J. Quinn.

SEXUAL ASSAULT / VICTIMS 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.



Protestant Women of the Chapel

Bible study every Tuesday: 9:15 a.m. at NAS 1 Chapel (With free child care and Home school study/gym class) 6 p.m. at NAS 2 Chapel, and 7 p.m. at the Mineo Community Center

Find us at www.pwocsig.com or pwocsig@yahoo.com

Pentagon

Italian NEWS

Sicilian Culture, Events and Lifestyle



Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff



Photo by Stan Yano

Every February, Catania hosts the traditional celebrations for its beloved patroness saint, who is believed to have rescued Catania several times from Etna's eruptions throughout the centuries. Thousands of devotees and tourists from all over the world gather in the historic center to watch the procession of the holy Saint Agata relics taking place on Feb 4 and 5.

Catania honors its patroness with an ancient religious festival

"Semu divoti tutti? Cettu, Cettu, Citatini, viva Sant'Aita!" (Are we all devotees? Yes, of course, sure, Townspeople, long live St. Agata!) You will hear these lyrics over and over during the upcoming grand religious festival celebrating Catania's patroness taking place from Feb. 3 through 5. The enthusiasm for this popular saint and all the devotion behind it cannot be expressed through words. You just have to go out there and live the experience! Whether you are a Catholic or not, this festival, which mingles the sacred and profane, will definitely amaze you with its lively festivities.

Every year, thousands of Catanians swarm the streets of the

historic center to publicly show their lifelong devotion to their beloved "Santuzza," or young saint (St. Agata's nickname given because of her young age).

Divoti (devotees) defy bad weather conditions just to see her while she's brought in procession. It happens only once a year, so it is must-see event.

According to an ancient tradition, Saint Agata is considered a salvatrice (savior) because she has rescued Catania several times over the centuries, especially during earthquakes and lava eruptions.

Legend has it that her holy purple-colored veil (named "Iimpia" in Sicilian), which was recently displayed at the Sigonella 41st Stormo Chapel, has stopped two particularly

dangerous eruptions, the first one which occurred in 251 AD, a year after her martyrdom and the second one in 1886, when the lava threatened Nicolosi. In both cases, the veil was brought in procession to the eruption site, and the advancing lava flow miraculously stopped. According to history, Catania cardinal Giuseppe Benedetto Dusmet, who is regarded as a saint and whose body is preserved inside the cathedral, led this latter procession.

The holy veil is 13 feet long by 20 inches large. Three golden threads decorate its extremities. According to legend, the veil, which was originally white, covered the head of Saint Agata when she was rolled over live coals during her martyrdom. As a result of this torture, the "Iimpia" remained miraculously undamaged by the fire and turned red. From then on, the veil has been venerated as a defense against Etna eruptions.

Tradition and Devotion

Catanians have been celebrating this festival since 1519. For centuries, there has been a long-running controversy between Catania and Palermo over where she was born. But it looks like Catania townspeople won!

After nearly a year of preparation, festa features thousands of devotees of all ages crowding the streets of the historic center dressed in white tunics (green for the women) named in Sicilian "saccu," gloves, a handkerchief, and black skullcap (in Sicilian, "a scuzzitta"). According to



Photo by Jennifer Rumbach

During the Saint Agata Festival, thousands of devotees wear a white tunic in fulfillment of a vow or pledge to thank the saint for a miracle obtained in a situation of danger. They also carry heavy wax candles to offer a physical strain to the saint.

tradition, the saccu symbolizes the nightdress that the Catanians wore when they welcomed the return from Turkey of the Saint's relics on Aug. 17, 1126. Historic chronicles tell that it was a great feast for the Catania community whose residents waived white handkerchiefs to show their enthusiasm. Other historic accounts link the white tunic tradition to either the ancient Egyptian Goddess Isis or the penitential garment worn by priests.

Giorgio Maniace, a Byzantine general, stole the relics as a war trophy and took them to Constantinople (the ancient Istanbul) in 1040. Devotees take part in the festival bringing on procession the "Cannalori," and the "Vara."

Cannalori are tall wax candles surrounded by a heavy (up to 1,500 pounds) candelabrum-shaped gilded wooden structure. They are decorated with statues depicting angels, saints, pennons and flowers. Scenes from the Saint Agata martyrdom are also carved on their sides. Each Cannalora represent a city's guild such as butchers, greengrocers, fishmongers, pasta makers, bakers and more. In the past, they illuminated the passage of the procession. But through the centuries their dimensions became so large that a person alone could not carry their weight anymore. Today, there are 11 Cannalori that take part in the procession.

Each one is carried on the shoulders of eight to 12 people. During the processions, Cannalori stop every once in a while and "compete" with one another by performing a kind of dance named "Annacata" consisting of a series of swaying moves.

The "Vara" is a 16-foot long richly decorated silver carriage on

which the bust depicting Saint Agata and several crystal and silver caskets containing her relics (legs, arms and other bones) carried in procession. Giovanni di Bartolo, a goldsmith from Siena, made the bust in the 14th century. The bust, which also contains part of the relics (the skull and part of the thorax), is made of enameled silver. It lies on a magnificent pedestal, and it's cut just under the waist. Hundreds among precious jewels cover the statue. Most of them come from donations of devotees. The magnificent golden crown studded with gems donated by English King Richard "The Lionhearted" in 1190 during his visit to Sicily on his way to a crusade, is undoubtedly the best piece of the collection.

One who attends the festival remains impressed by the huge candles that devotees carry on their shoulders while they perform the processions. Every year, Catania wax shops sell hundreds of ceri (tall wax candles). Devotees carry those bulky candles per grazia ricevuta, which means that a saint has granted them a miracle they have been asking for. The miracle could be invoked for a pregnancy that is in serious danger or if someone is suffering from an incurable disease or after one has survived a traffic accident. Usually, it is up to the devotee to decide how heavy the candle should be and for how long they would carry it. According to Catania wax dealers, the most requested candle is the one that weighs approximately 85 pounds. But some also request candles that can weigh up to 350 pounds. Carrying ceri in procession is usually a lifelong practice. If one devotee is too old or sick to carry a heavy candle, another person such as a son or a relative could continue to participate in the procession instead of them.



For those of you with a sweet tooth, I recommend a visit to the local pasticcerie (pastry shops) or panifici (bakeries) where you can sample the mouthwatering "Olivette di Sant'Agata" (Saint Agata's small olives) and torrone (nougat), which are two traditional marzipan and almond-based St. Agata-related sweets, as well as Cassatine (small breast-shaped cassate pastries which remind the torture underwent by St. Agata) filled with ricotta cheese, covered by sugar glaze, with a candied cherry on top.

Olivette (Olive-shaped and green marzipan sweets) are related to a legend telling an episode of the saint's life. Tradition says that when Agata was on her way to stand trial before Quintianus, she bent to tie her sandal. As she did that, an olive tree miraculously sprouted where she had stepped. After St. Agata's death, these olives were preserved as relics. Olivette could also be available with chocolate.

The Archdioceses of Catania presents an exhibit called "Saint Agata, History Art and Devotion," featuring over 250 pieces of art from all over the world's most important museums including paintings, archeological findings, prints, goldsmith's art, documents and sculptures related to St. Agata, the young Catholic saint, who is often depicted carrying her breasts on a platter to remember the brutal torture she suffered for having firmly resisted to a Roman Consul, who wanted to make her give up her faith in Jesus.

The exhibit, which runs through May 4, also featuring archeological findings from Roman Catania, will be hosted at three main locations (Diocesan Museum # 8 via Etna 8, Elephant Square, Church of San Francesco Borgia # 17 via dei Crociferi 17/A, and Church of San Placido/ piazza San Placido), as well as in other beautiful Baroque churches in Catania including the cathedral. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Tuesday - Sunday; Closed on Mondays, except for guided tours; Feb. 2 through 5 - open 24 hours; March 20 through 23 - open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tickets cost € 10 or € 8 at reduced price.

For further information about the exhibit and directions to the venues call 199-307050.

Magnolia

Life of Sant'Agata

According to tradition, Agata came from a rich family. Her virtues and her beauty drew the attention of Quintianus, a local Roman governor who actively and brutally persecuted Christians. Agata, who already consecrated herself to God, refused his advances. Therefore, Quintianus decided to punish her by having her locked up in a brothel where Aphrodisia, a wicked woman, tried to corrupt Agata's virtue and faith by playing wiles and stratagems. But Agata never wavered and resisted to all her attempts. Therefore, Quintianus, miffed by Agata's firmness, had her undergo terrible tortures such as cutting off her breast. This detail was often depicted in the Christian medieval paintings as a peculiar characteristic of Saint Agata.

Tradition also tells about prodigious events that occurred while Agata was in prison such as the apparition of St. Peter who comforted and healed all her wounds. Eventually, after repeated tortures Quintianus had Agata condemned to the stake. But while she was burning alive a violent earthquake struck Catania. This natural disaster was welcomed by the Catanians as a sign of God who wanted the tortures inflicted to Agata to be over. Thus, a riot broke out in the city forcing Quintianus to stop the infamous execution. Agata was then brought back to her prison where she died right after. It was Feb. 5, 251 AD. Later on the same day, the evil Quintianus, who was fleeing because he feared the riot, drowned in the river Simeto.

Festival Schedule

On Feb. 3, the celebration begins with holy a mass celebrated at the Cathedral at 8 a.m. Later at noon, the solemn "Processione per l'Offerta della cera" (Offering of the wax procession) leaves from the Church of St. Agata "Alla Fornace" toward the Cathedral.

Eleven Cannalori representing some local guilds head the procession. Parades of the city's banners followed by the historic "Carrozzi du Sinatu" (18th century Catania Senate Carriages that are permanently on view at the city hall in Piazza Duomo) also follow the procession. All Catania civilian and military authorities take part in the procession. A half-hour later, Catania Fire Brigade officials offer a floral gift to the Saint. The celebration day will end in the evening with a spectacular fireworks show in piazza Duomo called "I fochi do tri" or the fireworks performed on the evening of Fe.3rd.

Feb. 4 begins with the traditional "Messa dell'Aurora" (Dawn Holy Mass) at 6 a.m. at the Cathedral. It is one among the most intense and moments of the festival. The "Cammaredda," the small room located inside the Cathedral, where the relics and the Saint Agata simulacrum are permanently kept, is opened before a crowd of moved and applauding devotees.

Later, a procession, during which the Saint Agata bust and relics tour throughout the city, starts at 7 a.m. It leaves from Porta Uzeda (in Italian, Uzeda gate) in piazza Duomo where the

Catania Archbishop performs the offering of a candle before the icon of the Madonna della Lettera. Right after, the procession proceeds through via Dusmet, via Cali, piazza Cutelli, via Vittorio Emanuele, piazza dei Martiri, via VI Aprile, piazza Giovanni XXIII (train station), viale della Libertà, piazza Iolanda, via Umberto, via Grotte Bianche, piazza Carlo Alberto (Catania outdoor market) and then piazza Stesicoro where devotees who pull the carriage show their skills performing the challenging "Capucini slope." It consists in running while dragging the heavy carriage, up to the Church of Saint Agata "La Vetere," located in piazza San Domenico. There the procession stops for a couple of hours to allow devotees to rest.

In the late afternoon at 6 p.m., the tour starts again from piazza San Domenico through via Plebiscito, via Vittorio Emanuele, piazza Risorgimento, piazza Palestro, via Garibaldi, via Plebiscito, via Dusmet and eventually back again to piazza Duomo through Porta Uzeda.

On Feb. 5, a solemn holy mass is celebrated at the Cathedral at 10:30 a.m. Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Dean of the College of Cardinals, presides over the holy mass jointly with local priests and Sicily's highest-ranking bishops.

During the mass, the "Cappella Musicale del Duomo" (the Cathedral Cantata Singers) sing a magnificent High Mass. In the afternoon, the bishop of Mazara del Vallo celebrates a holy mass at 4:30 p.m. at the Cathedral.

Later, the most spectacular Saint Agata procession starts from Piazza Duomo at 5:30 p.m. Crossing via Etna it moves ahead up to Piazza Cavour. The procession, which goes on all night long, reaches its climax when it arrives at the slope of via San Giuliano on its way back to Piazza Duomo in the morning on Feb. 6. Running fast, devotees pull the Saint carriage up to via San Giuliano. It is a spectacular and dangerous proof of physical strength and resistance that could only be performed by the strongest devotees as the Vara weighs several tons. Driven by pure devotion, thousands of people stay up until dawn to participate in this unique moment. At the end of the hard climb, the crowd releases the tension with a liberating thunderous applause. Eventually, the saint is brought back to the Cathedral.

Complementing the festival, the traditional "Fiera di Sant'Agata" or Sain Agata Fair, featuring over 100 booths selling clothes, shoes, toys and foodstuff, will be set up along via del Rotolo through Feb. 5. Opening hours: Feb. 1: 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m./ Feb. 2 through Feb. 5: 9 a.m. to midnight. For more information call the Catania Citizen Information and Assistance Department at 095-7423216/217/218.

On Feb 2 and 3, a Coin, Stamp & Collectibles expo will be held in Catania at the Nettuno Hotel to provide a venue for Dealers, Mints, and Collectors to gather.



(Above) Sigonella's Carnival enthusiasts should know that spectacular festivities are currently being held in Misterbianco through Feb. 5. Organizers announced their event will feature "The most beautiful costumes of Sicily." The town boasts an ancient Carnival tradition called "A Mascara" (Carnival Masks) and "Comari" (godmother or gossip woman). Mascari were humorous and funny plays, which were staged by local peasants in different areas of Misterbianco on the first Sunday of Carnival. Four Sicilian carts were drawn up together to set up a stage and town districts competed for the best funny show. The Comari tradition is indeed related to a social event that was celebrated on Thursday before Lent. In the afternoon, all the women from Misterbianco would meet to cuttighiari (gossip) and eat together. In the evening, they would go out to dance in the main square wearing the "Domino" (a special costume which disguised their identity). Domino was the first Carnival costume. In the 1970s, the typical Carnival masks replaced the traditional Domino. Colored floats were used to parade the streets of the city. Competitions for the best float were also organized. People would transform their living rooms into ballrooms ("Tambureddi") where guests could dance and enjoy Carnival. Today, beautiful and colorful costumes are at the heart of the Misterbianco festivities. Costumes parades will be held along via Gramsci (town center) on the following days: Feb. 2 - 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 3 - 3 and 5 p.m. - Feb. 5 - 5 p.m. Italian rap band "Gemelli Diversi" will perform on Feb. 4 at 8:30 at the Palatenda concert venue located in via S. Rocco Vecchio. For more information contact the Misterbianco Carnival Organizers at 095- 7558.612.



(Left) From Feb. 3 through 5, Lentini will hold a special Carnival by celebrating the area's production of Arancia Rossa (Blood Orange). There will be 20 booths in piazza Duomo (the main square) featuring local food producers who will have something delicious for you to taste from 10 a.m. through 9 p.m. You'll get a chance to sample the mouthwatering pastries, blood oranges, the Lentini bread and more. For further information contact the Lentini Tourist Office at 095- 900601 or the festival promoters "Slow food" Lentini (338-8135797).

Rigattiere

Italian Prime Minister Resigns



Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi resigned last week as a result of a political crisis that was sparked by the support's withdrawal of his Justice Minister Clemente Mastella, who abandoned the government's coalition following the arrest of his wife on corruption charges.

Prodi's 20-month government, which was ended by recent defeat in the Senate's vote of confidence, had been suffering all along from a razor-thin majority in the upper house, which made him vulnerable (giving advantage to his political opponents) in his ongoing struggle with his radical left and green coalition allied parties over foreign policy (participation of Italian troops in NATO operations in Afghanistan) and domestic issues (taxes, anti-Vatican feelings, budget law, same-sex marriages, liberalization of the trade sector etc.).

This crisis will lead to the possibility of early elections or a new, interim government to reform electoral rules (urged by Conservative opposition leader Silvio Berlusconi, and the center-right coalition), which are blamed for the current political instability, as they give a thin majority in the Senate to the winning government coalition.



The Allegorical floats that line the streets of Acireale are made of paper mache and depict everything from politicians to creatures of fantasies and lore. Each year during Carnival the city of Acireale holds a float competition that has brought it's city the fame of hosting the most beautiful Carnival in Sicily.

A Stone's

THE HUB OF THE MED IS ALSO T

Silly String, Floats and Carnival in Ac

Article

From Croatia to Louisiana it's the time of year to party.

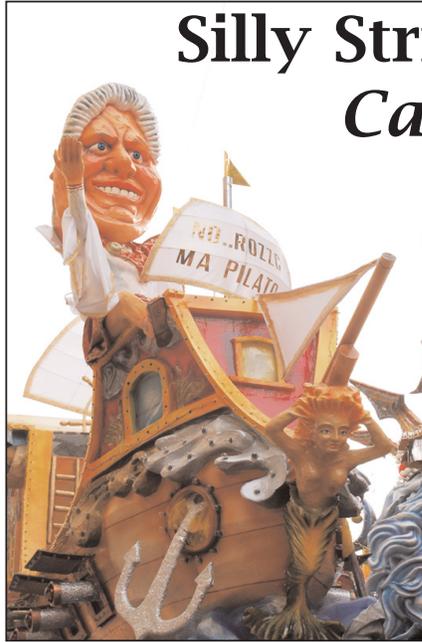
Carnival has taken hold of the streets in many cities around Italy and the world. As a time of year to pull out all the stops, pranks and parties before lent, Sicily does it in a grand fashion.

In Sicily one city in particular claim the most beautiful, most elaborate celebration on the island, Acireale.

Their vast number and the impressive artisanship of their allegorical floats have earned them this title. Sebastiano Longo, a local artisan, first brought the concept of allegorical floats to Acireale in 1880, but the credit belongs to Pope Alexander VI (1492 - 1503).

The idea was then brought to Sicily in 1601 by an artisan from Palermo. It may have taken a while, but now it's

Acirea
in Sici
driven
height
seen li
gorica
hero's
gioug
paper
and m
compe
A
the st
pieces
the air
partier
volum
the air
P



(Below) An example of the elaborate costumes found at Carnival.



Alphio

Stampa

one's Throw

THE MED IS ALSO THE HUB FOR TRAVEL

g, Floats and Food at ival in Acireale

Article and photos by MC2 Joshua Wink
Signature Staff

from Croatia to Louisiana it's the year to party. Carnival has taken hold of the streets in cities around Italy and the world. Year after year to pull out all the stops, and parties before lent, Sicily does grand fashion.

In Sicily one city in particular claim the most beautiful, most elaborate celebra- the island, Acireale.

Their vast number and the impres- siveness of their allegorical floats earned them this title. Sebastiano a local artisan, first brought the art of allegorical floats to Acireale in but the credit belongs to Pope der VI (1492 - 1503).

The idea was then brought to Sicily by an artisan from Palermo. It have taken a while, but now it's

Acireale that holds the crown of Carnival in Sicily.

Since then float competitions have driven the Carnival of Acireale to new heights. Various types of floats can be seen lined down the street. There are allegorical floats that depict caricatures of hero's, celebrities, world leaders and religious figures, and are mainly made out of paper mache. There are also flower floats and miniature floats entered into the local competition.

As the parade begins, crowds pack the street around these massive, mobile pieces of art and spray silly string through the air, onto the floats, and into rest of the partiers. Horns and whistles blow at full volume and confetti falls down through the air. Carnival has begun.

Here one can expect to find many

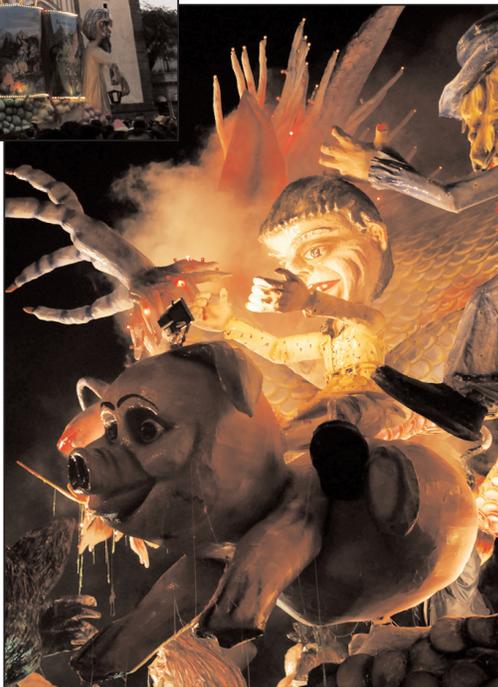
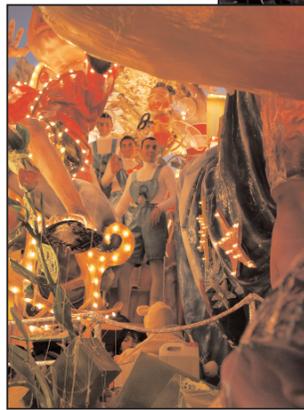
sweets, roasted nuts, masks and music. People dressed in costume are certain to find ways to prank each other, or at least give them a whack with an inflatable mallet, spray them with string and send them on their way.

Although it is the same holiday that is being celebrated for Carnival as Mardi Gras, it generally isn't done in the same manner as one might find in Louisiana. In Sicily the emphasis is put more onto masks and confetti than it is on beer and beads. This is however a sight to see and will prove to provide an evening of entertainment for an entire family.

The celebrations will last until Fat Tuesday which falls on Feb. 5 this year. This weekend, more celebrations will be held in Acireale, Misterbianco, Catania, Palermo and Sciacca.



An example of elaborate costumes at Carnival.



Stampa

Oxidiana

Tatoo

Base-2-Base and BACK!

Article by Kristine Twing, Photos by Jenni James
MWR NASSIG Marketing



Jennifer Patron, finishes the Base-2-Base run 58:17, beating her goal of one hour.

Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG) had another record-breaking year with the Base-2-Base Run, hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), with over 150 participants. MWR has been hosting this race from NAS II to NAS I for at least the past 15 years.

"It was incredible and intense competition this year," said Zina Herb, MWR Fitness Director. "There was a lot of camaraderie. There were many people that have never participated in an event like this and the emotions were high."

There were many different runners out this year, ranging from beginners, families with strollers to marathon runners. The biggest surprise, however, were three individuals under the age of 18 showed up to run. Jennifer Patron, 16 year old, is the high school cross-country team captain wanted to finish the race under an hour.

Several people were repeat competitors. Many of them stated that their goal was to beat their time from last year.

"I am doing the run again to help me keep in shape and stay focused. I really want to beat my time from last year," Daniel Burrough, Base Education and Training, stat-

ed. "My goal is to prove to myself that I am as young as I think I am. Plus, I wanted the free day of liberty for participating," Larry Ball, NASSIG Security, said.

Last year Bryan Triplett finished the race in 49:56 minutes for overall male. Erika Anderson finished in 59:02 for overall female. This year, Giovanna Finocchiaro, Italian Military, finished in 50:29 to take away the overall male category. Jennifer Patron reached her goal finishing in 58:17 for overall female.

New to the race this year was the and BACK portion. If the participant completed this portion of the race, it is approximate to a half marathon. MWR had 21 participants finish the race in Marinai housing CDC parking lot to complete their half marathon. Mario Bonecorso, Italian Military, completed the half marathon as overall male in 1:25:26. The half marathon overall female, Aja Perez, finished in 1:53:20.

This race is one of the more difficult



First to cross the finish line was Giovanna Finocchiaro in 50:29, receives his medal from Command Master Chief, Rosa Wilson.

races that MWR hosts during the year. However, there are several races leading up to the Base-2-Base that can help a person achieve a fitness goal such as completing this race. The Cupid Fun Run will be held February 16, the Siracusa Marathon on February 17 and the Perimeter Fun Run on February 27, just to name a few of the upcoming fitness events. Interested in achieving a fitness goal of your own, check out the Preview for upcoming events.

B-Sides What Could Be Better than the Blues?

Article and photos by MC2 Joshua Wink
Signature Staff

For the B-Sides, Jox was an opportunity to show the Sigonella community their versions of a some classic blues tracks, a genre not heard too often anymore. Covering the likes of Sun House and Muddy Waters one might expect the band to have a history, a background or heritage in the southern parts of the United States, down on the bayou and out in the south country.

But more than a thousand miles from were their sound originated, in the city of Siracusa, Sicily Valeriano Adorno grew up listening to the blues and it certainly stuck.

"My whole family use to listen

to the blues when I was young so when I got older I realized that I liked it and wanted to play it. I tried to emulate Sun House, Muddy Waters and Albert Collins," Adorno recalled. "It was always Albert Collins who was my favorite."

Adorno has now been playing for more than 20 years, the last 10 of which he has played professionally.

"Blues was my first addiction, and it has just become stronger. It's something that I can't resist," said Adorno.

Through a little luck and the help of a friend of the bassist, B-Sides was able to get in contact with

MWR and organize a show for the crowd at Jox.

Overall B-Sides was well received and provided some much needed relief from an overworked jukebox. The band even stuck around after the show to play a little pool and talk to the patrons. B-Sides might not be your typical Sicilian band, but they are passionate about their music and that translated well on stage in front of the audience who cheered them on throughout the night. When given the opportunity B-Sides was able to take the night and made it a performance worthy of an A-Side.



P e r l a D'oriente



Valeriano Adorno jams with his band, the B-Sides as they rumble through their set of classic blues.

Days Inn

MWR CORNER

Shows

Armed Forces Entertainment and Navy Entertainment present: KIER
February 2: 9 p.m. at Jox Pub
One-man show, KIER, will show his musical and comedic talents to the Sigonella community. Come out for some laughs!

Superbowl Super Party at Jox Pub
February 3 starts at 9 p.m. - Open until 4 a.m.! Super giveaways, super music, super fun!

Latin & Hip Hop DJ at Jox Pub
February 7: 9pm - Midnight

Fitness 624-4483

Extreme Spin Challenge II
February 2: 9am - noon at Fit District \$10
Register today, bikes are limited.

ITT Gear-n-Go Day Trips 624-4777

Mandatory Snow Adventure Safety Class
Fridays from 5 - 5:30 p.m.
Plan on joining Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) for any snow sport this year? Please make the time to attend this mandatory class on safety and Survival. Make this year a fun and injury-free year.

Snowboarding on Mt. Etna
(Snow and weather permitting)
Saturdays through March 1: Depart: NAS I 8 a.m. Return: 4 p.m. - \$15 without rental package or \$25 with rental package plus bring euro for lift ticket and food.

Carnevale & Mardi Gras in Sciacca
February 2: Depart: NAS II Noon, NAS I 12:30 p.m. Return: Midnight - \$30 + euro for fees and food

Snowshoeing on Mt. Etna
(Snow and weather permitting)

February 3 Depart: NAS I 8:30 a.m. Return: 3 p.m.
(Participants must attend Snow Adventure Safety Class) \$25; includes transportation and guide plus bring €12 for snowshoe rental, snacks, water and extra euro for food.

Acireale Carnevale
February 3: Depart: NAS II 4:30 p.m., NAS I 5 p.m., Return: 11:30 p.m. - \$20 plus euro food

Mardi Gras Cooking Class at Trinita Farm
February 4: Depart: Mineo 3:30 p.m., NAS II 4 p.m., NAS I 4:30 p.m. Return: 10 p.m. \$45

St. Agata Festival with Fireworks
February 5: Depart: NAS II 4:30 p.m., NAS I 5 p.m. Return: 10:30 p.m. - \$16 or 2 for \$20 + euro for food

Valentine's Day Dinner at Feudo San Vito
February 14: (Registration Deadline: February 7)
Depart: Mineo 6 p.m., NAS II 6:30 p.m., Marinai 6:45 p.m., NAS I 7 p.m. Return: Midnight - \$10 plus bring €35/person for dinner

Patti Shopping (Caleca Pottery Factory)
February 7: Depart: NAS II 7 a.m., NAS I 7:30 a.m. Return: 3 p.m. - \$18, or 2 for \$30 + bring euro for food and shopping

ITT Gear-n-Go Extended Trips 624-4777

St. Patrick's Day in Dublin: March 15-19
Dracula's Transylvania, Romania: April 4-9
Camping in Tropea: May 23-26

Jox Pub 624-5603

Texas Hold'em Poker Club
Mondays: dealing starts at 7 p.m.
Play every week to earn points! This is an eight-week competition. The person with the most points by February 25 wins the grand prize of a \$500 gift certificate to Angie's Travel! Free entry each week.

Liberty 624-5602

Dinner in Catania: February 1
All-Inclusive Mt. Etna Skiing: February 3
(Requires Mandatory Snow Adventure Safety Class held at ITT Gear-n-Go on Fridays from 5-5:30p.m.):
Taormina Spa Day: February 7
Ski Weekend: Dolomites Italian Alps:
February 15-18 \$600/pp
Weekend in Florence: March 14-17 \$375/pp
Weekend in Dublin: April 16-20 \$550/pp

Library 624- 3875

Me My Valentine Poem Contest
Come in and submit a poem for a chance to win a Gameboy! Winner selected February 15.

Teen Center 624-4018

Crepe Day: February 1 at 3pm
Trip to Etnapolis Mall: February 2 at 1pm
Peanut Butter & Jelly Day: February 5
Fruit Salad: February 6 at 3pm
Valentine Card Making: February 8 at 3pm

Youth Center 624-3712

Ground Hog Child Shadow Day: February 1 at 3:30pm
Letter Writing Week: February 4 - February 8

Youth Sports 624-3785

Youth Sports Clinic of the Month: Sports Nutrition Class
Tuesdays, 3 - 4pm in the classroom in Midtown
Calling all youth ages 5-13! Let's get together and learn some healthy eating habits. We will go shopping at the commissary and get busy making healthy snacks. Sign up for this class at Fit District.

FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 7

MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

SCHEDULE

MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, February 1

12:00pm FREE ADMISSION
Norbit PG-13 102 min.
3:00pm August Rush PG 113 min.
5:00pm The Bucket List PG-13 98 min.
5:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
7:30pm Hitman R 93 min.
8:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
9:30pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.

Saturday, February 2

2:00pm FREE ADMISSION
Ice Age 2: The Melt Down PG 91 min.
2:30pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
4:30pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
7:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
8:00pm The Mist R 127 min.
10:00pm This Christmas PG-13 119 min.

Sunday, February 3

2:00pm August Rush PG 113 min.
2:30pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.
4:30pm The Bucket List PG-13 98 min.
5:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
7:00pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.

Monday, February 4

12:00pm This Christmas PG-13 119 min.
3:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:00pm The Bucket List PG-13 98 min.
5:30pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
7:30pm The Mist R 127 min.
8:00pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.

Tuesday, February 5

5:00pm August Rush PG 113 min.
5:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
7:30pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
8:00pm Hitman R 93 min.

Wednesday, February 6

12:00pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
3:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:00pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.
5:30pm The Mist R 127 min.
7:30pm This Christmas PG-13 119 min.
8:00pm The Bucket List PG-13 98 min.

Thursday, February 7

3:00pm August Rush PG 113 min.
5:00pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
5:30pm Hitman R 93 min.
7:30pm THROWBACK THURSDAY - FREE ADMISSION
Kiss Kiss Bang Bang R 103 min.
8:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.

Bucket List

A long time ago, Carter Chambers philosophy professor suggested that his students compose a bucket list, a collection of all the things they wanted to do, see and experience in life before they kicked the bucket. But while Carter was trying to define his private dreams and plans, reality intruded. Marriage, children, myriad responsibilities and, ultimately, a 46-year job as an auto mechanic turned his concept of a bucket list into little more than a bittersweet memory of lost opportunities and a mental exercise he occasionally thought about to pass the time. Meanwhile, corporate billionaire Edward Cole never saw a list without a bottom line. He was always too busy making money and building an empire to think about what his deeper needs might be beyond the next big acquisition or cup of gourmet coffee. Then life delivered an urgent and unexpected wake-up call to both of them. Carter and Edward found themselves sharing a hospital room with plenty of time to think about what might happen next--and about how much of that was in their hands. For all their apparent differences, they discovered they had two very important things in common: an unrealized need to come to terms with who they were and the choices they made, and a pressing desire to spend the time they had left doing everything they ever wanted to do. So, against doctors orders and all good sense, these two virtual strangers check themselves out of the hospital and hit the road together for the adventure of a lifetime--from the Taj Mahal to the Serengeti, the finest restaurants to the seediest tattoo parlors, the cockpit of vintage race cars to the open door of a prop plane--with just a sheet of paper and their passion for life to guide them. Adding and crossing items off their list while taking in the grandeur and beauty of the world, they grapple with the difficult questions and the even more difficult answers that plague all of us. And, without even realizing it, become true friends.

Charlie Wilson's War

Based on the true story of how Charlie Wilson, an alcoholic womanizer and Texas congressman, persuaded the CIA to train and arm resistance fighters in Afghanistan to fend off the Soviet Union. With the help of rogue CIA agent, Gust Avrakotos, the two men supplied money, training and a team of military experts that turned the ill-equipped Afghan freedom-fighters into a force that brought the Red Army to a stalemate and set the stage for conflicts in the Middle East that still rage to this day.

Cloverfield

Five young New Yorkers throw their friend a going-away party the night that a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city. Told from the point of view of

their video camera, the film is a document of their attempt to survive the most surreal, horrifying event of their lives.

The Golden Compass

A 12-year-old girl tries to rescue a kidnapped friend and winds up on an epic quest to save her world.

Hitman

The "Hitman" is a genetically-engineered, elite assassin known only as Agent 47. His hallmarks are lethal grace, unwavering precision, and resolute pride in his work. But even 47 couldn't anticipate a "random equation" in his life exactitude: the unexpected stirrings of his conscience and the unfamiliar emotions aroused in him by a mysterious Russian woman.

The Mist

Following a violent thunderstorm, artist David Drayton and a small town community come under vicious attack from creatures prowling in a thick and unnatural mist. Local rumors point to an experiment called the "The Arrowhead Project" conducted at a nearby top-secret military base, but questions as to the origins of the deadly vapor are secondary to the group's overall chances for survival. Retreating to a local supermarket, Drayton and the survivors must face-off against each other before taking a united stand against an enemy they cannot even see.

No Country For Old Men

Set in West Texas, a man on the run with a suitcase full of money is pursued by a number of individuals.

This Christmas

This year, Christmas with the Whitfield's promises to be one they will never forget. All the siblings have come home for the first time in years and they've brought plenty of baggage with them. As the Christmas tree is trimmed and the lights are hung, secrets are revealed and family bonds are tested. As their lives converge, they join together and help each other discover the true meaning of family.

COMING SOON

The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep
PS I Love You
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story

RETURNING

National Treasure: Book of Secrets
Charlie Wilson's War

Masso Provides IA and GSA Updates at Surface Navy Association Symposium

Article by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Trevor Andersen
Navy Personnel Command Communications

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- The Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel spoke to members of the Surface Navy Association (SNA) Jan. 16, about the road ahead as the Navy transitions individual augmentees (IA) assignments to Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

Support Assignments (GSA). In his speech at the SNA's 20th annual national symposium, in Arlington, Va., Rear Adm. Sonny Masso discussed the significant improvements the Navy has made in fulfilling IA requirements for the GWOT.

"Through GSA detailing we will improve the predictability of GWOT assignments for our Sailors and their families, better enable volunteerism, improve manning stability at the unit level and add detailee involvement for professional development and career progression," said Masso.

GSA detailing increases predictability by allowing Sailors to negotiate eight or 14-month PCS orders to an Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center (ECRC) for a fol-

low-on assignment in support of GWOT. GSA folds the GWOT requirements into the normal PCS distribution process so the Navy can avoid pulling a Sailor in the middle of their tour.

In an effort to encourage volunteerism, Sailors who take a GSA orders over for over 365 days receive coast selection preference following their tour and priority on choice of follow on duty assignments and location.

NAVADMIN 336/07 Administration of the Navy-wide Advancement Exam for Sailors in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn Of Africa announced unique advancement guidance for Sailors in serving in those regions which includes automatic E-7 selection board eligibility for time-in rate and command endorsed eligible E-6s. Sailors may also earn extra points for advancement and special pay while serving on an IA or GSA.

GSA detailing has improved on the previous IA system by including centralized support services and advocacy for families through the

ECRC while their Sailor is deployed. Sailors may move their dependents to San Diego or Norfolk or let them stay at their current permanent duty station during the GSA.

"The GSA process helps Sailors engage with their detailers to serve these tours of duty when it best fits their needs and the needs of their families. We want to reduce the need to pull Sailors from other assignments mid-tour in order to fill an IA," said Masso.

To date, nearly 1,000 Sailors have applied for orders under GSA. GSA billets are currently available on Career Management System-Interactive Detailing (CMS-ID), the program enlisted Sailors use to apply for orders. The Web address is <https://www.cmsid.navy.mil>.

Billets are listed under the category code 90GS. Officers should contact their detailee directly for information on GSA billets. More guidance is available in NAVADMINs 002/08 Individual Augmentee Manpower Management Business Rules and 003/08 GSA Detailing Business Rules.

STA 21

continued from page 1

grams utilized in the past to transition sailors from the enlisted ranks to the officer community. Older programs used previously such as the Enlisted Commissioning Program, Aviation Enlisted Commissioning Program, Nuclear Enlisted Commissioning Program, Civil Engineer Corps Enlisted Commissioning Program, Fleet Accession to Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps and the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training programs wouldn't afford sailors the opportunity to retain the benefits. According to the STA-21 website, "Some of the previous enlisted commissioning programs required Sailors to pay their college tuition by themselves. Others removed the student from active duty status, thus taking away any source of income."

Sailors will be able to pursue their futures in a variety of fields upon their commissioning.

A career in the Naval Flight Officer, Surface

Warfare, Information Professional, Nuclear (Submarine and Surface), Special Warfare, Special Operations, Special Duty Officer (Intelligence), Civil Engineer and Supply Corps, and the Nurse and Medical Corps fields are available.

For more information about the STA-21 program visit www.sta-21.navy.mil.



Lt. Derek Vestal briefs sailors on eligibility requirements for the Navy's STA-21 program.

GOSSIP continued from page 2

Yet how often do we shoot our mouths off, bringing discredit to our God, to ourselves and hurting the other person.

For your reflection I offer you a meditation entitled: "Remember Me." As we listen to the words of the meditation, let us realize that our tongues are sharper than a two-edged sword, and that that sword can cut deeply and the wound it causes can be fatal. Let each of us examine our speech and if we have hurt someone, let us have the courage to go to that person and ask for his or her forgiveness.

My name is gossip.
I have no respect for justice.
I maim without killing
I break hearts and ruin lives.
I am cunning and malicious and gather strength with age
The more I am quoted, the more I am believed

I flourish at every level of society
My victims are helpless. They cannot protect themselves from me because I have no name and no face
To track me down is impossible
The harder you try, the more elusive I become
I am nobody's friend.
Once I tarnish a reputation, it is never quite the same
I topple governments and wreck marriages
I ruin careers, cause sleepless nights, heartache and indigestion
I spawn suspicion and generate grief
I make innocent people cry in their pillows
Even my name hisses
I am called gossip: office gossip, shop gossip, party gossip
I make headlines and headaches
Before you repeat a story ask yourself: Is it true? Is it fair? Is it necessary?
If not, keep quiet!

Calling all singers, dancers, actors and musical theatre buffs...
Ages 6 to 60!

- ❖ Every day when you wake up, do you break into a rousing rendition of "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning"?
- ❖ In high school, were you voted "Most likely to make it on Broadway"?
- ❖ Is your video of "Oliver!" totally worn out from too many viewings?
- ❖ Are your daughters named Liesl and Gretl?
- ❖ Is your dog named Toto?

If so, we've got trouble my friends! – trouble that can only be remedied by getting involved in Sigonella's upcoming musical:



Audition Workshops: February 19/21
Auditions: February 25/26
Production Dates: May 9/10

For more info: lynn.soebey@eu.dodea.edu



Do you have a passion for writing or looking for a little experience in journalism. The Signature is seeking volunteers to help cover base wide events as well as feature stories. If this sounds like an opportunity for you please call the Public Affairs Office at 624-5440.

S Vito

H o t e l
Corsaro

Happy Anniversary! Supporting Our Sailors & Marines for 104 Years

Article by Courtesy of the NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society was founded in 1904 - three years before President Theodore Roosevelt's great White Fleet departed Hampton Roads, Virginia, on their around-the-world cruise. From the beginning, this organization has maintained its traditional needs-based approach in providing financial assistance and education to active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families, but in modern times it has addressed increasingly, the contemporary issues facing our clients. These include emergency assistance to clients suffering from natural disasters such as hurricanes, wild fires, earthquakes, volcano eruptions and more; combat casualty assistance to Marines serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and on board ships in the Arabian Gulf; and aid to those who fall prey to predatory (payday) lending practices. Highlights of the Society's activities

during 2007 include:
- \$43.6 million in financial assistance (interest-free loans and grants) to 55,082 clients (an increase of \$5.9 million and 15,647 clients over 2006)
- \$1.5 million in Combat Casualty Assistance to 1,035 Marines and Sailors (up \$300,000 and 267 clients over 2006)
- \$1.8 million in Quick Assist Loans to 3,823 active duty Sailors and Marines at eight test sites, representing more than a 75% increase in casework assistance at those same locations over the same period in 2006.
On January 23, 2008, the Society celebrated its 104th anniversary. We take this opportunity to announce the expansion of our Quick Assist Loan (QAL) Program Society wide, following eight months of pilot testing. This new source of need-

based financial assistance is a result of the alarming growth of predatory lending practices during the past decade. The Society joined forces with other military aid and consumer organizations to help provide information to Congress that was instrumental in passage of the provisions in the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act which severely restricts the exorbitant interest rates charged by payday lenders. By offering interest-free Quick Assist Loans up to \$300, repayable within 10 months, the Society hopes all active duty Sailors and Marines will make our organization their first resource when they need emergency funds.
For more details about this exciting program, and the Society's other available services, please contact the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Office at your location, or visit our web site at www.nmcrs.org.

Stampa

San Diego Air and Space Museum gets special warfare drones from SEALs

Article by MC3 Michelle Kapica
Naval Special Warfare Command Public Affairs

San Diego, Calif. (NNS) -- Two unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), previously used by Navy SEALs, were assigned a new mission at the San Diego Air and Space Museum Jan. 16.

After four years of service and many flight hours the RQ-11A and RQ-11B Raven UAVs were donated to the museum by Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC) in Coronado, Calif. to help educate future generations about advances in the Navy's cutting-edge technology.

The UAVs were used throughout the world by SEAL Teams for remote reconnaissance, surveillance, intelligence gathering, locating targets, force protection and convoy security.

"The UAVs were employed in support of bomb and battle damage assessment, support of military operations in urban terrain, and other classified missions," said Dean McCoy, the UAV logistics management specialist at NSWC in Coronado, Calif.

Ravens are used extensively throughout the military and have become an invaluable asset to special operations. They fly at 100 to 500 feet, carrying tiny cameras to capture footage of precise targets without putting SEALs in harm's way.

"UAVs do the jobs that are too dangerous, too routine or too boring for manned aircraft to do," said McCoy.

Depending on their size and capability, UAVs can cost from \$5,000 to \$100,000. The Ravens cost around \$30,000 each.

"You can't put a price on human life," he said. "These systems have saved a lot of lives."

Navy SEALs undergo an eight-day training course at San Clemente Island, off the coast of California, to learn how to use UAVs. Unlike the more commonly known UAVs such as the Predator, Global Hawk and the Shadow, Ravens are light and compact. They are hand launched, weigh around four pounds and have a wingspan of just 55 inches, giving them a great tactical advantage. According to McCoy, the main difference between the A and B is that the A has a fixed camera while the B has some limited pan, tilt and zoom capability. The ground control station also has more features, including

more ergonomic controllers, similar to computer game controllers. The B also has an infrared illuminator that delivers real-time imagery to ground control and remote viewing stations during day and night operations.

The donated Ravens will now serve a different purpose at San Diego Air and Space Museum, helping to educate future generations about the Navy and the equipment it uses to carry out its missions.

"We're always trying to keep our museum current with the latest state of the art in terms of military and civil aviation," said Tony Beres, the museum's curator. "The future is in unmanned aerial vehicles."

Beres, who has worked at the museum for 10 years, said he believes the Ravens will inspire a new generation of aviation enthusiasts. "New exhibits in the museum are important because they attract new visitors. Our motivation is to get younger people involved in the technology and the science of today's world," he said.

The Navy is currently phasing out the Ravens and replacing them with the All-Environment Craft Vehicle (AECV). A hand-launched UAV that can land on water, is quieter, has an increased flight time and contains more advanced cameras.

"They are a quantum leap forward in capability for the special operations community," said McCoy.

McCoy plans to donate another de-commissioned UAV from NSW to the National Navy Underwater Demolition Team - SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Fla., next month.

The Naval Special Warfare community is a maritime component of U.S. Special Operations Command and the Navy's special operations force. The community is composed of over 6,700 personnel, including 2,300 SEALs, 600 Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC), along with military support personnel, reserve components, and civilian staff. SEALs and SWCC focus on missions involving unconventional warfare, direct action, combating terrorism, special reconnaissance, foreign internal defense, information warfare, security assistance, counterdrug operations, personnel recovery and hydrographic reconnaissance.

EATING HEALTHY continued from page 2

or low-fat milk products, lean meats, fish, beans, eggs and nuts, and is low in saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, salt, and added sugars. A healthy diet also means staying within your daily calorie needs.

- Kids are turned off to trying new foods if the smell, flavor, or color is not appealing to them. It may be more appealing to a child if the fruits or vegetables are served raw.

- Try feeding different textures of fruits and vegetables to your child. Some children prefer smooth food, where as others like lumpy, and some children like crisp foods, but others like soft.

- Offer new fruits and vegetables in combination with old favorites to show your child a variety of smells, textures, and colors. Various vegetables can be added to any whole grain pasta dish or pizza, and fruit is a great topping for low-fat or fat free yogurt.

IL Mercato

All classified ads are free to the community. Their intent is for advertising personal property for sale trade or giveaway.

No commercial ads will be accepted. Ads run for two weeks. Classified ads are due no later than 2 p.m. of the Friday of the week before publication. For more information call 624-5440 or 624-2798 or 095-86-last four digits.

Requests for commercial classifieds must be made to Stampa Generale at 081-568-7884 .

SEND IL MERCATO ADVERTISEMENTS TO THESIG@NASSIG.SICILY.NAVY.MIL

AUTOMOTIVE

2002 BMW 330Ci Coupe Titanium Silver, European Spec, Sports package w/ 5spd paddle shifters, SMG semi auto transmission, 18" staggered M-Tech Rims, Goodyear Eagle F1 tires, Sports Suspension, Dynamic Stability Control, Carbon Fiber front strut brace, 8-way power Sport Seats w/memory, Xenon headlights, fog lights, power Moon roof, Harmon/Kardon premium sound system, iPod ready, on-board trip computer, automatic air conditioning, cruise control, rain sensing windshield wipers, auto dimming rear view mirror, split fold-down rear seats. 14,000 euros negotiable, view by appointment only due to remote location. Contact Antonio 340 964 3773

1994 Jeep Cherokee, 4 dr, 5 spd, runs great, pulls 300 liters, new rear brakes, good island SUV asking 2,500 obo for more information call Dustin at (c)3472599267 (h) 8530.

1991 BMW 520i - 2500 o.b.o. Call: 340-709-2608

1994 Saab 9000 CSE Turbo. \$3000.00 O.B.O. Looks good and runs GREAT. Combines good gas mileage with power. Dark Green 4-door hatchback. New Tires and a 10-disc CD changer 624-5156, 095-86-5156

1992 Fiat Croma: Sedan, White exterior, Pwr windows, pwr locks, 5spd. 4cyl. AM/FM Cassette, great for iPod. Very roomy interior. Large Trunk. \$1600.00 obo. Contact Christopher @ x1514.

Laverda 750s for sale in great condition. Mechanics need apply, some battery/electrical problems. Asking \$1500. e-mail joseph.licausi@naissig.sicily.navy.mil

Lancia Sedan for \$1500 mid-size 4 door lancia dedra, 143631 km, 300 ltrs/month, a/c-heat works great! roomy interior, easy to drive in catania, very reliable! For more info please call Oliver at; work 624-3844 mobile; 346-965-4129

2006 Black & Silver Suzuki GSXR 1000, this bike is in perfect condition and is extremely fast, comes with puig smoked out windshield (\$75.00), rear stand for the bike (\$100.00), one jacket (\$100.00), one Shoei helmet (\$400.00), bike tools, Scorpion bike alarm (\$330.00), frame sliders (\$50.00) one bike cover and anything else I can find that goes with the bike. Total cost for the bike and everything else is \$8000.00 the insurance cost \$800.00 per year for full coverage. 335-597-9668 or 624-1613
2000 Opel Corsa, 1000cc, blue,

excellent condition, 2dr, A/C, 5 spd, stick shift, anti-theft alarm, radio, power windows, air bag, 2 new tires, 37k miles, asking Euro 2,800. If interested call 338-8573119 after 4pm.

For sale Opel Tigra 2 door coupe' full option in excellent condition like new asking price euro 3450,00 for info call 346-6082330 ask for Joe

Metallic Blue 2004 VW Jetta 1.8T- US specs, 51,000 miles. Fully loaded, turbo 1.8 L engine (300 L/month); auto transmission; power steering, brakes, windows, and locks; cruise control; AM/FM/CD player; variable traction control; gray leather interior with front seat warmers; front, side, and head airbags; 19" sport tires with upgraded alloy rims. All scheduled maintenance performed. Runs like new, looks terrific. Kelly Blue Book \$13K; asking \$10,000. Call Renee at 3343737624 or Tony at 624-0234.

2000 Smart For-Two Pulse Coupe, AFI Plated 600cc Turbo, A/C PWR Wind, CD Remote locks. Brand new engine dealed installed. Fills up with 15 liters, perfect for getting around Catania/island. Asking \$4000 contact AECS Treglia 624-6092.

2003 Harley Davidson XL883C Sportster. Anniversary Edition Black and

Silver. Lots of chrome. Stage 1 kit installed. Looks great, runs great. Appr. 10K mi. Kelly Bluebook is \$5230.00. Asking \$5500.00 Firm due to added equipment. Cell:3392557154 Home: 095306149. Must See!

WANTED

Looking for an evening sitter to sit with 6 & 7 year olds 2 nights a week while I attend class. Prefer someone in Mineo who can start immediately. Pay is negotiable. If interested, please contact Salley @ (h) 624-0316 or (w) 624-5123.

Wanted, Portugese learning materials; books, tapes & CDs. Pls. call: 338.273.5683 or 095.308.019

FOR SALE

FREE! Older Hitachi big screen TV. I think the CRT is broken. Want it out of my house. Use it for parts or fix it and sell it. 346-616-0954.

Samsung World Wide Video Converter, perfect condition. Converts PAL (European TV) to NTSC (American TV) or NTSC to PAL. This is useful if you have an American TV and want to watch Sky Satellite. It also doubles as a VCR so you can record your favorite shows. Retail \$500.00, will sell for \$100.00. Call Steve @ 624-0185

ZOOM Streetboxx Drum

machine SB-246. This is a drum machine for rappers but can be used for any music. Plug in a mic create loops and full songs with ease with the 500 different drum sounds, basses and synths. Use MIDI with a PC and other MIDI devices. Steve 624-0185

Japanese, glass, fishing floats - all sizes, all colors - collector's items from \$10-\$100 (negotiable) Call Jane at 095-755-3058 or 3343735018.

Hidden Assets medium brown cloth dual vibrating recliner for sale. Perfect condition only 1 year old. It is a comfortable chair but it does not match the Sectional. Asking \$150. I live in Mineo please call before 1700 at 0629

MISC.

AA meetings will be held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, each week, at 7 p.m. in the NAS II Chapel. For further information call the AA hot line at 346-693-6935.

Are your headlights all hazed over and ugly? Bring them to me, on or off the car and I will refinish them for a tenth of the cost of new headlights \$25. Mineo, 0629

MOMS Club of Sigonella, Mineo Chapter. Do you finding yourself doing the same thing everyday and need a

Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at thesig@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.

Ads run for two weeks 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 and typed in regular upper case, lower case format.

The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals.

AFRTS/AFN decoders must be sold only to another authorized individual: active duty or retired U.S. military, DoD direct-hire employees, and their spouse. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Stampa Generale @ 081-568-7884.

Centro
traslochi

Joes

Associazione
Stella

change of pace? We have many activities for both you and your child to enjoy! Call Sam at 624-0653.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost set of car and house keys, with a small black gate remote control. Lost on Monday night, Jan 14th at the Exchange, maybe at the wine section, handbag section or the parking lot right in front of the commissary. If found please call 346 965 4129.

PETS

7 month old Pure breed Dogue de Bordeaux (French Mastiff) with large kennel for sale. Paid 900 Euro, asking 500\$ O.B.O. Moving to home where dogs not allowed, great dog, but must sell now. Call 346-095-1546. Serious offers only please.

Stampa

Grande Cina

Volcano

Craivan

Calva

ry

Classified

Stampa