



A Glimpse Of Italian Devotion

Signature Volunteers

Smoke filled the air as the procession made its way through the growing crowd toward the main square. As the smoke from handheld flares rose, it surrounded a replica of Jesus Christ's Crucifixion.

On March 20, 2008, or

Holy Thursday, a parade of 16 religious floats with papier-mâché statues, or Vare, began at about 8 p.m. and ended at about 5 a.m. in Caltanissetta, a city near the center of Sicily.

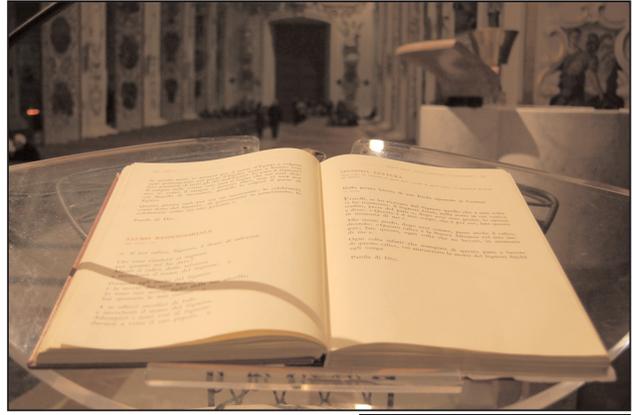
Enzo Falzone, member of the Congregazione San Filippo

Neri, a brotherhood, explained to some Sigonella community members, whom he hosted, that these traditions were handed down to families-from their grandfathers. As an organizer of the parade, Falzone worked countless hours to ensure a successful event.

The statues elicited many emotions as they represent the Passion and the Death of Christ by depicting events from the Last Supper to the Madonna mourning his death.

Different religious brotherhoods are responsible for maintaining their floats. For example, the Guild of Bakers maintain the Last Supper float said Angelo Amico, a member.

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Farewell Message from Rear Admiral Groothusen

To my Navy Region family; civilians, host nation employees, NATO, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Soldiers and your families, thank you for your dedication and support.

My tour here has been extremely rewarding because of your hard work and enthusiasm to meet the mission.

We've seen a lot of change, but often and if done for the proper reason, change is good. That

means we're learning, improving how we do business. I'm confident that your spirit will carry on to support Rear Admiral Mercer.

I'm proud to share with him all the contributions you have made during the past 9 months.

Keep up the great work of supporting the Fleet, our Fighters and their Families, remember to keep your bases Ship Shape, and as always Go Navy!

SIGONELLA'S SEABEES HOST SEABEE BALL



Photo and caption by MC2(AW) Jason T. Poplin, Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment Sigonella

Sailors of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe and Southwest Asia turned out March 21 in celebration of the 66th birthday of the Naval Construction Battalion and the 141st Civil Engineer Corps. Conducted at Parco Diadona, Catenanuova, more than 200 Seabees and family members, gathered together in honor of the 2008 Seabee and Civil Engineer Corps Birthday Ball.

WEATHER UPDATE

Mar. 28
H:70F
L:47F



Mar. 29
H:69F
L:46F



Mar. 30
H:70F
L:47F



Mar. 31
H:72F
L:49F



Apr. 1
H:72F
L:52F



Apr. 2
H:68F
L:53F



Apr. 3
H:68F
L:53F



TOP STORIES

The FFSC/ICR Customer Oriented Service Improvement Team (COSIT) has been chartered to identify and implement opportunities for improving customer experiences when relocating to Sigonella. Find out how the FFSC is making improvements for the community in this week's column.

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It's again carciofi time! Tons of Violetto di Niscredi and Ramacca artichokes will be the highlight of these annual mouthwatering festivals which celebrate two among the largest artichoke-producing towns in Italy. Read more about this festival and more this week in Alberto's Italian News.

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Two weeks ago, a group of 25 cyclists, ranging in ages 16 to 68, headed into the Sicilian unknown for a 4-day bike ride that proved to be both a challenge and a spectacularly scenic adventure had by all. Read more about this groups journey from mountain to sea.

Page 9

ITT Gear-n-Go is ready to kick off the summer outdoors season on Memorial Day weekend with a camping trip to beautiful Tropea. Located in Calabria, Italy, Tropea's white sandy beaches and turquoise waters beckon beach lovers to come out and play. The beach is not the only thing beautiful Tropea has to offer.

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From February 25 to 28, a group of twelve students from Sigonella Middle and High School set out to the European Regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium held at Reidstadt, Germany.

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TRAFFIC NUMBERS

	Jan.- Mar. '08	Jan.- Mar. '07	Diff.
Accidents	77	66	+11
Injuries	10	5	+5
DUIs	5	1	+4
Traffic Deaths	2	0	+2

PLEASE,
DON'T BECOME
A STATISTIC!

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DIRECT LINE

NASSIG COMMAND MASTER CHIEF ROSA L. WILSON

It is that time of year again! The Spring PFA began Wednesday and I hope everyone has been making the effort to get out and exercise. I realize we are only tested twice a year, but we should and need to be ready for it every day of the year. Making the decision to stay fit improves command readiness and is a high priority of the Department of the Navy. It's also a great way to reduce stress.

I ask you in the coming days to take your physical readiness and weight standards seriously. The Navy is in a period of transformation with physical readiness playing a large part in what a model Sailor should possess. NASSIG leadership will make this a fundamental

necessity in your workspace and give Sailors the resources and tools to maintain physical readiness. I encourage you all to make use of the many resources at NASSIG to achieve, including our state-of-the-art fitness facility at NAS I and making an appointment with our command nutritionist. Good luck in the PFA and remember to stay fit!

March 31st to April 4th, the CPO Mess will conduct a week-long recognition of our 115th Birthday. The purpose of a CPO mess is to promote and maintain the well being of chief petty officers by providing leadership, mentoring, and social guidance. Armed Force throughout the World neither car-

ries the responsibilities nor grants the privileges to its enlisted personnel comparable to the privileges and responsibilities we are bound to observe and are expected to fulfill, as Chiefs. These privileges and responsibilities exist because for over 100 years Chiefs have freely accepted responsibility beyond the call of printed assignments; their actions and performance demands respect. Chiefs are required to be the font of wisdom, the authority on their personnel and technical applications. "Ask the Chief" is our phrase in our Navy.

I am inviting everyone to come out on April 4, 2008 at 0750 and join your Chief in celebrating our 115th birthday.



Health WATCH

Bioethics Case Review Committee at Naval Hospital Sigonella

LT MaryAnn Leynes
 Naval Hospital Sigonella Psychiatrist

Like hospitals in the United States, Naval Hospital Sigonella operates according to a Code of Ethics. NH Sigonella seeks to maintain life and health in conformity with the highest ethical and medical standards while preserving the autonomy of its patients and medical personnel. The hospital provides services only to those patients it can safely care for, and patients are involved in decisions regarding their care to the greatest extent possible.

It is the mission of the hospital's Bioethics Case Review Committee to ensure command compliance with that code and to make recommendations to the hospital Commanding Officer in regard to ethical dilemmas. The Committee is available for consultations to providers, administrators, patient, and families regarding bioethical issues. One function of the committee is to educate the Sigonella community about ethical issues that affect the medical care you receive. The Committee is composed of members from the Medical, Medical Service, Nurse, Hospital, Chaplain, and JAG Corps. The Staff

Psychiatrist serves as the chair of the committee. To consult the Committee, you can call the Mental Health Clinic at 624-4840 during working hours, or call the hospital quarterdeck after working hours.

Did you know that under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), NH Sigonella must comply with Italian law which forbids advance directives from being honored?

What is an advanced directive? There are two types of Advanced Directives: Living Wills and Health Care Power of Attorney. Both are legal documents that address a person's desires regarding life-sustaining treatment when he/she has an incurable or irreversible condition that will cause death within a relatively short time. A Living Will states the person's wishes in such situations; a Health Care Power of Attorney appoints someone to make decisions regarding life-sustaining treatment on behalf of the patient when he/she is unable to do so himself/herself. A patient may revoke either document at any time, verbally or

Story continued on page 13

NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

DS Chapel in Catania <u>Sunday</u> 1 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints	Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 11:30 a.m.
NAS II Chapel <u>Monday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	NAS I Chapel <u>Sunday</u> 8:45 a.m. Catholic Mass
<u>Tuesday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	10:45 a.m. Protestant Worship
<u>Wednesday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
<u>Friday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	6 p.m. Bible Study
<u>Sunday</u> 4 p.m. Catholic Mass	Mineo Community Center <u>Sunday</u> 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 095-86-1205 for weekly Jewish services



Look Beyond The Self To Find Happiness

Article courtesy of Chaplain Ken Rodes

We all carry our past with us. We all have a story to tell. Sometimes it is very visible, as visible as the faces we pass in the street. But usually it is hidden from all but the most discerning eyes. We cannot know what happened in another's life, unless we have truly walked in that person's shoes.

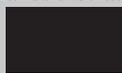
This is especially true when we are focused inward. We are so concerned with the self that we miss the opportunities that other people's stories can bring us, namely to appreciate life and be thankful for the good things we have. Our way of thinking becomes myopic and limited. We miss out on the happiness and contentment that we could have.

On the other hand, when we reach out beyond ourselves and get involved with people and share in their stories, a whole new world opens to us. Our ways of looking at things change. What we take for granted or write off as unimportant can radically change or enrich our lives. We then find a happiness that we missed when focused only on the self.

An excellent movie, "The Devil's Arithmetic," which I highly recommend, illustrates this point so well. The story-line concerns a 16 year-old Jewish girl from Long Island named Hannah Stern whose perspective on life changes radically at a Passover meal she celebrates with her family.

When the film opens, Hannah is in a tattoo

Story continued on page 13

Commanding Officer Capt. Thomas J. Quinn	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 thisesig@nassig.sicily.navy.mil, guard mail stop #68 or hand-delivered to our office no later than the close of business on the Friday preceding 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.
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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

Weekly Safety Statistics
 Drunk and disorderly - 2

Traffic Court Results
 E2 - Moving violation. Member was awarded 3 points and DIP.
 E2 - Improper turning. Member was awarded 1 points and DIP.
 E5 - Negligent backing. Member was awarded 3 points.

NAVY News

NIOC Sailor Picked for Why We Serve

Article by Kimberly Martin
Naval Network Warfare Command Public Affairs

A Sailor from Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC), at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, left Oak Harbor this week to join the Department of Defense's "Why We Serve" outreach team.

Cryptologic Technician (Collections) 1st Class Emily K. Klinefelter, from Fort Myers Beach, Fla., is one of three Sailors on a 12-member team consisting of top performing Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen. They will spend the next three months traveling around the country speaking to civic groups, schools and community groups, sharing personal experiences about their experiences while in the military.

"I am extremely proud of Petty Officer Klinefelter," said Cmdr. Doug Powers, commanding officer, NIOC Whidbey Island. "She is indicative of an elite group of extremely talented Sailors that make up NIOC Whidbey Island."

"Not only do they usually deploy and work independently, they

often fill jobs well above their pay grades," said Powers, of Klinefelter's job as an electronic warfare officer during her recent individual augmentee (IA) tour.

Having experiences to share should pose no problem for Klinefelter. She recently returned from a nine-month IA tour in Iraq with the 7th and 11th transportation battalions under the 1st 82nd Airborne Brigade. She was in charge of three companies responsible for maintaining vehicle-mounted counter remote control improvised explosive device equipment on 135 vehicles.

"It was the most rewarding tour I've ever done. It's why I [reenlisted] back in July. On a daily basis, what I was doing brought my friends home alive," said Klinefelter, explaining that the equipment they worked on was vital to keeping people safe and supply lines moving.

Although public speaking may be the number one fear for many people, Klinefelter's drama classes while attending high school prepared her well.

"She is a natural speaker; well-spoken and expressive with strong, clear beliefs about the importance of military service thanks, in part, to grandparents who served in the Marines and the WAVES," Powers said.

Klinefelter doesn't hesitate to talk to people who ask her how she feels about being in the military.

"I'm an American. We're an all-volunteer military force," Klinefelter said. "We all step up of our own free will."

With Klinefelter on the road telling the Navy's story over the next three months, the people across this nation will know who they are, why they serve and that she is just one of many high caliber, dedicated men and women serving today.

"Her selection to the 'Why We Serve' program validates her remarkable professionalism," Powers said. "I have full confidence she will serve as a perfect representative of all Sailors who are rising to the challenge in the Global War on Terror."

NEWS BRIEFS

Save Tax On Imported Vehicles

By Robert Szostek, USEU-COM Customs PAO

Mannheim, Germany - U.S. personnel stationed overseas can import vehicles to the United States free of federal tax and duty.

This exemption means big savings if you meet three conditions. You must take physical possession of the vehicle prior to shipment, have valid PCS orders and import it for personal use. However, it does not exempt you from state taxation.

"Most people who miss out on the exemption do not take physical possession of the vehicle before shipment," said Bill Johnson, director of the European Command's Customs and Border Clearance Agency. "If you have a car shipped directly from the factory, you risk having to pay the 2.5 percent federal import duty," he added. Registering a vehicle is the most common way to take possession, but you can also prove it by simply putting a copy of your movement orders in the glove compartment. Second, you must have a set of official change of station orders in hand before shipping a vehicle. The exemption is not for people on extended leave or temporary duty. Third, the vehicle must be for your personal use or for use by immediate family members. "If you had six dependents of driving age," Johnson explained, "you could justify importing seven vehicles duty-free; one for each of them and one for yourself." However, it is illegal to use the exemption to import vehicles for third parties or in order to sell them.

People importing vehicles as part of a PCS can save federal duties and taxes, but state taxes on imported vehicles can be high. You can obtain state tax information from the relevant department of motor vehicles and Internet links to these can be found at <http://rmv.hqusaarur.army.mil/ssnevdmvs.htm>.

Call a military customs office

to find out more about federal customs exemptions or your local transportation office to learn about shipping procedures and fees.

The Sigonella County Fair (aka Spring Fest)

The entire Sigonella Community is set for two days of family fun, Carnival Rides, Game Booths, food and beverage, live entertainment, demonstrations, local craft vendors, Sicilian artisans, wine makers, America's kid's run, inflatable bouncers and community information booths on Friday, May 9 & Saturday, May 10 at the new location in Midtown parking lots.

The next fair meeting will be Thursday, April 3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Applebee's Conference Room. This meeting is mandatory for all Community or Command Groups that would like to be involved in fundraising. The meeting on Thursday, April 3 will focus on awarding the \$850 cleaning contract, a drawing for interested groups to use the MWR Dunk Tank, review procedures for games, food and beverage booths and local craft vendors and review the opportunities for creating and running a carnival-type game booth and how MWR will provide the tickets and all of the prizes.

The Sigonella County Fair Entertainment Committee is looking for local talent in the following areas: Entertainment by a group or individual that can put on demonstrations such as: style of dance, martial arts, dog tricks or any other talent and a group or individual that has unique carnival/street performer talents such as: balloon artists, magicians, jugglers, face painting or clowns. If you would like to provide entertainment or be a street performer please contact John Lenz at 624-0504, 095-56-0504 or john.lenz@nassig.sicily.navy.mil or after Tuesday, April 1, erin.tacey@erin.tacey@nassig.sicily.navy.mil

PHOTO FROM THE FLEET

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



U.S. Navy Photo by MCSN Matthew Bookwalter

Airman Jacob Larsen holds "Fod," a screech owl that was found on the flight deck of the Nimitz-class nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75). The owl was discovered in the left-main wheel well of an F/A 18 Hornet during a pre-flight inspection of the aircraft. Truman and embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3 are deployed supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and maritime security operations.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA COMMUNITY CALENDAR					28 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	29 Latin Quarters - Jox
30 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	31 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel TAP Pre-Separation -8 a.m. FFSC	1 April TAP Pre-Separation -8 a.m. FFSC	2 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel TAP Pre-Separation -8 a.m. FFSC	3 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater TAP Pre-Separation -8 a.m. FFSC	4 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel Car Buying Strategies -3 p.m. -FFSC	5
6 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	7 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	8 Anger Management -8 a.m. -FFSC Manage Life Money -10 a.m. -FFSC	9 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel Men's Group -1:30 p.m. -FFSC	10 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater Ombudsmen Assembly -9 a.m. -FFSC	11 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	12
13 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	14 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	15 Career Exploration -10 a.m. -FFSC	16 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel Men's Group -1:30 p.m. -FFSC	17 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater Identity Theft -1:30 p.m. -FFSC	18 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel Banking & Checkbook Management -10 a.m. -FFSC	19
20 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	21 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel CFS Training -8 a.m. -FFSC	22 CFS Training -8 a.m. -FFSC	23 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel CFS Training -8 a.m. -FFSC	24 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater CFS Training -8 a.m. -FFSC	25 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel CFS Training -8 a.m. -FFSC	26 Latin Quarters - Jox
27 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	28 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	29	30 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	1 May Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	2 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	3
4 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	5 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	6	7 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	8 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	9 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	10

Motta Perla d'oriente
 Stags Magnolia

Did you know?

Living beyond your means is a prescription for disaster? Does more than 25 percent 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

How are we doing with the Customer Oriented Enterprise (COE)?

Article courtesy of Cinzia Spampinato
ICR Program Manager

The COE (Customer Oriented Enterprise) is a standardized customer-focused business strategy that highlights and improves customer service behavior and performance; promotes a customer orientation; and applies customer input to continuously improve all aspects of Fleet and Family Readiness Programs (F&FR).

The mission of the COE is to provide F&FR employees with the

knowledge, behavior, skills and tools to implement the COE business strategy and sustain service excellence.

The FFSC/ICR Customer Oriented Service Improvement Team (COSIT) has been chartered to identify and implement opportunities for improving customer experiences when relocating to Sigonella. Our first COSIT meeting was held on the Feb 21, 2008 at the FFSC, members of the team have reviewed all relevant customer feedback and have focused on enhancing our customer's experiences and removing things that detract from customers' experience. Detractors were identified and their root causes addressed and where feasible, eliminated. Enhancers have been implemented to obtain the "wow" factor for our customers attending the ICR program. The time frame for results is one year from the Team Charter meeting Feb. 21, 2008. As a team leader my role is to be responsible for moving the team to accomplish its task; to ensure an environment that helps teams get

their work done.

A constant positive comment that came out, after reviewing customer feedback, was related to the ICR field trip held on the last day of the program. Participants enjoyed the trip downtown Catania. They loved experiencing the culture, learning how to purchase at the markets, and eating out in a typical Italian restaurant.

The team is going to meet one to two hours per week for an eight-week timeframe. The team will be monitored through regularly scheduled meetings with the FFSC Director, Team Leader and Team Facilitator.

I would like to thank each team member for his or her time and commitment in this effort to improve customers' experiences with the ICR program.

Toro
mecc

Sushi

Pentagon

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.

Divia (Above) is a wonderful dog who loves to run and play. She would make an excellent addition to any home.

Oscar (Right) is a great dog with a very unique personality who needs a home to call his own.

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



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

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.

Italian NEWS

Sicilian Culture, Events and Lifestyle



Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff



Photo by Giuseppe Stimola

The 2008 Artichoke Festivals will be held on March 29 and 30 in Niscemi and from Apr. 3 through 6 in Ramacca. These two spectacular annual events will feature scrumptious artichoke-based specialties, art and photography exhibits, sports activities, guided tours to local attractions, live music, fun for both kids and adults and much more.

Artichoke festivals in Niscemi and Ramacca

It's carciofi time again! Tons of Violetto di Niscemi and Ramacca artichokes will be the highlight of these annual mouthwatering festivals which celebrate two of the largest artichoke-producing towns in Italy.

The "Sagra del Carciofo" (Artichoke Festival) will be held this weekend (March 29-30) in Niscemi and in Ramacca from Apr. 3 through 6.

The Italian word for artichoke (carciofo) comes from the Arabic "Al qarshuf." It is a thistle like plant that originated in the Mediterranean region more than 2000 years ago. Ancient Greeks and Romans loved artichokes. Roman writer Pliny wrote that artichokes were delicacies which were enjoyed only by the upper classes. An artichoke recipe appears in the writings of Roman chef Apicius showing that those vegetables were very popular in ancient times.

During the Middle Ages, Saracens cultivated artichokes in Sicily, South of Spain and North Africa.

Historic chronicles note that in the 16th century, noble woman Catherine de Medici brought with her chefs and artichokes to the French court when she moved there after marrying King Henry II of France. In 1806, artichokes were brought to the United States by French immigrants who settled in Louisiana.

Artichokes are very healthy and delicious. Scientists maintain that this vegetable can lower blood cholesterol, promotes bile secretion, helps diuresis and prevents liver problems.

In Niscemi, the sagra will be

held in the historic center. Niscemi artichoke production makes up 50 percent of the total Italian artichoke production.

Food stalls will sell delicious artichoke-based dishes. Festivalgoers can enjoy a wide variety of tasty selections featuring a different specialty every day. The festival kicks off tomorrow afternoon (March 29) at 4 p.m. in largo Mascione with a Sicilian cart parade which will reach piazza Vittorio Emanuele at 5 p.m.

Following the parade, the ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in via XX Settembre (piazza Vittorio Emanuele) near the main square. The continual annual presence of a U.S. Navy delegation from both NASSIG and COMSTA at this ceremony shows that the U.S. Navy has been establishing strong ties with the host nation over the years.

An art exhibit will also be inaugurated at the Chiesa di San Antonio church (via Bellini), while a photography exhibit will open at 26 via Regina Margherita. Also, there will be live music at the Iacona courtyard and along via Garibaldi.

The festival features town band performances, folklore parades and arts and crafts stands.

Artichoke-based specialties tasting will kick off at 8 p.m. Highlights include "mezze penne con carciofi" (half-penne with artichokes), "carciofi gratinati" (artichokes au gratin) and "cacucciulata" (grilled artichokes), "caponatina di carciofi in agrodolce" (a traditional Sicilian sweet and sour vegetable dish with eggplant, onions, pulped tomatoes, celery, bell peppers, pine seeds, olives, capers, sugar, vinegar, and oil; Niscemi's festival cooks will

also add artichokes to that traditional recipe), "frittata di carciofi e prezzemolo" (omelet with artichokes and parsley) and "carciofi cotti a vapore all'olio extra vergine d'oliva" (steamed artichokes with olive oil).

Here is a round-up of some of the second day's festival (March 30) highlights: Bicycle Race (8 a.m. - Mangione District), Vintage Car Show and food booths' opening (10:30 a.m. - piazza Vittorio Emanuele), Artichoke Tasting (12:30 p.m. - historic center), Town Bands Concerts (4:30 p.m. - historic center, via Garibaldi and Iacona Courtyard).

Music shows will be held on both March 29 at 9:30 p.m. and March 30 at 9 p.m.

Other activities will include tours to the local rural and natural history museums and the beautiful Sughereta (cork forest). For reservations to visit the rural life museum, call 368-7399440

For more information, natural science museum tours and detailed festival schedules, contact the Niscemi Town Tourist Office at 333-4955446.

Anyone who enjoys eating artichokes should also visit Ramacca's Sagra del Carciofo. This year, it will run from Apr. 3 through 6. The artichoke industry is an important part of the culture and the economy of Ramacca, making it the main source of employment.

"Ramacca's economy is mainly rural. We grow oranges, olives, cereals, legumes and vineyards, but artichoke is the 'king' of our booming agricultural economy. It is a king with impenetrable armor and tender heart," Ramacca mayor Antonio Malgioglio said.

Two main varieties: Violetto Ramacchese and the larger sized Teramo are indeed widely cultivated in the area. Ramacca also boasts the nickname of "Bread Capital" for its mouthwatering pane (bread) which is still baked the old way using stone ovens fueled by wood.

A four-day celebration, this year's festival features a street fair in the historic center, live musical entertainment, arts & crafts, artichoke specialties, special art, photography and food exhibits. On Saturday, April 5, starting at 9:30 a.m. the Agorà Association will organize tours to the archeological area as well as Sicilian pastries, bread and artichoke tasting events.

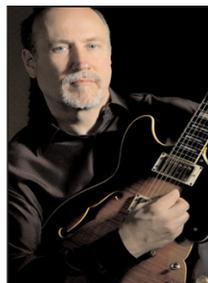
Food booths will sell delicious artichoke-based dishes like pasta and rice. Artichokes are grilled, stuffed with Pecorino cheese or mixed in omelets. Cakes and ice cream made with Violetto Ramacchese artichoke also are prepared. The Teramo, the

other variety present in the Ramacca area, is typically prepared only as salad. Festival-visitors can buy other local products such as cheeses, citrus and ceramics.

Ramacca has archeological sites that date back to the Paleolithic. They were first excavated in the 1950s when archeologists found an extraordinary large number of flint tools, animal bones and human burials.

The main one, which is called La Montagna (the mountain), is located at the top of Mount Ramacca (559 meters) and houses a necropolis of caves and the remains of an ancient Greek town (8th Century B.C.) named Erjke. Some of the fragments of pottery and ceramics found in this site are currently on display at the local Archeological Museum.

For more information, to reserve tours and detailed schedules, call Agorà Association at 329-3142263.



Ohio-born guitarist John Scofield (in the above picture) and his Trio will perform at the Catania Sangiorgi Theater on Monday, March 31 at 9:15 p.m. Scofield is regarded as one of the "big three" of current jazz guitarists in the world along with Pat Metheny and Bill Frisell.

On Tuesday, April 1, Brooklyn Funk Essentials, a NYC-based band blending jazz, funk, African and Latin rhythms, and hip hop and featuring musicians and artists from different cultures, will be on the stage of the ZO' Center in Catania at 9:15 p.m.

Those two concerts are among the spring highlights of "Etnafest 2008," the prestigious annual music and art festival organized by the Catania Regional Province. Admission is € 5 for both concerts.

For more information and tickets visit www.ctbox.it

A 1 1

Romeo and Juliet Ballet in Catania

Photo by Cristiano Castaldi



"O Romeo, Romeo! wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny thy father and refuse thy name; Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love. And I'll no longer be a Capulet." Who doesn't remember those passionate and romantic love words from the Shakespeare masterpiece "Romeo and Juliet" that has inspired some among the most intense ballets in the world? The Catania Metropolitan Theater (# 21 via S. Euplio) and the Rome Ballet Company present a contemporary version of Prokofiev's Ballet "Romeo and Juliet," which will give you a chance to relive the emotions of these doomed lovers.

Set in the South of Italy in the postwar period, tells the gripping story of the two Shakespearean lovers who are caught

up in a family feud, which forces to deal with class conflict and discrimination against women in a new society ruled by the rising middle class.

"Romeo and Juliet" will be performed on Monday, March 31 at 9 p.m. Acclaimed Albanian dancer Kledi Kadiu, an Italian TV star, will dance the role of Romeo and Italian ballerina Noemi Arcangeli will dance Juliet.

Ticket prices are € 27.50, € 22, and € 16.50. For more information, visit www.ctbox.it or call 095-7225340.

Tickets will also be available at the Metropolitan Theater (Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. / 4:30 - 8 p.m. / phone: 095-322323).

services

Alphio



"Don Quixote," one of the most popular 19th century Russian comic ballets, will be staged through Apr. 5 at the Bellini Opera House in Catania. The ballet, which premiered in 1869 at Moscow's Bolshoi Theater, is based on Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes' story. Choreographed by Nanette Glushack, the ballet will feature a cast of acclaimed soloist dancers from the Theater du Capitole De Toulouse. Music Director Antonino Manuli will conduct the Bellini opera House Orchestra. Tickets range from 13 euro to 41 euro and may be purchased by visiting <http://www.teatromassimo-bellini.it>

Tomorrow night (March 29), the sights, sounds and tastes of Renaissance times will come back to life in San Gregorio as re-enactors will recreate a typical Renaissance wedding reception at 8:30 p.m. in the piazza Marconi. The festival will include a grand period costume parade, flag wavers' show, as well as vendors, jugglers, street artists, musicians, and entertainment for the entire family. San Gregorio townspeople will pay homage to Don Alvaro Paternò and his brother in law Theri, two noblemen belonging to the Paternò dynasty, who ruled the town from 1431 to 1502. On Sunday, March 30, the festival will start at 11 a.m. with flag wavers' displays, which will also be held in the afternoon at 3:30 p.m. in the historic center along with music shows. For more information call the San Gregorio Tourist Office at 095- 7215795.



Embry



EASTER continued from page 1
"Bread is a staple. It represents life," Amico said. "Our job as bakers is to give life."

Rosary sellers, miners, chalk makers, butchers, marble makers, olive/cheese vendors and others demonstrated their devotion to their craft and religion. In fact, Calogero and Ferdinando Cervellione, two brothers in a mining guild, recalled how these floats helped them "believe in something" after a terrible mining accident that killed 19 Caltanissetta children. "These floats gave us moral and physical strength," one of the Cervellione brothers said.

The floats are vibrant, colorful pieces of art on wheels. Earlier generations carried heavy wooden statues on their shoulders, but now they are pushed more than five meters by five

devotees give or take and pulled by one devotee.

These are centuries-old traditions that participants remember from childhood. Michele Alloro, president of the entire association, recalled his grandfather carrying a Vara on his shoulder and chanting the lauda, a religious song. "My devotion was born when I was a little kid. I have a lot of memories," he said. "Each and every one has a love for each group."

As the procession moved through the streets, marching bands played somber music, reminding people of the gravity of the events depicted.

When the procession stopped, band member continued playing as they swayed from side to side. Falzone said the swaying symbolizes their mourning.

Contrasting the mournful tones, food, candy and toy vendors filled the sidewalks. Families spent quality time eating panelle, chickpea fritters, and watching a massive fireworks display.

While in Caltanissetta, visitors also can shop on Corso Vittorio Emanuele. In addition, one can see the beautiful cathedral dedicated to the Madonna and the city's patron saint, St. Michael, who saved the city from the plague in 1620. Known for its golden organ and pastel ceilings, depicting the history of St. Peter and the Old Testament, it is a breathtaking sight, even Pope John II visited in May 1993. The Vare on Holy Thursday is just one of the many events that occurred during Holy Week, or Settimana Santa, which can be seen every year.



THE
Signature
SIGONELLA, SICILY

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.

SPORTS & Fitness

Sigonella Sports and Stuff: Triple S Let the Games Begin!

Article by CWO 4 Ronald Herb
Signature Volunteer

Here, in Sigonella, we may be 5000 miles from the action but Triple S swears we can smell the fresh cut grass, see the dust from the rosin bag, and hear the crack of wood on cowhide that signals the start of the 2008 Major League Baseball season.

It's always fun to make predictions as to how we think the season will unfold. Triple S has a vision for the season that includes the following: Boston, Detroit and Seattle winning their respective divisions in the AL. The Angles will secure the wildcard which will drive the Yankee faithful crazy.

In the NL, the Mets, Cubs and Dodgers [the addition of Joe Torre will make this much of a positive impact] will win divisions with the Phillies taking the wildcard. The World Series will be between the Mets and Tigers. Triple S would really like to pick the Mets as the champs or any NL team, but the truth is that all of the NL teams have issues to overcome. The Mets must shake off last year's historic collapse which saw them basically give away the division. Plus they are one more solid Outfielder away from being the clear cut favorite. Many feel that the addition of this year's prime

Japanese import K. Fukudome is the final piece in the Cubbies puzzle, but Triple S is certain that the unsettled bullpen issue will hold the Northsiders back.

Since we have settled the team issues, let us take a shot at the individual awards. The MVP's for this year will be AROD in the AL, not only a safe pick but the truly likely pick. He is a future hall of fame player in his prime in the largest media market in the league, and it will take a truly monster season to unseat him. NL MVP will be Albert Pujols. The elbow injury, which will require offseason surgery, will be a big story all season but his play will be an even bigger one.

The Cy Young award for pitching will go to J. Santana of the Mets in the NL. Having already won the AL version of this award, twice, Santana will explode playing for a top team in a pitchers park without having to face DH's. He may approach 300K's if he gets 240

innings. Boston's Jonathan Papelbon will win the AL Cy Young in 2008. He is the most effective relief pitcher currently playing and his age, 27, is perfect for a career year.

Perhaps the hardest preseason award pick is Rookie of the Year. The Mariner's Wladimir Balentien should win a starting spot in the OF and will then slug his way to the AL version of the award. Over in the NL the Devil Rays have been desperate for E. Longoria. That's Evan Longoria; the former Long Beach State stand-out who will destroy pitching for a number of years down in Tampa Bay.

Triple S's favorite pick for an award this year is comeback player of the year. Anyone who remembers the Cardinal's Rick Ankiel and his pitching woes of a few years ago, he literally forgot how to throw strikes knows just how tough baseball was for this young man. Well, he is back as a center fielder with a sweet lefty power swing and a true rocket of a throwing arm from the deep part of the park.

We at Triple S will be standing by for e-mails that will point out how dead on our picks for the season are at bmc27nyg@aol.com. Questions, thoughts, and comments are all welcome. Until next time.

CAPTAIN CUP SOCCER 2008 RESULTS WEEK 2

WEAPONS	Vs	COM.UNITED	=	0 - 8
OPS	Vs	PWD B	=	16 - 0
SECURITY	Vs	SUPPLY	=	1 - 1
PATRON SIG	Vs	EXE. ADMIN	=	8 - 3
SEC/K-9	Vs	COM. ELITE	=	2 - 6
HOSPITAL	Vs	AIMD	=	2 - 3

SOCCER League Standings

SQUADRON	Points	GAMES PLAYED	GAMES WON	GAMES DRAWN	GAMES LOST	GOALS SCORED	GOALS AGAINST	GOAL DIFFERENCE
OPS	6	2	2	0	0	21	3	18
PATRON SIG	6	2	2	0	0	13	4	9
AIMD	6	2	2	0	0	7	2	5
COM.UNITED	3	2	1	0	1	9	5	4
COM.ELITE	3	2	1	0	1	9	7	2
HOSPITAL	3	2	1	0	1	7	6	1
SEC/K-9	3	2	1	0	1	6	8	-2
EXE.ADMIN	3	2	1	0	1	7	10	-3
SUPPLY	1	2	0	1	1	4	6	-2
SECURITY	1	2	0	1	1	1	5	-4
PWD A	0	1	0	0	1	2	4	-2
WEAPONS	0	2	0	0	2	2	12	-10
PWD B	0	1	0	0	1	0	16	-16

Youth Basketball

All games will be played in the Fit District Gymnasium
 Saturday, March 29
 4 p.m. Gardner vs. Catania
 5:15 p.m. Johnson vs. Catania
 Tuesday, April 1
 5 p.m. Ashburn vs. Gilbert

Rigattiere

From the Mountains to the Sea a Journey Riding "Off the Radar"

Article and photos by [REDACTED]
MWR Marketing

Two weeks ago, a group of 25 cyclists, ranging in ages from 16 to 68, headed into the Sicilian unknown for a 4-day bike ride that proved to be both a challenge and a spectacularly scenic adventure by all.

After months of planning, cyclists gathered from as far away as Santa Monica, Wisconsin, London and Naples. The other half of the group were local Sigonellans. The riders were a diverse group; some in it for quality training miles while others were simply on a chance-of-a-lifetime bike tour.

"This is our 11-year wedding anniversary gift," [REDACTED] from Sigonella said, "It's great to be able to do this ride together."

The inaugural Sea-to-Sea bike ride, from Gela to Randazzo, took place last spring and was a huge success. This year, Captain Mike Hall, creator and coordinator of the ride, added an extra day with triple the elevation gain. This year, the name transformed into the Mountains-to-Sea (M2S) bike ride.

"Any knucklehead can put together a 4-day bike ride," Hall said, "but doing for 200 euro a person takes hard work!"

Friday morning, the weather could not have been any more spectacular! No wind, moderate temps, clear skies and the mountains daring cyclists to attempt the climb. With bags loaded, water bottles filled, bodies fueled and sunscreen applied, the group rolled out of Marinai housing and headed 6,000 vertical feet and a total of 57.77 miles through the towns of Sferro, Catenanuova, Agira and up to the first night's destination: Agriturismo Pancallo. (<http://www.agriturismopanallo.com/location.htm>)

Agriturismo Pancallo has horses and ponies, pigs, cows, chickens, goats, sheep, two new puppies and endless views of central Sicilian farmland. After a long day in the saddle, the cyclists enjoyed a traditional

Italian dinner and a special cake made by the owner's wife, along with a surprise belly dancing show provided by one member of the staff.

The next day was a 58-mile bike ride into the heart of the Madonie National Park. The riders jetted downhill and through tunnels on their way through Sperlinga, Nicosia and back up to Gangi. After a hydration stop in Gangi, the group headed uphill and stopped in Geraci for a lunch break. After lunch, the group donned windbreakers and jackets for a 9-mile fast descent through the park. Along the descent, cyclists saw wild boar, sheep and cows as well as beautiful green and blooming landscape with the flora and fauna prepared for spring.

After the descent, cyclists had to immediately start the climb again leaving most in their bottom gears through Castelbuono, Isnello and Piano Zucchi/Piano Bataglia. The final destination and second night stay was at Rifugio Orestano. (www.rifugioorestano.com)

"You didn't know I have skills, did you?" Hall said jokingly about the tough day's climb to the last of the pack to make it in to the Rifugio for the night.

"I didn't think the 3000-foot elevation gain road signs would ever end," said one of the cyclists, "The steady climb just kept going and going and it was getting colder and darker."

The day's ride was brutal for most but the rustic and very at-home Rifugio provided comfort for all riders with a warm fire waiting inside as well as the scenic views of Cefalù and the Sicilian coast. Later that



evening, the group was treated to a feast of wild boar, pasta, bread, wine, and plenty of fruit.

"Nothing worthwhile comes easily," said Hall, relaying a famous quote to perfectly explain the next day's ride to a few of the cyclists.

The third day of riding was going to be a long 90 miles for some, 93 miles for those who took a wrong turn, and 100 miles for the racers who wanted to get their century in. Everyone headed downhill back to Isnello, and to greet a climb up the mountain. Everyone knew that just on the other side of that mountain was a seriously long downhill, all the way from the mountains to the sea.

Once in Cefalù, the riders hugged the coastline for 50 kilometers of rolling hills, all the way to Acquadolci where the climbing began again. From this point, cyclists were in their granny gears until sunset. At kilometer marker 154, the crew all met up, which was just on the other side of Cesaró as well as the final destination: Lo Scudiero di San Teodoro Agriturismo. (info@loscudierodeinebrodi.com) This is a new agriturismo located down a three-mile dirt road along the Troina River. The sounds of the river were refreshing after a hard day of riding and the food was spectacular. The view of Etna from this vantage point is amazing, and the agriturismo is newly built with modern fixtures and furnishings. Just as the night before, a fireplace was lit in the dining hall and quickly warmed up the cyclists.

The group took a moment to recognize Dr. Hall's efforts with a trophy and book that everyone signed with hopes that he would plan another trip. It was a quiet, early night for this group after an epic day of descending, ascending and back down again. After 100 miles and nearly 8000 feet of climbing, the riders slept well.

The final day was predominant-



ly a 44-mile downhill ride back to Marinai housing where riders said goodbye to new friends with hopes of doing it all again very soon.

A four-day bike ride with 25 riders is a large undertaking. In this case it was a community effort with custom jerseys printed through Signorello Bike Shop, transportation assistance provided by Morale, Welfare and Recreation, sunscreen (which was greatly needed) provided by Health Promotion as well as water bottles and goodie bags provided by Sigonella Tri Club, [REDACTED] and the Windle Family

were a saving grace by providing shuttle support for riders as well as on-call cycle gear needs and bag transport.

In the end, the ride was a success due to the collaborative community effort and initiative by Dr. Hall in sharing his adventures with 24 other riders and their families. If you have any trip ideas, call ITT Gear-n-Go today to set up your own adventure through the Create-A-Trip program. For more information call x4777.



Tatoo

Stampa



A Stone's Throw

THE HUB OF THE MED IS ALSO THE HUB FOR TRAVEL

Tropea Summer Outdoor Kickoff

Article and photo by Doug Terry
 ITT Gear-n-Go

ITT Gear-n-Go is ready to kick off the summer outdoors season on Memorial Day weekend with a camping trip to beautiful Tropea. Located in Calabria, Italy, Tropea's white sandy beaches and turquoise waters beckon beach lovers to come out and play. The beach is not the only thing beautiful Tropea has to offer.

The city is perched on a bluff above the beach and offers plenty to keep busy when not sunbathing or frolicking in the clear water.

The city was founded eighth century B.C. by the Greeks and later ruled by the Romans, Byzantines, Normans, French, Spanish and reflects the area's urban architecture.

Tropea has outstanding shopping and the local produce is particular to Calabria with dried red chili pepper and garlic that is found on the area's excellent pizza. There are numerous restaurants that are open to accommodate visitors. A wide variety of accents and languages can be heard from the many tourists. Wine selection, bottled and house variety, is superior, since the grapes are easily accessible from the Tuscany region or

throughout Sicily.

The beach is incredible. Wide stretches of white sand beg to toss down the towel and bronze. The clear water and in-shore submerged rock formations provide excellent swimming and snorkeling opportunities. Masseuses ply the sands, offering to knead your weary muscles. Boat rentals are available for a paddle along the coast or sit at the bar above the beach and watch the day pass as the sun sets over the Aeolian Islands, to the west.

Before rushing to sign up at ITT Gear-n-Go or Take 5 Recreation Center, here are a few items of information.

Accommodations on Tropea are tent camping with few bungalows to rent. Tent camping is fairly straightforward and the biggest tent is not always better. A very large tent can act as a very large sail when the late evening offshore winds blow in. To make the best camping experience, ITT Gear-n-Go will provide a list of items to prepare for trip. Chef Rosario will be there, upon arrival, to prepare the traditional-obligatory-sacrificial meal to get your trip off to the right start.

For more information, call x4777.



credit

Camelot

Svito

MWR CORNER

Liberty 624-5602
Taormina Dinner: April 4
Amusement Parks in the UK: May 23 - 26

Extended Trips 624-4396
Camping in Tropea (tents only): May 23 - 26
Corfu: May 23 - 26 Sign up by May 1.
Legoland Deutschland: June 13 - 16

Midtown 2 Theaters 624-4247
Doctor's Day: March 30
 Doctors receive free admission to the theater.
Spring Break Matinees: April 7 - 14
 Reduced admission at the noon and 3 p.m. showings

Mineo Recreation Center 624-0446
Community Movie in the Box: March 29 at 5:30pm
Sports 624-2711
Powder Puff Softball: Spring training and game!
 Become a Powder Puffer. Offers little time commitment and a great way to learn the game. Sign up by April 10 at either gym. Game day: April 27.
Special Events at Jox Pub:
Latin Quarters - March 29, 9: - 3 a.m.
Navy Entertainment Presents:
BET and HBO Comics - April 4 at 9:30 p.m.

ITT Gear-n-Go 624-4777
"Night Warz" are Back! Friday nights from 6 - 10 p.m.
3-2-1 PAINTBALL!
 Introducing the NEW and IMPROVED Sigonella paintball field. After overwhelming success from last summer, we are pleased to bring back "NIGHT WARZ". Never paint-

balled? Don't worry, we'll show you the ropes! Ages 10 (with a parent or guardian) and UP!
 \$5 field fee \$5 gear rental Paintballs for purchase starting at \$10 for 500

Auto Skills Center 624-5244
Vehicle Storage - Long-term parking now available at ASC! Periodic vehicle starts to ensure battery performance. Plus the vehicle will be washed in time for pickup. \$3/two weeks \$5/month

Library 624-3875
Elect the President!
 Cast your vote on who will be the next President for a chance to win a Gameboy. Choose your vote wisely by reading about the candidates. One vote/entry per person. Drawing and election results held April 1.
ITT Gear-n-Go 624-4396

Catania Market and Via Etna Shopping
Fridays: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m. Return: 1 p.m. - \$5 + bring euro for food and shopping
Palermo I
 March 29: Depart: NAS II 6:30 a.m., NAS I 7 a.m. Return: 7 p.m. - \$32 + bring euro for fees and food
Siracusa II & Seafood Restaurant
 March 30: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS J 8:30 a.m. Return: 5 p.m. - \$30 + bring euro for fees and food
Artichoke Cooking Class
 April 5: Depart: NAS I 10 a.m., NAS II 10:30 a.m., Mineo 11 a.m. - Return: 4 p.m. - \$5 for transportation + bring £20 for the class.

Take 5 Recreation Center 624-5602
Super Hero Madness: March 29

Super Hero Ultimatum: March 30
Pool Tournament: April 1
Movies and Munchies: April 3

Youth Sports 624-3785
FitFactor Clinic of the Month: Badminton
Tuesdays (5 - 8 year olds), 3 - 4 p.m.
Thursdays (9 - 13 year olds), 3 - 4 p.m.
 The clinic will take place at the Land Annex on NAS I. Sign up at Fit District. The clinics are free.

Youth T-ball and Baseball
 Tee ball and baseball season for ages 5 - 14 begins April 14. Sign up deadline April 11 at Fit District. Registration fee \$35.

Start Smart T-ball
 Season begins: April 14; Sign up deadline: April 11
 Start Smart is a parent and child interactive program that teaches children ages 3-5 the basic motor skills necessary to play organized tee-ball/baseball, while spending one-on-one time with their parent. The program will take place in both Marinai and Mineo housing. Practices will be one day per week for one hour. The program is approximately 6 weeks long. Space is limited.
 Registration fee \$50, including a personal equipment bag to each child.

Youth Center 624-3712
Spring Break Week: April 7 - 11
 Spring Break Camp is open to ages 6-12. During camp, children will experience physical activities, games, arts and crafts, and cooking. The children will also be invited to join us on scheduled field trips during the week. Don't miss out on the fun! Fees are based on income.

MARCH 28 - APRIL 3

MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

SCHEDULE

MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, March 28

12:00pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min.
 3:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
 5:00pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.
 5:30pm The Great Debaters PG-13 124 min.
 7:30pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.
 8:00pm Untraceable R 101 min.
 9:30pm Rambo R 93 min.

Saturday, March 29

2:00pm Bridge To Terabithia PG 96 min.
 2:30pm Mad Money PG-13 101 min.
 4:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
 5:00pm First Sunday PG-13 98 min.
 7:30pm 10,000 B.C. PG-13 109 min.
 8:00pm Semi-Pro R 90 min.
 9:30pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.

Sunday, March 30

2:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
 2:30pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.
 4:30pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.
 5:00pm There Will Be Blood R 158 min.
 7:00pm Untraceable R 101 min.

Monday, March 31

12:00pm Semi-Pro R 90 min.
 3:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
 5:00pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.
 5:30pm Rambo R 93 min.
 7:30pm The Great Debaters PG-13 124 min.
 8:00pm First Sunday PG-13 98 min.

Tuesday, April 1

5:00pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min.
 5:30pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.
 7:30pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.
 8:00pm Untraceable R 101 min.

Wednesday, April 2

12:00pm Rambo R 93 min.
 3:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
 5:00pm 10,000 B.C. PG-13 109 min.
 5:30pm Mad Money PG-13 101 min.
 7:30pm There Will Be Blood R 158 min.
 8:00pm Semi-Pro R 90 min.

Thursday, April 3

12:00pm Untraceable R 101 min.
 3:00pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.
 5:00pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.
 5:30pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min.
 7:30pm Gridiron Gang PG-13 120 min.
 8:00pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.

First Sunday (PG-13)

Durell and Lee John are best friends and bumbling petty criminals. When Durell learns that his ex-girlfriend plans to move to another state with their son--unless they can get her \$17,000 to pay off a debt--they come up with a desperate scheme to rob their neighborhood church. But when the duo fumbles their way through the break-in, they discover someone has beaten them to the punch. In order to get their hands on the money, Durell and Lee John are forced to spend the night in the presence of the Lord and his followers--and end up getting a lot more than they bargained for.

The Great Debaters (PG-13)

Inspired by a true story, "The Great Debaters" chronicles the journey of Professor Melvin Tolson, a brilliant but volatile debate team coach who uses the power of words to shape a group of underdog students from a small African American college in the deep south into a historically elite debate team. A controversial figure, Professor Tolson challenged the social mores of the time and was under constant fire for his unconventional and ferocious teaching methods as well as his radical political views.

Mad Money (PG-13)

A comedy about three ordinary women who form an unlikely friendship and decide to do something extraordinary--rob one of the most secure banks in the world. Bridget Cardigan is shocked to learn that she is on the verge of losing her home and comfortable upper middle class lifestyle when her husband Don is downsized from his job. Armed only with a decades old English degree and years as a dedicated mother and corporate wife, Bridget is forced into the unfamiliar labor market with no job skills. Finally, she accepts the only position she can find--janitor at the Federal Reserve Bank. The one-time suburban mom soon discovers she has more in common with her new co-workers than she thought. Bridget forges an unexpected bond with Nina, a hard-working single mom with two kids to raise, and Jackie, an exuberant free spirit with nothing to lose. Caught up in a system that underestimates their talents and keeps their dreams just out of reach, Bridget, Nina and Jackie set out to even the score. After a lifetime of playing by the rules, the three devise a plan to smuggle soon-to-be destroyed currency out of the supposedly airtight Reserve. As the unlikely crime syndicate amasses piles of cash, it looks like they have pulled off the perfect crime--until a minor misstep alerts the authorities. With more money than they know what to do with, the women are pushed to the limits of their ingenuity to stay one step ahead of the law!

Meet The Spartans (PG-13)

The heroic Leonidas, armed with nothing but leather underwear and a cape, leads a ragtag group of 13--

count 'em, 13--Spartans to defend their homeland against the invading Persians (whose ranks include Ghost Rider, Rocky Balboa, the Transformers, and a hunchbacked Paris Hilton--no one is safe when the Spartans take on the biggest icons in pop culture).

10,000 B. C. (PG-13)

In a remote mountain tribe, the young hunter, D'Leh, has found his heart's passion - the beautiful Evolet. When a band of mysterious warlords raid his village and kidnap Evolet, D'Leh is forced to lead a small group of hunters to pursue the warlords to the end of the world to save her. Driven by destiny, the unlikely band of warriors must battle saber-tooth tigers and prehistoric predators and, at their heroic journey's end, they uncover a Lost Civilization. Their ultimate fate lies in an empire beyond imagination, where great pyramids reach into the skies. Here they will take their stand against a powerful god who has brutally enslaved their people

There Will Be Blood(R)

An epic tale of family, faith, power and oil set on the incendiary frontier of California's turn-of-the-century petroleum boom. The story chronicles the life and times of one Daniel Plainview, who transforms himself from a down-and-out silver miner raising a son on his own into a self-made oil tycoon. When Plainview gets a mysterious tip-off that there's a little town out West where an ocean of oil is oozing out of the ground, he heads with his son, H.W., to take their chances in dust-worn Little Boston. In this hardscrabble town, where the main excitement centers around the holy roller church of charismatic preacher Eli Sunday, Plainview and H.W. make their lucky strike. But even as the well raises all of their fortunes, nothing will remain the same as conflicts escalate and every human value--love, hope, community, belief, ambition and even the bond between father and son--is imperiled by corruption, deception and the flow of oil.

Semi-Pro(R)

Jackie Moon is one-hit wonder who used the profits from the success of his chart-topping song "Love Me Sexy" to achieve his dream of owning a basketball team. But Moon's franchise, the Flint Michigan Tropics, is the worst team in the league and in danger of folding when the ABA announces its plans to merge with the NBA. If they want to survive, Jackie and the Tropics must now do the seemingly impossible -- win

PREMIERS SATURDAY MARCH 28

Fool's Gold; Welcome Home; Roscoe Jenkins

COMING SOON

Definitely, Maybe; Step Up 2: The Streets

Fleet Survey Team Charts Growth for Sao Tome and Principe

Article by MC1 Brian A. Goyak
Africa Partnership Station Public Affairs

SAO TOME, Sao Tome and Principe - Capt. John Nowell, commander Africa Partnership Station, presented a chart of the port of Baía de Ana Chaves, Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe to Lt. Col. Idalecio Pachirre, Armed Forces commander and Lt. Col. Justino Lima, STP Coast Guard commander, Mar. 14.

The chart was compiled from information gathered by Navy Meteorology and Oceanography Command and Fleet Survey Team with the cooperation of Portugal Naval Officer LT Alexandre Carvalho.

Carvalho acted as the Portuguese navy hydrographic liaison for the initial two weeks of the survey. This encompassed the vessel setup and calibration phase of the survey.

He provided integral interpreter services, previous Portuguese survey data and charts of the area, and assisted in the vessel setup.

The team began conducting surveys of the port, Sep. 21, 2007 and completed work, Nov. 19, 2007. Utilizing side scan sonar, sound velocity, photographs of navigation aids, and other techniques, the team gathered the necessary information to complete the chart.

The current U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency charts being used by STP are based on STP and Angola surveys from 1964. Since the ocean floor changes over time, the accuracy of those charts may not be reliable. The new

and updated chart will be used by US Navy ships to legally and safely enter the port.

"The idea is to share the information with the Portuguese, who are the charting authority for STP," said Lt Catherine Williams, NMOC representative to APS. "The Portuguese will also use these charts to enter the port."

The underlying motivation for producing these updated charts is for STP to publish them so that the merchant community can start to come to STP and initiate trade. Merchant ships will most often not enter a port, which they do not have accurate charts for.

"If you're an island nation like STP, you will have trouble getting foreign trade and investment going which hinders economic growth," added Williams.

On the surface, this is helpful for the Coast Guard and military of STP, but more importantly, this is essential for the economic well being of Sao Tome and Principe.

Part of the U.S. Navy's Global Fleet Station, APS provides a platform with the capacity and persistent presence to support sustained, focused training and collaboration on a regional scale to maritime partners in west and central Africa. Commander Task Force 365 and training teams from various U.S. and European military commands, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations are embarked on board Fort McHenry to enhance cooperative partnerships.

JSHS Forms Scientists

Article and photos by [REDACTED]

From February 25 to 28, a group of 12 students from Sigonella Middle and High School set out to the European Regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium held at Reisdadt, Germany. During the trip, they participated in many activities and met lots of new people from all over Europe. This year there were five seventh-graders, Austin Flanagan, Annie Frosolone, Tabitha Niemann, Malcom Niemann, and Cassie Reed. There were six eighth-graders, Robyn Brand, Yoshie Baranauskas, John Camuso, Heidy Irizarry, Elizabeth Frost and Brittany Zawodniak. Joining them was a senior, Patrick Felia.

The students worked very hard while also having fun. They had the chance to visit the Technical University of Darmstadt and Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability to explore the field of mechanical engineering. During the science challenge activities, students had the chance to communicate with students from other schools while testing their knowledge on the field of science. "I thought it was a great experience, and the games were

fun," Reed said.

During the oral presentations, the students had the chance to listen to the oral presenters and the judges' comments. "It was great," Irizarry said. "I thought it was exciting to see all of the creative ideas that other students had."

The first place senior oral presentation was Dylan Hillestad, a senior from Aviano High School. His experiment was based on frequency of different musical instruments, which was the extension of his past experiments. There were a total of five oral presenters from Sigonella: Frosolone and Reed, Tabitha Niemann, and Flanagan and Malcom Niemann. Tabitha Niemann's project, about bacteria and spices, placed fourth in the junior oral. She commented, "It was a great opportunity to learn new things and meet people from new places. I was excited about winning and it was cool."

The poster judging was held on February 26 and 27. Felia, Sigonella's only senior delegate, said, "It was awesome. I had so much fun there, and I made several new friends. Though it was my last chance, I had a great time. And I got to use my ninja skills." The students were allowed to observe the other students' posters and ask any questions during the poster presentations.

For the junior posters, Camuso's project about magnesium sulfate placed first. He said, "It was a great experience to be able to compete against the others who are highly skilled."

This year, many students were accepted but due to an error, only 12 of those could enter the Regional. Baranauskas commented, "Though the activities were late at night, we had a lot of fun, and we got to experience things which many people cannot. I hope I can apply again and I hope the others can get to go next year." We honor those students who were accepted to the Regional, as well as those who got accepted but could not go.

Stampa

JMAST Europe Deploys to Support POTUS in Liberia

Article by Monica O'Hearn

Not many people get the chance to meet the President of the U.S., the Secretary of State, the First Lady, and help a country rebuild from civil war in one week. One group of sailors was able to do just that.

JMAST (Joint Maritime Ashore Support Team) Europe based at Naval Air Station Sigonella was tasked with supplying the necessary communication and tactical air coverage for the Joint Task Force for the President's six-nation visit to Africa from February 16-29, 2008. JMAST was deployed to Task Force Liberia in the city of Monrovia to support the President's last stop.

The visit for the President was to focus on a close ally of the United States and to solidify the U.S. commitment to Liberia in its fight on HIV/AIDS and malaria, as well as to reinforce democracy in the country.

To ensure the President's, Secretary of State and First Lady's security, JMAST provided state of the art communication equipment to the staff and brought in the maritime assets. A major component of JMAST was its ability to display and forward the three Dimensional SPY Radar picture ashore from the USS Bainbridge via tactical datalinks.

JMAST was connected with a variety of different government organizations. They established secure satellite communication to keep connectivity through the Joint Task Force at Ramstein Air Base in Germany with the Task Force in Liberia. JMAST provided the full spectrum of communications from secure internet to video teleconferencing and DSN phone access to the over 200 personnel from the 101st Airborne, U.S. Secret Service, and others co-located within the JMAST Camp.

However, this was not a one-sided operation. The Liberians did all they could to support the JMAST team. The Liberians supported the U.S. military and JMAST through supplying required fuel and transportation in and around Monrovia.

JMAST provided the entire infrastructure required to complete a successful and secure visit for the President and the units from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the White House, Stuttgart, Ramstein and NAS Sigonella. The President, thanks to the help of JMAST, along with many others, was kept safe during his stay in Liberia.

CNO serves as panelist at Sea-Air-Space Exposition

Article by MC2 (SW) Rebekah Blowers
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead was a panelist at the Navy League's 2008 Sea-Air-Space (SAS) Exposition for a seminar entitled "Seapower and America's Security" on March 18.

The SAS Expo is the largest maritime exposition in the world and provides the Navy and other services an opportunity to interact and meet with national and international industry providers working with the latest in sea power technology. This year's theme, "Global Maritime Security," complements the new national cooperative maritime strategy and advances public understanding of the critical importance of sea power for America's security and prosperity.

Following the panel discussion, CNO emphasized the need for partnership between the Navy and industry.

"We have to collaborate with industry. Industry has great insight into what it takes to build our ships and airplanes. If we have that constructive dialogue, I think we can get a lot more for the resources that we put in toward our Navy today," Roughead said.

He said it's not just top Navy leadership that benefits from the exposition.

"Industry gets an opportunity to talk to our young operators who are out there actually doing the work, so they (industry) learn what they should be thinking about in the future," Roughead said. "These are

great opportunities to come together and learn from one another so we can look to the future and see what our opportunities are. That is very valuable."

Roughead said the Navy must

work with industry to achieve a balanced fleet of ships.

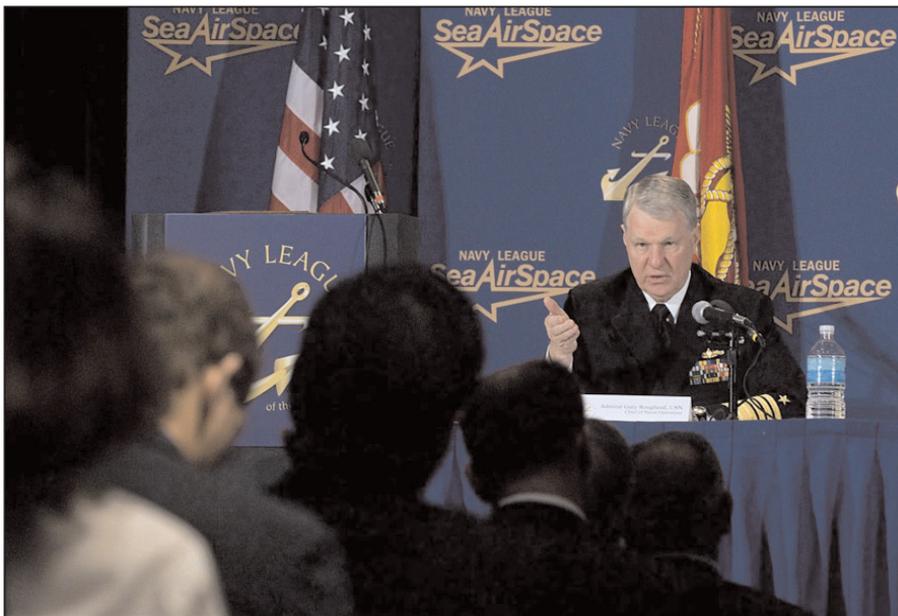
"In order to achieve a fleet of 313 ships, we have to make sure that we define the types of ships that we need. Once we do that, we have to

ensure that we don't put more on them than what we need to do the job...and to operate in the types of environments that we expect in the future," CNO said.

Specifically CNO spoke about the importance of the new combatants including the littoral combat ship (LCS) and its role in executing the maritime strategy.

"The LCS addresses our maritime strategy in many, many ways. It gets to our global presence because it can be deployed around the world. It can operate in areas that we do not have the ability to operate in right now. It's shallow, it's fast, it can get in close to shore, it can move around islands," Roughead said. "It covers many areas of the maritime strategy and I believe the LCS is going to be the work horse of the future."

The Navy League's Sea-Air-Space Exposition features more than 150 defense industry exhibits and professional seminars with top civilian and military leaders from the U.S. Department of Defense, Homeland Security, Maritime Administration and the defense industry who provide up-to-the-minute developments on policy and programs of the maritime services.



U.S. Navy Photo by MC1 Tiffini M. Jones
Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead answers questions during the Navy League's 2008 Sea-Air-Space Exposition (SASE). Roughead spoke about the need for collaboration between industry and the Navy regarding the requirements of the maritime strategy.

Open House Brings Regional Customers, Partners Together

Article by Cmdr. Mark E. Semmler
Commander, DDSI

Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy recently hosted an open house in its main warehouse to both thank its customers and business partners and celebrate the successes of the past year.

The event provided those cus-

tomers and partners the opportunity to tour the main warehouse, share a cup of coffee with their counterparts in the region and further develop the working relationships they have fostered over the last year.

"This is the right time to step

back and see where we've been," said Capt. Tom Quinn, commander of Naval Air Station Sigonella. "DDSI has been a significant partner in the Sigonella community along the journey, logistically affecting every entity on the base, as well as war fighters operating in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and along the coast of Africa."

The open house was an opportunity for DDSI to show off its robust capabilities. More importantly, it allowed military, government and contract civilian employees from DDSI, NAS Sigonella, Fleet Industrial Supply Center Sigonella to mingle and discuss the support they collectively provide to America's war fighters in the region and how to continue to improve that support.

"It's the agreements and partnerships among the members of this community that have enabled us to effectively support Navy operations across three [areas of responsibility], from right here in Sigonella," said Capt. John Camuso, commander, FISC.

DDSI is approaching its fourth year of operations at NAS Sigonella and the teamwork and camaraderie that has developed between the distribution center, its customers and its business partners served as an auspicious indicator of even more successful logistics collaboration in the future.

HEALTH continued from page 2

in writing. Although Advanced Directives cannot be honored in Italy, and therefore at NH Sigonella, patients are still encouraged, if they have one, to give a copy to their provider to include in their medical record. It is important for your provider to know what your wishes are. If you had to be transferred to a hospital outside of Italy, where an Advanced Directive might be

honored, it would be important to know your wishes in case you are incapacitated. If you have an Advanced Directive, bring a copy to the hospital to include in your medical record. If you would like to know more about Advanced Directives, please contact your primary care provider. If you are interested in having an Advanced Directive drawn up, contact Navy Legal Services Office.

CHAPLAIN continued from page 2

shop in New York with a teenage friend. From her conduct in the shop and from her interaction with her parents when she gets home, it becomes very clear to the audience that this girl is a spoiled, self-centered, materialistic adolescent. Like many young people-and like many not-so-young people today-Hannah is all wrapped up in herself and in her own concerns and desires.

Later that evening, she goes with her parents to the home of her Aunt Eva for the annual Passover meal, which commemorates the Exodus of the Hebrews from Egypt at the time of Moses. She goes reluctantly. Her Jewish faith means very little to her, and she knows that when she's there she'll be forced to listen to her older relatives talk about their experiences during the Holocaust-all of which she finds quite boring.

Well, toward the end of the Passover ritual that evening, Hannah is asked to go and open the door so that Elijah can come in. (There's an old Jewish tradition which says that Elijah the prophet spiritually visits every home where Passover is cele-

brated.) When Hannah opens the door, she's mysteriously transported to Poland in the year 1941. There she experiences firsthand the horrors her older relatives had been forced to live through: the deportation from their homes, the sickness, the pain, the humiliation and the horrible executions.

She finally comes back to the present, she re-awakens on the floor of her aunt's home, and, needless to say, she's a changed person. Her attitude is different (especially toward her religion and family); her priorities are different; her outlook on life is different.

Before her "trip" to 1941 Poland, her biggest concerns were what tattoo she would get and what her friends thought of her. But the sad irony is that her excessive self-concern did not make Hannah happy. Quite oppositely, it made her miserable. Now Hannah finally had learned to look beyond herself and her own selfish desires. Hannah found happiness.

Let us look beyond ourselves, so that we too can find happiness in life.

Oxidiana

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

1991 BMW 316i, green, 4 door, AC, 5-sp, Radio/CD w/detachable face, approx. 123K miles, 2 brand new tires, needs head gasket. Asking \$1,000 OBO. Call Michael at 624-2821 or 335-578-8077.

2002 BMW 330Ci Coupe Titanium Silver, European Spec, Sports package w/SMG semi auto transmission, Premium Package, Harmon Kardon Premium Sound System, iPod ready, Xenon headlights, fog lights, power Moon roof, KBB \$18,810 asking \$17,000. Contact Antonio 340 964 3773

2003 Ford Ranger. 2.3L single cab, gray, 5 on the floor, CD player. Great small truck! Perfect for singles and two-person families. Great on gas, all maintenance done at correct intervals, extremely clean and easy to maintain. Not a thing wrong with it! MUST SEE! Leaving in July, will work something out. \$6,000 OBO. 347-627-9413, 624-1681. Ask for Thomas.

2003 Harley Davidson XL883C Sportster Custom. Anniversary Edition Black and Silver. Lots of chrome. Stage 1 kit installed. Looks great, sounds great, runs great. Appr. 9K mi. \$5500.00 Firm. Call Joe -- Cell:3392557154 Home: 095306149 Work: 624-5764. Must see to appreciate!

1998 Fiat Punto, Black excellent condition runs great cold air conditioning 5 speed manual transmission, 73,000 original KM. CD/Radio, available immediately \$2,000.00 Contact John at W/624-2145, H/624-4740, or C/334-643-0236

November 96 Fiat Brava color blue, km 133,000, 5 doors, A/C, powered window and locks, new silencer, new tyres, good condition. For more info. call 320-554-7471 after 16:00

Ford Escort convertible, 1600cc, 105 hp, 5 speed manual, brand new! Electric hood, alarm, pwr windows(4)/locks/steering, alloy wheels, new tires, recent tune-up, original 31k miles, excellent conditions. Available immediately. Must see! Ask \$4600. FMI call 3477725236 anytime or e-mail

firm.au@katamail.com for pictures.

1996 Rover 416GS, White, Manual Good condition, Excellent engine, keyless entry, am/fm/cd player w/4 speakers, A/C works excellent!! CV Joints recently replaced, and all 4 tires are 8 months old. Regularly maintained. Car will be available April 10th. Asking \$700.00. OBO. Call Dan at 335-786-4253 or 624-6571.

2001 Ford Focus ZX3 Hatchback 2D, US Spec, Ice Cold Air Conditioning, Power Steering, Power Windows, Power Door Locks, Cruise Control, AM/FM Stereo, Single Compact Disc, Tilt Wheel, Dual Front Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, European Folding Mirrors, 4-Cyl. 2.0 Liter 16V ~ Draws 300 ltrs per mo, Front Wheel Drive ~ New Tires, Mileage: 95,000 **KELLEY BLUE BOOK Private Party Value: \$4,525** Call Brian 33 55 78 8150 or 333 44 00 88 5 or 624-4700 ext 16 Email cnurup@gmail.com

2007 Ford Focus SE, Black 3 door hatchback, Only 7k miles, Auto trans, Flawless condition, 7y/70k mile warranty included, KBB \$12,100, Asking \$11,000, Contact Justin @ 349-323-2978

Lancia Sedan for \$1400 4 door lancia dedra, 143631 km, 300 ltrs/month, a/c-heat working great, roomy interior, easy to drive in Catania very reliable! Driven all over Sicily and never had problem. For more info please call Oliver at work x3844 or cellphone 346 965 4129.

1970 Fiat 500 F, excellent conditions, 495 cc engine, dark blue, runs great. € 4,000 OBO. Call Angelo M. Raciti at 348-3252451.

Renault 19 4 doors only one owner. Very good condition. Small engine (A.C., Pw Window.) 2500 S. If interested call 3920935457 or 6244205 ask for Mr. Trovato Alfredo

1992 Honda Accord Coupe, AC (you will NEED it for the very hot summer months), HEAT, Power locks and windows, CD player w/detachable face, sunroof, manual shifting, overall a good car, selling NOW for a very reasonable price. contact Bryant

at 624-1409 or 3384555253.

FOR SALE

Digital Signal Converter for Sky Italia Satellite TV - Samsung SV-5000W. World Wide Video Digital Signal Converter. Mint Condition. Barely Used. Bought for \$475, will sell for \$125 (Firm). Vital to watch Sky Italia Satellite video or Italian tv programs on an American spec television. Automatically converts between the PAL and NTSC signals. Dual Voltage (110V - 220V). Also works as a VHS player with all the bells and whistles. Please call 624-1225 if interested.

Step Up Voltage Converter 110V to 220V TRANSFORMER 200W for sale for \$25.00 and one transformer 220V to 110V for \$40.00. Call 346-740-6364.

Used 3 Quiet Fan USB Laptop Notebook Cooler for sale for \$10.00. Call 346-740-6364

Digital Video Converter System CMD 1200. Take your NTSC American TV overseas or bring your PAL or SECAM TV to the USA. Using the high quality conversion quality of the CMD-1200 to convert TV signals you can use any PAL or NTSC TV to view any type of broadcast signal in the world. Eliminating the need to buy a new multi-system TV set. Local TV tuner like a VCR, Cable Box or Satellite Receiver is required. Paid \$260.00 last year. Asking \$160.00. Call 346-740-6364.

European New Funai VHS Video cassette recorder HIPI Model 30A-650 for \$40.00. Call 346-740-6364.

Panasonic SC-HT700 CD/DVD 5-disc Home Theater System w/ speakers. Maintained in immaculate condition and works flawlessly. Original Owner. Originally purchased for \$370, will sell for \$100 (Firm). Perfect for living room use. Please call 624-1225 if interested. Lg bookcase \$20. Tall narrow bookcase \$20. Sm bookcase or DVD holder \$15. Sm desk \$15. 25" RCA TV \$50. OBO on all merchandise. Call Leslie @ 095306957 or 3476166183

Call Of Duty 4 For Playstation 3 nib never been opened asking \$50 con-

tact cody cell 334 845 9927 or HOME 624 1252

Baby Boy stuff. JJ Cole baby carrier, Bumbo seat, Xlarge activetot Tropical play gym w/tummy time cushion. Fisher P. Aquarium gym (bn). Avent bottle sterilizer (bn) Umbrella stroller used 1 time (bn) Avent bottles/Playtex ventair 6 to 9oz. 0 to 3 mo./3 to 6 mo. Boy clothes. Everything is in perfect condition and clean. please call Stacey 624-0629.

29" black Multi system Panasonic TV W/remote in great condition \$175.00 Call Stacey 624-0629.

Used HP PSC 2355 printer, \$50. Used 160GB Western Digital external hard drive, \$50. New Dooney & Bourke 'IT Tassel Tote' purse in white with natural trim, retail \$145 asking \$100. New Flow 'Elation' 150cm women's snowboard, retail \$299, and new Flow 'Bulletproof' snowboard bag, retail \$60, asking \$225 for both. FMI call Toni -5398 or Mike -6291, after 6pm -0688.

Desktop Computer: Intel Pentium II 400, with 17" monitor, keyboard and mouse. Great condition! Works Great! \$80. Microsoft Office 97. \$20. Call 624-0313.

Black leather sectional, computer desk, dvd holder with glass door and bottom drawer for extra storage, (2) JVC 27" televisions w/remote. eddie bauer play pen with changing table like new, dark brown leather top ottoman like new Hitachi floor standing big screen television like new. all items are available for a reasonable OFFER from the buyer.

come by 2201D Sigona Maranai or call 624-1409 or 3384555253.

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.

The Ombudsman Ladies are sponsoring a QUILTING CLASS. Classes are open for anyone and it be at the Marani Community Center at: 2:00pm Sat. March 22. POC will be Gwen Gooch at 6241493. It is never to late to get started, come and get started now.

PETS

lyr old pure breed beagle for sale. Female, beautiful colors. Loves children. Comes with travel kennel, training crate, bowls, nylabones, shampoo, ear cleaning solutions, book, microchip, shots, spayed. We have 1 year left and want to travel. Paid 500 Euro, asking 275 Euro. Call Fernando at 338-716-6287 or 624-1697.

YARD SALE

Huge Pre-PCS Sale, Saturday, 29th of March Something from every room in the house. From clothes to computer, from toys to books. 8 A.M. until 2 P.M. 1012C Mineo 624-0679 JOBS

TEAM NMCRS has an opening for a part-time (20 hours per week) Relief Services Assistant. The position provides administrative support to the Director and supports a team of Volunteers who provide relief assistance to service members and their dependent. Ideal candidate will have HS diploma/GED, hands-on experience in data entry, strong organiza-

Marchi

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.

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tional and administrative skills, ability to work independently, excellent oral and written communication skills, and experience working with volunteers. Knowledge of military pay/allowance systems is highly desirable. Applicant must have all of the following attributes to be considered: (1) be a U.S. citizen and (2) dependent of an active-duty service member. Starting salary is \$14 per hour plus OCOLA. Preference will be given to those applicants who have prior experience with the Society as a volunteer or employee. For more information, or to obtain an application, please call the NMCRS Sigonella Office at 095-56-4212. You may also request an electronic application by sending an e-mail message to hr@hq.nmcrs.org or hr@hq.nmcrs.org. Please send completed and signed applications, and supporting SOFA documentation to the NMCRS Headquarters office at 875 North Randolph Street, Suite 225, Arlington, VA 22203, USA or fax to (USA) 1-703-696-0144 no later than (April 4, 2008). Although we will acknowledge receipt of all applications, only those selected for interviews will receive additional notification. EOE. Visit NMCRS on the web at <http://www.nmcrs.org>.

Dogsitter needed for a feisty chihuahua named KUJO! He will bite small children and feels the need to be the alpha dog, in other words, does not play well with others! If you would like to borrow my dog from March 3-14, please contact Justine at 624-0283 or email: littlebombs@yahoo.com

Mammuth

Portiere

Vento del- Vulcano
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Stampa