



# Celebrating the Winds of Change at Personnel Support Detachment Sigonella

Article and photo by PSC William Evans  
Personnel Support Detachment, Sigonella

On March 28, Personnel Support Activity Detachment Sigonella (PSD) conducted a Change of Charge Ceremony. The ceremony served to recognize the achievements of Lt. Ronald Pugh and ring on board Lt. Katherine Kepler as the officer in charge of PSD. The ceremony was presided over by Capt. Thomas Quinn, commanding officer of Naval Air Station Sigonella with Capt. Dale Carson, NAS executive officer, as guest speaker.

"A unit's change of charge is a significant event. It is a public demonstration of the continuity of leadership, and allow all of us who are associated with the Navy to take time to recognize and

reflect on the accomplishments of the unit as well as those of the outgoing and incoming officers in charge," stated Capt. Carson.

Capt. Carson congratulated Lt. Pugh and thanked him for, "Your leadership and your organization's hard work and untiring efforts having made a significant contribution in the ability of NAS Sigonella and Sigonella Tenant commands to conduct their missions... Your efforts in leadership have paid off. This PSD shows clear upward trend, truly on team with common goals and objectives. That attitude is what gets the job done and translates into the goal of taking care of fleet, fighter, family." For

these accomplishments, Lt. Pugh was awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation medal.

He further recognized Lt. Pugh's family with wife Clare and children Olivia and Jonah in attendance by stating, "they are integral members of our small community. So I take great pleasure in knowing they are not leaving us for good."

Lt. Kepler was congratulated and welcomed as the new officer in charge, noting that she recently arrived from the USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), and she came ready to join a hard-working and winning team bent on success. Capt. Carson extended appreciation  
*Story continued on page 13*



# Navy Region Europe Changes Command

Article by MC3 Eddie Harrison  
Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment Europe



NAPLES, Italy-Rear Adm. David J. Mercer relieved Rear Adm. Michael R. Groothusen as Commander, Navy Region Europe (CNRE) and Commander, Maritime Air Naples (CMAN) during a change of command ceremony held at Naples Support Activity (NSA) Naples at Capodichino on March 31.

Approximately 120 guests attended the outdoor ceremony including distinguished visitors from NATO, U.S. and Italian government officials, including Naples Consul General J. Patrick Truhn and representatives from the American Embassy in Rome. Keynote speakers

included Vice Admiral Robert T. Conway, Jr., Commander, Navy Installations Command and Vice Admiral Roberto Cesaretti, Italian Navy Commander, Maritime Component Command, Naples.

During the ceremony Vice Admiral Conway expressed his gratitude for the hard work Groothusen and his region team put forth.

"During his tenure, he was a change agent during a period of much transition," Conway said. "He never lost sight of the fundamental mission to provide quality of service and life to our Sailors and their families."

When Groothusen took the podium, he commented on his remarks when he first took command emphasizing the changes made.

"When I took command, I mentioned we [CNRE staff] would sail hard and fast. In September 2007, we disestablished our headquarters in London and in October 2007, USS Emory S. Land returned to the United States as part of the preparations for closure of La Maddalena."

Groothusen went on to explain that although the world "has changed - not as completely as we would like and not so much that it is not still a

*Story continued on page 7*

WEATHER UPDATE	Apr. 4 H:70F L:44F	Apr. 5 H:66F L:45F	Apr. 6 H:71F L:46F	Apr. 7 H:74F L:55F	Apr. 8 H:77F L:55F	Apr. 9 H:73F L:59F	Apr. 10 H:74F L:56F

TOP STORIES	Apr. 4	Apr. 5	Apr. 6	Apr. 7	Apr. 8	Apr. 9	Apr. 10
	<p>The Navy is soliciting "Spirit of Hope" Award nominations of individuals or organizations that embody the core values of the men and women of our military: duty, honor, courage, loyalty, commitment, and integrity.</p> <p><b>Page 3</b></p>	<p>Each April, the DoD and other organizations across the nation observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This annual event provides the opportunity to highlight the efforts that the DOD and Military Services are taking to combat the crime and promote prevention. This year's theme is Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene!</p> <p><b>Page 5</b></p>	<p>Ricotta Cheese is a cultural cornerstone in Italy and it's no surprise that every year Siracusa holds a festival for their own formaggio. Local cheese makers will tempt festival goers' taste buds by demonstrating how they still make ricotta in the old ways.</p> <p><b>Page 6</b></p>	<p>To maintain a long-standing friendship with the local community, a small group from NAS Sigonella participated in Niscemi's 28th annual Artichoke Festival (Sagra del Carciofo) on Saturday, March 29.</p> <p><b>Page 10</b></p>	<p>During the XIII century, ships that approached Catania's coastal area faced an enormous military structure, right there on a cliff, the Ursino Castle. It was 1250 when this fortress came to life. Find out some of the history behind this Sicilian Fortress.</p> <p><b>Page 12</b></p>		

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### TRAFFIC NUMBERS

	Jan.- Mar. '08	Jan.- Mar. '07	Diff.
Accidents	84	66	+18
Injuries	12	5	+7
DUIs	5	1	+4
Traffic Deaths	2	0	+2

PLEASE, DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!

## DIRECT LINE

## NASSIG COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT. THOMAS J. QUINN

Besides April being Alcohol Awareness Month and Sexual Violence Awareness Month, it is also designated as the Month of the Military Child. Our Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department, under the leadership of Mr. William Bray, has done an outstanding job organizing activities and events highlighting why our children are so important to us.

The Month of the Military Child, celebrated each April since 1983, recognizes the unique circumstances military children face, and emphasizes the need to help them adjust to those challenges. Did you know that more than one million American chil-

dren have at least one parent serving in the Armed Services? These kids are heroes, just like their parents serving on active duty!

Signonella's detailed Month of the Military Child program was kicked off Saturday, March 15, with the Eggstravaganza, a fun-for-the-entire-family Easter Egg Hunt. Hundreds of Signonella children bounced around the NAS I Land Annex looking for prized Easter Eggs, while having a great time with family and friends. The inflatable toys, food, and prizes were all part of the festivities. It was great to see our children having a good time and I look forward to next year's events.

MWR will highlight the month's program with a Multicultural Dinner and Talent Show to celebrate all of our different cultures at the youth center Friday, April 4th. A Month of the Military Child Teen Party on Saturday, April 26 in the Marinai Community Center and an inaugural Child Development Center Art Show, Friday, April 25 will be held. These events all have a primary focus on our most important asset, our children and the important role they play in our every day lives.

I would like to say Thank You to each and every child here at Signonella. Your love and support goes a long way each and every day.



# Health WATCH

## US Naval Hospital Sigonella Receives Award

### Department of Defense Patient Safety Award 2007

Article by Cmdr. Tanya Ponder, NC, USN

Capt. Helen V. Pearlman, commanding officer of Naval Hospital Sigonella, recently accepted an award on behalf of the Naval Hospital- the Department of Defense (DoD) 2007 Patient Safety Award. The DoD is committed to creating a culture of patient safety within the Military Healthcare System (MHS) and the DoD Patient Safety Award recognizes a command's efforts to improve the patient care delivered within the MHS. Moreover, this award identifies those commands that have shown commitment to the development of innovative systems and processes that are tightly organized around the care of the patient.

Naval Hospital Sigonella was selected for a one-year pilot study on the new methodology of Clinical Microsystems (CMS). In November 2006, command leadership assembled an interdisciplinary team that studied the process flow involving labor and delivery patients. Patient safety was the primary focus. Significant results achieved by the CMS team were the implementation of remote maternal-

fetal monitoring, the full integration of electronic charting, availability of timely lab test results, and subsequently more timely administration of epidural analgesia. Also achieved, were additional patient education sessions, implementation of state-of-the-art epidural analgesia infusion pumps, and timely lab test results during surgeries.

It must be emphasized that the CMS team's work was made possible by the strong support of Naval Hospital Sigonella's executive leadership. Within the command, a deeper spirit of camaraderie and dedication to safe patient care has resulted from the CMS team's work. And although the pilot study is completed, the CMS methodology is being promulgated as a means of perpetually strengthening the culture of patient safety at Naval Hospital Sigonella.

The Military Health System recognized individuals and medical facilities for various achievements during the 2008 Military Health System (MHS) conference held January 28 - 31, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

## NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

<b>DS Chapel in Catania</b> <u>Sunday</u> 1 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings</b> Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 11:30 a.m.
<b>NAS II Chapel</b> <u>Monday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	<b>NAS I Chapel</b> <u>Sunday</u> 8:45 a.m. Catholic Mass 10:45 a.m. Protestant Worship 5 p.m. Fellowship Meal 6 p.m. Bible Study
<u>Tuesday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	<b>Mineo Community Center</b> <u>Sunday</u> 9 a.m. Protestant Worship 12 p.m. Catholic Mass
<u>Wednesday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	<b>Maranai Community Center</b> 11 a.m. Protestant Traditional Service
<u>Friday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	
<u>Sunday</u> 4 p.m. Catholic Mass	

Call 095-86-3801 for the Chaplains Office  
Call 095-86-1205 for weekly Jewish services



# Compassion

Article by Chaplain Hank Wilson

And when he saw him he had compassion. - Luke 10:33

There is a story in the Bible that deals with compassion. It is actually a parable told about a Samaritan. It goes like this: There was a Jewish man who was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. This man was robbed and beaten and left for dead. Later a priest walked by. Instead of stopping and helping this man he actually went to the other side of the road so to not get near the bloody and beaten man. Next came the priest's helper who actually stopped to look and he too passed by on the other side of the road. Then, lastly a man came by who was a Samaritan. This means that the man was actually a hated enemy of the Jewish man. But, as opposed to the first two

men who were countrymen of the Jew this Samaritan stopped and helped him. In the Navy we often get so consumed with being mission oriented that we often overlook or choose to pass by those in our community who need help. This picture is a great illustration that tears down all social and racial barriers, boundary lines, and roadblocks to showing compassion to your fellow man. We should remind ourselves that we are indeed dealing with "real" people in our daily lives. What are you doing to help them? When is the last time you have shown compassion towards a fellow shipmate?

The dictionary defines compassion as "a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another." *Story continued on page 9*

## 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

- E3 - Speeding resulting in an accident. Member was awarded 6 points and 10 day suspension of license.
- E4 - Speeding and failure to report and accident. Member was awarded 5 points and DIP.
- E4 - Inattentive backing. Member was awarded 3 points.

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Capt. Thomas J. Quinn

**Public Affairs Officer**  
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# NAVY News

## Navy Solicits 'Spirit of Hope' Award Nominations

Article from Chief of Naval Personnel, Public Affairs

The Navy is looking for an individual or organization that embodies the core values of the men and women of our military: duty, honor, courage, loyalty, commitment and integrity for nomination for the Spirit of Hope awards.

Since 2005, the Navy has nominated one outstanding individual or support organization that epitomizes the values of the late Bob Hope to receive the distinguished Spirit of Hope Award.

"The individual or organization nominated must have contributed selflessly to the improvement of Sailors' quality of life for an extended period of time," said Kacee Franklin, program analyst, Personal Readiness and Community Support Branch, Chief of Naval Personnel who is coordinating Navy's nominations. "Nominations should describe

extraordinary achievement and contributions during 2007."

Originally commissioned by the USO, the Spirit of Hope Award was inspired by Bob Hope's dedication to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

This award is formally presented by the Wiegand Foundation, Inc. in an annual ceremony held in the Washington, D.C. capital area. The Spirit of Hope Award is open to active duty, reserve, veteran and civilian Navy employees or an organization. Members of the civilian community or nongovernmental organization supporting the Navy and embodying Navy core values are also eligible.

James H. Gaff, Jr., a World War II Normandy invasion Navy Landing Craft coxswain, was the Navy's first nominee and recipient of the award.

Gaff spent a lifetime working with the Navy League in Florida to make it a model organization.

The 2006 award was presented to James Carrier, the co-founder of the Veteran Appreciation Council in Greenwich, Conn. and extremely dedicated member of the Navy League and Fisher House Foundation.

"These individuals followed in the footsteps of Mr. Hope's service to the spiritual, social, welfare, education and entertainment needs of our Sailors," Franklin said.

Nomination packages must be submitted to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations no later than April 30. Detailed information can be found on NAVADMIN 073/08. For more news from the Chief of Naval Personnel, visit [www.navy.mil/local/cnp/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cnp/).

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Buyer Beware of embargoes Countries' Goods

By Robert Szostek, USEUCOM Customs PAO

Mannheim, Germany - Iran, Cuba, Iraq, North Korea and Libya are countries whose goods are currently under embargo by the United States. Shoppers should beware of acquiring products produced in these nations because they may be prohibited from entering the United States although often for sale overseas.

Iranian products are generally banned but a special dispensation allows travelers and household goods shippers to send Iranian foods, carpets, rugs and tapestries to the United States. "The only condition a shipper must fulfill is that carpets, wall hangings, or tapestries must be for the shipper's personal use. They may not be for resale," said William L. Johnson, deputy director of the USEUCOM Customs Executive Agency. He also added that many foods are banned from importation to the United States to prevent infestations of foreign pests. Iranian products still have to meet these restrictions. Meat products and fresh fruits and vegetables are of special concern. However, Johnson explained there are no agricultural restrictions on the Iranian products commonly available in Europe such as dried fruits and nuts.

The Treasury Department reports many people trying to import Cuban cigars into the United States. However under most circumstances Cuban products are banned from the United States and officials warn that penalties for attempted smuggling include confiscation of the items, civil fines and, in appropriate cases, criminal prosecution which may result in severe fines and imprisonment.

Cuban products are not banned in Europe, Johnson continued, and are therefore, openly on sale in many places. This may lead Americans stationed in Europe to think the U.S. embargo has been loosened. "This is not the case,"

Johnson emphasized. Americans on shopping sprees to the Czech Republic or Poland also should be wary of buying Cuban products. These former Communist countries have trading links with Cuba and sell Cuban merchandise such as the cigars and rum. Only people returning directly from Cuba after a licensed visit there are permitted to bring a limited number of Cuban cigars into the United States.

"If people already have items from embargoed countries, they should dispose of them before they travel back to the States," Johnson added. However, people with expensive items should call a military customs office to find out the ban's effective date. "If you can prove you owned an item outside the embargoed country before the sanctions came into effect, you'll be able to import it into the United States," Johnson explained.

Full details of all U.S. embargoes are available online at [www.treas.gov/ofac/](http://www.treas.gov/ofac/) from the Office of Foreign Assets Control.

### 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 and Saturday, May 10 at the new location in Midtown parking lots.

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 Erin Tacey at [erin.tacey@nasig.sicily.navy.mil](mailto:erin.tacey@nasig.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 MC3 Eduardo Zaragoza

Aviation Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Randall Reiten, assigned to the "Wallbangers" of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 117, installs a new propeller on an E-2C Hawkeye in the hanger bay aboard the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group (CSG) is participating in an Expeditionary Strike Force (ESF) exercise with the Essex Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG).

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

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

# Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene!

Article edited from U.S. DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

Sexual Assault is a crime. Each April, the Department of Defense and other organizations across the nation observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This annual event provides the opportunity to highlight the efforts that the DoD and military services are taking to combat the crime and promote prevention. This year's theme is Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene! The theme was chosen as a reminder that our actions can make a difference in someone's life. Lack of action puts our friends, families and co-workers in jeopardy. When you see someone who looks like they could use assistance, ask them if they need help.

When they ask for help, be sure to step in and assist. If someone doesn't recognize trouble, do something to intervene and prevent the situation from becoming worse. Within the last three years, the DoD and military services have created new policies to address sexual assault prevention. There are several goals in this new approach. First, sexual assault and the attitudes that promote it will not be tolerated. Victims of sexual assault will receive the care and support they need, and offenders will be held accountable for their actions.

A crucial part of sexual assault prevention is the bystander's role.

A sexual assault has consequences for the victim, their command and their family/friends long after the incident. In some cases, sexual assault can be avoided when people take responsibility for each other and get involved when a fellow human being is at risk. A bystander who does nothing doesn't protect the values of safety, trust and honor that are central to our community. Researchers conducted an experiment in which a student pretended to have a seizure. The experimenters recorded how often others stopped to help. When only one bystander was watching the scene, the student was helped 85 percent of the time.

However, if there were five bystanders, the student was only helped 31 percent of the time. Does this make sense? Shouldn't having more people present increase the chances that someone will get help? Amazingly, this is not the case. We all take cues from those around us about how to act in different situations. In emergency situations, many things prohibit bystanders from intervening. If no one else is acting, it is hard to go against the crowd. People may feel that they are risking embarrassment. (What if I'm wrong and they don't need help?) They may think there is someone else in the group who is more qualified to help. They may think that the situation does not call for help since no one else is doing anything. With each person taking cues from people around them, a common result is that no one does anything to help.

What can we do about this problem? As members of the military community we all have a responsibility to help each other. Avoid being a bystander! Intervene regardless of  
*Story continued on page 9*

Toro  
mecc

Sushi

Pentagon

Cold  
Noses



WARM HEARTS



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

**Signonella'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.**

Bianca (Above) is a beautiful dog who loves to play. She would make a wonderful addition to any family.

Sandy (Right) is a great dog who loves to take walks. She is looking for a home to call her 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](http://www.pwocsig.com) or [pwocsig@yahoo.com](mailto: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



## Buscemi Hosts Ricotta Cheese Festival

Make sure you attend the annual Ricotta Cheese Festival that will be held this weekend in Buscemi, a picturesque Sicilian village in the Siracusa province, situated on top of a hill overlooking the Anapo River. The town's origins date back to the Bronze Age. Historic sources indicate that the ancient town's name was "Qal'at Abi Samah," which was later changed to Buxema or Buscema.

As a result of the terrible earthquake that occurred in 1693, Buscemi was completely destroyed, just like the rest of Southeast Sicily. A few years later, sturdy Buscemi residents rebuilt a magnificent town in Baroque style.

Tomorrow night, the first day of the sagra (festival) will kick off

around 6:30 p.m. in Corso Vittorio Emanuele with the traditional Mescita (the preparation of ricotta). Local cheese makers will tempt festival goers' taste buds by demonstrating how they still make ricotta in the old ways.

In the evening, a live music concert is performed in the historic center.

On Sunday, Apr. 6, festival booths will be open at 9 a.m. This celebration will offer a fun day for the entire family including Sicilian carts parades, entertainment, music and ricotta making demonstration and tasting.

Ricotta was already popular among ancient Romans who would prepare it for gala dinners. The Latin

word ricotta (Recocta) means cooked twice. Ancient Romans used to serve it to important guests and offered as a sacrifice at religious ceremonies. Ricotta, which is much closer to a dairy product than cheese for its pure white color and granular consistency, became very popular in the Middle Ages, especially at the court of Sicilian king Frederick II.

Sicilian novelist Bartolomeo Sacchi described the secrets of this ancient "cheese making art" in the 15th century: "When the cheese is taken from the caldron, the whey is heated so that any remaining fat will float to the surface. The country people call it ricotta because it is cooked twice to extract the cheese from the buttermilk. Ricotta is extremely white and has a rather pleasant flavor."

In Sicily, Ricotta is made from sheep or cow milk whey that is left-over from making mozzarella and other cheeses. The whey is first poured into a copper pot, called a Quarara and heated over a gas burner and stirred continuously using the traditional "zubbu" wooden spoon. Ricotta forms when proteins from the whey separate, rise and coagulate.

Ricotta is eaten fresh or used in baking and in fillings for lasagna, ravioli and other pasta dishes. When it is mixed with sugar, candied fruits and chocolate drops it becomes a mouthwatering filling for cassata, cannoli and other pastries such as raviola etc.

Ricotta salata (salted and pressed fresh ricotta) is typically shredded over pasta and other dishes such as pasta alla Norma, the famous Catania specialty, which is dressed

with eggplant and tomato sauce.

For more information and

before you leave the festival, detailed festival schedules, call don't forget to visit the breathtaking Buscemi Tourist Office at 0931-town's Baroque churches. 878911.



Photo by Giuseppe Stimolo

Enjoy a fun weekend with activities for the entire family, live entertainment and fresh ricotta cheese galore! The annual Buscemi Sagra della Ricotta (Ricotta cheese festival) will be held on Apr. 5 and 6, featuring art and crafts, folklore parades, music, ricotta-making demonstrations and tasting.

## Boat Show Expo in Catania



The 12th edition of "Nauta" boat show will kick off tomorrow, Saturday, Apr. 5, at the Catania port. With over 40,000 square feet of boating products and technology and 50,000 annual visitors, Nauta is the second largest show of its kind in Southern Italy, after the one in Naples.

Some of world leading brands in luxury yachting (Azimut Yacht, Luxury Yachts Corporation, Ferretti Yachts, Mochi Craft, Riva, Apremare Prinz Yacht, Sunseeker, Columbus Yachting - Bénèteau; Itama; Sessa Marine, Cantieri Navali Rizzardi, Jeanneau, Menorquin etc. will display their newest quality powerboats, sporty yachts and nautical accessories. The show runs through Apr. 13 at the Catania port. Opening Hours: Sun-Sat 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; weekdays 4 - 9 p.m. For more information visit, <http://www.salononauticomediterraneo.it>

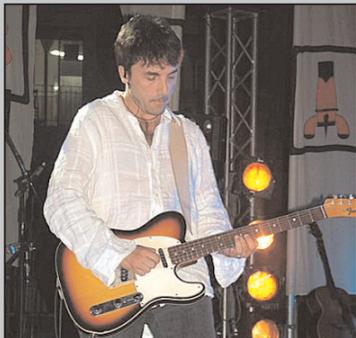
## Jazz Concerts in Catania



Massimo Colombo Trio featuring Massimo Colombo (piano), Giuseppe Guarrella (double bass) and Francesco Branciamore (drums) will perform in Catania tonight at 10 p.m.

Born in Milan in 1961, Colombo is a brilliant composer, arranger, keyboardist and piano virtuoso. He graduated at Milan's Conservatory under the guidance of Maestro Alberto Colombo and also studied harmony and composition with Davide Anzaghi and Angelo Corradininas as well as with American pianist Sonny Taylor. During his successful career, he performed with various Italian and international jazz artists. He has recorded 16 CDs.

Tomorrow night (Apr. 5) at 10 p.m., Toni Canto (guitar) and Franco Barresi (drums) will stage a spectacular evening of bossa nova music. Milan-born guitarist Canto is a band member of "Arancia Sonora," a



group which performs with Catania-based singer and songwriter Mario Venuti. He has been on several prestigious stages all over Italy and France and has played with Mozambique's greatest musicians in Africa. In 2006, Canto has recorded an album in New York under the artistic director of American guitarist and producer Arto Lindsay.

Both concerts will take place at the Y'S Jazz Club (located at the Dune Hotel, viale Kennedy # 10B, the Catania playa beach area) at 10 p.m.

Admission is free. For more information and tickets, call 095-7233120.

# Sabbiadoro

# Alphio

# Marine Pilot Easter Celebration at Pietro's Exceeds 5,000 Flight Hour Milestone

Article by Jay Cope  
Naval Air Station Whiting Field Public Affairs

A Marine Corps pilot surpassed a 5,000 flight hour milestone March 24, at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Lt. Col. Jim Kennedy lifted off for a simple four-hour training flight with 1st Lt. Steven Ritter, a student pilot, in the very same helicopter where he performed his first flight hour in 1991. The trip was much more significant for him than the routine nature of the mission would indicate.

Achieving this milestone is a benchmark that few pilots achieve, and it is symbolic of how much he enjoys his work.

"I really love flying helicopters. This career has been 17 years of loving to fly, and 5,000 hours coming here has been significant," he said. "Outside of Al Anbar province, this has been some of the most rewarding flying I have done. It's great to be training warriors to do that exact same thing [I do]."

Kennedy, the commanding officer of Helicopter Training Squadron-18, has been flying helicopters his whole career, mostly the CH-46 Sea Knight and the H-57.

He served two tours in Iraq, one in Al Anbar province where he performed troop transport and casualty evacuations. That was where he passed 4,000 flight hours. Someone took a photograph for him when he surpassed that milestone, so he decided to take a picture for this one as well.

A chance comment to his executive officer about the photograph, Cmdr. Mark Murray led to much more. Most of the squadron; Training Wing-5 Commander, Capt. Dave Maloney; and Kennedy's wife Heidi met him upon his return to the command's lounge with a cake and a standing ovation.

Kennedy has served two tours at Naval Air Station Whiting Field in addition to his initial flight training: one as an instructor pilot and now as the commanding officer.

Without those tours, 5,000 hours probably wasn't possible. The up-tempo nature of the training here enabled him to accumulate more than 2,200 hours from 1995-1998 as an instructor and he has flown another 700 since coming to the base again in 2006.

"This is the greatest job in the world," Kennedy said. "Having flown for 17 years and passing on that passion to the next generation of warfighters has been terrific."

## Magnolia

Article and photo courtesy of IT1 David Twaruska  
Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Sigonella

On March 22, 2008, NCTS First Class Petty Officer's Association invited the Insieme orphanage of Acireale to an Easter celebration at Pietro's TLA in Motta. Fifteen children arrived at 11:30 to a table full of Easter baskets and treats. They were visibly excited about the gifts and eager to dive in. With the children distracted, IT1 David Twaruska, IT1 German Salcedo, IT1 Joseph Ireland and Cobie Cereda, were busy hiding Easter eggs inside the building. It took the children about 45 minutes of running around and screaming in excitement before they found most of the eggs. The smaller children were assisted by various NCTS first classes in finding the eggs.

After the egg hunt was complete, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Pietro's which consisted of lasagna, chicken, french fries, and deviled eggs. The children were extremely well behaved as they ate their food and talked about the egg hunt. When lunch was over, IT1 Salcedo handed out Easter baskets to each of the children. The children then surprised the First Classes by giving them hand-made sculptures they had designed and crafted. The first classes were very touched by the children's gesture.

The celebration concluded at 14:45 with everyone saying their goodbyes. It was a really great day for all the

people who attended and shared in giving joy to these young people. The NCTS First Class Association would like to thank Pietro's TLA for donating the food, space and assistance and would also like to thank the friends and family members whose support and participation made this event a success.



# Secretary of the Navy Visits Israel

Article by MC2 (AW) Kevin S. O'Brien  
Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Dr. Donald C. Winter, arrived March 23 for a three-day visit in Israel as a guest of the Israel Ministry of Defense and the Israel Navy Commander in Chief, Vice Admiral Eli Marum. This visit is a continuation of the strong ties and extensive collaboration between the Israel and U.S. Naval Forces.

This is Winter's first visit in Israel as the Secretary of the Navy.

His first visit to the country was in 1998 when he arrived with a delegation of U.S. Military Industry Seniors.

During his stay, he met with the Minister of Defense, Mr. Ehud Barak, Chief of the General Staff, Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, General Manager of the Israeli Ministry of Defense, Mr. Pinchas Buchris, and senior officers

in the Israel Defense forces.

During his stay, he toured the Haifa Naval Base and spent the day underway aboard INS Lahar, and upon arrival back to Haifa, he toured the Israeli Dolphin submarine, INS Takuma. Winter also visited Plasan Sasa, an Israeli defense corporation, in Kibbutz Sasa in the northern part of the country.



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 Favorite Time of The Year

Article by CWO 4 Ronald Herb  
Signature Volunteer

Most people, when asked, will say they think of the last couple of weeks in Dec. as their favorite time of the year. Here at Triple S, our favorite time of the year is the last two-weeks in March with the NFL draft, usually the third weekend in April, that is fast approaching and with it comes all kinds of Mel Kipper viewings. This guy has carved out his whole professional life from the projects he makes about the value of 22-year-olds to prospective NFL teams. NFL, NBA, MLB, NCAA B-Ball, PGA, even College Football are all active and exciting at this time of the year. Advancing the clocks doesn't signal for Spring for Triple S, it's the new hope that brings to life, for sports, this time of year with the understanding that every-

one has a chance in April.

With less than 12 games left in the NBA season, teams are pulling together and trying to get healthy for their playoff run, the real NBA season, the playoffs, will tip off soon. Hard to think that anyone is in better shape, currently, than the Boston Celtics, it just seems right that they are the topic of conversation this time of the year.

Many sports fans view March Madness as the greatest sporting event in and of itself. Triple S has to agree that the energy from the first weekend of this years dance was top-shelf. Each NCAA season is different but the most fun this year has been listening to recently retired coaching legend Bobby Knight talk during

sports shows. He really is an American personality. The experts seeded UCLA, Kansas, North Carolina, and Memphis all #1 in their bracket and who really thought that all four would make it to San Antonio. This is the first time all of the top seeds have done so making it no easy road ahead for anyone.

Did anyone catch the Red Sox a couple weeks back? As they were boarding a plane for a 14-hour flight to Tokyo for their season opener against the Oakland A's, something strange took place. MLB had agreed with the players union to pay each player a 40K bonus to make the trip to Japan. The only glitch was that the coaches were not set to receive any additional pay. The Sox, as a team, threatened to cancel the trip if the coaches did not receive payment as well. Bench coaches and the like in MLB do not make anywhere near the type of money that players make none of them are on food stamps but they are easily the lowest paid in their overall profession. MLB and the Red Sox organization made the payments and everything went off without a hitch. This

may not sound like a big news story, but last time Triple S checked, professional baseball players were generally selfish and self-centered. This type of humanitarian act could force Triple S to rethink our viewpoint. This just might be a good baseball season after all.

Locally, the Sigonella Jags returned last weekend from their first trip to Vicenza for some varsity soccer. In her inaugural soccer game, Sophomore Kiersten Dacey punched in her team's only goal in a 1-1 deadlocked match with Vicenza. The boy's team came up just short as a Vicenza header decided their outcome 1-0. Overall, a very strong showing for the Jags who will be taking a couple weeks off before hosting rival Naples on Saturday, April 19.

Triple S took a look at the April Sigonella sports calendar and finds a local favorite annual event "the Motta Off-Road Challenge." It's called a challenge not a race for good reason; mostly it's that monster of a hill that forces even the best runners to walk a little. While it's challenging, it's also a one-of-a-kind Sigonella event that is fun for competitive runners and family walkers. Be sure to sign up early at both fitness centers.

If you any questions, comments or complaints, send them to bmc27nyg@aol.com. Until next time.

### CAPTAIN CUP SOCCER 2008 RESULTS WEEK 3

25-Mar	PWD B	Vs	PWD B	=	1 - 1
25-Mar	SECURITY	Vs	WEAPONS	=	3 - 0
25-Mar	EXE. ADMIN	Vs	AIMD	=	2 - 0
26-Mar	SECURITY	Vs	HOSPITAL	=	2 - 2
26-Mar	OPS	Vs	COM. UNITED	=	7 - 4
26-Mar	PATRONSIG	Vs	SEC/K-9	=	6 - 0
27-Mar	COM. ELITE	Vs	SECURITY	=	canceled
27-Mar	SUPPLY	Vs	PWD A	=	canceled
27-Mar	WEAPONS	Vs	PWD B	=	canceled

### SOCCER League Standings

SQUADRON	Points	GAMES PLAYED	GAMES WON	GAMES DRAWN	GAMES LOST	GOALS SCORED	GOALS AGAINST	GOAL DIFF.
OPS	9	3	3	0	0	28	7	21
PATRON SIG	9	3	3	0	0	19	4	15
HOSPITAL	6	3	2	0	1	13	6	7
AIMD	6	3	2	0	1	7	4	3
EXE. ADMIN	6	3	2	0	1	9	10	-1
SECURITY	4	3	1	1	1	4	5	-1
COM. ELITE	3	2	1	0	1	9	7	2
COM. UNITED	3	3	1	0	2	13	12	1
SEC/K-9	3	3	1	0	2	6	14	-8
SUPPLY	1	2	0	1	1	4	6	-2
PWD A	1	2	0	1	1	3	5	-2

### MWR Golf Season Opener: 4-Person Scramble

Saturday, March 29

Congratulations:

1st Michael Jacobs, Ken Sitkowski, Brian Ritter and David Saylor

2nd Tom Quinn, Rick Gilbert, Michael Wiest and Dave Thompson

3rd Keith Autry, Antoine Crite, Brian Power and Scott Morris

Longest Drive: Michael Jacobs

Closest to the Pin: Marvin Miller

## Rigattiere

# CNO Highlights Navy Opportunities at Engineering Conference

Article by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Rebekah Blowers  
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead spoke at the 34th Annual Convention of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) in Orlando on March 19.

Events such as these give the Navy opportunities to meet with some of the best and brightest black engineering students in the nation while highlighting Navy opportunities and the many talented black engineering officers in the naval service.

"By coming to conventions such as the National Society of Black Engineers we're able to showcase our Navy. We're able to allow young people to see the Navy, envision a future that is very exciting, affords great opportunity for leadership and to pursue engineering and technical skills," Roughead said.

The CNO said this year's conference theme of "Igniting the Torch: Engineering in Action" epitomizes much of what the U.S. Navy and its people do.

"Every day young men and women who wear this uniform, the cloth of our nation, are 'Igniting the Torch' around the world. And they are doing things that many only dream of," Roughead said. "They're diving to the depths of the ocean, they're flying high-performance airplanes, they're operating nuclear reactors on our aircraft carriers and on our submarines. They're doing the most advanced information technology. All of these things are what the Navy is and what it's about, so the theme of this conference is really appropriate."

Roughead explained the vast capabilities of the Navy engineering communities and highlighted their vital role in today's Navy as well as the Navy of the future.

"We have civil engineers and mechanical engineers who are part of our construction battalions. We call them Seabees. The legacy of our Seabees goes back to World War II, but they are everywhere. They are the finest combat engineers in the world.

They're in Iraq, Afghanistan, supporting our troops on the ground, but they're also repairing schools in Ghana, on the West Coast of Africa," Roughead said. "Our engineering duty officers are managing and leading projects in the billions of dollars and delivering to our Navy the systems of the future: the ships, the airplanes, the submarines, and the communication networks."

Roughead said there are fascinating challenges and opportunities for those who choose to serve in the Navy.

"Cyberspace to me is the new frontier. That's where the next big thing is likely to be and the Navy is at the leading edge of that. We're designing new ships, [such as] the littoral combat ship... We are introducing new technologies at a rate that exceeds anything we have ever introduced in ships before," Roughead said.

Roughead praised the conference attendees and pointed out that many of the same traits NSBE values are of great importance to the Navy.

"All of you here are not just about engineering. You are about the future. Your mission and your statement of purpose and the values that you hold as part of this great organi-

zation are exactly the values of the United States Navy: to excel academically, to exceed professionally and positively impact the community," Roughead said.

Another element of NSBE's mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers in local and regional communities.

"That is something the Navy also needs and values greatly. Because I believe that the Navy must reflect the face of our nation. When our nation looks at the United States Navy, they should see themselves reflected back," Roughead said. "We can only achieve that with diversity because that is the mirror that will reflect our nation. We have a lot of work to do but as I look at you, and listen to your stories and sense your enthusiasm, your pride and your drive, I have great optimism for the future."

The National Society of Black Engineers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the academic and professional success of black engineering students and professionals. NSBE is comprised of more than 300 collegiate, 75 professional and 75 pre-collegiate chapters nationwide and overseas.



## COMPASSION continued from page 2

er's suffering or misfortune, accompanied by a desire to alleviate the pain or remove its cause." Sometimes we are just too busy to worry about those around us. As I consider this, I found it true in my own life. How many times have you been so consumed with yourself that you pass by the one who needs help? How many times are you so focused on mission that you neglect the fact that "real" people are involved?

I am not here to tell you that your own needs should come second, nor am I saying that the mission is secondary. What I am saying is that there should be a balance in your life and even a willingness to sacrifice and show compassion to those in need. How many times have you looked at others suffering and misfortune and wish that you could not only feel sorrow but also "alleviate the pain or remove the cause." This is the

definition of compassion. It is something that we often lack in a setting such as ours and I challenge you to think about this when someone comes to you with a problem in his or her life.

The story of compassion does not end there however. See the Samaritan helps the man by attending to his wounds. He takes time out of his day and places the man on his donkey and takes him to the nearest town for help. He puts him up in an inn and pays the man's bill. Furthermore, he tells the innkeeper to keep a running tab on whatever is spent on this man and that he will pay the bill. The Samaritan man acted on the compassion for this man that was his known enemy. We must not forget that in our setting we are dealing with real people and we should show them compassion in their time of need and suffering.

## INTERVENE continued from page 5

what others are doing and don't be worried about being wrong; it is better to be wrong than to have done nothing at all. "Sexual assault can be prevented by individuals, both male and female, who stay aware of potentially dangerous situations and elect to intervene before a sexual assault takes place. Stopping sexual assault in the military community requires everyone's involvement. Ask your friends if they need help, act when they do, and intervene when you see trouble. Be a leader, not a bystander!

Want to be a leader? Learn how to recognize indications of potentially dangerous situations. Here are some examples of "red flag" behaviors related to sexual assault: inappropriate touching or disregarding set boundaries, suggestive remarks, inappropriate intimacy, attempts to isolate someone, pressuring someone to drink, violent behaviors and targeting someone who is visibly impaired. If a situation makes us uncomfortable, we may try to dismiss it as not being a problem. We may tell ourselves that the other person will be fine, that he or she is not as intoxicated as we think, or that they are able to defend him/herself. This is not a solution! That person may need our help more than we think! When in doubt, trust your gut. Instincts are there for a reason. When a situation makes us feel uncomfortable, it is generally a good indicator that something is not

right. It is better to be wrong about the situation than do nothing. Many people feel reluctant to intervene in a situation because they are afraid of making a scene or feel as though a person would ask for help if it were needed. We have a responsibility to intervene. When we fail to act, we condone the bad behavior. We may be thinking: no one else is helping; it must not be a problem, Jim's really responsible and he's not intervening...why should I? Many people do not intervene in a potentially dangerous situation because they are looking to others for cues on how to act or they believe someone else will intervene. But it is our responsibility to act as a member of the military community. You would not abandon a fellow warrior on the battlefield. Would you not assist off the battlefield, too? You have the skills to act!

- Watch out for other members of the military community.
- Come up with a plan beforehand.
- Talk to your friends about how they would want you to intervene if they are in an uncomfortable situation.
- Choose the intervention strategy that is best for the situation.
- Take a breath and make your move.
- Get support from someone in charge, when possible.

## Oxidiana

## Hiking in Sicily

Doug Terry  
MWR, ITT Gear-n-Go

After months of hibernation watching repeated episodes of "Heroes," "Lost," "Desperate Housewives," and "As the World Turns," it is time to stretch-out the legs and see more of Sicily. The island has a myriad of outdoor settings for every level of experience and ITT Gear-n-Go's Adventures Unlimited wants you to enjoy your outdoor time in maximum comfort.

Getting out there requires walking and walking requires reliable footwear. First, it is important to pick the right kind of socks geared for outdoors. Recommended socks are a blend of Merino wool, such as Thoro hiking socks and stretch fabrics specifically rated for hiking or backpacking. Synthetic socks can be used in wet weather but tend to have an odor. Cotton socks retain moisture, promote blisters and should be avoided. Expect to spend \$14 to \$20 when shopping for a good pair of socks. Check out the Navy Exchange (NEX), on base, Team Sport, out in town, or online at many outdoor suppliers that ship FPO, one recommendation is [www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com). To ensure a good fit have a proper pair of socks when you purchase hiking shoes or boots.

Armed with hiking specific socks, measure both your feet at the NEX and use the foot measuring device, located in the shoe department. The best time to measure your feet is at the end of the day, when they are at their

largest size. To ensure a good fit generally add a half-inch to the largest size and you are ready to shop!

Once you receive your boot, put on your hiking socks and test them out. Lace them up snugly and check for fit. First, test it go kick a wall a few times with each shoe. If your toe bumps into the end of the shoe, the shoe is too short and you will have to move up a half size. Next, walk up an incline, squat down a few times and see if the boots slip down from your heel. The boots should stay against the bottom of your feet and your heel should stay snugly in the boot. If your heel is slipping, you may get heel blisters.

Outdoor footwear comes with inexpensive factory foot beds or insoles, and if you plan on spending some time in your boots, take them to the next level with a quality foot bed. The NEX and Commissary sell Dr. Scholl's or you can invest in a heat moldable foot bed. The moldable foot bed takes into account your footprint and puts the walking force in the places it is supposed to go; great for compensating for all sorts of foot problems when walking.

Once you have the equipment, ITT Gear-n-Go can take you to the locations. Check out the MWR Preview and see where the next trip is going. For more information on hiking, contact ITT Gear-n-Go at 624-4777.

# Cin! Cin!

## CELEBRATING THE FOOD & WINE OF SICILY Artichokes Galore

Article and photos by [redacted]  
Signature Volunteer

To maintain a longstanding friendship with the local community, a small group from Naval Air Station Sigonella participated in Niscemi's 28th annual Artichoke Festival (Sagra del Carciofo) on Saturday, March 29.

"Niscemi and the Navy have a bond that's lasted for many years. It's a very important bond," said Lt. Cmdr. J. Steve Correia, executive officer of U.S. Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Sicily. "We help one another."

Niscemi's mayor, Giovanni Di Martino, said the festival's focus is to promote artichokes because the local economy is driven by agriculture, and artichokes are a large part of that. He said 80 percent of the artichokes in Sicily and 50 percent of the artichokes in Italy come from Niscemi. Currently, the city's artichokes are exported throughout Italy only, but Di Martino said he is working toward getting the artichokes certified by the European Union, so they can be exported internationally.

"Artichoke is king of agriculture," Di Martino said about Niscemi.

Totò Ravalli, director of "Museo della Civiltà Contadina," an agricultural heritage museum in Niscemi, agreed that artichokes are important. Furthermore, he said agriculture is part of the city's culture, and without that, their memories would disappear.

In celebration of this important product, the Artichoke Festival started early Saturday with many different events. A lavish parade took place in the afternoon. As part of the official delegation from Sigonella, several Sigonellans walked in the parade. In addition, several U.S. Navy Sailors marched in formation.

After the parade, festival-goers gathered in the main square to hear the mayor speak, watch dancers perform traditional dances, and listen to live music. In addition, several booths offered arts and crafts, food, wine and much more.

Later that evening, the mayor hosted a dinner for the official delegation from Sigonella and many other special guests. Every course, except the desert, featured artichokes.

Amy Grover who participated in Saturday's events said she and her husband, Lt. Cmdr. Jason Grover, attended the festival last year as well. She said they enjoyed the festival so much that they were happy to attend again.

"We had so much fun that we had to come back," she said. "It's a really unique experience."

Another attendee, Lt. Terry Traweck, officer in charge at the Naval Radio Transmitter Facility, Niscemi, said he participates in many events, like the festival, with the local community to promote comradery between the locals and the Navy.

"I just try to maintain a good relationship with their town," he said.

The festival was a two-day event that continued Sunday, March 30, as well.



### Hi Tech



### Military Media



# MWR CORNER

## Jox Pub

**Navy Entertainment Presents:**  
**BET and HBO Comic "RIP" Michaels: April 4**  
*Laughter starts at 9:30 p.m.*

## Take 5

**Galley on the Go!** *April 7*  
**Spades Tournament:** *April 8*  
**Sci-Fi Movie Marathon:** *April 9*  
**Lunch and Learn:** *April 10*

## Liberty

**Taormina Dinner:** *April 4*  
**The Ruins of Siracusa:** *April 5*  
**Kartodromo Go-Karting:** *April 6*  
**Catania Dinner:** *April 11*

## ITT Gear-n-Go

**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.  
**Messina & Tindari** - *April 5: Depart: NAS II 7:30 a.m., NAS I 8 a.m., Return: 6:30 p.m.*  
\$28 + euro for food and fees  
**Castiglione di Sicilia, Alcantara Valley & Torrepalino Wine Tasting** - *April 6: Depart: NAS II 7:30 a.m., NAS I 8 a.m., Return: 8 p.m.*  
\$50, includes lunch and wine tasting + euro for fees  
**Hike Rifugio Forestale San Giovanni Gualberto** *April 7: Depart: NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 3:30 p.m.*  
\$15 + bring euro for a café stop, packed lunch or trail snacks and water  
**Viagrande Casa delle Butterfly Family Trip** - *April 8: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 3 p.m.*

\$20 adult, \$7 children under 12; includes entrance fee + bring euro for food  
**Enna and Piazza Armerina Imperial Villa** - *April 8: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 7 p.m.*  
\$28 + euro for lunch and fees  
**Sicilian Castle Tour** - *April 9: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 6 p.m.*  
\$22 + euro for fees and lunch (€23)  
**Sicilian Cooking Class at Trinita Agriturismo** - *April 10: Depart: NAS II 4:30 p.m., NAS I 5 p.m., Return: 10 p.m.*  
\$56, no children's discount  
**Palazzolo Acreide and Colle Acre Winery** - *April 11: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 7 p.m.*  
\$45, includes lunch and wine tasting

## Scuba

Classes will now be held at the Duomo Conference Center on NAS II. Pool dives will be at the NAS II pool. Please contact ITT x4396 for more information.  
Advanced Open Water Diver Class: April 11 at 5 p.m.

## Extended Trips 2008

**Corfu', Greece:** *May 22 - 26*  
**Camping in Tropea:** *May 23 - 26*  
**Legoland Deutschland (Germany):** *June 13 - 16*  
**Camping in Lipari:** *July 4 - 7*  
**Citta del Mare, Sicily:** *July 4 - 7*

## Fitness

**Intro to Cardio** - *April 9: 1 p.m.* at both fitness centers  
**Family Rock Climbing Orientation Night**  
*April 11: 5 - 6:30 p.m.; 6:30 - 8 p.m. at The Cave*  
(50 FitFactor Points)

Sports  
Powder Puff Softball  
Sign-up by April 10 at either gym.

## Youth Sports

**Youth T-ball and Baseball** - *Sign up deadline April 11 at Fit District* - Registration fee \$35.  
**Start Smart T-ball** - *Sign up deadline: Friday, April 11*  
Registration fee: \$40

## Teen Center

**Spring Break Trip: Citta del Mare Resort:** *April 4 - 7*  
The Teen Center will be going to the beautiful resort of Citta del Mare, near Palermo. €100/person, limited space, sign-up at the Teen Center.  
**Catania Market** - *April 8: Departs: 9 a.m., Returns: 1 p.m.*  
**Tubeing in Modica** - *April 9: Departs: 9 a.m.*  
**Etnapolis Mall trip** - *April 10: Departs: 11 a.m.*  
**Valley of the Temples and The Turkish Steps** *April 11: Departs: 8:30 a.m., Returns: 5 p.m.*

## Youth Center

**Multicultural Dinner/Talent Show**  
*April 4: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.*  
**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.

## Mineo Recreation Center

**National Peach Cobbler Day:** *April 11*

APRIL 4 - APRIL 10

## MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

SCHEDULE

MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

### Friday, April 4

12:00pm The Spiderwick Chronicles PG 97 min.  
3:00pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.  
5:00pm Fool's Gold PG-13 109 min.  
5:30pm 10,000 B.C. PG-13 109 min.  
7:30pm Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins PG-13 114min.  
9:00pm There Will Be Blood R 158 min.

### Saturday, April 5

2:00pm FREE ADMISSION  
Ella Enchanted PG 95 min.  
2:30pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.  
4:30pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min.  
5:00pm Mad Money PG-13 101 min.  
7:30pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.  
8:00pm Rambo R 93 min.  
9:30pm Untraceable R 101 min.

### Sunday, April 6

2:00pm The Spiderwick Chronicles PG 97 min.  
2:30pm Fool's Gold PG-13 109 min.  
4:30pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.  
5:00pm Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins PG-13 114min.  
7:00pm 10,000 B.C. PG-13 109 min.

### Monday, April 7

12:00pm FREE ADMISSION  
Howl's Moving Castle PG 119 min.  
3:00pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.  
5:00pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.  
5:30pm Mad Money PG-13 101 min.  
7:30pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min.  
8:00pm Rambo R 93 min.

### Tuesday, April 8

12:00pm The Spiderwick Chronicles PG 97 min.  
3:00pm 10,000 B.C. PG-13 109 min.  
5:00pm Fool's Gold PG-13 109 min.  
5:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.  
7:30pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.  
8:00pm Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins PG-13 114min.

### Wednesday, April 9

12:00pm FREE ADMISSION  
Valiant G 76 min.  
3:00pm The Eye PG-13 97 min.  
5:00pm Rambo R 93 min.  
5:30pm Untraceable R 101 min.  
7:30pm Mad Money PG-13 101 min. LS  
8:00pm Over Her Dead Body PG-13 95 min.

### Thursday, April 10

12:00pm Meet The Spartans PG-13 84 min.  
3:00pm Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins PG-13 114min.  
5:00pm There Will Be Blood R 158 min.  
5:30pm 27 Dresses PG-13 111 min. LS  
7:30pm THROWBACK THURSDAY - FREE ADMISSION  
Weekend at Bernie's PG-13 98 min.  
8:00pm Fool's Gold PG-13 109 min.

### Cloverfield (PG-13)

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.

### Ella Enchanted (PG)

Ella lives in a fanciful and magical world where all children are given a gift from a fairy godmother at the moment of their birth. Ella's birthright is the gift of obedience, but she soon learns that it is also her curse. She cannot refuse any command. In order to gain control of her life, Ella goes on a quest to free herself from the curse, outwitting a kingdom filled with ogres, giants, wicked stepsisters, talking books and evil plots. And, if she's lucky, she may find love along the way.

### The Eye (PG-13)

Sydney Wells is an accomplished concert violinist who has been blind since a childhood tragedy. Sydney undergoes a double corneal transplant, and her sight is restored. But Sydney's happiness is short-lived as unexplainable shadowy and frightening images start to haunt her. Are they a passing aftermath of her surgery, Sydney's mind adjusting to sight, a product of her imagination, or something horrifyingly real? As Sydney's family and friends begin to doubt her sanity, Sydney is soon convinced that her anonymous eye donor has somehow opened the door to a terrifying world only she can now see.

### Fool's Gold (PG-13)

Ben "Finn" Finnegan is a good-natured, surf bum-turned-treasure hunter who is obsessed with finding the legendary 18th century Queen's Dowry—40 chests of exotic treasure that was lost at sea in 1715. In his quest, Finn has sunk everything he has, including his marriage to Tess Finnegan and his more-rusty-than-trusty salvage boat, "Booty Calls." Just as Tess has begun to rebuild her life, working aboard a mega-yacht owned by billionaire Nigel Honeycutt, Finn discovers a vital clue to the treasure's whereabouts. Certain that his luck will change with the newfound information, Finn maneuvers himself aboard Nigel's yacht and, using his good-natured charm, convinces the tycoon and his Blackberry-wielding, celebubante daughter, Gemma, to join him in the pursuit of the Spanish treasure. Against Tess' better judgment, the search rekindles her love... of discovery. But they are not the only ones after the treasure. Finn's mentor-turned-nemesis Moe Fitch has also set out to claim the prize. Let the treasure hunt begin...

### Mad Money (PG-13)

A comedy about three ordinary women who form an unlikely friendship and decide to do something extraor-

dinary—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 by 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).

### Over Her Dead Body 9PG-13)

Devastated when his fiancée Kate is killed on their wedding day, Henry reluctantly agrees to consult a psychic named Ashley at the urging of his sister Chloe. Despite his skepticism over her psychic abilities, Henry finds himself falling hard for Ashley, and vice versa. But there is a big snag. Ashley is being haunted by Kate's ghost, who considers it her heavenly duty to break up Henry and Ashley's fledgling romance, if it is the last thing she does on this earthly plane.

PREMIERS FRIDAY APRIL 4

Step Up 2: The Streets  
Definitely, Maybe  
Shine a Light

COMING SOON

Witness Protection

# A Stone's Throw

## THE HUB OF THE MED IS ALSO THE HUB FOR TRAVEL Ursino Castle: A Sicilian Fortress

Article and photos by [REDACTED]  
Signature Volunteer

During the 13th century, ships that approached Catania's coastal area faced an enormous military structure, right there on a cliff, the Ursino Castle. It was 1250 when this fortress came to life. By will of Frederick II of Swabia, Frederick the Red Beard's grandson; this site was Riccardo of Lentini's project, a military architect. The emperor required a massive castle to discourage any enemies who wanted to come near the oriental part of Sicily.

The site of the structure was a cliff on the sea, so by three sides the castle was wet by the water. As one can see the coast in no longer there; indeed, sitting at the bottom of Mount Etna, Catania went through many calamities, especially the eruptions of the volcano that contributed to the reshaping of the town's territory. In 1669, the lava reached the coastal area and surrounded the castle, forcing the sea to retreat.

The fortress entrance was the part attached to the land. Right above the entrance door there is Frederick's symbol, an eagle that holds a rabbit on its claws. This is not pure decoration; the eagle represents the emperor who holds the people of Catania, the rabbit. The city wanted to revolt against Frederick, the king stopped the rebellion and burned the surroundings as punishment. The main purpose of the Ursino Castle was military fortress, but throughout history, its purpose changed many times.

It became residency for the aragonites, for the Spanish vice king, it was a prison, it was abandoned at once, and finally in the 1930s it became a civic museum. Frederick himself never utilized the fortress, but he closely followed the progress of its building, and he made sure that showed his love for geometry, choosing a square plant and cylindrical towers.

The first room of the castle was dedicated to the arms, here indeed there were displayed. However, the tour starts with the north-east angular room that precedes the tower of the flags. This tower's name came from

the fact that Catania was able to display two valley's flags the Noto's valley as well as the Demon's valley. In the space antecedent the tower, one can admire artifacts that come from excavation on the Roman-Greek amphitheatre near by.

It is also possible to see how the medieval windows were cleverly built, they were small from the outside for protection and opened up on the inside capturing as much light as possible. In the next room, there were the stables. The ceiling of this room was built with vases placed upside down that created a ventilation system to get rid of bad smells.

In the 1700, due to the modification of the castle structure and of its purpose, this room had the installation of 'toilets.' Here it also is possible to admire other Greek-Roman statues and a beautiful mosaic that came from one of the roman baths of the city whose inscription says "welcome." The space that follows is very interesting; it is the room of support.

The door in this space used to open to the sea right where the ships were secured to facilitate any loading or unloading. Near by is the tower of salt called so because it was exposed to the sea. From the room of Saint George or of the chapel, the renaissance makes its appearance in the castle, proved by the different decoration of the doorways and also by the big windows with seats.

This area was once a chapel dedicated to Saint George of which only the Spanish arch is visible. By the windows, there are prisoner's graffiti written in maybe a mix of Latin and Sicilian, signs of the castle's use as jail.

At this point, a particular might escape the eye of the visitor. Indeed, as soon as you come into the room, immediately to the right on the wall there is an arch protected by a glass barrier. If you carefully look in there, you can see a well that goes all the way to the sea. Concetta Tiralosi, one of the tour guides, said that it might have been an elevator to bring the goods into the castle.

In the other rooms, the ceilings are in dark wood, and between the tower of storage and the tower of the martyrs, a semi tower hides two Greek statues and a marble case container for vases with perfumed oils. The arms room has the access to a semi tower in which there is a set of stairs that brings to the king's personal residence.

In this room, there is also the statue of Ignazio Paterno' Castello prince of Biscari, the man who donated the valuable collection of the artifacts displayed in the castle. Right here, a doorway opens up to the castle courtyard where a set of stairs in Catalan style reaches the above level. Here the famous "sala del parlamento" (parliament room) hosted the very first Sicilian Parliament under the revolt of the Vespri in 1295.

In this very same room, the wake at the death of Frederick III of Aragon occurred. This king left his throne to his daughter Maria, who was only ten years old.

Maria's tutor, Artale Alagona together with three other Sicilian barons, administrated the reign. Alagona's plan was to marry young Maria to Gian Galeazzo Visconti to further strengthen his powers. The barons did not approve Alagona's choice. In the night of January 23 1392, William Raymond Moncada kidnapped the queen and brought her to Spain to marry Martin the Young, heir to the Spanish throne.

After Maria's death, the fortress lost its importance because Sicily became a province of Spain. In the 1800s, the castle became a prison and later on a military facility. It was renovated obscenely hiding the beautiful architecture. Recently, archeological excavations came across interesting findings.

Besides the Greek artifacts found, there were thirteen sarcophagi in which the bodies were buried with their head facing the sea. After 750 years, the Ursino castle is still a fascinating place to visit and to uncover. Its history is very uncertain offering the visitor the possibility to enter a



(Above) The front of Ursino Castle.

different dimension, the land of dream and imagination. The castle is open from Monday through Friday from 9:00 till 13:00 and from 16:00 till 19:00. The tour is free of charge as well as the tour guide.

Concetta is the English speaking tour guide that can help you with any questions you may have. To get to this location is easy. When facing the elephant obelisk, in elephant

square, go toward the big fountain located to the left side of the square. Now, walk up the straight road in front of you for two blocks and take the first left road called "via castello ursino;" this street brings you directly to the castle. It is possible to park right in front and to have dinner at the near by restaurant Camelot where you can enjoy a good Sicilian meal with the background of the castle.

## Chiechio

## Fuedo S. Vitos

## Tatoo



(Above) A view of the Castle Courtyard.

# PSD RECIVES LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Article and photo by MC2 Joshua Wink  
Signature Staff

Personnel Support Detachment (PSD), Sigonella was honored Thursday, March 22 with a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Sigonella Capt. Thomas Quinn. The award was given to PSD for its superior performance during 2007, of which,



PSD was recognized for unparalleled levels of

accuracy, timeliness and customer service in it's support of more than 30 commands and 5000 customers.

PSD achieved above Navy averages with a 98.7 percent accuracy rating as well as a 97.3 percent timeliness rating in the Defense Joint Military Pay System. In addition to their high customer performance rating, PSD was also able to achieve a 65 percent Personnel Specialist (PS) advancement rating at a time when the Navy is currently experiencing a downward trend in the PS rate.

PSD recognized the advantage of utilizing a "team concept" organization which lead the detachment to efficiently shift their method of operation and was able to revitalize the Personnel Liaison Program, resulting in significant improvements in customer communication as well as maximized on-the-job training for clerks.

Also, members of the staff dedicated countless hours, paying special attention to personnel preparing for individual augmentee assignment to ensure that upon their transfers into combat zones, all pay and personnel matters were thoroughly resolved.

"I know that the relationship between Sailors and PSD can be rough for a lot of PSD's out there, but this is a good recognition for us, and I think that it will help keep the crew here positive about what they can accomplish," said PSC William Evans of PSD Sigonella.

## PSD Change of Command continued from page 1

to the crew of PSD and the NASSIG Color Guard team for their performance in the ceremony, "Your appearance, skill and bearing does us all proud."

Lt. Pugh demonstrated his sincerest appreciation for the Sailors and civilians in the PSD organization by remarking on their support for the accomplishments over the past years. During his speech, he had each of the individuals stand to receive his praise for a job well done. He also had an opportunity to bestow gifts and flowers to his wife, children and the PSD Ombudsman Mrs. Maggie Brown.

The team in PSD had an opportunity to present a plaque and framed photograph of the crew to Lt. Pugh as a departing gift.

Lt. Kepler closed with, "What an incredible honor this is for me today. I am both humbled and excited to lead. I count it a privilege to serve with each and every one of you, and I look forward to the challenges that lay ahead."

Lt. Pugh is under orders to Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center in San Diego, CA. His family will remain here in Sigonella for his return as the administration officer of NAS Sigonella.

## CNRE Change of Command continued from page 2

dangerous place..." It is critical to consider the need to accommodate the resources that are available to the United States as it competes with other national demands.

A heartfelt speech filled with emotion, Groothousen thanked his CNRE staff and team comprised of host nation employees, U.S. employees and military members alike.

"If I have earned success and even standing, then I will have to say that it is down to every Sailor and civilian who has given me more than I could have asked for in terms of sacrifice and duty."

Groothousen concluded his speech by welcoming the new CNRE admiral.

"No commander who believes he has worked hard and in good faith would not wish that his successor be someone very capable," Groothousen commented. "He would believe him to have the capability and the promise to deliver outstanding results and outstanding service. Rear Adm. Mercer is such a person."

Mercer, a 1978 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and designated naval aviator in 1980, pledged to both

his NATO and Navy Region team continued operational excellence. To Admiral Conway, Mercer stated, "I pledge our full support in your efforts to align and operationalize Navy installations world wide. We will continue to work for increased support to our Sailors, their families and our civilian workforce."

Unique to the day's event was the singing by guests and the Navy band vocalist to the tune of "Happy Birthday" played by the Navy band to Mercer's son, who was celebrating his first birthday.

Navy Region Europe is comprised of four enduring bases in the European theater including Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy; Naval Air Station Rota, Spain; Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, Italy; and Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete, Greece. Region Europe supports Commander, Naval Forces Europe by providing effective and efficient shore services to U.S. and allied forces within the European theater supporting operations in Europe and Africa.

For more information about Navy Region Europe, go to <http://www.cnre.navy.mil>.

# Stampa

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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.

# Stampa

# IL Mercato

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SEND IL MERCATO ADVERTISEMENTS TO [THESIG@NASSIG.SICILY.NAVY.MIL](mailto:THESIG@NASSIG.SICILY.NAVY.MIL)

## AUTOMOTIVE

**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 \$ . If interested call 3920935457 or 6244205 ask for Mr . Trovato Alfredo

**Lancia K**, black, excellent condition, full optional, 5 cylinders, A/C, on board computer, has new brakes, 4 doors, and has a very large trunk. Asking 4,300.00 Euro negotiable. Call 348-8242543.

**1997 Mercedes Benz C180**, Silver Elegance. 4 door Sedan Excellent condition. 5 speed, A/C power windows and locks. CD/Radio, New tires and brakes. Recent tune up and Inspected March 08 and ready to sale. \$4,500 OBO Call Manny @624-3797 wk or 624-1399 hm

**2000 Mitsubishi Galant** for sale, with leather seats, abs, and sunroof. KBB is \$5,000. however asking price is \$4,000. call 624-1326 or 3334277357 for more info.

**Alfa Romeo 164**, reliable car, 1994 with only 140000 km, power everything, new tires, manual transmission, cold A/C, very well maintained vehicle. Asking \$1600 obo. call Ian at 3486298865.

**2006 Toyota Corolla S**, Must Sell, American spec, 12000 miles, fully loaded including sunroof and Sports Pkg. . Blue

book value is 17,500, I will take 16,500 OBO, this car is a must see and great on gas, draws 300 liters Call Mac at 3394194857 or 0957275032

**2000 Suzuki Bandit (600cc)** Black and silver. 10,000 miles. American specs. Looks good, runs great. New tires, some spare parts included. 2nd owner. \$2000 obo. Contact Brian @ 3343917471.

**1991 - Mercedes 200E** metallic dark gray, a/c, very good condition (always been kept in a garage), price \$3000. For info call 335-7441667.

**1998 Chevy S10 Blazer 4x4 2"** Body Lift kit, Brand New, \$150; Mamasan Chair & Stool with Cream colored pads, used - good condition, \$30; DVD rack, \$5. Call Mindy at 095-30-7970 or 340-156-8076.

**1997 Ford KA**, Great island car in great condition, well kept reliable and well maintain engine, very good on gas/mlg. A/C, PWR steering/locks/windows, AM/FM/CDplayer. Asking \$3600 Contact Thomas @ 3403246810 or 624-1720

**1995 Nissan 200sx** 2 Door, Automatic, AC, Sunroof, PW, CD Player, 4cyl. White, Runs great, New tires, Very good on gas. "Must Sell" Available May 1st. \$2,500 OBO. Call 624-0189

**2001 Ford Focus ZX3** Hatchback 2 Door. U.S. Specs, Silver with Black Interior. Automatic Transmission, 4 Cylinder 16 Valve 2.0 ZTEC Engine, Draws 300 Liters. Air Conditioning, Power Steering,

Power Brakes, Power Windows, Power Door Locks, Power Mirrors, Cruise Control, Tinted Windows, AM/FM Stereo, Single CD Player. Tilt Steering Wheel, Dual Front Air Bags, New Tires. Great Condition, Meticulously Maintained. Maintenance Receipts for the last four years. 85,000 Miles, \$4,400 Contact Kent 3407891417

**BMW 520**, 150k Km, European specs, Denationalized, power everything, Safe, clean and reliable car. Tune up done in Jan 08. \$4,900. Cell 3407101062.

**Scoda Octavia Felicia** year 2000 in excellent condition KL 88.000 with 1600 cc engine asking price Euro 2000.00 for info call 346-6082330 Joe

## FOR SALE

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.

Women or girls bike Black & Pink \$30. University of Maryland Books/Psychology 7th edition, Biology 6th ed ; MicroEconomics 16th edition.

If intersted please call:624-1315 Coby (New in Package) Digital Photo Keychain-\$15 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Sony CD Walkman (new, in package) -\$30 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Kids brand new (still in package) 5 piece drum set \$100 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Saturday Night Live-Season 2 Collector set-\$20 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Charmed DVD set - Seasons 1-6 Each season \$20 or all for \$100 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Polaroid Portable DVD player-\$100 Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

18" used chrome rims for sale. Fits any vehicle with five lugs. asking price is \$350. call 624-1326 or 3334277357 for more info.

Aloft Bed, Twin, Wood, Blue-Painted. \$50.00, Entertainment Center, Wood with Glass Door. \$50.00, Rotary fan 220V. \$8.00, If interested, please call 335-100-0164 or email jellenquezon@yahoo.com. POC: Majellen Quezon 624-6103 or 335-100-0164

Gently used white Graco crib for sale with mattress, and turns into a toddler bed...asking \$70.00 OBO call Aundrea @ 624-0651

Kitchen island for sale. Hand made by Palermo Furniture here in Sicily. Top is ceramic tile, hand painted in Caltagirone. It is a large piece of furniture, tons of storage room. Paid 850 euro, asking 700\$ or best offer. E-mail a i l gretchenmanzer@yahoo.com for pics, or please call 624-0275 if interested.

Whirlpool Refrigerator (side by side) 21.6 cu.ft \$700; Whirlpool dehumidifier \$50; Regina steam cleaner \$20; box fans \$15; Toaster (Hamilton beach) \$10; transformers 500 watt \$5; 1500 watt \$15; car tire (Good Year) 175/70r13 \$15. Call Ray @ 095-308516 or 328-4772346.

## Ass. Portiere Stella

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

Assomondo  
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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 will start at the Mineo Community Center at 2 pm Sat. April 12. POC will be Gwen Gooch at 624-1493. It is never to late to start, come & get started.

PETS

1yr 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.

Cute spotti Dalmation; if interested please call: 624-1315

4 yr old small terrier mix, FREE to a good home! Includes all her stuff, she is fully housebroken and all ready to go! call Aundrea @ 624-0651.

Grande Cina

Vento Dell'st

Casa Blanca

Vulcano

Camelot

Armed Forces

# Stampa