

Panorama

57TH YEAR, NO. 6

Serving the NATO, Naples and Gaeta military communities in Italy

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012

New taxi rates in effect for central Naples

By Melissa Kabukuru, Panorama editor

As Naples began enforcing its new limited traffic zone in the city center this week, city officials also introduced lower fixed taxi rates to make it easier to access the restricted area.

The new limited traffic zone in Naples includes Spaccanapoli, the city's oldest district, and is bounded roughly by Via Foria in the north, Corso Umberto in the south, Piazza Dante in the west and Via Carbonara in the east.

Under the city's new taxi rate plan, called "TaxiTutti," or "taxis (for) everybody," a taxi ride into the Zona Traffico Limitato (ZTL) Centro Antico from the area immediately surrounding it costs €6. This includes rides to the ZTL from the central train station in Piazza Garibaldi and trips to the ZTL from Molo Beverello, the city's main port.

The €6 taxi fare applies to travel between the limited traffic zone and the most central parts of Naples, including Piazza Municipio and Galleria Umberto.

Rates for travel between the limited traffic zone and more distant areas such as Mergellina, Chiaia, the waterfront and Poggioreale will cost €8 under the new rate system.

In order to take advantage of the new rates, passengers must request the fixed rate at the beginning of the trip, and have a receipt prepared in advance indicating the price along with the departure point and destination.

The €6 and €8 rates can be requested 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including holidays and Sundays. No special rates are available between the ZTL Centro Antico and Capodichino airport, or between the limited traffic zone and neighborhoods such as Vomero, Fuorigrotta and Posillipo.

The new limited traffic zone in Naples permits only residents, public transportation, emergency vehicles, public service providers and people transporting the disabled to drive within the restricted area from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Commercial delivery vehicles are also permitted during certain times of day.

For an English language map of the new taxi zones and an explanation of the rates, visit www.comune.napoli.it/.

Africa Partnership Station jams to Dr. Dre



See page 13: Members of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe Band's "Topside" brass ensemble perform aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) during a four-day trip to Casablanca, Morocco, earlier this month. Topside is performing in Nigeria and Ghana until Feb. 22 in support of Africa Partnership Station (APS) 2012. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jeff Troutman)

The Bourbon Tunnel: Another way to explore Naples' buried history

By Melissa Kabukuru, Panorama editor

Continually, Naples proves that much of its fascinating history lies beneath its surface.

Nowhere is that more true than with its historic underground, which is becoming increasingly accessible to the public with the opening of new areas to explore.

The Tunnel Borbonico, opened to the public in October 2010, lets visitors travel through underground cisterns dating back to the 1600s, as well as traverse the passageway that Naples' King Ferdinand II of Bourbon commissioned as an escape route connecting his royal palace with the sea.

The standard version of the tour, which is available in English, goes deep into the history of the underground network of water tanks and the construction of Ferdinand's tunnel, as well as their use as bomb shelters during World War II.

The Bourbon Tunnel is a demonstration of how many layers of Neapolitan history exist in tandem in the underground. In trying to construct the tunnel in the 1850s, architect Enrico Alvino encountered cisterns dating back to the 1600s that were still in use. He was forced to build bridges over them to avoid disturbing the city's water supply.

Though the tunnel remains somewhat of an enigma, it is



Inside the Tunnel Borbonico, one can see statues dating back to fascist period and many cars and motorcycles that have been abandoned for years. (Photo courtesy of Associazione Culturale Borbonica Sotterranea)

believed to have been built by King Ferdinand II to connect the royal palace in Piazza del Plebiscito with the seaside barracks of the king's army (now a Carabinieri office in Via Do-

menico Morelli). Construction of the tunnel began in 1853 after the revolutions of 1848 left Ferdinand II fearing for his life.

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FRIDAY

High 48 / Low 43
Partly cloudy



SATURDAY

High 54 / Low 48
Partly cloudy



SUNDAY

High 54 / Low 46
Chance of rain



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Captain's Corner

By Capt. Scott Gray
NSA Commanding Officer



February is African American History Month, and this weekend is President's Day. So I think it's fitting that I start with a quote from this year's presidential proclamation urging public officials and others to celebrate this month "with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and festivals."

During National African American History Month, we pay tribute to the contributions of past generations and reaffirm our commitment to keeping the American dream alive for the next generation. In honor of those women and men who paved the way for us, and with great expectations for those to follow, let us continue the righteous cause of making America what it should be — a Nation that is more just and more equal for all its people.

— President Barack Obama

Please join us for the African American History Month celebration at the Capodichino Theater on Feb. 28 at 10 a.m. and help us honor those who have labored so diligently over the years to win the freedoms and rights for all our citizens to enjoy.

February is also the month when most Americans file their taxes, so jump on the bandwagon and get them done as soon as possible. Most of us will get a refund, so that money is just sitting there waiting for you to claim it. The earlier you file, the sooner you will receive your refund, so don't give the government a tax free loan for any longer than you have to. Remember, the VITA office is open for business and volunteers are there to assist you in filing your taxes. Take advantage of this service and don't procrastinate. Additionally, we are kicking off our "Military Saves" campaign to improve personal financial readiness. Check out the details at the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) and get yourself on the path to personal financial independence. More details are available at FFSC through their "Military Saves" classes.

The presidential primaries wind on, and if you live in a state that has yet to cast a vote for the candidates, please don't wait to register and file your ballots. The general election will be here before you know it, so plan on having your ballots filled in and filed by the end of September. Our voting assistance office hours are Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m., so stop by the Naval Support Activity Admin office or look for the booths that will be periodically set up on the Capodichino spine and at the NEX food court.

Terra Nova testing week is next month and I'd like to put a plug in for parents to not plan vacations during that week. Many studies have shown that students do better when they take these tests with the rest of their class, instead of having to make up the work later. Do your kids a favor and adjust your travel plans accordingly.

March 10 is another parents' night out opportunity at the Child Development Center, so be sure to take advantage of the service and plan a great night out with your significant other. One option is the Naples High School's dinner theater that very same evening. It's nice when things align that well. We'll provide more information on these events as they approach, but save the date.

I want to say best of luck to all the Tiger Sharks who will be competing in the European Swim Championships this weekend in Eindhoven, Netherlands. I know you will all do well and be great ambassadors of Naples. Now, bring me home the European Championship, as I have been scoping out a place to hang the banner! Oxygen is overrated; Tiger Sharks Attack!

Also, I'd like to extend a HUGE congratulations to the outstanding Naples High School Boys Basketball Team in another big win over Sigonella. Keep up the momentum as you head to the tournament next weekend. I know you'll make us proud!

This weekend is a great opportunity to ski, because the slopes will be pretty clear today and Monday. Roccaraso is easy, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) has trips scheduled on Saturday and Monday this week. Save yourself the drive, relax and let MWR facilitate a great ski day for you and your family. Take advantage of the outstanding conditions after a few weeks of heavy snowfall and hit the slopes.

Lastly, use your Operational Risk Management skills and good common sense to remain safe during the long weekend. Remember to stop and weigh the risk-reward ratio of any potential decisions before you make them by asking yourself if the benefits outweigh the potential consequences. I have never seen anyone stand before a Commanding Officer at Captain's Mast for a DUI who didn't wish that they had paid €20 for a cab ride home instead of getting behind the wheel after a night of drinking. I know of parents who lost a child to a traumatic head injury after falling off a skateboard while not wearing a helmet. Anticipate the unanticipated before you take a precipitous action. Plan for the worst case scenario instead of hoping for the best case scenario, as hope is never a good plan. Remember, if you are calculating your odds of getting away with something, you are already heading down a perilous path. Please be safe and make good common sense decisions. I want everyone back safe and sound come Tuesday morning.

Enjoy a well deserved long weekend — you have earned it through your great work and service to the country

Base Notes

From Panorama staff reports

Long-term parking application process

Parking onboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples Capodichino in excess of 96 hours requires a Long Term Parking Permit. A completed request form with proof of TDY/TAD or leave can be submitted to the Capo Pass & ID Office located adjacent to the front gate either in person or via fax to 081-568-4956. Requests require four days advance notice for processing. However, every effort will be made to accommodate short notice TDY/TAD orders. Request forms may be downloaded from the NSA Naples website (www.cnic.mil/naples) at About/ Departments/ Administration/AdministrativeServices/Forms. Completed permits must be picked up in person during normal business hours. For questions, please call 081-568-4955/4954.

USO Speed Dating Night March 3

Get out of the house Saturday, March 3 and make new friends while enjoying a fun night of wine tasting at Cantine del Vesuvio.

Speed dating rounds will be the perfect icebreaker to meet people while savoring the best wines of the region. Tour includes roundtrip bus transportation, wine tasting and appetizers. Open to single men and women from the ages of 20 to 35. No married couples allowed. To sign up, call the USO at 081-568-5713 or 081-811-4903.

Post offices closed for Presidents Day Weekend

All post offices will be closed Feb. 17 to 20 in observance of Presidents Day Weekend.

San Gennaro Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Competition Feb. 25

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2012 Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Competition, which will be held at 3 p.m. Feb. 25 at the NSA Naples Teen Center Gym.

The Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Champion-

ship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, state and district competitions. International Champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus International headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. Participation is free, but requires an entry form completed and signed by a parent or guardian. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information, call George Piette at 081-568-4341 or 342-198-5695 or e-mail georgepiette@gmail.com.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend March 2-4

This event lets couples can experience a safe and relaxed environment in which they can fall in love all over again. Rediscover the foundations of your relationship, develop new skills and learn from other couples during this weekend retreat. If you are interested in attending please call the CREDO Office at 081-568-5255.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

March 14-15

In this workshop you will have an opportunity to explore your experiences with and your attitudes about suicide. You will also have an opportunity to better understand the needs of a person at risk of suicide and learn how to use suicide first-aid to meet those needs.

If you are interested in attending or if you have any questions please contact the CREDO Office at 081-568-5255.

Important DODDS dates

Feb. 18: Tiger Sharks European Forces Swim League Championship in the Netherlands

Feb. 20: President's Day — No school

Feb. 25: Asian Auction — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Feb. 25: Flea Market — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

March 3-4: "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" musical performance

March 10: Booster Club Dinner Show Fundraiser at 6 p.m.

March 12-16: Terra Nova Week

DODDS Accelerated Withdrawal due to PCS begins May 17

The Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) allow students whose families are moving due to a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) to withdraw from school 20 days before the end of a semester and still receive full credit. The accelerated withdrawal date for the end of the 2011-2012 school year is May 17, 2012. To be eligible for accelerated withdrawal starting on this date, students must present verification of their sponsor's date of departure (i.e. PCS orders or other official orders) to school officials. Students who withdraw prior to May 17 will receive a "withdrawal" grade rather than a final grade. The policy cannot be extended to cover family visits or travel.

Black History Month event Feb. 28

In honor of Black History Month, the Combined Multicultural Heritage Committee will hold a presentation in the Capodichino Theater at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28.

CNE-CNA-C6F/CNREURAFSWA IG HOTLINE

Report fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement in Navy activities to:

Office of the Inspector General, Naples, Italy

Leave a recorded message 24/7:.....081-568-2983

Speak to the CNREURAFSWA Investigator:.....081-568-2600

Speak to the CNE-CNA-C6F Investigator:.....081-568-2964

E-mail: ighotline@eu.navy.mil

Website: www.cnic.navy.mil/europe/index.htm

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- Post Officepostoffice@eu.navy.mil
- Hospital Customer Servicenhnaples-pao@med.navy.mil
- Naples HighnaplesHS.principal@eu.dodea.edu
- Naples ElementarynaplesES.principal@eu.dodea.edu
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Italian students tour Naval Support Activity Naples

Italian elementary students from Istituto Paritario "S. Chiara" in Nola stop to take a keepsake photo during their tour of U.S. Naval Support Activity Naples Capodichino Thursday, Feb. 9. The students visited base facilities such as the library, the FitZone gym, the air terminal and the fire station.
 (Photo by MC3 Caitlin Conroy)



Italian News Briefs

Compiled by Teresa Merola

Italian police checking reported incomes of luxury car owners

Last month police stopped more than 350 vehicles, mostly luxury cars around Milan, to catch tax evaders. Police checked driver's licenses and registrations and passed on the information to the national tax agency, which will check to see if the cars' owners have declared the right amount of income to justify their lifestyles. This was the fifth raid since December targeting wealthy people in Italy. In one case, tax authorities found that 42 luxury car owners had declared income of less than €30,000 for 2010 and 2009. In Florence, they found a construction builder with no tax record who was driving a Mercedes, and also a German owner of an SUV who had declared no income with the tax agency. Since the government of Italian premier Mario Monti raised taxes on luxury goods, extra taxes and fiscal raids have contributed to a decrease in the demand for supercars, making them less attractive to buy. By the end of 2012, the extra levies on gasoline will cost Italian drivers €5.1 billion.

Italian government says ministers must shun gifts worth above €150

The Italian technocrat government led by premier Mario Monti issued a statement decreeing that ministers must return gifts worth more than €150 in order to avoid a conflict of interest. The decision comes as Italians are being forced to pay more taxes, causing them to focus their anger lately on politicians, who are considered a privileged class. Monti's statement also comes during the middle of a finance scandal involving a treasurer politician of a left-leaning political party who admitted to embezzling €13 million. In Italy, political parties receive millions of euros of taxpayer money for their campaigns.

Italian fugitive caught via Facebook photos

A 27-year-old Italian man who disappeared four years ago following a drug dealing conviction recently posted a photo on Facebook showing himself with a wax model of President Barack Obama. Police immediately thought the fugitive was in London

after looking at another Facebook photo showing him while a double-decker bus was passing by. Italian police contacted the British counterparts and the man was sent to Rome, where he was transferred to prison to start his five-year sentence.

Soccer player Del Piero helps girl wake from coma

Alessandro Del Piero, an Italian soccer legend playing for the Juventus club, made an important contribution in helping a 12-year-old girl named Giada come out of a two-week coma. Giada was watching a Juventus match when she had a brain hemorrhage last month. Her family asked Del Piero for help, and Del Piero sent a video message to Giada saying to wake up as soon as possible so she could watch lots of his games. After watching the message, Giada that night moved her hand, and a few hours later she called for her mother. She talked and asked for an ice cream afterwards. Del Piero, a World Cup-winner, has committed his time and financial support to cancer research. He also has dressed up like Santa Claus and walked the streets of Turin at Christmas time. Now, he can also take credit for helping wake a girl from a coma.

Naples gets €15 million to spruce up for America's Cup

A fund of €15 million has been allocated to the city of Naples to prepare for America's Cup this spring, launching a race against time to improve the city's appearance in time for the event. Of the €15 million, €8 million has been allocated for construction projects at sea and on land. Works have started for the extension of the cliff in front of Rotonda Diaz, while a facelift is also planned for the 'Villa Comunale' and its Casina Pompeiana and Cassa Armonica, where the awards will be held. New pavement, lighting and camera surveillance will be installed around the area. The famous Via Caracciolo will be closed from mid-March and through April while preparations are underway. During that time, vehicles will circulate in both directions on the Riviera di Chiaia. The tennis club will be the headquarters of the American organizers.

THE INSIDE PAGE...

UPCOMING FFSC NAPLES FEBRUARY EVENTS

Call FFSC at 081-811-6372 to reserve your spot for events and classes.

- 20 **THE HILL OF VOMERO** (8:30 a.m. - 2p.m.; Departs from JFC) Explore the beautiful Vomero area, including the local market and St. Elmo Castle.
- 21 **EASY ITALIAN** (9 a.m. - noon) This is an introduction to basic Italian language and conversation.
- 21 **AL-ANON SUPPORT GROUP** (6 - 7p.m.)
- 21 **ACING THE INTERVIEW** (9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Want to shine during an interview? This class will provide you with the knowledge and skills needed to impress during an interview. Broaden your awareness regarding interview etiquette.
- 22 **TRANSPORTATION FROM SUPPORT SITE** (9 a.m. - noon; Class and trip) Learn how to take public transportation from the Support Site to Aversa, Naples and other Italian cities.
- 22 **SAVING AND INVESTING** (Noon - 12:45 p.m.; Capo Theater) Did you know that even minimal monthly savings early in your career can result in hundreds of thousands of dollars by retirement? Learn easy ways to save money to help you meet your short and long term goals.
- 22 **CHOICES (MANAGING YOUR ANGER)** (2 - 4 p.m.; Session 4 of 4) A four-session program focused on skills to manage anger and develop effective communication.
- 22 **BECOMING A LOVE & LOGIC PARENT** (5:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Session 4 of 7; Naples Elementary School Cafeteria) This parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately.
- 23 **VISIT TO A PASTRY LAB** (8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; Departs from JFC) For people with a sweet tooth.
- 24 **FINANCIAL FITNESS FOR KIDS** (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) Do you want your kids to learn smart money habits? Explore your own money habits and skills and learn techniques to teach your children sound financial management skills.
- 24 **LEGAL ASSISTANCE AT FFSC** (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) Legal Assistance appointments will be performed by an NLSO attorney two times per month at the FFSC service center. The attorneys are available for the usual legal assistance services - powers of attorney, immigration, consumer law, creditor/debtor issues, divorce, etc. Please contact 081-568-4576 for more information or to make an appointment.
- 24 **ITALIAN COOKING CLASS** (9:45 a.m. - 2 p.m.) Trip to a restaurant to learn how to cook a variety of Italian dishes. Cost: about 15 Euro to be paid at the restaurant. Participants meet outside S. Site Main Gate at 9:45 a.m., and take local bus to Aversa. Requires prior purchase of 2 E1 bus tickets at ITT.

UPCOMING GAETA FEBRUARY EVENTS

Call FFSC Gaeta at 081-568-8354/7 to sign up for a class.

- 21 **SPONSORSHIP TRAINING FOR THE MOUNT WHITNEY** (10 - 11:30 a.m.) This training affords commands the opportunity to demonstrate to newly assigned personnel that they are an important part of that command and the Navy. Sponsorship principles are made easy with this training, which is for Mount Whitney active duty and NSA active duty. Spouses are also invited if they are willing to help.

FEBRUARY

- 17, 24 **WEB TABRIEF FOR SAILORS** The WEB TA brief is at 9 a.m. Feb. 24 and at 1 p.m. Feb. 17 at Capo in Admin II. Visit the Navy College Office at Capo for more information or call 081-568-6684/6683/6678.
- 18, 25 **MARKETPLACE** Come browse products and services provided by military spouses at the Support Site Community Center from 1 to 5 p.m. Feb. 18 and 25. Unique products and services include dog apparel, embroidery, photography, spray tanning, and more.
- 23 **UMUC OPEN HOUSE** University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Europe will hold an open house to answer questions about admissions, registration, financial aid and academic programs from 11 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23 in the U.S. Naval Hospital Naples Dental Conference Room at the Support Site. For more information, contact your UMUC Europe field representative at 081-568-6675, or napl@europe.umuc.edu.
- 23 **PLAY AND PICNIC WITH CONNECT THE TOTS CLUB** Join members of the Connect the Tots Club for Play and Picnic at 10 a.m. Thursday, February 23, at the Youth Center Playground. Bring a lunch. Rain location: NEX food court by the games and rides. Prospective members welcome!
- 24 **SAT TEST** Take the SAT test now. Your score report will arrive Naples 6-8 weeks after testing. Testing starts at 7:45 a.m. Appointments required via the Navy College Office, Capo, ADMIN II, main floor by contacting 081-568-6684/6683/6678 or nco.naples@eu.navy.mil.
- 25 **BASKETBALL FREE THROW COMPETITION** All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2012 Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Competition, which will be held at 3 p.m. Feb. 25 in the NSA Naples Teen Center Gym. For entry forms or more info, call George Piette at 081-568-4341 or 342-198-5695 or e-mail georgepiette@gmail.com.
- 25 **THE NAPLES HIGH SCHOOL ASIAN AUCTION** will take place from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. All proceeds benefit student programs. Walkthrough begins at 11 a.m. Sponsored by the NHS Booster Club and the PTA.
- 27 **CONNECT THE TOTS CLUB COFFEE TALK** Join members of the Connect the Tots Club for Coffee Talk, 10 a.m., Monday, February 27 at the NEX Food Court by the games and rides. Prospective members welcome! Find out what Connect the Tots is all about. For more information on the Club and to see more upcoming activities, visit www.meetup.com/Connect-the-Tots-Club/.
- 28 **BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATION** The Combined Multi-Cultural Heritage Committee will hold a presentation in honor of Black History Month at 10 a.m. Feb. 28 in the Capo Theater.

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Recipe of the month: *lasagna di carnevale*



Fiorella Beasley lives in Naples with her husband, Michael, who works at Naval Support Activity Naples. Her lasagna recipe is featured in this week's issue of *Panorama*. (Photo courtesy of Fiorella Beasley)

Lasagna is a typical food served during Carnevale throughout Naples and Campania. With Carnevale festivities throughout Italy peaking this weekend and on Fat Tuesday, which falls on Feb. 21, local families will be enjoying their versions of *lasagna di carnevale* as part of a final celebration before Lent begins. In Campania, *lasagna di carnevale* often contains small meatballs placed between the layers of pasta. Some versions occasionally include hard-boiled eggs and salami.

Here's a recipe for *lasagna di carnevale* from Fiorella Beasley, a native Neapolitan whose husband, Michael, works in the University of Maryland University College office at Naval Support Activity Naples. Fiorella said that she and her grandmother used to cook a *ragu* sauce like the one required for this recipe back when she was a little girl. "Now I make it for my children and my friends," she said.

Another Carnevale tradition: *Chiacchiere e sanguinaccio*



Chiacchiere are fried pastries typically served during Carnevale in the Campania region. Their name literally translates as "rumor" or "gossip." Normally they are dusted with powdered sugar (*zucchero di velo*) and served with *sanguinaccio*, a chocolate-based pudding.

Once upon a time, *sanguinaccio* was made with pig's blood, but this practice was stopped for hygienic reasons. Now, the main ingredient in *sanguinaccio* is just chocolate, and the sweet dipping sauce retains only its name — derived from *sanguinare*, the Italian word for "to bleed" — as a reminder of its history.

Sanguinaccio is also used as a dipping-sauce for ladyfingers, called *savoirdi*, this time of year. You'll see both *chiacchiere* and *savoirdi* on display at your local pastry shop between now and Feb. 21, the date of Mardi Gras (known in Italy as *martedì grasso*). (Photo by Melissa Kabukuru)

Fiorella's Lasagna (serves 10)

[Editors notes are added in brackets]

INGREDIENTS

· For the ragu:

- 5 tablespoons of oil (preferably olive oil)
- 1 onion
- 1 cup white wine
- 3 cans of whole tomatoes, Italian-style [choose cans that are 800-grams or 32 ounces each]
- 2 bottles of tomato sauce (*passata*) [A bottle in Italy is typically 700 grams, or about 25 ounces]
- 4 or 5 Italian-style ribs (*tracchiolelle*)
- 3 Italian sausages
- Salt to taste

· For the rest of the dish:

- 1 kilogram [2.2 pounds] *Ricotta Romana**
- 500 grams [1.1 pounds] *Fior di latte* or *mozzarella* cheese (fresh)
- 1 kilogram [2.2 pounds] ground beef
- Grated Parmesan cheese
- Lasagna noodles (the best are *Barilla Emiliane Lasagne All'Uovo* [an egg-based noodle])

PREPARATION

For the ragu, choose a big pot and start by cooking the onion in the olive oil. Once the onions have browned, add the *tracchiolelle* and the sausage. The *tracchiolelle* should be cooked in large pieces, bones included, while the sausage should also be cooked mostly intact. Cook the *tracchiolelle* and sausage until browned. Add the white wine and simmer for a few minutes, then add the tomatoes and tomato *passata*. Cook all ingredients at low heat until the sausage is tender [this should take two to three hours, Fiorella said]. Remove from heat. You should remove the pieces of sausage and *tracchiolelle* from the ragu and set them aside. You can serve them along with some of the ragu as second course to follow the lasagna. The ragu is traditionally prepared the day before and refrigerated overnight so it is ready to go the next day when putting the lasagna together.

The next step is to sauté the ground beef in a pan until it is cooked through. An alternative to this, as some people prefer to use mini-meatballs in their lasagna, is to form small meatballs by hand and then fry them in a sauté pan. Allow the ground beef (or meatballs) to cool, and then mix the ground beef with the ricotta in a large bowl. (If using meatballs, do not mix with the ricotta). Once these are thoroughly mixed, add some of the ragu sauce until the mixture takes on a light

red color, becoming a rose sauce. At this point the fresh mozzarella or *fior di latte* should be cubed into nickel sized pieces.

Prepare a 13"x9"x2" baking dish (or two, depending on how many layers you want for the lasagna). In the baking dish(es), start with a layer of ragu sauce, then place the noodles on top of the sauce. Do not cook the noodles beforehand, as they will cook in the mixture in the oven. The egg noodles are great because you can break them into pieces if necessary to fit your baking dish. Next, add a layer of the beef and ricotta mixture (or, if you're using meatballs, spread a layer of ricotta and place a layer of meatballs on top). Sprinkle the cut cheese and grated parmesan over the top of the beef and ricotta, then add another layer of lasagna noodles. Repeat this until the pan is full. The last layer should be noodles with a layer of sauce on top, along with some cheese and grated parmesan.

Remember, the process is: sauce...noodles...beef (or meatballs) and ricotta...*fior di latte* and parmesan... noodles...sauce...beef (or meatballs) and ricotta...*fior di latte* and parmesan...noodles...sauce... etc., until the pan is full. (See above for instructions for the top layer of the lasagna.)

Once the lasagna is assembled, place it in the oven and cook at 180° C (375° F) until browned on top (about 45 minutes to one hour). After baking, let the lasagna cool for a while, as when cooling it settles a bit. Then enjoy! *Buon Appetito*.

*NOTE: *Ricotta Romana* is the kind of ricotta typically used for cooking and dessert-making in Italy.

Do you have a traditional Neapolitan or Campanian recipe you would like to share with the Naples military community? *Panorama* is looking for Italian employees and family members who are willing to share their versions of local dishes. If you'd like to see your recipe and photo featured in an upcoming edition of *Panorama*, e-mail the recipe and a personal photo to naplespanorama@eu.navy.mil.



Fiorella's lasagna was a major crowd-pleaser when prepared in the *Panorama* test kitchen. (Photo by Melissa Kabukuru)

A message from the chaplain

The true meaning of Valentine's Day

By Lt. J. Jon Neil, CHC, USN



Chaplain Neil is endorsed by the Assemblies of God. (Photo by Cassie Neil)

We celebrate Valentine's Day every year on the 14th of February. Children take little cards and sweetheart candies to school, where they use them to write secret messages to one another. Adults give chocolates, flowers, elaborate cards, and, at the urging of De Beers Diamonds, even jewelry. In the midst of the flurried exchange of sweet calories, it seems that most have forgotten the history of Valentine's Day; they have traded the true worth and meaning of Valentine's love for the temporary satisfaction of their sweet tooth.

The modern concept of Valentine's consists of romantic love and exchange of small gifts. Surprisingly, this is a relatively recent idea, with the connection of romantic love and Valentine's appearing earliest in Chaucer's Parlement of Foules (1382). The romantic connection remained in high literature and royal courts for several hundred years, but was not shared by societies at large. It was not until the industrial revolution and reduced postal rates of the mid 1800's that the romantic notion and exchange of cards began to take hold of Britain first, then later the United States. Through the marketing of greeting card companies, confectionaries, the flower industry, and now De Beers, Valentine's has become a major "holiday" with some 200 million people exchanging Valentines in the United States each year.

Valentine's did not initially connote romantic love, but rather sacrificial love. In early church history, there are several martyrs named Valentine. There are two that were honored by the Catholic Church with a feast day on Feb. 14 (Vatican II removed this feast day from the General Roman Calendar in 1969). Valentine of Rome was a priest in Rome martyred in 269 A.D., while Valentine of Terni became bishop of Terni in 197 A.D. and is said to have been martyred during the persecution under Emperor Aurelian. Unlike the legend that American Greetings propagated, neither wrote the first Valentine's card for their secret love the night before their death, signing it "Your Valentine." Instead, both sacrificed themselves for their faith, demonstrating their love for God far beyond that of a card or a candy. They followed in the footsteps of their Lord Jesus Christ who sacrificed Himself for all because of His great love for all.

Jesus' declaration of true love — "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13) — will not find its place on many Valentine's this year. Yet if we long to truly love and to honor Valentine's Day, let Jesus' declaration of true love be found in our hearts, regardless of our faith. Love sacrificially, not unto death, but unto life. Let our love not only be written in cards, but in the acts of our life, and in the depths of our hearts.

Go ahead and send a card or buy flowers this Valentine's, but don't neglect the true meaning of Valentine's love. Give the greatest Valentine that can be given to those you love this year: give yourself.

Capt. Scott Gray (right), Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples' commanding officer, signs a proclamation acknowledging Feb. 19 through 26 as Military Saves Week. Joining him are Bethany Franz (left), personal finance educator with the Fleet and Support Center (FFSC), and Brian Hill (center), manager of the Community Bank at Capodichino. The FFSC and Community Bank, along with Navy Federal Credit Union, the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, are sponsoring information booths and events at NSA Naples throughout Military Saves Week.



Financial resources available throughout Military Saves Week

By Melissa Kabukuru, Panorama editor

The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) is sponsoring a series of financial classes, information booths and outreach events as part of Military Saves Week, which is observed throughout the United States from Feb. 19 to Feb. 26.

According to the Military Saves website, "Military Saves is a national campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings."

Capt. Scott Gray, Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples' commanding officer, signed a proclamation last week establishing Military Saves Week at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples.

Joining the FFSC in promoting savings and financial health among service members are Community Bank; Navy Federal Credit Union; the Women, Infants and Children program; and the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

Events for Military Saves Week at NSA Naples include briefs about saving and investing at Capodichino, as well as story time sessions and coupon giveaways at the Child Development Centers (CDCs).

Additionally, the FFSC and its partner organizations are sponsoring savings booths at Capodichino, the Support Site food court and the U.S. Naval Hospital Naples Galley. The booths will feature information about savings plans and resources for starting to save. Community members will also have the ability to make savings pledges, in which they pledge an amount they plan to save monthly.

For more information about financial management classes or Military Saves Week events, call the FFSC at 081-811-6372.

MILITARY SAVES WEEK EVENT SCHEDULE

The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) is putting on a series of events in honor of Military Saves Week, which is from Feb. 19 to Feb. 26. Here's the complete schedule:

FEB. 21
Savings Booth at the U.S. Naval Hospital Galley (10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Savings Lessons at the School Age Care program (SAC) (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.)

FEB. 22
Story Time at the Capodichino Child Development Center (9 - 10 a.m.)
Savings Booth on the Capodichino Spine (10:30 - 1:30 p.m.)
Savings Brief at the Capodichino Theater (Noon - 12:45 p.m.)
Coupon Giveaway at Capodichino Child Development Center (4 - 5:30 p.m.)

FEB. 23
Story Time at the Gricignano Child Development Center (9 - 10 a.m.)
Savings Booth at the Support Site Food Court (10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Coupon Giveaway at Gricignano Child Development Center (4 - 5:30 p.m.)

FEB. 24
Financial Fitness for Kids at FFSC (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.)

FEB. 29
Introduction to Your Financial Future at FFSC (1 - 4 p.m.)

Weekly Crime Statistics for Feb. 6 - Feb. 12, 2012

- Traffic Accidents	4	(1 on base, 3 off base)
- Vehicle Break-In	7	(1 on base, 2 off base)
- Larceny of Personal Property	2	(2 off base)
- DUI	1	(1 on base)
- Shoplifting	1	(1 on base)

occurred earlier that day in Lago Patria, Italy. Victim reported he parked his vehicle at a parking lot and upon returning noticed his driver's side window broken and multiple items stolen.

Larceny of Unsecured Property (off base). On Feb. 10 at approximately 10:35 a.m., O-3/USN reported a larceny of unsecured property that occurred Feb. 3 in London, England. Victim reported that he left his jacket unattended at a table, and upon returning noticed his jacket missing along with his government cell phone.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 10 at approximately 11:20 a.m., CIV reported a vehicle break-in that occurred Feb. 9 in Pozzuoli, Italy. Victim reported that he parked his vehicle in front of his residence the night prior, and upon returning the next morning noticed his front passenger's side window broken. Victim also reported nothing was stolen from the vehicle.

Shoplifting (on base). On Feb. 11 at approximately 10:35 a.m., NSA Naples Security was notified by NEX Lost Prevention of shoplifting at the Navy Exchange. A NEX Loss Prevention employee reported that she observed the subject, via security camera, attempting to steal a pair of jeans and a necklace. Subject was detained and was barred from the NEX.

DUI (on base). On Feb. 12 at approximately 3:15 a.m., E-4/USN was cited for a DUI during a routine ID check at the NSA Naples Support Site Main Gate. Subject was emitting a smell of an alcoholic beverage from his person, and upon submitting to a sample of his breath, via Intoxilyzer 8000, his BAC resulted in 0.08.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 12 at approximately 9:42 p.m., E-7/USN reported a vehicle break-in that occurred earlier that day in Gricignano, Italy. Victim reported that he had parked his vehicle and upon returning noticed his front passenger window broken and multiple items stolen.

NOTE: We would like to remind the communities that during this time of the year the road conditions can be slippery due to an increase in rain and cold weather. When driving, be mindful of other drivers around you and leave sufficient space between you and other vehicles. Remember that you need more time and distance to stop your vehicle when the pavement is wet and icy.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 6 at approximately 9:30 a.m., CIV reported a vehicle break-in that occurred earlier that day in Gricignano, Italy. Victim reported that she parked her vehicle the night prior and upon returning the next morning, she noticed her rear passenger window broken. Victim also reported nothing was stolen from the vehicle.

Larceny of Unsecured Property (off base). On Feb. 6 at approximately 10:45 a.m., O-3/USN reported a larceny of unsecured property that occurred Feb. 3 in Taranto, Italy. Victim reported that while she was shopping, she had briefly left her purse unattended. Upon checking her purse, she noticed her wallet missing.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 6 at approximately 1:50 p.m., O-1/USN reported a vehicle break-in that occurred Feb. 5 in Lago Patria, Italy. Victim reported that he parked his vehicle and upon returning noticed his driver's side window broken and multiple items stolen.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 6 at approximately 3:30 p.m., CIV reported a vehicle break-in that occurred Feb. 4 in Giugliano, Italy. Victim reported that he parked his vehicle and upon returning a few hours later noticed his driver's side door broken and multiple items stolen.

Vehicle Break-In (on base). On Feb. 6 at approximately 4:56 p.m., E-3/USN reported a vehicle break-in that occurred earlier that day at the NSA Naples Support Site. Victim reported that she parked her vehicle after work and upon returning noticed multiple items missing from the vehicle. Victim also reported her vehicle locks were inoperable.

Vehicle Break-In (off base). On Feb. 7 at approximately 9:25 p.m., E-4/USN reported a vehicle break-in that

Helping teens learn about finances and budgeting

By Michael Yates, Teen Center manager

As part of the Military Youth Saves Week festivities, the Teen Center will be hosting a weeklong program in hopes of getting teens more financially fit. Through using programs and curriculum from the Boys and Girls Club of America (BGCA) Money Matters Program, teens participating in these activities are eligible to apply for up to a \$5,000 dollar scholarship from BGCA.

5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21

Piggy Bank Painting

Everybody needs to start somewhere. Start off the week with an art project and decorate a piggy bank for your future fortune.

5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22

Bio Board

Teens create a collage showing where they see themselves financially over the next three years in terms of savings, expenses, and investments. *Is the Price Right?*

Every day items are "showcased" and teens guess the retail price of each item. The closest guess wins the prize!

5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23

Financial Jeopardy

Play Jeopardy on the big screen and win great prizes

5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24

Find the Ticker

Learn the basics of investing in the stock market, then research stocks and build a temporary "portfolio." The teen with the highest earnings over the next two weeks wins a prize.

Budgeting for Life

Ready to move out on your own? Learn about the many expenses that teens don't think about and then try to create a budget using your monthly salary.

Energy conservation

Did you know...

By UT2 (SCW) Kyle Ciopyrna



The average 150-pound (68-kilogram) man will burn 10 calories walking up one flight of stairs, while burning only 1.5 calories taking the elevator. An average serving size of gelato is about 5.2 ounces (100 grams), and contains 180 calories.



The average person will walk up a flight of stairs between three and five times a day, resulting in an annual total of 10,560 calories burned, or almost 59 servings of gelato...some "food for thought."

Save energy and promote a healthy lifestyle, but if you do need to treat yourself — take the stairs!

Motor vehicle safety is a top priority for Naval Safety Center

By April Phillips, Naval Safety Center Public Affairs

The Naval Safety Center (NAVSAFECEN) offers resources to help manage driving risks.

Fiscal year 2011 was the safest on record in terms of four-wheel motor vehicle fatalities. Car and truck operators did a great job of managing the risks of driving. However, midway through the second quarter of FY 2012, fatalities are in danger of creeping back up.

As of Feb. 1, 2012, four sailors have lost their lives in four-wheel personal motor vehicle (PMV4) fatalities compared to one at the same time in 2011. Motorcycle fatality rates are static, with three so far this fiscal year - the same as last year at this time.

NAVSAFECEN's Command Master Chief Dominick Torchia recently released a "Safety Broadcast," a one-page fact sheet outlining timely information about various trending topics. His most recent covers PMV statistics, risk factors, and resources for improvement.

"While we made big strides in reducing the number of four-wheel motor vehicle fatalities last year, this is no time to declare victory," Torchia said. "Be aware of the biggest risk factors — speed, alcohol, fatigue, ejection and distractions — and do everything you can to manage those risks."

Those risk factors — speed, alcohol, fatigue and ejections (lack of seat belts) and distractions (SAFE-D) — account for the vast majority of motor vehicle mishaps in the Navy and nationwide. Motorcycle fatalities are also a continuing concern, with their own set of risk factors. However, the biggest risk factor sailors face is completely within their control: training.

"The biggest challenge we face is closing the last tactical mile with regard to advanced motorcycle training," Torchia said. "Every sportbike rider is required to take the Military Sportbike Rider Course (MSRC), but right now there are about 2,000 sportbike riders who have not completed it. This training has proven value. Nine out of 12 sportbike riders who died in FY11 had not attended the course."

Torchia said the MSRC is provided at no cost to sailors and is designed to be completed during the workday. No leave is required to attend the course. It covers both the different physical handling characteristics and the required mental attitudes for safe operation of these high-performance machines.

The MSRC was created after a spike in motorcycle fatalities in 2008, when 33 sailors lost their lives while riding. After an initial training push, the number fell to 13 in FY2010, but crept up slightly to 16 in FY11. Eliminating all preventable PMV fatalities remains a top priority for NAVSAFECEN.

For more information about motor vehicle safety and motorcycle courses, visit http://www.public.navy.mil/navsafecen/Pages/ashore/motor_vehicle/motorvehicle.aspx.

For more news from Naval Safety Center, visit www.navy.mil/local/nsc/.

FFSC Tip of the Week: Budgeting

From the Fleet and Family Support Center

It is common for people to believe that if they made the next pay grade or received a promotion or a higher paying job, their financial problems would disappear. Yet when the promotion arrives, a person may still feel strapped for cash. Whether you are a new Navy recruit, a chief with 20 years of service, a mid-career federal employee, or even a millionaire, we all have limited resources and unlimited wants. Money is finite, so it is important to realize that you must save in your current situation. It is important to pay yourself first in terms of savings. You work hard for your money and it is important to have your money work for you by saving and investing. Most financial planners say that people should aim for saving 10 percent of their post tax income. If 10 percent is unattainable, start with any amount you can afford and create a plan to increase the amount to reach 10 percent over time. If you want more information about Budgeting and Savings, call your Fleet and Family Support Center about our monthly Developing Your Spending Plan and Saving and Investing classes. Call 081-811-6372 to register.



Runners take off at the Sweetheart Stroll Feb. 11. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) event consisted of a 1-mile run and a 5K run. (Photos courtesy of MWR)

Valentine's Day events help community spread the love

By Melissa Kabukuru,
Panorama editor



An "Anti-Valentine's Day Party" was held Feb. 14 at O'Rhys Irish Pub on the Support Site for those who wanted to celebrate being single. The event featured music celebrating flying solo, along with prizes for the Worst Break-Up Story and Best Dear John/Jane Letter. Meanwhile, next door at Striker's Bowling Alley, couples attended "Lover's Lane" to take advantage of \$10 per person bowling, pizza and drinks.

Valentine's Day in the Naval Support Activity Naples community was made a little sweeter with events put on by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR). MWR's Valentine-themed events included the Sweetheart Stroll (a 5K and 1-kilometer run), the annual Valentine Dance at the Teen Center, "Lover's Lane" at Striker's Bowling Alley, and an "Anti-Valentine's Day" party at O'Rhys Irish Pub.

Teens deliver a cake to participants at the Teen Center's annual Valentine Dance Friday, Feb. 10.

Clockwise from left: Ethan Peterman, Tiffany Jones, Nico Davis, DeDe Jones, Alex Bockstahler, AJ Fisher, Gary Smith, and Trey Griffin (bottom). (Photo by Michael Yates)



Employee spotlight: Meet the man behind the money

By MC1 (EXW/DV) Jack Georges,
Navy Region Europe, Africa,
Southwest Asia Public Affairs

Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia's payroll office oversees the timely and accurate pay of local national employees on the Region staff and at some installation tenant commands. Managing it requires a cool hand and level head.

That's where Dr. Luigi Amato comes in.

Amato's office is the picture of organization. Diplomas, certificates and accolades neatly hang on the far wall, over a desk clear of anything extraneous. There is a small window letting in the sun, while on the nearby wall is a tack board loaded with various notices, reminders and newspaper clippings of his soccer team.

As payroll director and bank liaison for Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (EURAF-SWA), Amato certainly has his work cut out for him. But every now and then he tackles a special project.

Recently, as the Navy's representative, he finished his latest project overseeing the United Kingdom Employees Pension Fund wind-up.

The pension fund wind-up is a process used to transfer pension fund management responsibility from the Navy to a private firm, and ensures proper payment of all earned retirement benefits as well as cost effectiveness for the Navy.

When Commander, Naval Activity United Kingdom (CNAUK)

closed in 2007, Region EURAF-SWA assumed responsibility for overseeing a successful transfer of management for British employees' pension funds.

"It has been a huge challenge because it is so different from what I am used to working on," said Amato. "It has been an amazing experience."

Amato said it was rare for a local national to be chosen to legally represent the U.S. Navy.

The wind-up process concluded Feb. 9, when the Navy transferred fund management responsibility to British insurance company Aviva. The process took five years.

Troy D. Terronez, Amato's supervisor and Region EURAF-SWA's deputy comptroller, isn't surprised at Amato's success.

"He's our go-to-guy and he's a great ambassador for the U.S. Navy," said Terronez.

While Amato has been critical to the Region's latest success, the 38-year-old Naples native wasn't so sure about working for the Navy when he applied for a position at public works in 1998.

"My friend was applying for a job and says, 'Luigi, you should apply.' I asked him, 'Why should I want to work for the Navy?'" said Amato.

Unrelenting, Amato's friend finally convinced him to apply. Amato was hired and began his first job in the Navy taking calls at the public works trouble desk.

Almost immediately, Amato saw that working for the Navy had a lot of potential and provided a unique experience.



Dr. Luigi Amato serves as payroll director and bank liaison for Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia. (Photo by MC1 (EXW/DV) Jack Georges)

"I found with the Navy it gives me the chance to improve everyday," said Amato. "It is an amazing experience working with someone far away from my culture."

Amato left public works, became a budget analyst and hasn't looked back since. Now he is indispensable to Region operations.

"He is one of the most savvy business guys I have ever met," said Terronez. "He is irreplaceable. There's not a single person

on this base or in Italy that has his level of knowledge and years of expertise."

When not at work Amato plays defense for the Naval Support Activity Naples soccer team and is the team captain. He also enjoys reading and traveling but says he most enjoys spending time with his 4-year-old son Alessandro and wife Vanessa. It is his family that keeps him focused and determined.

"I always motivate myself, but

my family really motivates me," said Amato.

Looking to the future, Amato said he's not done yet.

"There's always an additional step, I always want to improve," said Amato. "I hope to move up with the Navy. I hope to find new challenges and experiences."

For more news and information from Navy Region EURAF-SWA, 'like' us at www.facebook.com/cnreurafswa or visit www.cnrc.navy.mil/europe.

MORE INSIDE PAGE...

FEBRUARY continued

28 UMUC OPEN HOUSE University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Europe will hold an open house to answer questions about admissions, registration, financial aid and academic programs from 11 to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28 at Capodichino in the Admin II building, room G-014 (on the ground floor). For more information, contact your UMUC Europe field representative at 081-568-6675, or napl@europe.umuc.edu.

29 BUDGET FOR BABY WORKSHOP The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is offering a free Budget for Baby workshop Feb. 29 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the NMCRS office at Capodichino, Admin II, Rm. G016. Learn about budgeting for a new baby, including cost-cutting ideas and helpful local information. Upon completion of the class, each active duty military family will receive a layette containing \$100 worth of various items for your new baby. Call 081-568-3913 to register.

29 CONNECT THE TOTS CLUB LEAP YEAR CELEBRATION will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 29 at the Support Site Fellowship Hall. We'll be celebrating our February birthday children. Please RSVP on the website at www.meetup.com/Connect-the-Tots-Club/ if you plan to attend.

REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING TERM CLASSES Classes run from March 19 to May 11. Contact UMUC Maryland at 081-568-6673/74/75, Central Texas College at 081-568-6761 and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University at 081-568-4364, or visit the colleges at Capo.

PRAXIS TEST REGISTRATION Last day to register for the May 2 test session is March 2. Contact or Visit the Navy College Office to register for a PRAXIS test in Capo, Admin II, Room G-036 or call 081-568-6683/6684/6678.

REGISTRATION FOR GRADUATE DEGREE ON-SITE PROGRAMS Visit the University of Phoenix and the University of Oklahoma to learn what on-site degree programs are offered in the Naples area. UP is at 081-568-6670 and OU is at 081-568-6672. Both colleges have office at Capo in ADMIN II.

MARCH

2-4 CREDO MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND During this event, couples experience a safe and relaxed environment in which they can fall in love all over again. To attend, call 081-568-5255.

14-15 APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING WORKSHOP In this workshop you will have an opportunity to explore your experiences with and your attitudes about suicide. You will also have an opportunity to better understand the needs of a person at risk of suicide and learn how to use suicide first-aid to meet those needs. To attend, call CREDO at 081-568-5255.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NAPLES OVERSEAS SPOUSES CLUB (NOSC) seeks two volunteers with finance/accounting/bookkeeping background to serve as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. If you would like to build your resume while overseas, gain experience in not-for-profit finance, build your local network, and can commit 5-10 hours per week please contact noscpresident4@gmail.com or 345-423-7964 for more information.

THE AMERICAN SOCCER CLUB (ASC) OF NAPOLI is looking for qualified coaches for the 2012 spring soccer season for the age groups of U-9, U-11, U-13, and U-15/17. For more information or to sign up, e-mail ASCNapoli@yahoo.com or check their Facebook page, ASC-American Soccer Club of Napoli.

THE ALLIED SPOUSES CLUB (ASC) IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS. We need a webmaster, a publicity coordinator, a volunteer coordinator, a bazaar chair, a historian and a parliamentary authority. No experience necessary! For more information, please email club president Antonietta Alfieri Ciccone at ascpresidentjfc@gmail.com.

NAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA is searching for people who want to lead the PTA during the 2012-2013 school year. PTA board members are elected every year and committee chairs are appointed every year. If you are interested in a board or chair position, please email Angel Neese at itwife2000@yahoo.com with your name, contact information, the position you would like to hold, and a little information about yourself. Open positions include President, VP of Programs, VP of Fundraising, treasurer, secretary, and volunteer coordinator.

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS! Are you interested in taking photos of Naples Elementary School students during 2011-2012? Contact Dr. Johnson at 081-811-4159 or donita.johnson@eu.dodea.edu.

NAPLES AMERICAN RED CROSS (ARC) NEEDS VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS. ARC needs volunteer instructors for various courses. Those interested in becoming instructors can contact the ARC office at 081-568-4788.

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S./NAPLES COUNCIL is seeking board members. Contact Betty Reese at 081-526-8051 or breese@cybernet.it.

NAPLES OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION NEEDS REFEREES Anyone interested should contact Nigel Alexander at 081-721-5413 or 346-680-3282 or by e-mail to nalexander@afsouth.nato.int.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY OPERATION CLIP & SAVE (coupons): 081-568-3913.

GAETA/NAPLES AREA GIRL SCOUTS Now accepting registration for the 2011-12 school year. We are still in need of leaders and co-leaders. Training and support provided. FMI, contact naplesgsg@yahoo.com.

ONGOING/ON THE HORIZON

NAPLES OVERSEAS SPOUSES CLUB (NOSC) is seeking volunteers! Join a group of dedicated and committed women to plan and execute social events, community outreach projects, and day tours. For more information, please email Chioma Griffin, club Vice President at nosclstvp@gmail.com.

RECEIVE DAILY REFLECTION an inspirational thought-for-the-day e-mailed throughout the work week. To receive Daily Reflection, e-mail Chaplain Charles Luff at charles.luff@eu.navy.mil.

SECURITY NOTE: All DoD military or civilian personnel hosting an event off base must complete a Special Event Force Protection Plan (SEFP) 45 days in advance, regardless of organization, if the event will involve 50 or more personnel, include distinguished visitors or involve personnel wearing uniforms. FMI, contact the AT/FP Division at 081-568-5525 or visit their office in the Capodichino Security Precinct, Bldg. 403.

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL invites community members to join the Rosary Prayer Group that meets every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Support Site Chapel. For more information, e-mail CWOCNaples@gmail.com.

PROTESTANT WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL PWOC Woman's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 9-11:30 a.m. in the Support Site Fellowship Hall. Free child care provided. For questions, contact Audrey de Rivera at 345-872-9947.

ATTN MILITARY RETIREES AND SURVIVORS Connect to the retired community through membership in the U.S. Military Retiree Association of Southern Italy (USMRA-SI). For info and an application, visit <http://usmra-si.tripod.com> or call 329-208-7315.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS hosts English-speaking AA meetings on and off base in the Naples area. For more information, call 347-544-0254 or visit <http://www.aa-europe.net/countries/italy.htm>.

SURE START is a unique program committed to providing the highest quality of education for command-sponsored children of enlisted personnel (priority to E1-E4) who are 4 years old by Sept. 1. FMI, call Karen Rodrigues at 081-811-4682 or the school at 081-811-4037.

TOASTMASTERS meets the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Meetings are held at the Support Site Community Center. FMI, contact Toastmasters President Leonard Augustine at 346-771-7506.

Reel 2 Times cinema

Friday, Feb. 17
4:30 p.m. Adventures of Tintin, PG
5:30 p.m. War Horse, PG-13
7 p.m. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, PG-13

Saturday, Feb. 18
2:30 p.m. Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked, G
4:30 p.m. We Bought a Zoo, PG
5:30 p.m. Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows, PG-13
7 p.m. The Sitter, R

Sunday, Feb. 19
4:30 p.m. Hugo, PG
5:30 p.m. Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol, PG-13
7 p.m. War Horse, PG-13

Monday, Feb. 20 (Holiday Hours)
4:30 p.m. Journey 2: Mysterious Island, PG
Premiere Showing
5:30 p.m. Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked, G
7 p.m. Safe House, R

Tuesday, Feb. 21
4:30 p.m. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, PG-13
5:30 p.m. Journey 2: Mysterious Island, PG
7 p.m. Safe House, R

Wednesday, Feb. 22
4:30 p.m. New Year's Eve, PG-13
Last Showing
5:30 p.m. Safe House, R
7 p.m. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, PG-13
Last Showing

Thursday, Feb. 23
4:30 p.m. Journey 2: Mysterious Island, PG
5:30 p.m. Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol, PG-13
7 p.m. The Sitter, R

Friday, Feb. 24
4:30 p.m. Journey 2: Mysterious Island, PG
5:30 p.m. Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows, PG-13
7 p.m. Safe House, R



Upcoming USO Tours
Capodichino Office 081-568-5713
Support Site Office 081-811-4903
www.uso.it

USO DAILY TOURS

Feb. 24 Myths and Treasures of San Gennaro € 45
Feb. 25 Legends of the Wine-Cavalier Pepe Wine Resort € 65
Feb. 26 Naples Underground and Pizza Lunch € 40
March 2 Wine Tasting and Demijohns Shopping € 45

WEEKEND TOURS

March 2-4 Carnevale in Viareggio €225
March 10-11 Perugia and Assisi Weekend €158
March 15-19 St. Patrick's Day in Dublin, Ireland... €649
April 7-8 Easter in Florence and Pisa €165
April 12-15 Spring Break at Disneyland Paris... €594
April 13-16 Spring Break in Venice €228
April 28-29 Wine Roads of Siena €187

Wildcats trample Sigonella Jaguars in Sicily



The Naples Wildcats Boys Basketball Team won two games against the Vicenza Cougars last weekend. Next week, they'll head to the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DODDS) European Tournament in Germany. (Photo courtesy of Mr. Nigel Alexander)

By Mr. Nigel Alexander, Naples High School parent

The Naples High School Boy's Basketball Team hasn't lost its momentum even after a unexpected two-week break in the season due to Italy's transportation strikes and severe weather. They took the show on the road last weekend to the Sigonella Jaguars down in Sicily and overwhelmed the Jags in a 66-39 American Schools in Italy League (ASIL) victory on Friday, Feb. 10 and a 74-30 dominant win on Saturday, Feb. 11.

Two Cats scored in double-digits as they recorded their ninth victory in only 10 games under coach Craig Lord.

"This was a pretty nice win for our team heading into the big games in the European Basketball tournaments in Germany next week," said Lord. "It was a good tune-up game, especially after the Wildcats had not played a game since the gas strike that crippled transportation in Italy and the bad weather that continues to wreck havoc in south Italy. Our last game was on Jan. 21 against Vicenza, so it was good to get back into the gym and get our feet under us."

The Wildcats showed no signs of rust at the start. After giving up the opening basket, they went on a 14-0 run and their lead increased to more than double digits as the game progressed. One reason the Wildcats were able to surge to an early advantage over the Jaguars (6-8) was the play of All European Power forward Nigel Alexander. Alexander tallied 20 points, 9 rebounds, and 4 blocks.

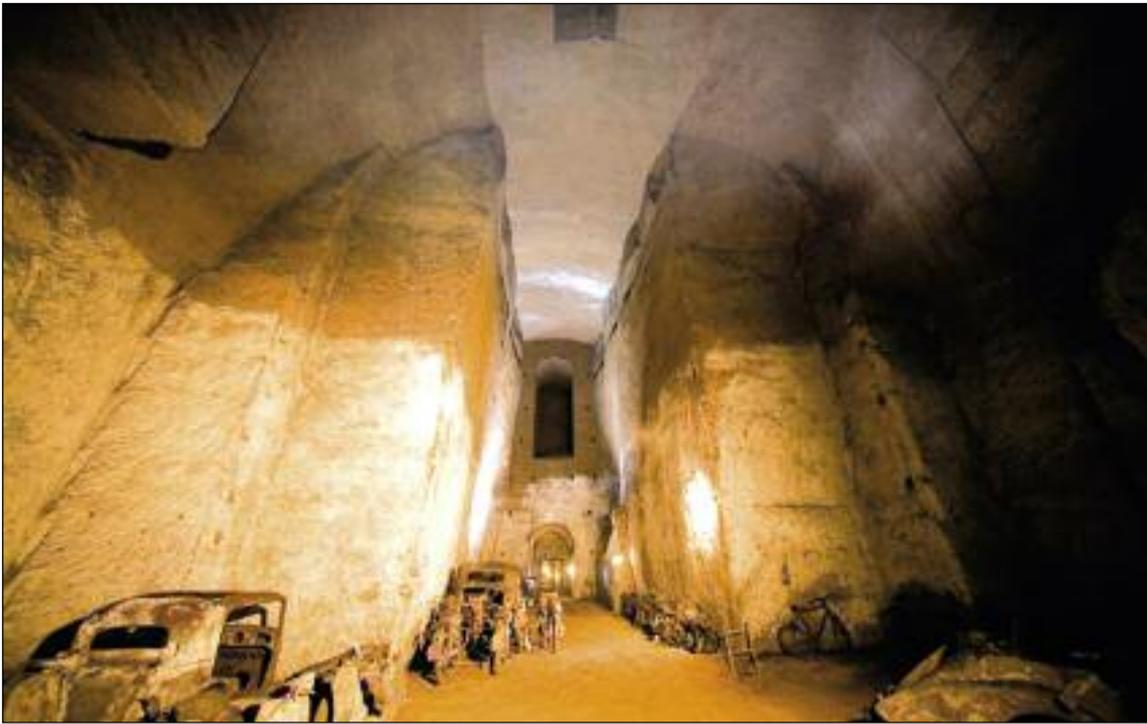
Sophomore DJ Stockman also added 13 points, while Isaiah Wesby, Malik Jordan, and Howard Pulley each scored 6 points for the Wildcats.

The highlight came in the second half when Alexander excited the crowd with a two handed slam off of an alley hoop toss by All European guard Jun Jun Gallardo. Gallardo and Alexander often entertain the crowd this way, their way of thanking the fans for their support.

Saturday also brought success for the Wildcats with a convincing 44 point win against their opponents. Both Alexander and Stockman played strong games, finishing with 25 and 20 points, respectively.

Sophomore Isaiah Wesby added 16 points and 6 rebounds and made some great passes to set up a fistful of baskets with his accurate passing of the ball. The Wildcats completed the double this season against the Jaguars with the win. Their lead was guarded right from the tip off and they were in formidable form; all members of the team were focused and on top of their game Saturday. There was no let down for the Cats, who took advantage of a 22-4 lead in the first quarter to put the game out of reach. The victory was even sweeter as all the bench players had an opportunity to contribute. Coach Lord was pleased with the all-around performance of his team — and, considering that the Jaguars beat the Wildcats last year in their final game at home, he was satisfied in the quality and ability of the players.

The Naples Wildcats will enjoy another weekend off this week before they depart on Monday night for the long road trip to Germany for the European tournament between Feb. 22 and 25. The Wildcats placed third in the tournament last year. This year, they're a force to be reckoned with and a great contender for the title, with hopes of bringing it home.



The tunnel was built in 1853 by Ferdinand II of Bourbon, who, concerned about the outbreak of rebellion, asked for an escape from the Royal Palace to the barracks in Via della Pace, now Via Morelli. (Photo courtesy of Associazione Culturale Borbonica Sotterranea)

BOURBON TUNNEL

Continued from Page 1

Ferdinand's death in 1859 and the unification of Italy in 1861 put an end to the Bourbon rule in Naples, however, and the tunnel was never finished.

Nearly two hundred years later, thousands of Neapolitans flocked to the tunnel and the interconnected underground cisterns seeking shelter during the bombardments of World War II. Their toilets, lighting systems and children's toys have stayed underground, while some of their names and messages, such as "Noi vivi!" ("We live!") remain carved into the walls.

The underground tunnel and cisterns remained in use after the war, becoming an impound lot for vehicles. Visitors now can explore what is a verifiable museum of vintage automobiles, including an American military car — still intact with tires fully inflated, despite a great stone falling on the car's roof — along with several classic Fiats and customized Neapolitan delivery vehicles.

Though both this underground tour and the Napoli Sotterranea tour in the Spaccanapoli district talk about Naples history during World War II, the Tunnel Borbonico tour goes into even more depth. One can compare the bomb shelters occupied by common people in one end of the underground network with other areas that housed upper-class people, and a clear difference emerges: the addition of sinks and showers. These "five-star bomb shelters," as the tour guides describe them, lie directly below Naples' ritzy Chiaia district, which today continues to be home to designer shops and well-to-do Neapolitans.

Additionally, the underground cisterns from the 17th century are full of mysterious inscriptions, including ones that scholars think workers in the wells may have used to indicate the names of the streets above

them. One symbol, a hill with a cross on top, may have told workers that they were below Via Monte di Dio, or the street of "mountain of God."

Knowledgeable guides employed by the Associazione Culturale Borbonica Sotterranea explain in detail how the wells functioned, along with the history of the legendary Neapolitan figure of Munaciello, or "little monk," who many scholars believe is based on underground well workers. The workers used to wear protective hoods resembling monks' habits, and could access people's homes through the portals that were used to draw water from the underground wells. This prompted Neapolitan families to blame Munaciello whenever something would go missing or appear unexpectedly, and the figure eventually became a legendary bringer of both good fortune and bad.

THE ADVENTURE TOUR

For those who are up for a little more adventure, there's a new section of the Tunnel Borbonico that opened in December that goes even deeper than the standard tour. On this route, the so-called "adventure path," visitors are handed a hardhat and flashlight and invited to float on a raft through a tunnel excavated in the 1990s for Napoli's linea tranviaria rapida, a planned transportation line that was later abandoned.

This version of the tour isn't available in English (yet) for individuals, only for groups of 15 or more. But even if your knowledge of Italian is nonexistent, you can still appreciate the intersecting levels of history visible through the tour, and the eerie feeling of floating on a raft on the water through the darkness, with only flashlights to illuminate the depths of the underground.

GETTING THERE

The standard tour is accessible from one of two entrances: either from Via Domenico Morelli, 40, just a few meters away from Piazza dei Martiri in the heart of the Chiaia district, or from the Tunnel Borbonico office at Via del Grottone, 4, a few blocks from Piazza del Plebiscito. Reservations can be made online at www.tunnelborbonico.info, with tours available Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

If you're coming via public transportation, you can take the Alibus from Capodichino and get off on the second stop by the port, which is a short walk from Piazza del Plebiscito and Vico del Grottone. The Funicolare Centrale, which connects the Vomero area to Via Toledo, also lets off just a block or two north of Piazza del Plebiscito (choose the Augusteo stop, which stops at Piazza Duca d'Aosta). If you're coming via either of these means, be sure to select the Vico del Grottone entrance for the tour when the company e-mails you to confirm your reservation.

Alternatively, you can take the Metropolitana Linea 2 from Pozzuoli and get off at the Piazza Amedeo stop, which is a kilometer walk from Piazza dei Martiri and the adjacent Via Domenico Morelli, the location of the tour's second entrance. (The Funicolare di Chiaia also stops by Piazza Amedeo, if you're coming from the Vomero.) If you wish to arrive this way, be sure to select the Via Domenico Morelli entrance for your tour when the company e-mails you to confirm your reservation. You'll find the entrance to the tour through the pedestrian entrance to Parcheggio Morelli; keep following the tunnel and eventually you'll reach the gate. You also have the option of simply parking your car at the Parcheggio Morelli parking garage at Via Domenico Morelli, 40, which places you directly at the site of the tour.

Voting Assistance Office can help you cast your ballot

From the NSA Naples Voting Assistance Office

The Voting Assistance Office is available to provide non-partisan voting information to all personnel covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) of 1986. This includes members of "the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction due to their service; dependents of members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent with these service members; and U.S. citizens residing outside the United States and its territories." The services offered include assistance in filling out voter registration forms, requesting and submitting absentee ballots.

The Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples Voting Assistance Office is located in Room 254 of the Admin I building at NSA Naples Capodichino (inside the NSA Naples Administration Office).

Additionally, Voting Assistance booths will be manned both at Capodichino and the Support Site. Hours are outlined below.

Voting Assistance Office

-Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

-Thursday: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

(+39) 081-568-3888

Voting Assistance Booths:

-On the Capodichino spine: second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.

-At the Support Site food court: Second Saturday of each month from noon to 4 p.m.

For additional information please visit the NSA Naples voting assistance website at: <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Naples/InstallationGuide/FacilitiesAndResources/Voting2012/index.htm>.

For a list of deadlines and registration requirements by state, click on "voter information booklet" on the website. As a general rule, personnel stationed in Italy should request a ballot for the 2012 General Election (Nov. 6) with sufficient time to have a ballot in hand, or at least 30 days prior. Completed ballots should be sent no later than Oct. 13, 2012. To cast a vote in a Presidential Primary or State Primary, consult the voter information booklet for deadlines by state. For additional information, e-mail Lt. Cmdr. Ray Brown, NSA Voting Assistance Officer (VAO), at ray.brown1@eu.navy.mil, or CSC Michael Frank Collins, the assistant VAO, at michaelfrank.collins@eu.navy.mil.

Asian Auction set for Feb. 25

By Ken O'Brien

The annual Asian Auction is in town again. Once a year under the combined efforts of the Naples High School Athletic Booster Club and the Parent Teachers Students Association (PTSA), an auction is conducted in the Naples High School Gym of hundreds of items shipped in from South East Asia.

Items auctioned will include desks, bars, dressers, beds, tables, carpets, lamps, and statures. Many of the items, although produced in South East Asia, are of European design. Auction attendees are welcome to walk the floor before and during the event to inspect the items. A silent auction is held for smaller items, and door prizes are awarded throughout the event.

To some, this is as much as a social event as a chance to purchase desired or required items. The bleachers are filled with community members, numerous adults, Naples High School organizations volun-

teering at the numerous stations, and students helping to display and load items. It's impossible to go and not know someone participating.

For many it is their first experience with an auction. If going to an auction is not somewhere on your "bucket list," it should be. It's a unique experience: scurrying about the hundreds of items and choosing the ones that interest you, sitting in the bleachers waiting with anticipation as the items arrive on the auction block, listening to the auctioneer as the bids increase, reviewing your maximum predetermined bid, then feeling the satisfaction of winning the bidding competition.

The auction is held every year as a joint fundraising event that supports both the PTSA and Booster Club. Both organizations support students and student athletes. This year's Asian Auction will be held on Saturday, Feb. 25; viewing, registration and silent auction starts at 11 a.m. and live bidding starts at 12:30 p.m. The auction closes at 4 p.m.



SAPR Victim Advocates ready to assist

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Victim Advocates completed 30 hours of training at the Fleet and Family Support Center between Jan. 31 and Feb. 3, 2012. These volunteers have the responsibility of being on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to and assist victims of sexual assault. Back row (from left to right): FFSC Director Lynn Marie Smith Martin; Niela Kappes; Briana Bellantoni; Sigfredo A. Collazo; Keyshia Robertson; Sindy Copeland, FFSC sexual assault response coordinator. Front row (from left to right) Michelle Thibodeaux; Robert Mathews; Suzanne Powers. (Photo courtesy of the Fleet and Family Support Center)

Individual Force Protection Plans (IFPP)

All Department of Defense personnel and their adult family members on official or unofficial travel outside of Italy must complete an Individual Force Protection Plan (IFPP). IFPPs are mandatory if one of the following criteria is met:

- If the destination country or region has a State Department Public Announcement or Travel Warning in effect.
- A U.S. Mission (Embassy/Consulate) is not present and the State Department or responsible Chief of Mission cannot extend normal consular protection services to U.S. Citizens.
- Travel includes any of the following countries: Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Israel, Lebanon, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, and all Africa Nations.
- Travel is out of Area of Responsibility (AOR) as required by AOR Commander. (CONUS, Alaska, Hawaii, and U.S. Territories are exempt).

For more information, please contact the Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Division at 081-568-5525 or 081-568-5595, or visit the office in the Capodichino Security Precinct in Bldg. 403, open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Ella Coffey is playing the role of Sally Brown, Charlie Brown's little sister, in the Naples High School Drama Club's upcoming production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."



Patrick Carnahan is a member of the Peanuts gang and understudy for Linus in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," which will be performed at Naples High School March 3 and March 4.

The Peanuts gang lands in Naples

Story and photos provided by the Naples High School Drama Club

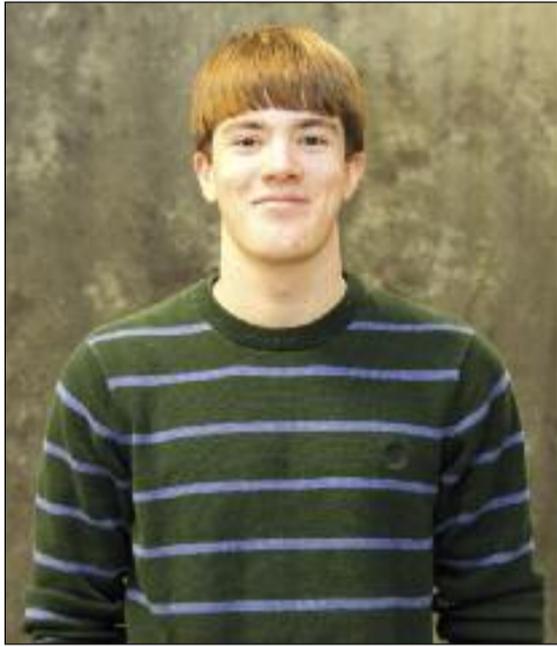
The Naples High School Drama Club is proud to announce its upcoming production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," which will be performed March 3 and March 4 in the Naples High School Cafetorium.

This week's "Peanuts of the Week Spotlight" shines on Patrick Carnahan, Ella Coffey, and Will Rabuse. Playing the role of Sally Brown, Charlie Brown's little sister, is Ella Coffey. She is from Blaine, Washington. Ella is no stranger to the stage, as she has been in many plays including Aesop Fables and The Jungle Book. She has had five years of choir experience. Outside of theatre, she loves playing volleyball and practicing her violin. Her biggest inspiration is her dad's drama troop in Blaine, Washington.

Patrick Carnahan, a member of the Peanuts gang and understudy for Linus, will make his Naples theatrical debut in next month's show. He has taken multiple drama classes and played the informative ghost in the 2008 "A Christmas Carol" at Immaculate Conception Regional School in Mount Vernon, Washington. Patrick is a sophomore and a native of Washington State. He played as an offensive lineman for the Naples Wildcats junior varsity team this year. Patrick is involved in Sci-Fi Club and Student 2 Student, and hopes to play baseball in the spring. He enjoys traveling, especially when the destination involves riding roller coasters. Additionally, he also enjoys studying, playing video games, go-carting, and enjoying the wonderful pizza of Naples.

Tackling the iconic role of Charlie Brown is William Rabuse. Will has dedicated his life to entertaining his family and classmates. Will's theatrical talents are not limited to acting and singing, but include the gift of imitation in the vein of Jim Carrey. Since speaking his first words, he has been creating characters.

Will began the study of music with the piano at



William Rabuse will play the role of Charlie Brown in Naples High School Drama Club's production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

age 7 and percussion at age 9. He was selected for the 2006 Arlington County Honors Youth Choir and has been an active percussion player in his school bands since he was in fourth grade. Will was selected to attend the summer program of the prestigious INTERLOCHEN Music Camp in the summer of 2010. An active member of the Boy Scouts since the fourth grade, he wears the rank of Life Scout as a member of Naples Troop 007 and is actively preparing to become an Eagle Scout.

William is an honor student and a member of the National Junior Honor Society. He wears the Naples High School varsity letters for marching band, baseball and volleyball. In his leisure time, Will loves to snowboard, sail, swim, work out and teach his Mom computer skills.

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" will be presented in the Naples High School Cafetorium March 3 at 7 p.m. and March 4 at 3 p.m. Come join Charlie Brown, Lucy, Schroeder, Linus, Sally, Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang!

La tavola / The table

Practice your vocabulary. Find the Italian words.

J P Y A Y E R F V C A A J O H
E N O U Q M R A N I P R Q L M
I P V T J O H E L O A J D L T
O U A T O R J G I U G C L E T O
S I L V O V A V B H X R C T O V
U N Q H M V A Y F I C U I L V
W P E G O E O G T I C C N O A
P I A T T O W D L C Q R I C G
A P P A R E C C H E I A R E S B L
S Z T C I M N I E G E Q S D I
I X M A Z G A W Q Q F T N M O
C Y F D Z I E X Z W E Z T Y L
Q A B Z O Z E T C R A T L A O
N Y Z I L L A R Q M X A V P N
A T T E H C R O F K J D S N C

APPARECCHIARE / To set the table
BICCHIERE / Glass
CUCCHIAIO / Spoon
COLTELLO / Knife
FORCHETTA / Fork

PIATTO / Plate
TOVAGLIA / Tablecloth
TOVAGLILOLO / Napkin
TOVAGLIETTA / Placemat
TAZZA / Cup or mug

Answer to last week's puzzle

BATTERIA / Drums
CHITARRA / Guitar
CLARINETTO / Clarinet
FISARMONICA /
Accordion
FLAUTO / Flute
PIANOFORTE / Piano
SASSOFONO /
Saxophone
TROMBA / Trumpet
VIOLINO / Violin
VIOLONCELLO / Cello

Gli Strumenti Musicali / Musical Instruments

Obtaining your Sojourner Permit

Italian law requires all foreign personnel working or living within Italy, other than an active-duty member under military orders, to obtain a Sojourner Permit within eight days of arrival in Italy. This is different from a visa, which is merely an approval for entry into the country.

All applicants over 14 years of age must apply in person, as each person's signature is required at the time of application.

NATIONALS OF ANY STATE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COMING TO ITALY DO NOT REQUIRE ANY VISA OR SOJOURNER PERMIT.

As part of the Area Orientation process, the U.S. Region Legal Service Office (RLSO EURAFSWA) assists in the preparation and oversees the acquisition of the Sojourner Permit for all personnel attached to U.S. Navy commands in the Naples area. Army and Air Force personnel stationed at JFC must apply through the Carabinieri at the JFC Provost Marshall's Office, Building L.

Contact Connie Henderson, RLSO EURAFSWA liaison advisor, at 081-568-4639 for more information.



Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe Band's "Topside" brass ensemble performs for the Royal Moroccan Navy and American guests aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) in Casablanca, Morocco Feb. 2. From left to right: Musician 2nd Class Vincent Moody, trumpet; Musicians 3rd Class Patrick Pedlar, trumpet; Jason McDonough, drums; Andrew Francisco, saxophone; U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Corey Hungerford, tuba.

NAVEUR brass ensemble travels to Casablanca for first performance gig

Story and photos by MC2 Jeff Troutman
Navy Public Affairs Support Element-East Detachment Europe

The newest ensemble from Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe Band, based in Naples, Italy, made its performance debut in Casablanca, Morocco this month, and will continue performing in support of Africa Partnership Station (APS) 2012 through Feb. 22.

During a four-day visit to Casablanca, the brass ensemble known as "Topside" performed original material and brass-influenced renditions of popular songs by Stevie Wonder, Roberta Flack and Dr. Dre. The group played aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) as well as for a local youth center and an orphanage.

Topside consists of Musician 2nd Class Vincent Moody, trumpet; Musicians 3rd Class Andrew Francisco, saxophone; Jason McDonough, drums; Jeremy Lack, trombone; Patrick Pedlar, trumpet; and U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Corey Hungerford, tuba.

"We'd only been playing together as a group for about two weeks before the first gig, but we'd known each other personally for awhile," said Moody, who is also a vocalist for Topside.

During the band members' limited rehearsal time, they prepared 50 songs so they could ensure each show was unique.

"No two gigs are the same," said Moody. "We're always looking for cues from one another to improvise and take the songs in new and interesting directions."

Having a large repertoire keeps things interesting for both the performers and the audience, Francisco said.

"It helps to keep us fresh and at our best, not following a set routine for each performance," said Francisco. "As both friends and fellow musicians, we enjoy going off the cuff and improvising if the crowd is responding to a certain tune we're playing. Reading and engaging with the crowd is a huge part of making our performance a success."

Because the members of Topside are friends as well as band mates, the group has a special dynamic, said McDonough.

"There's a trust running through this group," McDonough said. "We're like a family in that we know each other not just professionally, but personally as well."

Besides providing the opportunity to work with friends, McDonough said performing in Morocco was rewarding for other reasons.

"Sometimes the long hours of playing can take its toll physically and mentally, but the reception we received from the children we played for in Casablanca makes it incredibly rewarding," he said.

Topside is performing in Nigeria and Ghana until Feb. 22 in support of Africa Partnership Station (APS) 2012. Throughout the trip, Topside will perform for numerous events, including receptions and community projects.

APS is an international security cooperation initiative, facilitated by Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa, aimed at strengthening global maritime partnerships through training and collaborative activities in order to improve maritime safety and security in Africa.

UMUC to hold open houses

From University of Maryland
University College

University of Maryland University College Europe will hold two open houses this month to answer questions about admissions, registration, financial aid and academic programs. One open house will be held at the Support Site in the U.S. Naval Hospital Naples Dental Conference Room from 11 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23; the other will be held at Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 11 to 2 p.m. at Capodichino in the Admin II building, room G-014 (on the ground floor).

You may attend all sessions of the open houses or pick and choose based on your interests. For more information, contact your UMUC Europe field representative at 081-568-6675, or napl@europe.umuc.edu.

