



Memorial Ceremonies Held for Three Sigonellans

Story by LT Jonathan Groveman
Photos by MA1 Daniel Barrick

The Naval Air Station Sigonella Community came together to honor the memory of two Sailors and one dependent student - recalling fond memories of each and how much they will be missed by all.

It was a difficult week for Sigonella. The base community suffered tragedy in two separate incidents, losing friends and loved ones, their lives cut short because of unfortunate incidents. Each one had a profound impact on the base and their loss will be felt for years to come.

Michael Dean-Hancock was at the pinnacle of his youth. Born January 7, 1991, Michael moved with his parents to Sigonella during the summer of 2006. An active member of the Navy Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps (NJROTC) at Sigonella, he became active in all facets of the school's program. An outstanding cadet, Michael's integrity was unquestionable, and had the ambitions of greatness, scheduled to become the unit's commanding officer in 2008. After graduation from high school, he planned to enlist in the United States Army and continue to lead others by example.

"Michael left behind a legacy that will take a long time to fill," said Capt. Jack Flanagan, Director of Sigonella's

NJROTC program. "He had a profound impact on us all."

Family and friends honored his memory in a religious memorial service January 31 in the community chapel on Sigonella's support base. The service was led by Father Kenneth Rodes, and it was concluded by a tearful slideshow of his most memorable photographs.

Good friend and fellow classmate, Liz Schroff, highlighted that in each person's heart, he was a son, a brother, a friend, and a best friend. She added, "I will always keep his memory in my thoughts."

Master-at-Arms Seaman Mark Gipson was a two-year veteran of the Naval Service. He attended Recruit Training in Great Lake, IL, and he went on to complete basic Master-at-Arms School in San Antonio, TX. He was a soft-spoken, yet very personable man, who continuously had a smile on his face and positive attitude. An avid supporter of his community, he selflessly volunteered numerous hours for such organizations and projects as: The Base Security Association, Sigonella's Fall Fest, National Night Out, and the Navy Ball. He reported aboard Sigonella in September, after completing a successful tour with Commander, Fleet Activities, Chinhae, Korea.

"Mark loved the Navy and loved being an MA; what a better testament to his life," exclaimed Capt. Thomas Quinn, Sigonella's commanding officer. "Make time and place to celebrate his life."

Coworkers and friends recalled Gipson's devotion to duty and inspiring personality during a memorial service February 1 in the community chapel on Sigonella's support base. Sailors recalled humorous stories of their friend, ensuring that his memory will always be an important piece of their lives.

Good friend and fellow base security patrolman, Master-at-Arms Third Class Tricia Scanlon, attributed her honoring of Gipson's life to that of Lieutenant General George S. Patton's famous quote, "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived."

Lieutenant Junior Grade Terry Dugas, Jr. was regarded as an enlisted man's officer and successfully rose up through the ranks from enlisted Sailor to a commissioned officer. He was a vital leader in the Base Security Department and a subject matter expert on the force protection team.

Dugas enlisted in the United States Navy in November

Story continued on page 13



(Left) Lieutenant Commander Ricky Gilbert, NASSIG's Base Security Officer, recalls fond memories of Lieutenant Junior Grade Terry Dugas, Jr.'s life during a memorial service held for Dugas February 2. Gilbert and Dugas served together during a tour in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in 2006 and for two years at Naval Air Station Sigonella.

(Above) Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet Jordan Rettle performs a solo silent rifle drill with his rifle January 31 outside the community chapel on Naval Air Station Sigonella's support base during a memorial service held for Michael Dean-Hancock, a dependent student and Executive Officer of the NJROTC unit at Sigonella. Friends and family recalled Dean-Hancock with a tearful photograph slideshow presentation and a religious ceremony.

WEATHER UPDATE	Feb. 8 H:68F L:45F	Feb. 9 H:67F L:38F	Feb. 10 H:56F L:34F	Feb. 11 H:57F L:45F	Feb. 12 H:64F L:44F	Feb. 13 H:71F L:52F	Feb. 14 H:72F L:50F

TOP STORIES	Page 3	Page 5	Page 6	Page 10	Page 13
Navy advances more than 150 Sailors meritoriously through its combat meritorious advancement program. Sailors have been advanced for their actions in combat situations; many of them for actions during an IA.	Observation of "Military Saves" Week will be conducted from Feb. 24 to March 2. Learn the advantages of taking financial action and making a commitment to save money.	In love with all things Sicilian? Check out upcoming events and festivity dates from Dott. Lunetta's Italian News. This week sections offers insight concerning Sicily's famous blood-red organes and almond festivals	Want to know what great lengths the military will undergo to ensure eco-friendliness? Turn here to review the latest information, discussing what types on training Sailors are receiving that allow positive interaction with the environment.	Chief of Naval Personnel announces new NASCAR fleet honoree program.	

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

TRAFFIC NUMBERS		
	Feb. 2008	2007
Accidents	2	32
Without Injuries	2	26
Injuries	0	6
DUIs	0	2
Traffic Deaths	0	2

PLEASE, DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!

DIRECT LINE

Naval Air Station Sigonella sadly suffered another tragedy on Wednesday evening, January 30th, when we lost LTJG Terry Dugas, Jr. He had been missing for nearly 36 hours, when we located him, and had to break the distressing news to his family. With his passing, we lost not only a community member and a friend, but also a vital member of our Base Security Department leadership and Force Protection Team.

Terry was the son Terry and Carolyn Dugas, and raised in Lafayette, LA. A 1988 graduate of Northside High School, he enlisted in the Navy, November 1989 and attended boot camp in Great Lakes, IL. Upon comple-

NASSIG COMMANDING OFFICER CAPTAIN THOMAS J. QUINN

tion of basic training and Boiler Technician "A" School, he was assigned to the USS RALEIGH. He went on to dedicate himself to not only his Navy tours aboard various ships but as a family man, having raised two bright and caring sons.

Aboard the USS Fort McHenry, Terry was selected to become a Chief Petty Officer, proudly donning the anchors of a Chief. In September 2005, he was commissioned as a Security Limited Duty Officer. Ensign Dugas was immediately assigned to JTF Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he served as a Camp Commander. In 2006, he reported to NAS Sigonella's Security Department.

He served as both the Assistant Security Officer and Anti-Terrorism Officer.

Terry Dugas was a beloved family man who proudly served his country. His wife of 18 years, Eva Dugas, and their sons, Terry Dugas III and Torey Dugas, survives him. He made a profound impact on our base and will always remain in our memories.

With the unfortunate loss of three of our community members last week, we must come together as a community to heal from these wounds together. These were all sad occurrences that teach us that life is short and we must cherish every moment of it.



Health WATCH

February is American Heart Month

Article by LCDR Jim McGowan, Registered Dietitian

Did you know that February is American Heart Month? Since 1963, the President has issued an annual proclamation to help raise public awareness of heart disease. Even though most people associate heart disease with men, it's also the leading cause of death among women. To raise awareness of this fact, the American Heart Association's Go Red campaign aims to help women take action against heart disease. So wear your heart on your sleeve by wearing something red this month.

The Cold Hard Facts About Heart Disease:

-Heart disease kills more people each year than all other causes of death combined including all forms of cancer, including breast cancer, colon cancer, and prostate cancer.

-Heart disease is the single most preventable cause of death. Lifestyle factors play a key role in heart disease. Things like smoking, failing to get regular exercise, and eating a non-healthy diet can significantly increase your risk of heart disease.

-Unfortunately, many women do not take their risk of heart disease personally. Often

women think, as many of us do, that "It won't happen to me." Many times women don't realize the connections between such risk factors as hypertension or high cholesterol levels, and how these affect their personal risk of developing heart disease.

So what can you do to prevent yourself from becoming a victim heart disease or a heart attack?

Schedule an appointment to talk to your doctor about your personal heart disease risk.

If you smoke, quit now. Not only does smoking increase your risk of heart disease, it also presents a whole host of other health issues that are uniquely women.

Most Americans are not getting enough physical activity. Just one hour of aerobic activity 3 to 5 times a week as been shown to significantly lower your risk of heart disease, and several forms of cancer.

Obesity and it's related complications are a major cause of heart disease. Did you know that over fifty percent of Americans are considered overweight with a Body Mass Index

Story continued on page 7

NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

DS Chapel in Catania <u>Sunday</u> 1 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints	Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 11:30 a.m.
NAS II Chapel <u>Monday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	NAS I Chapel <u>Sunday</u> 8:45 a.m. Catholic Mass 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	Mineo Community Center <u>Sunday</u> 9 a.m. Protestant Worship 12 p.m. Catholic Mass
<u>Wednesday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	Maranai Community Center 11 a.m. Protestant Traditional Services
<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 095-86-1225 for weekly Jewish services



Look Up!

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Courtesy of Chaplain Hank Wilson II

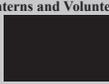
We as a community are currently in a valley. In this valley it is dark. The sun does not reach us, and we feel left alone. We walk with a heavy burden on our hearts, our minds, and our souls. We walk through mud and thick brush. In this valley, our enemies attack us. We are left to find our own water and our own food. Our nourishment is depleted, and we are getting weary. We are tired, we hurt, and our eyes are filled with tears.

The loss of our fellow Sailors this week has left us in this valley. We walk with our heads down and our faces toward the ground. We do not see any daylight. Our souls are dark with pain and grief. We look to our right and we

see no sign of help. We look to our left and still no sign of help, no sign of comfort. We are alone, tired, thirsty, and stuck in this deep, dark, valley... the valley of the shadow of death.

The writer of this Psalm was the same way. He was in the same valley that you and I are in now. What does he do? What is the answer to all of his woes? How does he find relief from this dark, damp, and horrible place? He simply looks to the hills. "I will lift up mine eyes to the mountains." He takes his off the fog dark ground and moves them above the fog and the dark and looks toward the mountain. He looks up for his help.

He asks, "from whence shall my help come?" He begins to look beyond the pain and sorrow and seek help from the mountain. And *Story continued on page 12*

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

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

NAVY News

More than 150 Sailors Meritoriously Advanced for Combat Action

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Trevor Andersen
Navy Personnel Command Communications Office

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- With the continuing need for Sailors to serve Individual Augmentee (IA) and war on terrorism support assignments, the Navy recognizes the importance of rewarding these Sailors for their heroism. One of the rewards for these Sailors is meritorious advancement.

Since 2005, when the combat

meritorious advancement program (CMAP) was announced in NAVADMIN 077/05, more than 150 Sailors have been advanced for their actions in combat situations; many of them for actions during an IA.

"Most advancements approved have been for actions in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Lt. Cmdr. Kimberly Pizanti the enlisted advancement planner for enlisted

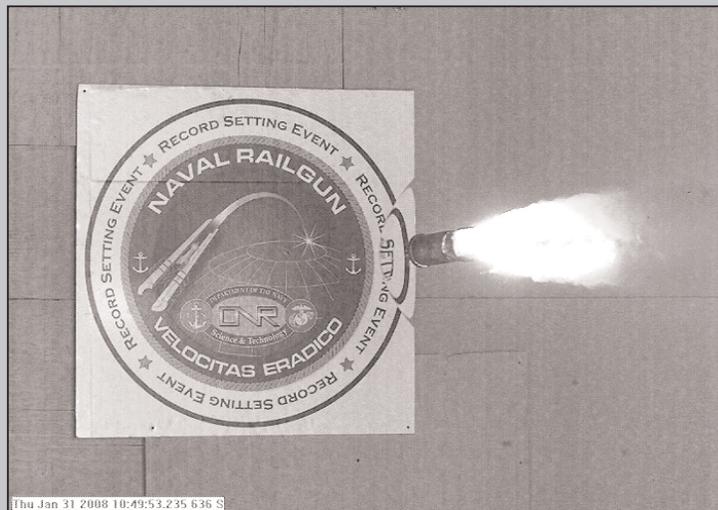
force-shaping and advancements.

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Brian Mullis, of Strategic Communications Wing 1, earned the promotion to petty officer 2nd class through CMAP, following a successful tour with the Asadabad Provincial Reconstruction Team in the Kunar Province of Afghanistan from May 2006 to May 2007.

Story continued from page 12

PHOTO FROM THE FLEET

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



Thu Jan 31 2008 10:49:53.235 636 S

U.S. Navy Photograph

Photograph taken from a high-speed video camera during a record-setting firing of an electromagnetic railgun (EMRG) at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, Va., on January 31, 2008, firing at 10.64MJ (megajoules) with a muzzle velocity of 2520 meters per second. The Office of Naval Research's EMRG program is part of the Department of the Navy's Science and Technology investments, focused on developing new technologies to support Navy and Marine Corps war fighting needs. This photograph is a frame taken from a high-speed video camera.

NEWS BRIEFS

Are you interested in joining one of the world's largest law firms? Do you have what it takes to be a Navy Paralegal?

The Judge Advocate General of the Navy recently released JAGINST 1440.1D opening the Legalman (LN) rating for conversions after a two year closure. Third and Second Class Petty Officers, or those eligible for those ranks, who have less than 10 years of active service may apply for conversion. Additionally, a change to the LN rating conversion procedures now authorizes the conversion of eligible E-3 personnel to Legalman.

Another bonus for the E-3 conversions is automatic advancement to E-4 for successfully completing the Legalman Accession Course at the Naval Justice School. Additionally, successful completion of the new Legalman Accession Course guarantees 10 college credit hours from Roger Williams University towards a degree in legal studies or certification as a paralegal.

For additional information about becoming a Legalman contact LNC(SW/AW) Stephanie M. Wallace at 314-624-6325 or stop by your career counselor's office and ask to see JAGINST 1440.1D. All conversion packages must be screened and endorsed by the Region's Senior Enlisted Legalman, LNCM(SW/AW) Paul St. Sauver.

If you are interested in a challenging new job and would like to become a certified paralegal, now is the time to check out the Legalman rate.

Overseas Committee Chairman and other positions needed for Signonella Girls Scouts.

There is a great Volunteer Management opportunity with USA Girl Scouts Overseas - Signonella. Get involved in the business of non-profits while living overseas. Your managerial, organizational and multi tasking skills are needed to enable Girl Scouts to flourish and help retain that bit of home while experiencing the world.

*Treasurer: Helps draft preliminary budget. Writes and co-signs checks for payment of approved expenses. Maintains financial records for the OCMT and

each troop along with preparing the books for audit.

*Public Relations: Assists with the publicity for the recruitment campaign, and guarantees that Girl Scout activities are visible in the community through the use of community newspaper and other media avenues. Ensures that all materials reflect the diversity of the community.

*Registrar: Ensures that membership registration forms are fully and accurately completed for all troops and add-ons in a timely manner. Assist with registration for girls and adults attending recruitment and organizing activities/events.

*Awards Chair: Encourages and promotes recognition of adult Girl Scout accomplishments. Assures that nominations for Overseas Committees and GSUSA recognitions are filed on time. Coordinates adult awards and appreciation celebrations. Maintains awards records for the OC.

*Hut/Facilities Manager: Ensures the safety and cleanliness of the hut. Completes the Girl Scout Hut Inventory Sheet to monitor supplies/equipment/resources. Assists in accessing other community facilities for meetings.

Call Robin Carson at 624-4366 or via email at carsrob@gmail.com for a position description and application.

Marriage Enrichment Workshop

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

To sign up, please contact Chaplain Amador by email or by phone at 624-3805.

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

Tutor Etna
ial

Monika

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

Motta

Alphio

Stags

Marchi

Did you know?

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

NMCRS: Service with a Smile!

Contact your Sigonella NMCRS Office today! Call 624-4212 for more information. Office Hours: Monday - Friday 0900 - 1600.

NMCRS: Seeking New Volunteers!

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society



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

"Military Saves" Week: Feb. 24 to March 2

By Bruce Moody
Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- "Military Saves" Week will be observed throughout the Fleet from Feb. 24 to March 2.

The campaign is a week of intense focus on taking financial action and making a commitment to save money. In 2008, the Navy will focus specifically on saving for emergencies, reducing debt to improve personal financial readiness and promoting youth financial responsibility.

This initiative is part of the Military Saves Campaign, a year-round social marketing campaign to persuade, motivate and encourage Department of Defense employees to save money and reduce consumer debt. The campaign reaches out to Service members, spouses, youth and civilian employees.

"We're stepping up our efforts to increase individual and family financial fitness by providing additional educational programs at our Fleet and Family Support Centers and by working directly with command financial specialists to provide information and personalized assistance in addressing unit financial readiness," David DuBois, of Commander, Navy Installation

Command, said. DuBois is CNIC's Deputy Manager for Fleet and Family Support Programs, delivering military and family readiness services.

"We have increased the number of Accredited Financial Counselors in the Fleet and Family Support Centers available to provide one-on-one help in developing realistic and achievable financial plans," DuBois said. "We're increasing the involvement of our partner agencies, on-base financial institutions, consumer awareness experts and nationwide industry leaders to help improve your financial fitness."

As part of Military Saves Week, installation leadership and will focus on encouraging Sailors to take action and make a commitment to save money. They will work with a variety of installation resources to motivate military members and their families to make a commitment to save by offering special events, classes and resources that focus on individual financial fitness.

The campaign is a command initiative in which leadership can work to create a culture that encourages savings and financial

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.

Ashley: She is a fabulous dog with a lot of personality. She would make a great asset to any family.

Paxton: He is a wonderful boy that needs a home to call his own. He loves to play and get tummy rubs.

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



readiness. Through the campaign, leadership will promote wealth-building messages for military members, encouraging them to set savings goals, open savings accounts, make regular contributions to household savings, increase debt payments and participate in financial education programs.

Participants in Military Saves Week include: Command Financial Specialists, Fleet & Family Support Centers, Public Affairs Offices, installation banks and credit unions, Child & Youth Programs, Morale, Welfare, & Recreation, commissary, schools and more.

Sailors should contact their Command Financial Specialist to seek assistance regarding their current financial readiness. Sailor and family members can also contact their local Fleet and Family Support Center for financial counseling,

referrals and a description of financial classes offered such as savings and investing, debt reduction, car buying, home buying and more.

Nobody starts with the intention of becoming deeply in debt. Everyone can use help with finding additional ways to more effectively manage money. Emergencies can happen to anyone at anytime. The real focus is preparing for the unexpected by having funds to meet those unexpected requirements. By establishing goals, maximizing the savings of personal income and reducing debt, our Sailors and families can enjoy the freedoms of financial independence.

To learn more about Military Saves and to enroll as a Saver, visit www.militarysaves.org or contact Fleet & Family Support Center 624-4291.

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.

Sushi

Pentagon



Protestant Women of the Chapel

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

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

Italian NEWS

Sicilian Culture, Events and Lifestyle

Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff



Photo by Alessandra Lunetta
Oranges are synonymous with good health. Take advantage of your Sicilian tour by visiting the Francofonte Blood Orange Festival, kicking off this afternoon and running through Feb. 10 in the town historic center. The festival features entertainment, orange-based specialties, Sicilian folklore parades and activities for the entire family!

Francofonte hosts Blood Orange Festival

German romantic poet Johann Wolfgang Goethe, who traveled extensively throughout Sicily and Italy in the 19th century, once wrote: "To have seen Italy without seeing Sicily is not to have seen Italy at all, for Sicily is the clue to everything...do you know the land where the lemon-trees grow, in darkened leaves the gold-oranges glow?" Sicily has been famous for its citrus groves for centuries. Today, several towns around the island still hold festivals including exhibits, food, art and music to celebrate the history and

1920s and 1950s, war veterans were given a parcel of land in which they could cultivate oranges. That brought about an increase in the Francofonte production of oranges.

Today, this town boasts nearly 5,000 hectares (12355 acres) of citrus groves.

Blood Oranges are cultivated throughout the Mediterranean countries. Eastern Sicily boasts some among the most distinctive Blood Orange groves in the world, which also include the "Moro," and "Sanguinello" varieties. The Tarocco Blood orange is a very flavorful citrus fruit with a sweet, deep red colored flesh. A very good source of vitamin A and C, minerals and fibers, Tarocco contains red pigments called anthocyanins which also give the oranges a berry-like taste and color that ranges from orange veined with ruby to vermilion to vivid crimson to almost black.

Scientists say these pigments can reduce the risk of cancer, strengthen the circulatory system, cure ulcers and inhibit cholesterol synthesis providing protection against heart disease.

The festival will feature food booths selling blood oranges and orange desserts and delicacies all three days. Today, the Festival opens at 5 p.m. and is followed by a music show performed by the jazz band "Dixieland" At 6 p.m.

cultivation of oranges.

A fun family event for all ages, the second edition of the "Sagra del Tarocco" or Tarocco Blood Orange Festival will kick off this afternoon in Francofonte, a picturesque town in the Siracusa Province.

The festival will run this weekend through Feb. 10 and will be held in the main square and will feature exhibits, entertainment and live music.

The sagra will celebrate the Tarocco di Francofonte, a delicious variety of arance rosse (Blood Oranges) that has been successfully cultivated in this area since the 19th century. In the

Later, in the evening, at 8 p.m. food booths will feature orange-based cakes for tasting.

Tomorrow, food, arts and crafts booths open at 10 a.m. Streets artists will perform later in the afternoon at 6 p.m. "Insieme," a popular TV show will be held at 8 p.m.

The last day of the festival (Feb. 10), will kick off at 10 a.m. One hour later, a spectacular Carretti Siciliani or Sicilian carts parade will be held throughout the town's historic heart.

At the end of the street artist performances (6 p.m.), a show of the Catania-based comedian Giuseppe Castiglia will end the festival at 8 m.

For more information call Francofonte City Hall at 095-7950111.

A World of Folklore on display at the Almond Blossom Festival in Agrigento

It's that time of the year again! The spectacular Sagra del Mandorlo in Fiore or Agrigento Almond Blossom Festival is back for the 63rd edition. What makes this festival so special? Well, there are at least two good reasons to attend this exciting sagra. First of all, it's set against the magnificent backdrop of the almond trees blossoming and under the Greek Temples, which are among the best preserved monumental sanctuaries in the world outside Greece. The second reason is that the festival brings together the folklore traditions of 14 nations (Albania, Armenia, Byelorussia, Korea, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, India, Israel, Mongolia, Poland, Senegal and Hungary) and of course Sicily, which will all showcase their costumes, dances and music.

The origin of the early almond blossom festival can be traced back in Greek mythology. According to legend, the beautiful Greek princess named Phyllis was in love with king Demophoon, the son of Theseus.

As Greeks prepared to wage war against Troy, Demophoon sailed for Athens promising her to return soon. But since the Troy war lasted for several years, Phyllis became resigned to a tragic fate of loneliness, believing that she would never see her lover again. She then died from the terrible grief. But the Gods were touched by her everlasting love and decided to transform her into a barren almond tree.

When Demophoon returned home he was told about the tragic death of Phyllis. Devastated by the death of his beloved, he went to the beach where they use to meet and grieved her for hours. Then he noticed a barren tree standing alone. Disheartened and mourning, he hugged it. Suddenly, the tree suddenly blossomed out producing perfumed almond flowers! That's how, according to legend, almonds became a symbol of undying love, rebirth and beauty.

This spectacular International Folklore Festival runs through Feb. 10 and it is held at different venues, such as the Agrigento historic center, the Palacongressi Convention Center (located in "Villaggio Mosè" a village in the outskirts of Agrigento) and the breathtaking Greek Temples.

Count Alfonso Gaetani, a



A diversity of music, dance, art and traditions from all over the world will be featured at the 63rd annual Agrigento Blossom and Folklore Festival through Sunday, Feb. 10th. Folklore groups from 14 countries will showcase their heritage in the city that hosts breathtaking Greek Temples.

nobleman from Agrigento, organized the first Sagra (Festival) in 1934 in a nearby small town called Naro. It started as a country fair aimed at promoting local community produce. Celebrations also included parades of horse carts and poetry-reading contests.

A few years later, Gaetani decided to move the festival to Agrigento so that the event would be advertised better throughout Sicily. In 1940, the festival was canceled because of WWII. It began to be held again in 1948. Over the years, the festival has become internationally popular as folklore groups from all over the world come to Agrigento to showcase their heritage.

During the festival, city balconies and windows will be decorated with colored flowers.

Festival Schedule

Here is the festival's lineup.
Spectacular international folklore

shows are held in piazza Cavour, today (Feb. 8) at noon and Feb. 9 at 11 a.m. Shows are also held at the Palacongressi Conference Center tonight and tomorrow at 4 and 9 p.m.

Highlights taking place in the city historic heart also include city band parade (Feb. 9- 6 p.m.), Sicilian folklore shows (Feb. 10- 9 a.m.) and the concert of "Stadio," an Italian rock band from the 1980s (Feb. 10- 9 p.m.).

The festival ends on Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. with a grandiose world folkloristic show at the Temple of Hercules, the oldest temple among the magnificent Doric works of art overlooking the ancient town.

Tickets are required at some events. For more information, detailed schedules and tickets call Agrigento Tourist Office at 0922-20454 (Special opening hours during the festivals are 8 a.m.-1 p.m. / 3:30 - 6 p.m.).



Tonight, Catania-based saxophone player Cristiano Giardini will perform along with the "Organizzato Trio (Claudio Cusmano- guitar, Osvaldo Corsaro - Hammond Clone keyboards - Pucci Nicosia -drums) in Catania at the Y'S Jazz Club (located at the Dune Hotel, viale Kennedy # 10B, the Catania playa beach area) at 10 p.m. Tomorrow (Feb. 9), "The A cappella Swingers" will be on the same stage at 10 pm. Admission is free. For more information and tickets call 095-7233120.

Perla d'oriente 2 Apple Bees

NMCRS Launches New Program

Story by [REDACTED]

Sometimes making ends meet can be a challenge for service members. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) has initiated a new program, the Quick Assistance Loan (QAL), to further assist during times of need. The QAL enables active duty Navy and Marine Corps personnel to take out loans of up to \$300 in 15 minutes or less. QALs are designed to help with emergency requests for basic living expenses such as housing, utilities, food and clothing; medical or dental expenses; vehicle or transportation expenses, or to assist during family emergencies. Like the Society's other loans, QALs are interest-free. Repayment terms are from 3-10 months depending on the amount of the request.

In order to be eligible, the service member must not have any outstanding loans from the Society and must

be in good standing. Service members who don't qualify for a QAL are still encouraged to seek financial counseling and assistance through the local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Office before they seek loans from any other source. To service clients in 15 minutes, NMCRS requires that you bring your most recent Leave and Earnings Statement and your active duty ID card. You can speed up the short process by filling out the single-page application available on line at www.nmcrs.org.

QAL is one of the many programs offered by NMCRS. There is also budget counseling, interest-free need based loans for requests greater than \$300, the Budget For Baby Layette Program, visiting nurses, and educational grants. Make NMCRS your first resource.

NMCRS, NFCU and Sigonella Middle/High School PTSO announce essay contest.

Courtesy of NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Navy Federal Credit Union and the Middle/ High School Parent, Teacher, Student Organization have teamed up to offer three \$100.00 savings bonds to students. Students in grades seven through twelve can compete in an essay contest entitled "What Financial Responsibility Means to Me." All essays should be no longer than 300 words, typewritten and double-spaced. The essays must have a

cover sheet with the students name and advisory/seminar teacher's name on it. Sigonella middle and high school teachers have received the requirements. Essays may be turned into the front office for placement in the PTSO box or dropped off at the NMCRS office no later than April 30th. Winners will be announced at the awards ceremonies. For additional information please contact the NMCRS office at 624-4212.

Grande albergo etna

Kier-tastic Jox Jams and Jokes

Article and Photos by [REDACTED]

Last Saturday, Jox Pub rocked out and laughed hard to a returning, one man musical comedic performance by Kier. The comedian is currently on a European tour with Armed Forces Entertainment. Kier's comedic performance involves jokes that make fun of himself, as well as, amazing impressions of Bruce Springsteen, Pink Floyd, Eddie Vedar, and even a Barry White and Marvin Gay combination.

In the first part of his act, Kier described how he got his name.

"I always thought my real name, Kieran, was a girl's name, so I

shortened it. Mom said it's a popular Irish name but then I thought about the poor soul in Ireland who is running around with the name Buck."

During the show, Kier jokingly expanded on his personal experiences from divorce, to dogs, to touring in random small towns around the United States. Kier has an interactive approach of including the audience in his show from asking what kind of dogs people have to bringing an audience member on stage.

Following the show, Kier was on a flight to Garmisch, Germany, to finish up his tour.



Armed Forces Entertainment along with MWR Entertainment Manager, Erin Tacey, have teamed up to provide a huge lineup of entertainment for Sigonella. On February 9, Jox Pub will host the Atlanta Falcons Cheerleaders. An adult performance will be at 8 p.m. at Flight Line Fitness Center with a meet and greet held afterward at Jox Pub.

Left: Audience member assists Kier with the harmonica during his act at Jox Pub last Saturday.



HEART continued from page 2
(BMI) of over 25, and one-quarter of American adults are obese with a BMI of over 30?

A healthy diet and lifestyle are the best weapons you have to fight cardiovascular disease. It's not as hard as you may think! Remember, it is the overall pattern of the choices you make that counts. Your base Registered Dietitian can help you make a plan.

As you make daily food choices, base your eating pattern on these recommendations:

- Choose lean meats and poultry without skin and prepare them without added saturated and trans fat.
- Select fat-free, 1 percent fat, and low-fat dairy products.
- Cut back on foods containing partially hydrogenated vegetable

oils to reduce trans fat in your diet.

-Cut back on foods high in dietary cholesterol. Aim to eat less than 300 milligrams of cholesterol each day.

-Cut back on beverages and foods with added sugars.

-Choose and prepare foods with little or no salt. Aim to eat less than 2,300 milligrams of sodium per day.

-If you drink alcohol, drink in moderation. That means one drink per day if you're a woman and two drinks per day if you're a man.

-Follow the American Heart Association recommendations when you eat out, and keep an eye on your portion sizes.

To schedule an appointment with your Healthcare Provider, call 624-CARE (2273).



The Town of Sciacca, near the famous temples of Agrigento, has held a traditional Carnevale celebration for 108 consecutive years. The town is known for elaborate costumes and a fun atmosphere for people of all ages. This year's celebration ran from February 3 - 5, with daytime and evening events, showcasing a multitude of creative sights and sounds. There was no shortage of delicious food items and dessert sweets. A dozen colorful floats paraded down the main street, some with dancing revelers on them, and others with riders passing out free cups of red wine. Children dressed up in a wide variety of costumes, depicting cartoon characters, farm animals, food items, or political figures. No one returned home without a wide grin on their faces and silly string still clinging to their hair.



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Spectacular So...

Story and photos by

Watch out-a nun might bop you on the head with a hammer. Don't worry though, she's in a costume and the hammer is plastic. Welcome to Carnival, Sciacca's annual celebration dating back 108 years.

Children love this festival. For one, they dress in lavish costumes. Supermen, Spidermen, chefs, princesses, mini Carabinieri paraded through the crowded streets. Many threw colorful confetti. Several sprayed silly-string on unsuspected revelers. Even adults joined in the jubilee. Many dressed as mechanics, vampires, nuns and cardinals, doctors, cows and herders, and clowns. Men dressed like women and people wore crazy hats with bells and sequins.

The 12 mechanical floats change every year. Very slowly, they move through the crowd displaying their bright and whimsical designs. For example, one float had a fisherman's row-boat moving across rolling waves. Another showed a skier carving up the mountain like a pro. A huge baby sucked on a pacifier on top of a different float. Interestingly, on the back of one float, men were cooking salsicca on a grill and distributing the meat to the crowd. In addition, there was even a wine spout attached to one float, so adults could try the local vino.

Behind the floats, children would

dance before the crowd. After watching floats, many people headed to the small markets located inside tents. Others danced the stage to the blaring music and honking pets.

According to Nick Guardiano, an Italian pilot who grew up in Sciacca, the carnival is usually held in the city's center. During heavy restoration this year, it was held outside the city's center, but they expect it to return next year. He believed that when the carnival was held in the Centro it had a different feel due to the old monuments and narrow streets. "People from Sciacca enjoy this on-going tradition from family to family. It's part of our DNA," he explained.

Of course, you won't leave hungry. The smell of grilled onions and salsicca panelle or fried chickpeas, candy apples and cotton candy wafted through the air.

If you missed this event, there's always next year, so don't put away your Halloween frocks. Sciacca is about 3 hours from base on your way you can stop at Agrigento's Dei Templi. Parts of Sciacca overlook splendid beaches and the Mediterranean Sea. Before Carnival, Sciacca is known for their spa, thermal pools; and after staying up all night you may need that massage.

Feudo S.

Vitoo

Navy Lodge

ne's Throw

ED IS ALSO THE HUB FOR TRAVEL

cular Sciacca

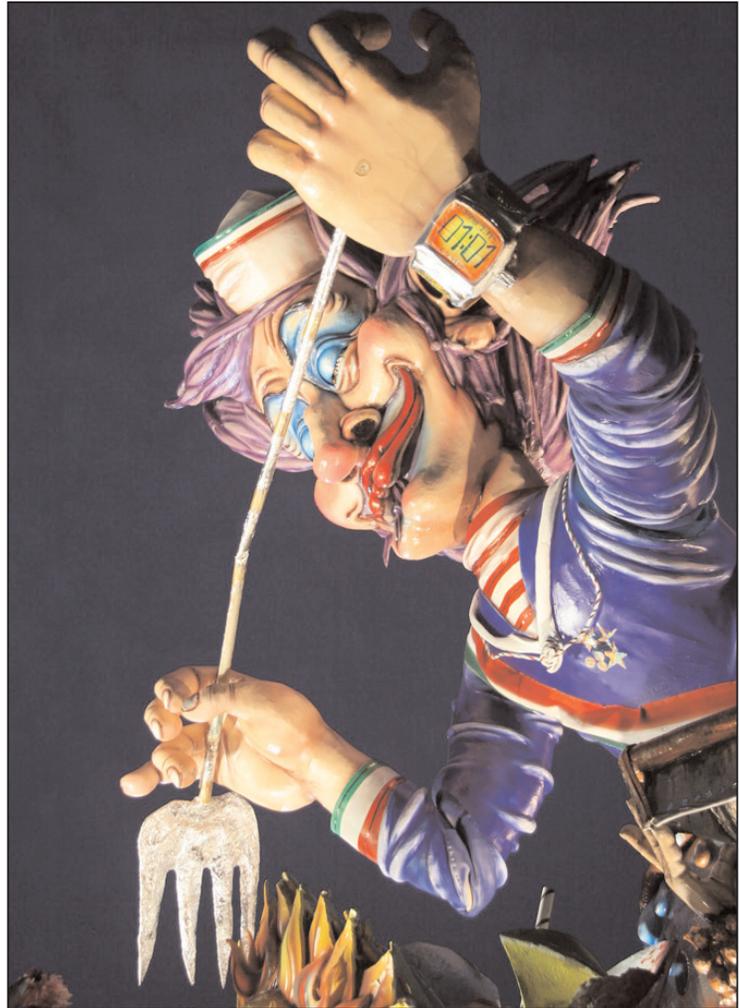
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Navy's Environmental Readiness Director Discusses Sonar and New Web Site

From Lt. Jennifer Cragg, Navy News Service; and Tracey Moriarty
Chief of Naval Operation Environmental Readiness Division

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Environmental Director for the Chief of Naval Operations has spearheaded the creation of a new Web site to better educate and inform the public and Sailors on what the U.S. Navy is doing to protect the seas and its inhabitants during crucial training exercises.

Rear Adm. Larry Rice, director of the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Readiness Division (N45), recently discussed why training with sonar is important and vital to national security.

"We cannot send our American Sailors and Marines into potential trouble spots around the world without adequate training to defend them," said Rice. "This is a national security issue, and we must use all methods available to ensure that arbitrary and excessive restrictions do not hamper our ability to train."

Rice added that the U.S. Navy has trained in Southern California for the past 40 years and they have had zero incidents with marine mammals--no strandings, no deaths, and no documented injuries.

"We want to keep that up," added Rice. "In order to accomplish this, we have 29 protective measures that we already employ. The additional training restrictions that the court levied on us frankly don't help us take care of the environment--and it restricts our training."

Rice added that it is important for Sailors and citizens to know how small an impact Navy sonar has on the marine environment.

As part of learning what type of impact the Navy is having, Rice encourages everyone to log onto the Navy's newest sonar Web site, which features information on whales, video clips, environmental stories, the Currents magazine and more.

The web site is located at www.navy.mil/oceans.

Rice also added that it is important that people are aware of the many reasons for strandings.

For nations that track such events, worldwide naval use of active sonar has been correlated with the stranding of approximately 50 whales during the 10-year period from 1996-2006.

"Contrast that with over 3,500 marine mammal 'normal' strandings that occur on U.S. shores annually, and 600,000 marine mammal deaths each year by commercial fishing interests," Rice said. "So, let's examine this: 600,000 are attributable to commercial fishing, over 3,500 a year are contributable to normal causes, and approximately five a year to sonar. And remember that in the last couple of years sonar-caused deaths have been zero."

Rice attributes the U.S. Navy's success with sonar to the fleet operators who are paying attention to what is going on in the world with marine mammals and sonar, and they realize that this is really important. The recent court case in Southern California only reaffirms its importance.

"Their actions directly influence their ship's training that will be following them. The folks that preceded the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group took precautions; they used the 29 protective measures, they ensured that our record of zero marine mammal incidents in Southern California was kept up. It's important that we keep that up so the training can continue," said Rice.

Rice added that one of the reasons for zero strandings associated with sonar is the result of continued U.S. Navy research.

"The U.S. Navy funds \$18 million a year

in marine mammal research, including independent, peer-reviewed research conducted by Boston University, Duke University, University of Hawaii and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Research topics include sound effects on marine mammals," said Rice.

While the U.S. Navy works hard to train in an environmentally responsible manner, submarine technology is improving and widely available to interested nations. More than 300 extremely quiet diesel electric submarines operate in 41 countries worldwide. These submarines are cheap, mass produced and readily available to any country that wants to pursue this technology.

Rice explained how difficult a job sonar technicians have when trying to pinpoint the sound of an extremely quiet submarine.

"As you know the ocean isn't like the atmosphere. The ocean is changing all of the time, whether it is the salinity, whether it is the density, whether it is the currents out there. It is a noisy place; not only are there submarines out there, but there is wave sound, rain sounds, there are other marine mammals, there are seismic sounds, earthquakes, volcanoes--a lot of sounds in the oceans, and they have to pick out that really quiet diesel electric submarine amongst all of those other sounds. That isn't something that we can simulate," said Rice.

The U.S. Navy employs 29 protective measures to protect marine life when using mid-frequency active sonar during a major exercise or within established ranges or operating area.

The measures include stationing trained lookouts, passive acoustics monitoring for marine mammals, employing night vision, establishing protective safety zones around ships, taking appropriate action when marine mammals are spotted, and employing extra precautions during choke-point exercises. These measures were developed



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class James R. Evans. Sonar Technician (Surface) 1st Class Mark Osborne supervises Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class Randy Loewen, right, and Sonar Technician (Surface) 3rd Class Roland Stout, left, as they monitor contacts on an AN/SQQ-89V15 Surface Anti Submarine Combat System, aboard the guided missile destroyer USS Momsen (DDG 92). Ships and aircraft assigned to Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 9 are underway off the coast of Southern California participating in a Joint Task Force Exercise.

with-and are fully supported by-Federal environmental regulators, including the National Marine Fisheries Service.

For more information about Navy's use of sonar and ocean stewardship, visit www.navy.mil/oceans.

Navy Federal Credit

MWR CORNER

Shows

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

Jox Pub 624-5603

Super Bowl XLII Sunday, February 3 9pm
Tons of giveaways and door prizes. Open late!
Texas Hold'em Poker Club
Mondays; dealing starts at 7 p.m.
Play every week to earn points! This is an eight-week competition. The person with the most points by February 25 wins the grand prize of a \$500 gift certificate to Angie's Travell! Free entry each week.

Sports x2711

Over 30 Pick-Up Basketball Sundays at 2pm
Midtown gymnasium

ITT Gear-n-Go Day Trips 624-4777

Catania Shopping and Via Etna Shopping Fridays
Mandatory Snow Adventure Safety Class Fridays from 5 - 5:30 p.m.
Plan on joining Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) for any snow sport this

year? Please make the time to attend this mandatory class on safety and survival. Make this year a fun and injury-free year.

Snowboarding on Mt. Etna
(Snow and weather permitting)

Saturdays through March 1; Depart: NAS I 8 a.m. Return: 4 p.m. - \$15 without rental package or \$25 with rental package plus bring euro for lift ticket and food

Valentine's Day Dinner at Feudo San Vito
February 14: (Registration Deadline: February 7)

Depart: Mineo 6 p.m., NAS II 6:30 p.m., Marinai 6:45 p.m., NAS I 7 p.m. Return: Midnight - \$10 plus bring €35/person for dinner

ITT Gear-n-Go Extended Trips
624-4777

St. Patrick's Day in Dublin: March 15-19
Dracula's Transylvania, Romania: April 4-9
Camping in Tropea: May 23-26
Legoland Deutschland (Germany) Friday, June 13-Monday, June 16

Liberty 624-5602

Ski Weekend: Dolomites Italian Alps:
February 15-18 \$600/pp

Weekend in Florence: March 14-17 \$375/pp

Weekend in Dublin: April 16-20 \$550/pp

SpareTime Bowling Center x4302

Colorama Glow-in-the-Dark Bowling

Saturday nights at 9pm

Library 624- 3875

Be My Valentine Poem Contest

Come in and submit a poem for a chance to win a Gameboy! Winner selected February 15.

Teen Center 624-4018

Valentine Card Making: February 8 at 3pm

Youth Center 624-3712

Letter Writing Week: February 4 - February 8

Youth Sports 624-3785

Youth Sports Clinic of the Month: Sports

Nutrition Class

Tuesdays, 3 - 4pm in the classroom in Midtown

Calling all youth ages 5-13! Let's get together and learn some healthy eating habits. We will go shopping at the commissary and get busy making healthy snacks. Sign up for this class at Fit District.

FEBRUARY 8 - FEBRUARY 14

MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

SCHEDULE

MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, February 8

12:00pm Skeleton Key PG-13 104 min. FREE
3:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:00pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.
5:30pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
7:30pm Spaceballs PG 97 min. FREE
8:00pm National Treasure: Book of Secrets PG 130 min.
9:30pm Charlie Wilson's War R 130 min.

Saturday, February 9

2:00pm Chicken Little G 81 min. FREE
2:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
4:30pm The Mist R 127 min.
5:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
7:30pm National Treasure: Book of Secrets PG 130 min.
9:30pm Hitman R 93 min.

Sunday, February 10

2:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
2:30pm Charlie Wilson's War R 130 min.
4:30pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.
5:00pm National Treasure: Book of Secrets PG 130 min.
7:00pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.

Monday, February 11

12:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.
3:00pm Shaggy Dog PG 99 min. FREE
5:00pm National Treasure: Book of Secrets PG 130 min.
5:30pm The Mist R 127 min.
7:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
8:00pm Hitman R 93 min.

Tuesday, February 12

5:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:30pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
7:30pm Charlie Wilson's War R 130 min.
8:00pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.

Wednesday, February 13

12:00pm Must Love Dogs PG-13 98 min. FREE
3:00pm National Treasure: Book of Secrets PG 130 min.
5:00pm The Mist R 127 min. LS
5:30pm Cloverfield PG-13 84 min.
7:30pm Hitman R 93 min. LS
8:00pm No Country For Old Men R 123 min.

Thursday, February 14

3:00pm Alvin & The Chipmunks PG 88 min.
5:00pm I Am Legend PG-13 114 min.
5:30pm Golden Compass PG-13 113 min.
7:30pm THROWBACK THURSDAY - FREE
Moonstruck PG 103 min.
8:00pm P.S. I Love You PG-13 126 min. PREMIERE

Alvin and the Chipmunks

Three Chipmunk brothers, Alvin, Simon and Theodore are adopted by a man named Dave

P.S. I Love You

A grieving young widow discovers that her late husband has left her a list of tasks revealed in 10 messages, delivered anonymously, intended to ease her out of grief and transition her to a new life.

Charlie Wilson's War

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

Cloverfield

Five young New Yorkers throw their friend a going-away party the night that a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city. Told from the point of view of their video camera, the film is a document of their attempt to survive the most surreal, horrifying event of their lives.

The Golden Compass

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

Hitman

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

I Am Legend

Robert Neville (Will Smith) is a brilliant scientist, but even he could not contain the terrible virus that was unstoppable, incurable...and manmade. Somehow immune, Neville is now the last human survivor in what is left of New York City...and maybe the world. But he is not alone. He is surrounded by "the Infected"--victims of the plague who have mutated into carnivorous beings who can only exist in the dark and who will devour or

infect anyone or anything in their path. For three years, Neville has spent his days scavenging for food and supplies and faithfully sending out radio messages, desperate to find any other survivors who might be out there. All the while, the Infected lurk in the shadows, watching Neville's every move, waiting for him to make a fatal mistake. Perhaps mankind's last, best hope, Neville is driven by only one remaining mission: to find a way to reverse the effects of the virus using his own immune blood. But his blood is also what the Infected hunt, and Neville knows he is outnumbered and quickly running out of time.

The Mist

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

No Country For Old Men

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

Must Love Dogs

Sarah Hurlihy, a divorced preschool teacher who has sworn off dating after her bad breakup, finds her family pushing her back into the dating world. Her sister places a personal ad for her, declaring that anyone answering it "must love dogs," despite the fact that Sarah doesn't own a dog herself. When someone intriguing responds to the ad, she decides to borrow Mother Theresa, her brother's dog, and plunge in.

COMING SOON

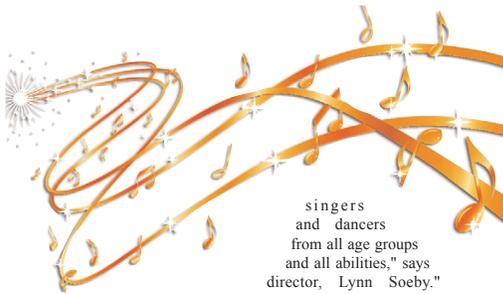
Alien Vs. Predator- Requiem
One Missed Call
The Kite Runner

RETURNING

National Treasure: Book of Secrets
Charlie Wilson's War

"The Music Man" is Coming to Sigonella!

Article courtesy of [REDACTED]



Every day when you wake up, do you break into a rousing rendition of "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning"? In high school, were you voted "Most likely to make it on Broadway"? Is your video of "Oliver!" totally worn out from too many viewings? Are your daughters named Liesl and Gretl? Is your dog named Toto? If so, we've got trouble my friends - right here in Sigonella! - trouble that can only be remedied by getting involved in the upcoming musical production of *The Music Man*. Want to know more?

The Music Man is a family-oriented, fun-loving musical that opened on Broadway in 1957. That year, it was awarded six Tony Awards including a Tony for best musical narrowly beating out the popular *West Side Story*. Two movie versions of *The Music Man* were later made. The first, in 1962 starred Robert Preston who played Hill in the original Broadway production and Shirley Jones. The 2003 movie version starred Matthew Broderick and Kristin Chenoweth.

The story centers on traveling salesman, "Professor" Harold Hill, a conman whose scam is to convince parents he can teach their children to play musical instruments. Taking pre-paid orders for instruments and uniforms with the promise he will form a band, he skips town and moves on to the next before he's exposed.

Arriving in fictional 1912 River City, Iowa, Hill finds his scam compromised when he becomes attracted to the local librarian, Marian Paroo, who recognizes him for the fraud he is. Nevertheless, she falls in love with the smooth-talking charmer when he

draws her self-conscious brother, Winthrop, from his shell.

When Hill's scheme begins to unravel, he is faced with the choice of escaping yet again or staying with Marian and facing the consequences. He chooses to stay, and is rewarded with unanticipated redemption as proud parents marvel and cheer as Hill's newly organized band performs.

Some of the songs featured include: Iowa Stubborn, Trouble, 76 Trombones, Goodnight My Someone, Marian the Librarian, Pick-a-Little, Lida Rose, My White Knight, Gary Indiana, The Wells Fargo Wagon, Shipooopi and 'Til There Was You.

The Sigonella production, scheduled for May 9th and 10th, will include a cast of fifty to sixty characters ages six to sixty. There are multiple adult male and female leading and supporting roles, including four male characters who sing in barbershop harmony. There are many roles for teenagers and young children who sing and dance. "We need actors,

singers and dancers from all age groups and all abilities," says director, Lynn Soeby." She's hoping to attract anyone in the community with talent or an avid interest in musical theatre. If you're feeling a little rusty,

you can polish up your singing and dancing abilities by attending the audition workshops at Knights Hall (at the school) on February 19th and 21st from 3 to 6 PM. Actual auditions are scheduled in Knights Hall for Monday, February 25th starting at 3 PM for 12 - 16 year olds and 5 - 7 PM for 17 to adults. (Auditions for 6-11 year olds will be held during school hours.) Finalists for the leads and supporting roles will be called back to final auditions from 4 to 6 PM on Tuesday, February 26th.

Those whose talents lie more backstage than onstage will have the opportunity to join the fun, also, by lending a hand with sewing, building, painting, doing make-up, playing in the orchestra or assisting with tech. "There is something for everyone," says Soeby. "It will take a community effort to pull this off!" For more information, email: lynn.soeby@eu.dodea.edu or call 624-3228.

CHAPLIN continued from page 2 where should his help come? "My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." He looks to the one who can truly provide comfort and strength in this time in which he walks through the valley. He looks to the God of the universe; the Lord who created the heavens and the earth in a span of six days. He looks to a God who has the power to bring him out of the valley and up to the mountain. He took his eyes off of the ground and looked toward the mountains, from where his help came. He looked toward God, the LORD of the universe.

Look up! Look Up today! Look toward the mountain and seek the help of the Almighty, the Living, the creator, God. He will not allow your foot to slip. He will never slumber nor sleep. He is the keeper of those who look to Him for help. He is the one who brings shade in the heat of the valley. He is the one who will protect you from all evil. He is the one who will keep your soul. As you walk through the darkened valley where you feel alone and hurt, he will watch your coming and going. He will do this from this time forth and forever.

We are all hurting from the loss of our fellow shipmates. We should never forget the character and example of these individuals. We are like the psalmist walking in

the valley. We hurt, we have heavy hearts and our eyes are filled with tears of salt. But, we are not walking through this valley alone.

The greatest thing about my drive to Mineo is this: When I come in to work in the morning I can look to the horizon. I look toward the mountain, the volcano we call Etna. And just to the right I see the sun peaking over the hills. The valley brightens as the sun rises and the sky becomes orange and purple. I look to the mountains and think: That is where my help comes from. It comes from a God who created this beauty, in six days. A God who holds the whole world in His hand. Then on my way home I have the same experience. I see the sun once again setting in the mountains to the west.

Look Up! Look up! Look to the mountains from whence your help comes. Seek the comfort of the Almighty. Seek the peace that only the God of the universe can give. He is the one who allows the sun to shine in the darkness of the valley. He is the One who quenches the thirst of each and every one of us. He is the One who does not sleep; the One who gives shade in the sun; the One who watches our coming in and our going out. Look Up! Look Up to the mountains from whence your help comes.

Combat Action continued from page 3

Mullis said after his advancement ceremony. "CMAP is a great program for those guys that go over there and go above and beyond to put themselves in danger. There were times where it was real dangerous, and things could have gotten pretty ugly. To go over there and be recognized like this makes you feel like it was all worth it."

In order to qualify for the program, Sailors must currently be in pay grades E1 through E5 as the program is not authorized to promote Sailors to E7 or above.

The Sailor's command must submit a request through their chain of command to be approved by the commanding officer and sent on to the awarding authority.

Full instructions on the requirements and submission process can be found in BUPERSINST 1430.16F.

"The packages we receive are absolutely impressive," said Pizanti. "There are Sailors out there every day going above and beyond in the most trying of circumstances.

"They are responding to urgent situations with professionalism, maturity, courage, sacrifice and dedication. Package upon package comes in with stories about shipmates placing themselves in harm's way for their fellow warriors, be they American or foreign, and the citizens of foreign countries."

According to Pizanti the Sailors advanced under this program are being recognized as leaders, and "they are an example for all to follow. I personally am honored to facilitate the advancement of these outstanding, well-deserving Sailors."

Sailors who may deserve advancement through CMAP and think their command may not know about the program should not be afraid to bring it up with their supervisors.

"Just ask. It can't hurt. Commands need to be aware of this program and in-theater commands should already know," Pizanti added.

Advancement through CMAP does not limit the Sailor from receiving any additional awards for their actions.

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

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

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



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

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

Chiechio

Tatoo

Flower Shop



(Above) The Naval Air Station Sigonella Security Department honored their fellow patroman during a memorial service for Master-at-Arms Seaman Mark Gipson February 1.

Memorial continued from page 1
 1989 and attended Recruit Training in Great Lake, IL. He went on to become a boiler technician, successfully completing tours aboard the USS Raleigh (LPD-1), during Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield, USS Yellowstone (AD-41), and at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. During his free time, he earned a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice, graduating with honors from Troy State University. In 1998, he transitioned to the Master-at-Arms rating, and completed tours aboard the USS Frank Cable (AS-40) and USS Fort McHenry (LSD-43). In September 2005, Dugas was commissioned as a Security Limited Duty Officer, serving as a camp commander as part of Joint Task Force, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, before reporting aboard Sigonella in late 2006.

The base will continue to, "remember what a fine man and

Navy Officer Terry was," praised Quinn. "He had a life changing effect on so many in the Security Department."

Dugas' life and memory was honored in front of his fellow Sailors, family members, and friends, who recalled the deep impact he had on so many here and throughout his Naval career, during a memorial service February 2 in the community chapel on Sigonella's support base.

Sigonella's Base Security Officer and close friend Lieutenant Commander Ricky Gilbert closed his remarks with, "We will continue to serve Terry's country and Navy with honor, courage and commitment."

All three Sigonellans may no longer be with this community in body but will continue to enrich each and every person who knew them in spirit. Their memories live on in each and every one of us.

CNP Announces New NASCAR Fleet Honoree Program

Article Courtesy of Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Vice Adm. John C. Harvey, chief of naval personnel (CNP), announced Jan. 25 he is seeking nominations for the Navy motorsports 2008 Fleet Honoree Program (FHP) to highlight the accomplishments of Sailors in the fleet.

In conjunction with its sponsorship of the Dale Earnhardt Jr.-owned JR Motorsports No. 88 "Accelerate Your Life" Monte Carlo SS in the NASCAR Nationwide Series (NNS), Navy motorsports will honor hard-charging commands, squadrons, ships, and more, with a full-immersion racing experience during 33 race weekends this season.

"We've enhanced this year's program to truly honor our top-performing commands," Harvey said about the FHP, which offers those commands selected the opportunity to experience a NNS race from the team's vantage point. "There is tremendous similarity in the type of teamwork that exists in the JR Motorsports team and that on the flight deck of a carrier, or the bridge



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Nina Hughes
 Navy NASCAR team driver, Brad Keselowski, signs an autograph for a Sailor assigned to Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) during a meet-and-greet session before the Kroger 200 Busch Series race at O'Reilly Raceway Park. Seven Vinson Sailors attended the race to cheer on the No. 88 Navy Chevy Monte Carlo.

of a ship or submarine, and this experience is designed to highlight that synergy and reward our top performers."

Highlights of the FHP include: Six credentials for Sailors to view a NNS race from the team pit area, with two Sailors serving as team honorary pit crew members; pre-race garage tours; placement of the command name on the race car; potential autograph signing with the team driver, and more.

"Through our partnership with the U.S. Navy, we have had the distinct pleasure of meeting many of the hard-working men and women of the Navy each weekend at the race track," said Dale Earnhardt Jr., team

owner of JR Motorsports. "We have a mutual respect for each other. Their face of excitement when they're at the track is the same as mine when I'm on a ship or in their backyard."

"I'm really proud to be part of the Navy team and honored to be a part of an incentive program that will bring more deserving sailors to NASCAR Nationwide Series races throughout the season."

Commands interested in applying for the FHP for the 2008 season should visit www.cnrc.navy.mil/motorsports.htm for more information and instructions on the nomination process. Nominations must be received by Feb. 20, 2008.

Stampa



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.

Magnolia

IL Mercato

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

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

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

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

AUTOMOTIVE

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

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

2000 Opel Corsa, 1000cc, blue, excellent condition, 2dr, A/C, 5 spd, stick shift, anti-theft alarm, radio, power windows, air bag, 2 new tires, 37k miles, asking Euro 2,800. If interested call 338-8573119 after 4pm.

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

2000 Smart For-Two Pulse Coupe, AFI Plated 600cc Turbo, A/C PWR Wind, CD Remote locks. Brand new engine dealt installed. Fills up with 15 liters,

perfect for getting around Catania/island. Asking \$4000 contact AECs Treglia 624-6092.

2003 Harley Davidson XL883C Sportster. Anniversary Edition Black and Silver. Lots of chrome. Stage 1 kit installed. Looks great, runs great. Appr. 10K mi. Kelly Bluebook is \$5230.00. Asking \$5500.00 Firm due to added equipment. Cell:3392557154 Home: 095306149. Must See!

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

2001 YAMAHA YZF, R1 Champions Edition (only 1,000 made) 7,000 miles, perfect condition both mechanically and cosmetically. Brand new tires and a Scott's steering dampner. Never been down or raced. Oil Change and serviced at all mi \$7,200.00 624-1592 Gary

1997 BMW 528i Automatic Metallic Blue, Beige leather interior, Power everything, command control, Maintained by BMW Dealership, New tires, brakes, oil, belts and etc... Excellent conditions, Asking for \$6500 OBO Call 3356428237 WK 624-4520 HM 624-1371

2002 Toyota Celica GTS 1.8 VVTI, Metallic Silver 6 speed manual, Blk leather interior, Power everything, ABS,

front/side air bags, 17" Chrome rims and new tires, brakes. Excellent conditions, Asking for \$6500 OBO Call 3356428237 WK 624-4520 HM 624-1371

2002 Hunter Green Fiat Panda. Road tax paid though March 2008,tow bar, luggage rack, power windows, CD Player, heater, 2-door/ hatchback, fold down back seat for added storage, very reliable, excellent gas mileage. \$3,500 USD. Call 340-360-1981 between 7:00am and 5:00pm.

1996 Mercedes E class 250, diesel,automatic, silver metallic, power windows, alarm,radio/cd,ac/heat, asking \$5,000. Call working hours 624 3859.

November 96 Fiat Brava color blue,km 133.000, 5 doors, A/C, powered window and locks, new silencer, new tyres, good condition. For more info. call 320-554-7471 after 16:00

1992 Jaguar XJR Automatic Power Everything. Leather. Must sell PCSing (400 Liter gas coupons) BEST OFFER!! Cell 346-230-1209 Work x5287 ask for OS2 Padgett

2004 VW Jetta Metallic Blue 1.8T- US specs, 51,000 miles. Fully loaded, turbo 1.8 L engine (300 L/month); auto transmission; power steering, brakes, windows, and locks; cruise control; AM/FM/CD player; variable traction control; gray leather interior with front seat warmers;

front, side, and head airbags; 19" sport tires with upgraded alloy rims. All scheduled maintenance performed. Runs like new, looks terrific. Kelly Blue Book \$13K; asking \$10,000. Call Renee at 3343737624 or Tony at 624-0234.

WANTED

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

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

Looking for free/old furniture: if you need to throw them away or are PCSing! Please contact Batty @ 348-529-3540.

FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

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

HP laptop, DV6570US. Windows Vista, 15" screen, CD/DVD rewriter, Intel Core2 Duo, 2.00GHz, built-in webcam. Only used for approximately 6 months. Asking \$850 OBO. Call 348-971-5720.

Couch and Loveseat \$400.00 light tan in color and about 1 year old light usage. And 29 inch Sony TV \$100. Please contact Chris or Zsuzsa at 095306221

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.

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

Ads run for two weeks on a space available basis and must be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/ American base employees. Ads must be 40 words or less and typed in regular upper case, lower case format.

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

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

Centro
traslochi

Joes

Associazione
Stella

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

MOMS Club of Sigonella, Mineo Chapter. Do you find yourself doing the same thing everyday and need a change of pace? We have many activities for both you and your child to enjoy! Call Sam at 624-0653.

LOST AND FOUND

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

PETS

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

Energetic, loving pet named Rudy needs a good home, He is a 1 1/2 year old Sicilian Mix. Rudy is potty trained and loves other pets. He comes with a crate, food, and 50 dollars! Contact Stephanie at 624-0687.

Stampa

Grande Cina

Volcano

Craivan

Classified

Stampa