

THE Signature

SIGONELLA, SICILY



Vol. 25 No. 8

MARCH 07, 2008

Sigonella Kicks Off Fund Drive

Article by [REDACTED]
Photos by Lt. Jonathan Groveman
The Signature

Sometimes your car breaks down, and you can't afford to fix it. Sometimes a relative gets sick, and you can't afford the plane ticket home. Sometimes you dream of going to school, and you can't afford the tuition. Sometimes there's a family emergency, and you can't afford the rent. For 104 years, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) has been providing support to the active duty and retired communities of the Naval Services. Trained staff and volunteers help service members and their families through many different programs: the Spouse Tuition Aid Program (provided overseas) and other educational loans and scholarships, interest-free need-based loans, thrift shops, budget counseling, Budget for Baby Workshops and layettes, and the visiting nurse program.

These programs cannot exist, however, without the help of the Active Duty Fund Drive (ADFD). Although sponsored by the Department of the Navy, the Society does not receive any direct government funding. Therefore, the drive has the two-fold purpose of collecting essential funds and educating Sailors and Marines on the

Story continued on page 13



(Above) Sigonella's Commanding Officer Capt. Thomas Quinn, Sigonella's Fund Drive Coordinator LT J.G. Jess Vaught, and NMCRS Director Ms. Roni Nocon cut the ceremonial cake, officially kicking off the 2008 Fund Drive.

Active Duty Fund Drive Encourages Generosity

Article From Secretary of the Navy
Donald C. Winter

Beginning on March 1, Sailors and Marines will be encouraged to give generously to the active duty fund drive in support of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. For more than 104 years, Sailors and Marines have relied on the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society whenever they have suffered an unexpected financial emergency. Whether it is serious illness, injury, or death of a loved one, an automobile in need of repair, increased expenses associated with setting up a household, a family suffering a combat casualty, or an individual recovering from a natural disaster, the society is there to provide prompt and effective solutions to the temporary cash flow problems of our naval families. All of their financial assistance is in the form of interest-free loans and grants. When our Sailors and Marines need help, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society should always be their first resource. During the past year, more than 45,500 Sailors, Marines and their families received financial assistance totaling \$43.6 million in interest-free loans and outright grants - up about 15 percent from last year.

During the past year, the society implemented two new programs to help our naval services families, thereby providing additional reasons for you to support this valuable organization. The society hired eight additional full-time visiting nurses to assist service members and their families deal with combat casualty issues. These registered nurses provide long-term case management for this special category of society clients.

Making face-to-face contact with injured Marines and Sailors and their family members while they are being treated in military medical facilities and then, remaining in close personal contact following their discharge. Following a successful test at eight society offices in 2007, the society expanded its popular Quick Assist loan (QAL) Program on

January 23, 2008 (the 104th anniversary of the society), to active duty Sailors and Marines serving our nation around the world. This new source of need-based financial assistance is aimed at first-time clients who normally don't have financial problems but suffer a one-time shortfall of \$300 or less. As a direct result of the alarming growth of predatory lending practices during the past decade, the society designed this service to be a positive experience that gets service members in and out of the office in as little as fifteen minutes. At just the eight test sites in the final months of 2007, society volunteers and employees disbursed more than \$1.8 million in quick assist loans to 3,833 active duty clients. In the first two weeks since the society expanded the program globally, 1,556 Sailors and Marines have received more than \$450,000 in QAL financial assistance.

The society enjoys a special relationship with Sailors and Marines because it is your contributions that support the society's mission and provide necessary funding for its programs and services. The society's web site at www.nmcrs.org shows the scope and type of assistance they provide and has a complete listing of where they have offices, hours of operation and more.

With your strong support of the 2008 fund drive, the 3,400 volunteers and small professional staff of the society will continue their good works and will always be there to help Sailors, Marines and their families in need. In 2007, your generosity resulted in donations of \$10.4 million. Navy and Marine Corps retirees contributed an additional \$2.4 million.

Please help to make this year's campaign the most successful ever.

Thanks for supporting your shipmates and fellow Marines through the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

The Road to Nashville

Article and photos by MC2 Joshua Wink
Signature Staff



(Above) The three finalists from left to right, Nathan Wilson, Angela Dennis and Jordan Leslie take the stage after receiving their NEX gift certificates for placing first, second and third in the "Nashville Star" competition.

Could a Sigonella star or starlet really be gracing the stage down in the home of country, Nashville Tennessee? Well, the hopes are high for three singers who recently poured out their hearts on the Jox stage for the first round in a military call for auditions to the popular television show "Nashville Star", that holds in store for the final contestant, a country music contract.

While six people from Sigonella tuned out to audition, only the top three were selected to advance. The first place contestant Nathan Wilson, who performed "Austin" by Blake Shelton will advance to the semi-final round in Norfolk before trying to make it to Nashville.

"I've been singing this song for the last four years," Wilson said. "My son's name is Austin, and I sing it to him every night before I put him to sleep, and this was the best opportunity that I had to sing it to other people and

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WEATHER UPDATE	Mar. 7 H:60F L:48F	Mar. 8 H:64F L:47F	Mar. 9 H:69F L:46F	Mar. 10 H:69F L:47F	Mar. 11 H:69F L:52F	Mar. 12 H:61F L:53F	Mar. 13 H:67F L:49F

TOP STORIES	Page 2	Page 5	Page 7	Page 8	Page 12
	Have you ever observed someone doing something wrong because they thought they were not being watched? Bahavior like this is due to a lack of integrity. Chaplain Hank Wilson explains this week what integrity means and why it is an important trait to possess in this weeks Chaplain's Corner.	Finding a job in a new community can be stressful for anyone facing the challenge of living in a new place. But finding a job can be especially challenging for military spouses who must move often as a normal part of military life as explained by the Fleet and Family Support Center.	The Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations along with the Commandant of the Marine Corps testified before members of the Senate regarding the fiscal year 2009 defense budget on Feb. 28. This budget is intrigal to building and maintaining the Navy's fleet.	Time to catch up on all the latestest action from baseball to basketball in Ronald Herb's collum - Sigonella, Sports and Stuff- "Triple S." Also get the latest Sigonella basketball standing from week five in this weeks Sports and Fitness.	Part of the on-going military-to-military cooperation between the United States and Nigeria, the Nigerian Air Force and Navy, under the auspices of the Defense Headquarters, hosted the U.S. Navy in joint exercise Maritime Safari 2008.

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TRAFFIC NUMBERS			
	Jan.- Mar. '08	Jan.- Mar. '07	Diff.
Accidents	61	32	+29
Injuries	9	3	+6
DUIs	4	1	+3
Traffic Deaths	2	0	+2

PLEASE,
DON'T BECOME
A STATISTIC!

DIRECT LINE

NASSIG COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT. THOMAS J. QUINN

Let me tell you about an "amazing" woman who served for over 40 years in the Navy... Rear Adm. Grace Hopper.

Adm. Hopper is affectionately called the mother of computers. Her development of the first computer compiler and the first computer programming language helped revolutionize the world of computers. Although she had a career decorated with many rewards, she had to prove herself repeatedly. She once said, "If you do something once, people will call it an accident. If you do it twice, they call it a coincidence. But do it a third time and you've just proven a natural law!"

She also coined the phrase "debugging" the computer when she removed a moth while trying to repair the Mark I, the world's first large-scale computer. She discovered the moth in a relay switch. She taped the moth in the logbook and from that coined the phrase "a bug in the computer".

March 2008 marks the 21st annual observance of Women's History Month. The Chief of Naval Operations sent out his official proclamation and titled this year's observance as "Women's Art: Women's Vision."

Nearly 58,000 Navy women are serving on active duty and thousands more are serving in the Naval Reserve contributing to combat readiness everyday at sea, in the air, in foreign lands and on the home front. Their extraordinary accomplishments build upon the success of women who served before them, going back to the first Navy nurses and Yeomen (F) of WW I.

In 1976, women were admitted to the U.S. Naval Academy. In 1984, for the first time in history, the Naval Academy's top graduate was a woman. In 1986, a Navy woman became the first female jet test pilot in any service. And in 1991, the first Navy woman assumed command of a ship.

By the way, Rear Adm. Hopper had her very own destroyer named after her, USS Hopper (DDG 70), which is home ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The ship's motto is the Latin phrase "AUDE ET EFFICE" when translated into the English means "DARE AND DO."

Rear Adm. Hopper was frequently quoted using this phrase when issuing advice. The phrase captures the spirit of Rear Adm. Hopper in her quest for pushing the limits of conventional thinking and looking beyond the norm for innovative solutions and approaches to problem solving.

The simple phrase, in Latin, exemplifies the essence of Rear Adm. Hopper's spirit while paying tribute to her tremendous academic achievements.

A big BRAVO ZULU to all of the women who support NAS Sigonella. We can't do it without you!



Health WATCH

March 10th is Registered Dietitian Day!

Article courtesy of U.S. Naval Hospital Sigonella

Registered Dietitian Day was created by the American Dietetic Association to increase the awareness of registered dietitians as the indispensable providers of food and nutrition services and to recognize RDs for their commitment to helping people enjoy healthy lives. Registered Dietitian Day and National Nutrition Month® promote ADA and RDs to the public and the media as the most valuable and credible source of timely, scientifically-based food and nutrition information.

History

The first Registered Dietitian Day will be celebrated on March 10, 2008. Each year, the second Monday of March will be designated as Registered Dietitian Day.

REGISTERED DIETITIANS... Bring Food and Nutrition Expertise to the Table

Who is a Registered Dietitian?

Registered dietitians are food and nutrition experts, translating the science of nutrition into practical solutions for healthy living. The expertise, training and credentials that back a registered dietitian are vital for promoting positive lifestyle choices.

Trust a Registered Dietitian

When you need food and nutrition information based on fact or need to know how a healthy diet improves health and fights disease—rely on qualified professionals in the field.

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Commanding Officer
Capt. Thomas J. Quinn

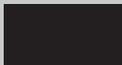
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NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

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 Service
<u>Friday</u> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	
<u>Sunday</u> 4 p.m. Catholic Mass	

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



Integrity, Do You Have It?

Article courtesy of Chaplain Hank Wilson

*The who walks with integrity walks securely,
But he who perverts his ways will become known. - Prov 10:9*

Have you ever observed someone doing something wrong because they thought they were not being watched? Have you ever caught someone in a lie? Better yet, when is the last time you had to dig yourself out of a whole because of the web of lies you found yourself stuck in? So often today I observe things done incorrectly or catch people in lies and deceit. This is unfortunate. It does not have to be this way. According to Webster's Dictionary integrity means: a firm adherence to a code of esp. moral or artistic values. In the original Hebrew

that this verse was written the word integrity is based on the root word which means complete. The idea is that one would walk in a way that conveyed ethical straightness or perfection. The Jews understood this as living their lives by completely following God's law that was given to them in the Law of Moses. I like to think of integrity as a way of living life in which you would act no different in your private life than the way you would live your public life.

The verse from Proverbs says in the first
Story continued on page 13

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE

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

WEEKLY TRAFFIC/SAFETY UPDATE

Weekly Safety Statistics

- Larceny of personal property - 1
- Larceny of government property - 1
- Damage to government property - 2

Traffic Court Results

- E6 - Negligent Driving. Member was awarded DIP
- E8 - Driving too fast for conditions. Member was awarded DIP
- O3 - Negligent Driving. Member was awarded 3 points and DIP
- O4 - Improper passing. Member was awarded 4 points and DIP

NAVY NEWS

APS and Project Handclasp Donate Medical Supplies in Cameroon

Article by (AW) Brian A. Goyak
Africa Partnership Station Public Affairs

Partnered with Project Handclasp, Africa Partnership Station (APS) along with the amphibious dock landing ship USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43) delivered three pallets of medical supplies to the Cameroon Naval medical clinics here, Feb. 28.

Materials for humanitarian, education and goodwill purposes are collected by Project Handclasp and prepared for transport on naval vessels to be distributed by Sailors and Marines to needy people overseas. The goods are donated by American citizens and include items meant to supplement basic needs, educational materials and even toys for children.

"In response to requests, we've delivered medical and hygiene supplies for three different Cameroon Naval medical clinics," said Cmdr. Daniel Shaw, commanding officer of Fort McHenry. "This is just a classic example of how we can build a great foundation for cross-cultural

exchanges and international cooperation."

In Limbe, the crew of Fort McHenry worked hand-in-hand with their Cameroonian counterparts to transport the needed supplies from the ship to shore where a truck waited to further distribute them to medical clinics at Navy bases in Limbe, Douala and Kribbe.

"The importance of Project Handclasp is that it helps build trust. With trust, we build lasting relationships," added Shaw. "Through persistent presence and on the deck contributions like these, my Sailors are getting to meet people they'll likely see years from now and have a lasting relationship with."

Through further cooperation with the Cameroon Navy and the U.S. Embassy, Project Handclasp hopes to continue delivering materials and supplies to the communities surrounding Limbe and Douala.

"These important materials

received from Project Handclasp, through the U.S. Navy, will help us greatly," said Capt. Roger Temche, commander, Limbe Naval Base. "We don't always have the medical supplies necessary to care for families. We thank the U.S. Navy for the materials that have been provided to us."

Delivery and transportation was made possible through the efforts of APS. Part of the U.S. Navy's Global Fleet Station, APS provides a platform with the capacity and persistent presence to support sustained, focused training and collaboration on a regional scale to maritime partners in West and Central Africa.

Commander Task Force 365 and training teams from various U.S. and European military commands, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations are embarked on board Fort McHenry to enhance cooperative partnerships.

NEWS BRIEFS

A Babysitter in Training

The American Red Cross will be conducting a Babysitter Training course at the American Red Cross Classroom on Saturday March 22, 2008 at 08:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This course will give participants 11 years and older the safety skills and confidence to be a great babysitter. They will learn how to handle an emergency or illness, interview for a babysitting job, make good, responsible decisions, supervise children, keep kids and themselves safe, perform care of infant and children and learn basic care for life threatening emergencies. This course will be held at the NEW Red Cross office on NAS I next to the library. For registration & cost information, call 624-4900.

PCS travelers get duty-free liquor break

By Robert Szostek, USEUCOM Customs PAO

Mannheim, Germany - U.S. personnel returning stateside on permanent-change-of-station orders may take more duty-free liquor home with them than other travelers.

Where state liquor laws allow, people may import four liters of liquor duty-free as long as three of the liters were made and bottled in the United States.

"Travelers over 21 years of age normally have a one liter duty-free allowance when they take beer, wine and spirits to the United States," said Bill Johnson, Director of the U.S. European Command's Customs and Border Clearance Agency. "So all personnel on leave or temporary duty are allowed only one liter of duty-free liquor," he added. He explained travelers must declare any amounts exceeding these limits to customs.

However, state laws on alcohol must be considered because these vary considerably, Johnson said. While most states with connecting flights from Europe will allow the increased quantity of liquor, some will not. If in doubt, details from the each state's alcohol control board are available at www.hqusa.reur.army.mil/opm/state.htm.

Federal taxes and duties are currently low enough to make carrying a few extra liters of wine or beer worthwhile, although rates for spirits such as whiskey or gin are high. Duty and tax rates change and extra state taxes may also be levied, so it is best to find out the latest rates before traveling.

Call a U.S. Forces Customs office to find out more or consult the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms alcohol page at www.atf.treas.gov/alcohol/info/per simp.htm.

Navy College Graduation

The Navy College office will hold a Graduation Recognition Ceremony at the Base Chapel on NAS I on 20 June 2008.

Active duty, family members and civilians are welcome to attend as graduates for having earned their GED and any Certificate, Associates, Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Degree from any accredited institution on and off-base.

All of you who have completed your degree since Summer 2006 or will be completing it by Summer 2008, please contact Navy College at 624-4514/4516/4517 or the Representatives of the local schools to get more information.

Caps and gowns can be purchased locally through University of Maryland University College, or you can purchase them on-line or directly from the school you have attended. Please provide the following information by May 30:

Name, degree earned, date or projected date, name of institution.

We look forward to hearing from you!

PHOTO FROM THE FLEET

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



U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Derek J. Hurder

Weapons department personnel launch an inactive torpedo off the port side of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89). The launch was part of a training exercise. Mustin is attached to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15 and permanently forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA COMMUNITY CALENDAR					7 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	8 Guitar Hero Turn. - Jox
9 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	10 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	11	12 Sicilian Easter Cooking - Midtown Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	13 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	14 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	15
16 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	17 St. Patrick Day Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	18	19 Early Release - School Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	20 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	21 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	22
23 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	24 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	25	26 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	27 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	28 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	29 Latin Quarters - Jox
30 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	31 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	1 April	2 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	3 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	4 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	5
6 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	7 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	8	9 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	10 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	11 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	12
13 Over 30 pick-up Basketball - Midtown	14 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	15	16 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	17 Throwback Thursday Midtown Theater	18 Alcoholics Anonymous -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel	19

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Stags

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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

Spouse Employment: Finding a Job After Moving as a Military Family

Article edited from Military One Source

Finding a job in a new community can be stressful for anyone facing the challenge of living in a new place. But finding a job can be especially challenging for military spouses who must move often as a normal part of military life.

Challenges you may face

As a military spouse, you may face some challenges unique to military life as you look for employment. These can include:

- Your spouse's unpredictable work hours
- Frequent relocation
- Your spouse's absences
- Geographic location
- Transportation options
- Employer bias

Looking for employment

There are steps you can take before and after the move to prepare for your search:

- Before you move, update your resume and print plenty of copies.
- Hand carry your resumes to your new duty station

instead of packing them. You don't want to lose them.

- Think about whether you're interested in working on or off base.

On base

- Contact the Family Employment Readiness Program at the Fleet and Family Support Center.

- Pay attention to dead lines and requirements for any listings you find.
- Attend a spouse's club.
- Go to a job fair on base.
- Make an appointment to talk with the family service center.
- Find out if there are any job support networks.

Off base

- Check the local papers for job listings.
- Find out if there is any training or educational opportunities available to you.
- Learn as much as you can about your new

community.

- Consider volunteering.
- Sign up with a temp agency.
- Contact local school systems. They may be looking for substitute teachers.
- Consider starting your own home business.

The most important thing you can do while looking for a job is being flexible.

If you have questions, please contact the Fleet & Family Support Center at 624-4291, or stop by the office anytime. You can also visit the FFSP website at <https://www.nffsp.org> for more information. The article in its entirety may be found at: www.militaryonesource.com

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 (Above) is a wonderful dog with a wonderful personality. She would love to have a home and be a part of your family. Tulsa (Right) is a great boy who loves to run and play. All he needs is a loving family to spend a little time with him.



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

Sushi

SEXUAL ASSAULT / VICTIMS INTERVENTION

SAVI offers a Sexual Assault Hotline
staffed with trained advocates
who man the SAVI Hotlines 24/7.

The number is 335-642-8312 or 335-606-6146.



Protestant Women of the Chapel

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

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

Pentagon

Italian NEWS

Sicilian Culture, Events and Lifestyle

Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff



Venerdi Santo or Good Friday mournful processions are among the most important events of the annual **Settimana Santa** or "Easter Week" in Sicily, an ancient weeklong religious festival commemorating the **Passion and the Resurrection of Christ**. Enna boasts one among the most important Good Friday traditions in the island. This year, it will be held on **March 21**. Thousands of hooded penitents will parade through the streets, accompanying life-size statues depicting Jesus and the Madonna.

"Stava Batti Matri dolorosa iuxta Crocella lacrimosa comu penèbbati filiiu" (At the cross her station keeping, Mary stood in sorrow weeping when her Son was crucified).

The words of this mournful medieval chant, which is sung on Good Friday to remember the sorrow of Mary at the foot of the cross, describe one of the most touching days of **Settimana Santa** (Holy Week) during which, street processions and ceremonies are organized in most Sicilian towns. This year, Holy Week will last from **March 16** (Palm Sunday) to **March 23** (Easter Sunday). Street processions featuring decorated religious floats, representing the **Passion of Christ**, will be carried out across the island. Elaborate statues of Jesus and the Virgin Mary, which are mounted on top of the floats, are accompanied by penitents who mourn the **Passion of Christ** and rejoice for his resurrection.

Enna's **Settimana Santa** celebrations come straight from the Spanish Catholic traditions. Spaniards indeed ruled Sicily from the 14th to the 18th century. Today, just as it happens in Andalusia, processions featuring traditional costumes still show the intensity of the devotees' mysticism. Thousands of visitors swarm Enna to see the fervent pilgrims belonging to different city's Confraternite (confraternities). They walk slowly in procession wearing colorful robes and

hoods through the cobblestone streets of the historic center while town bands play mournful melodies.

Brotherhoods are citizen's societies similar to medieval guilds, which date back to the period of the Spanish rule. They are in charge of keeping alive the religious heritage of the city. Over the centuries, these associations have been tasked with organizing religious and charitable activities. In the past, they played a leading role in the social life of the town providing spiritual and material assistance to the poor and the sick and even to the ones sentenced to death. In 1740, there were 34 confraternities. Today, there are only 15 and they include **Confrati** (members of the confraternities) belonging to all ranks and classes with the only exception of women. In the past, confraternities were mainly composed of sulphur miners and farmers. The color of the robes and the mantel worn during the processions has a particular meaning that can be either related to the cult of their own patron saint or to the role that they played in the past in town.

Celebrations' Schedule

Here are some of the not-to-be-missed processions and religious events.

Celebrations open on **March 16** with a play reenacting **Palm Sunday**

Circus Brings Amazement

A dreamy show blending theatre, acrobatics and modern dance, "La Veillee des Abysses" will be staged at the Catania Metropolitan Theater on **Wednesday, March 12** and **Thursday, March 13** at 9 p.m. A breathtaking performance featuring a ship fighting her way through a terrible storm, "La Veillee des Abysses" includes a lineup of international top-quality artists such as Brazilian dancer and acrobat **Thiago Martins**, Swedish dancer **Niklas Ek**, French contortionist **Raphaelle Boitel**, Belgian juggler **Gaelle Bisellach-Roig's** and Opera singer **Uma Ysamat**. French writer, director and acrobat **Swiss-born James Thiérée** who is the grandson of **Charlie Chaplin**, created this marvelous show.

UK-based authoritative newspaper "The Guardian" wrote: "The show changes every night, in a process that mirrors 'the way I see things: they are never fixed'...the Abyss sounded very solemn. In French it's dark but there's a sweetness to it. La Veillee is when you stay up at night and tell stories. It's like a wake or a vigil." Admission: € 15. Tickets for the **March 12** show will be available at the Metropolitan Theater (Opening hours: **Mon-Sat 9:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. / 4:30 -8 p.m.** / phone: **095-322323**). If you are planning to see the show on **Thursday, March 13**, you should contact Tickets' Box Office (**095 -7225340** or visit www.ctbox.it)



(Jesus entering Jerusalem) will be held at **10 a.m.** in **piazzetta Federico Tower**.

In the afternoon, a procession of all the brotherhoods, led by the "Confraternity of the Passion," leaves from the **Eremo di Monte Salvo** (near the soccer stadium, the upper part of Enna) at **4 p.m.**

On **March 17, 18 and 19**, members of the city confraternite (**Valverde, Sacro Cuore, L'Addolorata and Immacolata**) will pray inside the cathedral until **1 p.m.** After **Holy Mass**, confraternities will begin a tour the main square.

On **March 19**, at **7 p.m.**, a religious drama reenacting Christ's passion is staged in **Pergusa**, a little hamlet located about six miles from Enna, whose surroundings host a mesmerizing lake.

On **March 20**, in the late afternoon, churches are decorated with flowers. The consecrated host is displayed on a 'monstrance' to be venerated by worshippers.

Good Friday (March 21) is undoubtedly one of the **Settimana Santa** highlights. It begins at **4:30 p.m.** with the "Confraternity of the Passion" leading once again the procession while carrying the **33 symbols** and the insignia related to Jesus martyrdom that are called "misteri." Some among those include the cross, the purse with thirty pieces of silver, the crown, the lantern, the rooster, the nails, and the scourges, jug of water, gloves, etc.

The procession, which leaves from the **Church of Saint Leonardo**, is headed towards the **Duomo** or cathedral. As the confraternity proceeds in penitence along via **Roma** through the narrow streets of the city, the other fourteen Confraternite join this mournful religious parade. The procession follows a definite order. Brotherhoods parade from the most recent to the oldest. Over **2,500** hooded and silent penitents' walk toward

Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, which hosts a statue depicting the **Virgin Mary**.

Then, this statue is taken to the cathedral where an **Urna** (urn) containing a life-size statue of **dead Christ**, was previously placed. At **7 p.m.**, the procession leaves from the cathedral and reaches the **Church of St. Paolino** near the cemetery, where a benediction is given with the **Reliquary cross**, which, according to the tradition, contains a thorn from the crown of Christ. Eventually, the procession returns to the Cathedral. Later, the two statues are taken back to the churches.

On **March 23** (Easter Sunday), in the morning, **Pasqua** is celebrated at the church of **S. Salvatore** at **10 a.m.**

Later in the evening, **Paci** (peace), a ceremony symbolizing the encounter of resurrected Christ with the **Virgin Mary**, begins at **6 p.m.** Two statues depicting Jesus and his mother are carried on the shoulders of confraternity members and taken from the churches of **SS. Salvatore** and **S. Giuseppe** to **piazza Mazzini** where the **Paci** is eventually staged. As soon as Christ appears, the black veil covering the statue of the **Lady of Sorrows** comes down. At that point, the statues run toward each other and after that, are taken inside the Cathedral.

March 30th marks the day of the melancholic "Spartenza" ceremony, which takes place in **piazza Mazzini**. The two statues, which participated in the **Paci** on Easter day, are taken back to the churches where they are usually kept. The statue of Christ goes back to church of **SS. Salvatore**, and the **Virgin Mary** one is taken **Church of San Giuseppe**.

For more information, detailed schedules and guided tours opportunities, call **Enna Tourist Office** at **0935-528288/504892**.



New Catania Concerts

William Parker, one among the leading **New York City** experimental jazz musicians will perform in Catania tomorrow night at **9:15 p.m.** (**March 8**) at the **Sangiorgi Theater** (# 233 via **Sangiuliano**). This spectacular concert is part of "Etnafest 2008," a prestigious music festival organized by the Catania Regional Province. The cost of a ticket is € 10.

On **Sunday, March 9**, **Boston-born** Trombonist/composer **Josh Roseman** and his band will be on the stage of the **ZO Auditorium** (# 6 piazzale **Asia** near the **Catania Train Station**) for another exciting modern **Jazz** concert of **Etnafest 2008**. The concert will kick off at **9:15 p.m.** Admission is € 5.

If you are interested in listening to high-quality Italian rock/pop music, make sure you go to the concerts of two international acclaimed Italian female singers **Gianna Nannini** (**March 8** - ticket prices € 46 and € 31.10) and **Giorgia** (**March 11** - ticket prices € 43.70, € 34.50 and € 26.25), who will perform at the **Palacatania Sports Arena** (located in # 95-100 **Corso Indipendenza**).

For more information on those concerts contact **Tickets' Box Office** (**095 -7225340** or visit www.ctbox.it)



This weekend and beyond, there will be music to suit all tastes in Catania and its surroundings!

If you want to enjoy old-fashioned country tunes, don't miss the spectacular concerts, featuring **Appaloosa Victor**, which will be held every **Friday** night at **9:30 p.m.** at the "Old Wild West" Restaurant (located inside the "Etnapolis" Shopping Center - # 23 **Contrada Valcorrente, Belpasso**). **Appaloosa Victor** (a.k.a. **Vittorio Gasso** and his band) has been performing country music in Sicily for about **20 years**. His band gave **450** live performances in the last four years. Admission is free. For more information visit <http://www.appaloosavictor.com>

Alphio

Navy Leadership Testifies Jointly Before SASC

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

Secretary of the Navy, the honorable Dr. Donald C. Winter, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead, and Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James Conway, testified before members of the Senate during a session of the Fiscal 2009 Defense Authorization Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) on Feb. 28.

"The Department of the Navy's FY 09 budget meets the challenge of resourcing the Navy and Marine Corps team across a range of missions, from partnership building to combat operations. It invests in our

ability to operate, sustain and develop forces that are engaged in the global war on terrorism while preparing the force for the challenges and threats of the future," Winter said.

The Secretary also highlighted the ability to train Sailors and Marines in real world environments as one of the department's most critical readiness needs. The Navy has encountered increasing encroachments in its ability to conduct critical training.

"We recognize that there are, on occasion, impacts on the citizenry at large associated with such training,"

stated Winter. "We owe it to the American people, and we owe it to those who serve to acknowledge that as in all things in life—there are competing interests and trade-offs, and that we treat the risks of sonar operation at sea or the impact of jet noise the way we treat all public policy issues, balancing risks and costs against legitimate national security interests."

Roughead discussed his priorities of building tomorrow's Navy, maintaining current readiness and attracting, recruiting and retaining Sailors, Navy civilians and their families. He also thanked the members of the committee for their support in building tomorrow's Navy and reiter-

ated that a minimum of 313 ships is necessary to provide the global reach, persistent presence, and strategic, operational, and tactical effects the future Navy needs.

Roughead believes that there is stability in the submarine, amphibious and auxiliary ship programs, but the Navy needs to allow its combatant build programs to take root, grow, stabilize and move into the future.

"Right now, we are developing a new fleet of ships. If you look from submarines, to combatants, to amphibious ships, we are introducing all new classes," Roughead said.

CNO said the new class of destroyers introduces technologies that will advance future Navy com-

batants. He also noted that with the smaller crew sizes, the cost savings over time will be significant.

"I remain strongly committed to funding those programs that provide critical capabilities to our forces," he said.

He also stressed to Congress that health care is at the top of the list of concerns for Sailors, Navy civilians and their families and that the services are working at the most senior levels of leadership to address those concerns.

"The [joint service] chiefs must have a discussion as to what the nature of our operational health care will be. In the case of the Navy and Marine Corps, we are an expeditionary force, we are a deployed force, so as we make changes to health care systems and how we budget for that, what effect does that have on the operational mission? And I believe it's the chiefs that must have that discussion," said Roughead.

He concluded his testimony by thanking the members for their continued support in creating an environment that is personally and professionally fulfilling for the young men and women who comprise the all-volunteer force serving in today's Navy.

"Today, I serve in the best Navy I have ever served in, and it's a function of the all volunteer force," Roughead said.

Crediting the committee for their support, Roughead said, "The care ... the attention and the thought that goes into truly creating an environment where our young men and women can come and be fulfilled, personally and professionally has made our Navy what it is today."

Catania Sunday Flea Market



The Catania Sunday flea market (Mercatino delle Pulci) was moved from piazza Carlo Alberto to piazza Grenoble to better accommodate vendors and the public.

The new location, which hosts about 200 merchants, is just a few blocks away from the older venue. Town officials said residents and tourists can now enjoy walking around piazza Carlo Alberto, a square which is very busy during weekdays because of the hustle and bustle of the Catania outdoor market.

The piazza indeed hosts the Santuario della Madonna del Carmine, a beautiful Baroque church dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Also, Catania Police officials noted that it would be easier now to check on flea market vendors who sell illegal goods.

Only opened on Sundays from 8:30 a.m.- 1 p.m., the new place has ample parking.



(Right) Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead greets Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman (ID-Conn.) a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee prior to testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee on the 2009 National Defense Budget Request and the Future Years Defense Program.

Moda

Magnolia

SPORTS & Fitness

Sigonella, Sports, and Stuff *Triple S*

Article by CWO4 Ronald Herb
Signature Volunteer

With pitchers and catchers reporting to spring training and opening day just three-and-a-half weeks away it would seem that rookies and free agents, along with their impact on contenders, will be the big talk this year.

Here at Sigonella, Sports and Stuff (Triple S) we don't care to spend time on negative stories, rather we believe it's time to look at the teams whose off-season moves make for interesting story lines.

All baseball talk seems to start with New York vs. Boston [and you better believe that the Giants defeating the Patriots will add to this condition]. Neither team is stronger. Sure each is a little older and both will have questions regarding how the young players are going to fit into their rosters. Boston has most youngsters, which is an upside for this season (Jacob Ellsbury should over take CoCo Crisp in center field).

Neither team was ready to send top prospects to Minneapolis for All-Star pitcher Johan Santana (who the New York Mets were glad to pick up). Keep an eye out this spring on how the Detroit Tigers mesh. Add M.

Cabrera, to an already explosive offensive lineup, should push them into the ring with New York and Boston.

Only Seattle, who picked up Erik Bedard and his 221 strike outs in only 182 innings, is moving in the "pitching wins titles" direction.

Moving on the the National Basketball Association, the last few weeks has sparked some interest. Perhaps the NBA regular season will be more than just a tune up for the playoffs, which is when most people pay attention.

Trades sending Paul Gasol to help Kobe in Los Angeles, Jason Kidd to Dallas, Shag in at Phoenix and Shawn Marion to Miami, and Triple S believes the biggest is Ben Wallace to Cleveland to help LeBron try and catch the revamped Celtics. This appears to be the first reason to watch the NBA since the famous Michael Jordan retired.

It is almost time for March Madness. This is one of the truly great periods on the sports calendar. Today it seems almost everyone fills out a bracket. Memphis, UNC, Kansas, and Duke are Triples S's cur-

rent nod for #1 seeds. Big east to field eight dancers, nine if Syracuse can pull it together.

For those that wish to challenge Triple S in a Yahoo Fantasy baseball league, go to Yahoo Sports, Free Fantasy Baseball, Private League and ID 114708 password sss2008. League Name is Sigonella, Sports, and Stuff.

All those brave enough to join understand poor trades or positive moves may be highlighted in this column. It's never too early to think about the "BIG DANCE." All of Sigonella can enter the Yahoo Sigonella Brackets for March Madness. Yahoo- Private League- Sigonella, Sports, and Stuff- League ID 1701-pw sss2008.

As this article becomes a weekly column all topic sports will be covered (sorry professional wrestling fans that topic will not be covered). If you want to chat, ask a question or add to something you read in this column, from professional sports to local events, just send your input to "bmc27nyg@aol.com" and we will do our best to get you a reply. Until next time.

BASKETBALL STANDINGS

Week 5
Power Rankings

	Team	W	L	%
1.	Supply	5	1	83.33
2.	Hospital	6	1	85.71
3.	CTF-67	3	3	60.00
4.	Sec A	4	3	57.14
5.	Weapons	5	4	55.55
6.	Patron Sig	5	4	55.55
7.	Sec B	3	6	33.33
8.	Comsta	2	5	28.57
9.	PWD	2	5	28.57
10.	AIMD	1	4	0

Youth Basketball
Saturday, March 8
2:30 p.m. Ashburn vs. Valentine at Fit District
5:30 p.m. Johnson vs. Catania at University of Catania
Tuesday, March 11
4 p.m. Ashburn vs. Gilbert at Fit District
5 p.m. Price vs. Gardner at Fit District

6 p.m. Syrcle vs. Keller at Fit District
Thursday, March 13
5:30 p.m. Richardson vs. Hernandez at JAG Gym

Tied Standings
Regular Season match up!
Weapons over Patron Sig 35-25
Comsta over PWD 55-48

Teen Ping Pong Challenge

Article by [redacted], Photos by [redacted]
MWR Marketing

Monday, February 11 was the challenge between the teens and the Sigonella community. Seven adults from the community came out to challenge the eleven teens. [redacted] Morale, Welfare and Recreation employee, kept the adults alive and won the challenge.

"The teens came up with the idea for the challenge. We decided to bring it out into the community for a more competitive edge. We would really like to see more people from our community come out and challenge these teens," states [redacted]

[redacted], Youth Sports coordinator.

[redacted], Teen Center Recreation Aid, is labeled "The Best" by the teens. He has been teaching the teens how to play ping-pong. He is the best in the community, winning the tournament on Monday, February 25. The final game was between [redacted] and [redacted]

"I have been playing

since I was eight years old. My family went to the 2004 Olympics in Greece and one of the events we watched was ping-pong," states [redacted]



(Above) The wall is a way for the teens to challenge themselves for a better spot on the ranking wall. The teens created this wall in the teens center so everyone knows their standings.

(Left) [redacted] taught me at the teen center. I practice at home on my mom's rosewood table against my dad and friends," states [redacted]

Rigattiere

AFN Program Changes During the Transition to Daylight Saving Time March and April 2008

Article courtesy of AFN, Sigonella

The United States is changing to Daylight Saving Time (DST) several weeks before the rest of the world.

The U.S. springs forward an hour at 0200 local time on March 9, 2008. However, the overseas Atlantic region springs forward an hour at 0300 local time on March 30, 2008; Iraq springs forward an hour at 0300 local time on April 1, 2008; and many of our major affiliates, such as Japan, Korea, Diego Garcia and Afghanistan, do not observe DST.

The shift to daylight saving time means in some cases we have to delete a program from the schedule until everyone that observes DST is on DST. We have attempted to minimize the number of program shifts our audience will see during this time.

However, since our live programs originate from the United States, some program changes must be made.

Please continue to use the schedules at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>. We made every effort to ensure these schedules are correct through the time change.

ATLANTIC REGION AFN Prime Atlantic Sunday, March 9:

Starting at 1100 CET, and continuing until Europe changes to DST, live sports will be seen one hour earlier than normal. The Broadcast Center will shift all taped programs so our audience in the Atlantic region will see these programs at their normal time.

At 1600 CET Planet Carnivore will be preempted, with the tape-delayed re-airing of Survivor (encore) airing one hour earlier than normal. Live sports, following Survivor, airs one hour earlier than normal.

* NOTE: During the week of March 17-23 there is no Survivor as the network is preempting the series for coverage of March Madness. Survivor returns the following week at its normal time.

Saturday, March 15, 22 and 29:

At 1400 CET the following block of programs will be seen one hour earlier than normal: Girlfriends, Rules of Engagement, CSI NY, and Law & Order SVU. Live sports follows that block and will also be seen one hour earlier than normal.

Sunday, March 30:

At 0300 CET the European region springs to DST and all programs should return to their normal air times.

AFN Prime Pacific Sunday, March 30:

When the European region springs to DST at 0300 CET programming will be seen one hour later. This will last until the first Sunday in November when the United States returns to Standard Time.

AFN Prime Freedom Sunday, March 30:

In the regions changing to DST programming on AFN Freedom will be seen one hour later than normal until Iraq changes to DST one week later.

Sunday, April 1:

When Iraq springs forward all regions that observe DST will resume seeing programs at their normal time.

AFN Spectrum, AFN Movie, AFN Family Sunday, March 30:

At 0200 CET, one hour will be skipped from each of these three services so all other programs will be seen at their normal time.

AFN Spectrum will skip the re-airing of ER.

AFN Movie will skip Victoria Secret: What Is Sexy 2008.

AFN Family will skip Americas Funniest Home Videos

AFN Sports, AFN News Sunday, March 9:

All programming will be seen one hour earlier until your area switches to DST. Regions that do not observe DST will continue seeing the programs one hour earlier than normal until November when the United States switches back to Standard Time.

AFN Xtra Sunday, March 9:

Taped programming in each of the Atlantic and Pacific primetime viewing regions will remain unchanged. However, live sports move when the Broadcast Center goes to DST so viewers not observing Daylight Saving Time will see live sports one hour earlier than normal. The Big Ten will move up from its normal spot at 1500 PDT to 0800 PDT Monday through Friday until the Atlantic region springs forward to DST on March 30.

Sunday, March 30:

At 0200 CET programming targeted for the Pacific viewing regions will be seen one hour later than normal. The Big Ten will go back to its normal time at 1500 PDT on Monday, March 31.

Join the Navy and Assist the World

Article courtesy of U.S. Naval Forces Europe, Commander, 6th Fleet

As their Army counterparts struggle to meet monthly recruiting goals, awarding huge cash bonuses and lowering educational standards to attract new soldiers, Navy recruiters say they might have found a powerful and distinctive sales pitch for the sea service.

In a multimillion-dollar television, radio and online ad campaign, the Navy is presenting itself largely as a humanitarian rather than a warfighting organization. Several of the ads give more emphasis to the Navy's prowess in delivering relief supplies than its ability to deliver bombs.

The TV spots include footage of Navy helicopters dropping food and

medicine to survivors of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and plucking stranded New Orleans residents from their rooftops after Hurricane Katrina. One online ad invites recruits to "cruise the open seas, defend freedom, help the humanitarian cause."

The appeals, which began appearing about a year ago, seem to have struck a chord with what service officials call the "millennial generation" - people now in their late teens and early 20s.

A Pentagon survey in the fall found the commercials have burnished the Navy's reputation with potential recruits, fueling a sharp jump in the number who see the Navy

as an elite organization or view Navy service as "something to be proud of."

"Young people today are interested in being able to do something with a broad-based impact," said Kathleen Donald, an ad executive at Campbell-Ewald who helped develop the Navy campaign. "They want to be part of making the world a better place."

Because joining the military "intrinsically alters the course of a person's life," it's tougher to craft a successful recruiting ad than a commercial selling laundry detergent or soft drinks, Donald said.

The challenge is particularly acute in wartime, when parents and other "influencers" are most likely to be wary about seeing a young relative or friend join the military. "We have to help them walk through the decision-making process," she said.

The ads are "absolutely in the center of the bull's eye in terms of what would attract a lot of young people," said John Allen Williams, a political scientist at Loyola University Chicago.

A retired Navy reserve captain, Williams directs Loyola's Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society. Jesuit-run Loyola always has attracted students interested in public service, military or otherwise, Williams said, but he sees a passion for humanitarian work in many of today's students that wasn't so apparent in their predecessors.

But Marc Babej, who heads Reason Inc., a corporate strategy consulting company that helps clients plot ad campaigns, suspects something other than altruism might explain the campaign's success.

"One thing that's consistent across generations is, all other things being equal, most people prefer to go to the service where they're less likely to get shot," Babej said.

Right now, with the United States fighting land wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the "safe" service is the Navy, and the ads are designed to make the most of it, he said.

Two TV ads in the Navy's current rotation are at the center of the appeal. One, titled "Wave," shows a giant wave breaking and washing over the camera.

The screen goes black as a somber voice announces: "December 26, 2004, 7:59 a.m.: The sea delivers untold devastation to a huge area of southeast Asia." Then, as the water recedes and the camera reveals a swarm of Navy helicopters carrying bundles of supplies over the beach, the voice adds, "Soon after, it delivers something else."

A second ad, "Ribbons," features images of sailors at work during the tsunami relief effort, as well as in New Orleans and aboard the hospital ship Mercy during a 2006 humanitarian cruise in the Pacific. It ends with aerial footage of sailors lining the deck of the aircraft carrier Nimitz and an invitation: "If you want to make a difference in your world, spend some time in ours."

The Navy's approach contrasts sharply with those of the Army, Air Force and the Marine Corps. The Army's current "Army Strong" ad campaign puts a premium on the Army's ability to provide job training and build character. Much of the effort is directed at parents, traditionally a major influence on young people contemplating a military career.

The tag line at the end of several Army commercials is "You made them strong. We'll make them Army strong."

The Air Force's "Do something amazing" ads show airmen using some of the service's high-tech equipment, a big draw for potential recruits in their teens and early 20's.

The Marines are mostly stick-

ing with their traditional emphasis - selling the Corps as an elite fighting force and challenging young people to see if they can meet its standards.

One new Marine ad, however, takes a tack more like that of the Navy's campaign, showing a line of Marines stretching from an East Coast lighthouse to the Golden Gate Bridge.

The commercial's narrator speaks of Marines as "dedicated to a sense of honor, a sense of courage, and a commitment to something greater than themselves."

The Navy's current ads began appearing last year as the service was in the midst of developing a new "maritime strategy" that emphasizes the importance of humanitarian missions in building alliances around the world. The strategy has been widely interpreted as an attempt by Navy leaders to assert the service's relevance in the midst of land wars being fought mostly by the Army and Marines.

Donald and Capt. Tom Butterbaugh, advertising and marketing director for the Navy Recruiting Command, said the humanitarian-themed ads are intended to supplement rather than replace the Navy's traditional recruiting appeals.

Like the other military branches, the Navy still devotes a large share of its ad budget - which will total \$186 million this year - to promoting the job training and college aid it provides. It also is continuing to run commercials that show off fighter aircraft, submarines and aircraft carriers as well as a variety of futuristic weapons.

Because Navy installations are located mostly along the coast, many potential recruits have little sense of the range of the service's missions, Butterbaugh said. The humanitarian ads are "designed to show the myriad of things we do," he said.

Oxidiana

Going Green

Article courtesy of DeCa Marketing

The new, reusable bags being sold at commissaries worldwide as part of the Defense Commissary Agency's "Go Green" initiative are so popular they're flying off the shelves.

"We've sold about half a million in four months," said DeCA's Acting Director Rick Page. "Customer demand for the product is better than we expected, but rest assured we are working to get additional shipments to all commissaries as soon as possi-

ble."

The popular green bags, which were introduced in October, cost 70 cents each, are made of sturdy mesh and are strong enough to hold up to 30 pounds of groceries. The bags are machine washable and can be recycled when no longer usable.

Look for reusable bag racks at your commissary, or ask your cashier for the bags at checkout.

DeCA Implements UPC Lockout To Help Prevent Purchases of Recalled Products

Article by Cherie Huntington, DeCA Marketing

When a product recall is announced, store personnel normally pull the items from the sales area to ensure that they are not sold. The Defense Commissary Agency has now gone beyond the norm of food safety by implementing a "fail-safe" response system that prevents recalled products from scanning at the checkout stand.

Through a procedure called Universal Product Code "lockout," DeCA can ensure that recalled products are not inadvertently sold to customers. It's one more check in a food defense network designed to safeguard the health of commissary customers, said DeCA Acting Director Rick Page.

"We made use of existing commissary front-end technology to start a Universal Product Code 'lockout' on recalled items," Page said. "We're always researching, testing and fine-tuning ways to ensure food safety for our customers."

Springing from a suggestion made to all retailers by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture, the UPC lockout provides a low-cost safeguard in making sure recalled items don't find their way back on the

shelves or in a customer's shopping cart. DeCA officials immediately went to work to make that suggestion become a requirement for worldwide commissaries.

"We can now block an entire UPC at the register," Page said. "We've closed that loop. A recalled product scanned at the register would prompt a flag indicating the item is not for sale so it will not ring up."

The UPC block cannot be used on a recall for a specific lot number or date, said Page, though that capability could emerge in the future. For now, the system blocks an entire UPC. If the product becomes safe to sell again, commissaries simply remove the lockout.

DeCA's public health staff said three recalls in 2007 required removal of an entire UPC and would have been perfect candidates for a lockout.

Commissaries receive swift notification of recalls, prompting immediate removal of any recalled product from shelves. The items enter medical hold status and are marked, inventoried and closely monitored until they are either released for sale or removed and destroyed by vendor representatives.

Start Smart

Article by Lorie Warchol, MWR Marketing

Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) has introduced to the Sigonella community another amazing youth sports program to keep little ones active and engaged.

Start Smart is an organized program of the National Alliance for Youth Sports developed in 1993 that teaches 3 to 5 year-olds basic motor skills necessary to play organized sports. The program focuses on instructing children, with help from their parent's in the basic skills without the threat of competition or fear of getting hurt. The exercises become more advanced as the class progresses and the children show improvement.

The program engages children and their parents in one-on-one

developmental appropriate activities specifically designed for the level of performance ability the children display. Start Smart provides them with the equipment needed to be successful in the sport, while inadvertently building self-esteem.

Shannon Rotilio, MWR Youth Sports Coordinator, introduced the Start Smart program for the Youth Basketball season currently underway. The program has outstanding participation with 25 children and their parents signed up.

"It is so rewarding to see all of the kids and their parents playing and spending time together. Youth Sports programs are primarily geared towards ages 5-13 and the community has been asking for more programs

for younger children. The parents are really excited about this program and are really eager to get involved," said Rotilio.

"I am so happy to see that MWR has developed a way to get my son, Terek involved in sports. Most of the sports are for older kids and this is a great way to teach him the basics," stated Keith Lockwood, parent participant.

In April, the Start Smart program will introduce T-ball and clinics will be in Marinai and Mineo to help accommodate families living in housing. This will allow more children to participate.

For more information contact Shannon Rotilio at 624-3785.

Thank You: From the Sigonella Girls' Basketball Team

On behalf of the girl's basketball team, I would like to thank the Sigonella community for supporting us as we raised money to go to Germany for tournament. We appreciate everyone who sponsored an athlete during our Shoot-A-Thon and gave donations while we bagged at the commissary on February 16. We received enough money to greatly cut the costs of a hotel for five nights. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.

_____ and the Sigonella Lady Jaguars

NEW Arrivals



NFCU

Chiechio

Casablanca

MWR CORNER

Special Events

Signonella Sky Tonight - March 8 at 6 p.m.
President of the Astronomy Club, Bud Turner, will speak on the amazing field of Astronomy! He will describe and illustrate what to see in the Signonella sky tonight! After the presentation, enjoy a "REAL" look through a telescope!
Eggstravaganza
March 15, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at NAS I Land Annex
Come enjoy games, egg hunt, prizes and more!

Fitness 624-4483

Family Rock Climbing Orientation Night - March 7
5 - 6:30 p.m.; 6:30 - 8 p.m. at The Cave
Sign your family up for an hour and a half of rock climbing fun. Sign up ahead of time at Fit District.
Youth Hip Hop Dance
Mondays at Fit District, now through May
Ages 5 - 8, 2:30 - 3 p.m., Ages 9 and up, 3 - 4 p.m.
Learn the latest hip-hop and street dance trends! Class includes warm-up followed by age-appropriate dance combinations. Emphasis is on developing individual style and a love for fitness dance.
Intro to Strength Training
March 12, 1 p.m. at both fitness centers. Register prior at both fitness centers.

ITT Gear-n-Go Day Trips 624-4777

Condorelli Chocolate Factory in Belpasso
March 8: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 2:30 p.m. - \$18
Ragusa & Donna Fugata Castle
March 9: Depart: NAS II 7:30 a.m., NAS I 8 a.m., Mineo 8:45 a.m., Return: 6 p.m. - \$28 or 2 for \$40 + euro for lunch and fees

Special Sicilian Easter Cooking Class

March 12: 9am - 1pm - in the Midtown classroom prepare pasta al forno and cuddredda-with eggs \$25/class
Patti Shopping (Caleca Pottery Factory)
March 13: Depart: NAS II 7 a.m., NAS I 7:30 a.m., Return: 3 p.m. - \$18, or 2 for \$30+ bring euro for food and shopping
Catania Market and Via Etna Shopping
March 14, 21, 28: Depart: NAS II 8 a.m., NAS I 8:30 a.m., Return: 1 p.m. - \$5 + bring euro for food and shopping
Easter Cooking Class for Children (ages 4 - 10)
March 15: Depart: NAS II 8:30 a.m., NAS I 9 a.m. Return: 2 p.m. - \$54 includes cooking class, snacks, transportation, translator, and a tour of the garden and orchard. Adults are free (max. 2 adults/child)

ITT Gear-n-Go Extended Trips 624-4777

Giro d'Italia: May 10-12
Camping in Tropea: May 23-26
Legoland in Germany: June 13 - 16

Jox Pub 624-5603

NASCAR Sundays
Race over for free pizza with the purchase of any beverage!
AramJam: March 7 at 10:30 p.m.
Guitar Hero Tournament - March 8 at 3 p.m.
Inaugural event. The first 25 participants receive a FREE t-shirt.

Liberty 624-5602

Japanese Dinner in Catania: March 7
Valley of the Temples: March 9
Catania Market & More: March 12

Weekend in Dublin: April 16-20 \$550/pp
Amusement Parks in the UK: May 23 - 26, Info:TBA

Take 5 624-5602

Xbox 360 Tournament: March 11

Teen Center 624-4018

Bowling Night: March 7 at 5 p.m.
Spa Delight: March 14 at 2:30 p.m.
A girly day at the Teen Center to indulge in some Spa treatment!
Money Matters: Make It Count
March 14, 21 and 28 from 5 - 6 p.m.
Money Matters is a Boys and Girls Clubs of America club, which promotes financial literacy among teens by helping to instill basic money management skills for youth ages 13-18. Teens are provided many opportunities to earn money during the school year and summer months and participation in Money Matters can help teens learn practical ways to save, spend, and invest the money they earn now and in the future.

Youth Center 624-3712

St. Patrick's Day Dance
March 8 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
We will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day dance open to pre-teens ages 9-12. This event will take place in the Midtown Gymnasium. Light refreshments, giveaways, and contests all while dancing the night away!
Volunteer Opportunities
We pride ourselves in helping the community and are always looking for new opportunities to expand on acquired skills or develop new ones. You are invited to share your special skills with the children.

MARCH 7 - MARCH 13

MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

SCHEDULE

MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, March 7

12:00pm P.S. I Love You PG-13 126 min.
3:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
5:00pm The Great Debaters PG-13 124 min.
5:30pm Jumper PG-13 90 min.
7:30pm Bucket List PG-13 97 min.
8:00pm Semi-Pro R 90 min.
9:30pm The Kite Runner PG-13 128 min.

Saturday, March 8

2:00pm The Water Horse PG 112 min.
2:30pm Vantage Point PG-13 84 min.
4:30pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
6:00pm FREE ADMISSION
Bud Turner Astronomy Presentation
7:30pm Alien vs. Predator-Requiem R 94 min.
8:00pm First Sunday PG-13 98 min.
9:30pm Sweeney Todd R 117 min.

Sunday, March 9

2:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
2:30pm The Great Debaters PG-13 124 min.
4:30pm Juno PG-13 96 min.
5:00pm Semi-Pro R 90 min.
7:00pm The Kite Runner PG-13 128 min.

Monday, March 10

12:00pm Sweeney Todd R 117 min.
3:00pm The Water Horse PG 112 min.
5:00pm Vantage Point PG-13 84 min.
5:30pm P.S. I Love You PG-13 126 min.
7:30pm First Sunday PG-13 98 min.
8:00pm Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story R 96 min.

Tuesday, March 11

5:00pm Jumper PG-13 90 min.
5:30pm The Great Debaters PG-13 124 min.
7:30pm The Kite Runner PG-13 128 min.
8:00pm Semi Pro R 90 min.

Wednesday, March 12

12:00pm One Missed Call PG-13 87 min.
3:00pm The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything G 85 min.
5:00pm Juno PG-13 96 min.
5:30pm First Sunday PG-13 98 min.
7:30pm The Bucket List PG-13 97 min.
8:00pm Alien vs. Predator - Requiem R 94 min.

Thursday, March 13

3:00pm Spiderwick Chronicles PG 97 min.
5:00pm Kite Runner PG-13 128 min.
5:30pm Semi Pro R 90 min.
7:30pm FREE ADMISSION
THROWBACK THURSDAY
The Manchurian Candidate R 113 min.
8:00pm Sweeney Todd R 117 min.

Alien Vs Predator - Requiem

The iconic monsters from the two film franchises wage a brutal battle in an unsuspecting Colorado town.

The Bucket List

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

Charlie Wilson's War

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

First Sunday

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

The Great Debaters

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

Johnson Family Vacation

AAA can't help the roadside emergency that is the Johnson Family Vacation. Even the onboard navigation system has a meltdown on Nate Johnson and his family's cross-country trek to their annual family reunion/grudge match. Reluctantly along for the ride are Nate's wife who's only in it for the kids; their rapper-wannabe son; their teenage daughter who's fashioned herself as the next Lolita; and their youngest, who just can't seem to keep track of her imaginary dog. Can the Johnsons survive each other and all the obstacles the road throws at them to make it to Caruthersville, Missouri? Can they find Missouri?

Jumper

A genetic anomaly allows a young man to teleport himself anywhere. He discovers this gift has existed for centuries and finds himself in a war that has been raging for thousands of years between "Jumpers" and those who have sworn to kill them.

PREMIERS SATURDAY MARCH 14

Mad Money, 27 Dresses,
Saturday, March 15 - 10,000 B.C.

COMING SOON

Meet the Spartans, There Will Be Blood

U.S. Navy Personnel Conclude Exercise Maritime Safari 2008

Story by MC2(AW) Jason T. Poplin
 Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment Sigonella

On Feb. 28, personnel from Commander Task Force Six Seven, Patrol Squadron Detachment Sigonella (PATRON SIGONELLA), and Fleet Maritime Patrol Mobile Operations Command Center Mediterranean concluded a seven-day deployment to Ikeja Air Force, Lagos, Nigeria. Part of the on-going military-to-military cooperation between the United States and Nigeria, the Nigerian Air Force and Navy, under the auspices of the Defense Headquarters, hosted the U.S. Navy in

joint exercise Maritime Safari 2008. An exercise designed to culminate with the location of a simulated person lost at sea by coordination of a Nigerian Air Force Dornier 228, a U.S. Navy P-3 C Orion maritime patrol aircraft, and the Nigerian Navy Ship Nwamba, also afforded the two nation's military communities the opportunity to work together through additional training including aircraft maintenance procedures training, mission planning training and idea exchange. Focus was given to



(Above) Cmdr. Matt Pregmon, Patrol Squadron Sigonella XO, speaks with officials of the Nigerian Air Force and Navy during a VIP flight aboard a P-3 C Orion.



(Above) Lt. j.g. Bryan Erickson discusses art with resident artist Kehinde Balogun during his visit to Nike Art Gallery. The gallery hosted members of Commander Task Force Six Seven, Fleet Maritime Patrol Mobile Operations Command Center, and Patrol Squadron Detachment Sigonella during a cultural exchange visit with the local community.

improving maritime safety and security by building upon the capabilities of maritime personnel, maritime domain awareness, infrastructure, and response and enforcement fields.

"The Americans are very friendly and the Nigerians have interacted with them very well socially," said Tayo Ojeyemi, a Nigerian Air Force Group Captain who piloted the Dornier 228 during the search and rescue exercise. "On the professional side, we are learning a lot from each other I hope we will continue to have future engagements."

Information and idea exchange were celebrated in both the officer and enlisted communities. Officers from both militaries worked together during pre-flight and post-flight briefings which included a VIP flight that offered several Nigerian military officials the chance to tour PATRON SIGONELLA's P-3 in the air. From the enlisted ranks, airframers of the Nigerian Air Force embraced an opportunity to interact with their American counterparts. Together, they visited several sections of the P-3 that afforded many comparisons between various components of the aircraft and the C-130 J Hercules utilized by the Nigerians.

"As a whole, the support of the Nigerian military has been simply phenomenal," said Capt. John Nowell, Commodore of Destroyer Squadron Six Zero and Commander of Task Force West and Central Africa. "Everything from the security that they have provided, which has been very robust, to their support and events

like the socials they have hosted which have helped get their maritime professionals and aviation professionals together with ours to build those bonds of friendship and rapport."

Interacting with the local civilian community, U.S. Naval personnel participated in a cultural relations day hosted by Nigerian local leadership where Sailors witnessed the creation of arts and crafts at a local arts and cultural museum. Sailors interacted with artists as they were creating fabrics and mosaics in addition to observing local dancers perform an array of local dancing. Additionally, U.S. Navy personnel were able to visit the Lagos State Model Nursery and Primary School to distribute toys, diapers, and school supplies which were donated by the Naval Air Station Sigonella and PATRON SIGONELLA communities.

"These items are very tangible representations that we care and that it's not just about what we're doing in uniform, but also about what we want to do to help with what is every nation's most precious resource, their children," said Nowell.

Under the umbrella of the Africa Partnership Station (APS), exercise Maritime Safari 2008 maintained the initiative which seeks to improve maritime safety and security while building relationships and partnerships with the countries of west and central Africa. APS mission focuses on delivering maritime safety and security expertise to these regions to assist African nations develop their own capabilities and proficiencies. In addition, APS will provide support to numerous humanitarian assistance projects to include construction and renovations at schools, orphanages and clinics.

Palermo
 Perla d'orientale
 Tatoo



(Above) Aboard a P-3 C Orion, Chief Aviation Machinist Mate Paul Starcher of Patrol Squadron Detachment Sigonella (PATRON SIGONELLA), discusses with members of the Nigerian Air Force the similarities and differences between the controls of the flight stations of a U.S. Navy P-3 C Orion and the Nigerian Air Force's C-130 J Hercules.

Signonella Honored at Award's Ceremony

Article by Lt. Jonathan Groveman
Signonella PAO

Combined Federal Campaign Overseas representatives recognized twenty-eight departments and tenant commands at Naval Air Station Signonella February 27 with individual unit awards for an outstanding contribution campaign from last year.

Along with the 28 unit plaques presented at the award ceremony, Naval Air Station Signonella was awarded the prestigious Combined Federal Campaign Merit Award, recognizing the installation for having run the most successful contribution campaign out of all Navy bases in Europe for 2007.

Over forty-nine percent of all potential contributors at Signonella gave a monetary donation towards the campaign, either in the form of a personal check or monthly payment allotment, automatically subtracted out of the contributor's paycheck. Their contribution went to one or more of the more than 2000 worthy causes available in the 2007 contributor's guide.

Out of the 38 individuals units attached to either Naval Air Station Signonella or one of the tenant commands located at Signonella, 28 of these units were recognized with a personal plaque. These units had at least a \$60 per person contribution rate or at least 40 percent of

their unit gave contributions towards the campaign. The tiers went up from bronze being the lowest individual award to nine units being awarded a platinum award at the award ceremony for maximum participation.

"I really enjoy being able to celebrate this special day with the units who did so much for this worthwhile campaign," said Ms. Constance Baker, the director for Combined Federal Campaign Overseas. "Each and every person in this room made an incredible impact for these charity organizations, and I want to personally thank you for it."

Signonella was credited for having a 100 percent contact rate and giving each and every potential contributor an informed opportunity to give. The units at Signonella combined for more than \$158,000 in contributions. Some of these contributions will come straight back to the community's morale and quality of life programs through the Family Support and Youth Programs (FSYP) donation option.

Signonella's 2008 Combined Federal Campaign kicks off the first week of October and should easily be more successful than in 2007.

NASHVILLE continued from page 1

The other two finalists, Angela Dennis who placed second and Leslie Jordan who edged out a tie for third against Balinda Mullens, still have not had their dreams of making it to Nashville crushed yet. They still have a video audition that will be sent to the judges in Nashville to determine if they have what it takes to make it to the main stage.

"I did alright, but there's always room for improvement," said Dennis who came away with a \$200 gift certificate to the NEX. "I felt good. I've been singing all my life. I've sung karaoke and I've sung with a couple bands, usually just little gigs here and there, so when I heard about [Nashville Star], I was thrilled. I knew I was going

to win. I didn't know what place I was going to win, but I knew that I had a shot, and I'm stoked to come in second."

There was a little bit of nervousness at the end of the contest when it was revealed that two of the contestants had tied for third place. The judges asked Jordan and Mullens to return to the stage one final time with a new song to break the tie. With the pressure on Jordan pulled through in what the crowd found to be his best performance of the evening.

"I think that the best thing about tonight was the audience," Jordan said. "I've done a lot of performances against a lot of tough audiences and tonight everyone was into it and that definitely made things a whole lot easier."

Maryland

DIETITIAN continued from page 2

Registered dietitians draw on their experience to develop a personalized nutrition plan for individuals of all ages. They are able to separate facts from fads and translate nutritional science into information you can use. A registered dietitian can put you on the path to lowering weight, eating healthfully and reducing your risk of chronic disease.

R D = EXPERT

Registered dietitians know the

science of nutrition. They have degrees in nutrition, dietetics, public health or a related field from well-respected, accredited colleges and universities. RDs must also complete a supervised examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration and earn professional education credits to maintain registration.

For more information contact your Naval Hospital Dietitian, LCDR Jim McGowan at 624-4578.

INTEGRITY continued from page 2

half that one who walks with integrity walks securely or the one who walks as if his actions are based on the adherence of a moral code will not falter. Are your actions, both public and private, based on a moral code? Are you walking in a straight manner both at work and at home when no one else is watching? So often the case is we do not. But this is when we often find ourselves in trouble. One day we will be caught. Your web of lies or deceit will one day catch up with you and, as the second half of this verse says: his ways will become known. It is basically saying that the person who walks in a twisted or crooked way will be made known to all. You will be caught.

So often we think that because no one is watching that it is okay to act however we want. One example of this in our community is lack of care in driving. I observe daily people, Sailors and dependants, speeding, passing in no passing zones, talk-

ing on the cell phone, and the list goes on. Why is this? Do we as American's no longer have integrity? Why would we drive this way off base, as if no one is watching but drive as we should on base? Where is your integrity? If we continue to walk in a twisted way in private and a straight way in public it will catch up to us. We will falter and lose all credibility. When Michelangelo was painting the Sistine Chapel, he was asked by a friend why he took so much time with the details if the paintings were viewed from many feet away. His friend added: "after all, who will notice if it is perfect or not?" His answer was: "I will." Integrity is something we should all strive for. We should attempt to walk in a manner that is straight and perfect both in our public and private lives. There should be no difference. Don't wait until you get caught to straighten your walk . . . do so NOW. It is called INTEGRITY . . . do you have it?

NMCRS continued from page 1

services and programs available for their benefit. Without these contributions, NMCRS's reserve fund (which was created from a national fund raiser conducted during World War II) would be depleted in 10 years time. During the ADFD, 100 percent of contributions collected are returned to Sailors, Marines, and their families. In 2007 alone, NMCRS provided \$188,000 in assistance to the Signonella community.

On February 29, NMCRS Signonella kicked off its annual Active Duty Fund Drive with a cake cutting ceremony in the galley on NAS 2. Captain Thomas Quinn was the keynote speaker. Additionally, the committee of active duty volunteers who are running this year's drive, led by LT Donovan and LTJG Vaught, were also present to demonstrate their support along with NMCRS staff and volunteers. The Drive's goal this year at NAS Signonella is

\$60,000, up \$19,000 from the \$41,000 raised in 2007. According to Roni Nocon, director at NMCRS, "The enthusiasm of our active duty key people is what makes the Drive a success. We appreciate all the time and energy they put into these fund raising efforts."

Signonella commands and tenant commands are encouraged to hold fundraisers during March and April. Be on the lookout for car washes, food sales and the AFN Radiothon. These events truly demonstrate Sailor helping Sailor.

Through NMCRS, there are resources and support for Sailors in need. Their programs have a direct positive impact on Naval Air Station Signonella personnel and their family members. Be sure to get involved in the Active Duty Fund Drive so that the NMCRS can continue to provide quality service, education and assistance to our community.

Stampa

IL Mercato

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

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

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

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

AUTOMOTIVE

2002 Ford Mondeo 1.8 TB Ghia, full optional, 130 Horsepower, metallic grey, 128,000 Km, Ford maintenance record, Asking 7,000 Euro but will negotiate. Looks and runs great! Call 331-3661944.

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 2900. If interested call 338-8573119 after 4pm.

Harley-Davidson FatBoy, 1999. Great condition. 36K miles. Extras. \$11,500. Call for details. 624-0187.

1985 BMW 320i, perfect for getting around Sicily! Gray, 5-speed with impressive power. Runs Great! This car is mechanically well-maintained with a nice CD player. Asking \$900.00. This car will be available on 19 March. Call Ken at 340-005-4116.

1991 Ford Fiesta Ghia, great for getting around Catania! Dark blue, 5-speed. Perfect for the single sailor on a tight budget. Asking \$400.00 for this dependable car. This car is available right now! For more information call 340-005-4116.

2001 PT Cruiser, Touring Edition taupe(grey) exterior, leather seats, 64000 miles, excellent condition. available mid-March. \$5,000 334-577-1879 or work 624-5087

2003 Toyota Tacoma, White exterior, leer shell, manual transmission, only 40,000 miles, Great condition, CD player. Kelly Blue Book \$10,400.00 Asking \$9,500.00. Contact Nolan at 624-1627 or 339-637-5890.

1990 Nissan Pathfinder 4X4 6CYL, Automatic us spec. Get 400l, Great reliable condition have driven to Rome, Venice, Florence, Pisa and most northern Italy. Daily driven from Mineo to NAS I. Ac/heat/sun-roof new exhaust (\$300) 4 new big tires (\$175 ea). Available 1st week of April. Reserve it now, \$3,300 OBO, POC 624-0109

1995 Chevy Astro Red American Specs, just had tune up. 85000 miles, a/c, heater, p/w, p/l \$4000 OBO. Mygig i n f o t a i n m e n t CD/DVD/Navigation for 2007 and up dodge/chrysler vehicles. \$600 firm. Hitachi projector \$600 obo. Call Bernie at 3401013952 or Hung at 3405482778

1995 Nissan Skyline GTS Sedan, right hand steering, burgundy, 1998cc, 76000 km,

automatic, takes 300 liters, climate control A/C and heat, CD/radio, recently safety inspected, new tires. Drives great. Interior and exterior good. \$1,500 OBO. Call at 393464901294.

2003 Ford Ranger XL - Black, 4 new tires (under warranty) In excellent condition 5-speed manual transmission. For more information please call Terry or Chris (h) 624-1558 (w) 624-5543, if no answer please leave a message.

1995 Ford Windstar Van, Automatic. New Brakes, Rotors, Belts. Efficient.Good condition.US Spec. Contact: 624-5282, Cell-333-982-4968. Asking \$1,700 O.B.O

1998 Seat Ibiza 2 door in good condition great on Gas/MLG very reliable price Euro 1700,00 for info call Cell 346-6082330 ask for Joe

1990 Lancia Thema, 2.4 L 16 valves , gas engine, air conditioning, Green. 70.000 miles. Euro 2000. Call 338-2566505

Ford Escort convertible, 1600cc, 105 hp, 5 speed manual, brand new! Electric hood, alarm, pwr windows (4) locks/steering, alloy wheels, new tires, recent tune-up, original 31k miles, excellent con-

ditions. Available immediately. Must see! Ask \$4600. FMI call 3477725236 anytime or e-mail fimau@katamail.com for pictures.

WANTED

Looking for housekeeping assistant to clean a few hours a week. \$10 an hr. Call Cari 624-1507

FOR SALE

Oak Dinning table w/ 6 chairs, like new. \$650 obo. Couch, excellent cond, \$200 obo. Futon, like new \$100. 624-0187.

Eddie Bauer double stroller for sale. Brand new, used less than 10 times. Bought at NEX for \$200 asking \$100 O.B.O. Call Breanna at 346-095-1546.

(Italian version) HP Pavillion zd8000: Windows XP Home Edition, DVD R/RW, 17" screen, with ITUNES and other components. In excellent

condition. Asking for 500euro. JVC (DVD-AUDIO/Video) TH-C6, system cinema numeric DVD surround sound: 5disc/dvd changer, DVD-R/RW ET CD-R/RW, WMA/MP3, and JPEG. In excellent condition. Asking for \$200.

Sauder Entertainment Center. Cherry finish. Bought a year and a half ago for \$375. Asking \$200 o.b.o. Has no marks or scratches. For more information please call Terry or Chris (h) 624-1558 (w) 624-5543, if no answer please leave a message.

Kids brand new (still in package) full drum set \$150, Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Saturday Night Live-Season 2 Collector set-\$40, Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

hitech

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

Assomondo
animale

Children's brand new (still in package) digital camera-\$40, Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

Charmed DVD set - Seasons 1-6, Each season \$30 or all for \$150, Call Karrie at 624-1723 or email leinaar@gmail.com

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

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.

PETS

Free to good home. Light brown sicilian mix dog. 2yr old named Petie. Great with kids and potty trained. We PCS in 2 months. Call Bernie at 3401013952 or Hung at 3405482778

For Sale-7 mo. old male, tri-color Bassett Hound. All shots, microchipped, housebroken. Loves children, great family pet. Serious inquiries please. Call 624-1484 for info.

DiFra

Vento del-
 l'est

Portiere Vulcano
 Stella

Grande Cina

Classified

Stampa