



## First Class Association Crushes Chief's Mess 41-9



**AC1 James Rosa hits a line drive for the First Class Association during their 41-9 route of the Chief's Mess.**

Article and photos by MC2 Joshua Wink  
Signature Staff

The battle between khaki and blue left no doubt this year as to who was the superior softball squad. In the 2008 Chief's vs. first class's softball match, the first class's pulled out a resounding win, crushing the Chief's 41 to 9.

Leading the way for the first classes was AM1 David Johnson, who went six for seven, bringing in six runs scored, while SK1 Bryan Valentine, who also went six for seven, managed to score four runs.

On the chief's side, it was Senior Chief Robert Stout who went four for five, hitting three triples and scoring two runs, whereas Senior Chief Dave Taylor was perfect at bat, hitting four for four and bringing in two runs.

The end of regulation brought some discontent to the chiefs who requested another inning to be played with the score standing at 29 to 9 at the top of the seventh inning. The First Class Association didn't back down though, scoring another twelve runs, ten of which were consecutive, in the bottom of the seventh.

"It was a great victory, but the best part about the event was getting together as a FCA mess and Chief's Mess and bonding as well as getting to know each other out of the work space," said AC1 Gary Ashley, coach for the First Class Association.

Selected to be "Defensive Player of the Game" was AC1 James Rosa who scored four runs while bat-

ting six for seven.

Other notables were ET1 Will Hicks and PO1 Ortiz went both went five for six and scored four runs apiece.



**MA1 Joe Mandigo pitches the ball to Public Works Department Command Master Chief Doug Tennyson.**

## NAS Sigonella Navy College Receives Award

Article by Lt.j.g Matt Knight  
Sigonella Public Affairs Officer

Naval Air Station Sigonella Navy College Office was selected June 23 as the 2008 Exemplary Navy College Office of the Year Award winner in the small office category.

The award recognizes Navy College Offices that "excelled by developing new technologies and methods for establishing processes that provide Sailors educational services on demand while continuing to improve and expand educational services within the Navy" said Capt. Jon Picker, Commanding Officer of the Center for Personal and Professional Development in Virginia Beach, VA.

This marks the first time NAS Sigonella Navy College Office has received the award. Out of the 52 Navy College Offices world-wide, approximately 30 qualify for the small office category and were in direct competition with the NAS Sigonella office.

Factors that were considered were based on the value of education services to customers, efficiencies implemented by the staff, new technologies, methods, and processes suggested or implemented, and over-

all improvement and expansions on educational services.

"I got here last year, and basically what I did is look at and assess what was going on in this Navy College and tried to make some improvements..." Said Butch Carlos, Director of NAS Sigonella Navy College Office.

He explained that after he assessed the office, he started the Academic Skills program which helps students with their math and English in order to take standardized tests, and began encouraging Sailors to take CLEP and SAT tests. He then instituted a full use of the Electronic Tuition Assistance program which eliminates the paperwork and saves the Sailors the time it takes to drive to NAS I to turn it in and allows everything to be done online.

"Our goal is to have the Sailors have a degree and make use of the benefits that they have... and take advantage of it... In the long run, that will help the Navy and the community," Carlos said.

For any questions about continuing education, contact the NAS Sigonella Navy College Office in person on the second deck of building 318 on NAS I or call 624-4541.

## How to File a Claim Against Uncle Sam

Article by Barbara Perotti and LN1 Juanita Passwater

RLSO EURSWA  
Detachment Sigonella

If you have recently experienced a damage or loss to your personal property caused by theft, fire or flood, you may be able to file a claim with the U.S. Government under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employee Claims Act (PCA).

You can file a claim with the Government for house break-ins, vehicle break-ins or total loss of your car, on condition that your vehicle was parked in front of your residence, or on a military installation, at the time of theft.

If you have a private insurance policy that covers all or part of your property, you have to file a claim with your insurance company first, and then you can file a claim with the Government for the property that was not covered by the insurance, or to recover, if possible, all or a part of your deductible.

Always include in your claim package the police or fire report, as this normally contains necessary information for processing your claim. Also, keep any item that you are claiming until final settlement of the claim, since the claim examiner may need to inspect it.

Story continued on page 13

### WEATHER UPDATE

July 25  
H:90F  
L:67F



July 26  
H:92F  
L:68F



July 27  
H:93F  
L:70F



July 28  
H:95F  
L:69F



July 29  
H:93F  
L:68F



July 30  
H:92F  
L:67F



July 31  
H:92F  
L:70F



### TOP STORIES

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughhead officially re-established U.S. 4th Fleet and named Rear Adm. Joseph D. Kernan as its commander during a ceremony at Naval Station Mayport July 12.

Buon Natale, Sigonella. Have you thought about Christmas recently or Santa Claus or Papa Natale here in Italy? Even so, Santa is probably preparing for Christmas right now.

Bagheria is a picturesque town which is located a few kilometers outside Palermo. In the 18th century, it was chosen by Sicilian aristocracy as the ideal coastal retreat to escape the heat of the summer.

Some experiences in Sicily are well known and well loved-like shopping for fruits and veggies in the Catania market or devouring gelato in Motta. But others are hidden, like secret treasures. After visiting with some local Italians, we discovered a new gem on the Sicilian map: Naro.

Between rising gas prices and global warming, people the world over are scrutinizing the way in which we travel. Whether you believe in global warming or not, there is no debate over the fact that we are in a transitional period in world history, the search for alternative fuels and the quest to reduce the human carbon foot print.

Page 3

Page 5

Page 6

Page 8

Page 13

### INSIDE

Direct Line  
2

Navy News  
3

Community Calendar  
4

MWR Corner  
11

Il Mercato  
14

### TRAFFIC NUMBERS

	Jan.- July '08	Jan.- July '07	Diff.
Accidents	166	140	+26
Injuries	28	14	+14
DUIs	5	3	+2
Traffic Deaths	2	0	+2

PLEASE,  
DON'T BECOME  
A STATISTIC!

# DIRECT LINE NASSIG COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT. THOMAS J. QUINN

August is just around the corner, PCS season is in full swing, and new members are being added to the NAS Sigonella Community every week replacing those who have already transferred. As community members depart Sigonella, others must step into their places and volunteer with the many volunteer organizations on base that provide NAS Sigonella the services that ensure our high quality of life.

Organizations like the Fleet and Family Support Center, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, American Red Cross, Boy/Girl Scouts, Sigonella Animal Welfare Society, etc will all need your help as their current volunteers depart. The services these organizations provide to NAS Sigonella's community range

from family counseling to mentoring our youth. Additionally, the benefits that the volunteers and volunteer organizations provide the community are too great to capture in one article and are one of the reasons NAS Sigonella enjoys the high quality of life that we currently have.

While volunteering primarily benefits the community there are many other reasons to donate time and effort to your favorite organization. For service members, properly documented volunteer service can add valuable evaluation (EVAL) or fitness report (FITREP) bullets which allow the member to set themselves apart from the group. Additionally consecutively documented volunteer service time can make a service member eligible for the Volunteer Service Medal

which positively reflects on the member and their command.

Volunteering also allows both service members and dependants the opportunity to gain valuable skills and experience that look great on a resume and can assist in getting a civilian job. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet other like minded people; for military members this can be a chance to meet people outside of the job, or for dependants it can be a chance to get out of the house and get involved.

Whether you want to get that extra edge in your EVAL, to get involved and give back to the community, or to just stay busy and meet people out of your usual circle, volunteering is a positive way to achieve your goal.



# Health WATCH What is EDIS?

Article by Dr. Regiros Flevotomas  
U.S. Naval Hospital Sigonella

### Attention Parents:

#### Who We Are

Educational & Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) supports Sigonella families who have children with special needs. Our mission is to fulfill requirements of Federal Law PL 102-119 (Part C of Individuals with Disabilities Act-IDEA) directing the Department of Defense to provide Early Intervention Services to eligible children and their families in the United States and command sponsored tours overseas.

Our staff includes Dr. Regiros Flevotomas (Clinical Child Psychologist), Mrs. Susan Johnson (Occupational Therapist), Ms. Dorothy Broughton (Early Childhood Special Educator), Mrs. Lori Donovan (Speech-Language Pathologist), and Mr. Todd Shaw (Physical Therapist) and Salvatore Virgillito, our administrative assistant. Commander Kelly Williams also provides audiological services

for active-duty members and families as well as children and adolescents enrolled in EDIS. We are part of U.S. Naval Hospital Sigonella and located in building (#272) across the parking lot and up the hill from the hospital on NAS I.

#### What We Do

We provide specialized services for infants and toddlers birth until age 3, who are at-risk for, or are showing signs of, developmental delay. In addition, we also provide Related Services to school-aged children, ages 3-21, demonstrating delays that could impact their functioning in the school setting.

#### Who We Serve

Any DoDDS sponsored child, ages 0-3, suspected or identified as having a developmental delay. In addition, we provide Related Services to children, ages 3-21, that are demonstrating delays which could interfere with their education in the school setting.

#### Who Refers

With parental permission, professionals,

*Story continued on page 12*

### NASSIG WORSHIP SERVICES

Chapel Office: 095-86-3975

ROMAN CATHOLIC	PROTESTANT
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
0845 Catholic Mass (NAS I Chapel)	0900 Protestant Worship (Mineo Community Center)
1100 Catholic Mass (Mineo Community Center)	1045 Protestant Worship (NAS I Chapel)
1600 Catholic Mass (NAS II Chapel)	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Monday - Wednesday, Friday</b>	1700 Protestant Fellowship Dinner
1130 Catholic Mass (NAS II Chapel)	1800 Bible Studies for All Ages (NAS I Chapel)

**OTHER SERVICES/ACTIVITIES**

**POINTS OF CONTACT**

Church of Christ: Sunday - 1530, NAS I Chapel Room 4; Call 624-5128 or 335-841-8069  
Latter-day Saints: Please email ldsig@gmail.com or call 624-1671 or 349-1977-119  
Jewish Services: Please call 095-86-1205  
AA Meetings: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 1900, NAS II Chapel, 339-344-9332



# People Matter

Article by Chaplain Hank Wilson

*"People matter, individuals matter; no system, however well-oiled, and no leader, however omniscient, can afford to ignore the importance of personnel." (H.W. Crocker, Robert E. Lee on Leadership, Three Rivers 2000.)*

I saw a great movie the other day. I watched the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus". The movie starred Richard Dreyfuss who played a great musician, Glenn Holland. Mr. Holland became the music teacher for a local high school. One day, Mr. Holland found himself in

the principles office being told that he would no longer be teaching, as he had been for years, at the school. The school board had determined that in cutting cost they needed to do away with the music program. The movie ends, stop reading if you have not seen it, with Mr. Holland's students from various years coming together to play his unpublished piece of music that he had written. But the last part of the movie shows Mr. Holland fighting with the school board and arguing the importance of the music program. He argues the detriment this move will have on

*Story continued on page 12*

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## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE

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

## WEEKLY TRAFFIC/ SAFETY UPDATE

*Traffic Court Results*

**E6** - Negligent driving. Failure to comply with NASSIG/host laws. Member was awarded 5 points and DIP.  
**E5** - Speeding. Member was awarded 4 point and DIP.  
**E4** - Other moving violation. Member was awarded 3 points.

# NAVY News

## U.S. 4th Fleet Officially Re-established

**Article by MC3 Alan Gragg**  
U.S. Naval Forces Southern  
Command Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead officially re-established U.S. 4th Fleet and named Rear Adm. Joseph D. Kernan as its commander during a ceremony at Naval Station Mayport July 12.

The ceremony followed the U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (NAVSO) change of command, during which Kernan relieved Rear Adm. James W. Stevenson Jr.

Kernan, the dual-hatted NAVSO and 4th Fleet commander, is responsible for U.S. Navy ships, aircraft and submarines assigned from east and west coast fleets to operate in the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) area of focus, which encompasses the Caribbean, Central and South America and surrounding waters.

"Re-establishing the Fourth Fleet affirms our support for, and our desire to, enhance cooperative relationships with the navies and mar-

itime services in the Caribbean and Central and South America. It recognizes the immense importance of maritime security in the region," Roughead said.

"Our maritime strategy raises the importance of forming global maritime partnerships by working with international partners as the basis for global maritime security. Re-establishing Fourth Fleet allows us to more effectively employ naval forces to build confidence and trust among nations through collective

maritime security efforts that focus on mutual interests."

Fourth Fleet was first established in 1943 as one of the original numbered fleets. During World War II, the United States needed a command in charge of protecting against raiders, blockade runners and enemy submarines in the South Atlantic. Fourth Fleet fulfilled that mission until it was disestablished in 1950, and U.S. 2nd Fleet took over its responsibilities.

The new 4th Fleet will be headquartered in Mayport and co-located with NAVSO, taking advantage of the existing infrastructure, communications support and personnel already in place. Fourth Fleet's re-establishment will not involve an increase in forces assigned in Mayport, or result in any permanently assigned ships or aircraft.

With a focus on strengthening friendships and partnerships, 4th Fleet will directly support the U.S. Maritime Strategy by conducting five ongoing missions: support for peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, traditional maritime exercises and counterdrug support operations.

"It is an honor to assume command of U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and to be granted the privilege of reestablishing U.S. 4th Fleet," Kernan said. "I look forward to continuing the great work Rear Adm. Stevenson has accomplished in demonstrating the United States' commitment to our regional partners in this immensely important part of the world."

The re-establishment and change of command ceremony concluded with Stevenson's retirement after 32 years of naval service.

During Stevenson's tour as

NAVSO commander, U.S. Navy's operational focus in the region was greatly increased resulting in enhanced partner nation cooperation and improved collective capabilities. Recent missions championed under Stevenson, such as USNS Comfort's (T-AH 20) 2007 humanitarian medical assistance deployment and the first Global Fleet Station deployment in 2007 with HSV Swift highlight this increased focus.

In 2008, Stevenson oversaw planning and execution of the third-annual Partnership of the Americas deployment, which included the George Washington Carrier Strike Group; as well as Continuing Promise humanitarian civil assistance deployments aboard USS Boxer (LHD 4) and USS Kearsarge (LHD 3). Currently, Military Sealift Command rescue and salvage ship USNS Grasp (T-ARS-51) is conducting Navy Diver - Global Fleet Station with Caribbean Island partner nations.

As the Navy component command of SOUTHCOM, NAVSO's mission is to direct U.S. Naval forces operating in the Caribbean, Central and South American regions and interact with partner nation navies within the maritime environment. Various operations include counter-illicit trafficking, theater security cooperation, military-to-military interaction and bilateral and multinational training.

Fourth Fleet is the numbered fleet assigned to NAVSO, exercising operational control of assigned forces. Fourth Fleet conducts the full spectrum of Maritime Security Operations in support of U.S. objectives and security cooperation activities that promote coalition building and deter aggression.

### 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 Brian Caracci

A Marine helicopter flies over Red Beach and the ongoing construction of an elevated causeway during Joint Logistics Over-The-Shore (JLOTS) 2008. JLOTS 2008 will establish command and control of Army and Navy units, construct a life support area, conduct force protection operations, execute an in-stream offload of shipping from a sea echelon area, employ Offshore Petroleum Discharge System, retrograde and safely redeploy allocated forces.

New Hitech  
Hop

Monika

				FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				<b>25 - JULY</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">COMMUNITY CALENDAR</h2>				<b>7 Habits of Highly Effective People</b> Bldg. 407 8a.m.-3p.m.; x9203  <b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m., NAS II Chapel x9203	<b>NMCRS Nearly New Shop</b> Open from 10a.m.-1p.m. x4212	
				MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m., NAS II Chapel x9203	<b>NMCRS Nearly New Shop</b> Open from 10a.m.-1p.m. x4212	
<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel x9203	<b>Red Cross Disaster Action Team Meeting</b> 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m. x4900	<b>FFSC Men's Group</b> 1:30p.m.-3p.m. x4291  <b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> 7 pm NAS II Chapel x9203				
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>FFSC TAP (Pre-Retirement)</b> 8 a.m.-4p.m.; x4291  <b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel x9203	<b>FFSC TAP (Pre-Retirement)</b> 8 a.m.-4p.m. x4291  <b>FFSC Retirement Planning</b> 10a.m.-12p.m. x4291	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel x9203  <b>FFSC TAP (Pre-Retirement)</b> 8 a.m.-4p.m.; x4291  <b>Red Cross Volunteer Orientation</b> 10a.m.-1p.m.; x4900	<b>FFSC TAP (Pre-Retirement)</b> 8 a.m.-4p.m. x4291	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> -7 p.m. -NAS II Chapel x9203  <b>NADAP Alcohol/Drug Prevention Summit</b> Midtown Theater 8a.m., 10a.m., 12p.m. x9203	<b>Red Cross CPR Class</b> NAS I and Mineo 8a.m.-5p.m.	

# Motta

# All Services

# Stags

# Marchi

*Did you know?*

Visiting Nurses working for the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society will make home, hospital, or clinic visits? They provide health education and instruction while acting as a liaison with other resources. During 2005, the Society's Visiting Nurses conducted more than 31,000 patient contacts, offering emotional support in times of stress; assisting patients' understanding of medication, diet, and follow-up care; and providing continuity between patient, doctor, and community resources. Ask about feeding newborns, post-partum care, and parenting skills. For more information, contact your Sigonella Navy-Marine Corps Relief Office at 624-4212.

NMCRS: Service with a Smile!  
[www.nmcrs.org](http://www.nmcrs.org)



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

# Christmas in July at Sigonella

Article by FFSC, PFM Staff

Buon Natale, Sigonella. Have you thought about Christmas recently or Santa Claus or Papa Natale here in Italy? Even so, Santa is probably preparing for Christmas right now. He must be a great program and business manager. I mean, think about the thousands of little elves running around making parts and assembling the toys. Those of you who have ever worked on a production line know that each piece needs to be in the right place, at the right time, in the right color, and with the right name. Toy-making is a tremendously well-organized process. Santa does not wait until the night before Christmas to make the toys. He starts early.

We should also start planning our finances early for Christmas and holiday spending. The plan should include the price of the gifts and postage spent to mail them home. Every year the post office announces the dates when packages need to be mailed in order to reach those of us stationed overseas. The same planning applies when sending packages

home. By planning ahead, you can be sure that your package will arrive on time, usually Dec. 1 or earlier. Additionally, packaging can be an issue and you may want to consider alternative gift ideas. Gift cards are a great idea. For instance, the little shirt that you bought your cousin's child may not fit. Furthermore, gift cards come in a variety of festive colors and can be mailed with ease.

When you think about your spending this year, consider the total costs, that is, how much it will all cost. Planning now will help ease the stress and financial burden this holiday season. Deciding who gets what present is always difficult. If you haven't decided what to send, it will be very difficult to determine how much you can spend. Many people like the idea of doing their holiday shopping all at once. An easy way to make sure you can do your shopping all at once is to start a Christmas club account or Christmas savings account with your bank or local credit union. These accounts will make it easy for

you to save money from each paycheck to put toward your future holiday spending. Direct deposit is the choice method to start saving.

Next, you must determine what your spending plan will allow for holiday spending. How much should you spend on those toys and presents for your family? The answer would depend on your spending plan. You must anticipate how many family members and friends would be a consideration, as well as, how much you want to spend. A good estimate to begin with is the amount you spent last year. Don't forget about the bills that will follow in January. Last year, did you say that you wouldn't spend as much next year? Well, next year is here and you have a choice on spending less or planning better.

From Aug. 1 to Christmas is only 207 days. Remember to mail your gifts by Dec. 1. It means that you will have to start shopping

*Story continued on page 13*

# Ognina

# Pentagon



Do you have a passion for writing or looking for a little experience in journalism? The Signature is seeking volunteers to help cover base wide events as well as feature stories. If this sounds like an opportunity for you please call the Public Affairs Office at 624-5440.



## WARM HEARTS

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

Sigonella's Stray Animal Facility (SAWS) has many cats and dogs just looking for a warm home and someone to love. Each week the Signature will feature animals in need of adoption.



(Left Above)Nix is a wonderful dog with a great personality, she needs a good home with patient owners who can help her break out of her shell, if you would like to visit her please stop by the Stray Animal Facility, she would love to see you.

(Left Below)Ashley is wonderful girl who would make an exceptional asset to any family. She has a great temperment, she gets along with other animals and loves to play. If you would like to meet her come and visit her at the Stray Animal Facility.

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



## 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.*

Alberto Lunetta  
Signature Staff



# Italian NEWS

*Sicilian Culture, Events and Lifestyle*

## Villa Palagonia in Bagheria: a Wonder of Eccentric Baroque Architecture

"The amazing crowd of statues that surround his house appear at a distance like a little army drawn up for its defense; but when you get amongst them, and everyone assumes his likeness you imagine you have got into the realm of delusion and enchantment...the inside of this enchanting castle corresponds to the out; it is in every respect as whimsical and fantastical, and you cannot turn yourself to any side, where you are not stared in the face by some hideous figure or other." That's how 18th century Scottish traveler Patrick Brydone describes in his book called "A Tour through Sicily and Malta" the palace of Don Ferdinando Francesco Gravina, Prince of Palagonia.

Brydone was one of the intellectuals who undertook in the 18th century the "Grand Tour" to discover and admire the archeological and historic heritage of Southern Italy. Sicily was obviously one of the most-favorite stops of those cultural journeys.

Bagheria is a picturesque town which is located a few kilometers outside Palermo. In the 18th century,

it was chosen by Sicilian aristocracy as the ideal coastal retreat to escape the heat of the summer. Noblemen competed in building those amazing villas and furnishing them with the finest examples of art of the time.

"Sometimes in the middle of that crowd of small houses, a sudden vision, a rose colored mansion in a marine tuff, its decorations cut into the stone, the statues of the roof top, and the majestic flight of stairs open like a fan...all of this to amuse the restless eyes of the gentlemen of centuries gone by." Sicilian contemporary novelist Dacia Maraini gave us another vivid description of those architectural jewels located in Western Sicily.

All those villas are absolutely must-see Bagheria highlights but the most striking is undoubtedly "Villa Palagonia." Modern visitors can still sense that this palace exerts a mysterious fascination.

The owner, Prince Ferdinando Gravina Alliata was himself a very eccentric man. He commissioned the construction of this superb palace in 1715.

The mansion was nicknamed



Photo by Giuseppe Stimolo

The elaborately decorated "Hall of Mirrors" of Villa Palagonia offer visitors a full immersion in 18th century Sicilian aristocracy's grandeur.



Photos by Giuseppe Stimolo

(Above) Villa Palagonia is a masterpiece of Baroque architecture. It was built in 1715 by the eccentric Prince Ferdinando Gravina Alliata.

(Below) The magnificent Villa Palagonia mansion is nicknamed "Villa of Monsters" because it contains a gallery featuring 62 grotesque statues depicting animals, monsters, imaginary creatures and human beings.



"Villa of Monsters" for its statues depicting grotesque animals, imaginary creatures and human beings. According to historic sources, Prince Gravina Alliata loved to play pranks on his guests, which included things like letting them sit on a chair with nails sticking out or sawing parts of the chair's legs. Tradition has it that the idea of building a gallery of grotesque statues stemmed from the prince's readings of the works of ancient Greek historian Diodorus Siculus, who speculated that the sun rays' power could create monstrous creatures out of the mud of river Nile.

On the palace main façade, there is a magnificent double marble staircase. Inside, mythological frescoes scenes of the "Labors of Hercules" decorate the ceiling of the adjoining dancing hall that is called "Sala degli Specchi" (Hall of Mirrors), whose mirrors create incredible visual effects of multiplied images. The hall has also precious colored glass windows and an inlaid 18th century Sicilian marble floor. The palace complex also hosts a small chapel.

In 1885, Palermo family Castronovo bought this beautiful villa and turned into a museum which still gives modern visitors the chance to admire one of the masterpieces of Sicily's Baroque architecture.

Bagheria is also the birthplace of Sicilian social realist painter Renato Guttuso, whose works are permanently displayed at Villa Cattolica, another magnificent mansion which houses Museo Guttuso (# 9 Via Consolare- phone: 091-943902).

Villa Palagonia is located in # 3 Piazza Garibaldi. Opening Hours: daily from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 to 7 p.m. Admission is € 4. For more information, directions and tickets call 091-932088.

# Kartodromo

# Rigattiere

## Paul Simon Concert in Taormina



Four years after his unforgettable concert with Art Garfunkel at Rome's Colosseum, which drew over 500,000 spectators, legendary songwriter Paul Simon returns to perform in Italy at the breathtaking Taormina Greek Theatre on Friday, August 1 at 9:30 p.m. For more information and tickets, visit [www.ctbox.it](http://www.ctbox.it)



Do you have a passion for writing or looking for a little experience in journalism? The Signature is seeking volunteers to help cover base wide events as well as feature stories. If this sounds like an opportunity for you please call the Public Affairs Office at 624-5440.

## Etnapolis

## Roman Villa Closure



Photo by Lt J.g. Matt Knight

The enchanting Roman "Villa del Casale," a masterpiece of Roman art and architecture that is located near Piazza Armerina, will be closed to the public from November 2 through February 28, 2009 to complete architectural renovations and mosaics' restoration. Sicily' Regional state officials said renovation is part of a plan, which began earlier this year, to invest €18 million for a major redevelopment of one of the most beautiful Roman villas in southern Italy which was added to UNESCO's World heritage list in 1997.

## Tuna Fish Festival



Tomorrow, July 26, the enchanting fishermen's village of Portopalo (Siracusa province), which was an Allied troops landing site during WW2 "Operation Husky" in 1943, will host a tuna fish and swordfish festival which celebrates the local fishing industry. The festival will begin at 8 p.m. in piazza Terrazza dei Due Mari. For more information about this mouthwatering event call the festival organizers ("San Francesco di Paola" Fishermen Association) at 0931-842058 or send an email to [info@assopescaportopalo.it](mailto:info@assopescaportopalo.it)

## Stampa

# A Stone's

THE HUB OF THE MED IS ALSO

# Naro, A Hidden Gem



Article and photos by  
**Rebekah Jacobs**  
Signature Volunteer

Some experiences in Sicily are well known and well loved-like shopping for fruits and veggies in the Catania market or devouring gelato in Motta. But others are hidden, like secret treasures. After visiting with some local Italians, we discovered a new gem on the Sicilian map: Naro.

Naro is the perfect stop on the way to Agrigento's Valle Dei Templi (Valley of the Temples). It's a medieval town whose thirteenth and fourteenth-century buildings warrant a look for their beauty and importance. This town has successfully preserved its magnificent Baroque legacy yet remains a secret from most American tourists.

The road climbs 17km up, and the sweeping panoramic views down to the coast are remarkable. In fact,

(Above) The sweeping views of Naro offer a beautiful sight for all to admire. (Below) The impressive Castello Chiaramonte is a must-see. (Bottom) One must climb many stairs to see the gorgeous castle.



## Pietro



# ...e's Throw

## ...ED IS ALSO THE HUB FOR TRAVEL

King Federico of Swabia named it "fulgentissima" because of its splendor and brightness. Because of Naro's strategic position, it is one of the highest towns in the Agrigento area.

Naro is a big agricultural center and produces grapes, wheat, olives, citrus fruits and almonds. One can enjoy these treats at the different fairs in Naro, especially at their famous Black Saint, or Santo Nero, festival honoring their patron saint in June.

While in Naro, stroll down Via Dante and enjoy delicious pasta and fresh bread for lunch. One can also admire the many magnificent monuments up and down this main street. The Chiesa del SS. Salvatore serves as a great example of Baroque architecture. The Church of the Saviour, stands on Via Cavour with its fine facade. The Jesuits built The Mother Church in the 17th century. Although one cannot enter it, it is a beautiful site to see. The Palazzo Municipale (Municipality) houses the Bibliotheca and a small museum with local archeological findings. One can also marvel at the decorated façades and the former Convent of Friars

Minor with a charming cloister.

The Santuario di S. Calogero is one of the most ancient sanctuaries of all of Sicily and maintains Santo Nero's crypt. The church was erected in the 16th century and significantly renovated in the Baroque age. Every June 18th, men and women carry the statue through town shouting and praising the saint in jubilation.

After climbing many stairs to get there, one will not be disappointed when they reach the Castello Chiaramonte. This impressive castle was built in 1330 over earlier Norman fortifications. Inside the castle, there are incredible examples of the clothes the middle class women wore in the town. These elegant and intricate dresses are in perfect condition and have been donated for all to see. There's even a tribute to a woman who perished when her dress caught fire, and she could not remove it in time.

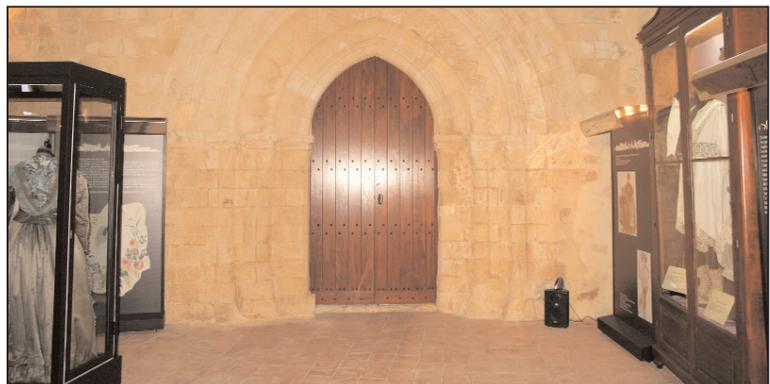
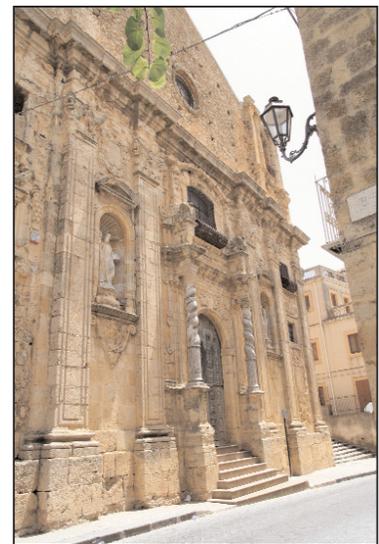
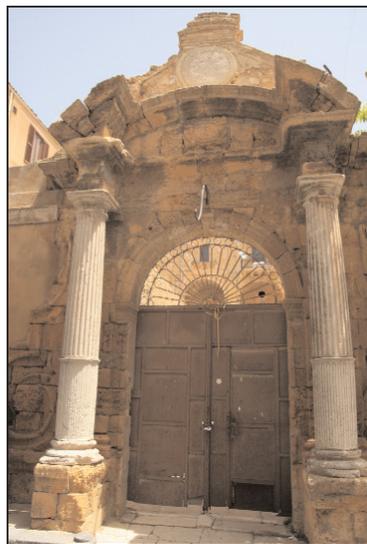
Perhaps the most wonderful characteristic of Naro is the small town Sicilian hospitality one will find. The gracious people will be happy to point the way as you find these sites.



(Above) The Black Saint is honored in Naro. (Below) There are great examples of Baroque architecture in this Sicilian town. (Bottom) Intricate dresses from middle class women are in perfect condition inside the castle.



## Belmontino



# Ristorante Bella Etna

**Friday**  
25

Lunch: New England Clam Chowder, Lemon Pepper Catfish, Pork Chop w/ Mushroom Gravy, Potatoes garlic Roasted, Seasoned Asparagus, Creole Green Beans, Lemon Cookies, Carrot Cake.  
Speed line: Grilled Cheeseburger/Hamburger, French Fried Potatoes, Baked Beans.  
Dinner: Cream Of Mushroom Soup, Double Decker Beef & Turkey Sandwich, Beef Stir Fry, Pork Fried Rice, Oven Potatoes, Whole Corn, Stir Fry Vegetables, Lemon Cookies, Carrot Cake.

**Saturday**  
26

Lunch: Vegetable Beef Soup, Baked Tuna & Noodles, Chicken Nuggets, Garlic Roasted Potatoes Wedges, Mixed Vegetables, Hot Beets, Sweet & Sour Sauce, Chocolate Drop Cookies, Apple Crisp.  
Dinner: Manhattan Clam Chowder, Beef & Corn Pie, Jamaican Chicken, Steamed Rice, Steamed Okra, Stewed Tomatoes, Chocolate Drop Cookies, Apple Crisp.

**Sunday**  
27

Brunch: Breakfast items, Bean & Bacon Soup, Reuben Sandwiches, Rosemary Potatoes Wedges, Steamed Brussels Sprout, Hermits, Yellow Cake w/ Icing.  
Dinner: Split Pea Soup, Pasta Alla Sicilian, Jaeger schnitzel, Rice Pilaf, Steamed Cauliflower, Seasoned Succotash, Garlic Bread, Hermits, Yellow Cake w/ Icing.

**Monday**  
28

Lunch: Beef Noodle Soup, Baked Fish Scandia, Penne Boscalola, Parsley Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Seasoned Spinach, Tartar Sauce, Yellow Cake w/ Frosting, Chocolate Cream Pudding.  
Speed line: Sub Sandwich, Pasta Sicilian.  
Dinner: Cream of Potato Soup, Country Fried Steak, Baked Tandoori Chicken, Hopping John, Collard greens, Lyonnaise Wax Beans, Corn Bread, Garlic Bread, Yellow Cake w/ Frosting, Chocolate Cream Pudding.

**Tuesday**  
29

Lunch: Arroz Caldo Soup, Chicken Adobo, Beef Kare-Kare(Beef Stew), Steamed Rice, Cut Green Beans, Steamed Carrots, Dinner Roll, Yellow Cake w/ Icing, Chocolate Chip Cookies.  
Speed line: Chicken Patties Sandwich, Onion Rings, Pasta Primavera.  
Dinner: Manhattan Clam Chowder, Rosemary Turkey Roast w/ Gravy, Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Buttered Noodles, Seasoned Green Beans, Harvard Beets, Yellow Cake w/ Icing, Chocolate Chip Cookies.

**Wednesday**  
30

Lunch: Corn Chowder Soup, Pineapple Chicken, Vegetarian Spaghetti, Scalloped Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Steamed Mixed Vegetable, Seasoned Spinach, Sweet Potato Pie, Shortbread Cookies.  
Speed line: Grilled Cheese/Hamburger, Baked Beans, French fried Potatoes.  
Dinner: Shrimp Gumbo Soup, Mexican Pepper Steak, Mumbo Roast Pork, Steamed Rice, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Vegetable Stir Fry, Pineapple Green Pepper, Sweet Potato Pie, Shortbread Cookies.

**Thursday**  
31

\*Lunch: Mulligatwny Soup, Turkey Pot Pie, Meat Loaf, Brown Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Rice, Seasoned Peas & Carrots, Steamed Cauliflower, White Cake w/ Icing, Fruit Nuts Bar.  
\*Speed line: Baked Potatoes, Bacon Bits, Sauteed Mushroom, Sour Cream, Shredder Cheese, Assorted Pizza.  
\*Dinner: Beef Noodle Soup, Shrimp Alfredo, Baked Ham Slices, Garlic Cheese Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Stewed Tomatoes, White Cake w/ Icing, Fruit Nuts Bar.

The Sigonella Galley is open from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. for breakfast, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for lunch and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for dinner. The galley is located on NAS II. This menu is subject to change without notice.

## Chiechio

**Protestant Women of the Chapel**  
Bible Study  
Summer Program  
**ALL WOMEN WELCOME!**  
Tuesday: 9:00-11:00 am  
June 24-July 29  
Nas 1 Chapel  
Free childcare ages 0-12 (crafts and games for school age kids) For more info [www.pwocsig.com](http://www.pwocsig.com)  
<<http://www.pwocsig.com>> or

# V e c c h i a Military cascina

## Casablanca

# MWR CORNER

## Midtown 2 Theaters

**Movies in the Park** - Mineo Ball Field  
July 26 at 8:30 p.m.

The Incredibles (PG) and Stripes (R)  
Bring your blankets and chairs and join us for an outdoor theater adventure on the Mineo field. Concessions will be available for sale.

### Matinees at the Movies

June 13 -August 22

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Reduced admission: Adults: \$2, Children (6-12): \$1, Children (5 & under): Free

## SpareTime Bowling Center

**Colorama Glow-in-the-Dark Bowling**

Saturday nights at 8 p.m., lane reservations begin at 7 p.m.

## Jox Pub

Latin Quarters: July 26  
9 p.m. - 3 a.m.

## Take 5

U-Pick Tournament: July 29

## ITT Gear-n-Go

Summer Beach Shuttle

\$15 + bring euro for fees or pack a cooler  
Carini Castle & Seafood Restaurant at

## Sferracavallo

\$50, includes lunch

Rocca de Cefalù

\$25 + bring euro for lunch or pack a cooler  
Agrigento: Valley of the Temples & Beach

\$34; includes entrance fees + bring euro for food  
Taormina & Limoncello Factory

\$26 + bring euro for food and fees  
Catania and Outdoor Bellini Concerts

The Bellini Opera House is organizing "The Free Classic Summer Concert" in the Main Square Vincenzo Bellini, just in front of the Opera house. The admission is free and the concerts and operas will start at 9 p.m. ITT will be offering transportation to the following three Summer Concerts. There will be enough time for having dinner in Catania.

Overtures and Chores of Operetta

\$15

## Liberty

Catania Market:

Pantalica Hike and Swim:

Hangin' Out at the Beach:

## Dinner in Taormina:

## Sports

Youth Sports Soccer Registration  
August 1 -August 30

Register at Fit District  
Ages groups: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-13  
\$35 registration fee

### Youth Splash-n-Dash

August 2 at Splashers Pool

Sign-ups start at 8:30 a.m.

Race begins at 9 a.m.

Pre-register at Fit District

## Fitness

**Tiny Tots Fitness:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Kids Power Hour:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 - 11 a.m. Ages 5 - 9

**Tweens Power Hour:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. - noon

This instructor lead fun filled hour introduces both cardio and strength training for preteens. Must pre-register and parent waiver required.

**Parent's Spin:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 - 10:45 a.m.

Put the kids in the Kid's Power Hour and ride your way to Freedom. This 45-minute class gives parents a break and a workout!

**Teens Strength Training:** Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - noon

**Teen Rock Climbing:** Mondays from 5 - 8 p.m. Ages 13 & up

JULY 25 - AUGUST 1

## MIDTOWN MOVIE THEATER

MOVIE HOTLINE: 624-4248

### SCHEDULE

### MOVIE DESCRIPTIONS

#### Friday, July 25

1:00pm Kung Fu Panda PG 92 min.  
3:00pm You Don't Mess With The Zohan PG-13 120 min.  
4:30pm The Dark Knight PG-13 152 min.  
5:30pm Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull PG-13 124 min.  
7:30pm Last King Of Scotland R 123 min.  
8:00pm Wanted R 110 min.  
9:30pm The Strangers R 85 min.

#### Saturday, July 26

2:00pm Pooh's Heffalump Movie G 68 min.  
2:30pm Wall-E G 98 min.  
4:30pm Hancock PG-13 92 min.  
5:00pm What Happens in Vegas PG-13 99 min.  
7:30pm The Dark Knight PG-13 152 min.  
8:00pm Wanted R 110 min.  
9:30pm Movie in the Park - Mineo

#### Sunday, July 27

2:00pm Kung Fu Panda PG 92 min.  
2:30pm Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull PG-13 124 min.  
4:30pm You Don't Mess With The Zohan PG-13 120 min.  
5:00pm The Dark Knight PG-13 152 min.  
7:00pm Sex and The City R 145 min.

#### Monday, July 28

1:00pm Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian PG 144 min.  
3:00pm Speed Racer PG 135 min.  
5:00pm Kung Fu Panda PG 92 min.  
5:30pm Hancock PG-13 92 min.  
7:30pm The Strangers R 85 min.  
8:00pm What Happens in Vegas PG-13 99 min.

#### Tuesday, July 29

5:00pm Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull PG-13 124 min.  
5:30pm Wall-E G 98 min.  
7:30pm The Dark Knight PG-13 152 min.  
8:00pm Sex and The City R 145 min.

#### Wednesday, July 30

1:00pm Kung Fu Panda PG 92 min.  
3:00pm Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian PG 144 min.  
5:00pm Wanted R 110 min.  
5:30pm What Happens in Vegas PG-13 99 min.  
7:30pm Hancock PG-13 92 min.  
8:00pm You Don't Mess With The Zohan PG-13 120 min.

#### Thursday, July 31

3:00pm Wall-E G 98 min.  
5:00pm Speed Racer PG 135 min.  
5:30pm Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull PG-13 124 min.  
7:30pm THROWBACK THURSDAY  
FREE ADMISSION  
The Contract R 96 min.  
8:00pm The Dark Knight PG-13 152 min.

#### Hancock (PG-13)

Unpopular superhero Hancock saves the life of a PR executive who attempts to salvage his public image.

#### Speed Racer (PG)

Born to race cars, Speed Racer is aggressive, instinctive and, most of all, fearless. His only real competition is the memory of the brother he idolized - the legendary Rex Racer, whose death in a race has left behind a legacy that Speed is driven to fulfill. Speed is loyal to the family racing business, led by his father, Pops Racer, the designer of Speed's thundering Mach 5. When Speed turns down a lucrative and tempting offer from Royalton Industries, he not only infuriates the company's maniacal owner but uncovers a terrible secret - some of the biggest races are being fixed by a handful of ruthless moguls who manipulate the top drivers to boost profits. If Speed won't drive for Royalton, Royalton will see to it that the Mach 5 never crosses another finish line. The only way for Speed to save his family's business and the sport he loves is to beat Royalton at his own game.

#### Kung Fu Panda (PG)

When threatened by a gang of snow leopards, the jungle animals call upon an inept panda to become a kung fu master and save the Valley of Peace.

#### The Happening (R)

A family is on the run from an inexplicable and unstoppable event that threatens not only humankind—but the most basic human instinct of them all: survival.

#### Indiana Jones And The Kingdom Of The Crystal Skull (PG-13)

In 1957, Indiana Jones is thrust back in action, venturing into the jungles of South America in a race against Soviet agents to find the mystical Crystal Skull.

#### The Dark Knight (PG-13)

The Caped Crusader returns, protecting Gotham City from the mad criminal mastermind, The Joker.

#### Sex And The City (R)

The continuing adventures of Carrie, Samantha, Charlotte and Miranda as they live their lives in

Manhattan four years after the series ended.

#### Wanted (R)

25-year-old Wes was the most disaffected, cubedwelling drone the planet had ever known. His boss chewed him out hourly, his girlfriend ignored him routinely and his life plodded on interminably. Everyone was certain this disengaged slacker would amount to nothing. There was little else for Wes to do but wile away the days and die in his slow, clock-punching rut. Until he met a woman named Fox. After his estranged father is murdered, the deadly sexy Fox recruits Wes into the Fraternity, a secret society that trains Wes to avenge his dad's death by unlocking his dormant powers. As she teaches him how to develop lightning-quick reflexes and phenomenal agility, Wes discovers this team lives by an ancient, unbreakable code: carry out the death orders given by fate itself.

#### Wall-E (G)

What if mankind had to leave Earth, and somebody forgot to turn the last robot off? Wall-E, spends every day doing what he was made for. But soon, he will discover what he was meant for, as he adventures across the galaxy chasing his dream.

#### Iron Man (PG-13)

Tony Stark is a billionaire industrialist and genius inventor who is kidnapped and forced to build a devastating weapon. Instead, using his intelligence and ingenuity, Tony builds a high-tech suit of armor and escapes captivity. When he uncovers a nefarious plot with global implications, he dons his powerful armor and vows to protect the world as Iron Man.

#### The Strangers (R)

Three mysterious strangers terrorize a young couple in a remote house after they return from a wedding.

#### SHOWING FRIDAY AUGUST 1

1:00pm Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian PG 144 min.  
3:00pm You Don't Mess With The Zohan PG-13 120 min.  
5:00pm Hancock PG-13 92 min.  
5:30pm The Strangers R 85 min.  
7:30pm The Happening R 90 min.  
8:00pm Sex and The City R 145 min.  
9:30pm Incredible Hulk PG-13 114 min.

# Take a Break at Take 5

Article and photo by  
MC1 Brian Goyak  
Fleet Public Affairs Center  
Detachment Sigonella

To find a place to get out of the July heat and relax you can't go wrong with Take 5.

Take 5 Adult Recreation Center and the Liberty program are two activities under the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) umbrella. Take 5 is for authorized patrons of MWR who are over the age of 18. This includes dependants and retired personnel as well.

The Liberty program is for single and unaccompanied enlisted military and is geared toward the 18 to 25 year old population. This doesn't mean that higher ranking and married people are excluded from using the program but that E-5 and below get preference.

"I'm with VRC-62, a C-130 squadron from NAS Brunswick. We're over here on detachment quite often and Take 5 gives us an opportunity to come in and relax, use the internet, watch movies and get out of our rooms and basically hang out," said Chief Aviation (AW/NAC) Christopher George. "Take 5 has come a long way since I first came here about 12 years ago. I enjoy coming down here I spend most of my off time down here studying for my new crew position and Take 5 provides that outlet for me."

Liberty Program Coordinator



Gunner's Mate Seaman Andres Delossantos plays Ironman on the Nintendo Wii while relaxing at the Take 5 adult recreation facility.

Elizabeth Santiago describes Take 5 as one stop shopping for all your recreation needs. The facility has computers with internet access, WiFi for patrons with a laptop and movies. You can sit back in one of the many recliners and catch on of the 500 movies provided by the Navy Motion Picture Service.

"To make things a bit more fun we hold events and competitions every Tuesday that we give out pizza and a prize for," Santiago said. "We try to alternate the competitions between video games on the Wii, Xbox 360 and the Playstation 3 and classic board games like Risk or battleship."

MWR patrons can also sign up for Liberty and ITT trips and buy golf

tickets at the Take 5 facility.

The Liberty Program housed in the Take 5 building arranges two or three day long trips during the week around Sicily and at least one extended trip per month. The extended trips are normally off the island to another part of Italy such as Rome, Florence or Venice. The program also arranges trips to other cities through out Europe like Paris, Dublin and London.

"Because Liberty trips are more for the 18 - 25 year old group we try to keep the cost low by staying in hostels and taking the cheapest transportation. For trips around Sicily the itinerary will be very relaxed and flexible according to the group participating in the event.

**EDIS continued from page 2**

school, those who provide child-related-services or the parents themselves can refer a child to EDIS.

**Getting To Know You**

After a referral, we will contact you to get to know you and your child and complete a developmental screening if desired. If results of the screening suggest potential need for intervention, a full comprehensive evaluation will take place with parental involvement. The EDIS team will provide feedback to the family regarding outcomes of the evaluation. If a child is found eligible for services, the EDIS team, in conjunction with the parents, will devise a detailed, individualized intervention plan. (Frequency and types of services will be determined at that time.)

**Other Important Details**

Early Intervention is a parent-driven program; we are here to assist you. Our services will be of no monetary cost to you. Our services can be delivered at home or at the daycare home or center.

**How to Find Us**

You can call us at 624-4536 or stop by. Walk-ins are always welcomed!

**CLAIM continued from page 2**

While, all claims for losses are processed and adjudicated by the Personnel Claims Unit in Norfolk, Virginia, Region Legal Service Office Detachment Sigonella can provide prospective claimants with the necessary forms and can assist claimants in correctly completing their claims package. PCA claims packages are also available electronically at Navy Knowledge Online (NKO), Navy One Source, and the Office of the Judge Advocate General (OJAG) website.

Additionally, you can directly contact the PCA Claims Unit Norfolk, VA by calling the toll free PCA telephone "Help Line" at 1-888-897-8217 between the hours of 0730 to 1900 hours, Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

Once your claim package is ready, you need to mail it to the following address:

PCA Claims Unit Norfolk  
9053 First Street, Suite 102

Norfolk, VA 23511-3605

You can also FAX your completed claim to 1-866-782-7297 or email it to: [norfolkclaims@navy.mil](mailto:norfolkclaims@navy.mil).

Make sure that you have completed all forms, including signatures, and provided the information required for the claims package before sending, faxing or scanning and emailing your claim.

Please, remember that the PCA Claims Unit must receive your claim package within two years from the date of your loss.

This is very important because this is a strict, statutory requirement that cannot be waived.

For any additional information you may need on claims, please visit the RLSO DET SIGONELLA Office, building #564, Monday to Friday (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM), except on Wednesdays (9:00 AM - 1:00 PM), or please feel free to contact our claims examiner, Ms. Barbara Perotti, at DSN 624-6327.

**PEOPLE continued from page 2**

the children and the people involved. He ends up losing the battle, but in the coming together of the students, it is very evident the influence that an individual can have on others.

Many of us are in some sort of management position. While I am not an expert in the subject, I have spent the majority of my years on this planet in the position of management. I even earned a B.S. in organizational management. Why do I tell you this? Because what I learned was that we who are in the position of leadership are not managing a program, or a mission or even an organization. Notice the title of my degree. This is somewhat misleading. We do not manage organizations. We manage people.

Often we who are in the position of leadership forget that we are dealing with real people. We forget to take into consideration the individual who we are tasking. We are so focused on the mission at hand that we forget that we are managing real people with real emotions, concerns, responses and tasks. As a leader, you have to remember that you are dealing with a real person as you seek to accomplish your mission.

One of my great hero's in leadership is the great General Robert E. Lee. He did many things right and I admire him for the care he had for those he led. He truly understood that he was dealing with the human mind, body, and soul as he managed and led others. He knew that even in war men were not to be seen as replaceable or

expendable. We too should not think this. People do matter. It is the understanding of each individual that you supervise that will help or hinder your mission. You have to know how to manage people and that in how you interact with them in all facets of the working relationship.

What kind of leader are you? How do you manage others? Do you focus on the mission and ignore the individual? If you do, then prepare to have a rough time in accomplishing the mission. Part of being a good leader is knowing that people really matter. You can't just say it you have to act upon it, model it and implement it into your leadership style. Know your people and know that you have a great influence on them as their leader. People matter.

# Days Inn

# Acquascivolo

O

# Oxidiana

# Mondo Animale

# Magnolia

# Housing CORNER

## Alternative Transportation Helps Environment

Article by   
Signature Volunteer

Between rising gas prices and global warming, people the world over are scrutinizing the way in which we travel. Whether you believe in global warming or not, there is no debate over the fact that we are in a transitional period in world history, the search for alternative fuels and the quest to reduce the human carbon foot print.

No matter your motivation, there are plenty of good reasons to look into alternative methods of transportation. One of these may be political, to reduce our nation's dependency upon foreign oil.

Economics may be another motivation, with new technologies emerging opportunities for economic growth may be opening up. On an individual level, many of us want to do our part to clean up the environment. All of us want to save money.

So what are we to do? We in the Sigonella community have a good variety of options. First, take a look at your current vehicle. Is there anything you could do to reduce fuel consump-

tion and mileage? Ensuring it is properly maintained and making sure the correct air pressure is in the tires will help. Adjusting your driving habits may be necessary as well, such as reducing the number of trips between bases.

You may be weighing the options of buying a new car. Purchasing a brand new car has many environmental pros and cons.

Manufacturing takes a lot of raw materials, energy for operating production lines and use of toxic chemicals. However, learning about not only the vehicle you are interested in, but the environmental efforts of the companies you will be supporting through a purchase, and the latest research on the technologies they use will lead you to make the best environmental choice. But your options don't end with your very own POV.

Carpooling, as we all know, is a great way to save gas and emissions. Unfortunately, it can be an inconvenience and many of us do not like to depend upon others to get from point A to point B.

Clear communication with your carpooling buddy is impor-

tant, as well as having a back up plan. Share the load by taking turns driving or working out a method to share the cost of gas. You can also look at the concept of carpooling as an opportunity to spend time with friends, make new ones, or to network.

The bus is a cost-free alternative to driving. Bus schedules are located at each stop, or you can pick up your own copy at the Fleet and Family Support Center. This is a vital asset to our community which could be used more frequently.

Although not for everyone, riding a motorcycle, or even a scooter is a great fuel saving alternative. Not sold on the idea? By riding a bike, one could knock out both the transportation issue and a little extra PT in one shot. These options have limitations, for example you won't be able to pack a week's worth of groceries on the back of a bike, but for the daily commute they are great.

Whichever method you choose, reducing fuel consumption is quickly becoming a necessity for many people, regardless of location. It is a good step in the right direction while we endure this transitional phase to alternative fuels.

**PLANNING** continued from page 5  
earlier than the mail date. Perhaps  
 might think about putting some  
of that Christmas money aside now.

By just putting \$25 to \$50 aside each  
payday starting now, will be that  
much less what you will owe in Jan.,  
if you owe at all.

Plan to spend and spend your  
plan. A financial plan is a great tool  
any time of the year.  
Looking into the future for the

holidays just seems like the intelli-  
gent thing to do. In fact, savings  
bonds for young family members are  
a great way to give presents year  
round.

Some of you might have used  
credit for your Christmas purchases.  
It's time to think clearly and look at  
the total cost of these cards. Look for  
the cards that offer a long interest-  
free period, which might take you  
right through Dec. and well into Jan.

If you go over this amount or  
time, then you will accrue interest on  
your purchases which can add up  
very quickly. In addition, be wary of  
those easy store cards. Many offer a  
very low introductory rate, or teaser  
rate, to attract you into buying with  
them. After that short introductory  
period, the interest rates may double

or even triple. Be sure to read the  
fine print and avoid those impulse  
purchases.

Follow Santa's lead. He is mak-  
ing those toys now for next year!  
Shouldn't you plan on putting the  
money aside to pay for those toys that  
Santa doesn't bring?

Living overseas means that we  
are able to purchase some very  
unique items for our family and our  
friends and now is the time to begin.  
If you need help developing a spend-  
ing plan, talk to your Command  
Financial Specialist (CFS), the finan-  
cial educators at the Fleet and Family  
Service Center or your bank or credit  
union. Each of them is there to help  
you. So start using them and have a  
great holiday this year and every  
year.

## Stampa

## Strike

## Palermo

# 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](mailto:THESIG@NASSIG.SICILY.NAVY.MIL)



Loaded. A/C, 6 Disc CD, dual power Helbar risers, Givi Wingrack II triple mulching blade! \$100 OBO. Great

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

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

The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual , such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. AFRTS/AFN decoders must be sold only to another authorized individual: active duty or retired U.S. military, DoD direct-hire employees, and their spouse. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Stampa Generale @ 081-568-7884.

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l'est

Medusa Volcano

Ghebel Volcano

Class

# Stampa