

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

November 23, 2022

Team Naples, this is my last Captain's Corner before the Thanksgiving holiday. For everyone celebrating Thanksgiving this year, I hope that you have a wonderful time with your family and friends. The holiday season can be difficult for those who are far away from home and family, so please make sure you are watching out for your shipmates. If you are looking for something to do, there are many festive MWR events during this time of year. Don't hesitate to get involved or take an adventure. If you feel like you need additional help for yourself or someone you know, please reach out to our Command Religious Ministries department or to Fleet and Family.

For Thanksgiving, I want to remind all of our single and unaccompanied Sailors and Service Members staying in the local area that we are hosting a free Thanksgiving meal for you. Come join us at O'Rhys Pub in the Bowling Alley Complex on Support Site at 1130 on Thursday Nov. 24. There will also be a free drawing to win either a PS5, a \$250 NEX gift card, or \$150 NEX gift card. If you find yourself celebrating Thanksgiving alone this year, I encourage you to come and celebrate it with your peers here in Naples. I look forward to seeing you there.

Also, in the spirit of Thanksgiving, I want to thank everyone who has participated in the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) survey so far. Your contributions will help communicate our monetary needs to upper level leadership. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to complete the survey. It is open to all Service members (or spouses) at <https://www.travel.dod.mil/italy/>. I strongly encourage anyone who has been at their installation for at least two months or more to participate. This survey gives vital data to evaluate COLA amounts in relation to the expenditure our community members are paying. The survey will be up for the remainder this month, so please submit your inputs quickly. We will have more information on the OHA survey coming up as well.

The fun does not stop after Thanksgiving, nor does the spirit of giving and being thankful. I would like to welcome our community to participate in Giving Tuesday with the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Giving Tuesday is a global day of charity celebrated on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year, Giving Tuesday falls on Tuesday, Nov. 29. Historically, federal employees have turned this day into the biggest donation day of the annual campaign, and we hope to see the same in 2022! For more information, visit [this website](#).

With Christmas coming up, I know that a substantial amount of gift-giving is around the corner with packages coming back and forth between our base and your loved ones back home. First, ensure that any packages you are sending home are not prohibited items. You can see details for that here: [International Shipping Restrictions - What You Can Mail Internationally | USPS](#). Also, we have packing tips and an overview of our region's mailing service here: <https://youtu.be/61URFM2JVGo>. Second, ensure that any packages you send home have the appropriate customs declaration forms and that you follow all necessary steps which can be located here: [U.S. Customs Forms | USPS](#). Please keep in mind that due to the volume of shipments during the holidays there is the possibility for delays. To ensure any of your first class or priority packages have the best chance of arriving for the holidays please ship them before these following dates:

NSA Naples (CAPO/Support Site) – 06 Dec.

NSA Gaeta – 06 Dec.

Also, with the holidays comes adjustments to our mail services. Post office hours will be adjusted from Nov. 24 – Jan. 2. You can refer to our prior post yesterday for expanded details but keep in mind that over this holiday weekend (Nov. 24- 27) all post offices and mail rooms will be closed. Volunteers are also being requested starting Nov. 29. Community members 16 and up are eligible to volunteer and members under 16 just require parental consent to apply. Again, for more details, please refer to our earlier post today for volunteer information and sign-up forms.

Finally, as we continue through this holiday weekend, I want you to be aware of some of our other upcoming events in December. The first will be held directly after our Thanksgiving

weekend on Dec. 1st with our Holiday Village and Tree Lighting in the Support Site Village Forum Courtyard from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. I encourage everyone to attend, the Holiday Village will open at 4:00 p.m. for photos with Santa, train rides, fireworks, and a Christmas Market with music from Cuan Durkin and Edwin McCain. The Tree Lighting will occur at 6:00 p.m. marking the commencement of our December holiday season.

To stay informed about other events going on in the community, check out our PAO Notes at <https://cnreurafcnt.cnic.navy.mil/Installations/NSA-Naples/News/>.