

March 8, 2023

Team Naples,

Happy International Women's Day (IWD)! IWD is a global celebration that began in 1911 to bring attention to women equality. The theme of IWD for 2023 is "#EmbraceEquity". The theme is a call to action to focuses on the idea that, "true inclusion and belonging requires equitable action," Throughout history, many women have fought against numerous barriers in order to receive the same recognition and inclusion as their male colleagues. While we continue to celebrate Women's History Month, International Women's Day gives us the opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made globally through advocating for change and equality. We all have the responsibility to ensure that everyone, despite gender, race, or any other factor, will have an equal voice, standing and opportunity given to them. Together, we can #EmbraceEquity.

Next, I want to remind everyone that daylight saving time will begin in the United States this weekend. However, here in Italy and most of Europe, daylight saving time starts on March 27. For 2 weeks, we will be an hour closer to most of the United States. On March 26, at 2:00 a.m, we will return to the normal time difference as Italy springs forward an hour. Although we will lose an hour, the change will ultimately give us more time to enjoy the daylight hours here in Naples.

As Spring Break approaches, I am sure you are looking for things to do. While searching for family fun, keep Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) in mind. Trips to Capri, a mozzarella farm, pizza making classes and more are occurring throughout the week of Spring Break. There are even trips and events planned on some DONSA weekends that can help take the pressure of planning off of your shoulders. Visit navymwrnaples.com to plan your next day of fun!

Lastly, as a reminder, the Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) Utility Expenses Survey is still open to all active duty service members benefiting from OHA, who are assigned to NSA Naples and partnering bases. The DOD is continuously working to meet the financial needs of our overseas military community. We urge all individuals living out in town to participate in the survey so that we can help the DOD, help us. Last year, the survey responses led to a 22% increase in the utility allowance for our service members. The survey closes on March 31. I encourage all eligible participants to provide feedback so effective adjustments can be considered to better reflect your housing expenses. To complete the survey, visit: <u>https://www.travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Overseas-Housing-Allowance/OHA-Data-Collection-Surveys/</u>.

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