

6.2 Magnitude Italy Earthquake Kills 247

By MARGAUX WINTER

In the middle of the night of Aug. 24, a massive earthquake hit central Italy four km east of Norcia, Italy. At its maximum, the earthquake hit levels of 6.2 on the Richter scale.

Many videos have surfaced on the internet; small children being pulled from the rubble

of death tragically caused by the quake, over 1000 people have been displaced, either due to their homes collapsing, or the mandatory evacuation in place for a few days after the earthquake.

Over 100 miles away in Rome, the aftershocks were strong. The shakes lasted for about 30 seconds, and although

13th century clock tower now stands frozen at 3:36 am, the exact time the earthquake hit.

Amatrice is located in the mountains and is often a cool getaway for travelers during the heat of summer.

"Before and After" photos show every twisting road, previously home to houses and shops now covered with rubble.

stamp if honor of this dish.

Other remote mountain villages suffered greatly from the earthquake, and their windy roads have been causing issues both for those vehicles trying to access broken buildings, and ways in which to extract buried people. Unsurprisingly, both the Pope and local bishops have been calling for

the victims.

Over the past few years, Italy has suffered many earthquakes, including two in 2012 and one in 2009.

The internet has taken particular notice of the large numbers of service dogs who have saved hundreds of people.

One black Labrador in particular saved an eight-year-



Devastation in Italy displaces over 1000 people from their homes.

ALBERTO PIZOLLI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES: CNN

by firefighters, and other people prompted to take action by this monstrosity. The hard to reach places cause major issues during rescue attempts, as hundreds of years old brick buildings crumbled on top of people.

In addition to the hundreds

terrifying left little to no harm.

However, the epicenter of the quake; Amatrice, Accumoli and Arquata del Tronto are completely devastated. The mayor of Amatrice released a statement saying Amatrice "is no more." Amatrice used to be a town of 2,000, the town's

One of Amatrice's tourist attractions is the "Festival of the Spaghetti all'Amatriciana," usually occurring Aug. 27th and 28th. This festival celebrating Amatrice's special recipe for pasta is a huge boost for Amatrice's economy. In 2008, Italy even launched a

prayers for all those affected. As Italy is a predominantly Catholic country, times such as these bring people together in religious settings.

Pope Francis skipped the catechism lesson during his on the 31st and led pilgrims at St. Peter's Square in praying for

old girl, and then when on to meet both Pope Francis and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. As Italy pieces itself together after this tragedy, the country is asking for blood donations from locals and hopes to build more earthquake resistant buildings in the future.

Reflections on Junior Adjustment

By TIFFANY PREDA

Adjustment to a new way of living plays a major part in the lives of a incoming juniors who are filled with sporadic thoughts of what should be done next.

The common things running through the minds of new juniors involve academic planning, stress, and campus activities. Questions and statements that roam the halls include: "I hope I'll be able to do this." "Why do I have so much to do?" and "When's the next party?"

Although so many different thoughts circulate campus, coming to NCSSM is considered the opportunity a lifetime to many of the juniors.

From the start, plenty of juniors worry about whether or not they will assimilate into the crowd. They wonder if they will end up with homesickness, or even why they are here.

The truth is that all of these things result in both excitement and nervousness in every situation, varying with each junior on campus.



MICHAEL CARTER

Juniors choose treats at the 2016 Ice Cream Social.

All of the juniors are in the same boat at the start of this school year. Being a newbie in a strange environment can be nerve racking, but many juniors are feeling the same way about the stress of the work load, the anticipation of the hall activities, and the want of numerous lifelong friends.

Also, the hundreds of NCSSM students here are

here for a reason, and every individual has arrived with talents and interests, which they can use to find a close group of like-minded individuals.

NCSSM's campus has countless clubs and interest groups that will let juniors express themselves and get involved in whatever they love to do.

Stephanie Yao, a current

junior, recommended to "go to as many campus events and talk to as many people as possible."

This task is undoubtedly possible since the weeks and weekends are filled with never-ending opportunities for students to take part in campus activities, including Happy Half which is a fan favorite for socializing.

Felice Policastro, a junior, stated, "My transition was really smooth. I went to all of the social events and met so many new people. Some people struggled, but that may have been based on different personalities."

Also, each member of faculty is known to be very welcoming and to be truly looking out for every student's best interests. They are always there to offer advice if the students feel the need for it.

Having such an incredible support team of adults and other students, as well as forming healthy relationships, have helped make the adjustment for juniors at least a little bit easier.

Time management is a major factor in helping juniors focus on what is in front of them without the inconvenience of too many distractions.

Junior Nina Yao says that "students are looking for a bit more organization throughout the year, something that would make time management a little less stressful."

Not focusing on stress of adjusting, and using time wisely allows juniors to concentrate more on what they want and need to do over the next couple of years at NCSSM in order to prepare for their future.

Many of the juniors have already heard the wakeup call saying that their newfound independence from their family also means that it's time to start taking care of themselves.

And so far, some of the juniors have noticed that living through that fact can be made easier by managing their own schedule, finding their own interests and opportunities and talking to any of the people they are now living with.