

HeraldPOST

Serving the communities in U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg

HP THURSDAY
April 23, 2009

Speed Read

YEAR OF THE NCO

Read about NCOs from the three communities in USAG Baden-Württemberg in the special four-page pullout section of the Herald Post.

BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

The 18th Engineer Brigade helped build a temporary float bridge on the Tigris River in Iraq. 3

SPRING BREAK PHOTOS

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CAR INSPECTIONS

The Pulaski Auto Skills center offered free spring car inspections to the Kaiserslautern community to ensure vehicles were prepared for spring and summer vacations. 6

TOPPER AWARDS

Heidelberg and Kaiserslautern community theaters brought home 12 awards at the IMCOM-Europe Tournament of Plays "Topper" Awards Show. 8

PRAYER BREAKFAST

Rev. Tom Holladay, assistant pastor at Saddleback Church in California, spoke at the Heidelberg community's National Prayer Breakfast Friday. 12

EARTH WEEK

Local students visited the solar park in Walldorf and the botanical gardens in Heidelberg in honor Earth Day, which was Wednesday. Check out the environmental quiz to win "green" prizes. 14-15

Defense Details

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

The top U.S. military officer called on service members to use Holocaust Remembrance Day observances this week as an opportunity to reflect on the responsibilities of life, reminding them that the decisions they make matter. Communities throughout the United States, Europe and Israel began commemorating the 44th Holocaust Remembrance Day Sunday, leading up to major observances around the world Tuesday.

Army news: www.army.mil
Defense news: www.defenselink.mil

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Family reunion



Sieg Heppner

Sgt. Amir Zandi Karimi is welcomed back by his spouse and daughter at Mannheim's Spinelli Barracks April 14. A small but exuberant crowd welcomed the 566th Postal Company, 28th Transportation Battalion, 18th Military Police Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command home from Afghanistan. The unit's 16 Soldiers deployed in February 2008 under the leadership of Capt. Charlea Allen, the platoon leader, and Sgt. 1st Class Dagmar Oliver, the platoon sergeant. All 16 Soldiers returned safely after a 15-month deployment. More photos are available online at www.flickr.com/heraldpost.

Libraries hook 'Big Fish' author

By Michael McNulty
EUROPEAN REGIONAL LIBRARY SUPPORT CENTER

Army Europe Libraries is resuming its "Conversations" literary discussion series in May with author and illustrator Daniel Wallace, best known for his 1998 novel "Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions," the basis for Tim Burton's 2003 film "Big Fish."

Wallace will visit eight garrison libraries across the region, offering creative-writing workshops, along with literary discussions see **BIG FISH** page 16

HEIDELBERG

Child Lights: Protect and celebrate

By Kristen Marquez
HERALD POST STAFF

Around 200 Heidelberg community members gathered at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion April 16 for Child Lights – an event designed to protect and celebrate children in recognition of Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

"We know that military families have unique challenges, and so we have a unique opportunity to provide support to them," said Michele Barber, Heidelberg Family Advocacy Program manager. "We have a tremendous amount of resources that I think sometimes we take for granted and forget are there. We want to make sure that folks know who those folks are, so they use those resources and refer families who may be having difficulties or struggling."



Kristen Marquez

Children from the Heidelberg community cheer for the military police during a military working dog demonstration April 16.

Barber said besides the informational and educational booths, the night was designed to simply be a fun night for families, where kids could get their faces painted or participate in a family craft together.

see **CHILD LIGHTS** page 16

COMMENTARY

USAG Kaiserslautern wants to know what you think about its services

By Emma Vinson
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

Do you have a great idea for how to improve a service in U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern?

If you live, work or play on USAG Kaiserslautern installations, you are a garrison customer, and your opinion matters.

The Customer Management Services program and Army Family Action Plan are designed to capture the voice of you, the customer, and incorporate it into the services improvement process.

Through quarterly focus groups, we've already started making changes local customers have suggested.

The Warrior Transition Unit focus group, held in December, brought up issues with pedestrian gate access at Kleber Kaserne, customer service at the Kleber clinic and Landstuhl

Regional Medical Center, and career development and training.

In response, the pedestrian gates at Kleber have regular access hours, the WTU leadership is working with health care facilities to increase awareness of customer service issues, and the WTU has hired a career counselor to assist warriors with career training.

In March, the family member focus group discussed flexible child care for family readiness group meetings, supervision on the school buses, and fitness classes at the Miesau Fitness Center. These issues are currently being worked by garrison agencies.

CMS is a new garrison program introduced to USAG Kaiserslautern in October. It captures your feedback in three ways: the Interactive Customer Evaluation system, the Community FIRST program and annual Customer Service Assessments.

The Community FIRST (Feedback,

Issues, Resolution, Solutions, Today) program is designed to identify and resolve installation level issues with garrison services.

Those of you who are familiar with the Army Family Action Plan will recognize the same process on a smaller scale in Community FIRST. The AFAP program director and I, as the CMS customer service officer, will collect issues from the community throughout the year.

We will work together to continue the quarterly focus groups in which different constituent groups (active duty, family members, reservists, retirees, civilian employees, etc.) meet to review those issues and discuss recommendations for resolution.

The issues will be presented in AFAP's "Title, Scope, Recommendation" format. A representative of the garrison command team will attend the out brief at the end of the focus

groups. Issues will then be distributed to the relevant agencies for resolution. Issues that are beyond the installation level will be submitted at the next AFAP conference for resolution through the AFAP process, which can work issues all the way up through the Department of the Army level.

"The partnership between Community FIRST and AFAP will continue to work to improve the standards of living for Soldiers, families and DoD civilian employees," said Olivia Gairy, AFAP program director. "Our ultimate goal is a better quality of life. We are thrilled and excited and look forward to the continued progress of improving our garrison."

For updates about these issues or to find out how to submit an issue or participate in a focus group, visit the new Customer Management Services Web page linked to www.kaiserslautern.army.mil.

What do you think the consequences of underage smoking should be?

Share your thoughts with USAG Heidelberg Commander Lt. Col. Robert White in the BNow virtual community by commenting on his "On-post living: Underage smoking" blog.



<http://myBNow.ning.com>

COMMENTARY

Consider circumstances before committing to a pet

Heidelberg Girl Scout Troop 732

Please remember that your pet is domesticated and does not know how to survive in the wild or on the streets. Dumping is not only cruel, but many times it's also a death sentence to the animal.

Even if an animal quickly develops "street smarts" – surviving cars, other wild animals and cruel people – it usually will not survive indefinitely. If the animal control people don't pick it up and eventually destroy it, it will probably die of disease or starvation, be eaten by predators, or die of heat-stroke or exposure to the frigid cold.

Animals that are abandoned and left to fend for themselves may become the target of angry people, whose property has been damaged by strays.

Dogs are pack animals and when left to run in groups, they may attack and kill livestock. We experienced it ourselves. Girl Scout Troop 732 went to Sardinia, Italy, last year, and we saw abandoned dogs everywhere. It looked as if they were starving. There were up to three abandoned dogs on every street.

Would you want your dog to live like that? Would you want to live like that? If you really don't want your dog, the least you can do for him is make sure he has a good home.

If faced with having to place a pet in a new home, there are some steps that can be taken to help a pet

owner increase the chances of finding a suitable home. Dumping the animal is not a humane solution to a pet that is an inconvenience.

Before bringing a pet into your home, determine if you are willing to commit to caring for your pet for its lifetime. Carefully consider if this pet will fit into your lifestyle even as an adult. If circumstances do not permit you to keep the animal, then find that pet the best possible home.

The main reason pets are dumped is that they are often used as Christmas presents. To prevent this, some pet shops let people reserve a dog over Christmas and buy it at the beginning of the New Year. Easter is another holiday when pets are given, often to small children who do not know how to take care of them. Please take your children to a "petting" zoo instead.

For more information, please visit our Troop Web site at www.gsusahd.org/Troop732. We will update it as we find more options to "dumping" so you don't need to leave your pet a stray.



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Bridge to the future

Pfc. Jack Hannah

Engineers from the Heidelberg-based 18th Engineer Brigade and units based at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, construct a float bridge across the Tigris River in Al Sharqat, Iraq, April 10. The bridge was needed since construction on the fixed bridge – which was destroyed by an improvised explosive device – was stalled because of the danger of the rising river.

18th Engineers build float bridge to temporarily replace fixed bridge destroyed by an IED

Staff Report

AL SHARQAT, Iraq – The Heidelberg-based 18th Engineer Brigade lended a helping hand to the Iraqi people after construction was stalled on a local fixed bridge previously destroyed by an improvised explosive device.

American engineers from the 18th and units based at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, constructed a float bridge across the Tigris River in Al Sharqat April 10.

“This is a great engineer mission,

bringing together engineers from across Multi National Division-North,” said Maj. Scott Preston, 18th Engineer Brigade chief of operations. “The 18th Engineer Brigade leads this coordinated effort to emplace this military float bridge at Al Sharqat while contractors finish repairing the fixed bridge.”

At this time of year, as rain continues to fall, the Tigris River rises daily, complicating already dangerous bridging operations, according to 18th Engineer officials. Float bridges, which can be constructed in as little as two

hours with the right resources, are a quick way to transport goods and people across rivers when fixed bridges are unavailable.

“These folks are doing what engineers do best,” said Col. Matthew H. Russell, 18th Engineer Brigade commander. “They are helping civilians, paving the road ahead for U.S. forces, and showing the Iraqi army how to be proficient in extremely technical operations.”

“The average Soldier wouldn’t think we’d need to build bridges in the desert. That is why the engineer is not the average Soldier. Engineers build things with care and dedication – things that are dependable, things that last after we’ve left.”

While constructing the float bridge

in Al Sharqat, the American engineers allowed the 4th Iraqi Army Regiment to view their tactics and techniques for bridging operations.

“Whether partnering with Iraqis, helping local communities, showing Coalition forces how to improve a devastated country, or building bridges metaphorical and physical, engineers are doing great things,” Russell said. “Things Iraqis, their families, the rest of the world can see, but most importantly things they can be proud of when a job is done and done well.”

The 18th Engineer Brigade left Heidelberg for a 15-month deployment in May.

After spending time in Tikrit and the Kirkuk Province, the unit moved to Mosul in February.

Disease affects rabbits on PHV

Staff Report

There has been a recent outbreak of myxomatosis in wild rabbits on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg, according to Directorate of Public Works officials.

Residents have no need to worry, as the disease cannot be transmitted to humans or domestic dogs and cats.

“People should not panic if they find a diseased or dead rabbit,” said Sabine Carlisle, DPW pest control specialist. “The virus is not transmittable to humans. A dead rabbit can be picked up and placed in the grey or black garbage containers. We advise everyone to use plastic gloves and heavy-duty plastic bags if they find one.”

Myxomatosis is a man-made virus that typically affects the European rabbit population (species *Oryctolagus*), and it is 90-99 percent lethal, ac-

ording to DPW officials. It is transmitted rabbit to rabbit by fleas, ticks and mosquitoes. Domestic rabbits can be affected, and pet owners should contact the local veterinarian if they have that concern.

“We ask all building and area coordinators, coaches, parents and installation coordinators to check around their buildings and areas and contact us if they find these rabbits,” said Richard Glass, DPW facilities engineer. “We have found them in basement window wells and basement doors but have not gotten to every location. If anyone finds these and is not comfortable with removing them, please contact our Service Order Desk as soon as possible, and we will arrange pick up.”

The DPW Service Order Desk can be reached at DSN 387-3310/3311/3312, civ. 06221-4380-3310 to request

pick up. during after-duty hours, contact the emergency number at 115.

“We do not know how long this virus will last nor can we predict the overall effectiveness of the virus spread,” Glass said. “If you see a rabbit wandering in circles, jumping into the fence, or just laying on its side, leave it be. Give us a call, and we’ll come get them.”

More information about myxomatosis can be found at www.peteducation.com.

Myxomatosis

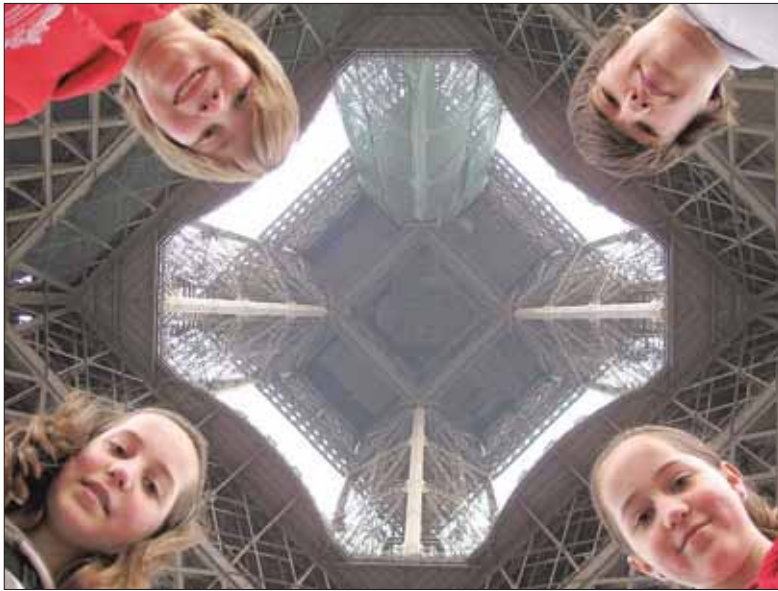
- ◆ Diseased rabbits have swollen eyes, wander in circles, run into fences or don’t move when you approach them.
- ◆ Individual dead rabbits can be placed in a plastic bag and placed in the black or grey “Restmüll” container.
- ◆ Do not attempt to “help” a diseased rabbit. LEAVE IT ALONE.
- ◆ If you suspect your pet rabbit is infected, visit your vet immediately.

NCO tribute



Sgt. Frank Sanchez III

Command Sgt. Maj. Bryan McGhee, 357th Air and Missile Defense Detachment, addresses his Soldiers at the Noncommissioned Officers’ Garden Dedication Ceremony on Rhine Ordnance Barracks April 15. The garden was built by the Soldiers of the 357th AMD-D as a tribute to the Year of the NCO.



The Gatterburgs – Damian, 13 and a student at Heidelberg Middle School, and Francesca and Therese, 10 and students at Patrick Henry Elementary – and Ethan Parkhill, 12 and a student at HMS, pose under the Eiffel Tower in Paris April 3. Damian and Ethan planned the photograph after looking for an interesting angle and came up with the idea of lying on the floor to look up in to the tower. Since there were four children, they positioned themselves in the four corners of the tower and had an adult take the picture.

Mirka Ivanckova

Spring Break Photo Contest

These four photos were selected from 79 that were entered in the BWnow Spring Break Photo Contest.

Living in Europe opens a world of opportunity when it comes to traveling. Students who entered the contest visited a variety of places, including Portugal, Egypt, France, Turkey, Italy, the United States and more.

Visit the virtual community to see more spring break photos and share your adventures in the "Spring Breakers" group.



<http://myBWnow.ning.com>



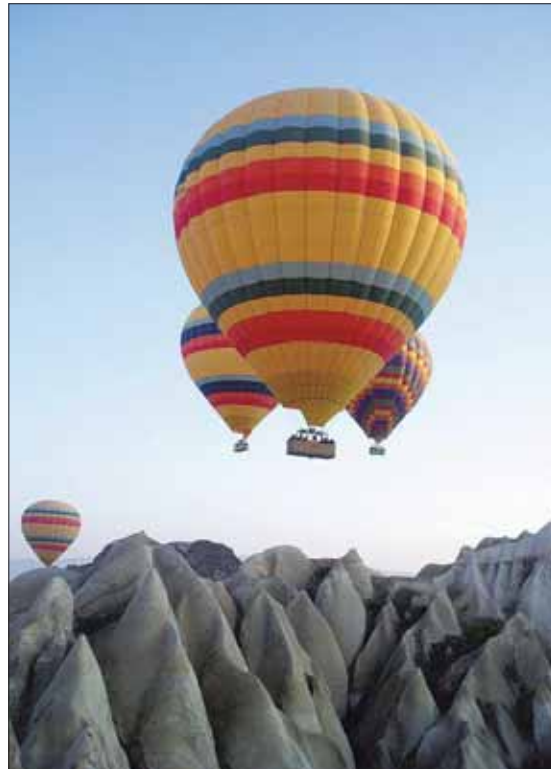
Owen Darrow, 19, Heidelberg High School senior

(Above) Ale Rista, a surf coach at the Algarve Surf Camp in Sagres, Portugal, skates after a day of surfing at the Praia do amado beach April 10.

(Right) Paul Tschida, 17, Heidelberg High School junior, "holds up" the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy April 6 during the Heidelberg Child, Youth and School Services "Five Countries in Five Days" spring break trip. In addition to Italy, the students visited Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Lichtenstein.



Nichole Hase, 17, Heidelberg High School junior



Dhillon Tisdale, 13, Heidelberg Middle School seventh-grader

Hot-air balloons rise above the lunar landscape of Cappadocia, Turkey, April 10. The Tisdales also visited Istanbul on their spring break trip to Turkey.

For the good of others



Staff Sgt. Tyrone Basnight

Sgt. Cody Stoll, a medical lab technician with Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, inserts a central venous catheter into the arm of Sgt. Candy Peters, an administration specialist with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's Secretary of the General Staff office. A Kaiserslautern military community blood drive was held at Panzer Kaserne April 15, and dozens of 21st TSC Soldiers donated.

21st TSC mourns Soldier's death

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command gathered at the chapel on Daenner Kaserne in Kaiserslautern to pay their respects to one of their own during a memorial ceremony April 17.

Sgt. Daniel J. Beard, 24, of Buffalo, N.Y., died April 3 of injuries sustained from a non-combat related incident in Al Diwanayah, Iraq.

He was assigned to the 147th Adjutant General Company in Wiesbaden, which is part of the 21st TSC Special Troops Battalion on Panzer Kaserne.

Beard, who enlisted in the Army Feb. 3, 2005, deployed to Iraq May 31, 2008. There he served with the 3rd Platoon (Postal) of the 147th and was attached to the 408th Human Resources Company as a technical inspector.

Capt. Ramon Torres, Beard's company commander, said he hopes his family and friends will find a small measure of solace knowing that Beard died surrounded by his fellow Soldiers – his friends and battle buddies.

"He was a shining example of everything an American Soldier is supposed to be," he said.

Beard's comrades in arms remember him as a person with a quick smile and a great sense of humor. A person so full of enthusiasm for life, he managed to find something positive even in negative situations.

He was a caring friend and a great battle buddy, who would want his fellow Soldiers to continue to look out for each other, said Sgt. 1st Class Barbara Anderson, who spoke on behalf of Beard's first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Teda Cooks.

"He was the heart and soul of the platoon," said Sgt. Scott Sandifer, speaking on behalf of Beard's platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class James Burke.

Cooks and Burke were in Buffalo representing the unit at Beard's funeral.

Beard's final farewell, his last honors, is afforded to Soldiers only. They come from a history that dates back to the Roman Soldiers, said Lt. Col. William McCoy, the 21st TSC's deputy command chaplain.

"Beard died a Soldier and will be given a Soldier's burial," McCoy said.

Beard is survived by his wife, Yolanda, who resides in California. His father, Ulysses Beard, two older brothers and two older sisters all live in Buffalo.

KAISERSLAUTERN

Auto skills shop offers free spring car inspections

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Force spouse Ann Callan first brought her 1999 Subaru Outback and then went back home to get her husband's 1992 BMW for the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Spring Safety Day free car inspections April 15 at the Pulaski Auto Skills center.

"Our cars are older, so there might be things that we haven't thought about – little things start to go wrong," said Callan on why she wanted to take both of her cars to these inspections.

More than 150 drivers found out about the "little things that could go wrong" at this free inspection, which was intended to make sure vehicles were safe for spring and summer vacations and road trips.

This free car inspection marks the fourth one the garrison has hosted for the Kaiserslautern military community, and it is tied into the Army Family Covenant – a commitment by Army leadership to improve the quality of life for families.

"We are providing for the spouses of Soldiers and Airmen by ensuring their family vehicles are safe, especially when their military sponsor is deployed," said Bob Bigelow, the garrison's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation community recreation officer.

Ranging from checking windshield wipers to lifting vehicles to check underneath for any safety concerns, inspections took about 30 minutes. These free inspections are quite in-depth and could cost about \$80 to \$100 in the states, said Don Breton, the garrison's Pulaski Auto Skills manager, who initiated free car inspections in 2007, holding them twice a year in spring and winter.

Professionals throughout the community volunteer their services for free, said Mike Cutlip, the garrison's Landstuhl Auto Skills manager. He cites the owner of the Bosch Service Palm in Landstuhl, Gerhard Palm and his son, Christian Palm, who were there to properly adjust headlights. This is the second time the Bosch professionals volunteered for the garrison's

auto inspections to conduct free headlight tests on low and high beams, similar to those conducted throughout Germany in October.

"I've been able to get them to volunteer and spend the whole day adjusting headlights on numerous makes of vehicles so that people can get down the road without having to worry that one headlight is shining into the forest or another driver's eyes," said Cutlip, who added that almost every second car had to have its headlights adjusted.

Another professional who volunteered his services for the second time was Spc. Maurice Steele, a diesel mechanic with the 147th Postal Company.

"I just love doing it – helping out people," said Steele, who was there inspecting cars for the entire time – nine hours.

Drivers who were parents of small children were also able to have their children's car safety seats inspected by the garrison safety office's two certified child safety seat inspectors.

Inspections on each of the 15 car seats took about 30



Christine June

Christian Palm, from the Bosch Service Palm in Landstuhl, adjusts a headlight April 15 at the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Spring Safety Day free car inspections at Pulaski Auto Skills on Pulaski Barracks. More photos can be found at the Herald Post's photo gallery at www.flickr.com/photos/heraldpost.

minutes, said Scott Livingston, one of the garrison's certified child safety seat inspectors.

"The whole process is an education thing," he said. "We take the car seat completely out, talk to the parent and then, show them how to install it. We then take it out again and have the parent put it back in."

Livingston said the majority of car seats he inspected

were too loose – an inch of play left to right or forward and back.

"(Livingston) is doing a fabulous job showing me how to hook them up the right way," said Christopher Haskell, whose wife is a Soldier currently deployed to Iraq. The Haskell's have two sons, ages 2 and 3. "I love that they did this today, and I'm glad I stopped here."

IMCOM-E rolls out the red carpet for Topper Awards

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs

During the annual Installation Management Command-Europe Tournament of Plays "Topper" Awards Show in Heidelberg, the night emphatically belonged to "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

The play, produced by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Theatre Center, took the most golden statues by winning 13 technical and performance categories, including best comedy.

Joining in the top three of 2009 were: USAG Vicenza Soldiers Theatre with the best musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat;" and USAG Ansbach's Terrace Playhouse, which produced the best drama, "Proof."

Although "Midsummer" dominated the April 17 awards show, there was plenty of praise to go around, said James Sohre, IMCOM-Europe entertainment director.

For example, "Cabaret," produced by the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre, scored nine top honors for their production of this classic musical. They were followed closely by the Aviano Air Base Community Theatre, which earned eight Toppers for their extravagant production of "The Wizard of Oz."

Locally, the KMC Onstage brought home five awards for its interactive play "The Night of January 16th," and Heidelberg's Roadside Theater claimed two for "The Glass Menagerie."

"We were very pleased with the awards," said Dane Winters, Roadside Theater director. "It would have been great to walk away with a statue every time, but every single actor in 'The Glass Menagerie' was nominated for 'Best,' as was Chris Overly – a first-time director. This is a big recognition for such a difficult show.

"Truly, we are most pleased with the 'Best Ensemble' award. It shows the actors worked together under the director's guidance to create a won-

derful cast of 'real' characters – a real family."

In addition, Roadside's Brian Rausch was awarded the FMWRC Friend of Recreation Award, and Winters was given the James T. Martin Award for individual excellence in entertainment.

"The James T. Martin Award means an incredible amount to me," Winters said. "Jim set such a high standard for serving and caring for Soldiers, civilians and the entire military family through music and theater. That is the mission of the entertainment branches. Great theater is a goal, but it is more important to listen to and find out what best serves the Soldiers and the community. He was and remains an inspiration to all of us."

Altogether, a record number of 88 golden Topper statues and 216 framed nomination certificates were presented for technical, musical, acting, artistic and directing achievements – as troupes delivered 19 musicals, comedies and dramas at U.S. military and international community theaters in Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Turkey.

The IMCOM-Europe-sponsored event has become an important part of each community theater's season, said Sohre, who added that some groups are already planning entries for next year.

"Although the awards and recognition provide good incentives," he said, "the real value of the event is to obtain the training that adjudicators provide with their post-show critiques. The team of roving judges offers verbal insights and suggestions on-the-spot after each entry that they attend."

For the 600 people attending the Toppers, which was held at the Patrick Henry Village ballroom, the show was not only a chance to cheer on nominees and winners, Sohre said, "but also one to be entertained by the professional-quality Topper Singers and Band in a show modeled on Broadway's Tony Awards."



Maj. Jonathan Hall, a logistics management officer from the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, receives a logistics hero's award from Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine.

21st TSC honors 'logistics heroes'

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes. During a 21st Theater Sustainment Command's recent awards ceremony at Panzer Kaserne, six logistics heroes were recognized.

While they were civilian and military, male and female, German and American, they had one thing in common. "They are all dedicated professionals. In addition to their technical capabilities, they take the initiative to go above and beyond their routine job requirements to perform genuinely outstanding jobs," said Orval Windham, the deputy of the 21st TSC's supply and logistics division.

"Logistics Heroes" is an award program that was resurrected by Brig. Gen. Mark Bellini, the operations sustainment director for U.S. Army Europe's supply and logistics division, and whole-heartedly embraced by the 21st TSC, Windham explained.

"Logistics troops don't usually receive the same amount of recognition as other troops. This program is an opportunity to recognize military and civilians for the stuff they do that is exceptional – that is above and beyond," he said.

The awards are signed by Bellini and presented by Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine, the 21st TSC's commanding general. "That in itself is an indication of how important the award program is," said Lt. Col. Clifford Hoppman, the 21st TSC's assistant chief of staff for supply and logistics.

The awards and the public forum in which they are presented do more than show the recipients what they do is recognized and appreciated.

The 21st TSC's most recent awardees are Maj. Jonathan Hall, Vesna Henry, Master Sgt. Althea Basnight, Sgt. 1st Class Angela Fryer, Sgt. Timothy Brandley and Spc. Anthony Miles.

Hall, a logistics management officer with the 21st TSC, was recognized for his contributions during an eight-month temporary duty assignment to the Joint Task Force-East rotation in Romania where he served as the director for logistics and the contracting officer representative.

"He ended up not just being the assistant to the DOL as intended, but the man did a masterful job of it," Windham said.

Due to Hall's dedication and effort in both capacities, JTF-E coalition forces received all necessary supplies to stand up an enduring military base and the lives of all personnel stationed in JTF-E Romania were improved by the services he contracted for.

Henry is a German civilian employee who was recognized for her performance as a property book officer for the 21st TSC's supply and logistics division. As such, she ensured all excess internal and external lateral transfers of equipment were processed correctly for the 21st TSC's major support commands. Henry also served as their government purchase card subject matter expert for the MSCs.

Basnight is the logistics management noncommissioned officer in charge at the 21st TSC's supply branch. The rapid fielding initiative program she manages ensures that thousands of Soldiers from the 21st TSC's subordinate brigades and battalions receive their theater-specific equipment before they deploy. She also identified and filled 22 critical equipment shortages for subordinate units, thus improving the units' readiness and performance.

"That our units are able to deploy with 100 percent of their gear issued is 99.75 percent due to her efforts," Windham said.

Fryer served as the property book NCOIC at JTF-E, Romania during a TDY from June to December. She maintained accountability of assets valued in excess of \$5 million, supervised vendor performance and invoiced four contracts totaling more than \$55,000.

Brandley is the supply NCO with the 18th Military Police Brigade. His efforts resulted in the receipt of 40 stock funded shortage items valued close to \$300,000. Additionally, he completed and closed 18 financial liability investigations of property loss worth \$45,000.

Miles is a supply specialist at the 18th MPs. He too closed 18 FLIPLs in an expedient manner, thus improving the unit's readiness and performance.

Local Topper Award Winners

Best Lighting Design – Drama: Dane Winters, Andrew Meredith – "The Glass Menagerie," Heidelberg Roadside Theater

Best House Management – Mary Warwick – "The Night of January 16th," Kaiserslautern Military Community Onstage

Best Program – Kerri Pangman – "The Night of January 16th"

Best Poster – Dani Jackson – "The Glass Menagerie"

Best Stage Manager – Drama: Liz Nye – "The Night of January 16th"

Best Debut Performance – Play: Spc. Paul Schenk – "The Night of January 16th"

Best Ensemble – Drama: "The Glass Menagerie"

Best Actor in a Minor Role in a Comedy – Keith Savage – "The Surprising Story of the Three Little Pigs" – Ramstein AB Razz-Ma-Tazz Family Theater

Best Actress in a Minor Role in a Drama – Airman 1st Class Emerald Payne – "The Night of January 16th"

FMWRC Friend of Recreation Award – Brian Rausch – Heidelberg Roadside Theater

James T. Martin Award – Dane Winters, entertainment director – Heidelberg Roadside Theater

Norman H. Marcus Award – James Mattingly, IMCOM-Europe sports and fitness director

U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Beam accepts an Honorable Order of Saint Barbara from Col. Rodney McCants, 357th Air and Missile Defense Detachment, April 15 at the Noncommissioned Officer's Garden on Rhine Ordnance Barracks in Kaiserslautern. Beam participated in a 357th AMD-D unit run. The run and Beam's induction are part of several events the 357th AMD-D are holding in 2009, the Year of the NCO. The Order of Saint Barbara is an honorary military society that links field artillerymen of the past and present in a brotherhood of professionalism, selfless service and sacrifice.



Sgt. Frank Sanchez III

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visit www.army.mil



U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

Staff Sgt. William Griffin (right), 136th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, and Spc. Jessica Sandberg, 132nd Quartermaster Battalion, use a Humvee to make their way down a flooded street in Fort Ransom, N.D., April 15. The Soldiers were making welfare visits to residents in rural areas affected by Sheyenne River floodwaters.



U.S. Army Photo

While being dragged, 225th Engineer Brigade Soldier Sgt. Kasandra Deutsch of Pineville, La., demonstrates the power of the Talon robot, April 15, during a training exercise with the 9th Iraqi Army Engineer Regiment. The Talon robot system is used to help clear improvised explosive devices.



Sgt. Beth Lake

Soldiers from the Kenyan army and U.S. Army transport a volunteer patient to an ambulance during a joint medical-evacuation exercise held with the two armies, in Mombasa, Kenya, Friday.

California pastor speaks at National Prayer Breakfast

By Kristen Marquez
HERALD POST STAFF

Hundreds of members of the community gathered to hear guest speaker Rev. Tom Holladay of Saddleback Church in California during the Heidelberg community National Prayer Breakfast Friday at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion.

Holladay spoke on the importance of love and prayer. He told those in attendance to love as they go along and make it a part of every part of their lives.

"Why do I think love matters most?" he asked the audience. "It's what you were made for... If I miss out on that, I've missed out on the best of life."

Holladay is an assistant pastor at Saddleback Church, regularly speaking at weekend services and at studies throughout the week. He also hosts a weekly podcast, "Drive Time Devotions," and helps Saddleback pastor Rick Warren with Purpose-Driven Church conferences to Christian leaders throughout the world.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jason Duckworth, Heidelberg community chaplain, said he was glad Holladay was able to make the trip across the ocean to speak to the community here.

"I think it's a unique opportunity



"I just wish you (service members) could hear people. It just goes on and on. I know you know people appreciate you. I know that you know, deep down, because you hear from time to time that your service is making a difference."

-Rev. Tom Holladay, Saddleback Church Assistant Pastor

for someone from the states to come and see what the military in Europe is doing, and military families, because it's never just the Soldier," he said. "It's also good for us to hear that folks back in the states appreciate what's going on over here as well.

"I think it's a win for both. My guess is it made a big impact on him, and it makes a big impact on us when someone that's fairly well known, at least in the Christian community, comes over here and says something."

Holladay began his speech by telling attendees how privileged he felt to be speaking at the prayer breakfast and pointed out how he wished they could join him at Saddleback Church twice a year – Veterans Day and Memorial Day – to join with the 27,000 church members in celebrating service men and women.

"I just wish you could hear people,"

everything else falls into place.

Duckworth said the message Holladay brought with him was a useful and powerful one.

"I thought it was interesting," he said. "At first I thought he was going to (focus on) prayer. But then I thought, well, a part of loving God is praying, so I thought the two worked together well, and some very practical advice for us to take home and work on today."

The community members in attendance, including garrison commanders from across Europe along with Installation Management Command-Europe and U.S. Army Europe leaders, were treated to performances by the USAREUR Band Brass Quintet and the Heidelberg Community Chapel Chorus as well as a buffet-style breakfast in the newly renovated Village Pavilion.

The National Prayer Breakfast is followed closely by the National Day of Prayer, this year occurring May 7.

Each of the chapels in the Heidelberg community, including PHV, Mark Twain Village and Nachrichten Kaserne chapels, will be open 6 a.m.-6p.m. for prayer time.

For more information on the upcoming National Day of Prayer, visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

KMC to host Month of the Military Child celebration

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 435th Services Squadron and the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are hosting the KMC Month of the Military Child Celebration 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Pulaski Park on Pulaski Barracks.

Meant as a closeout event celebrating April as MOMC, the event will unite resources, talents and staff from the Air Force and Army and result in offering more activities, games, information booths and entertainment, said Dorothy Choate, the 435th Services' Family Member Program Flight chief, and Belynda Smith, the garrison's Child, Youth and School Services chief.

Activities planned for this event are numerous: Obstacle course, science and art, Sumo wrestling, boxing, tattoo and face-painting, art and crafts, bean bag toss, bobbin' for ducks, making beads and necklaces, horseshoes and ring toss. Several more are in the works with many of these activities being broken down into different age groups.

Parents are not left out either as there will be information booths from both military branches, such as the Air

Force's Ramstein Airman and Family Readiness Center and garrison's Army Community Service.

Entertainment will be showcased at two platforms during the event, and will be again a combined effort with both services' youth programs performing, as well as the Kaiserslautern High School's Step Team. Storytelling and puppet shows will be performed by staff from the Air Force and Army libraries.

Bouncy castles – again for different age groups – the garrison's Kiddie Train and Air Force's fire trucks will be at this year's event. Even costumed characters will be walking around the park greeting children and their parents.

"We are going to take this (MOMC event) as our lead, and we are going to do other events throughout the rest of the year," Smith said. "It's just a very smart idea for us partner on events like these because we both have Air Force and Army, and right now, Navy, families in our programs – so it's just smart to do this for military families."

Choate agreed, saying there are several events that are in the planning stages now, such as the America's Armed Forces Kids Run in May and Boys and Girls Club Day for Kids in September.

Firefighters recognized



Courtesy

Juergen Messemann, deputy station chief for Fire Station Gernersheim, shows students from a German kindergarten around the station. Lt. Col. Anita Greenlee, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Directorate of Emergency Services, recognized Messemann and other members of the GAD fire crew April 14 at the first family day and award ceremony for Fire Station Gernersheim since its re-establishment in September 2006. Crew members receiving recognition included Axel Stern, Harald Seidel, Angela Haidl, David Manera, Manuel Koeberlein, Danile Toellner, Bernd Steininger, Markus Wolpert, Bernhard M. Wolpert, Ralf Hartwig, Oliver Hinterlang and Markus Becker. More photos are available online at www.flickr.com/heraldpost.



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Celebrating
Month of the Military Child
Ready Army invites you to join the
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Army Families all over the world to
get ready for emergencies. *Prepare strong!*



www.ready.army.mil

Celebrating Earth Week

Students learn about solar energy in Walldorf

By Kristen Marquez
HERALD POST STAFF

Heidelberg Middle School seventh graders got the chance to get up close and personal with solar panels April 14-15.

The students visited the Stadtwerke Walldorf solar park in Walldorf, a 40,000 square-meter field filled with solar panels.

Kina Stallings, a science teacher at HMS, helped organize the tour with Tim Clark of the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Environmental Division. Stallings, along with Directorate of Public Works representatives, escorted nearly 40 students over two days to the solar field in celebration of Earth Week, centered around Earth Day, which was celebrated around the world Wednesday.

"I want them to go back to the states with the knowledge that there's this stuff out there," Stallings said. "And many of them, they drive by it every day and they don't know what it is, so that's why I wanted to come here. They're excited."

The students' tours were led by Norbert Hirt, a Stadtwerke Walldorf engineer. Hirt spent nearly an hour and a half talking to the students and answering questions ranging from "how does the solar panel turn it into electricity?" to "what degree do you have?" and "will solar panels wear out over time?"

"I think it is very important to raise the energy questions overall, everywhere in the world," Hirt said. "And right now since you've got a new president, it's even more important to put the seed in everybody – we need renewable energy instead of nuclear power or coal power. It's safer. It's better for the environment, and we need more awareness of how to prevent energy consumption. Energy you don't consume, you don't have to use, so that's the first step."



Kristen Marquez

Seventh-graders from Heidelberg Middle School touch some of the 14,000 solar panels in Stadtwerke Walldorf solar park April 15. The students learned about how solar energy can be used to replace non-renewable resources.

Twelve-year-old Daniel Crusan was one of the students on the April 15 field trip. He said his neighbor has a solar panel in his backyard, so while the idea of solar panels is not new to him, "it's really cool to actually be around all the solar panels and learn more about them."

"I like it, it's cool," he said. "It's better than having all that gas and pollution, because I used to live in New York where there used to be horrible pollution. But it smells fresher out here and it's really good."

In the Stadtwerke Walldorf solar park, there are 14,000 individual solar panels, Hirt said, each one with a value of around €250. The solar park itself is less than a year old, took three months to plan and around four months to build.

"Our ideal angle for this spot is around 30 degrees to the sun so the overall energy production will be as high as possible for this spot," Hirt explained to the students during the tour.

More Photos Online
www.flickr.com/heraldpost

He also told the students how the solar panels are connected to houses by cables, and Stadtwerke Walldorf is connected to the national grid, therefore the electrons, in a few seconds, could go wherever they are needed. "That is the point of having a grid and connect to other power plants."

For student Eric Ferraro, 12, the field trip was okay, but he admits he did learn the value of the solar park.

"I know that we can find a better source of electricity rather than just using oil and fossil fuels," he said.

"I know we are not able to switch like in a year to this, but we have to have a goal, and, therefore, it is so important that we show our facilities to kids so they will get an impression and that they know there is something else than big coal plants or big nuclear power plants," Hirt said.

Conserving Energy

Lighting

It is always better to turn off a light when it is not needed – even for a short period. Whenever a facility is unoccupied, just make sure that lights are off. Daylight is better than artificial light. So, use daylight and also consider task lighting instead of overall room illumination. The same applies to your house or flat and make sure that lighting fixtures are clean; light colors in decorating reflect light thus requiring less artificial light.

Infiltration

Every air flow through openings and cracks does influence the garrison energy bill. Heat is lost during the heating season or gained during the cooling season, causing discomfort to building occupants. Consequently you should avoid an unintended air flow by closing all doors and windows, keep doors closed in unheated areas and also close loading dock doors when not in use.

Heating and Cooling

Energy used to heat or cool your building to a comfortable level when it is unoccupied is a waste of energy and money. Save energy by setting back the thermostat (valve). You can also shut off radiators in corridors, vestibules, stairwells and lobbies. Use blinds to either have the sun heat your room and get daylight in or close them to avoid overheating your room. And do not forget to dress appropriately. In case you use an air-conditioning unit, set your thermostat to 78 degrees, which is recommended for comfort and energy efficiency. Be aware that Installation Management Command-Europe does not allow air conditioners at all in Germany. Just for some justified cases they approve air-conditioning units based on strict criteria.

Water

This means cold and hot water. The settings for hot water are done by your Directorate of Public Works in accordance with the Army regulation. The responsibility of every customer is to avoid water waste. Do not let the faucet run while this is not needed. Report leaking – even if you think it is minor – to the DPW, because only one drop per second out of your faucet consumes more than 3,200 gallons (12,000 liters) a year. Take showers rather than tub baths which saves about 2,000 gallons of hot water per year. And if you think your garden needs water, have it watered in the evening or early in the morning rather than during mid day.

Appliances

Water boils faster in a closed container, so never boil water in an open pan. Freezers and refrigerator should not be set too cold – 38 degrees for refrigerators and 5 degrees for freezers is correct and most efficient. Do not forget to defrost regularly, at least when the frost builds up at one-quarter of an inch. Check the refrigerator seals with a piece of paper and make sure that these appliances are not empty while in operation. Your washer should be full when you turn the machine on. However, do not overload. During summer time it is recommended to use a clothesline as clothes will smell fresher and cleaner.

SOURCE: Kurt Marx

Fun in the Sun: Make a Solar Oven from a Pizza Box

How can you trap the energy from the sun and turn it into something useful, like heat? What factors will affect how high the temperature will go?

Control and Variables:

Day of year (season and tilt of earth will determine how direct the rays of the sun are), sky conditions (pollution, clouds), temperature of the air, design and dimensions of oven

Materials and Equipment:

Pizza box (eat out or ask for one at a

pizza restaurant)
black construction paper
aluminum foil
clear transparencies
scissors
clear packing tape or glue
drinking straw or dowel to hold the box open
oven thermometer

Safety and Environmental Requirements:

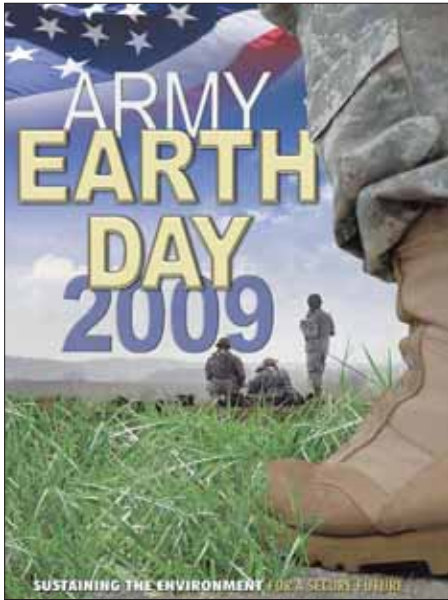
Never look directly at the sun. If the temperature in your oven gets too warm, you may need oven mitts or open

the box and wait until the box cools down to touch anything inside the box.

Suggestions: Cover the bottom of box with aluminum foil and a layer of black paper. Cut a hole in the top of the box one inch from the edge, leaving one edge on the same side as the box's hinge. Glue aluminum foil on inside part of the box lid. Tape clear plastic over this hole. When you glue the clear plastic to the pizza box, make sure you have a tight seal. Point the opening of the box directly at the sun and prop the lid open. Record the temperature inside the box

on different days. Also, record any data you think might affect the temperature in the box (cloud cover, date and time, and temperature outside the box). After you check the temperature, line your box with plastic wrap and try cooking popcorn, cookies, or heating water to make tea or hot chocolate.

To make this a science project, display the data you recorded above. Explain how the oven works. Make suggestions on how to create a better solar oven. For an example, check out www.solarnow.org/pizzabox.htm. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Energy



Test your local environmental knowledge to win

1. What are the three main commitments of USAG Heidelberg's environmental policy?

- a) Pollution prevention
- b) Equal opportunities
- c) Compliance with legal environmental requirements
- d) Continual improvement
- e) Compliance with safety requirements

2. What are USAG Heidelberg's four environmental objectives?

- a) Increase the recycling rate
- b) Reduce energy consumption
- c) Reduce water consumption
- d) Transition to a fuel-efficient vehicle fleet
- e) Reduce noise generation
- f) Reduce hazardous waste

3. What can YOU do to achieve the objectives? (4 answers are correct)

- a) Separate your waste streams
- b) Do not idle your car
- c) Use traditional light bulbs instead of energy saving bulbs
- d) Turn off your monitor at the end of the day
- e) Use bio-degradable cleaning agents
- f) Print one-sided

E-mail your answers to the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division at environmental@hdpw.eur.army.mil by April 30 for the chance to win environmentally friendly products sponsored by AAFES like shopping bags, energy saving bulbs, switch-off power strips, recycling bins, cleaning detergents and more.

Environmental Management System

U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg uses the Environmental Management System as a tool for systematically minimizing negative environmental impacts that result from our daily activities, in order to protect our environment, to sustain mission readiness, and to enhance the well-being of Soldiers, civilians and families.

Currently, the garrison's areas of emphasis are energy conservation, recycling and hazardous waste reduction. For example, almost all traditional light bulbs in Army Family Housing have been replaced with energy saving light bulbs. The percentage of fuel-efficient vehicles within the non-tactical vehicle fleet has increased, and recycling programs are in place in the school cafeterias, Army Family Housing and most office areas.

The amount of hazardous waste was reduced by having units use the Hazardous Material Reuse Center in Mannheim. In addition, everybody is encouraged to do his part in saving natural resources.

Seventh-graders visit one of Europe's oldest botanical gardens

By Kristen Marquez
HERALD POST STAFF

Seventh-graders from Heidelberg Middle School learned some interesting facts about rubber trees, banana plants and cocoa beans on a tour of the Botanical Gardens at the University of Heidelberg, April 15-16.

Ashante Halsey, a seventh-grade science teacher at HMS, brought some of her students to meet with Christof Nikolaus Schröder of Grünschule Heidelberg in celebration of Earth Day, which was celebrated worldwide Wednesday.

"We're always talking about being aware of our environment and things around us, but so often it's only in a book or on a computer," Halsey said. "They don't get to go out and actually physically see that hands-on part."

The students got the chance to walk around the outdoor gardens and arboretum, as well as take an indoor guided tour of the 'tropics' with Schröder. The tour ended with the students and teachers sampling different types of tropical fruits from the garden.

"They don't realize where we get a lot of things we take for granted," Halsey said. "A lot of these plants are in their homes, and they're truly unaware of what they have in



Heidelberg Middle School seventh-grader Marty Glenn checks out a banana plant held up by Christof Nikolaus Schröder of Grünschule Heidelberg during a tour of the University of Heidelberg botanical gardens April 16.

front of them. I think they need that hands-on. We tell them a lot of things, but until they actually see it, it's not real. In this age, everything is on the computer."

The botanical garden is one of the oldest in Europe at more than 400 years old, according to Schröder, and is home to about 15,000 different species of plants.

"It's very important for young people to learn about biodiversity, which means the wonderful and magnificent diversity of plants and



Joshua Banks smells cocoa beans as Ezra Clark waits his turn during the Heidelberg Middle School students' tour of the botanical gardens in celebration of Earth Week.

animals all over the world," Schröder said.

"Our lifestyle is very dangerous for plants and animals, especially in the tropics," he told the students. "Here we have the opportunity to give young people the sense and impression of how worthy nature is."

Alina Liptrot, 12, toured the gardens with her classmates April 16, and said she has decided to become a botanist when she grows up. She said it was learning about the

scientific names of the trees and plants that made her decision for her, as well as seeing the "awesome" huge roots on some of the large trees outside.

Classmate Lukas Daney, 14, said he had a "great day" touring the gardens and greenhouses.

"Those are plants you don't usually see in Germany just growing randomly somewhere," he said. "They were probably shipped from far away like Afghanistan, Ameri-

ca, (or) China. It's really interesting how they survived over 500 years and that the place is so great still since all the wars in Germany."

Halsey said she knows the field trips were a success in her mind — some of the students have already asked if they can go back and do research on individual plants for extra credit.

For information on the botanical gardens, visit www.rzus-er.uni-heidelberg.de/~jm5/public/public_en.html.

Photos by Kristen Marquez

BIG FISH

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and readings of his work. Wallace's tour, supported by Installation Management Command-Europe Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, begins May 12 at the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, Italy, Library and concludes May 21 at the library on USAG Baumholder. The events are free and open to U.S. service members and their families.

Christina Kruger, a librarian at the European Regional Library Support Center in Heidelberg, oversees the Conversations series and has been planning for Wallace's visit for several months.

"I'm really excited to be able to bring over someone who is not only a great author but a great teacher," Kruger said. "I think this program will offer a lot to our Soldiers and family members."

Author Fannie Flagg called Wallace "one of the most imaginative and original writers of our times," while "Publisher's Weekly" magazine wrote that Wallace's "humor and appreciation of ordinary people, demonstrates (an) extraordinary originality, craftsmanship and charm."

In addition to writing a screenplay for Universal Pictures, called "Timeless," Wallace has published more than three dozen short stories in venues such as "The Yale Review," "The Massachusetts Review," "Shenandoah," "New Stories from the South," and "The Best American Short Stories," and his work has been translated into 18 languages.

Wallace has also published two illustrated children's books, "Elynora" and "O Great Rosenfeld." And, Kruger noted, Wallace is a gifted illustrator whose drawings have appeared, among other places, in the "L.A. Times" and "Italian Vanity Fair."

A native of Birmingham, Ala., Wallace now teaches creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"Aspiring writers or anyone interesting in learning more about the craft of writing are encouraged to attend the writing workshops," Kruger said.

Within USAG Baden-Württemberg, Wallace will visit the Patrick Henry Village Library in Heidelberg May 19 and the Landstuhl Library May 20.

Wallace's writing workshops for the garrisons will begin at 5:30 p.m. on the day of each visit. After a short break at 6:30 p.m., a reading and discussion will begin at 7 p.m.

For more information on Daniel Wallace, visit his official Web site at www.danielwallace.org.

And for more information about the Conversations series, contact Kruger at DSN 370-6678, civ. 06221-57-6678.

Rod and Gun Club hosts Easter charity event

By Jennifer King

HEIDELBERG ROD AND GUN CLUB

Easter wasn't a quiet affair at the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club.

The excited shrieks and shrill exclamations of children reverberated through the forest surrounding the club as members and volunteers hosted the club's annual Easter charity event for the Mannheim Children's Cancer Hospital.

In addition to children from the hospital, the event was also open to German and American members' children, and about 120 children participated.

"We do this program each year," explained Frank Soares, the event coordinator. "This year's success, and all the success we've experienced over the years, is directly related to the financial support we receive from various organizations and the large amount of volunteer support that we receive from club members and other patrons of the club."

"We're delighted that even members of the Heidelberg Golf Club come down the road to volunteer with us at this event," he said. "Many of our golfing friends spent the entire afternoon working the grill preparing hamburgers for the children."

The Rod and Gun Club has been hosting events for children at Easter for more than 30 years, and some of the volunteers have been associated with the event for more than a decade.

Rich Ecsodi, vice president of the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club Advisory Council, has been volunteering his time and energy to the Easter events for 17 years, and for him, the reason is simple.

"Investing in our children is investing in the future," he said.

Tim Adams and his wife Sharlene have been volunteers for the past five years. "(I enjoy) seeing the world through the eyes of a child in the midst of discovery," Adams said. "I especially like watching the little ones and their parents as they enjoy a day together. It is tough to be a child with such a serious medical issue, so any light for the family is appreciated, so I like to help."

Dan Williams has been volunteering at the Easter event



Jennifer King

A child finds a hidden egg during the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club's Easter event to support the Mannheim Children's Cancer Hospital.

for four years. He got involved in the club's charitable activities when he took the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club hunting course, and he is a staunch advocate of the volunteer activities at the club.

"Volunteering is the best way for me to continue to connect with good friends and find new friends while contributing to a great cause," he said. "I always walk away feeling more blessed."

For Col. Armon Cioppa, president of the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club Advisory Council, the event is more than just an opportunity to give to the community and help children in need. "I'm especially proud of this event because it really exemplifies the friendship and camaraderie that we have with our German friends and hosts," he said. "This event brings both German and American children together in a warm, family-friendly atmosphere, and to me, that is one of the greatest accomplishments of our club."

This year's program also involved children from Bosnia, Turkey, Columbia and Macedonia who are receiving treatment at the hospital.

For more information on the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club and the variety of outdoor activities available, visit www.mwgermany.com/HD/rod_gun/rod_gun.htm.

CHILD LIGHTS

continued from page 1

"The kids got to participate in the finger printing and all that kind of stuff," she said. "It's not every night that you get to do these kinds of fun activities, so we wanted to bring the fun into it, too, not just the information but the fun. That's in keeping with our theme — protect and celebrate."

Angela Jones, a PHV resident, walked to the event with her daughter, Alexis-Marie, 11, and some of her neighbors.

"It's an awesome way to participate in community activities, and I think it's a great thing that they're trying to do with this being Month of the Military Child," she said.

"It's really important for the community to participate and have positive things to do with the families together, because so many Soldiers at this time are deployed, and you would hate for the family members that are still here to feel neglected and isolated," Jones said.

"It's a really great thing for everybody to at least have the opportunity to come out to a safe family function

that you can enjoy with your neighbors and get to know other people that are in the same situation that you are."

A large part of the evening was the participation of the military police and representatives from the Directorate of Emergency Services.

Staff Sgt. Reginald Smith and his military working dog, Sgt. 1st Class Jim, along with Sgt. Brian Collins, gave a demonstration on the lawn of the Village Pavilion, much to the delight of the children and even the adults in the crowd.

Inside, tables were set up with information on Internet and dating safety, fingerprint booths and Drug Abuse Resistance Education information, among others.

Master Sgt. Charles P. Cavanaugh, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg provost sergeant, said he appreciated the opportunity for the military police to give their demonstrations and participate in the information booth section of the event.

"Anytime we can get out in the

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community is a great thing," he said. "It's good to show everyone that

we do more than just drive around in a car, but we are a part of their community, and we are here for them. This is just a small piece of the puzzle of what we do."

Barber said with the purpose of the event being to 'celebrate and protect' children, she hopes that participants not only enjoyed themselves but also learned something in the process, too.

"I think it helps us when we come to these kind of events, we are reminded about our responsibilities as a community to support these children," she said.

"I think it's really important to get connected with your community, and hopefully by coming out and participating in the booths, they got to know the community partners that are out there, hopefully they got to meet some new people, have some fun, walk away with a lot of handouts and a lot of goodies and have a good time with their families."

GETTING CREATIVE



Photos by Jason L. Austin

Cathy Hanson, Rachelle Ramirez and Sydney Hanson work on their ceramic bisque projects April 4 in the Heidelberg Arts and Cultural Center ceramics studio located in the basement of the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion.

Make your own pottery at the new ceramics studio in the Village Pavilion

By Jason L. Austin
HERALD POST STAFF

There won't be any scenes from the movie "Ghost" re-created in the family friendly Arts and Cultural Center ceramics studio in the basement of the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg.

Instead the scene on a recent Sunday afternoon, was of a mom, her daughter, a friend and a potter all sharing the space and practicing the crafts of pottery and ceramic bisque.

Cathy Hanson, brought her daughter, Sydney, 11, and her friend Rachelle Ramirez, 10, to the studio to do some bisque work.

With bisque, the vessel is already formed and pre-fired, or hardened, and the customer applies paints or glazes to the vessel to make the item his own.

The center offers 60 different vessels, which range from the oversized frog Cathy Hanson was working on to the piggy bank Rachelle painted to more common items like coffee cups and plates.

They also have a variety of glazes and paints, between 40 and 60 depending on stock levels, according to Jen Bieser, Arts and Cultural Center director.

The glazes go on dull, but when the vessel is fired – or heated in a kiln, an electric oven that can reach temperatures of 1,300 degrees Celsius – the glazes transform into vibrant colors, often with surprising results.

The studio also includes acrylic paints and special paint pens that can be used for more detail work, accord-

ing to Bieser.

Cathy Hanson has worked with bisque before – she used to run an at-home business called Pitter Patter Pottery, which specialized in baby hand and foot prints.

She wanted her daughter to begin to experience pottery as well, and decided bisque work at the ceramics studio was a great way to introduce her.

"I love the setup here," Hanson said, adding that "it's a great activity during the wet and rainy days here in Germany."

While the Hanson's and young Ramirez were working on bisque, Nick Hooper, an Arts and Cultural Center employee, brought in some clay he had found in the storage area.

Hooper took a pottery class in high school a couple of years ago and wanted to make sure the equipment was still in working order to ensure customers wouldn't have to wait for staff to set up the potter's wheel.

After selecting his tools and getting his water ready, he cut a chunk of clay and began kneading it before heading to the wheel.

He said the center has all the equipment necessary to support any potter, to include a clay recycling machine that was rusted and full of dry clay before he found and revived it.

Bieser said the center is in the process of ordering new clay and hopes to mold the interest of the community.

It wasn't long before Hooper was taking the plunge and shaping a pot, although he admitted he didn't remember how to hold his hands.



Nick Hooper, a staff member at the Heidelberg Arts and Cultural Center plunges into the center of a piece of clay to begin forming the vessel walls while working on a potter's wheel in the center's ceramic studio April 4.

The studio is open to anyone during the center's normal business hours, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

Anyone wishing to use the bisque can let the retail staff know, and pay a \$4 per hour studio fee, which only applies to the painting time. The staff can use their discretion because of drying times between coats, and other factors, Bieser said, adding that normally a child can completely paint a vessel in under an hour.

The customer also has to purchase the vessel they are painting.

The center offers a 50-percent discount on the studio time for birthday parties, and if the customer wants the studio exclusively, there is a flat \$15 fee per hour.

It takes about a week to get the finished pieces, Bieser said, because they try to wait until the kiln is full before firing it overnight, but she hopes to start firing on a regular basis in the near future.

For potters who want to use the potter's wheel, there is a \$2.50 per hour fee, which includes firing the pieces.

Bieser added that they don't have a pottery teacher right now, but hopes to offer classes when a teacher becomes available or a community member volunteers to teach.

In the meantime, bisque doesn't require any teaching, just a few simple instructions and a paint brush, both provided by the Heidelberg Arts and Cultural Center.

GERMAN COOKING

Asparagus with Shrimp and Wild Garlic Hollandaise (Spargel mit Bärlauch-Hollandaise)

Serves: 4

Ingredients:

- 1 small baguette
- 1/2 tablespoon rapeseed oil (Rapsöl, or canola oil)
- 4 sprigs of thyme
- 1/2 tablespoon lemon juice
- 4.7 oz. (140 ml) white wine
- 2 egg yolks
- 7 tablespoons (100g) butter
- 3/4 pound shrimp
- 2 tomatoes
- 1 bunch wild garlic leaves
- 3 pounds white asparagus

Preparation:

- Peel asparagus thinly, starting just below the head. Cut off the ends.
- Remove the skins from the tomatoes, remove the seeds and cut into thin wedges.
- Peel the shrimps, de-vein and clean.
- Cut wild garlic leaves into thin strips. Melt the butter and skim off solids (purify butter). Cut the bread into slices.
- Cook the asparagus 'al dente' in lightly salted water with a pinch of sugar and a teaspoon of butter.
- Sauté the tomato wedges and shrimps in hot rapeseed oil over medium heat, season with pepper.
- Using the double boiler method, whisk together the egg yolks and the white wine until frothy.
- Gradually add the melted butter.
- Fold in some of the wild garlic and season with lemon juice, salt and pepper.
- Toast the baguette slices.
- Arrange the asparagus crosswise on serving plates and drizzle with the wild garlic hollandaise.
- Add the tomatoes and shrimps and sprinkle with wild garlic.
- Decorate plates with thyme twigs.

SOURCE: www.germanfoods.org



Dear Ms. Vicki,

I'm sure you won't remember me but I remember you from 2004 when you first moved to Fort Campbell, Ky., and we were in the guest house together. You saved my marriage!

We were in the laundry room together and, in your usual self, you knew how to strike up a conversation. Of course I started telling you about my marital problems.

Shortly after my husband came down to help me bring the laundry to the room. You took us to the courtyard and talked to us both, in again "your candid way" that made so much sense, while two of your sons played football with my son.

We are still together thanks to you. I'm sure you know that a lot of people disagree with you and your advice. They feel you go overboard.

I think the truth hurts and that most folks feel like military spouses should have more traditional roles instead of being themselves and thinking out of the box.

Thank you so much for helping me and my husband in a non-traditional setting.

We will always be grateful to you and would like a check up with you in the future.

Ms. Vicki's Online Talk Show

Don't get enough Ms. Vicki in the Herald Post? Now you can tune in for her Internet radio show at www.blogtalkradio.com/dearmsvicki to hear her talk about teen dating violence, helping military children have a smooth transition, relationships and more.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I'm having trouble forgiving my elderly parents for things they did to me and my siblings when we were younger.

I spent a brief time in a foster home because of their negligent behavior. My father was an alcoholic and did about 15 years in the Army before he was finally kicked out. My mother was always his enabler. She did nothing while he was mean and cruel to us.

He later became a truck driver and would drag us all over the country with him. We missed a lot of school.

When I was placed in foster care and started going to school, I had a hard time keeping up, and I had very low self-esteem.

I managed to graduate, and right now I'm finishing up my degree. It's just that my parents still want to have a relationship and I've tried to forgive them and move on.

When I'm around them, the memories come back to me, and I find myself being mean to them.

My husband is in the Army, and he tells me not to visit them, but I know they are my parents who are in their 70s now.

They both have dementia very bad and can't remember any of the earlier years. Which is another reason I'm angry; why do they get to forget the bad memories and I have to live with them?

Sometimes I think life is not fair. I want them to remember, too, so I can ask them questions, like why did they treat us like they did with no regard?

I want them to remember, but I want to forget and forgive.

Do you have any insight on this? From: Early Memories Too Tough

Dear Memories,

You deserve to live an emotionally healthy life that is happy and prosperous. What happened to you is not uncommon, much to my regret. I'm not saying "get over it" or "it's time to move on."

What I am saying is forgiveness is a choice, and people move forward when they are ready.

I know memories are tough. Just when you think you've moved forward, the memories surface again.

From your report, your parents are in their 70s and they both have dementia. I know you still have some resentment, but your parents are elderly, and you can't mistreat them.

I would ask that you not go around them if the proclivity is there for you to be mean, rude, etc. I know you remember when they were young and healthy, but right now they are defenseless and elderly. Honestly, the roles have reversed. They are in the same position you were in as a child.

Please know that I hear you, and I get it, OK. Let me recommend that you begin to see a counselor so you can share these feelings.

You can contact Military One-Source and they will listen to you by phone and connect you with a clinical social worker or professional counselor in your community.

You can also check on base to see what services are available to you. I could go on and on about forgiveness, but I will leave you with this.

Forgiveness is for you, not for your parents. Again, it's your choice when you are ready. Keep in touch and let me know how you are doing.

Post 9/11 GI Bill to allow transfer of unused benefits

By Rob McIlvaine

FMWRG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Though the road was long and hard, the efforts and advocacy of the Army Family Action Plan have resulted in a major victory for Soldiers and families.

The creation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill was driven by AFAP issues, and it becomes a reality Aug. 1, and will offer all Soldiers with six years of service the opportunity to transfer unused Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to their dependents.

With this new bill, what started as an enlistment incentive has grown to become a retention tool in the all-volunteer Army. The ability to provide for the family by transferring benefits to spouses and children becomes a powerful retention incentive. Benefits must be transferred before separating from the military. Veterans are not eligible to transfer

unused benefits.

Veterans who served after Sept. 11, 2001, could receive full tuition and fees, a new monthly living stipend, and a \$1,000-a-year books and supplies stipend. The bill also gives Reserve and Guard members who have been activated for more than 90 days since 9/11 access to the Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits, paid on a pro-rated basis, depending on length of qualifying active-duty service.

A few select Soldiers were offered the opportunity to transfer Montgomery GI Bill benefits as part of a pilot program, which the AFAP committee was instrumental in developing. Participation in the pilot program was limited to Soldiers with critical skills and required those who participated to accept a reduced re-enlistment bonus.

The AFAP General Officer Steering Committee aggressively advocated elimination of rules that

prevented all Soldiers from participating in this valuable program. The legislation creating the Post 9/11 GI Bill, supported by the AFAP GOSC, rectified this limitation by offering all Soldiers, with six years of service the opportunity to transfer unused Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.

This bill (Chapter 33) boasts the most comprehensive education benefits package since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944.

Officially known as the "Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008" by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense, it was signed by then-President George W. Bush June 30. It will be published as Army policy by the end of April, and will become effective Aug. 1.

To view facts currently posted about the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, visit www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/benefits.htm#CH33.



Movie Lovers Online

Join the "Movie Lovers" group in the BWNOW virtual community at <http://myBWNOW.ning.com> to give props and flops to the latest flicks and chat with The Reel Life's Spc. Joseph Nieves.

Push

I have a question. Who doesn't want to see what the world would look like with psychics running wild? I know I would, and I have, on many occasions, imagined comic book stuff like that.

"Push" stars Chris Evans ("Not Another Teen Movie") and none other than Dakota Fanning ("Man on Fire" – awesome movie) as, you guessed it, psychics. Nick Gant (Evans) is a 'pusher' – able to move things with his mind, on the run from a secret organization known only as 'Division.'

Nick meets Cassie (Fanning) who is a

'watcher' and Cassie tells Nick they are going to die. Scary words, right? The story takes off from there. It's a pretty cool film with lots of special effects and cool "mind" battles.

I enjoyed seeing a different take on psychic abilities since almost all comic books have the same kind of moving and mind reading stuff. There was actually a comic book mini-series that acted as a prequel to the movie, and after seeing the movie, I look forward to checking those out.

The movie is pretty cool, but kids might find some of the stuff to be a bit much, so keep an eye out for that.

Overall, I'd say check it out and enjoy the cool effects. Guys will definitely get a kick out of it, but the ladies may want to check it out, too.

GET OUT!
area events

More events online at <http://myBWNOW.ning.com>

April 25

Schwetzingen Castle Tour – Join the KONTRAKT Club at 2:15 p.m. or 3:15 p.m. for a castle tour in English. After the tour, join up at the Luegenbrueckl restaurant for dinner at 5:30 p.m. DSN 387-3296.

Salsa Night – Enjoy the hot sights and sounds of salsa music 8 p.m.-1 a.m. at Armstrong's Club on Vogelweh Housing in Kaiserslautern. This free event features a live disc jockey, margarita bar, chips and dips and an hour of free Salsa lessons beginning at 9 p.m. Cív. 0631-354-9926.

Prague Express – Join Outdoor Recreation for this one-day trip to the Czech Republic. \$95. Heidelberg, DSN 388-9282, cív. 06221-338-9282. Kaiserslautern, DSN 493-4117, cív. 340-64117.

Mannheimer Maimarkt – Tickets are on sale for the annual Mannheimer Maimarkt, Germany's largest regional fair. Running 9 a.m.-6 p.m. through May 5 at the Mannheim fairgrounds off Autobahn 656, 1,500 exhibitors will be presenting everything from food to household articles to fashion. The entertainment includes live music, a riding tournament and livestock exhibitions. www.maimarkt.de.

Kiddie Volksmarch – The Heidelberg International Wandering Club is sponsoring a kiddie volksmarch from 9 a.m.-noon. Start and finish at the library on PHV. Entry is free and a parent must accompany the child. Children will receive a medal and certificate upon completion of the 5-kilometer course. Cív. 06227-84-1226 or hiwc@yahoo.com.
Pflanzeltage – Get your garden ready! The city of Weinheim is hosting the Pflanzeltage through April 26. Along the pedestrian zone, you can buy all kind of flowers and plants. Booths from garden stores and farmers and experts are set up, and stores are open all weekend. www.weinheim.de.

65th Anniversary of Normandy Invasion

Join the Veterans of Foreign Wars for a tour of Paris and the beaches of Normandy for the 65th anniversary of D-Day, June 4-8. \$650 per person; price includes hotel, breakfast, transportation and English tour guide. All are welcome. Pick-ups in Mannheim and Kaiserslautern. DSN 380-5433, cív. 0175-947-0042 or www.mannheimvfw.com.

April 26

Europa Park – Head to Europa Park with Mannheim Outdoor Recreation. Departure at 7 a.m. Cost is \$20 plus park entrance fees. DSN 381-7215, cív. 0621-739-251.

April 27

Alice in Wonderland – Mark Twain Elementary School students present this classic musical at 5:30 p.m. in the Heidelberg High School auditorium.

April 30

Hip-Hop All Nighter – Join DJ Pimp Flower 8 p.m. at the Cove on Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim for a hip-hop all-nighter. Free entry and free food. DSN 385-2884, cív. 0621-730-2884.

May 1

Music Recital – Head to the Copper Top Lounge at inside the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg at 8 p.m. for an evening music recital featuring the USAREUR Band, conductor Michael Hancock and soprano Amy Bullard.

May 3

Stuttgart Zoo – Visit the Stuttgart Zoo with Mannheim Outdoor Recreation. Departure time 8 a.m., cost \$15 plus zoo entrance fees. Pre-registration is required. DSN 381-7215, cív. 0621-739-251. www.mwrgermany.com.

May 14

MES Drama Club – Head to the Mannheim Elementary School gym to see the Drama Club presentation of "The Little Mermaid" at 5 p.m. All are invited to attend this classic play.

May 21

Memorial Day in Spain – Enjoy Memorial Day in beautiful Costa Brava, Spain. Army Outdoor Recreation offers this affordable and exciting trip May 21-25. Trip includes transportation, three nights lodging and an optional day trip to Barcelona. DSN 493-4117, cív. 0631-3406-4117 or www.mwrgermany.com.

Ongoing

Heidelberg Spring Fest – Head to Heidelberg through April 25 for this large classical music festival. Internationally renowned soloists, ensembles and orchestras will be presented. Cív. 06221-583-5920, www.heidelbergfruehlingsfest.de.

Stuttgarter Spring Fest – Head to the Stuttgarter Fruehlingsfest for a traditional festival atmosphere on the Cannstatt Wäsen with chicken, roller coasters, gingerbread hearts and more. Open daily noon-11 p.m. through May 3. www.stuttgarterfruehlingsfest.de.

coming to THEATERS

17 AGAIN

(Matthew Perry, Zac Efron) Class of 1989, Mike O'Donnell is a star on his high school basketball court with a college scout in the stands and a bright future in his grasp. But instead, he decided to share his life with his girlfriend Scarlett and the baby he just learned they are expecting. Twenty years later, Mike is given another chance when he is miraculously transformed back to the age of 17. Unfortunately, Mike may look 17 again, but his thirty-something outlook is total uncool to the class of 2009. And in trying to recapture his best years, Mike could lose the best things that ever happened to him. Rated PG-13 (sexual material, language, teen partying) 102 minutes



PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

April 23 - PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 7 p.m.
April 24 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.; PUSH (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.

Theater Improvements

Quality of life renovations at the Heidelberg theater are complete. Check out the new concession area and new Dolby Digital sound system, for an improved theater experience.

April 25 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 4 p.m.; 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.; PUSH (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
April 26 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 4 p.m.; 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 27 - FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 7 p.m.
April 28 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 29 - PUSH (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 30 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.

Mannheim, Schuh

April 23 - HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE (G) 7 p.m.
April 24 - FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 25 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 4 p.m.; FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.; FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 9:30 p.m.
April 26 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 4 p.m.; FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 27 - FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 7 p.m.
April 28 - FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 29 - FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 30 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

April 23 - PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 7 p.m.
April 24 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 3:30 p.m.; 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.; FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 10:30 p.m.
April 25 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 3 p.m.; THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.; FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 10:30 p.m.
April 26 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 3 p.m.; THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.
April 27 - PUSH (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 28 - FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 7 p.m.
April 29 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.
April 30 - 17 AGAIN (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Ramstein, Hercules

April 24 - GODSPELL PERFORMANCE 6:30 p.m.
April 25 - GODSPELL PERFORMANCE 6:30 p.m.
April 26 - GODSPELL PERFORMANCE 2:30 p.m.; THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7:30 p.m.

Ramstein, Nightingale

April 23 - HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE (G) 7 p.m.
April 24 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 3:30 p.m.; FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.; 10:30 p.m.
April 25 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 3 p.m.; FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.; PUSH (PG-13) 10:30 p.m.
April 26 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 3 p.m.; FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 27 - FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 7 p.m.
April 28 - PUSH (PG-13) 7 p.m.
April 29 - FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) 7 p.m.
April 30 - THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) 7 p.m.

THEATER INFORMATION

Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg, 06221-27-238
Schuh Theater, Mannheim, 0621-730-1790
Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 0631-50017
Hercules, Ramstein, 06371-47-5550
Nightingale, Ramstein, 06371-47-6147

Visit www.aafes.com for updated listings and more movie descriptions

community HIGHLIGHTS

Fuel Ration Card System Outage

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service will have a scheduled system outage that will affect the Esso Ration Card System. There will be a partial outage 2 p.m. April 26-2:30 a.m. April 27. Customers will be able to purchase fuel during this period, but AAFES will not be able to issue new fuel cards. There will be a complete outage 6 a.m.-4:30 p.m. May 19. Between these hours customers will not be able to purchase fuel on post or at local Esso stations. Both outages are necessary so the fuel ration card will remain compliant with industry security requirements.

UMUC Field Study Courses

University of Maryland University College Europe announces two three-credit undergraduate field study courses, "Scotland: Literature, Culture, and History" and "Baroque Art in Rome: An Introduction," offered this May in Scotland and Rome. The registration deadline is May 1 with classes taking place May 23-30. DSN 370-6762, cv. 06221-3780, www.ed.umuc.edu/undergrad/field_study.

Postage Increase

The price of a first class letter, 1 ounce, will increase May 11 to 44 cents. Other classes of mail and some services will also increase. The Forever Stamp is still good for sending first class letters weighing 1 ounce or less. When the rate increase begins, your local military post office will have the new stamps.

Government Vehicle Auction

Interagency Fleet Management System Europe, will hold a public auction of used U.S. government vehicles April 29-May 10. Bidding will be via live Internet auction. Public inspection period will be 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 6 at Mainz-Kastel Housing Area, IFMS Consolidated Vehicle Processing Center. Beginning April 29, vehicle information can be found at www.vebeg.de/web/en/auktionen/index.htm. DSN 334-2936, cv. 061-3460-4941.

local EMPLOYMENT

SKIESUnlimited Instructors

Heidelberg SKIESUnlimited instructional class program seeks guitar and German language instructors for youth. DSN 388-9399; cv. 06221-338-9399.

Red Cross Field Office Coordinator

The American Red Cross Heidelberg is seeking a field office coordinator to provide emergency communications and casework services to members of the military and families. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and be command sponsored and/or have access to post with their own ID card. Submit resumes by April 24 at www.redcross.org. Enter 77278R as the job search key word. DSN 370-8711, cv. 06221-57-8711.

Massage Therapists

The Heidelberg Sports and Fitness Centers are looking for massage therapists. DSN 370-6489, cv. 06221-57-6489.

Aerobics Instructors

The Kaiserslautern Sports and Fitness Centers are looking for aerobics instructors for the following classes: Power Pump, Hi-Low Step, Turbo Kick, Latin Aerobics and Hip-Hop Aerobics. DSN 493-2086, cv. 0631-3406-2086.

KAISERSLAUTERN Education

• **ACS Classes and Events** – BRAG Group, 10:30 a.m. April 25; Anger Management, 10 a.m. April 27 and 3 p.m. April 30; Lunch-n-learn at KLSA, 11:30 a.m. April 27; Resumix, 1 p.m. April 28 and 9:30 a.m. April 30; REACH Group, 4:15 p.m. April 28; HUGS Playgroup, 10 a.m. April 30; Stress Management, 4 p.m. April 30; Couples' Communication, 6 p.m. April 30. Reservations are required for most classes. DSN 493-4203, cv. 0631-3406-4203, www.mwgermany.com/kl/acs.

• **Basic Skills Pilot Program** – The education center on Rhine Ordnance Barracks is the site for the Army's Online Basic Skills Pilot Program for GT score improvement. This pilot program is for basic skills in reading and math and ends Aug. 31. Students can begin this self-study program at anytime. DSN 493-2590, cv. 0631-3406-2590.

• **ICE Training** – Interactive Customer Evaluation account manager training 9 a.m. April 29 at the garrison's library, Bldg. 3810 on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. DSN 493-4241.

• **Pre-Separation Briefing** – The Transition Center hosts a pre-separation briefing 8:30-11:30 a.m. May 5 in Bldg. 3245 on Kleeber Kaserne. Soldiers are required to take this presentation at least 90 days prior to separating (not retiring) from the Army. This briefing informs Soldiers about the process required to separate from the Army. DSN 483-7071, cv. 0631-411-7071.

Community

• **Month of the Military Child** – Celebrate our military children and youth with a free event open to the community at Pulaski Park, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. April 25. The event will feature food, entertainment and activities for the whole family. DSN 486-5412, cv. 06371-86-5412.

• **BOSS Meeting** – Better Opportunities for Single Service members will meet 1 p.m. April 30 in Bldg. 2929 on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 493-4344.

• **RMS Flea Market** – The Ramstein Middle School PTSA/Teacher Flea Market will be 8 a.m.-1 p.m. May 1 in the multi-purpose room at RMS.

• **Single Soldier Appreciation Day** – Better Opportunities for Single Service members hosts a Single Soldier Appreciation Day 9 a.m.-5 p.m. May 1 at Pulaski Park on Pulaski Barracks. All Kaiserslautern military units are asked to let their single service members participate in this all-day event. Married service members and Department of Defense civilians are asked to volunteer at this event. DSN 493-4344, cv. 0631-3406-4344.

• **Spring Safety Day** – The Safety Office hosts a Safety Day 9 a.m.-4 p.m. May 14 at the Special Events

Center, Bldg. 237 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. The event will provide safety and health training and awareness to Soldiers and their families. Events will include safety and health training presentations, booths and displays, as well as a motorcycle riders' engagement. DSN 493-4040, cv. 0631-3406-4072.

• **Pianist and Technical Crew Needed** – The KMC Onstage Community Theater is currently seeking a pianist and technical crew for the upcoming production of "Lucky Stiff." This musical will be performed the last weekend of May and first two weekends of June. DSN 483-6626, cv. 0631-411-6626.

• **American Legion Meeting** – The American Legion Post 6801 will meet 6:30 p.m. May 7 at Bldg. 368 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. DSN 486-7516 or wardtrans@yahoo.com, www.ktownamericanlegion.org.

HEIDELBERG Education

• **ACS Classes and Events** – Family Assistance Center Training, 1-4 p.m. April 27; Intro to MS Word, 9 a.m.-noon April 27 and 29; RACC Meeting, 10-11:30 a.m. April 27; Resume Writing, 9 a.m.-noon April 28; Foreign born Spouses/ESL Outing to Mannheim May Market, 9:30 a.m. April 30; English as a Second Language offered throughout the week. DSN 370-6883, cv. 06221-57-6883, www.mwgermany.com/hd/acs.

• **Priority Placement Workforce Briefing** – Learn about the Priority Placement program 1-3:30 p.m. April 24 at the Patrick Henry Village Theater. DSN 375-2063.

• **Master of Business Administration** – University of Phoenix is currently enrolling students for the MBA program. Classes are one night a week and start May 27. DSN 373-7650, cv. 06221-588-0492.

Community

• **Heidelberg International Wandering Club** – Upcoming Volksmarches: Oberstenfeld, Ketsch, April 25-26; Bierbach, April 30-May 1; Reinsfeld, Heimsheim, May 1-2; Salmbach, May 3. Sign up for trips to London and Belgium. Next meeting will be 7 p.m. May 11 at the SG Gasthaus Ostersheim. hiwv@yahoo.com, www.hiwv.de.

• **Retirement Ceremony** – Held at 3 p.m. April 24 near the flag pole on Patton Barracks for Soldiers and civilians with an approved retirement date. DSN 373-6334.

• **Krimson and Cream Scholarship Benefit Ball** – Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. will hold its 2009 ball April 25 at the Village Pavilion. Donations are \$35, and proceeds go toward scholarships for graduating DoDDS students. Cvt. 0160-916-2144.

• **NAF Warehouse Sale** – FMWR

hosts a warehouse sale 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 25 on Patton Barracks, Bldg. 156 (by Speedy Lube).

• **Summer Hire Application** – Summer hire application assistance Real World transition workshops for seventh-12th graders and parents will be 4-6 p.m. April 26, at Heidelberg Middle School. DSN 388-9377, cv. 06221-338-9377.

• **Spring Clean Up** – All Soldiers and civilians assigned to or living in Heidelberg will participate in Spring Clean Up, April 27-May 1. Mornings should be used to clean up around the work place, and at 10 a.m. Soldiers should be released to clean up in family and single Soldier housing areas under the direction of their area building coordinators. DSN 373-8857, cv. 0162-270-0571.

• **Heidelberg International Ski Club** – The end-of-season party will be 7 p.m. April 29 at the Hotel Zagreb in Schwetzingen. Sign up for the following trips: Ischgl, May 1-3; Danube Bike Trip, May 22-25; St.Veit Golf Trip, May 22-25; and Isar Raft Trip, June 19-21.

• **Housing Office Closure** – The Housing Office will be closed April 30 and May 1. Full services will resume May 4 at 8 a.m.

• **Cash Cage Closure** – The Heidelberg Cash Cage/Disbursing Office will be closed through April 30 and again May 5-8 for upcoming mission requirements and human resources shortages. It will be open 9:30 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. May 1 and May 4 and is tentatively scheduled to re-open for normal business May 11.

• **National Day of Prayer** – The Interservice Prayer Team members will be available to pray with during the community's National Day of Prayer, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. May 7 at Patrick Henry Village Chapel, Mark Twain Village Chapel and Nachrichten Kaserne Chapel.

• **Campbell Fitness Center closed** – The fitness center on Campbell Barracks will close from 1 p.m. May 21 until 5:30 a.m. May 26 for installment of new water lines inside the building. This will help the hot water problem in the gym's shower facilities. While the gym is closed over the Memorial Day holiday, patrons will still be able to use the fitness center on Patton Barracks, which will be open regular hours May 21-22 and extend its hours May 23-25 to 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

• **HMS Yearbooks** – Yearbooks from Heidelberg Middle School are now available to order for \$25. Supplies are limited. Cvt. 06227-380-994, shirani.tisdale@us.army.mil.

• **International Movie Nights** – Enjoy an evening watching great foreign films at International Movie Nights at the Arts and Cultural Center in the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion, every last Thursday of the month

starting at 7 p.m. Movie Nights are open to ages 18 and over only. DSN 388-9418, cv. 06221-338-9418, www.mwgermany.com.

MANNHEIM Education

• **ACS Classes** – DSN 385-3101, cv. 0621-730-3101.

• **FAST Class** – Sullivan Barracks Education Center will be offering a Functional Academic Skills Training course 8 a.m.-noon May 4-27. FAST attendance can reinforce basic math and reading skills resulting in improved general technical scores for reclassification and/or re-enlistment purposes. DSN 385-2053, april.bibey@eur.army.mil.

Community

• **Gate Changes** – Upgrades are coming to the access control points at Funari, Coleman, Spinelli, Grant Circle and BFV-5. Any installation with a closed exit lane will be marked as closed and signs will be posted to the alternate exit gates. Schedule: Spinelli Gate, through April 25; Coleman Gate (phase II), May 4-11; Funari Gate, May 18-23.

• **Youth Services** – DSN 380-4864, cv. 0621-730-9997.

• **Sullivan Library** – Story Hour, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays; Teen Advisory Board, 4-5 p.m. Thursdays. DSN 380-1740, cv. 0621-730-1740.

• **Volunteers Needed** – Mannheim High School will host a track meet April 25 at Woods Field. Volunteers are needed. DSN 380-4092.

• **Community Bank Closed** – The Community Bank located at Sullivan Barracks be closed until 1 p.m. April 29 and all day May 1.

• **Baby Shower** – The Mannheim Army Health Clinic invites expectant parents and parents with children 2 months old and younger to its Mannheim Community Baby Shower 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 30 at the Sports Arena. Sign up by April 23: Cvt. 0621-730-9560.

• **New MOUT Site** – A new urban training facility is set to open at the local training area in Mannheim-Lampertheim to help prepare Soldiers for possible deployment missions. The grand opening is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. May 19 and will include a ribbon-cutting followed by a live demonstration.

• **Summer Camp Registration** – SAS Summer Camp enrollment begins May 18 at CER, building 255, room 106. Camp is June 15-August 28 and is for children 6-11 years old.

• **Super Saturdays** – Held the second Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Child Development Center. Child care is open to families who have a current registration with CVS Services. Reservations: DSN 380-4851, cv. 0621-730-4850.

Hole-in-One at Heidelberg Golf Course

Spc. Christopher Sweeney shot a hole-in-one on the 109-yard fourth hole at the Heidelberg golf course Friday during a unit tournament held by the 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment. About 130 golfers took part in the event. Sweeney used a nine-iron for his "ace."
SOURCE: Rex Gribble

Running for a cause



Photos by Christine June

Army, Air Force team up for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

About 800 members of the Kaiserslautern military community ran in the joint Army and Air Force Sexual Assault Awareness Month 5-kilometer run Friday at the Southside Gym on Ramstein Air Base. This is the second year the Army and Air Force sexual assault response coordinators teamed up to sponsor this joint event. The next Sexual Assault Awareness Month event sponsored by the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern is the Shine the Light Walk that will start 7 p.m. April 30 at the youth center on Vogelweh Housing.



Heidelberg ladies perform well at U.S. Forces Europe bowling championships

At the conclusion of the U.S. Forces Europe bowling championships Friday, it was the Heidelberg ladies who commanded the spotlight among local bowlers.

Teams of four from across Europe competed at the Bowling Center on Patrick Henry Village April 15, followed by doubles April 16 and then singles Friday.

Heidelberg's Lakeshia Cruz (495-541 - 1,036) claimed first in the women's singles, followed by Heidelberg's Carol Richardson (518-517 - 1,035) in second and Jessica Turner (477-539 - 1,016) in fourth behind Gellenkirchen's All Air-Force bowler Kristin Odekirk (533-517 - 1,035).

Friday wasn't the only good day for the Heidelberg singles winners, though. To start off the tournament in April 15's team event, Cruz and Turner linked up with Demetria Roberts and Stephanie Box to take home third place with 3,968.

On April 16, Turner and Box returned to claim third in doubles followed by Richardson and Jennifer Lowery in fourth and Roberts and Cruz in fifth.

Although the Heidelberg men didn't dominate the leader board, the duo of Steve Hetu and Percy Morgan claimed fifth in the doubles tournament.

SOURCE: Stars and Stripes

staying ACTIVE

Sexual Assault Awareness Walk

Show your support for victims of sexual assault by participating in the "Shine the Light" Sexual Assault Awareness Walk on Vogelweh Housing at 7 p.m. April 30. Walk begins at the Vogelweh Youth Center fields. Registration is not required for the event. DSN 493-4617, civ. 0631-3406-4617, lisa.velez2@eur.army.mil.

Boxing Championships

The Miesau Fitness Center hosts the 2009 U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championships April 23-26. DSN 481-3797, civ. 06372-842-3797.

World Tai Chi and Qigong Day

The Kaiserslautern military community is invited to a free event at 10 a.m. April 25 at Upper Donnelly Park on Ramstein Air Base. Tai chi builds energy, is fun and easy for the whole family to develop deep breathing and enhance mental focus with slow, graceful movements. pejachowski@juno.com, www.worldtaichiday.org.

Tennis Tournament

The Patrick Henry Village Tennis Center will conduct eight tennis tournaments this season starting with the Spring Open Tournament April 25-26. The clay court competition will feature men's and women's singles and doubles events. The cost is \$20 for the Spring Open. DSN 388-9037, civ. 0176-2456-8225.

Community Softball

Kaiserslautern - Units wishing to participate in this year's unit-level softball league should contact Sports and Fitness. DSN 493-2087, civ. 0631-3406-2087, usagklnsports@eur.army.mil. Sign up no later than May 6.

Heidelberg - Register at the Patton Fitness Center at 6 p.m. May 6. Open to all military units/components assigned to USAG Heidelberg. You may register as a team, unit or individual. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

All-Stars/Masters Championships

BFV Bowling Center in Mannheim invites all qualified members of local associations chartered through USBC to participate in this state-level tournament May 22-25. Bowling competition will be handicap with a separate division for scratch bowlers. Cash prizes will be available depending on the number of participants. Bowlers can sign-up through May 15. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. DSN 380-9528, civ. 0621-730-9528, colleen.gardner@eur.army.mil.

Inline Hockey Players Needed

If you play inline hockey and want to join an official men's league, the DPL is currently looking for experienced inline players. Summer season starts May 10. Civ. 0172-6263642, ken.robinson@eu.dodea.edu, www.dpliga.com.

Youth Coaches Needed

Kaiserslautern CVS Services Youth Sports is seeking coaches for sports, adventure and fitness. Sports coaches for wrestling, cheerleading, basketball, baseball, football, soccer, softball, jump-rope, tennis, golf, ping-pong and more. Adventure coaches for white water rafting, mountain biking, rock climbing, walking club and more. Fitness coaches for yoga, aerobics, strength training and more. DSN 493-4112, civ. 0631-3406-4112.