

HeraldPOST

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

Share your opinion about local services

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs

Do you have an opinion you want to express to senior Army leadership about programs and services you receive at your garrison? Now's your chance.

Saturday's unveiling of a new, online survey allows you to express your frank opinions about anything related to the Army Family Covenant, and just what you think it's done or not done for you and your family since its inception two years ago.

"The (U.S. Army Europe) commanding general realizes that families in Europe have unique needs relative to our counterparts back in the States," said Lt. Col. Chris Farrell, special assistant to the commanding general, who is providing oversight to The Army Family Covenant Assessment. "The Army Family Covenant is making a difference for our Soldiers and families, and this survey will help us systematically improve support programs and services so we can do even better."

The survey will evaluate just how well the Army Family Covenant meets the needs and expectations of Soldiers and families in Europe and to maximize positive outcomes for the future. The Army Family Covenant Assessment is the first initiative of its size and scope in the Army, and it is the first large-scale, integrated study of the covenant's effectiveness within a major command.

Part of the holistic Army Family Covenant Assessment in Europe that began earlier in July with focus groups at seven Army Europe garrisons, the online survey will gauge community satisfaction with all aspects of covenant-related programs and services: health care; housing; youth services; single Soldier programs as well as Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, and other quality-of-life programs.

"It is imperative we recognize that, after eight years of sustained combat operations, the needs of our Soldiers and families have changed and continue to evolve," Farrell added. "To say the Army Family Covenant is doing 'something' is simply not good enough. To say we are helping it do the best possible things – the 'right things' – for the Army in Europe Family is our collective responsibility."

The simple survey takes only a few minutes to complete and can be accessed from any government or home computer at www.armymwr.com/fmwrct/AFC/survey.htm.



Jason L. Austin
Sara Byron, 8, gets sloozed by her brother (blue T-shirt) Friday during the Slooze Show, the capstone event during Heidelberg's vacation Bible school. The 22-member Slooze Crew, from First Baptist Church of Altamonte Springs, Fla., came to support the military families during VBS and held two additional shows in Mannheim and Landstuhl. See the story on page 12 and additional photos online at www.flickr.com/heraldpost.

Unexploded WWII ordnance found near Heidelberg shopping center

By Ina Stiewitz

USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A German construction company excavated unexploded World War II ordnance with its bulldozer in the area behind the Heidelberg Community Support Center Monday.

The 500-pound U.S. bomb caused the evacuation of a total of 900 people, including all Soldiers, civilians and family members at the CSC at the time.

see **ORDNANCE** page 12



Ina Stiewitz
Klaus-Peter Olsson, from the German War Explosive Ordnance Disposal Service in Stuttgart, shows the 500-pound World War II bomb he disarmed Monday near the Heidelberg Community Support Center.

HP THURSDAY
Aug. 13, 2009

Speed Read

21ST TSC COMMAND CHANGE

The 21st TSC is set to change leaders in a change-of-command ceremony on Daenner Kaserne Aug. 20. 3

18TH MP OFF-SITE

Leaders from across the 18th Military Police Brigade came together in Heidelberg to discuss the way ahead for the unit. 4

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



German and American law enforcement and emergency response agencies joined the Heidelberg military community for National Night Out on Patrick Henry Village. 6

UNDERSTANDING ICE

The Interactive Customer Evaluation system is available 24 hours a day for compliments and complaints about the various garrison facilities. But what does it really do for the community? 9

GOING POSTAL

IMCOM-Europe hosted a Postal Summit to share ideas and best practices as it refines plans to transform Army postal operations in Europe. 12

MILITARY LONG DRIVE

A Heidelberg Soldier will head to Mesquite, Nev., for a national golf competition after winning the Europe event over the weekend. 17



Defense Details

AFGHAN ELECTIONS

Days before the Aug. 20 Afghan national elections, coalition forces are prepared to back up Afghan security forces as necessary to ensure 17 million registered voters have safe access to the polls, Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell said. The election, the first the Afghans have organized, run and administered since the 1970s, represents "a significant turning point" for the Afghan people, he said. The United States is taking no position on the 37 candidates on the ballot, but recognizes the importance of a smooth election process.

Army news: www.army.mil

What's Inside

Our Army Around the World.....	8
Leisure.....	13
Dear Ms. Vicki	14
GET OUT!	15
Movies	15
Announcements	16
Sports.....	17



COMMENTARY

'Enviro-mation' banners serve as regular reminders

By **Samantha Rogers**
POLLUTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

You change the world. Each day you make a difference, be it for good or ill; you cannot help but affect your environment.

The U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg is reminding you to make little changes: recycle, turn off your car instead of idling, cut the lights when you leave a room (unless, of course, someone else is in there).

Just switching to a cold/cold laundry wash (vs. hot/cold, gas heat) will prevent about 1,000

pounds of carbon from being released. You have the power to reduce water and energy use, allowing our garrison to conserve resources, save money and meet requirements.

"Enviro-mation" banners are posted on fences around the community. Use them to help you remember little things you can do that make a big difference.

Together we can march toward sustainability, one step at a time. For information, comments and questions, e-mail environmental@hdpw.eur.army.mil.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Child support payments and passports

Patton Legal Center

Did you know that you can be denied a passport, even if you are a Soldier or federal employee and need one to perform your duties, if you owe back child support?

The Code of Federal Regulations provides that individuals who are in arrears of child support payments in excess of \$2,500 are ineligible to receive a U.S. passport.

The denial works like this. A state child support agency must certify to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that an individual owes back child support in an amount greater than \$2,500. HHS then notifies the State Department to deny a passport, or passport renewal, to that individual. Once on the denial list, the State Department will not process any request for passport services from that individual or on that individual's behalf.

The State Department usually will not even discuss the matter with the individual concerned. At best, the individual will be told that HHS must notify the State Department to remove the individual's name before any passport request will be considered.

HHS will not advise the State Department to remove an individual from the denial list unless the appropriate state agency notifies HHS that the arrearages have been paid or satisfactory payment arrangements have been made between the individual and the state. In normal practice, HHS will not

process any sort of exception to policy, as it believes the matter is strictly between the state and individual.

Most states attempt to collect as much of the arrearage as possible before they will agree to a settlement with the individual. This can amount to thousands of dollars in some cases. In many states, the agreement of the parent who has custody of the child is required before the state will sign off on a settlement.

The denial policy has been met with almost universal approval as it is seen as an attempt to get "deadbeat" parents to pay their lawful child support obligations. But it can work a real hardship for individuals who are placed on the list because little attention is paid to the underlying circumstances of the case.

The best course of action for anyone with child support obligations is to ensure the payments are being made in the amount required and on time. Arguments that the custodial parent is not using the payment appropriately so the payments were stopped or payments are being made in other fashions such as money going directly to the child rarely work. If the obligation is onerous or the money is being misused, individuals should go back to court and try to have the obligation modified. Individuals should also work with the state on a payment plan before taking any kind of unilateral action.

If you have problems in this area, consult your nearest legal assistance office.



Join the virtual community today
<http://myBWnow.ning.com>

BLOG ROLL

Find out what your garrison commanders and members of your community are saying in the BWnow virtual community

Heidelberg community members: If a taxi service were available to pick you up or drop you off at your quarters or at a central location on your installation, would you use it? What services would you most likely need, i.e. transportation to and from downtown Heidelberg, transportation to and from the airport, etc.?

Responses:
It would be incredibly useful if the taxis could

have a fixed rate to get you to stops for public transportation, for example the main station or maybe just the Grasweg bus stop.

-ThunderRoad, BWnow member

... Having access to a taxi service, with availability to transport customers on and off different posts, would definitely be a convenient thing.

-William Perkins, BWnow member

I agree that the use of taxis would have been beneficial during inprocessing for me and my family. For families living on PHV, there is no immediate access to public transportation as an alternative. The bus schedule on the weekends are basically good for one trip out to the shopping center and one trip back, and you have to plan your day around those times...

-Ramona Discavage, BWnow member



Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg:
Col. William C. Butcher
Public Affairs Officer:
Lira Frye
Editor:
Kelli Bland
Reporters:
Jason L. Austin, Baden-Württemberg
Christine June, Kaiserslautern
Webmeister:
Juan Meléndez Jr.

Contact information:
Herald Post
Building 107, Patton Barracks
373-7277/7243 or 06221-17-7277/7243
usaghd.post@eur.army.mil
Baden-Württemberg Public Affairs
373-1400/1600 or 06221-17-1400/1600
usaghd.pao@eur.army.mil
Kaiserslautern Public Affairs
493-4072 or 0631-3406-4062
usak.pa1@eur.army.mil
Mannheim Public Affairs
380-1600/385-3369 or 0621-730-1600/3369
usagmpao@eur.army.mil

Advertising:

All requests for advertising must be made to the publisher's sales office at Schwetzingenstrasse 54, Heidelberg-Kirchheim, telephone 06221-603039; fax 06221-603078; www.hp-ads.de.

The Public Affairs Office and Herald Post staff may not accept advertising.

The Herald Post is published by Adolf Deil GmbH & Co. KG, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army overseas. Contents of the Herald Post are not necessarily official views of, or

endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the USAG Baden-Württemberg.

Appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, the USAG Baden-Württemberg, or Adolf Deil GmbH & Co. KG of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and

provided by the USAG Baden-Württemberg Public Affairs Office.

Printed circulation: 17,000.

The Herald Post offices are in Building 107, Patton Barracks, Heidelberg. Military address: Herald Post, PAO, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg, Unit 29237, APO AE 09102. Civilian address: Herald Post, Patton Kaserne, Gebäude 107, Kirchheimerweg 4, 69124 Heidelberg. E-mail address: usaghd.post@eur.army.mil.

Submissions are welcome, including letters to the editor, but we reserve the right to edit for style, space, libel, clarity, security and good taste. To be considered for publication in a particular issue, they must be in our hands by noon the preceding Thursday.

Welcome home 464th Med. Co.



Capt. Brandon Gage embraces his daughter, Haylie, at a July 24 homecoming reception for the 464th Medical Company (Dental Services), marking the end of its 15-month deployment to Iraq. Gage deployed with the 464th as an augmentee from the 561st Medical Company.

21st TSC to welcome new leader Aug. 20

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine is scheduled to relinquish command of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command to Brig. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston during a formal change-of-command ceremony Aug. 20 at the Daenner Kaserne Sports Field at 2 p.m.

Eighteen months after taking command of the 21st TSC, Fontaine will depart the Kaiserslautern area and Germany and become the commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Ill. The ASC, which supports Army, Joint and Coalition Forces, is a global organization charged with providing front-line logistics support to combat units. Additionally, ASC manages Army pre-positioned stocks located in strategic sites around the world, maintains weapons and equipment at bases in forward areas and oversees the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, which provides contractor support in theaters of operation.

McQuiston joins the 21st TSC from the Defense Supply Center Columbus headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. She served as the commanding general for the past two years and was in charge of an annual operating budget of \$2.3 billion in support of land and maritime supply chains, encompassing repair parts support for all military services. She directed the efforts of more than 2,500 associates at 36 locations worldwide engaged in purchasing materiel, monitoring inventory levels, maintaining technical data, and assuring quality conformance of more than two million spare and repair parts used by more than 24,000 military units and civilian federal agencies.

Due to the limited number of available parking spaces, invited guests are reminded to ensure they have their parking permits with them when they arrive for the change of command. All entry roads to Daenner Kaserne, whether from the Autobahn or Mannheimer Strasse, will be manned by force protection personnel who will direct and facilitate traffic and parking access.

The 21st TSC provides theater sustainment throughout the U.S. European Command U.S. Africa Command areas of responsibility in support of U.S. Army Europe and the 7th Army. On order, the 21st TSC can deploy to support theater opening, distribution, and reception, staging, onward movement and enable integration functions.

Soldiers return to LRMC after 15 months in Iraq

By Chuck Roberts
LRMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Speeches were interrupted by the sounds of crying babies and restless kids, but no one minded – they were entitled.

Their moms and dads had just marched into the gym where they stood in formation, only moments away from officially ending a 15-month deployment to Iraq by 51 Soldiers from the 464th Medical Company (Dental Services) at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center July 24.

But first, hugs and kisses would commence officially when Spc. Jason Cummings was summoned in front of the formation where he was reunited with his wife, Spc. Elizabeth Cummings, also assigned to the 464th. As the youngest couple in the company, the two Soldiers were given the honor of the first welcome home hug and kiss, an act quickly followed in the gym by the home crowd.

For Elizabeth, the family separation encompassed

many of the travails experienced by most spouses of deployed Soldiers, and most of them for the first time by the 23-year-old generator mechanic.

Her plan for getting out of the Army in July 2008 was postponed because of stop-loss, so when Jason deployed in May 2008, Elizabeth was left holding down the fort with 7-week-old daughter Julia, 6-year-old stepson Jordan, and an Army career requiring TDYs and trips to the field.

"It was a big adjustment becoming a single parent for the first time," Elizabeth said while waiting for the 464th to arrive from nearby Ramstein Air Base, where they had landed a few hours prior. "I had to take on both roles as mother and father. I had to make decisions on my own the best I could."

But like her fellow Soldiers and other spouses of deployed service members, Elizabeth said she made the adjustment and ended up as a more independent

"I had to take on both roles as mother and father. I had to make decisions on my own the best I could."

-Spc. Elizabeth Cummings, 464th Medical Company (Dental Services)

person and a "Jack of all trades, master of none" as mom, nurse, doc and other careers as needed.

Elizabeth gives huge credit for helping her along the way to coworkers, neighbors and her day care provider, Helen Walters, who she said was like a second mother to her. "It feels like I have family here."

Her coworkers were 14 Soldiers from the 464th who kept the company going at LRMC during the past 15 months. Like Elizabeth, Capt. Cathy Laws said they met the challenge head-on.

"It could have been disastrous but they did an exceptional job," said the executive officer for the 464th.

There was one adjustment, however, that came

with ease. Being with family again is a welcomed change from deployment life that Jason Cummings quickly warmed up to with his wife and children.

"It's amazing, it really is," he said just moments after the family reunited. The family kept in contact by Skyping daily, but nothing replaces being there.

"It seems surreal right now," Jason said with daughter Julia sitting in his arms. "It didn't seem like this day would ever come."

The 464th Medical Company (Dental Services) is a rapidly deployable dental company.

In addition to dentists and dental technicians, the company is comprised of support personnel in order to sustain and defend itself in any environment.

18th MP Brigade brings senior leaders together

By Spc. Adrienne Killingsworth
18TH MP BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The senior leaders of the companies and battalions of the 18th Military Police Brigade gathered Aug. 2-4 with their brigade leadership at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg to conduct an off-site conference discussing the commander's intent for the future of the brigade.

The off-site was a unique opportunity for Col. Thomas Evans, commander, 18th MP Brigade, to have so many of his brigade's leaders in one place and allowed him to show the way ahead for the brigade while laying out his priorities for its success.

The spouses of these senior leaders

were also invited to the off-site to provide perspective on issues that affect the family members who support the brigade's Soldiers.

Evans said family readiness groups contribute a great deal to the success of the brigade and its Soldiers – emphasizing that the proper use of these groups within the units is a responsibility he wants every commander to take seriously.

Because the units of the 18th MP Brigade are widely dispersed throughout Germany, opportunities like this off-site provide a unique chance for leaders to converge, socialize with one another and share ideas.

Noting the positive feedback he received from his company command-

ers and first sergeants, Lt. Col. Duane Miller, commander, 95th Military Police Battalion, said he felt one of the most positive aspects of the conference was how, "the off-site gave my company leaders an opportunity to see their peers to the left and to the right and to really interact with one another."

Providing leaders with an opportunity to see the goals and challenges of the brigade in black and white while also providing them time to give feedback was one of the main objectives Evans had for their meeting.

"Everything this brigade does and does not do will be ordered and executed by the leaders in this room," Evans said, adding that the purpose of getting these leaders together was to

"set the conditions for success."

Commanding a brigade as large as the 18th MP Brigade, which has widely distributed units that rapidly deploy in addition to a battalion inactivating this year, provides unique challenges for its leadership.

But, with the success of this off-site in Heidelberg, Evans said he hopes to be able to bring the leaders back together again to have an even more in-depth meeting.

Lt. Col. Gregg Thompson, executive officer, 18th MP Brigade, suggested that the next off-site could benefit even further by, "breaking down into targeted groups with targeted issues," allowing the leadership to continue to ensure the success of the "Ever Vigilant" brigade.

Army offers chance to attend law school for free

By Staff Sgt. Patricia Deal
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Army's Funded Legal Education Program offers commissioned officers a golden opportunity – the chance to attend law school free of charge while on active duty and then become a part of the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps.

"The opportunity to attend law school for free, and still get paid as an Army officer? I jumped at the opportunity. I always had an interest in being an attorney, and this was an excellent way for me to go to law school," said Lt. Col. Beth Kubala, executive officer for the U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army Office of the Judge Advocate in Heidelberg.

A West Point graduate originally commissioned as a military intelligence officer, Kubala attended law school through the FLEP program.

The program is made available by the Department of the Army Office of the Judge Advocate General to officers in the ranks of second lieutenant through captain who have two to six years of active-duty service.

The Army pays law school tuition and active-duty salaries for those selected for the schooling. This year up to 25 active-duty officers will be selected Armywide to attend law school beginning in fall 2010 under the program if funding permits, according to a recent OTJAG release.

OTJAG officials recommend

that interested officers review Chapter 14 of Army Regulation 27-1, which governs the FLEP program, to determine their eligibility.

"The idea behind the program is to get officers in the JAG Corps who already have background and experience with the Army. Many JAG officers are direct-commissioned out of law school and just aren't as familiar with Army doctrine and policy," explained Col. Kevin Boyle, USAREUR and 7th Army deputy staff judge advocate.

"Having that bit of experience with the Army in a leadership role definitely makes you a better lawyer," said Lt. Col. Brian Hughes, chief of the USAREUR OJA's military and civil law division.

Hughes was a commissioned infantry officer for six years before attending law school through the FLEP program. "You are able to make better decisions not only based on legality, but also based on the impact the decision would have on the particular unit from a military standpoint."

Applications are being accepted from eligible officers through Nov. 1. Interested officers must process an application packet and a request to immediately register for the earliest available Law School Admission Test through command channels. Eligible officers in Europe who are interested in applying can contact Kubala at DSN 370-7177, civ. 06221-57-7177 or by e-mail at elizabeth.kubala@us.army.mil.

Personal car wash areas available on Patton Barracks



Delphine Meeth

Community members who wish to wash their own vehicles can do so behind the Speedy Lube on Patton Barracks where high-pressure wands and regular hoses are located. Within U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg, privately-owned vehicle washing is only permitted in the Speedy Lube car wash or the area directly behind the Speedy Lube, which are equipped with oil and fuel separators. Vehicle washing is not permitted in housing areas or in any other areas on Heidelberg installations. When hand-washing, be sure to use environmentally friendly, phosphate-free car washing soaps. For questions, contact the DPW Environmental Division at environmental@hdpw.eur.army.mil or visit the Directorate of Public Works Web site at www.dpw.heidelberg.army.mil/environmental/environmental.htm for more environmental-related topics.



Daliah Daniels, 8, is secured to a backboard by members of the German Red Cross during the National Night Out event held on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg Aug. 4. See more event photos on www.flickr.com/heraldpost.

National Night Out unifies community

By Jason L. Austin
HERALD POST STAFF

Twelve different agencies, whose jobs are to protect the Soldiers, civilians and family members in the garrison communities, came together in Heidelberg Aug. 4 to celebrate National Night Out.

National Night Out is an event designed to bring neighbors together, to get to know their local law enforcement agencies and to give crime a going away party, said Sgt. Andrew Metzinger, who coordinated the event for the Directorate of Emergency Services.

"It's a good thing for the kids to see what the community has," said Sgt. Alexander Garcia, who brought his sons out, "not only on post with the military police, but off post with the local police. So the kids get familiar with the Polizei and how they work."

Garcia said he was curious after seeing the advertising and hearing it on the radio, but mostly he came because the event took place right outside his window.

The event was held in the center of Patrick Henry Village, among family housing and

playgrounds.

"For our very first one, it was a success," Metzinger said. "I know a lot of agencies that were out there ... were impressed. They were really excited. They liked a chance to get to talk to the military and the kids."

Garcia said during an ice cream break, he thought his kids were having fun. His oldest son, Alexander Jose, won some Legos from the U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Fire and Emergency Services.

The Polizei had several vehicles and a pair of horses at the event, and the children seemed to enjoy using the loud speaker in the police cruisers the most.

"The kids were all excited about crawling over (the Polizei) tank, and the horses and motorcycles," Metzinger said.

"I hope they do this every year," Garcia said. Metzinger said they do plan to have National Night Out next year and hope for more agencies and more community members.

"Not only did it build our community spirit, it let people know our host nation is part of keeping us safe, too," Metzinger said. "They are part of our law enforcement team."

DPW, Boy Scouts team up to win local environmental award

USAG Mannheim DPW

U.S. Army Garrison Mannheim's Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division and the local Boy Scouts received an award for environmental excellence from Mannheim Mayor Lothar Quest during a ceremony at the city's Stadthaus July 22.

The City of Mannheim Environmental Award was given for the construction of an insect hotel, planned and built by Troop 137 under the guidance of the DPW.

Eagle Scout Patrick Carey planned, organized and executed the project to earn his Eagle Scout badge.

Construction on the insect hotel began in April 2008 and was finished in late July 2008. Under the supervision of Larry Scavone and Franz Schork, both of the Mannheim DPW, the scouts constructed the insect hotel in approximately 270 hours for about €500.

"The young Boy Scouts worked on this intense team effort project building a small habitat for insects to live and breed that will last for many years," said Scavone, who is the Mannheim DPW's director. "The scouts learned a great deal about planning,

design and construction, which they will use in many future endeavors."

With ordinary materials and a few working hours, an effective contribution to the protection of native insects was accomplished. In the coming years, the scouts want to monitor and maintain the insect hotel and its vicinity.

A complete inventory of all resident insects is planned for this summer. The offered material will be checked for completeness and possible upgrades, if applicable.

"This contribution enhances the natural environment and signifies the U.S. military's responsibility to protect the environment of the host country of Germany," Scavone said. "Every contribution counts."

In 2000 USAG Mannheim DPW submitted the first entry for the City of Mannheim Environmental Award contest. Competition with

host nation organizations, international trusts and firms, and citizens initiatives the USAG Mannheim DPW demonstrated its stewardship in environmental protection every year. This is the 10th straight year the garrison has been given the award.

21st TSC opens new deployment personnel holding area

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command's Deployment Processing Center held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its newest Personnel Holding Area on Rhine Ordnance Barracks July 28.

While the other PHAs on Rhine Ordnance Barracks house deploying Soldiers for up to five hours, the new facility provides a temporary place for coalition and U.S. forces with a 24- to 72-hour wait. Mostly Soldiers supporting operations in Kosovo and Soldiers on leave or awaiting medical appointments will stay in PHA 1 – Transient Support, as the facility is officially called.

It is a mission the 21st TSC's 39th Transportation Battalion has taken on from the 64th Replacement Company.

The facility is housed in a converted hangar-sized warehouse, which cannot disguise its intended purpose. However, the staff successfully adds uncommon warmth to the building's bare-boned structure.

"Our organization is entirely customer-service focused. We try to give the Soldiers who come through here a little touch of home, a bit of comfort. We all consider it our pleasure to do something that takes care of our Soldiers," said Capt. Erin Brunson, the officer in charge of the DPC.

That touch of home is evident in the landscape

and flower photos displayed throughout the facility as well as the books and the games that await the Soldiers.

The small theater with auditorium seating; the well-stocked vending machines that offer personal hygiene products along with snacks and refreshments; the shiny kitchen area where the USO has set up coffee, bottled water and other goodies; and the foosball and pool tables all bear testimony to that customer-service orientation.

It is also the reason David Hayes, the deputy director of the DPC, has a laundry list of things he would like to enhance or obtain for the facility.

"We have come a long way from when I deployed myself.

This is a start, but there is always room for improvement. We are here to serve the warfighters, and they deserve the best we can give," he said.

It is a customer-service orientation made all the more believable because the staff works 24/7 – nights, weekends and holidays included. Additionally, the majority of the civilians working at the DPC are retired military who readily use their experience and resources.

"As former green-suiters we know what Soldiers need as they get ready to go downrange. As civilians, we have a few more liberties to voice our needs and concerns to get what we want," Hayes said.

It certainly is to the Soldiers' advantage. Some of

the facility's furniture, for instance, came from the Air Force. When the DPC staff found out it was scheduled to be discarded, they snapped it up.

"Anything we can do to keep the Soldiers occupied. We are always looking for donations of books, games and movies. Thankfully, USO has given us great support and is currently working on getting us wireless Internet access," Hayes said.

Another type of support comes from the 21st TSC's chaplain's office. PHA 1 has a small, serene space set aside for spiritual reflection or meditation. And there is a chaplain on call at all times should a Soldier wish to speak with one.



Senior Airman Jason Epley

(Above) Rangers parachute from a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III Aug. 3 during Ranger Rendezvous 2009 over Ft. Benning, Ga. More than 1,000 Rangers assigned to four Ranger battalions from across the country participated in a mass tactical jump.

(Right) Staff Sgt. Jeremy Torres-Cortes attempts to speak with an Afghan villager by pointing to a phrase on his language translation card while patrolling the Wadawu valley of Nuristan province, Afghanistan, Friday. Torres-Cortes is a member of the 77th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, based out of Fort Carson, Colo. The patrol was part of an operation where Afghan National Security Forces and International Security Assistance Forces teamed up to disrupt insurgent activity before the nation's second national elections, scheduled for late August.



Sgt. Matthew C. Mueller

ourARMY
around the world

For more Army news,
visit www.army.mil



Petty Officer 2nd Class Edwin L. Wriston



Senior Airman Julianne Showalter

Soldiers use a rope ladder to board a CH-47 Chinook helicopter during a month-long joint operations and tactics course in the Gulf of Mexico Aug. 5. The CH-47 crew is assigned to Task Force 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C.

(Left) Soldiers from the 112th Infantry (Forward), 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, try to locate remains of a U.S. Soldier missing in action since 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq, Aug. 3.

Hail and farewell goes to the birds

By Spc. Adrienne Killingsworth
18TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers and their families of the 18th Military Police Brigade gathered for dinner in Hemsbach July 25 to participate in the Army's time-honored tradition of the hail and farewell.

The hail and farewell is typically conducted as a dinner welcoming those individuals who have been newly assigned to a unit and officially saying goodbye to those departing the unit.

While the Soldiers and families of the 18th MP Brigade certainly did those things during their dinner, Col. Thomas P. Evans, brigade commander, added a new element to the dinner.

This hail and farewell was not held at a local restaurant like many in the past have. Instead, it was held at the Oasis Badminton Courts in Hemsbach.

The running theme for the night was fun and color – and with a dress code of Hawaiian shirts and shorts, the night was indeed a fun, colorful night.

After recognizing the accomplishments of the senior leaders who would be departing the unit and warmly welcoming those stepping into the brigade, Evans showed his competitive spirit by unveiling his bag of gear for his reign what he dubbed the "challenge court."

In a style befitting his personality, those coming into the unit and those leaving were dared to take on the brigade commander in a game of badminton on the challenge court.

Evans' unveiling of his team's personalized team shirts, sweatbands and rackets garnered a big laugh from those gathered and ensured that this very unique hail and farewell would be hard to match.



Spc. Adrienne Killingsworth

Col. Thomas Evans, commander, 18th Military Police Brigade, prepares to challenge his Soldiers to a game of badminton during the unit's hail and farewell ceremony at the Oasis Badminton courts in Hemsbach July 25.



Spc. Jason Nolte

Taking a knee with 21st TSC

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, lines up a put on the par 3 10th hole at the Woodlawn Golf Course on Ramstein Air Base. Fontaine and about 130 other Soldiers and civilians from the 21st TSC participated in an organizational golf tournament at Ramstein Friday.

ICE program for good and bad input

By Juan R. Meléndez Jr.
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Did you have a pleasant experience at a local facility? Or maybe you're pleased at the consistently good service you've been getting from a garrison office.

You've said thanks, but you'd like to express your appreciation to the folks who served you in a way that has more impact than just a smile and a hand shake.

In a few minutes at a computer with Internet access, you can send your message on ICE, or Interactive Customer Evaluation.

Not only will it reach the service provider, but the information will go all the way to the top of the garrison chain of command and possibly impact on the services you and your fellow community members receive.

Not so happy with the service you got? Or perhaps you have a useful suggestion about improving a particular service. ICE can be your tool for that as well.

How do I use ICE?

ICE is a Web-based system for collecting customer feedback using online comment cards.

Start by going to the home page of your garrison:

Heidelberg – www.heidelberg.army.mil

Mannheim – <http://home.mannheim.army.mil>

Kaiserslautern – www.kaiserslautern.army.mil

At the bottom of the page, select the ICE tab and click anywhere on it.

This takes you the community's ICE welcome page, where you'll find an array of service categories listed.

Let's say you want to applaud the service you received at the Community Bank. You click on the Money/Finance link, which takes

you to a Service Provider List page with all the units, offices and services having to do with that topic, including the local Community Bank branches or the local credit union.

Couldn't find a topic area that covers the service provider you want to comment on? Click on the "Show all the service providers" link toward the bottom of the welcome page and get the full list of all the service providers, arranged alphabetically.

If you still can't find what you're looking for, click on the "Site Suggestions, Questions, Comments" link at the bottom.

This takes you to a message form page. The garrison ICE manger will take your message and forward it to the appropriate service provider.

Using the ICE form

Once you get to the comment card page of the service you want, you'll see a series of questions plus an area for you to make a comment.

You click on the appropriate responses, perhaps make a comment, then click on the "Submit Comment Card Button."

That's it, you're done.

You can submit your comment anonymously, but if you want a response or want the recipients to know who submitted it, you should add contact information, a phone number and/or an e-mail address.

What happens then?

Your comment is sent directly to the service provider's ICE manager. He brings the information to the attention of the facility's manager.

If you've provided information for a response, the service provider has three working days to get back to you with an answer to your query.

But even if you submitted your comment anonymously, it isn't ig-

nored. All comments – classified as positive, neutral or negative – generate statistics that are reported to the service provider managers and up the chain of command to the commander of U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg.

Once a quarter, the commander meets with the ICE Chill Board, which includes community leaders and service provider managers.

Issues brought up by your comments are discussed and progress is tracked in dealing with them.

Want to get a feel for how other community members feel about that particular service provider? Click on the "Service Provider Summary Report" link at the bottom of the ICE welcome page. That takes you to a page with a list of community providers, the number of ICE submissions and the percentage who indicated they were satisfied.

In the coming months, expect to see more emphasis on the use of ICE to sense the community's satisfaction with its services.

Service provider managers will be encouraged to be proactive in providing ICE links to their particular service – be it in the form of Web page links, links in e-mail signature blocks, or cards and posters.

Service providers needing help with ICE should contact the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office ICE Team at DSN 373-6487, civ. 06221-17-5339.

The bottom line

ICE gives you community leadership direct feedback on how you feel about the services you're receiving.

It tells the leadership where improvements need to be made, gives them suggestions on how to do that, and ensures that pats on the back go to the people who deserve them.

IMCOM-E hosts first Postal Summit

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs

Postal representatives from various military and civilian agencies have concluded a two-day Postal Summit Conference hosted by Installation Management Command-Europe at its Center for Workforce Development in Schwetzingen.

IMCOM-Europe postal officials hosted the conference to surface ideas and best practices as they refine plans to transform Army postal operations in Europe.

"As IMCOM-Europe continues to transform to a one-stop Postal Service Center concept for our Army garrisons, we realize that cross-channeling of best practices and a joint approach to seeking efficiency will lead us to the best possible services for our customers while being good stewards of our taxpayer dollars," said Monique Bagby, IMCOM-Europe Postal Transformation project manager.

Postal representatives from Military Postal Service Agency, Department of the Army, Headquarters IMCOM, IMCOM-Europe, U.S. European Command, U.S. Army in Europe, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Air Forces in Europe attended the conference.

On day one, attendees divided into workgroups, examining issues such as standardization, metrics, best practices and transportation. On day two, workgroups finalized discussions before briefing senior military and civilian leaders on their findings.

"The workgroups looked at issues to determine more efficient and cost effective ways to do business," said Billy Smith, IMCOM-Europe deputy Postal Transformation project manager.

The conference's short-term intent was two fold, to build and strengthen interagency relationships and to identify ways to collectively improve postal service and support to our customers in the European theater. "We hope the long-term value of the conference will be realized through improved processes and improved customer service," Smith said.

IMCOM-Europe officials believe the conference yielded ideas it can use to improve processes as it implements a new postal concept – called the Postal Service Center – to improve postal service to all authorized Army Europe postal service customers.

"The bottom line we considered in developing this postal concept was: What can we do to make things better for our customer," Bagby said. "Under this new Army Europe PSC concept, customers will be able to take care of all their postal needs in one place."

The customer-focused initiative combines community mailrooms, official mailrooms and U.S. postal service entities into a "one-stop shop" for postal services, according to Bagby.

Bagby heads the IMCOM-Europe Postal Transformation Project Office, which is working with garrisons to implement transformation throughout Europe. In addition to Postal Transformation, the team also focuses on finding more efficient and cost effective ways to do business.

ORDNANCE

continued from page 1

"In case the bomb detonates, it would affect a radius of 200 to 300 meters airline distance," said Harald Kurzer, Polizei press relations officer, as to why the people in the area were evacuated.

As soon as the area had been evacuated, Klaus-Peter Olsson, from the

German War Explosive Ordnance Disposal Service in Stuttgart, disarmed the bomb within 10 minutes. After he analyzed the type of detonator, he used a pipe wrench to remove it.

"You can not foresee what is going to happen," Olsson said. "I have never been nervous by disarming explosive ordnance. But you should never get

into routine, because then you could do mistakes and that mistake could be your last one."

The depot had been the target of a total of 110 bombs, which is shown on old aerial photos taken by the Allies during WWII. For this reason, the construction site is constantly observed by the War Explosive Ordnance Disposal Service. Roughly 10

percent of all WWII bombs that were dropped over Germany were duds and did not explode.

After the bomb rested in the soil for about 65 years, it was finally loaded on a special truck and transported to Stuttgart.

"The bomb will be cut into three pieces, and the explosive substance will be destroyed," Olsson said.

The Ultimate Slooze Show



A girl reacts as a slooze-filled balloon splatters above her head Friday during the Slooze Show, the capstone event during Heidelberg's vacation Bible school.

Jason L. Austin

Florida team brings whacky games to VBS

By Jason L. Austin
HERALD POST STAFF

More Photos Online
www.flickr.com/heraldpost

Green spots recently appeared on several children in the Heidelberg area prompting smiles and cheers from onlookers.

The spots were slooze, a mixture of edible ingredients, which a 22-member team from First Baptist Church of Altamonte Springs, Fla., flung onto the children during a series of games they call the Slooze Show.

The group of mostly young professionals flew to Germany and had a show at Landstuhl and in Mannheim before spending a week volunteering at the Heidelberg community vacation Bible school, and running the capstone event, the Slooze Show Friday afternoon.

"This is a unique group of people," said Todd Lamphere, pastor of First Baptist Church of Altamonte Springs and a former Soldier. "They've made a commitment to young people,

and to bless young people."

Janna Carter was one team member, who took one and a half weeks out of her trial schedule to come to Germany to "serve military families and their kids ... to share the gospel and the hope of Christ in their life," she said.

Carter, who has been on every mission except one in the last 10 years, said "Everyone supports my decision to come out here and work with our military families. Taking a week and a half out of my trial schedule doesn't seem like nearly that big of a deal when you're faced with what they're doing."

The group typically performs one show in a location and moves on to the next city, but this year in Heidelberg they stayed for a whole week and volunteered at VBS.

"It may become the prototype at least for our military visits,"

Lamphere said.

"We know these kids now," Carter said. "We can call them by name and know their personalities. It's a totally different experience."

"Here we're so cool, and back home I'm a lawyer and not very well liked, and here it's like I'm the coolest person ever."

Each team member paid their own way and was rewarded with the ministry experience, but they also did some sightseeing in Heidelberg, Strasbourg, Dachau and Ludwigsburg.

Ultimately though, Carter said, "It's a huge privilege to be able to serve their kids in any way that we possibly can, even if it's just to have fun for a week."

The message behind the show is that God is crazy about every one of us, even if we get a little messy in our lives.

For the kids the message was clear. "It was fun," said Sarah Byron, 8, one of the green-spotted children. "The funnest part was when I got slimed, because I got to eat it."

FLY AERO-CLUB BEXBACH



Local airport fest starts Friday west of Kaiserslautern

The biggest airport fest in the Saarland will take place this weekend by the Blumengarten in Bexbach, about 20 minutes west of Kaiserslautern.

From Friday to Sunday, the Aero-Club Bexbach is expecting thousands of visitors from the Saarland and the neighboring Rheinland-Pfalz.

"Don't only look and admire, but fly with us and experience the flight!" is the motto of the president of the Aero-Club Bexbach, Dr. Karlheinz Pohmer.

Besides different acrobatic maneuvers by different types of airplanes, there will be orientation flights for all ages, plus there will be information regarding flying, music and entertainment.

There is also a program for the youngest visitors; the magician "Paldo" will entertain them with magical tricks.

This weekend's event is the 50th airport fest the Aero-Club Bexbach is hosting since 1959.

The beginning of the airport fest will be initiated by the traditional open air rock concert by the band Elliot.

This cover band from the Ne-

unkirchen area is one of the most popular live acts in the southwestern part of Germany.

No matter where the band plays, in soccer stadiums, concert halls, from open-air festivals to small clubs, this band always elates its audience.

The "Rock am Hangar" starts the open-air festival Friday at 8 p.m.

After dark, the stage will be glowing in romantic lights from the hot air balloons on the nearby airfield and will mesmerize the visitors while Elliot will rock on until midnight.

The actual airport fest will start at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, and flying will be the focus.

"We would like to show our guests the fascination of flying and, of course, hope that our spark of enthusiasm will leap over to our audience," Pohmer said. "Our visitors should experience the joy of flying themselves. Therefore, we give them the opportunity to participate in orientation flights, and let them experience the area they live in from a bird eye's view."

Another highlight of the airport fest is the acrobatic maneuvers. To the sound of music the pilots in their motorized planes and gliders will perform

acrobatic maneuvers.

"We would like to show our guests that the dream of flying does not have to stay a dream, it can become a reality," Pohmer said. "Flying, especially soaring, is a great sport and an adventure for all ages. As a matter of fact, it is more affordable than a lot of other sports or leisure activities. After all a pilot license for soaring costs less than a European driving license."

SOURCE: Chris Randel

How To Get There

Take autobahn A6 west toward Paris. Take the Homburg/Bexbach exit. Turn right and go toward the Stadtmitt. Follow signs toward Blumengarten/Grubenmuseum/Limbach. There is a six-story observation tower at the Blumengarten. Turn right after the tower and follow the road to the end. The airport is behind the Blumengarten and camping area.



Courtesy photos

GERMAN COOKING

Veal Steaks in Lemon and Curry Sauce

Ingredients:

- 1 pound veal cutlets; sliced thin
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon curry powder
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 onions; diced
- 2 tablespoons evaporated milk
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 lemon; juiced
- 10 parsley sprigs; chopped
- 2 tablespoons cognac or brandy

Directions:

- Season veal with salt, pepper and 1/2 teaspoon curry powder.
- Heat oil; brown veal slices on both sides. Remove meat and reserve.
- Add onions; saute until softened.
- Add evaporated milk and tomato paste. Cook until bubbly.
- Add lemon juice, rest of curry powder, and chopped parsley sprigs.
- Return veal slices to the sauce.
- Add the cognac or brandy; heat through.
- Serve on preheated platter.

Chocolate-Filled Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 package active dry yeast
- 1/4 cup warm water (105-115 degrees)
- 3/4 cup milk, scalded
- 1/3 cup butter, softened
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 6 ounces semi-sweet chocolate morsels
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 egg beaten

Directions:

- In small bowl, dissolve yeast in water; set aside.
- In large bowl, combine scalded milk, butter, sugar and salt; stir until butter melts. Beat in eggs and vanilla extract. Stir in yeast.
- Gradually add flour, beating well after each addition. Turn dough out onto lightly floured board; knead 8 minutes.
- Place dough in large greased bowl; turn once. Cover bowl with plastic wrap; let rise in warm place until doubled in bulk (about 1 1/2 hours).
- Turn dough out onto lightly floured board; knead 1 minute. Roll into 22x14 inch rectangle. Sprinkle semi-sweet chocolate morsels and nuts over dough.
- Roll up jelly roll style starting with long side; seal seam. Form into ring; seal ends. Place seam side down on cookie sheet. Cut 2/3 way through ring at 1 inch intervals, leaving center intact.
- Gently twist each section. Cover with plastic wrap; let rise in warm place until doubled in bulk (about 1 hour).
- Brush break with beaten egg. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes.
- Serve warm or at room temperature. Garnish as desired.

SOURCE: www.mygermanrecipes.com

Learn to Shop for German Food

Are you curious about local products and food items available on the economy? Visit an organic food store or a typical grocery store accompanied by a registered dietician who is fluent in the German language. Call the Nutrition Care Division at the Heidelberg Health Center to book your free tour, DSN 371-2747, civ. 06221-17-2747.



Vicki Johnson is a military spouse and clinical social worker with more than 12 years experience working with families in crisis. To contact Ms. Vicki, e-mail her at dearmsvicki@yahoo.com.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I wasn't sure exactly whom to write to, but I figured since you had so many readers, you might be able to help. I don't really have a question as much as an opinion.

My husband and I have been stationed at Fort Campbell for three years, and although the post is beautiful, it severely lacks what I would call compassion.

In three years here, my husband has had a horrible chain of command, housing has failed to take care of the maintenance needed on our home, trying to get my kids in to see a doctor is like trying to catch a greased pig, and the ER severely lacks organizational skills.

I don't mean to sound ungrateful. We have found many things here we enjoy, too, but after speaking with other wives and Soldiers, I hear the same thing – Fort Campbell is lacking a lot on the care of its families, and it seems here no respects anyone else.

My husband's chain of command reminds me of a fraternity, and they play favorites quite often. They have no respect for each other, and they definitely need to be reminded of the Army Values – apparently they are not the only chain of command like this.

I do believe that simple changes can affect how the Soldiers, their families and likewise live and support one another. With such a high suicide rate here, I wonder if some of those suicides could have been prevented had that Soldier's peers lifted him up with friendship, respect and safety from ridicule.

It happens more often than you think, and so many people only see the good side of this place. I believe that programs in the housing communities to unite neighbors would bring great support during deployment and that the hospital could really use major improvements in how they operate.

*From: Sick of it
Dear Sick,*

Thank you so much for writing and for sharing your story. To be

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. You can also visit her online at www.dearmsvicki.com.

I don't think you are being whiny or complaining. I think you are merely giving information about your experience. Conversely, I think you should voice your opinion on ICE (<http://ice.disa.mil>). The division/garrison commanders listen to those comments.

honest, when I receive letters like yours, I always encourage the writer to let their voice be heard.

I know the column is a place to voice your opinion and to vent; that's OK. However, I like for my readers to empower themselves and feel like they can make a change.

I receive letters like your on a weekly basis. Many do not want their letters printed. I don't think you are being whiny or complaining. I think you are merely giving information about your experience. Conversely, I think you should voice your opinion on ICE (<http://ice.disa.mil>). The division/garrison commanders listen to those comments.

It's important that you believe your opinions are being heard. On the other hand, it sounds like you are trying to find the positive in this situation and that you have the support of friends and, I hope, family, too.

I've found that having positive friends and support from family who love me has really helped me get through some tough times, especially when we have been in situations that we cannot change.

Continue to be supportive to your husband, take care of yourself and your family.

Responses to last week's column: Dear Ms. Vicki,

I believe you were right in telling the Soldier to take his wife off of all of the accounts. But I wanted to respond to the person who sent in a response to that story.

Not all military wives are out to screw the Soldier. Some of us happen to be very responsible. Of course all people seem to care about are the ones who are unfaithful to their husbands or the ones who leave their husbands coming home to financial ruin.

I personally need to have control of my husband's accounts for when he is deployed. He cannot always access everything to pay the bills on time or at all. I will also offer this to think on. What about those Soldiers who do control everything financial and then deploy and leave their spouse nothing?

I don't know how many times I've

heard and personally seen a Soldier who controls everything, and the spouse cannot pay all the bills or even buy food for their families. You mentioned sending a check or monthly allotment – I've also seen cases where the Soldier thinks this about of dollars would sufficiently cover everything, say \$300 for a whole month, and it not be sufficient. And while their family barely survives, they are blowing the rest of paycheck on what they want downrange. What about situations like that?

I do get slightly tired of hearing about how horrible wives are when there are Soldiers out there that make some of the worst wives look decent.

From: One of the Good Wives

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I was sad to read the response to "Wife's had fun with my funds" that wives should be taken off of checking accounts and only sent monthly allowances. I wish that wives could have enough sense with their husband's money that such measures would not be necessary!

Surely, fellow Army wives, we can be mature enough to spend carefully. After all, happiness is never gained through material possessions.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I see it all the time – wives spending all the money while their husbands are deployed. I think it's despicable.

However, I have also seen cases where husbands are giving the wives an allotment to live on while they are gone. I've watched wives struggle to make it from allotment to allotment to take care of their kids and the household only to have the husband come home and spend all the money he was saving on extravagant TVs, cars and electronics.

Not that a deployment doesn't warrant a few gifts for the Soldier, but how is that fair for the wife to struggle to take care of herself and their family only to watch him come home and squander all the of the savings on himself and unnecessary goods?

Unfortunately, I don't have an answer for this situation other than thank God my marriage is one of trust.

GET OUT!

area events

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

August 14

Operation Rising Star – Competition rounds Aug. 14, 21, 28 and the finals Sept. 12 – all starting at 8 p.m. at the Top Hat Club in Mannheim. At the local level, prizes include: \$500 (first place), \$250 (second place), and \$100 (third place). The first-place winner will then qualify for the 2009 Rising Star finals. The winner of 2009 Rising Star will receive an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles to record a three-song CD at a professional studio. Units and FRGs will also have the opportunity to compete each week for the Spirit Award grand prize of \$300 for their unit or FRG. DSN 385-2342, civ. 0621-730-2342, www.oprisingstar.com.

Comedy After Dark – Get your laugh and groove on at Comedy After Dark and After Party at The Cove in Mannheim 9 p.m.-4 a.m. There will be a stateside professional comedian and local R&B band. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door; patrons must be 18 and older. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370.

Swiss Alps Adventure Weekend – Head to Switzerland through Aug. 16 with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

August 15

Canoe Trip – Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Cheb and Karlovy-Vary Shopping Express – Head to the Czech Republic with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Trier Roman Festival – Founded by the Romans in 16 BC, Trier celebrates her Roman heritage with an annual festival. Sit in the original amphitheater and watch a two-hour gladiator spectacular with various fights and sports (no lions, allowed). The roman baths host an authentic market selling handicrafts and food. Roman troops are camped amongst the costumed citizens. Venture into the caverns to hear live mystical music or stroll about throughout the town. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

August 16

Rothenburg ob der Tauber – Head to the medieval town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber with Mannheim Outdoor Recreation. DSN 381-7215, civ. 0621-739-251.

Grupo Fantasma – The Latin group Grupo Fantasma will play a free show at 6:30 p.m. at the Kazabra Club. DSN 489-7261, civ. 0631-536-7261, www.mwgermany.com.

August 21

Polish Pottery Express – Stock up on all your favorite patterns at the Annual Ceramics Fest. This is the weekend when all the factories put up ceramic stalls around the town square. You can buy the

Heidelberg Apollo Show

Think you've got what it takes to be the Apollo King or Queen? Show us what you got! Choose from categories like singing, musical instruments, impersonation acts, dancing, poetry, comedy and lip syncing. Interested acts must register by Sept. 10. All participants must be 18 years or older. \$10 cover charge includes a finger food buffet. First-place winner wins a \$500 AAFES gift card. The event takes place at 9 p.m. Sept. 18 in the Recovery Room on Nachrichten Kaserne. DSN 371-2762.

ceramic directly from factories and also watch how the ceramic was created in the past. This tour is for serious shoppers who are interested in Polish pottery, wicker, and amber jewelry. The pottery from the Boleslawiec region is hand-painted and made from natural ceramic clay, which is found in nearby deposits. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

August 22

Salsa Night – Armstrong's Club in Kaiserslautern will host Salsa Night 8 p.m.-1 a.m. This free event features a live disc jockey, margarita bar, chips and dip, and a free hour of salsa lessons. Civ. 0631-354-9986.

Extreme White Water Rafting and Canyoning – Head to Austria through Aug. 24 for an adventure weekend with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Paris Express – Head to France with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Battles of Huertigen Forest and Aachen – In the fall of 1944, American attempts to drive across the Roer River onto the Rhine led to one of the bitterest ordeals experienced by American fighting men. The Battle of the Huertigen Forest, took place in a foreboding area in the hills south of Cologne for three long months; all totaled the 120,000 American forces suffered 33,000 casualties. Starting with the Battle of Aachen and its capture by the U.S. VII Corps, this tour highlights the Aachen cathedral, a walk down the Kall Trail, dragon's teeth along the Siegfried Line, and the watchtower at Castle Hill, where the 2nd Ranger Bn., famous for their climb of Pointe du Hoc on D Day, suffered heavy casualties storming the German position. We will also visit the American cemetery at Henri-Chappelle and German cemetery where Field Marshal Moedel is buried. Tour is through Aug. 23. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

August 23

Trout Fishing – Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

August 29

Medieval Fair in Bad Wimpfen – Bad Wimpfen's unique history tells of early settlements of Celts, Romans and the remains of the largest Imperial Palace north of the Alps with its imposing towers. During the

annual crafts fair, the impression of a colorful Middle Ages market scene takes place with its different forms of music handicrafts and dancing. You can admire the numerous artistic craftsmen such as lamp makers, wood experts, brush makers weavers and the street artists such as jugglers, downs, dancers as well as costumed "dirty beggars." <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

September 4

BOSS Escape to Prague – Spend Labor Day weekend, through Sept. 7, touring Prague, seeing the sites and shopping in the world famous Karlovy Vary and Cheb Flea Market. Registration deadline is Aug. 14. Contact your Unit BOSS representative, www.mwgermany.com.

Austrian Hut Hike – Through Sept. 7, see the Austrian Alps from a whole new perspective. Register by Aug. 28. DSN 370-6489.

Lloret de Mar Spain – Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation invites you to Spain through Sept. 7. Trip includes transportation, three nights in a four-star hotel with breakfast, and an optional day trip to Barcelona. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Trout Fishing Trip – Join Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation on a fishing expedition at a private pond 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Participants will be bussed to and from the pond, and rental equipment is available. Cost is \$25, plus €6.80 per kilogram of caught fish. DSN 388-9282.

August 30

Cochem Castle and Wine Festival with Fireworks – Reichsburg Castle is perched on a hilltop overlooking the medieval village of Cochem. The magnificent wood-paneled interior, medieval walls, towers and secret passageway delight all her visitors, and the view of the Mosel River and village below is picture perfect. After visiting the castle enjoy the annual town's wine fest. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

September 5

Heidelberg Castle Illumination Cruise – Tickets are now on sale for the Heidelberg International Ski Club's riverboat cruise and Heidelberg Castle's fireworks/illumination. Open to all and the cost is €20 per person. Price includes complimentary food and beverages dockside prior to departure. DSN 370-8248, civ. 06221-4330905, www.heidelbergski.com.

coming to THEATERS

G.I. JOE: RISE OF COBRA

(Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum) From the Egyptian desert to deep below the polar ice caps, the elite G.I. JOE team uses the latest in next-generation spy and military equipment to fight the corrupt arms dealer Destro and the growing threat of the mysterious Cobra organization to prevent them from plunging the world into chaos. Rated PG-13 (strong sequences of action violence and mayhem throughout) 120 minutes

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

Aug. 13 - LAND OF THE LOST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 14 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 7 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 9 p.m.
 Aug. 15 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 4 p.m.; G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 7 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 9 p.m.
 Aug. 16 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 4 p.m.; G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 17 - MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 18 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 19 - THE HANGOVER (R) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - DISTRICT 9 (R) 7 p.m.

Mannheim, Schuh

Aug. 13 - LAND OF THE LOST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 14 - ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 15 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 4 p.m.; MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 9 p.m.
 Aug. 16 - ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 4 p.m.; IMAGINE THAT (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 17 - MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 18 - ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 19 - THE HANGOVER (R) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 7 p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

Aug. 13 - LAND OF THE LOST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 14 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 3 p.m.; NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 15 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 3 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 16 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 3 p.m.; MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - IMAGINE THAT (PG) 7 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

Opens Aug. 15

Aug. 15 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 9:30 p.m.
 Aug. 16 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:45 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 9:30 p.m.
 Aug. 17 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 6:30 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 7:15 p.m.; MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m.
 Aug. 18 - DISTRICT 9 (R) 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.; G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 6:30 p.m.
 Aug. 19 - G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.; DISTRICT 9 (R) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE HANGOVER (R) 6:30 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - DISTRICT 9 (R) 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.; ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.; G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF COBRA (PG-13) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; MY LIFE IN RUINS (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.

Ramstein, Hercules

Aug. 14 - LAND OF THE LOST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 15 - Permanently Closed

Ramstein, Nightingale

Aug. 13 - NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 14 - 1500 UP (PG) 3 p.m.; NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN (PG) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 15 - Permanently Closed

THEATER INFORMATION

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

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

community HIGHLIGHTS

Garrison Organizational Day

U.S. Army Garrisons Heidelberg and Baden-Württemberg will host organizational day at the Patrick Henry Village Park Aug. 21. The golf tournament at the Heidelberg Golf Club begins at 7 a.m. Bowling and mini-golf on PHV begin at 10 a.m. There also will be children's events, games and beach volleyball. Lunch will be served noon-1:30 p.m. for \$5. Purchase tickets from your directorate. DSN 373-7414. **Note: Garrison offices will be closed or have limited staffing Aug. 21.**

USAREUR SOY/NOY Tickets

Tickets are now on sale for the 2009 U.S. Army Europe Soldier of the Year and NCO of the Year awards program, scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Aug. 27 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion. This year's USAREUR Soldier of the Year and NCO of the Year will be named at the event, based on competition slated for Aug. 9-11 in Grafenwöhr. To purchase tickets, guests must first make reservations on the site, then print their reservation receipt and take it to their unit representative for payment. The deadline for reservations is Aug. 24. Reservations: <https://www.updb.hqsareur.army.mil/events>. DSN 370-4154.

UMUC Europe Fall Registration

University of Maryland University College Europe announces registration for Fall 2009 Session 1. Registration for on-site courses is available through Aug. 23, with classes beginning Aug. 24. Registration for Europe online courses continues through Aug. 30, with classes starting Aug. 31. DSN 370-6762, civ. 06221-3780, www.ed.umuc.edu.

local EMPLOYMENT

Career Fair

Heidelberg ACS will host a Career Fair at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 29. Get information on employment opportunities in Heidelberg, contractor positions, downrange positions and employment with the universities. There will also be information on education and volunteer opportunities. Open to all ID card holders. Companies interested in participating in this event, call ACS at DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883.

Army Community Service

Heidelberg Army Community Service has three NPS contract positions available: Loan closet monitor, W912PE-09-T-0194; relocation educator, W912PE-09-T-0201; and family advocacy educator, W912PE-09-T-0193. Civ. 06202-80-7579.

Custodian/Gardener

The Heidelberg Thrift Shop has a position open for custodian/gardener. Must be at least 18, have references and a valid ID card. Apply in person.

ACAP Counselor

The Army Career and Alumni Program seeks a part-time counselor for the Stuttgart ACAP Center on Panzer Kaserne. Applicants must have a master's degree, be computer literate and have at least two years of experience in job assistance, career or employment counseling, teaching, training or a related field. Applicants cannot be considered ordinarily resident and must have logistical support. DSN 370-7545, civ. 06221-57-7545, darla.huck@us.army.mil.

KAISERSLAUTERN

Education

• **ACS Classes and Events** – DSN 493-4203, civ. 0631-3406-4203, www.mwgermany.com/ki/acs.

• **Understanding Grief Class** – The Family Advocacy Program will initiate a new class in August dealing with the issues of grief and loss. Register: DSN 493-4228, civ. 0631-3406-4332.

• **CSB Briefing** – The Kaiserslautern Transition Center hosts a briefing on Career Status Bonus Aug. 19 in Bldg. 3245 on Kleber Kaserne. Register: DSN 483-7071, civ. 0631-411-7071.

• **POSH Training** – The Equal Opportunity Office hosts Prevention of Sexual Harassment Refresher Training 9-10 a.m. Aug. 20 and Sept. 17 in the Learning Center, Bldg. 3718 on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. DSN 493-4277, civ. 0631-3406-4277.

• **Substance Abuse Training** – Employee Assistance Program-Substance Abuse Training for all Department of Army civilians is 10-11 a.m. Aug. 20 and for supervisors is 1-2 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Learning Center, Bldg. 3718 on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. DSN 486-1710, heather.a.robinson@us.army.mil.

• **Conversational German Classes** – Conversational German Level 1, 2 and 3 classes start Aug. 24 and 25 at the Army Education Center, Room 1, Bldg. 285 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks, and Level 1 and 2 also starts Aug. 24 at the Landstuhl Army Education Center, Bldg. 3701. Cost is €70 per student, cash only. Payment is due on the first day of class. Civ. 0631-072255.

Community

• **KMCC Service Credit Union Branch Grand Opening** – The new full-service branch in the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center on Ramstein Air Base will open Aug. 15. The branch will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

• **CPAC Closure** – The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will close at 11 a.m. Aug. 21 for participation in organizational day.

• **Women's Equality Day** – "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote" 1:30-2:30 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Armstrong Community Club on Vogelweh. DSN 493-4130.

• **Operation: Meet the KMC** – Army Community Service hosts Operation: Meet the KMC 1-7 p.m. Sept. 10 at Armstrong Community Club on Vogelweh Housing. For details or to represent an agency: DSN 493-4062, civ. 0631-3406-4062, selinda.torbert@us.army.mil.

HEIDELBERG

Education

• **ACS Classes and Events** – Community Orientation Briefing, noon-3 p.m. Aug. 17; Reintegration Briefing, 9 a.m. Aug. 18; PCS Briefing, 12:30-3

p.m. Aug. 18; Families Learning About Germany, 5-9 p.m. Aug. 17-18 with field trip at 8:30 a.m. Aug. 22; resume Writing, 9 a.m.-noon, Aug. 18; Smooth Move, 10 a.m.-noon Aug. 19; Investment Basics, noon-1 p.m. Aug. 19; Checkbook Management, 9-11:30 a.m. Aug. 20. DSN 370-6883, www.mwgermany.com/hd/acs.

• **POSH Training** – The final Prevention of Sexual Harassment training opportunities of the fiscal year will be 1-3 p.m. Aug. 19 and Sept. 16 in Bldg. 104 on Patton Barracks. Reservations: DSN 373-5494.

• **CPR and First Aid** – The American Red Cross will offer a CPR and first aid for adult, child and infant class 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Aug. 29 in Bldg. 3850 on the Community Support Center. Cost is \$40. DSN 370-1760, civ. 06221-57-8711.

• **German Language Classes** – Evening, daytime and weekend classes will be offered at Patton Education Center starting Aug. 31. Cost is €80 (level 1) and €100 (levels 2,3,4). Register: Germanatpatton@KS-heidelberg.com. Civ. 06221-16-8226.

• **Field Sanitation Course** – Register now to get certified in field sanitation and be part of your Unit Field Sanitation Team. The course will be held Sept. 14-18 in the ITC building on the Community Support Center. DSN 371-2833.

Community

• **Focus Groups** – The Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command is looking for participants to total 18 focus groups for the Heidelberg area. Three separate focus groups will be conducted in late September in each of the following demographics: senior officers, junior officers, officer spouses, enlisted spouses, retirees and DoD civilians. tiffany.n.langan@us.army.mil.

• **Women's Equality Day** – The 2009 observance will be held 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Casablanca Room on Campbell Barracks. DSN 373-7955, civ. 06221-17-7955.

• **CPAC Closure** – The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will be closed Aug. 14 for organizational day. For emergency situations only: DSN 370-1430, civ. 06221-57-1430.

• **Heidelberg Sergeants Major Association Membership BBQ** – U.S. Army command sergeants major, sergeants major, those of an equivalent rank in other branches of service or foreign militaries, and retired service members in the same ranks, head to the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club at 12:30 p.m. Aug. 15. Admission is free for new members and their families; €5 for current members and their families; €10 for guests and non-members. RSVP: DSN 370-8399, civ. 06221-57-8399, brad.weber@us.army.mil.

• **HIWC Events** – Join the Heidelberg International Wandering Club

for the following volksmarches: Aug. 15-16, Crailsheim and Kieselbronn (Sunday only). www.hiwc.de.

• **Tompkins Barracks Gate Closure** – The main gate to Tompkins Barracks will close beginning Aug. 13 for upcoming repair work by the city of Schwetzingen. The project will start Aug. 17 and last 3-10 days. The city will post signs and portable traffic lights to the temporary entrance located near the rail road bridge.

• **Disneyland Paris Trip** – The CVS Services Middle School and Teen programs are headed to Disneyland Paris Aug. 21-23. Sign up by Aug. 18. DSN 388-9003.

• **Sixth-Grade Welcome Week** – Get to know the Panther's Place during the Sixth-Grade Welcome Week, Aug. 24-28 from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. DSN 388-9003.

• **HMS New Student Orientation** – Students in sixth-eighth grades who are new to the community are welcome to attend new student orientation at Heidelberg Middle School's multi-purpose room at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 28.

• **Ski Club Annual Picnic** – Heidelberg International Ski Club is hosting the traditional season opening picnic at the Patrick Henry Village Picnic Pavilion noon-4 p.m. Aug. 29. The cost is €5 for non-members and is free for members; membership is available at the picnic. You need not be a skier to join the club or enjoy the picnic. www.heidelbergski.com.

• **Volksmarch Volunteers Needed** – The Heidelberg International Wandering Club is seeking volunteers for the 35th annual volksmarch Sept. 19-20. Help is needed in all areas – setting up benches and tables, marking and monitoring the trail, operating checkpoints, stamping cards, preparing and selling food, etc. Civ. 06227-84-1226, hiwc@yahoo.com, www.hiwc.de.

MANNHEIM

Education

• **ACS Classes** – Multicultural Club, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 17; Mannheim Orientation Spouses' Tour, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 17-19; Volunteer Orientation, 1-2 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. Aug. 17 and 19; Account and Budget Management, 9-11:30 a.m. Aug. 18; Levy and Out-Processing Briefing, 1-2:45 p.m. Aug. 18; Hearts Apart, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 19; Sponsorship Training for Leaders, 3-4 p.m. Aug. 19; Healthy Relationships, 2-4 p.m. Aug. 20; Organization POC VMS Training, 3-4 p.m. Aug. 20. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

Community

• **Change of Command** – Mannheim garrison will have a change-of-command and change-of-responsibility ceremony at 10 a.m. Aug. 14 at the Sullivan field. Lt. Col. Jeffrey

Fletcher will relinquish command after a three-year tour to Lt. Col. Elizabeth Ryan Griffin. Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Bryant will pass responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado.

• **Closure of CMR 421** – Community Mail Room 421 located on Funari Barracks will close its doors permanently at noon Aug. 28. All customers of CMR 421 should make immediate arrangements with CMR 437 (Sullivan Barracks) to acquire a new mailing address. Once you've received your new address, you still need to inform CMR 421 so your mail can be forwarded properly.

• **Sullivan Library** – Scrapbook Club, noon-3 p.m. Aug. 22; Film Screening, 4-5:30 p.m. Aug. 22. DSN 380-1740, civ. 0621-730-1740.

• **Emergency Placement Providers Needed** – Providers are needed for short-term care, 90 days or less. Training is provided by ACS. Providers can be active duty, family members, DoD civilians and retired military residing on or off post. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **Winter Bowling League** – Sign up during the month of August at BFV Bowling Center for the Winter Bowling Leagues. The Monday Night Family Fun League is a two-person team for bowlers of all skills. Friday's TGF League is a four-person mixed team (one must be female) for the more experienced bowlers. Saturday morning is the Youth League for Kids 4-18. DSN 380-9528, civ. 0621-730-9528.

• **VenturePoint Expo** – Child, Youth and School Services VenturePoint will host an Expo at the Top Hat Club 2-6 p.m. Aug. 21. VenturePoint is a three-component initiative that includes Edge, Hired and Kids on Site. These three programs offer community activities, career building, and child care while partnering with Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities. DSN 380-4887, civ. 0621-730-4887.

• **FRG/Unit Night** – The Child Development Center will offer child care for those families who will be attending FRG or deployment-related meetings 5:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 20. Reservations: DSN 385-2750, civ. 0621-730-2353.

• **Parents' Night Out** – The Child Development Center will offer child care 6:30-10 p.m. Aug. 28 to families who have a current registration with CVS Services. Reservations: DSN 380-4851, civ. 0621-730-4851.

• **DOL Closure** – The Directorate of Logistics, including Food Service Branch, Installation Transportation Office, Transportation Motor Pool, POV Storage and Installation Property Book will be closed Aug. 24 for Annual Logistics Day, with the exceptions of mission essential activities (i.e. shuttle bus and dining facilities).

Military Long Drive



Baden-Württemberg FMWR Marketing

Staff Sgt. Tafuna Oney, operations noncommissioned officer for the Heidelberg Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, hits a drive on hold six of the Heidelberg Golf Course in Oftersheim during Saturday's Military Long Drive regional competition. Oney won with a 346-yard drive and will compete in the 7Up 2009 Military National Long Drive Championship in Mesquite, Nev., Oct. 20.

Heidelberg Soldier wins regional competition, will compete at national level in Nevada in October

Staff Sgt. Tafuna Oney, U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg operations, qualified for the finals of the 2009 Military Long Drive Championship to be held in Mesquite, Nev., later this year by winning the regional event for Europe at the Heidelberg Golf Club Saturday.

Oney, who also won the long drive contest at the Heidelberg Open last month, fired his best shot Saturday 346 yards to win by 10 yards over his closest competitor, Sgt. Bryan King of Stuttgart. Jordan Albers of Ramstein was third with 319 yards.

"Although the turnout was small, those who participated really gave it their all, and competed with determination and spirit," said Lamar Porter, Heidelberg Golf Club assistant manager, of the four total competitors.

Oney hit the winning ball with his drive of 346 yards on his third set of tries. Participants had two hours on the sixth hole to best each other's shots, and as the time kept winding down, King inched closer and closer to Oney's score. King reached 336 yards, followed by a shot that went 350 yards but trickled out of bounds. King's next set of tries had his best ball out past 375 yards, but again, curved a little right and went out of bounds.

By the time the final whistle blew, Oney's long drive

proved to be the winner.

"I felt good about the 346 (yard drive) I shot, but Bryan was getting in a groove. There was lots of time left and I started to get a little nervous," Oney said. "He won the competition last year, so I knew he was good. But when he showed up with four different long drivers made for these types of competitions, and all I had was my regular driver, I knew I had to work for it."

As winner of the Europe Region finals, Oney will receive an all-expense paid trip to Mesquite to compete in the 7Up 2009 National Military Long Drive Championship and a chance to win \$10,000. King took home a \$200 Pro Shop gift certificate, and Albers of Ramstein AB received the third place \$100 Pro Shop gift certificate.

"It feels great to know that I get this opportunity to represent our region," said Oney, who started playing golf when he was 5. "I will not take this opportunity of a lifetime lightly. I hope to do everyone here in Europe proud."

Qualifying rounds also are being held at 19 locations in the United States. The 20 area winners will be flown to Las Vegas to compete for the \$10,000 top prize at the Mesquite finals Oct. 20.

SOURCES: Rex Gribble and Baden-Württemberg FMWR Marketing

staying ACTIVE

Olympic Development Program

Tryouts for the Heidelberg select district soccer team will be held Aug. 30 by the baseball fields on Patrick Henry Village. Registration begins 30 minutes prior to tryouts for all age groups. Tryout times: players born 1999-2000, 12:30 p.m.; players born 1991-1994, 1:45 p.m.; players born 1995-1998, 3 p.m. Cost: \$10 administration fee. Bring a ball, water bottle and shinguards. usys-heidelberg@googlemail.com, www.odp-europe.com.

Mannheim Youth Sports

Mannheim youth tackle football registration has been extended to Aug. 14. Flag football, soccer and cheerleading registration has also been extended to Aug. 21. Register at the Central Enrollment Office. Adult volunteer tackle football coaches for age groups 9-12 and 12-14 are needed. DSN 380-9290, civ. 0621-730-9390.

Youth Golf

Child, Youth and School Services Youth Sports in Kaiserslautern is now offering a golf program to youth ages 3-15. The season begins Aug. 24. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406-4122.

Heidelberg Flag Football

Register your team by Aug. 19. Season starts Aug. 24-Oct. 30. DSN 373-8032.

Summer Camp for Kids

Mannheim Sports and Fitness, along with Child, Youth and School Services will host a summer camp for kids ages 3-12 Aug. 17 and 18, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Kids ages 3-5 will participate in Ballschule, an introduction to ball playing. Kids ages 6-12 will have an introduction to basketball, soccer and flag football. \$10 entry fee. Register: CYSS Central Enrollment Office.

Golf Championship

Participate in the Heidelberg Golf Club's Club Championship Aug. 22-23 beginning at 8 a.m. \$60 registration fee. Register by Aug. 16. DSN 379-6139, civ. 06202-53767.

Ice Hockey Players Wanted

Experienced ice hockey players wanted to play on an all-Army hockey team. The Baden Bruins are the 2008 USAF Hockey Champions, are coached by ex-NHLer Bob Sullivan, and play in the local German men's league. Civ. 0172-6263642, admin@badenbruins.com.

Human Foosball Tournament

ACS is recruiting units to participate in the first Human Foosball Tournament 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Aug. 29 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion. Each unit in Heidelberg and Mannheim can have one team with five players per team. Register by Aug 14. DSN 370-6883, HD_ACS@mwrgermany.com.

Mannheim Community Sports

Basketball - The Mannheim Mustang Community Women's Basketball Team is looking for players. DSN 385-3164, civ. 0621-730-3164.

Volleyball - Male and female players are needed for community volleyball teams. DSN 385-3164, civ. 0621-730-2001.

Soccer - Practice is held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 p.m. at Sullivan Gym Field. DSN 385-3149, civ. 0151-587-21197.