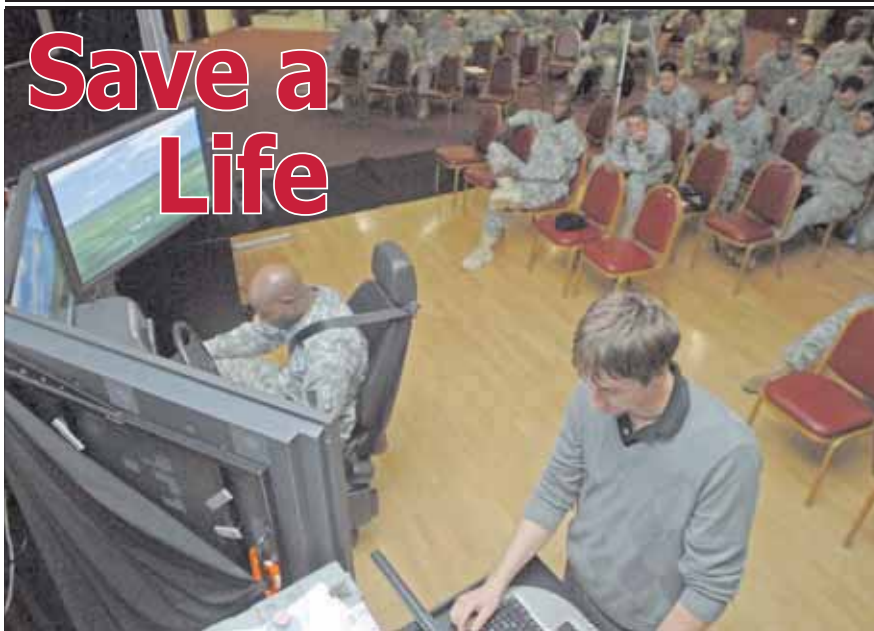


HeraldPOST

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



Save a Life

Photos by Christine June

Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Cornelius, from the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's Special Troops Battalion, starts up the driving simulator for the Save a Life Tour Nov. 5 at the Kaiserslautern Community Activity Center on Daenner Kaserne.

Drinking and driving simulator tour begins for USAG Baden-Württemberg

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Spc. Ottonio Fletcher couldn't explain why he lost complete control while driving a multi-million dollar drinking and driving simulator as part of the Save a Life Tour Nov. 5 at the Kaiserslautern Community Activity Center on Daenner

Kaserne. "The car was drunk," said Fletcher, from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, giving the best explanation that he could. Save a Life Tour is an alcohol-awareness program designed to educate people about the dangers associated with see **SAVE A LIFE** page 16



Staff Sgt. Dennisur Thompson, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, overcompensates a left turn while on a driving simulator as a part of the Save a Life Tour in Kaiserslautern.

H1N1 vaccine available for military, high-risk individuals

H1N1 Answers

In Person
Heidelberg community briefing on H1N1 flu pandemic at 9 a.m. Wednesday in the PHV Theater
On the Radio
AFN Openline talk show with ERMCA representatives at 10 a.m. Wednesday
On the Web
Live chat on <http://myBWnow.ning.com> at noon Nov. 19

-See page 16 for details

ERMCA Public Affairs

H1N1 flu vaccine for uniformed service members arrived this weekend at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center, Europe in Pirmasens. The Heidelberg Health Center will begin vaccinating only uniformed service members and high-risk individuals 4 years and older

today. The vaccine is being offered 8 a.m.-3 p.m. through Nov. 20 (weekdays only) at the Campbell Fitness Center. Landstuhl Regional Medical Center's initial distribution for high-risk beneficiaries is scheduled for 7 a.m.-noon Monday in the Heaton Auditorium. Beneficiaries who are at a higher risk for influenza-re-

lated complications include those with the following medical conditions:
•Pregnancy
•Blood disorders
•Chronic pulmonary, including asthma
•Cardiovascular, except for hypertension
•Renal, cognitive, hepatic, neurologic/neuromuscular conditions
see **VACCINE** page 16

HP THURSDAY Nov. 12, 2009

Speed Read

VETERANS DAY

Community members in Heidelberg and Mannheim honored local veterans Wednesday during separate Veterans Day ceremonies. 3

THEATER AWARDS

Both the Roadside Theater and the KMC Onstage together brought home 18 awards from the 2009 All-Army Festival of Performing Arts. 4



BEST BARRACKS

Because of Kaiserslautern's unique Best Barracks program, Soldiers from several units earned \$6,000 for keeping their living areas nice and tidy. 6

100 YEARS OF THE NAACP

The Rhein-Neckar Branch and community members from various garrisons gathered in Heidelberg Saturday to celebrate the 100 years of history of the NAACP. 8

CULINARY COMPETITION

Food service Soldiers from the 21st TSC have been preparing for the 35th Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition coming up at Fort Lee, Va. 11

Defense Details

OBAMA HONORS FALLEN

President Barack Obama Tuesday traveled to Fort Hood, Texas, where he comforted survivors and families during a memorial service honoring the 13 people who had perished during the Nov. 5 shootings there. The memory of the 12 fallen Soldiers and one civilian employee who died "will be honored in the places they lived and by the people they touched," he said.

IRAQ ELECTION FOCUS

Army Col. Gregory Lusk, a commander in Baghdad, joined a chorus of U.S. officials praising the Iraqi Parliament's passage this week of key legislation that paves the way for balloting in January. Lusk said efforts are focused on helping Iraqi forces provide security for the upcoming national elections.

Army news: www.army.mil

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COMMENTARY

Cancer survivor: Prolong your life with self-exams, annual check-ups

By Claudia Murphy

RN CASE MANAGER AND BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR

It's been a long time since I was diagnosed with breast cancer, but it still seems like yesterday when I heard the doctor tell me over the phone that I had it.

I was so young, only 27 years old, and who would have known that such young women could have breast cancer?

What I did know was that I needed to do monthly breast checks, as I did religiously, because my dad's sister had breast cancer.

I was the blessed one in the respect that I was a nurse and I knew what to do and what to look for.

It wasn't there the month before, but wow, all of a sudden there it was, this hard, grainy-feeling, pebble-like lump in my right breast.

It was so very shocking to find it there.

I'm sure as I look back on things today, self breast exams are what saved my quality of life. I caught it early, in its minor stage "T1."

After the biopsy, the conclusion was made that it was infiltrating

Such fear came over me. How would I survive? Would my husband still want me? Was I still going to be able to make a living? It was all so overwhelming. The surgery was difficult and painful, but somehow I made it through.

ductal breast cancer.

The doctor said there was no rush, just to get in to see him within the next two weeks and we would discuss the treatment.

Such fear came over me. How would I survive? Would my husband still want me? Was I still going to be able to make a living? It was all so overwhelming.

The surgery was difficult and painful, but somehow I made it through.

Weeks passed, and I maintained mental strength to tell myself that no matter what others thought, I was a survivor.

My situation was different I guess because I knew so much about cancer.

I didn't have to have radiation or chemotherapy due to the very early stage, and I allowed all lymph nodes to be removed from my right arm pits.

All nodes returned free from invasion of cancer.

I was offered the chance to have a lumpectomy, which was a relative new choice in 1983, but I chose the modified radical mastectomy, which was my choice, for my situation, for my values and my life plans.

So, I guess the choices I made for my life were the ones I should have made, because I'm still here to tell the story.

As an American Cancer Society "Reach to Recovery" volunteer, I would tell all my clients to have courage and fight for life as long and as hard as they could.

I hope my story gives you courage to do those things to prolong your life, such as self breast exams, mammography and yearly check-ups.

Wishing you good health and long life.

Mannheim community needs Family Child Care providers

By Silvestre Guerrido

MANNHEIM FAMILY CHILD CARE DIRECTOR

The family business starts here! Military and Department of Defense civilian families need Family Child Care.

The mission is the goal of the military, and the true mission cannot happen without peace of mind. Peace of mind cannot happen if children are not taken care of. As a FCC provider, you can be the missing link for that family's peace of mind.

Do you love children? FCC is the place to be. Start your own child care business; we can help. Why not have the best of both worlds? You can stay home with your own children, make money at the same time, and provide playmates for your own children.

Family Child Care is fun, challenging and character building. FCC can lead to a long-lasting career and continuing opportunities for professional growth.

FCC will train you to become the best in the business of child care, and you can also qualify for college tuition for an early childhood education degree; it's up to you.

Money doesn't grow on trees; it grows with incentives in FCC. FCC gives you the opportunity to create your own economic stimulus and financial independence.

All the money you make is tax free, so you don't have to totally depend on your spouse's salary. Together you can both make your dreams come true.

For information on how to become a FCC provider in Mannheim, call DSN 380-9668, civ. 0621-730-4735.



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

I like this (TRICARE Online) system. It offers an unprecedented 24 hour access to appointments. Yes, that's another small step for man, and another giant leap for mankind! This is the best tool to access your health care. Get Online and register; once registered, book appointments with your "family doctor (PCM)" 24 hours a day.

-Tony, BWNOW Member

Yes, it's great, if it works. I have had problems on multiple occasions, when the system was telling me that my login name or email address where assigned to "more than one person" or if I make it to through the log in it is telling me that there are no appointments available and I am supposed to call the appointment line. If you click the "help" link it will sometimes tell you that "network timed out" or "page can not be found". If I have a sick child - for example

-I don't have the time to deal with all of this and rather stick to the appointment line to begin with. At least if something doesn't work, I will have the chance - eventually - to talk to a "real person".

-Mandy, BWNOW Member

The problem I have with it is that it tells me that I am not authorized to make appts.

-Courtney Bryson, BWNOW Member



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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.

Find out by e-mail when your packages arrive at the local mail room

USAREUR Public Affairs

Consolidated mail rooms throughout the Heidelberg and Mannheim communities are offering a new service to authorized mail patrons.

The new service allows community members to be notified by e-mail when items arrive at their CMR mail boxes.

Patrons can sign up for the new service quickly and easily during a visit to their mail rooms.

"All they need to do is come to the customer service counter, identify themselves with their ID card, and then just say they want to sign up for e-mail notification," said Aaron Jones, who is the acting postal officer for the Heidelberg community.

Customers can provide multiple e-mail addresses, and when the mail notification slips are printed to go into their mailboxes, they will also receive an e-mail telling them they have mail.

"It's a pretty quick turnaround," Jones said.

"We just ask customers to be patient with us until we get it fully on board; it's a new system to us and with anything that's new there are a few growing pains, but ... it should be a better product for the customer and for the CMRs."

"Hopefully this will allow people to pick up these packages sooner and provide an overall better customer service experience, which is what we're all about," said Elfriede Zettle, who serves as the chief of administrative services for U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg.

Honoring local veterans



Kelli Bland

U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Commander Lt. Col. Robert White speaks to the crowd of veterans, American Legion Rhein-Neckar Post GR03 members, Heidelberg area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and community members at Wednesday morning's Veterans Day ceremony on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. Before laying a wreath at the memorial stone in Veterans Memorial Park, White took a moment to reflect on the service provided by past and present veterans and to remember the Soldiers and civilian employee killed in the tragedy at Fort Hood, Texas, last week.

(Right) U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Commander Col. William Butler and USAG Mannheim Commander Lt. Col. Elizabeth Ryan Griffin along with local veterans lay a wreath at Veterans Park on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim Wednesday morning as part of the community Veterans Day Ceremony. Mannheim area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, members of local chapters of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, current Soldiers and a Mannheim High School JROTC color guard participated in the ceremony. More photos of the events are available online at www.flickr.com/heraldpost.

German, U.S. Customs officials sign permanent fuel ration card agreement

By Robert Szostek
USAREUR PROVOST MARSHAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The final arrangement governing use of the fuel ration card for U.S. service members and eligible civilian employees in Germany is now in effect, U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal officials announced.

Col. David B. LeMauk of the USAREUR OPM, customs executive agent for U.S. forces in Germany, and Juergen Hartlich, chief of the Customs and Excise Department at the German Federal Finance Ministry, signed the agreement at Taylor Barracks in Mannheim, Oct. 30.

The finance ministry customs department agreed to expand the range of authorized customers to include U.S. em-

bassy and consular personnel and U.S. Mission in Germany government vehicles; North-Atlantic Treaty Organization International Military Headquarters personnel stationed in Germany and NATO IMH duty vehicles, and – in exceptional situations – other personnel not covered by the Status of Forces Agreement.

The final arrangement replaced the previous temporary agreements that had been in effect so far and contained only minor administrative changes over the earlier accords, OPM officials said.

It places greater controls on fuel transactions at Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Esso stations.

The system's automated data collection also makes it easy for customs investigators to detect fuel ration abuse.

"Signing the permanent fuel card ar-

rangement is a positive conclusion to many years of work on this important issue," LeMauk said. "The fuel card arrangement provides positive controls to protect the rights of U.S. forces members while tremendously reducing the opportunities for abuse."

The German government had asked the U.S. forces in Germany to change from fuel coupons to an automated gas ration card so better checks could be put in place to prevent potential abuse, OPM officials said, adding that those safeguards help protect the overall benefit of being able to buy fuel at prices that are free of German duties and taxes.

U.S. personnel stationed in Germany and others eligible for the fuel ration card can find more information at www.aafes.com/germanyfuelcard.

All-Army Festival of Performing Arts

Music and Theater Awards

Roadside Theater's "The Sound of Music"

First-place awards – Outstanding Producer of a Musical - Dane Winters; Outstanding Direction of a Musical - Dane Winters; Outstanding Set Design of a Musical - Dane Winters, Andy Meredith and Brian Rausch; Outstanding Lighting Design of a Musical - Dane Winters, Andy Meredith and Brian Rausch; Outstanding Costume Design of a Musical - Michiel DeVito; Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Musical Role - Yvonne Ortel; Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Musical Role - Sgt. 1st Class Steven Stanfill
Second-place awards – Outstanding Musical Direction of a Musical - Alexander Nitschke and Beth Wagenaar; Outstanding Sound Design of a Musical - Chris Pancake; Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Musical Role - Robert Montgomery; Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Musical Role - Patricia Mumme Stotz

KMC Onstage's "Lucky Stiff"

First-place awards – Outstanding Musical Direction of a Musical - James Sohre; Outstanding Sound Design of a Musical - Steve Knaup; Outstanding Choreography of a Musical - James Sohre; Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Musical Role - Jeanne Ragonese
Second-place awards – Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Musical Role - David Dittner
Third-place awards – Outstanding Costume Design of a Musical - Marianne Warwick and Kerri Pangman; Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Musical Role - Nancy Morris



Roadside Theater
 Heidelberg community members perform in the Roadside Theater musical production of "The Sound of Music" over the summer. The production won a total of 11 awards for outstanding production, direction, set design, lighting, costumes and acting at the All-Army Festival of Performing Arts in Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 15. The KMC Onstage also received seven awards for its musical production, "Lucky Stiff."

Roadside Theater, KMC Onstage receive 18 awards

By Kelli Bland

USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Between Heidelberg's Roadside Theater and Kaiserslautern's KMC Onstage, the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg brought home a multitude of awards from the 2009 All-Army Festival of Performing Arts in Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 15.

This was the first year the Roadside Theater participated in the annual festival, and "The Sound of Music" production, presented in Heidelberg in May and June, received 11 awards, seven of them first place. The KMC Onstage production of "Lucky Stiff" received seven total awards, four of

which were first place.

"We were extremely fortunate to have such a great group of volunteers working on ("The Sound of Music")," said Roadside Theater Director Dane Winters of the more than 65 Soldiers, civilian employees, family members and local national citizens involved in the production. "However, I don't think "The Sound of Music" stood out more than any of our other shows. The Roadside Theater and the Heidelberg community have always been blessed with committed, talented and generous volunteers – both onstage and off – singing, dancing, baking cookies, sewing costumes, or taking tickets. I think that is seen in all our produc-

tions at the Roadside, and the community has every reason to be proud of the program."

For the competition, professional theater judges attended and evaluated 52 events in nine categories at Army sites throughout the world over a period of four months.

On top of the recognition received for winning the awards, both communities were also given cash awards – Heidelberg received \$3,000 and Kaiserslautern received \$1,000.

Heidelberg's award money will be used to improve the Roadside Theater and help expand its programming and service to the community, according to Winters.

Thanksgiving Meals at Local Dining Facilities

Heidelberg

Health Center DFAC – 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 20 on Nachrichten Kaserne. All community members are invited. The price for service members receiving separate rations, civilian staff and guests and family members of E-5 and above is \$7, and family members of E-1 through E-4 is \$5.95.

V Corps DFAC – 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 26 on Patton Barracks. All customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

Kaiserslautern

212th Combat Support Hospital DFAC – 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 24 in Bldg. 1206 on Miesau Army Depot. Customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center DFAC – 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Nov. 26. All customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

Patriot Gardens – 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 163 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. All customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

Clock Tower Café – 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 3206 on Kleber Kaserne is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 26. Customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

Lindberg Hof DFAC – 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-5:30 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 2791 on Kapaun Air Station. This dinner is open to all military enlisted ranks, retirees and their families. Family members of E-4 and below will not have to pay the surcharge, 33 percent of the meal cost. Prices vary depending on customers' meal selections.

Rheinland DFAC – 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 2107 on Ramstein Air Force Base. This dinner is open to all military enlisted ranks, retirees and their families. Family members of E-4 and below will not have to pay the surcharge, 33 percent of the meal cost. Prices vary depending on customers' meal selections.

Mannheim

Sullivan Barracks DFAC – 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 45 on Sullivan Barracks. All customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95. The Sullivan DFAC is open for this meal only on Thanksgiving Day.

Coleman DFAC – 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 26 in Bldg. 230 on Coleman Barracks. All customers pay \$7 per meal. Family members of pay grade E-4 and below pay \$5.95.

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Soldiers earn \$6,000 for spotless barracks

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Barracks' residents from the 212th Combat Support Hospital and 181st Signal Battalion "cleaned up" and took home more than half of the \$6,000 cash award in the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's 2009 Best Barracks Award Program.

Originating in Kaiserslautern in August 2000, this cash-award program recognizes residents who show pride in where they live by making sure repairs are done, safety standards are met, and common areas are spotless, said Hans Huemer, the garrison's housing manager.

"It's a Kaiserslautern garrison unique program. We are the only garrison in Europe to have this program," he said.

"It's a way for us to show Soldiers living in the barracks that someone cares for them and appreciates their hard work."

Kaiserslautern command sergeants major or their representatives conducted inspections Nov. 4 of competing barracks on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Miesau Army Depot, and Kleber and Daenner kaser-

nes. Inspections included each of the barracks' exterior, storage, safety and serviceability of common areas.

By scrubbing top to bottom and in every nook and cranny of their barracks, 256 Soldiers share in this year's cash award.

The competition was divided into three categories – large renovated, small renovated and small un-renovated.

The 212th CSH residents of Bldg. 3707 on LRMC won first place in the renovated large category and will be awarded \$1,500.

More 212th CSH Soldiers, who reside in Bldg. 1332 on Miesau, are also sharing in the cash award by winning in the small un-renovated category. They will receive \$800.

Taking back their Best Barracks title were the 181st Signal Battalion residents of Bldg. 3824 on LRMC. They won in the small renovated category, earning \$1,000 of the cash award. For four years in row, these Soldiers had won in their category, but last year, they received second place.

Receiving second place this year are: Company B, LRMC residents of Bldg. 3716 on LRMC, earning \$800 in the large renovated category; Compa-

ny C, 53rd Signal Battalion residents of Bldg. 3813 on LRMC, earning \$700 in the small renovated category; and, 254th Medical Detachment residents of Bldg. 1326 on Miesau, earning \$500 in the small un-renovated category.

The only third place winner was awarded to Company A, LRMC residents of Bldg. 3702 on LRMC, earning \$700 in the large renovated category.

Huemer said cash prizes go into the winners' unit funds, which traditionally has been used to buy televisions or microwaves.

"These items are already available upon request in the supply system," he said. "I suggest using the winnings for something fun like having a party or a barbecue – something that is not available in the system."

Whatever the money is used for, leadership should make sure the money is for the barracks' occupants, said the garrison Directorate of Public Works Sgt. Maj. Sheldon Griffin, who was also one of the inspectors for this year's Best Barracks program.

"They were the ones who got on their hands and knees to clean. They were the ones that made sure broken items were fixed. So, they should be



Christine June

The U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern Directorate of Public Works Sgt. Maj. Sheldon Griffin inspects the laundry room of Bldg. 3716 on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Nov. 4 as part of the garrison's Best Barracks Award Program.

the ones who benefit from the money," Griffin said.

Best Barracks is a way for leadership to show that they care enough about barracks' occupants to inspect and reward them when standards are kept, Griffin added.

Mannheim protects LTA biotopes

USAG Mannheim DPW

Because of Operation Point and Pull at the Lampertheim Training Area, a team of local environmental professionals were able to preserve some of the region's most valuable habitats.

The U.S. Army Garrison Mannheim Directorate of Public Works' Environmental Division in conjunction with Harry Pfaff, from the Region Representative Natura 2000, worked together to remove intrusive pine trees and shrubs that can affect the threatened and endangered species in the area.

"The Lampertheim Training Area contains several sand meadow biotopes, which require regular maintenance in order to allow protected sand meadows and other species to thrive," said Yitbarek Gebreyohannes, chief of the Environmental Division. "The threatened and endangered species study for the LTA found 340 species of plants and animals, 104 which were threatened or endangered, including a number of highly endangered and rare species."

These results are remark-



USAG Mannheim DPW

Michael Marcustre, Mannheim Range Control, dumps removed trees during Operation Point Pull at Lampertheim Training Area.

able, Gebreyohannes said, adding that the sand meadow biotopes in the LTA are considered one of the most valuable areas within the Rhein-Neckar region.

These sand meadow areas are the largest in the region, and this area has favorable climate conditions. Some of the areas of the LTA were disturbed by former military actions and need to regenerate, but small pine trees and shrubs, which grow in the area from self-pollination, hinder the regeneration.

To preserve the valuable

habitats, Gebreyohannes spearheaded the coordination with the LTA range control office and host nation forestry officials to help remove the unwanted pine trees.

"This is the third straight year we did this," Gebreyohannes said. "DPW employees and the German foresters worked together to remove hundreds of small trees in the sand meadow area."

"This work will help preserve the area and demonstrates our willingness to help enhance and protect the environment."

Mannheim community kicks off fall clean-up

USAG Mannheim Public Affairs

The leaves are turning, and a chill is in the air. It's fall, which means it's time to get out and improve your local Army installation.

U.S. Army Garrison Mannheim kicked off its fall clean-up period Oct. 26 and will continue the process through Dec. 4.

"It doesn't matter if you're a seasoned landscape professional or somebody who just wants their yard, motor pools or company areas to look as good as it can with as little work as possible, everyone can benefit from fall clean-up," said Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Knight, Mannheim's Directorate of Public Works non-commissioned officer in charge.

"In order for this event to be successful, we must have everyone's participation. You see, like anything else we do, the key to success is team work and engaged leadership," he added.

For fall clean-up in the Mannheim community, the team is made up of units and organizations at all levels, fam-

ily members, Soldiers and the support from DPW, Knight said. "If you live or work in USAG Mannheim, you are a part of this team."

Special attention should be given to today, Knight said, when the Benjamin Franklin Village housing area and barracks living areas are being cleaned up. The focus will be on the buildings (basements, washrooms, storage rooms, etc.) and a 50-foot perimeter around the building and the common areas to include playgrounds.

Soldiers residing in government controlled quarters should be released by units to their respective street/building coordinators beginning noon to 5 p.m.

"This is a great time for leaders to visit your Soldiers' on-post quarters to provide support for the clean-up and to ensure your Soldiers are participating," Knight said. "Remember what get's checked, get's done."

At the conclusion of the campaign, community activities will be judged and winners announced.

In Memoriam – Mario Ifill



Mario Roberto Ifill, an employee at the Auto Crafts Shop on Mannheim's Taylor Barracks, died Oct. 20 at the age of 52.

He was born June 17, 1957 in El Paso, Texas, and had worked for the Family

and Morale, Welfare and Recreation division since 1992. Prior to his employment with the U.S. military communities in Worms and Mannheim, Ifill joined the U.S. Army in October 1980, serving in various positions, including tanker commander, before he was honorably discharged in Germany.

Since high school, Ifill developed a passion for all things automotive, especially vintage "muscle cars." Ifill was an active member of the U.S. Car Club, Roadrunners Mannheim, where he could fulfill his passion for drag racing and restoring vintage vehicles. The club members became his extended family while he was in Germany.

Ifill is survived by his wife, Gabriele; parents, Roberto and Claudia; brother, Ricardo; step-daughters, Jasmin and Vanessa Betzhold; and step-son, Mario Imhoff.

A memorial service was held in honor of Ifill Nov. 5 at the Benjamin Franklin Village Chapel. The funeral is being scheduled in Newport News, Va.

Heidelberg College Night



Parents and students roam around Heidelberg Middle School's multi-purpose room Oct. 25 to talk to college and university representatives present at the annual College Night event. More than 500 students and parents attended to talk to about 50 college representatives, including those from Harvard, Georgetown, Cornell, Florida A&M University and many more. Military recruiters were also available to provide information and answer questions. Additionally, there were several seminars available, such as "Alternatives to 4-Year Universities," "Chart Your Course," "College Admissions," "Local and National Scholarships," "Portfolio Planning" and more.

Heidelberg DPW announces Wilson Theater renovation

USAG Heidelberg DPW

Following in the footsteps of a successful fiscal year 2009, the U.S. Army Garrison Directorate of Public Works has announced plans to complete a total renovation and repair of the Wilson Theater on Nachrichten Kaserne.

"The complete interior will be improved with upgraded sound and visual systems, seating, acoustics and restroom facilities," said Karl-Heinz Engelhardt, DPW design project manager. "The theater will become a multi-purpose assembly hall for a lot of different events."

In addition to aesthetic improvements, the project will upgrade the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems while maintaining the historical characteristics and features of the architecture.

"The Medical Command came forward and participated in the funding of this project with the garrison," said DPW Engineering Division Chief Richard Glass. "The command is very aggressive and proactive to take care of their facilities and resources, and we greatly appreciate their support and partnership."

The construction will be managed by the Staatliches Hochbauamt, Heidelberg with assistance from the Garrison DPW and MEDCOM Facilities Branch.

The contract is awarded to Firma Weiss and is expected to continue until the middle of summer 2010.

No impacts to the surrounding public are expected. Access into the building will be restricted with signage as necessary.

Rhein-Neckar Branch celebrates history, 100 years of the NAACP

Rhein-Neckar Branch, NAACP

The Heidelberg Rhein-Neckar Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People observed the 100th anniversary of the NAACP with an evening of celebration, remembrance and reflection Saturday at the Hotel Zagreb in Schwetzingen.

Throughout the evening, many program participants cited events from the 100 years of NAACP history – a history that has seen the organization fighting for civil rights, against lynching, for commissioning African Americans as officers, for integration of the military, schools and government, and for voting rights.

Inspiring poems related to the evening's theme of "Bold Dreams – Big Victories" were recited by presenters who brought the boldness of youth and the experience of age to their renditions.

LaKeidra Chavis, a junior at Kaiserslautern High School who is studying to be a writer, recited her original poem that touched on many phases of the history of African Americans. Chavis said her poems have given her a way to connect with the world and that she was "... not looking to impress anyone; I just want people to know that they are not alone."

Retired teacher Clarice Jones,

83, brought in another perspective when she gave a spirited interpretation of the Maya Angelou poem "Still I Rise." Jones, who taught in elementary schools in Texas and California for more than 45 years and was a professional dancer and dance specialist for 20 years before becoming a teacher, said she chose the poem because "it is so inspirational for young people."

Joseph Moore, a long-time member of the NAACP, told the story of how the Rhein-Neckar Branch has served the military and civilian communities since the mid-1980s. He said the branch initiated programs on awareness, cultural history, youth mentoring, reading, voter registration, and the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. International Commemoration Program.

Local teacher at Mannheim Middle School Julia George presented Rhoza Walker's poem "I Am a Black American." George, who teaches family consumer science, speech and drama, has her students participate in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. programs and black history programs in the Mannheim community.

Drawing on the "Bold Dreams – Big Victories" theme for the centennial celebration, guest speaker Maj. Gen. Byron S. Bagby, U.S. Army Europe chief of staff, reached into his personal background to relate how the fight for civil rights by the

NAACP had affected him and his family.

He recalled that elementary schools in his home town were only desegregated when he was in the sixth grade in 1967. Earlier his parents had only finished the 10th grade because their county had no black high school.

Bagby also told the audience of some of his eye-opening experiences during his military career. In 1999 he met two of the famous "Little Rock Nine" – the first black students to enter Little Rock High School in 1957. They were subject to the hatred, violence and humiliation as they entered the school. He recalled that even 40 years after the hardship of standing up for their rights, he could still see in their faces the pain the experience had caused them.

Another meeting in 1998, this time with some of the first black military airmen, the Tuskegee Airmen, who had been arrested 43 years earlier for entering a white-only officers' club, made him aware of the pioneering actions that led to the abolishment of segregation in the armed forces.

Bagby ended by noting that now the Army is a great Army because it "... leverages and draws strength from the rich diversity within our ranks ... not just from being ethnically diverse ... but from having diverse skill sets, experiences, backgrounds and perspectives."



Dave Melancon

The U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus performs a medley of American hit songs during the 15th annual Berlin Military Music Festival in Berlin's Max Schmeling Hall Saturday. The USAREUR band was joined by military bands from Germany, Poland, The Netherlands, Bulgaria and Brunei. The performance also featured a Scottish bagpipe band, a Russian acrobat team and a youth unicycle club from Köln. The music festival was one of many events taking place in Berlin in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which was Monday.



U.S. Army

Members of Fort Hood-based 15th Sustainment Brigade observe a moment of silence in front of the brigade headquarters Sunday for those that were killed and wounded in the shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, Nov. 5.

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Spc. Amanda Rigdon

Helmut Haufe (right), the director of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's Theater Logistics Support Center-Europe, provides a briefing to Lt. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, the deputy chief of staff for the U.S. Army's supply and logistics directorate, as well as Cathy Garman and Vickie Plunkett, who are professional staff members of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee. The general and the congressional staff delegation visited the 21st TSC and the TSLC-E Nov. 5.



Staff Sgt. Brian Vorhees

U.S. Soldiers prepare old munitions for destruction during controlled detonation operations on Forward Operating Base Delta in southern Iraq, Oct. 31. The 789th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company conducts controlled detonations to destroy munitions seized in raids and those found in weapons caches.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christine Jones

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Burton Shields and his translator, meet with village elders in Karezgay, Afghanistan, Oct. 31. Shields is the commander of the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment.

Training to win

21st TSC cooks prepare for Army-level culinary competition

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Although the correction came with an encouraging smile, it was distinct. "You are not preparing to compete in the culinary arts competition, you are preparing to win," Brig. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston reminded eight 21st Theater Sustainment Command Soldiers at the Clock Tower Café on Kleber Kaserne Oct. 30.

McQuiston, the commanding general for the 21st TSC, was speaking to the food service specialists who put the icing on the cake of their culinary arts training by preparing a three-course meal for her, the 21st TSC command sergeant major, the chief of staff and a number of personnel from the 21st TSC's logistics and supply directorate.

The team members were selected from approximately 150 food service professionals to represent the 21st TSC at the 35th Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va. To get there, they currently are participating in a three-week training and competition event at Camp Aachen/Algiers in Grafenwöhr.

Once they win a coveted spot on the 15-person U.S. Army Europe culinary arts team, they will then compete at Fort Lee.

Sgt. 1st Class Leonardo Alvarez, the chief food operations sergeant for the 21st TSC, prepared his team by conducting almost two weeks of vigorous culinary arts training.

The Army uses more basic food service skills suited for institutional cooking, while the culinary arts program strives for a more refined product and presentation, he explained.

"It's the difference between fully



The food service professional team selected to represent the 21st Theater Sustainment Command at the 17th Annual Installation Command Europe and U.S. Army Europe Culinary Arts Competition in Grafenwöhr painstakingly prepares dessert for a three-course meal.

cooking a tenderloin to be safe and preparing it medium or medium rare for superior taste. It's the difference between basic cutting and chopping and special angled cuts and dicing techniques," Alvarez said.

The 22-year food service veteran and former culinary arts team member knows that making the team is very challenging and the ultimate goal for food service professionals. Nonetheless, he lightened the arduous course load with a fun event.

The Soldiers had the opportunity to share their newly acquired skills with culinary students at Kaiserslautern High School Oct. 27. Together they prepared sushi and chili, made pasta from scratch, and tackled a chocolate soufflé.

"Teaching the (high school) students reinforces what the Soldiers have learned and allows me to observe their communication skills. During the

competition, they will have to speak with the judges, and they will have to be able to focus on their tasks while people move in and out of the kitchen," Alvarez said.

However, it is not all about medals and trophies.

"The training enhances their food service skills, which allows them to prepare a better meal for our Soldiers. We want to give our Soldiers the best possible meal," he said.

The more than 20 people sampling the result of that first training period were duly impressed. While they noted some minor difficulties in need of ironing out, they also lauded the culinary team's outstanding work and extraordinary food presentation.

"I spent almost 24 years in the Army and never dreamed a military cook could prepare a meal like this," said Orval Windham, the deputy supply and logistics director for the 21st TSC.

Miesau-based medical team visits local hospital in Israel during joint exercise

By Sgt. Fay Conroy
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ASHKELON, Israel – To help ensure health care is available for U.S. service members now in Israel taking part in exercise Juniper Cobra 2010, a medical team from the exercise's joint task force visited the Barzilai Medical Center here Oct. 28 for a presentation and a tour of the hospital.

"The purpose of visiting the hospital is to establish a relationship with them so that they know who we are and we know who they are, and to make sure the facility has the same standard to take care of service members and be able to medically evacuate them out if needed," said Maj. Sean Fortson, the doctor for joint task force and an emergency room doctor with the Miesau, Germany-based 212th Combat Support Hospital.

Located only six miles from the border with Gaza, the hospital is a front-line facility in a civilian area that has become uniquely equipped to deal with mass casualties due to the constant threat of rocket attacks, and treats Israelis and Palestinians alike.

The hospital also has a separate facility to decontaminate victims of chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear attacks. The emergency room, which is separate from the main hospital, can be quickly converted to treat victims of such an attack.

The visiting Americans toured the hospital and participated in a presentation showcasing the facility's capacity to treat patients in mass casualty situations and asked questions regarding the type of care American service members could receive and technical questions regarding evacuation and blood transfusions.

"From a military perspective, we are planning for a contingency, and they are living it every day. It's good for the planners to see that," said Lt. Col. John Sanders, the U.S. Army Europe medical planner serving as the joint task force surgeon during the exercise. "Both for JC10 and real-world (situations) it is an opportunity to see where our Soldiers would be cared for."

AAFES 'Shuttle Program' delivers supercenter selection

AAFES

To ensure that military families living and working near Mannheim, Heidelberg and Stuttgart enjoy the same selection as those provided at each individual exchange, AAFES instituted a "Shuttle Program" that, upon request, can route items from

one exchange to the other.

This means anywhere a shopper is, he has access to the largest selection possible. Everything from large appliances to DVDs can be transferred through AAFES' Shuttle Program.

"AAFES' motto of 'we go where you go' means that we set up shop, often regardless

of the installation's population," said the Mannheim PX Main Store Manager Edward "Joey" Murphy. "As such, assortment selections, depending on where you're assigned, can range from that of a small convenience store all the way to a massive supercenter.

"If you don't see what

you're looking for, just ask a manager if they can bring it in from another location," Murphy said. "Chances are, thanks to this effort, we'll be able to take care of you."

AAFES' "Shuttle Program" is a complimentary service, available at all BXs, PXs, Troop Stores and Shopettes.

Patrolling the Berlin Wall

V Corps historian recalls days as a Soldier

By Dave Melancon
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BERLIN – Cold War-era Berlin Wall patrols were a visible message to the East and West German people and the Soviet Union that the U.S. and its allies stood ready to defend West Berlin and democracy.

For U.S. Soldiers assigned to the former U.S. Army Europe Berlin Brigade, it was a strategic message delivered in tactical terms, said Dr. Harold E. Raugh Jr. of the V Corps command history office during a Nov. 5 ceremony here for the opening of the Allied Museum's "Wall Patrol" exhibit.

"Soldiers were expected to fight like hell if necessary for U.S. rights and a free Berlin," Raugh said. "I'm sure this was the same for our allies."

The exhibition is one of many events – several of which include participation by members of U.S. Army Europe – which have been taking place in Berlin in honor of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which was celebrated Monday.

Other keynote speakers at the opening event were museum director Dr. Helmut Trotznow, Sir Christopher Mallaby, former British ambassador in Bonn from 1988-1993, and Gen. Francois Cann, French city commandant of Berlin from 1987-1990.

"Our mission was two-fold. First, show the flag; our American presence would reassure the West Berliners that (we were) there to defend them to the death if necessary," Raugh told the audience. "We

were there to show the East Germans and the Soviets that we meant business.

"Our allies shared the same philosophy and the same mission."

Thirty-one years ago to the day of his museum address, Raugh, a retired lieutenant colonel, reported to the brigade's 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment and was assigned to its scout platoon. The three-year tour of duty was the 22-year-old lieutenant's first assignment. In addition to patrolling the wall, Raugh also performed guard duty at the city's infamous Spandau Prison.

The second part of a patrol's mission was to observe and report, he continued. Wall patrols were "low-grade intelligence gathering agencies" tasked with looking for concentrations of East German border guards or Soviet troops, repairs or new construction to the wall.

Any damage to the wall was an indication of an escape attempt, he explained.

A typical patrol consisted of two, three-man crews in jeeps equipped with pedestal-mounted M-60 machine guns. There were four patrols a week and the teams made their rounds on random days and varied their starting times and locations, he said.

Although the most common view of the Berlin Wall is a 27-mile-long concrete barrier through the heart of the city, there were two parts to the blockade: one separating the eastern and western parts of the city and a 70-mile long

blockade separating the allied enclave from East Germany.

Wooden observation platforms were set up along the wall, Raugh said.

"I do not know who built those, but they were really handy," he remembered. "We used those platforms to observe the other side of the wall. They also increased our visibility to West and East Berliners. They could see us up there doing our job."

During his time with the brigade, Raugh and his Soldiers drove by what is known as the "second- and third-generation wall," a barrier of stacked 6-foot-long, 2-foot-wide concrete slabs. "They were crude and not overly effective," he said.

Patrols carried live ammunition, but the Soldiers' weapons were not "locked and loaded," Raugh said.

Although the operations followed a pattern, they were never routine.

"We were not sure what would happen at any time, but we would always try to be prepared as possible," he said. "You never knew what was going to happen. It was not scary, but your senses were heightened."

Raugh said his patrols would observe East German soldiers, many conscripts, manning towers about 100 feet away from the allied side of the wall.

Many did not want to be there, he said. Some would wave their "short timers' chains" to the passing U.S. patrols.

"We recognized that they



Dr. Harold E. Raugh Jr. of the V Corps command history office walks along the remains of the former Berlin Wall Friday. In the 1970s, as platoon leader of a scout platoon, Raugh led patrols along the infamous barrier, just meters away from his East German counterparts in the city's Soviet sector.

were conscripts and they were under control of the Soviet forces," Raugh said. "A lot of them did not want to be there. We could tell they were under the thumb of the Soviets."

The wall patrols were one the Berlin Brigade's most visible and vital missions, Raugh

said.

"Every day it was those stout-hearted allied Soldiers – American, British and French – by their professionalism, by their presence and by their performance, that we defended West Berlin and kept the city free."

Kaiserslautern offers free winter vehicle inspections

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Having a family from the Kaiserslautern military community stranded during the winter because of car trouble is the last thing that Don Breton wants to happen.

Free car inspections will be conducted at the 2009 Vehicle Winter Safety Day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's Auto Skills on Pulaski Barracks.

"Our goal and purpose is to try and avoid car problems that could leave out patrons stranded out on the road, late at night," said Breton, who is the Pulaski Auto Skills manager.

That's why two years he initiated free car inspections twice a year – once in the winter to ensure patron's vehicles are safe for bad weather and then again in the spring for vacations and road trips.

"We have found (through these inspections) several hub bearings, tie rods and ball joints that were in poor condition – all to do with the front end – which means in every case the car was not safe to drive on the road," he said.

So far, close to 700 people have had their cars checked at four free car inspections.

Ranging from checking windshield wipers to lifting vehicles up to check

underneath for any safety concerns, inspections take about 20 to 30 minutes.

These free inspections are quite in depth and could cost about \$80 to \$100 in the states, Breton said.

"Our hands physically test the front suspension so we are checking specifically for ball joints, tie rods and hub bearings," he said. "We also do visual inspections to the best of our ability on brakes."

VACCINE

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•Metabolic disorders, including diabetes
 •Immuno-suppression disorders, including those caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus.

Non-uniformed beneficiaries will be screened prior to vaccination to verify medical conditions that place them in a higher risk status.

The vaccine for uniformed service members and high-risk beneficiaries has arrived in the Mannheim community, but the schedule for immunization was not finalized by press time.

Additional H1N1 vaccine shipments will arrive in Europe in stages. Future vaccine shipments approved for non-uniformed beneficiaries – including DoD employees, contractors and family members – are expected in the near future. Manufactured by Sanofi-Pasteur, it is also FDA-approved for ages 6 months and over.

As vaccine availability increases, there will be an adequate supply available for all those wishing to be immunized.

An H1N1 Vaccine Update Line has been activated at LRMC for beneficiaries to receive updated information on vaccine availability and locations. The phone number is DSN 590-4161, civ. 06371-9464-4161.

Have H1N1 questions?

USAG Heidelberg, HMEDDAC, ERMIC and AFN are offering you the answers in person, on the radio and online

Staff Report

As flu season continues in full swing, community members are asking more and more questions about the Novel H1N1 influenza virus strain that has made its way around the world.

Local community and health care professionals will be available to answer those questions in three different forums next week.

Community Briefing

The Heidelberg Medical Activity in conjunction with U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg will host a Novel H1N1 community briefing 9-10 a.m. Wednesday at the Patrick Henry Village Theater.

All members of the Heidelberg community interested in learning more about the Novel H1N1 influenza virus are encouraged to attend. Heidelberg Health Center and garrison representatives will be on hand to answer questions of local concern.

The brief will explain how influenza viruses cause a pandemic, provide an overview of the H1N1 pandemic, and



explain the community's response plans. The briefing will be followed by the monthly Community Update.

AFN Openline

Community members who cannot attend the garrison and HMEDDAC briefing in person can tune into AFN radio at 10 a.m. also on Wednesday when ERMIC Force Health Protection and Preventive Medicine experts will answer questions about H1N1, ERMIC seasonal and H1N1 vaccination program, and vaccine availability, eligibility and safety.

E-mail advance questions to openline@afn.dma.mil or

phone in questions during the show: DSN 389-4595, civ. 0621-45085-595.

Tune into 1143 AM or 104.6 FM in Heidelberg, 1143 AM or 107.3 FM in Mannheim, or 1107 AM or 100.2 FM in Kaiserslautern to hear the discussion. If you miss the live version, you can listen to the recording at www.afneurope.net.

BWnow Live Chat

If you prefer an online discussion to briefings and radio talk shows, log onto the BWnow virtual community at <http://myBWnow.ning.com> at noon Nov. 19 for a live chat with community and health

care representatives who will recap what was discussed at the Heidelberg community briefing and answer any additional H1N1 questions community members may have.

If you'd like to submit questions early, send an e-mail to usaghd.post@eur.army.mil.

Once the live chat is over, the discussion will be posted as a blog for later viewing.

What is H1N1?

For information on Novel H1N1 and the current immunization situation, visit the Europe Regional Medical Command Web site at <http://ermc.amedd.army.mil/H1N1/H1N1.html>.

SAVE A LIFE

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drinking and driving, said Heather Robinson, the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's alcohol and drug control officer, who is coordinating the tour for USAG Baden-Württemberg communities.

First time overseas, the tour will educate Soldiers and high school students in Kaiserslautern until Wednesday. It will then travel to Mannheim Nov. 19-21 and Heidelberg Nov. 23-25 before continuing its seven-week run at Army installations throughout Europe.

Each presentation of the tour begins with a 10-minute video "Red Asphalt V" projected on two 10-foot screens blaring gruesome images of real-life tragedies and heart-wrenching testimony of those left behind to deal with the aftermath.

"The video that they showed – people who have died from drinking and driving – really brought it home for me," said Staff Sgt. Dennisur Thompson, from HHC, 21st TSC.

After the video presentation, Chris Geysbeek, one of two managers with

the European Save a Life Tour, talked with the 50 to 60 Soldiers attending this first training session.

Standing in the middle of banners with grave messages such as "Drinking and Driving Kills," the first thing Geysbeek said, "We are not here to preach. We want you to be there for your friends."

Near the end of his almost one-hour presentation, Geysbeek recounted being there as his best friend – since they were both 2 years old – being killed by a drunk driver, throwing him off his motorcycle, and sending him flying 400 feet before he finally landed.

"My hope is that because of this presentation one person will be able to step up and take the keys from their friends," he said after recounting the death of his best friend.

Andy Tipton, the other manager for the European Save a Life Tour, said everyone who works for this company has been affected by drinking and driving.

Funded by the Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs, the Save a Life Tour also includes in its presenta-

tion an open casket, earmarked for the next DUI victim.

Now taking center stage was the 185-degree driving simulator equipped with a seat, dashboard with gauges and a speedometer, emergency brake, ignition, steering wheel, turn signal and air bag. This driver's side of the car replicates the inside of a 2001 Ford Impala.

With 85 real-time miles, the simulator contains 23 scenarios ranging from city to urban road conditions. There are also scenarios which include weather conditions such as fog and snow, as well as nighttime driving situations.

Fletcher's explanation about the driving simulator being drunk was right on the mark, Tipton said.

"The alcohol delay people normally experience while drunk is now inside the car instead of the driver," Tipton said. "So the commands between the brake, gas and steering wheel are going to be delayed."

Bellowing out "DUI level has been increased," the 1,000-pound simulator can go up to 11 levels with a blood al-

cohol content of .34.

Soldiers who exited the simulator agreed that it gave them a more realistic understanding of what driving intoxicated feels like.

"I'm completely sober, but I couldn't control the way or timing of how it turned," Fletcher said.

"When the levels kept increasing, it actually felt like I was drunk," Thompson said. "It made me want to focus just on the road and not look left or right. I was trying to drive straight."

That is exactly what a drunk driver does to avoid being stopped by the police, Tipton said.

Next for the tour here are training sessions at the Special Events Center on Rhine Ordnance Barracks until Wednesday. These training sessions are also open to government civilians. To schedule an appointment, call DSN 486-6121, civ. 06371-86-6121.

For more information about the Save a Life Tour in Heidelberg, call DSN 370-1710 or e-mail amy.sensiba@eur.army.mil.

For more information on the Save a Life Tour, visit www.savealifetour.com.



Great places to ice skate

Local communities host opportunities to get out and enjoy the ice

Winter is scratching on our doors, and some cities start their winter sport season soon by opening mobile ice-skating rinks.

Schwetzingen

The Schwetzingen Ice-skating rink opened last week and will remain open daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m. through Jan. 17. The rink has five skating times during the day: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 12:30-14:30 p.m., 3-5 p.m., 5:30-7:30 p.m., and 8-10 p.m. The rink will be closed by 4 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31.

Special events like quad bike on ice, Santa Claus party, ice curling tournament, soccer on ice, and

other music and dance events will take place on the ice-skating rink or in the Bavarian-like tent next to it.

Prices: Adults €3.40, children €2.60 for a two-hour time block. Skate rental is available.

For more information on the ice-skating rink and special events, call civ. 06202-93270 or visit the Web site at www.schwetzingereiszauber.de.

Heidelberg

The Karlsplatz in Heidelberg's Altstadt will be the place for one of the most scenic ice-skating

rinks in Germany. "Christmas on Ice" starts Nov. 25 for the fifth time in a row. With a stunning view of the Heidelberg Castle, surrounded by festively decorated trees, guests

and residents alike can skate their laps on an open-air ice rink to the sounds of melodic

tunes.

Skate rental and changing facilities are available as well as plenty of culinary treats and hot drinks to warm up with afterwards at the Christmas market.

Ice rink opening hours: 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. daily through Jan. 3 (closed Dec. 24; open noon-9:30 p.m. Dec. 25-26; open 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Dec. 31).

Kaiserslautern

Kaiserslautern's winter sports season starts Friday with the opening of the mobile ice-skating rink. The 600-square-meter artificial ice surface is set up on the parking lot next to Karstadt department store until Jan. 31.

Rental skates and sharpening of your own skates are available.

To warm up cold fingers and take a break, visitors can sit down in the bistro tent and watch the happenings on the surface through transparent walls.

Fridays, inexperienced children under 14 have the opportunity to exercise with a licensed instructor at a cheaper rate. The skating rink offers penguins and other training aids for beginners. Admission fee is €2 for children and €3 for

adults.

An entertaining program including Santa Claus' visit and the traditional ice curling will be offered on various days.

The daily skating hours are 9 a.m. to noon, 1 to 3 p.m., 4 to 6 p.m., and 7 to 9 p.m. The rink stays open until 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

For more information, get the "Kaiserslautern on Ice" flyer from the tourist information office in Fruchthallstrasse, local stores and restaurants, or visit www.kl-on-ice.de or www.kaiserslautern.de.

Frankenthal

One of the most unusual places to ice-skate is offered by the city of Frankenthal. A 400-square-meter open-air ice-skating rink is set up in the ruins of Erkenbert, a former convent, in the center of Frankenthal.

From now until Jan. 3, visitors can skate from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily without paying attention on special skating hours.

All-day-ticket prices are €6 for adults and €4 for children. Skates rental is available.

Editor's Note: Information gathered from the respective city Web sites.



GERMAN COOKING

German Christmas Cake (Stollen)

Serves: 1 cake (9 1/2" X 15 1/2")

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup candied fruit (chopped)
- 4 cups flour
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 sticks butter or margarine, 1 room temperature
- 8 ounces cottage cheese (small curd)
- 1/2 cup almonds (chopped)
- 1/2 cup walnuts (chopped)
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine
- powdered sugar

Directions:

- Pour 2 tablespoons flour over raisins and the candied fruit. • Mix well and set aside.
- Put flour on table, counter top or any other flat, smooth surface.
- Make a well in the flour and drop in the eggs.
- Sprinkle the baking powder and sugar over the eggs, add the vanilla extract, cottage cheese, butter or margarine (cut in slices), and knead quickly into a smooth dough.
- Knead in candied fruit, raisins and nuts.
- Roll out the dough to approximately 1/4" thickness.
- Fold in thirds by folding one side first and then the opposite side.
- Place the cake on a greased cookie sheet and bake in a preheated oven at 375 degrees F for 55 to 65 minutes until golden brown.
- Melt the 4 tablespoons butter or margarine.
- Brush over the hot cake and then liberally sprinkle with powdered sugar.
- NOTE: You may make small cakes for gifts. Just divide the dough into 4 or 6 pieces, roll and fold as above, and place on a cookie sheet (only two at a time). Bake at 375 degrees F for 30 to 35 minutes until golden brown. Brush with melted butter and sprinkle with sugar.

SOURCE: www.mygermanrecipes.com



DEAR MS. Vicki

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'm constantly hearing about all of the sexy female Soldier types who have been using themselves inappropriately while deployed in both wars.

If I can keep it real as you do, I know for a fact that they prostitute themselves and make big bucks when they are supposed to be fighting for our country and trying to stay alive.

Some of the younger female troops brag that they joined the Army only to make money selling themselves in this war. I hope you are not thinking this is farfetched because it is true and my husband has verified as much.

He has been deployed four times and will be deploying for Afghanistan next month or soon after. As I can remember on two of his deployments there would be money missing from our accounts.

When I would question my husband about the money he was deducting and why, he could never give me a real answer and would never have anything to show for it.

He would only take cash from our account. I knew something wasn't right, but I never questioned it. I was only trying to keep my relationship with my husband good and without conflict.

I have so many good friends who would spend so much time with their husbands or boyfriends fight-

ing and arguing while they were deployed. I never wanted to do this. The bad part about my story is that my husband soon confessed to me that he was cheated with a few of the women who were deployed too. He says it wasn't an affair because he was paying them for their services.

In other words, there are Soldiers who are prostituting! Me and my husband went to counseling because I wanted to make our marriage better. I did leave my husband for a short period of time because I could not cope with his betrayal.

Our counselor explained to me that I had to understand that my husband was only being a man and he had needs. It took me a while to grasp that, but I do now. A man is different from a woman, and it's in their genes to cheat.

But now when I think about my husband being deployed again, I start getting anxiety about all of this even though he said he would never cheat on me again. He said he would even leave the debit and credit card home to help me trust him.

Why can't these women leave married men alone? I think there are plenty single men available especially in the Army. Do you get other letters like mine? I know I can't be the only one out there who's heard about this.

From: Fighting To Save My Marriage

Dear Marriage,

There is so much going on in your letter.

First of all, I would like to applaud all of the hard-working, professional female Soldiers that I know and there are many. They take their military career very seriously and would be very offended if there is any perception or belief of them being in the Army to serve as prostitutes or home wreckers. This just isn't true.

Now, have I received letters over the years alleging the same, yes I have. Many of the letters have requested their letters not be printed.

However, they often feel free to provide me with names, rank and unit information. I'm glad you did

not do this.

Bottom line, I think you and your husband should still continue to work on your marriage, even across the miles. It's important to keep a strong bond with your spouse during deployment.

Conversely, I do not think you should blame yourself or blame the deployments on your husband's unfaithfulness. If you do this, he will always be able to find a reason for cheating which will leave you in emotional turmoil.

I won't spend too much time on this issue or on your marriage, except to say that I think you should dump the counselor who told you to understand that your husband's cheating because of a man's genes. There are many men who don't cheat.

Please take care of yourself and stay in touch during the upcoming deployment.

Responses to previous columns:

Dear Ms. Vicki,

Sorry, you have offended the back woods, hillbilly folks that live in that community.

You do not deserve those rude, inconsiderate comments made by your readers. You provide sound, truthful advice to the people who have asked for your advice.

It just goes to show you how many uneducated, screwed-up people there are in this world!

I do agree with the pastor stating God and morals will lead people on the right path. But of course, you cannot openly speak of religious beliefs or else you would outrage someone else.

Keep up the good work and keep it real.

Much Love, D.W.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I'm always appalled at the comments you get. I can't believe the newspaper even prints them.

In my opinion, they are not being loyal to you by printed such awful comments that people write to you.

Don't let them get you down, Ms. Vicki. I agree with most of what you say, and when I don't, I don't downgrade you. I only agree to disagree.

Electronics can start fires in your vehicles, too

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs

Hot commodities on the gift-giving market are turning into a hotter issue for safety officials.

Electronic charging units designed for use in motor vehicles for a variety of portable music players and other electronic gadgets have been identified as culprits responsible for vehicle fires.

"We received a safety alert that charger and converter units used to play or charge various electronic items may overheat if left plugged into a car

power source resulting in a vehicle fire," said Mike Schwarz, Installation Management Command-Europe safety officer.

"A good rule of thumb is to unplug these devices when they are not in use," he said. "That rule also applies to devices in the household: When not in use, unplug."

According to Schwarz, the safety alert described an incident involving a 2007 Chevy Suburban destroyed as a result of an electrical fire.

This fire resulted from leaving an iPhone charger/

docking station plugged into the car outlet.

The charger unit overheated and started a fire, while parked in a residential garage.

The owners of the vehicle were very fortunate that they accidentally found the fire at 11 p.m. before going to bed and before it spread to the house.

None of the garage heat detectors or house fire alarms had gone off.

"As these devices become more popular, it becomes more important for all of us to use common sense and be safety conscious," Schwarz said.



Movie Lovers Online

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

Fall/Winter Movie Season

The holiday season is coming once again folks, and you know what that means – turkey, trees and happy, happy movies (sometimes).

This year is no different, but we may get a chance to see some new stuff with an old twist and vice versa. This week we have "A Christmas Carol," a good old classic telling of Ebenezer Scrooge (voiced by Jim Carrey) the old "bah-humbug" guy who hates Christmas and all things happy.

Pretty much everyone is familiar with the tale, but just in case you aren't, Mr. Scrooge gets a rude awakening in the form of three ghostly visitors. Disney's new take on a tale they've done twice already is refreshing and fun, in my opinion. I actually enjoyed the new look, and I think it will definitely get the kiddos into the movie. It's definitely a kids' flick, but one the whole family might enjoy.

In two weeks "The Twilight Saga: New Moon"

hits our theaters. I can't wait to see this one. The graphics are going to be awesome from what I've seen so far, and I prefer werewolves to vampires any day.

The PHV Theater actually has a Friday (Nov. 27) showing with "Twilight" and "New Moon" in the same night for anyone who wants to catch up on the series. I'd say the movies are more for teens and up.

Rounding up this month is "2012," a movie about the much speculated end of the Mayan calendar. I personally am tired of "end of the world" movies and find the premise actually kind of ridiculous.

When they decided to make the movie about the end of the world, how did they figure people would survive the cataclysm? If it's the end, doesn't that mean its time to pack it in? We had a good run folks, time to hit the reset button. I can go on and on.

I was going to completely ignore this one, but I want to give it a chance, and hopefully I can either save our readers some time or maybe I will be surprised and like the film – we will see. I'll let you know next week, enjoy folks.

GET OUT!
area events
More events online at <http://myBWow.ning.com>

November 13

"A Fall Cabernet Cabaret" – The Heidelberg Roadside Theater presents "A Fall Cabernet Cabaret" at Mannheim's Off Main Street Theatre on Coleman Barracks Nov. 13, 14, 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. DSN 373-5020, civ. 06221-175020.

Comedy After Dark and After Party – This month will feature stateside professional comedian Cortney Gee and local Kaye Ree and Band 9 p.m.-4 a.m. at the Top Hat Club in Mannheim. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370.

"Lost in Yonkers" – KMC Onstage proudly presents Neal Simon's "Lost in Yonkers" Nov. 13-14 at 7:30 p.m. at the theater located on Kleber Kaseme. DSN 483-6626, civ. 06371-86-8146, www.mwrgermany.com.

November 14

GIG Ball – Ararat Consistory #15 and James B. Sloan Commanders of Rite hold its first Grand Inspectors General Ball at Heidelberg's Village Pavilion. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. Ticket prices are \$35. Civ. 0170-5282-317 (Heidelberg), civ. 0162-1748-254 (Kaiserslautern), civ. 0151-5872-1197 (Mannheim).

Cheb & Karlov Vary Shopping Express – Head to the Czech Republic with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. Also available Nov. 21. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Glacier Ski Express – Head to Austria with Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Soul 2 Soul Party – DJ Big Money and DJ Super Jam host the Soul 2 Soul Party at the Top Hat Club in Mannheim 10 p.m.-4 a.m. \$7 cover. www.mwrgermany.com.

November 15

Caracalla Spa Day – Head to Baden-Baden to relax and rejuvenate at this famous spa with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. \$69. DSN 388-9282.

Nabotov – Wogram Duo Concert – In cooperation with the Heidelberg Jazz Club, the German-American Institute (DAI) is hosting a concert at 8:30 p.m. The Nabotov-Wogram duo combines two musical personalities who have their roots in improvised as well as in composed music. www.dai-heidelberg.de.

November 20

Mannheim Holiday Bazaar – Through Nov. 22, there will be more than 40 international vendors with items such as antiques, rugs, paintings, crystals, ceramics and more at the BFV Sports Arena. Hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Nov. 20-21 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 22. DSN 385-3169, civ. 0621-730-2342.

Right Arm/Wingman Night – Mannheim's Top Hat kicks-off the holiday season with the introduction of "Right Arm/Wingman Night" 5-7 p.m. All active-duty Soldiers and Airman are invited to grab their "Right Arm" or their "Wingman" and meet at the garrison club for food and fun in this esprit de corps event complete with a karaoke contest.

November 21

Hot Air Balloon Ride over Heidelberg – See the beautiful city of Heidelberg from the bird's eye view with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. Participants must be 12 years or older. \$295. DSN 388-9282.

Valkenburg Caves, Netherlands/Aachen, Germany Christmas Markets – Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Celtic Mass for the Sea Concert – The Teresa Choir and the Teresa Orchestra will perform the Celtic Mass for the Sea at 7 p.m. Nov. 21 in the Christus Church in Heidelberg-Weststadt, and at 6 p.m. Nov. 22 in the Teresa Church in Heidelberg-Ziegelhausen. Free introduction to the work at the Town Library (Stadtbücherei) in Heidelberg at 8 p.m. Nov. 18. Advance tickets are €12 for adults, €8 for children and €30 for family. Ziegelhausen - Foto Hauck, Kleingemindstr. 37; Weststadt-Blumendekoration Schulz, Rohrbacherstr. 30; Altstadt/Stadt: - RNZ, Hauptstr. 23. www.teresachor.de.

November 26

Thanksgiving Ski Holiday – Head to Kaprun, Austria, through Nov. 29 with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. DSN 388-9282.

Thanksgiving Luncheon – Head to the Village Pavilion for a Thanksgiving Luncheon noon-4 p.m. Reservations only. Prices: Adults, \$23.95; Kids 6-12, \$11.95. DSN 388-9098, villagepavilion@mwrgermany.com.

coming to
THEATERS

INGLORIOUS BASTERDS

(Brad Pitt, Melanie Laurent) In German-occupied France, where Shosanna Dreyfus witnesses the execution of her family at the hand of Nazi Colonel Hans Landau. Shosanna narrowly escapes and flees to Paris, where she forges a new identity as the owner and operator of a cinema. Elsewhere in Europe, Lt. Aldo Raine organizes a group of Jewish soldiers to engage in targeted acts of retribution. Known to their enemy as "The Basterds," Raine's squad joins German actress and undercover agent Bridget Von Hammersmark on a mission to take down the leaders of The Third Reich. Rated R (strong graphic violence, language and brief sexuality) 153 minutes

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

- Nov. 12 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 7 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 9 p.m.
- Nov. 14 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 4 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 9 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 4 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 - INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 17 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 18 - I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 7 p.m.

Mannheim, Schuh

- Nov. 12 - GAMER (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 4 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 7 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 9 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 4 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 - INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

- Nov. 12 - GAMER (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 3 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG) 3 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - EXTRACT (R) 7 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

- Nov. 12 - JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; GAMER (R) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; Special Showing: RATATOUILLE (G) 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:15 p.m.
- Nov. 13 and 14 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 8:45 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 10 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:15 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 17 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 18 - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; EXTRACT (R) 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.; Special Showing: ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (G) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

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

AER Scholarships and Assistance

Various scholarships and educational assistance programs are available through the Army Emergency Relief program. The deadline for most 2010-2011 applications is March 1. www.aerhq.org.

CMR Package Notification

CMR customers can now be notified via e-mail when they receive packages at the CMR. Visit your local CMR to provide your name, box number and e-mail address to begin the service.

Holiday Dinner

All Army Adjutant General Corps and human resources personnel and their guests are invited to the Adjutant General Corps and Human Resources Professionals 2009 Holiday Dinner at the Ramstein Air Base Officers' Club Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. RSVPs are due no later than Nov. 20. Cost is \$40 per person. DSN 484-8492, civ. 0631-413-8492.

Winter Driving Class

Commanders and supervisors are reminded to send their personnel through the annual winter driving classes in order to dispatch vehicles through the winter season. Classes are conducted by drivers testing station Heidelberg every Thursday at 2 p.m. through Nov. 30. DSN 370-7889.

Master of Military Logistics

Applications are being accepted for consideration to attend the Master of Military Logistics program scheduled for August 2010 through August 2011 at North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D. This 36-credit-hour program will prepare selected personnel to participate in DoD's strategic logistics transformation arena. Application deadline: Dec. 1. <https://imcom.eep.army.mil/sites/hrd/wd/default.aspx>.

local EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Director

The University of Oklahoma seeks applicants for an assistant director at the Contract Support Office, Heidelberg. Bachelor's required, master's preferred; experience in marketing, budgeting, higher education administration; MS Office skills. DSN 370-6687, apeuadmin@ou.edu. Deadline is Nov. 12.

Mannheim Elementary School

MES seeks a school registrar, a lunch room monitor (part-time), education techs (teacher/classroom aides) and substitute teachers. DSN 380-4705, civ. 0621-730-4705, soha.saikalip@eu.dodea.edu.

Arts and Culture

The Heidelberg Arts and Cultural Center is looking for contractors in the following fields: jewelry making, you and your camera photography classes, various arts classes, pottery, singing, performing arts and sculpture. DSN 388-9418, civ. 06221-338-9418.

ACAP Counselor

The Army Career and Alumni Program seeks a full-time counselor for Mannheim. Must have master's degree, be computer literate, and at least two years of experience in job assistance, career or employment counseling, teaching, training or related field. DSN 370-7545, darla.huck@us.army.mil.

KAISERSLAUTERN Education

• **PRAXIS Teacher Certification** – The PRAXIS Teacher Certification Exam will be offered at 8 a.m. Jan. 13 at Bldg. 286 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. Deadline to register is noon Nov. 24. DSN 493-2593, civ. 0631-3406-2593.

• **CSB Briefing** – The Kaiserslautern Transition Center hosts a briefing on Career Status Bonus Nov. 18 in Bldg. 3245 on Kleber Kaserne. Register: DSN 483-7071, civ. 0631-411-7071.

• **Toy Shop 2009 Toy Drive** – Army Community Service is hosting a community-wide toy drive through Dec. 15. Donate a new, unwrapped gift for a child in the KMC. DSN 493-4062, www.mwgermany.com.

• **Youth of the Chapel Program** – Genesis Crew Dance Ministry, 7-9 p.m. Mondays for middle and high school students; "The Rock" High School Community Night, 7-11 p.m. Saturdays for high school students; "Plugged-In" K-Town Middle School Youth group 3-4:30 p.m. Mondays. Civ. 0151-2411-2619, genesisatpatton@gmail.com.

• **Gourmet Kitchenware Bunco** – The Landstuhl Community Club will host this event 6:30-9:30 p.m. Nov. 17. Reserve a seat: DSN 486-7244, civ. 06371-86-7244.

• **Vehicle Safety Day** – Pulaski Auto Skills is hosting Vehicle Safety Day 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Nov. 18. Get your free winter safety check. DSN 493-4167, civ. 0631-3406-4167.

• **Kids' Zone Closure** – The Kids' Zone on Pulaski Barracks will be closed for renovations November through March. This renovation will give the Kids' Zone a brand new look and feel with new décor, new gaming options and an expanded menu.

• **Independent and Foreign Films** – The Kaiserslautern Library at Landstuhl and the Landstuhl Community Club team up for Independent and Foreign Films. All shows start at 6 p.m. Upcoming shows: Nov. 18 - "The Drummer" by Kenneth Bi (Mandarin & Cantonese with English subtitles); Dec. 2 - "The Trap" by Srdan Golubovic (Serbian with English subtitles). DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-7322.

• **Teen Apprenticeship Program** – Child, Youth and School Services and the HIRE! Program are now accepting applications for Term 2 apprenticeships. DSN 486-8658, civ. 06371-86-8658.

• **Cards For A Cause Club** – The club will meet 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 18 at the Pinehurst Room, Woodlawn Golf Course, on Ramstein AFB, to make cards and mini-scrapsbooks for wounded warriors to send out to family and friends. Future dates: Dec. 9 and Jan. 13. pejachowski@juno.com.

• **Community Information Forum** – The Army Community Service

Information and Referral Program is hosting a Community Information Forum 1 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Armstrong Community Club on Vogelweh Housing. The forum is a monthly outline that provides information on various programs, agencies and organizations within the KMC. There will not be a CIF in January. DSN 493-4093, civ. 0631-3406-4093.

HEIDELBERG Education

• **ACS Classes and Events** – Checkbook Management, 9-11:30 a.m. Nov. 12; Intro to MS Excel, 9 a.m.-noon Nov. 16 and 18; FLAG, 5-9 p.m. Nov. 16-18 with field trip at 8:30 a.m. Nov. 21; Community Orientation Briefing, 12:30 p.m. Nov. 16; Reintegration Briefing, 9 a.m. Nov. 17; AFTB Level 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 17-19; PCS Briefing, 12:30-3 p.m. Nov. 17; Sponsorship Assistance Training, 10-11:30 a.m. Nov. 18; First-Termers Money Management, 8 a.m.-noon Nov. 19; Bringing Baby Home, 1-4 p.m. Nov. 19; ACS Potluck, 11 a.m. Nov. 19 in the PHV Yellow Ribbon Room. DSN 370-6883, www.mwgermany.com/hd/acs.

• **Red Cross Classes** – CPR/AED for Adult, Child and Infant and Standard First Aid will be held 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 16 in Bldg. 3850, Room 272 on the Community Support Center. Cost: \$40. DSN 370-1760, civ. 06221-57-1760.

• **Post-9/11 GI Bill Briefings** – Celebrate National Education Week by learning about the Post-9/11 GI Bill at the Patton Education Center 9:30-10:30 a.m. Nov. 17 and 2-3 p.m. Nov. 19. DSN 373-8660.

• **German Language Class** – A beginner class will be offered 9-11:30 a.m. Monday-Thursday Nov. 30-Dec. 17. Registration by e-mail only: Germanatpatton@iks-heidelberg.com.

• **Lunch and Learn Seminar** – The University of Phoenix presents "Why Become a Certified Teacher?" by Phillip Pattakos 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Patton Education Center, Room 118. RSVP: Civ. 06221-588-0492, maria.neelands@phoenix.edu.

• **Volksmarching** – Join the Heidelberg International Wandering Club at the following volksmarches:

Nov. 14-15, Ölbronn – Dürrn and Ludwigshafen (Sunday only); Nov. 21-22, Bingen-Kempen and Tiefenbach (Saturday only); next open trip is a two-night trip to Verona, Italy, in January. www.hivc.de.

• **Food and Clothing Drive** – Join the Panther's Place and Club Beyond as they "Help HOPE Thrive" with a food and clothing drive through Nov. 25. Drop off points are at Club Beyond Tuesday meetings and at the Panther's Place any day during November. DSN 388-9003.

• **Casualty Assistance Center**

• **Move** – The U.S. Army Europe Casualty Assistance Center moved from Tompkins Barracks to Bldg. 37 on Campbell Barracks Nov. 9. New contact information: DSN 370-4370, fax DSN 370-4368.

• **Rod and Gun Club Events** – Hunter's Graduation, 5 p.m. Nov. 14; St. Hubertus Mass, 5 p.m. Nov. 21 at Mark Twain Village Chapel to honor the patron saint of hunting – mass will be followed by hunter's soup and brotchen at the Rod and Gun Club; Fishermen's Meeting, 7 p.m. Nov. 25.

• **KONTAKT Club Events** – Bowling on PHV, noon Nov. 15, 22 and 29; Stammtisch at Makedonia, 6 p.m. Nov. 17, 24 and Dec. 1; Indoor Christmas Market at Vereinsheim Bassermann Schwetzingen, 1 p.m. Nov. 21; Thanksgiving Lunch at the Patton DFAC, 11-15 a.m. Nov. 26. Civ. 0171-537-8380, www.heidelberg-kontakt.viviti.com.

• **Clothing and School Supplies Drive** – HMS students will hold a clothing and school supplies drive to help poor families and students at a school in Eger, Hungary. Clothing (clean, folded and sorted) of all types and sizes (sizes 0-20). Bring items to the multi-purpose room 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 15. Civ. 0171-922-8082.

• **Fall Clean-up** – Nov. 16-20 with make-up days Nov. 23-25.

• **Christmas Card Competition** – Pick up an oversized piece of plywood at Self-Help and show off your decorating skills. Turn your card in to the PHV installation coordinator by Nov. 17 and let the Heidelberg community vote on which card will take home the grand prize. www.mwgermany.com.

• **Native American Indian Heritage Month** – Heidelberg's observance will be held 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Patrick Henry Village Theater and feature a variety of entertainment.

• **Awards Ceremony and Town Hall Meeting** – Join the community in recognizing military and civilian personnel for outstanding achievements at 3 p.m. Nov. 24 at the Roadside Theater on Patton Barracks.

• **Holiday Magic Vendors Needed** – Local organizations can host a booth at the 2009 Holiday Magic on PHV, 4-9 p.m. Dec. 4. Register for a booth: DSN 373-7414.

MANNHEIM Education

• **ACS Classes** – English as a Second Language, 9-11 a.m. Nov. 13, 16 and 18 and 6-7:30 p.m. Nov. 17 and 19; Account and Budget Management, 9-11 a.m. Nov. 16; Mannheim Orientation Spouses' Tour, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 16-18; Volunteer Orientation, 1-2 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. Nov. 16 and 18; Basic Financial Management Training for First-Term Soldiers, 9-11 a.m. Nov. 17; Account and Budget Management, 9-11:30 a.m. Nov. 17;

FRG Leader 101, 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Nov. 17; Hearts Apart, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 17; Levy and Out-processing Briefing, 1-2:45 p.m. Nov. 17; FRG Key Caller and POC Training, 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Nov. 18; Sponsorship Training for Leaders, 3-4 p.m. Nov. 18; Organization POC VMIS Training, 3-4 p.m. Nov. 19. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **GI Bill Briefings** – The Sullivan Barracks Education Center will hold Post-9/11 GI Bill briefings noon-1 p.m. every Wednesday during November in Bldg. 253. DSN 385-2053, civ. 0621-730-3361.

Community

• **Month of the Military Family** – During November the Mannheim Army Community Service, FMWR, and other community agencies celebrate this occasion by planning special events and discounts for military families. Go to the Mannheim page of www.mwgermany.com, and click on Army Community Service.

• **Angel Tree** – Help community children have a joyous holiday with the generosity of gift giving through Dec. 4. Select an angel on one of the trees located at the Mannheim AAFES Main Exchange, the PX-tra / Toyland or Army Community Service. Gifts need to be unwrapped. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **Sullivan Library** – Scrapbook Club, noon-3 p.m. Nov. 14; Free Movie, 4-5:30 p.m. Nov. 14; Adult Book Discussion Meeting, noon-1 p.m. Nov. 17; Just for Teens - clay modeling, 4 p.m. Nov. 19. DSN 380-1740, civ. 0621-730-1740.

• **Blood Drive** – Mannheim Health Clinic will host a blood drive at the Sullivan Gym, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 13. Military personnel, family members, DoD civilians and U.S. contractors with valid ID cards are eligible to participate. DSN 380-1750.

• **Outreach Services** – Super Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 14, reservations: DSN 380-4851, civ. 0621-730-4850; FRG/ Unit Night 5:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 19, reservations: DSN 385-2750, civ. 0621-730-2353; Parents' Night Out 6:30-10 p.m. Nov. 20, reservations DSN 380-4851, civ. 0621-730-4850.

• **Customs Closure** – The Customs Field Office will be closed from noon until close of business Nov. 19 and then all day Nov. 26-27.

• **SAS Fall Festival** – Nov. 20, 2-5 p.m. School Age Services children and their families will be treated to pie tasting, seasonal arts and crafts, family games and more.

• **CDC and SAS Combine** – The Child Development Center and School Age Services programs will combine Nov. 27. Child care for children enrolled in full day and before and/or after school CDC and SAS will take place at the CDC on BFV. Hours remain the same. DSN 385-2048.

Lady Bison take third place in European volleyball championships

By Chris Kelly
MHS VOLLEYBALL COACH

In what can only be described as a surprise, the Lady Bison volleyball team of Mannheim High School made a gutsy run Saturday in the Division II European Volleyball Championship taking third place.

The Lady Bison entered the tournament with a record of 7-9 on the season and were seeded eighth in the international field of 14 teams.

While a solid team, Mannheim was not expected to make waves in the tournament and upset some of the best Division II schools in Europe.

The Lady Bison went 5-1 in pool play, which set the team up with a semi-final match against Black Forest Academy.

The defending champs from BFA defeated Mannheim and stopped the Lady Bison's hopes for a title.

BFA continued its winning ways into the finals to repeat as champions. The loss for the Bison set up a rematch in the third-place game with Naples High School from Italy.

Naples was responsible for Mannheim's only loss in pool play and was hungry for a win after a devastating loss to Bitburg in a semi-final match.

Naples and Mannheim had to



John Crockett

Mannheim's Lady Bison volleyball team displays the third-place plaque earned at the Division II European Championships Saturday.

play three full sets in the best of three match to determine a winner, but it was the Mannheim Lady Bison, down late in the third set, who pulled out the victory.

The Lady Bison were fueled to their victory mostly by their starting six of Takiara Fowkles, Rachel Lankford, Kierra Tucker, Briyuana Melton, Shairim Torres and Gretchen Crockett.

Up until the third-place match, Mannheim had not gone very deep into its bench and had relied on its starters to secure victory. However,

in the final match, situations and injuries forced Mannheim to look to its bench for help.

Down late, coaches Chris Kelly and John Crockett subbed in Brittany Hyde, Dominique Williams and Grace Gonzalez to help lead an unbelievable comeback charge and sew up a third-place finish.

In addition to the team honors, Fowkles was named to the all-tournament team. As a sophomore middle hitter, Fowkles impressed with her strong play at the net and athletic ability in the back row.

Mannheim Volleyball Tournament

The Second Annual Mannheim Mustang Volleyball Invitational Tournament was held Nov. 1. Participating teams were from Baumholder, Mannheim, Wiesbaden, Hohenfels, Schweinfurt and Bamberg.

Championship Game

Mannheim vs. Wiesbaden: Winner - Wiesbaden; MVP - Roseanna Vega (Wiesbaden)

Third-Place Game

Schweinfurt vs. Baumholder: Winner - Baumholder

Ramstein claims championship



Wray Holan

Heidelberg senior Thomas Hogue (31) runs the ball in Saturday's heart-breaking 35-21 loss to Ramstein for the European Division I championship in Baumholder. With the constant rain falling, the defending champions could not muster the plays necessary to fight back against their long-time rivals, the Royals.

staying ACTIVE

Wrestling Mat Referees Needed

With the DoDDS high school wrestling season about to open, the Kaiserslautern Officials Association is in need of mat referees. Due to rotations and new requirements to cover more schools, KOA will need about 18 referees for six weeks plus tournaments. For those who wrestled in high school or college or knows the sport, referee education is available. The pay runs from \$90 to \$200 for a tournament plus mileage to the school sites. The KOA wrestling clinic will take place Nov. 21. Civ. 06371-946084, al.shaff@yahoo.com.

Jazzercise Classes

Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels jazzercise classes are now offered at Sullivan Gym on Tuesdays (9-10 a.m. and 5-6 p.m.) and Thursdays (9-10 a.m. and 7-8 p.m.). Dance your way into fitness. DSN 385-2001, civ. 0621-730-2001, www.mwgermany.com.

7th Annual Turkey Trot

The Mannheim community will host the Turkey Trot in the commissary parking lot starting at 9 a.m. Nov. 14 This fun 5-kilometer run and 2-kilometer walk is open to ID card holders of all ages. Registration is not necessary. DSN 385-2001, civ. 0621-730-3314.

4th Annual Turkey Challenge

The Mannheim Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program will host its 4th Annual Turkey Trot Challenge at Coleman Gym 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 20. The festivities will begin with sports activities including a fun run, volleyball, flag football and dodgeball. A free Thanksgiving feast will be provided at 12:30 p.m. Following lunch will be more laid back activities such as Madden 09, NBA 2K9, Rockband, cards, domino, and more. The Turkey Challenge is open to all Mannheim Community Single Soldiers and unaccompanied service members. DSN 385-2561, civ. 0621-730-3530.

Turkey Shoot

The 2009 Turkey Shoot at the Heidelberg Golf Club will take place at 10 a.m. Nov. 22 in Otfersheim. Each player will receive a turkey and the last place team will receive a Cornish hen. Event is limited to first 64 paid participants. DSN 379-6139.

LA Galaxy in Kaiserslautern

Tickets are on sale for the friendly soccer game between 1. FC Kaiserslautern and LA Galaxy Nov. 26. Civ. 01805-318800, www.fck-ticketshop.de.

Youth Sports and Fitness

Mannheim - Basketball and cheerleading enrollment is ongoing through Nov. 30 at Central Enrollment on Sullivan Barracks. Volunteer basketball and cheerleading coaches are needed: DSN 380-9290, civ. 0621-730-9290, darren.brown3@eu.army.mil.
Kaiserslautern - Sign up for Youth Winter Sports through Jan. 3 at Central Enrollment. Open to ages 5-15. DSN 493-4516, civ.0631-3406-4122.

Heidelberg - Register for CYS Services wrestling, cheerleading and boys girls basketball at Central Enrollment. DSN 388-9397.

Adult Dance Classes

Learn to tap dance at the Mannheim USO Saturdays in November 10-11 a.m. Learn to belly dance 7-8:30 p.m. at Sullivan Gym for €40 per month. Sign up at the Heidelberg or Mannheim USO.