

HeraldPOST

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

HP THURSDAY
Aug. 19, 2010

Speed Read

BAZAAR VOLUNTEERS

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Since Hammonds Barracks is closing soon, the memorabilia from the installation's namesake is being packed up and sent to his family in Oklahoma. 14

Defense Details

FLOOD RELIEF

U.S. military forces rescued 375 displaced Pakistanis Monday, Pentagon officials said, continuing their humanitarian assistance in wake of the monsoon floods that have isolated much of the Swat Valley and Peshawar regions in northwestern Pakistan. Tuesday, U.S. military aviation assets and personnel rescued 800 more people, bringing the total of flood victims rescued to 4,403 and goods transported to more than 540,000 pounds of food and relief supplies, officials said.

PRIVATE SECURITY

Pentagon officials are working with Afghan President Hamid Karzai to disband private security contractors in Afghanistan, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Tuesday. Karzai issued a decree in which he urged the disbanding of all international and national private security companies within four months. But U.S. officials believe such a timeline is "very challenging," Whitman said.

Army news: www.army.mil

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Volunteers give time to special needs children

By **Dijon Rolle**

USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Caroline Daniels is involved in a friendly foosball match with her opponent, 11-year-old Seth Holovacko, inside the Lion's Den in Heidelberg.

Daniels is a respite care provider and volunteer at this year's Exceptional Family Member Program Camp, which began see **EFMP** page 16



Dijon Rolle

Linda Phillips, has her face painted by Madison Welten and Alexis Perez at the Heidelberg Exceptional Family Member Program camp.

AAFES working to reimburse double charged customers

AAFES Public Affairs

DALLAS – While the Army and Air Force Exchange Service works to remedy erroneous credit and debit card charges created Aug. 7-9 as a result of a processing error, shoppers who incurred overdraft fees are being reimbursed at local facilities.

see **AAFES** page 16



FUTURE LEADERS

Spc. Adam P. Garlington

Teenagers from the 7th Civil Support Command design a blanket at the first European Youth Leadership, Education and Development Summit at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Heidelberg Aug. 6. The blanket will be donated to the children of wounded warriors at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

7th CSC teens learn life, communication skills at youth leadership conference

By **Staff Sgt. Patricia Deal**

USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"The best thing was I could have fun and talk about stuff with kids my age without having to worry about adults," said Chris DeRose, 14. "Oh yeah, and I learned lots of neat things, too."

DeRose was among 10 teens who attended the first European Youth Leadership, Education and Development Summit in Heidelberg Aug. 5-8.

The summit helped teens of U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers learn life, leadership, social and communication skills, plus helped them to develop a better sense of community service.

"YLEADS is a very important program for teens of Reserve Soldiers because of the unique situation they're in," said Beverly Arah, the operations manager for Army Reserve Child, Youth and School Services. "Many of them are not familiar with the

see **YLEADS** page 16

"We knew there was a need to reach the youth in Europe as they are spread out in different countries and may feel a bit more isolated from friends in the States."

-Beverly Arah, Army Reserve CYSS

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

How the Army handles paternity issues

Patton Law Center

Legal assistance attorneys occasionally advise Soldiers who are the alleged father of a child born out of wedlock concerning child support, the jurisdiction of a court to decide such matters, possible legitimization of the child by marriage, and the rights of the child under immigration and pension laws.

Legal assistance attorneys also get called upon to explain these same rules to the mothers of such children.

Emotions often run high in these cases, and many times neither side is happy with how these claims are treated within the Army. If a Soldier voluntarily acknowledges the child, the Soldier may apply for certain benefits for the child such as dependency status, an ID card, enrollment into DEERS, and BAH-with or BAH-diff, depending upon the particular facts and circumstances of the paternity and whether the Soldier has other dependents.

If the Soldier denies paternity, refuses to provide financial support to the child, or refuses to assist the mother in obtaining military benefits for the child, the situation can get very difficult for all parties.

When notified of these claims, commanders must investigate the matter and inform the Soldier of his moral and legal obligations.

In the cases of Soldiers who admit

paternity and want to provide financial and other support to the child, commanders are required to assist the Soldier in applying for allowances and other support for the child.

The situation is very different if the Soldier denies paternity, admits paternity but does not agree to provide financial support to the child, or agrees to provide financial support to the child, but then changes his mind.

In all these latter situations, all any commander can do is take action to terminate any allowance the Soldier may be receiving for the child.

In the absence of a court order, or its functional equivalent, identifying the Soldier as the father of a child, a male Soldier has no legal obligation to provide financial support to a child alleged to have been born to him and the child's mother out of wedlock.

The mother must be advised that she must obtain a court order if she wishes to proceed against the Soldier for child support and get further assistance from the Army.

How does a mother get such a court order? In the U.S., a good place to start is the local Child Support Enforcement Office. These offices will often handle the case for the mother and obtain a court order, or its functional equivalent, either of which can be sufficient to use against the Soldier.

Support also may be sought

directly from a local U.S. court where the child or the alleged father resides. For mothers and children located in Germany, these avenues may not be of much assistance. A German court or the German child agency (Jugendamt) may be an appropriate forum for a court order or its functional equivalent if there is jurisdiction in Germany.

Are blood or other tests usually required, and if so, who pays for them? Yes. Usually the party seeking the test pays for it, but the Soldier can later be required to pay for the tests if it is determined that he is the father of the child.

No Army commander has the authority to order or require a Soldier to take a paternity test. Army medical facilities do not conduct these tests.

What happens in court? The court will determine parentage and then determine an appropriate amount of child support. If requested, the court may also determine the visitation rights of the father and establish a schedule of visitation.

Will I need to hire an attorney? Usually yes. Legal assistance offices provide advice and assistance, but not in-court representation.

Sometimes the case will be accepted by the local prosecutor or the Child Support Enforcement Office and a retained attorney will not then be necessary.

Letter to the Editor**Dear Editor:**

I occasionally read the HP but this edition (Aug. 5) prompts me to write. On the front page in red type it says, "A white male in his mid-20s drives onto a Heidelberg military installation."

This is blatant and unacceptable racism.

I cannot believe you allowed this. The word "white" does not need to be there — neither does a reference to any other color, creed, race etc. What sort of uproar would be happening if you used the word "black" or "Muslim" or "Hispanic," etc. in its place?

Your text would produce the same impact and get the point across sufficiently without the word "white" in the article. (Or as stated, without any other adjective in that location).

What you wrote is offensive and insensitive and is borderline EEO complaint material. I strongly recommend that you apologize to the reading public.

—Andy Poppen

Mr. Poppen:

Thank you for your e-mail, and I appreciate your concerns.

In a real-world scenario, it's customary to describe suspects using their race and any other characteristics that would enable them to be identified.

In this instance, the term "white male" was used by first responders to identify the actor playing the shooter role in the full-scale force protection exercise described in the article.

If the suspect had been identified as Hispanic or black, one of those adjectives would have been used. If this had been an actual incident instead of an exercise, it would be imperative that the public have a description of the suspect, using whatever adjectives necessary.

In hindsight, because this article reported on an event rather than made an emergency public notification, I agree that I could have chosen to leave out the descriptor "white" without affecting the content.

—Lira Frye, USAG Baden-Württemberg Public Affairs Officer

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

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

What part of "15 items or less" do people NOT understand when using the Commissary Self Check-out? How is it that someone with a full cart would, in all good conscience, use the lane?

—Richard Glass, BWnow Facebook fan

Installation Management Command-Europe Family and MWR customers are advised that credit and debit card transactions conducted in IMCOM-Europe MWR facilities Aug. 7-9, including Army Lodging and the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, may have

been duplicated due to an error in the AAFES card processing system.

—BWnow Facebook Administrator

Does this also include CYSS?

—Mihaela Froehlich, BWnow Facebook fan

Since CYSS does fall under Family and MWR, it is included in the possible charge duplication. Check your statements to be sure. AAFES is working to correct the problem automatically, so you shouldn't

have to do anything to fix it if you were affected.

—BWnow Facebook Administrator

Yep, we have been double charged. Waiting for refund.

—Mihaela Froehlich

Yeah, they got me too. It's already been refunded though ...

—Jesse Granger, BWnow Facebook fan



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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.

Comprehensive Soldier Fitness

Teens get new perspective on Army-wide program during leadership conference held in Heidelberg

By Lt. Col. Michele R. Satak
7TH CSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sgt. 1st Class John Mayle, the 7th Civil Support Command force development noncommissioned officer and a master resilience trainer spent Aug. 7 educating 10 teenagers on Comprehensive Soldier Fitness, which helped supply them with the tools to grow and thrive in today's Army lifestyle stressors during the first Youth Leadership, Education and Development Summit in Heidelberg.

"Comprehensive Soldier Fitness is for Soldiers, families and Army civilians alike," Mayle said. "The skills that are taught by MRTs can be beneficial for everyone."

During the YLEAD summit, Mayle gave an overview of the CSF program and then discussed the specific skill of "Putting it in Perspective."

The skills are not limited

to those facing the challenges of being deployed or in harm's way, they can be used by anyone encountering stress, trying times or traumatic events.

"If something happens that may cause stress in your life, that may cause a downward spiral in your life or a traumatic event, you suddenly jump to conclusions, you start thinking the worst-case scenarios ... this skill can give a new perspective and help alleviate negative thinking as well as create a plan of action."

Mayle, who teaches CSF to all ages in the Army, admits this was a new audience for him.

"It was a good experience, and watching them understand and grasp the concept of the class was impacting," Mayle said. "It was great to see the kids participate in this new program with a good attitude and in an enthusiastic manner."

"In school we are taught to teach these skills to Sol-

diers, so it was a little bit of a challenge relating some of the material to the teens but nothing that could not be overcome," Mayle said. "We got it done, and the kids understood the material."

Each youth attending the summit had the opportunity to talk about a situation and how he would apply P.I.P.P. Some will take the skill and apply what they've learned in school, at home and in their everyday lifestyle.

"I learned how to communicate better. It's been wonderful, and I am going to cherish this experience my whole life," said Michael Fargas Jr., a Carolina, Puer-to Rico, native and 14-year-old son of Sgt. 1st Class Nayda S. Martinez with the 7th Civil Support Command, Headquarters and Headquarters Company in Kaiserslautern.

"The kids from YLEAD as well as the staff all really interacted and enjoyed

the class," Mayle said. "This makes me a little more anxious, but in a good way, to do the training with the Soldiers now."

"This class was very good, and I met a lot of new kids to hang with," said Belen Simpson, 13-year-old native of Silverton, Ore., and daughter of Lt. Col. Gregory Simpson with the 7th CSC. "I think the class really helped because now I can think more in a positive perspective and get out of those negative situations easier."

CSF provides a tailored plan for families to strengthen and grow physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually; creates an Army family that is safe, supportive and caring; and provides the resources needed for all members to live in a healthy and secure environment.

"My new friends here are now part of my Army family that I can always call on for support," Belen said.

In Memoriam



Shirl W. Conrad, 66, died July 26 after a long battle with cancer. He served 23 years in the U.S. Army and retired as a first sergeant for the then 26th Support Group located on Patton Barracks. Conrad served military tours in the U.S., Germany and Vietnam.

He also worked as a civil servant for the military postal system in various locations around Germany and enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling and exploring Europe.

Conrad is survived by his wife, Adelheid; his three children, Tina, Shirl and Steven; and three grandchildren, Tommy, Trisha and Cassia.

Volunteers needed for Heidelberg Holiday Bazaar

Heidelberg Family and MWR Marketing

Some people might believe August is too early to start thinking about the winter holidays, but if you've been in Heidelberg long enough, you know summer kicks off preparations for the annual Heidelberg Holiday Bazaar.

The bazaar committee is in full swing, gearing up for the event to be held at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion Oct. 8-10.

What you see at the bazaar – the dozens of rows of international vendors selling everything from furniture to cheese and wine – is possible only with the helping hands of hundreds of volunteers.

Open to both adults and youth (ages 13 and up), volunteer opportunities are available for everyone before, during and after the bazaar. Volunteers enjoy all the great perks, namely being entered into a "volunteer only" drawing that includes vendor prizes and AAFES gift cards. But perhaps best of all, volunteers are invited to attend the pre-shopping event Thursday evening before the bazaar opens to the public the next day.

Teens are eligible to earn volunteer hours useful for college applications.

"We had great support from our high school students last year. They loved it, and we loved having them," said Mickey Miller, the volunteer coordinator.

Shift schedules will be streamlined this year, giving volunteers the opportunity to get the job done and then enjoy the bazaar as shoppers themselves, Miller added.

This is the 46th Heidelberg Holiday Bazaar hosted by U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and presented by the Heidelberg Community Spouses Club.

To find out more information on how to become a bazaar volunteer, log on to www.hcsc-heidelberg.com or www.mwrgermany.com.

Qs and As from the USAG Baden-Württemberg Town Hall Meeting

A garrison town hall meeting was held Aug. 11 in the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. Below is a list of questions addressed by Garrison Commander Col. Bill Butcher at the meeting. The next meeting will be held in November.

With the updated housing policy that allows Soldiers and families to live off-post and the opportunity for people PCSing to Mannheim to choose to live in Heidelberg, I'm concerned about the potential for Heidelberg schools, specifically Patrick Henry Elementary, to become crowded. Are there plans in place to address this?

DODDS and the garrison are committed to ensuring the schools available can support the population. Right now, we don't anticipate an increase in the Heidelberg population, but we'll continue to work with DODDS to monitor any potential changes in enrollment as we approach the out-years.

Policies don't go far enough to protect families in on-post housing from second-hand smoke. The smoke from outside comes in through open windows and seeps into the apartment. Can there be separate apartment buildings for smokers and nonsmokers? Also people continue to smoke in the common areas.

This is one of our priority AFAP issues. Our Housing Office does provide smoke-free and pet-free buildings, but if the need is greater, we can look at expanding those facilities. We'll also look at ways to remind community members of the smoking policy addressing no smoking in common areas such as stairwells, laundry

rooms and directly outside residents' windows.

When are the construction barriers near the Heidelberg High School opening?

The barriers are designed to direct and control traffic, specifically to deter vehicles from entering the one-way street in that area. They're not related to construction.

Is the new pedestrian gate on North PHV going to be open 24 hours?

Yes. Residents must be 16 years or older to use the gate or be accompanied by an adult. We'll post a diagram at the next town hall meeting showing the location.

There are too many cars speeding near the high school area. Can you send MPs to monitor?

We can have MPs monitor the area more closely and work with the police to monitor several roads in the MTV area where it filters to host nation roads.

How old must a child be to walk a dog by himself? Too many young children are walking dogs by themselves. When I asked an MP about the policy, he didn't know.

According to USAG Baden-Württemberg policy, children must be at least 12 years old in order to walk

a dog alone. We'll remind our MPs about the policy and ask that they reinforce it to our young dog walkers and their sponsors.

There are too many unsupervised kids in the playground (near Bldg. 4422). They are often going into the trash cans, fighting, and adding graffiti on the playground equipment. I've tried to address the children and their parents. Can you help?

If you see youth vandalizing property and acting irresponsibly, contact the MPs or if known provide the names of these youths to the MPs or the garrison, and we will make contact with their sponsor.

Children who live off post are being dropped off and left unsupervised. What can we do?

The situation with children being dropped off is tough. Many of our middle school and teen programs allow youth to sign themselves in an out, and we're encouraging them to participate in these on-post activities. New activities include a graffiti wall, outdoor movies, more off-post trips and an upgraded Lion's Den Teen Center. We're committed to meeting the needs of our youth, but also know that their behavior is reflective on all of us. Please help us keep our community safe by reporting suspicious activity or concerns when they arise to the MP station or garrison.

405th AFSB changes leaders

1st Battalion welcomes new commander

By Jennifer King
405TH AFSB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 1st Battalion, 405th Army Field Support Brigade welcomed a new commander during a change of command ceremony Aug. 4 in Kaiserslautern.

Lt. Col. Joe Gann took command of the battalion from Lt. Col. James Kennedy at the Kaiserslautern Community Activities Center.

During the ceremony, Col. John Haley, commander of the 405th AFSB, commended Kennedy for his accomplishments during his command.

"Jim Kennedy is exactly the type of officer I want on my team," Haley said. "He is intelligent, aggressive and certainly willing to speak his mind. He has provided great leadership to his unit."

Gann echoed Haley's comments, saying Kennedy, "left the battalion in a great place," and Gann promised to lead the battalion forward in the same manner.

"I am looking forward to commanding this great battalion, and I promise to give you 100 percent every day," Gann said.

Gann comes to the brigade from Headquarters, U.S. Forces Japan, where he served as the branch chief for the J43 exercise and plans branch. Kennedy's next assignment will be at Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe G-4 in Heidelberg.



Jennifer King

Col. John Haley passes the colors to incoming 1st Battalion commander Lt. Col. Joe Gann during a change of command ceremony Aug. 4 in Kaiserslautern.



Sgt. 1st Class Sean Riley

Col. Jack Haley (left), the outgoing commander of the 405th Army Field Support Brigade, Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine (center), commander of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command, and Col. Ronald Green, the incoming brigade commander, applaud the 21st Theater Sustainment Command color guard during the brigade's change of command ceremony Aug. 12 in Kaiserslautern.

Brigade welcomes Green to the team

By Jennifer King
405TH AFSB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 405th Army Field Support Brigade welcomed Col. Ronald Green as its new commander during a change of command ceremony Aug. 12 on the parade field at Daenner Kaserne in Kaiserslautern.

During the ceremony, the brigade also bid a fond farewell to outgoing commander Col. John Haley.

Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine, commander of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command, served as the reviewing officer for the ceremony and praised Haley for his accomplishments during his tenure as brigade commander.

"You and your team have done a magnificent job of taking on large, complex missions and making it look easy," Fontaine said. "You have been given a lot of challenges, and you have overcome them all through your leadership, dedication, focus and basic hard work."

Haley, who called the ceremony "bittersweet," reflected on his past two years as a brigade commander, recognizing that the change of command marks "the realization of unmet goals, missions not quite completed and the simple fact that, as a commander, your time is up."

However, he was quick to point out that the ceremony is also an exciting time, "an event of renewal with the promise of bigger and better things ahead under new leadership."

"You and your team have done a magnificent job of taking on large, complex missions and making it look easy."

-Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine to Col. John Haley

Fontaine welcomed Green as the new commander and emphasized his trust in Green's capabilities, adding that he knew Green well as Green served as both a company commander and a battalion commander under Fontaine's command.

"You are coming here to Kaiserslautern with a wealth of experience," Fontaine stated, noting Green's numerous logistics assignments at previous organizations, including service as a division medical logistics officer and logistics operations officer, among others.

During his speech, Green noted that being granted command during a time of war is a "distinct honor."

"I'm well aware of the privilege that has been given to me today," he said. "Thank you to Col. Haley for everything you've done for us and this command. We will work to build on your legacy."

Green comes to the brigade from the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, where he served as the CJ-4. Haley's next assignment will be with the U.S. Army Materiel Command at Fort Belvoir, Va.

transformation UPDATE

Frequently Asked Questions

What's happening to the IMCOM-Europe Headquarters?

IMCOM-Europe is scheduled to move to Wiesbaden and/or Sembach pending guidance from DOD basing officials.

How does transformation impact people who are just now getting orders to Mannheim?

This is a tough question because a Soldier's unit of assignment will truly drive how long the Soldier and his family will serve in Mannheim. For example, if a Soldier is assigned to a unit earmarked to move to Schweinfurt by the end of fiscal year 11 (such as 72nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion or the 7th Signal Brigade), his stay in Mannheim could be very brief. If a Soldier is assigned to a unit that has a "TBD" status such as 18th Military Police Brigade, the Soldier and his family could get a full three-year tour in Mannheim. This is certainly an issue that impacts each Soldier and family differently.

How do you see the two separate communities of Heidelberg and Mannheim coming together once the Mannheim garrison inactivates next summer?

When the Mannheim garrison inactivates next summer, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg will assume responsibility for the community. Our focus will still be on the Soldiers and families living and working in both communities. We will continue to host activities that provide a "Home Away From Home" for our community members. In addition, we have great host nation support, and we will continue to work on maintaining that relationship in both communities.

Facility Operations Changes

Coleman Vision Center - The Mannheim AAFES Vision Center on Coleman Barracks is scheduled to close Oct. 15. While the facility in Heidelberg will not be staffed with an optometrist, the customer eyewear prescription once produced by a military or local optometrist will require no additional time for delivery. All orders will be transmitted to the Panzer (Stuttgart) Vision Center. A new Vision Center will be opened inside the Panzer Mall in Stuttgart Sept. 8.

Mannheim Law Center - The Law Center is now located on the first floor of Bldg. 244 on Sullivan Barracks. The Law Center will continue to provide power of attorney and notary services on a walk-in basis 9-11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. However, it will no longer provide legal assistance and claims due to a reduction in the number of personnel. Soldiers needing assistance should contact the Heidelberg Legal Assistance Office at DSN 373-5058, cw. 06221-17-5058.

www.bw.eur.army.mil/transformation

Pharmacy prices change for non-TRICARE beneficiaries

ERMC Public Affairs

Though some ERMC beneficiaries may see new pharmacy charges due to changes in Military Health System pharmaceutical pricing, they may not necessarily be higher.

"Periodic price adjustments on some prescription drugs are often lower," said ERMC Uni-

form Business Office Manager Jeffrey A. Roberts, who advises beneficiaries to do some comparison shopping.

The TRICARE Management Activity Uniform Business Office announced on its Web site that price changes were effective as of Aug. 9.

"TMA's pricing methodology sets charges for pharmaceuticals at the same level TRICARE would reimburse for similar drugs under its retail pharmacy program," Roberts said.

Roberts said the new prices affect non-TRICARE eligible pay patients who use military treatment facilities on a space-available, reimbursable basis. U.S. civilian employees, authorized Department of Defense Dependents Schools employees, contractors and other beneficiaries with or without their own insurance are among those charged for medical services and pharmaceuticals when using Army health clinics.

"TRICARE beneficiaries are not directly affected when using pharmacies at Army health clinics or Landstuhl Regional Medical Center," Roberts said. "However, we use the same rates when billing their non-TRICARE medical insurance under the Third Party Collection program."

Roberts said the TRICARE Management Activity reminds beneficiaries that the military pharmacy may not always be the lowest cost option, and encourages patients to compare prices with other commercial pharmaceutical sources to ensure they receive the lowest cost.

The Europe Regional Medical Command's Uniform Business Office offers TMA's Pharmacy Pricing Estimator Tool through its Web site at <http://tinyurl.com/36wr37c>. Contact the ERMC Uniform Business Office at ebu@amedd.army.mil or by clicking on the "Contact Us" tab on the eUBO Web page.

TRICARE beneficiaries are not directly affected when using pharmacies at Army health clinics or Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

—Jeffrey A. Roberts, ERMC

Faces of the community: Sullivan Library



Margaret Clevenger

Hassiba Lathrache, a Sullivan Library employee, keeps the library organized by changing labels for library DVDs. The library in Mannheim has books, movies, video games and more for ID card holders to check out. Computers and tables are available for studying, relaxing, reading and checking e-mail. The library is open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. It is closed Sunday, Monday and on German holidays. DSN 380-1740, civ. 0621-7301-740, <https://library.eur.army.mil>.

Absentee Voting – Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register to vote, or apply for an absentee ballot?

You may register and request an absentee ballot with a single form: The Federal Post Card Application. This application form is accepted by all states and territories and is postage-paid in the U.S. mail, including the Military Postal System and State Department Pouch mail. Hard copies of the form can be obtained from a U.S. embassy or consulate or directly by contacting the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

An online version of the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form is also available at www.fvap.gov. The online version of the form must be mailed in an envelope with proper postage, or mailed using the prepaid return envelope.

What happens if I do not receive a ballot from my local election office?

If you requested an absentee ballot but have not received one close to Election Day, you can still vote by using the backup Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. To be eligible to use this backup ballot, you must:

- Be absent from your voting residence;
- Have applied for a regular ballot early enough so the request is received by the appropriate local election official not later than the state deadline;

or the date that is 30 days before the general election; and

- Have not received the requested regular absentee ballot from the state.

Where can I get a backup Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot?

Hard-copies of the backup Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot are available through voting assistance officers at military installations or at U.S. embassies/consulates. An online version is also available at www.fvap.gov, which must be completed, printed, signed, dated, and mailed to your local election official. Check out your state's instructions to determine your state specific instructions, witness/notary requirements for voted ballots, deadlines and mailing addresses.

Can I vote absentee?

You can vote absentee in any election for federal office if you are a U.S. citizen 18 years or older and are a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States.

If I do not maintain a legal residence in the U.S., what is my "legal state of residence?"

Your "legal state of residence" for voting purposes is the state or territory where you last

resided immediately prior to your departure from the United States. This applies to overseas citizens, even though you may not have property or other ties in your last state of residence and your intent to return to that state may be uncertain.

When completing block 3 of the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form, be sure to enter the entire mailing address of your last residence, including rural route and number. That address determines your proper voting jurisdiction.

Some states allow children of U.S. citizens residing overseas who are U.S. citizens but who have never resided in the U.S., to claim one of their parent's legal state of residence as their own.

Can I register or vote in person at the embassy or consulate?

There are no provisions for in-person voting or on-site registration at U.S. embassies or consulates. U.S. embassy and consular officials can assist U.S. citizens in completing the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form or other election materials for their state, witness or notarize election materials (if required), and provide other absentee voting information. You may mail election materials from U.S. embassies and consulates. Make sure all election material is postmarked.

ACS program offers support to new parents with children ages 0-3

By Rob McIlvaine
FMWR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The New Parent Support Program addresses the many concerns and challenges military families with children ages 0 to 3 face during early childhood with an emphasis on family strengths.

“The program is offered to military families to enhance parent and infant attachment, increase knowledge of child development, and provide connections to the support services that allow parents to become nurturing and capable caregivers,” NPSP Program Manager Rich Lopez said.

By integrating prevention education services and activities, NPSP involves both parents, if possible, and supports the family’s adaptation to military life by enhancing knowledge and skills needed to promote healthy family interaction, form healthy relationships, provide safe and nurturing environments for children, and enhance formal and informal support networks.

“While NPSP’s primary focus is child advocacy and maltreatment prevention through parenting education and support, NPSP helps all families with young children by providing the skills necessary to promote healthy parenting,” Lopez said.

The NPSP services are provided by experienced, licensed clinical social workers and registered nurses who have extensive experience working with families with young children and who are sensitive to the unique challenges facing military families.

According to Dr. Lori Worley, NPSP and Military Child and Family Issues Program manager, one mom’s life was saved through the interaction with her home visitor who noticed something was wrong with the pregnancy of one of the mothers in a class she was teaching.

“About two months ago, I was participating in a group of classes called ‘Mommy and Daddy Boot Camp’ with my husband, Sgt. Sean Sweeney at Fort Lee, Va. One morning before the next class was to begin, I woke up more swollen than normal. Elaine Sexton, RN, and

our home visitor, took me aside after the class and told me to call my doctor to schedule an emergency appointment, since I was showing signs of preeclampsia,” Cpl. Gretchen M. Sweeney said.

If left untreated, preeclampsia can lead to serious, even fatal, complications for both mom and baby. One of the signs, although not conclusive, is swelling in the face and hands.

“My doctor diagnosed me with preeclampsia and told me if I hadn’t gotten to him, my baby and I would have both been in danger.

“Since then, Miss Sexton has been very attentive, often calling to check up on me and has even visited on numerous occasions to make sure everything is okay,” Sweeney said.

Spc. James Clark and his wife, Kristie, at Fort Campbell, Ky., joined the program because they had concerns about their son’s medical issues.

“Our son, Hunter, has umbilicus hernia and colic and had been crying all the time, plus I had symptoms of post-partum depression,” Kristie said.

“Our home visitor, Mary Vozar from NPSP, was great. She was able to answer all our questions, and what she couldn’t answer, she was able to point us in the right direction to get those answers.”

While all active-duty Soldiers, National Guard and Reserve, and their families within a 50-mile radius of an installation are eligible to receive these services, priority is given to first-time parents, single parents and dual military families.

Families can enter the program by referral from a health professional, the command or by a civilian agency, or by simply requesting NPSP services through Army Community Service.

Program activities include screening, play groups, support groups, deployment briefs, reunion and reintegration briefs and command briefs.

Classes offered by NPSP may include prenatal and infant care, home safety, children and the deployment cycle, stress management, and infant safety, to name a few.

For more information, contact the local or family center.

New uniforms for OEF



Staff Sgt. Gary A. Witte

Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan will now go with a new uniform in their mobility bag – one that fights fire and fleas, and makes them less visible to insurgents. The next generation of uniform for Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom bears the new “OEF camouflage pattern” – called OCP for short. The pattern is better suited than the “Universal Camouflage Pattern” to blend into the Afghanistan environment. It is also known as “MultiCam.”

August is ANTITERRORISM AWARENESS MONTH

THINK IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE? THINK AGAIN.

Sept. 15, 1981: Gen. Frederick J. Kroesen, then U.S. Army Europe commander and later vice chief of staff of the U.S. Army, and his wife are on the way to their dentist in Heidelberg when terrorists fire a Soviet-made RPG-7 rocket-propelled grenade at their Mercedes. A rocket passes through the car but does not detonate, and the Kroesens escape with minor injuries.



THINK ABOUT IT. VIGILANCE BEGINS WITH YOU.
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Natalie Cole

A driver loads a non-operational Humvee from Iraq onto the Motor Vessel Liberty at Shuaiba Port, Kuwait. The Liberty will carry 6,000 tons of military cargo from the port to the United States. Port operations, managed by the 595th Transportation Brigade, are essential to 1st Theater Sustainment Command's efficient drawdown of equipment from Iraq.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Nathanael Callon

Pfc. Joshua Murphy, rifleman for Provincial Reconstruction Team Zabul and New Brighton, Pa., native, measures a rooftop of a school near Combat Outpost Mizan, Zabul Province, Saturday. PRT Zabul is working to renovate the school as part of an ongoing effort to improve Mizan District.



Spc. Kevin Welsh provides security before boarding a CH-47 Chinook helicopter after completing a mission in Chak valley in the Wardak province of Afghanistan Aug. 3. Welsh is assigned to 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

Sgt. Russell Gilchrest



Sgt. Russell Gilchrest

Soldiers with 503rd Infantry Battalion, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team set up a tactical satellite communication system in Shekhabad Valley, Wardak province, Afghanistan, Aug. 9.



Staff Sgt. Horace Murray

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(Left) Brig. Gen. Michael Nagata welcomes U.S. Marines who are replacing the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and with the evacuation of flood victims as part of the flood disaster recovery effort in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan Aug. 13. The Marines are assigned to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

USAREUR honors best of the best

Soldiers battle through obstacles during 2010 Best Warrior competition

USAREUR Public Affairs

U.S. Army Europe named Cpl. Eric Sincore from the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and Staff Sgt. Alicia Anderson from the Joint Multinational Training Command its 2010 Best Warrior Soldier and Best Warrior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in a ceremony in Heidelberg Aug. 12.

Gen. Carter Ham, USAREUR's commanding general, and USAREUR Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas R. Capel, hosted the event and presented awards to all 14 Soldiers who competed for this year's Best Warrior honors.

"I got off of the plane here last Tuesday and (after learning about this ceremony) I smiled all the way from Frankfurt to my house," said Capel, who became the 16th USAREUR command sergeant major Aug. 2.

"How could you have such an honor, to be coming into a theater on a new assignment and getting to be the host of the best of the best that USAREUR has to offer? So I am extremely proud to be the host of this day's ceremony," he said.

The competition, conducted July 26-29 at the Grafenwöhr Training Area, challenged 14 competitors representing USAREUR's subordinate commands in all aspects of Soldier skills and knowledge.

"The competitors here faced challenging tests that

stretched the limits of mental aptitude, physical strength, endurance, flexibility and tenacity," said U.S. Navy Fleet Master Chief Petty Officer Roy M. Maddocks, the U.S. European Command's senior enlisted advisor and guest speaker.

The competition was hard, but Sincore said he was confident that the training he had done before the competition prepared him for the grueling test.

"I trained hours a day for weeks at a time with the help of my NCO support chain to help get me ready to do this," Sincore said.

During the two weeks between the end of the competition and the ceremony, any indication of who the front runners for the Best Warrior titles might be was kept top secret.

Tension mounted and the announcement of the winners was a surprise to everyone.

"I knew I performed well, but you never know what they're looking for, how the points are going to round out, how well your competition did – so no one knew anything at all," Anderson said.

"It was unexpected, and it feels good to have won the competition," Sincore said.

Although only two competitors ultimately earned the winning titles, there is more to these events than just determining who wins and who loses.

"I believe that competition breeds excellence – it truly



U.S. Army Europe Photo

Staff Sgt. Alicia Anderson low crawls through a barbed-wire obstacle with Staff Sgt. Clinton Milroy close on her heels. Anderson, from the Joint Multinational Training Center, was named the 2010 U.S. Army Europe Best Warrior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year at a ceremony in Heidelberg Aug. 12.

does. This competition not only finds the best warriors, but it develops them more along the way," Maddocks said.

"You just think, 'I have a task, and I'm going to do the very best I can at this task,' and you just take it step by step ... I think the rest comes later," he added.

The USAREUR winners will move on to represent the command at the Department of the Army level competition later this year.

"I'm proud to be representing USAREUR at the next Best Warrior Competition ... and I'm looking forward to it," Anderson said.

Anderson and Sincore both have a lot to live up to, as USAREUR has had winners at the Army level three times in the past five years.



Sgt. Joel Salgado

Competitors in the U.S. Army Europe 2010 Best Warrior Competition pull security after being dropped off at their landing zone at the beginning of the land navigation event of the competition.

"Last year's NCO of the Year for Department of the Army was a USAREUR Soldier, and we will have two more USAREUR winners this year," said Sgt. Maj. Brad Weber, who has been overseeing USAREUR

Best Warrior competitions during those five years.

"That type of success speaks directly to the quality of our competition and how well it prepares our winners for the next level," Weber said.



your local connection

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ROTC nurses find challenging summer work at LRMC

LRMC Public Affairs

For 15 future Army Nurse Corps officers, it was a rare opportunity to put their academic skills to work and experience wartime medical care provided by nurses at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

LRMC is one of the top desired locations for the Nurse Summer Training Program, and hundreds of nurse cadets across the country compete for the opportunity. The program is a 120-hour clinical internship offered to nurse cadets before their senior year of nursing school.

It gives cadets such as Stephanie Buell a unique opportunity to see what life will be like as a Junior Nurse Corps officer. Buell came from the University of Arizona and was ecstatic about being assigned to a medical surgical nursing unit where she had the oppor-

tunity to work the night shift.

"At first I was disappointed about being assigned to the night shift, but I couldn't be happier with my experiences this summer," Buell said.

She was able learn what to expect as a new officer in the Nurse Corps, she said, and her preceptor took the time to ensure she had plenty of experience with IV insertions and maintenance, which was her main goal this summer.

"I have learned more this summer than I ever expected and cannot express how grateful I am for having the opportunity to care for the wounded warriors at LRMC," the cadet said.

David Weigel, a cadet from Cincinnati, Ohio, was assigned to the Ambulatory Procedure Unit, which primarily does same-day surgeries for military members and their families. Working with his preceptor, he was able to prac-

tice a variety of nursing skills he never had an opportunity to try in school.

"I'll be much more prepared for my final year of nursing school and have found a confidence I never thought I'd have," Weigel said.

Stacey Eberhardt, a cadet from Austin, Texas, was assigned to the Mother/Baby Unit, which provides care for mothers and their newborn children.

"It was a great experience," Eberhardt said. "I had a wonderful time working with the mothers and helping them take care of their babies."

Under the guidance of her preceptor, Eberhardt was able to perform an assortment of nursing skills to help care for her patients.

"This experience has definitely made me more confident in my ability as nurse," she said. "I am so grateful that I had this opportunity to come

"I have learned more this summer than I ever expected and cannot express how grateful I am for having the opportunity to care for the wounded warriors at LRMC."

-Stephanie Buell, Army nurse cadet

to Landstuhl and work with the amazing people here."

In addition to their experiences, other cadets had rotations through the Operating Room, Psychiatric Unit, Intensive Care Unit, Post Anesthesia Care Unit, Emergency Department, and Labor and Delivery. Cadets also received litter training and assisted at the Casualty Aeromedical Staging Facility at nearby Ramstein Air Base in order to understand the medical evacuation process of returning wounded warriors to their home stations for further medical treatment.

"It has been a true pleasure for me to work with such fine cadets and preceptors," said Maj. Rhonda G. Whitfield, the LRMC ROTC NSTP course director. Although they came to learn, Whitfield said the cadets also prepared and taught in-service training to nursing staff teams on topics such as post traumatic stress disorder and preventing medication errors.

"Significant effort to deliver comprehensive and meaningful presentations was evident, and many of our nursing personnel benefited from their work," Whitfield said.



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IMCOM notices fire trend in family housing areas

IMCOM Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Installation Management Command safety officials have noticed a disturbing trend in recent fires and are increasing their efforts in reducing the number and severity of preventable incidents.

In 2009, IMCOM initiated an aggressive Fire Safety Campaign, focusing on fire safety awareness and education training, along with inspecting and ensuring smoke detectors' operability in all Army structures to include family housing. The campaign was successful as the number of fires and property damage declined significantly.

However, since the end of the 2009 Fire Safety Campaign, IMCOM has experienced an upward trend in unattended cooking fires in family housing on Army installations. Indeed, 56 structure fires have occurred since October, with 33 (59 percent) of those being cooking-related in family housing. Additionally, there's been a recent rash of fires caused by lint build-up in clothes dryers.

IMCOM is again promoting fire safety by encouraging people to never leave cooking unattended. Overall, grease fires are the leading cause of preventable fires within Army family housing.

Residents are also encouraged to keep a fire extinguisher readily available. Residents of family housing and Soldiers living in barracks are also encouraged to follow manufacturer's recommendations on preventative maintenance for clothing dryers, and to clean out the lint trap on the dryer after each use.

IMCOM safety officials are also tracking what they call "an alarming number" of incidents where people have failed to report fires as quickly as possible upon discovery. These delays resulted in larger blazes with greater severity, increased property loss and risks to other building occupants and responding firefighters.

"Reports from the Fire Safety Administration indicate most home fires begin in kitchen areas," said Mario Owens, safety director of IMCOM. "Given the fast pace of life today, it is very easy to forget about something cooking or not remember to clean out lint from a dryer. Keep your family safe from home fires by having fire safety talks often with your family. Make it a practice to identify and eliminate fire hazards."

Guarding the past



Angelika Lantz

Scott Ramich, a lead management analyst with the 409th Contracting Support Brigade looks through a stack of memorabilia he prepared for shipping to a relative of Pfc. Robert Hammonds after whom Hammonds Barracks was named. With the installation closing, the Hammonds memorabilia is being shipped to the Hammonds family.

Hammonds Barracks memorabilia goes to namesake's relatives

By Angelika Lantz
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Do you ever wonder why an installation or building bears a certain name? Hammonds Barracks in Seckenheim, for instance, was named in honor of Pfc. Robert Hammonds who was killed in action April 11, 1945.

Since the installation is closing, Scott Ramich, a lead management analyst with the 409th Contracting Support Brigade, is returning the memorabilia to Hammonds' relatives.

"I consider myself the caretaker of it all. It is an honorable task, and I am going to make sure the family gets everything back," Ramich said.

When the 409th CSB relocated to Kaiserslautern, no one knew whether the family wanted a new building dedicated to Hammonds or how to best use the memorabilia. Nicole McAbee, a management service specialist with the 409th CSB, initially received the task of finding a suitable solution, Ramich explained.

"I wanted to do what is right. I read through all the letters and documents, and Hammonds seemed like a genuinely nice guy. He loved his mama – and that's what I really liked about him," McAbee said.

McAbee was extremely busy,

and Ramich volunteered to take on the project. He, too, researched Hammonds' history and also contacted the family. Thus, he learned that while Hammonds' relatives did not want another building named in Robert Hammonds' honor, his great-nephew was interested in the belongings.

"My son, Hayden, has developed quite a love for military history. It began shortly after the dedication of Hammonds Barracks and continues today. Often we have thought we may not have donated the items if we had known that Hayden would develop such a strong interest," Theresa Wheeler, Hammonds' niece, wrote in a letter to the 409th CSB.

Therefore, Ramich archived every item. He also grouped documents, arranged them into several collages, and had them custom-framed before preparing everything to be shipped to Oklahoma.

And so the legacy of the 19-year-old Soldier from Wickliffe, Ky., which includes his burial flag, Silver Star, Purple Heart and even the pillow sham he slept on during basic training, will be on its way to Oklahoma.

Hammonds, a wireman with Company G, 1st Battalion, 397th Infantry Regiment, had coura-

geously volunteered to reconnect a field telephone line severed by an explosion during house-to-house fighting during World War II. He left cover and had just completed his task when he was mortally wounded by a sniper's bullet. For his bravery, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, and in 1948 Loretto Kaserne was renamed Hammonds Barracks in his honor.

At the time, Maj. Gen. Withers Burrell, the commanding general of the 100th Infantry Division, in his condolence letter promised Hammonds' mother that her son's "devotion to duty and his courage will not be forgotten, and will serve to inspire us to better efforts."

However, until 10 years ago, there was no record of any formal dedication, historical marker or visible record to reveal who the installation was named for and why.

Then in June 2000, with Hammonds' brother and sister-in-law as well as his sister and niece in attendance, Hammonds Barracks was rededicated. During the ceremony, a bronze plaque detailing Hammonds' act of valor was unveiled.

Now, the plaque and the flag last flown on Hammonds Barracks will be returned to Hammonds' great nephew, Hayden.

From the COURTROOM

Kaiserslautern
Staff Sgt. Vincent L. Robinson, a Soldier assigned to Service Battery, 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery, was convicted by an enlisted panel at a general court martial July 28 of one specification of violating Article 120, Uniform Code of Military Justice, indecent exposure; and one specification of violating Article 134, Uniform Code of Military Justice, adultery. Robinson was sentenced to be reduced to the grade of E-3, and to be confined for 90 days.

Courts-Martial Results

The results of courts-martial associated with the Heidelberg, Kaiserslautern and Mannheim communities are published in cooperation with the V Corps and 21st Theater Sustainment Command Judge Advocate General.

EFMP

continued from page 1

Monday and runs through Friday.

Seth is one of the children attending the camp, and Daniels gently coaches him as the two take turns attempting to hit the tiny white soccer ball trapped inside.

For Daniels this simple game of foosball could be classified as a monumental moment in Seth's young life. Seth is autistic and cannot communicate verbally.

Instead he uses sign language and carries a necklace with a small flipbook filled with words and phrases, to communicate with the world around him.

On Monday, the first day of the camp, Daniels and volunteers worked to help children like Seth come out of their shells and learn to socialize in a safe and nurturing environment.

"It's so important to have this day to just figure each other out," Daniels said. "The kids have to get to know each other, and we have to figure out the kids and see what kind of needs they may have."

"For special needs kids, it can be very hard to make friends and to build friendships," she added. "Some of them have trouble socializing, and they have to learn how to play and how to interact."

Brightly-colored building blocks, bouncy balls, board games like Candy Land, books, hula hoops and bubble wands were also a few of the other items that helped to break the ice among the young campers and staff.

Daniels specializes in working with autistic children, and this is her second year volunteering at the camp. She says one of the main reasons she does it is out of gratitude.

"I have four kids myself, and they're all healthy. I'm just so blessed my kids are healthy and I wanted to give something back to the families that were not so fortunate," she said.

"It gives me a lot because you see the kids, when they have a smile, it's because they're happy, and it's because you changed something in their lives," Daniels added.



Caroline Daniels, respite care provider and volunteer, builds a castle with one of the young campers on the first day of the Exceptional Family Member Program Camp held in Heidelberg this week. The free camp is held once a year and caters to special needs children.

Elsewhere Linda Phillips, another volunteer and retired pediatric nurse, sat patiently on a stool at the craft table as three young Picassos painted her face in shades of bright pink, brown and green.

The Indiana native says she missed working with children and decided to become a volunteer a few months ago after seeing an advertisement in the library.

"It's great, it's like when they first come in they're very shy and they don't really want to interact, but pretty soon the parents leave, and the next thing you know, they're helping you to put games together and playing games with you and talking to you, and that's wonderful," Phillips said.

Yet as much as Phillips and Daniels recognize the benefits of the camp for special needs children, they're also mindful of its importance to their parents.

"Moms and dads can have a day without worrying about 'where is my child right now,' or 'are they receiving the right attention?' They know their child

is in good hands and playing with other kids, and they get a break," Daniels said.

Children can be classified under special needs for a variety of different issues such as having a learning disability, speech impediment, autism or allergies.

"I think it's important because when families have special needs kids they can require a lot of emotional and physical demands on the family, and they need some time to just kind of regroup," Phillips added.

During this year's camp the children took field trips to Mannheim's Luisenpark and Technoseum and the Heidelberg Zoo and put together a journal detailing their experiences.

"It makes me feel great. It's a career for me, and I feel like I'm on top of the world because I know I am doing my job and the kids are having fun," Daniels said. "It's a big accomplishment for me, and it makes me happy to see them happy."

Kaiserslautern's EFMP camp also is being held this week, and Mannheim's was held Aug. 10-13.

AAFES

continued from page 1

"Shoppers who swiped their cards anytime between Aug. 7 and Aug. 9 at an AAFES facility are strongly encouraged to review their statements to see if they are impacted by this issue," said AAFES' Chief of Staff Col. Virgil Williams. "If a customer finds a billing anomaly, no action will be required on their part as we're working to correct inaccuracies on their behalf."

Scores of associates from AAFES' Information Technology and Finance and Accounting teams are working to remedy any and all erroneous charges created as a result of the processing error.

"We promised to do the right thing for our customers that were affected by this unfortunate glitch, and we are honoring that promise," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Jeffrey Helm. "We regret any inconvenience this may have caused and want to reimburse them as quickly as possible."

Shoppers whose credit cards were double charged and, as a result, suffered overdraft fees, can simply bring documentation, such as an overdraft notice or online statement, to their nearest exchange for a full refund of the fees.

The processing error that produced duplicate charges affected AAFES locations worldwide.

Depending on the type of card used, corrective action could have been visible to the customer anywhere from 24 hours after the duplicate charge to a couple of weeks.

YLEADS

continued from page 1

military culture or may not know any other kids from Reserve families. Through YLEADS, they meet other teens who are going through the exact same thing they are. They develop bonds with each other and feel comfortable talking about issues with their peers."

Arah said they hold eight YLEADS a year, one in each of the geographic locations of the Army Reserve Command throughout the world.

"Wherever Reserve youth are, we go. We pick out different cities within the region so the kids can also benefit from the cultural experience of the

area, as we take educational field trips during the summit," Arah said. "We knew there was a need to reach the youth in Europe as they are spread out in different countries and may feel a bit more isolated from friends in the States."

Each youth attending this summit had different expectations as to what it would mean to them, but the constant was the friendships and fun.

Michael Fargas Jr., 14, said he thought this summit was great because he felt it's important to learn to communicate with one another and to build friendships.

"Like for example, I'm mostly (quiet) in the school,

but here I learned how to communicate better and, you know what, I met more friends here than I would at school," he said. "It's been wonderful, and I'm going to cherish this experience my whole life."

For Elizabeth DeRose, 16, the opportunity to make some new friends was a big plus. She and her brother, Chris, just arrived in Germany July 19, which hasn't given them much time to meet other kids.

"This was the perfect setup for me. The other kids are great," she said. "Plus, I'm actually learning some good thing like how to get along better with my brother."

The different workshops at YLEADS teach many different life skills, with particular emphasis on empowering the youth to become leaders in their community through involvement, community planning and leadership programs, Arah said.

"We have a community services portion where the kids actually work on a project for outreach groups. We have volunteered to clean-up communities and we have made gifts to give to hospitals and places like Ronald McDonald House," Arah said.

For this summit, the teens made blankets that will be given to wounded warriors through the Wounded War-

rior Ministry Center at Landstuhl.

Daniel Jones, 17, said he thinks the community service part of YLEADS is important. Daniel is also a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel, a group of teens selected to represent their peers and deal with issues surrounding youth of Army Reserve Soldiers.

"This is a good way for the kids to learn that they can actually make a difference. A lot of the kids feel that some things need to change. They just don't know how to go about doing it," Jones said. "After YLEADS, they learn just how to do it, and realize they can actually make a difference in their community."



**Air show coming
Aug. 28-29**

Spend the day watching acrobatic aircraft, or take a ride in a military transporter

Aero-Club Pirmasens

The Aero-Club Pirmasens is celebrating 60 years with an air show Aug. 28-29 at the Pirmasens Airfield.

At the show, guests will see flights with single engine airplanes and glider airplanes all day long. There are even passenger rides possible in the famous Junkers Ju-52 "Tante Ju" (Aunt Ju).

This legendary airplane with three radial engines was built in 1939 and was the pre-runner of all civilian and military transporters. It was built by a company called Junkers that built the first airplane made of aluminium. From 1933 on, the Ju-52 was used from the Lufthansa and flew passengers all over Europe.

Hugo Junkers the owner of the company had thousands of employees at that time, but his company was expropriated from the Nazi-Regime because he didn't want to build military airplanes for Adolph Hitler.

During World War II, the Ju-52 was the most used military transporter for the Luftwaffe. After the war, it was still built in Spain and France. The airplane that will be in the air show was delivered to Switzerland in 1939, and the Swiss air force used it as a military transporter until 1982. From that time on, the JU-AIR has been flying this airplane. It still has original BMW 032 engines.

Also at the show will be several Russian military trainers with radial engines, like the Jakovlev Jak-11 with 800 horsepower, built in 1949. This airplane was a light fighter and delivered to the former East Germany (DDR) in the Cold War. Also Jak-52, Jak-50 and Jak-55 will show fly-bys and acrobatics.

A French reconnaissance airplane with MH-14 Broussard used in the Algerian war with a 450 horsepower Pratt and Whitney engine will do passenger rides during the show.

Other acrobatic airplanes will also participate in the Pirmasens show.

Entrance fee is €4 including a raffle ticket to win sightseeing flights. Entrance is free for children under 12.

The Pirmasens Airfield is located about 30 kilometers south of Ramstein/Landstuhl in the village of Rieschweiler.

The airfield was built in 1955 with the help of a civilian support group located at Landstuhl.



Photos from Aero-Club Pirmasens

The Ju-52 was the pre-runner of all civilian and military transporters.



The Jak-52 will be doing acrobatics at the air show in Pirmasens Aug. 28-29.

Find Out More Online
www.flugtag-pirmasens.de

GERMAN NEWS

Mayor Admits Lying About Crowd Size

Ten days before the catastrophic Love Parade in which 21 people were killed, authorities threatened the organizers with cancellation due to security fears – and Duisburg Mayor Adolf Sauerland knew about the worries. He has also admitted lying about the number of people expected to show up – helping organizers create the illusion that millions of people would come in order to create a big media buzz about the event.

German Wins PGA Championship

Martin Kaymer beat American Bubba Watson Sunday in a playoff at the 92nd PGA Championship to become the second German to win in the history of the tournament. Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy and American Zach Johnson shared third, missing the three-hole playoff by one shot.

Record Economic Growth

Germany posted its best quarterly growth since reunification in 1990 Friday, with one economist saying it was "in a league of its own" as other leading industrial nations showed signs of slowing down. The German economy, Europe's biggest, thundered ahead at a rate of 2.2 percent in the second quarter from the previous three-month period, and 4.1 percent from the second quarter of 2009, the national statistics office said.

Bundeswehr Reduction

German Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg's new model for the Bundeswehr includes ending conscription and reducing troops from 250,000 to 165,000 volunteers, a media report said Friday. Government sources told daily "Süddeutsche Zeitung" that Guttenberg favored this plan to end the country's conscription program and cut back on troop numbers, which he will present Aug. 23 at a joint meeting of defense and foreign relations officials.

SOURCE: www.thelocal.de



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,

This couple moved into our neighborhood – she is a local national, he is a Soldier.

The other day another lady took me with her to their house for coffee and cake. So when I went there and saw all these lovely photos on their wall of her and her husband together, I almost fell out.

I recognized him as the same man I dated for a couple of months after we had met online. First he pretended he was single, and I started liking him. He used to come to my place, and one time he invited me over to his (they lived somewhere else then). Already then I noticed – and he admitted he was "living with somebody," so the fact is we had sex

in the same bed he was sleeping in with his wife already then. This happened while she was at work.

The story did not end well because I did not want to be "the other woman." He started talking bad about her and saying she was overly jealous and controlling. I have to admit I did like him a lot, but the fact that he probably would treat me the same, even if they did get a divorce, was not what I wanted for myself, after I had experience with my own husband who had cheated on me (I am divorced now, and trying to get my life in order).

My problem now is that I saw all these pictures and that he obviously is not that unhappy man he pictured himself in all these e-mails. I hope he won't approach me and keep his mouth shut.

She is so much into her handsome husband that she does not realize she is making a fool of herself. A man like that a woman never has for herself.

Should I drop a hint or do something? I mean she will be the last to know what kind of jerk she has at home pretending he is such a good husband, but I know his ways around it.

Signed: Don't know what to do

Dear Don't Know What to Do,

Thank you for writing and sharing this with me. We have an old saying in Texas – let's put the skunk on the table. This means, I'll get to the point real quick.

Please allow me to do so in this case – leave this man and his wife

alone!

He's her husband and if she is being a fool, she will soon discover this on her own. If she were your sister or your best friend, it would be a different story, and I could see how you would want them to know their husband is a cheater. However, in this case, he is a married man who pretended he was single. You had sex with him in his marital bed. I'm not sure how many times, but that has nothing to do with it.

Conversely, what position does this really put you in? Truthfully, it puts you in "no position." At this point, you were another woman he bedded. I'm sure he does this all the time.

He's a low-down dude who should be ashamed of himself. But, the only thing you should do is continue to move forward with your life and as you said, "try to get your life in order."

You are right, you deserve better. I know you must have felt used and betrayed to have visited a woman who befriended you for cake and coffee, only to discover you knew her husband in a sexual way.

Again, don't visit with his wife again, and, if I were you, I would never let her know what happened. I would not have any further contact with her husband either. Trust me, this will be a no-win situation for you.

Take your time in any future relationships, and don't rush in to bed with anyone. Take care and keep in touch with me when you can.



GET OUT!

area events

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

August 20

Karaoke Partner Singing Contest - Show off your best singing and acting skills at 11 p.m. at Armstrong's Club on Vogelweh Housing. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. DSN 489-6000, civ. 0631-536-6000.

August 21

Deep Sea Fishing - Spend the day deep sea fishing with Army Outdoor Recreation. www.mwrgermany.com.

Disneyland Paris - Experience the Magic Kingdom and see the characters you have enjoyed come to life at Disneyland Paris. Tour includes round-trip transportation and entrance ticket to either the movie or theme park. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

Canoe Trip - Cruise the Neckar River with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. DSN 388-9282.

August 20

Hot Air Balloon Festival - Spend the day in Luisenpark - one of the most beautiful parks in Europe and enjoy the sixth International Hot Air Balloon Festival through Aug. 22. There will be a "Nightglow" at 10:30 p.m. Saturday and lots of activities for children and adults. Park admission cost also covers festival.

August 26

Right Arm Night - Bring your "right hand" colleague and spend a relaxing evening with games, snacks and fun at Armstrong's Club on Vogelweh Housing, 4-7 p.m. DSN 489-6000, civ. 0631-536-6000.

August 28

Wii Tournament and Movie Night - Get your game on or watch a blockbuster flick at Legends community club on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg. DSN 388-9570.

7 Castle Hike - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

August 29

Phantasialand - Visit this fabulous theme park for a day with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. DSN 388-9282.

September 2

BOSS Escape to Italy - Escape to Italy with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. Join Heidelberg BOSS as they team up with other Europe BOSS programs for an adventure in Pisa and Florence, Italy. Cost is €125 for transportation and lodging. Choose between camping on the beach in

tents or in cabins. Register at Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation.

Kaiserslautern Rising Star - Audition for the chance to win a three-day professional recording studio experience in Los Angeles, studio time, vocal coach, production of a three-song demo CD and an all expense paid trip for two. Mandatory acapella auditions will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Kaiserslautern Military Community Onstage, Bldg. 3232, Kleber Kaserne. The competition is 7:30 p.m. Sept. 10 at the Kazabra Club, Bldg. 2057, Vogelweh. Singers must be Active-duty, Reserve, National Guard, or military family members and 18 years or older. \$300 will be awarded to the most supported unit or family readiness group. Auditions: DSN 483-6626, civ. 0631-411-6626.

September 3

London Express - Tour the famous Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Piccadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square and St. Paul's Cathedral. You will also have time to explore the city on your own, stop by the world famous Harrods or take a stroll through Hyde Park. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

Middle Ages Re-enactment - Go back to the Middle Ages where brave knights could be found during the re-enactment in Kirrweiler on the Weinstrasse through Sept. 5. Experience the everyday life of ancestors - how they lived, worked, performed ceremonies and more. There is the opportunity to watch or take part in archery competitions, axe throwing, sword fencing and other medieval contests (pre-registration mandatory). Over 50 marketers invite you to be part of medieval everyday life and enjoy traditional food specialties. The events take place in Edelfohs and Kropsbach located along the meadows beneath the castle pond where the three-day medieval festival takes place. If you show up dressed in medieval attire, you will receive a surprise at the entrance.

September 4

Castle Illumination Cruise - The Warrant Officer Association welcomes everyone to a river boat cruise and Heidelberg castle illumination with fireworks. Cost is €30 per person or €55 for two tickets. Children under 7 are free. Proceeds fund the wounded warriors and the Heidelberg graduating seniors scholarship fund. The "Alt Heidelberg" will depart the docks in front of the Heidelberg Stadthalle at 8 p.m.; boarding begins at 7:30 p.m. www.Rhein-NeckarSilver.com. DSN 374-5343 or 370-8697.

September 10

Heidelberg Rising Star - Do you have

what it takes to become a star? Find out at Heidelberg Operation Rising Star, an Army-wide singing competition, and you could win the ultimate recording music experience! The grand prize winner will get an all expense paid trip for two to Los Angeles to get studio time, meet with a vocal coach and cut a three-song demo CD. Plus, the local winner will get \$500. Not a singer but want to make some cash anyway? \$300 will go to the most supported unit or FRG. Auditions are at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 with the semi-finals Sept. 17 and the finals Sept. 24, all at the Recovery Room on Nachrichten Kaserne. Contest rules and application: www.mwrgermany.com.

September 15

BOSS Cheap Eats - Celebrate Hispanic-American Heritage Month with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Cheap Eats 6-8:30 p.m. in the Patton Barracks Warrior Zone in Heidelberg. Learn how to cook quick and healthy meals on a budget. This month's theme is Hispanic foods. Open to ID card holders ages 18 and over. www.mwrgermany.com.

September 16

Ramstein Bazaar - The 45th Annual Ramstein Welfare Bazaar will be noon-8 p.m. on the Ramstein flightline. Enjoy shopping, eating, entertainment and goods from more than 130 vendors from across Europe. Bazaar runs through the Sept. 19. www.ramstein-bazaar.org.

September 24

European Castle Ball - Engineers across Europe are invited to the European Castle Ball Sept. 24 at the Wurzburg Castle. Tickets: DSN 314-379-5049, civ. 0620-280-5049.

Octoberfest - Celebrate Germany's largest tradition with games, prize giveaways, music and more 6 p.m.-midnight at Landstuhl Community Club, Bldg. 3780, Landstuhl Post. DSN 486-7244, civ. 06371-86-7244.

September 25

BOSS Scuba Day - Join Heidelberg Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers on a scuba diving adventure. The cost is \$75 and price includes transportation, equipment and instruction. Sign up at Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation, DSN 388-9282.

Ongoing

Dance Class - Sign up available now at the Mannheim USO for African and Latin Dance classes designed for beginners and all ages. The class schedule includes a warm up, introduction to step, practice using step, freestyle, and concludes in a group routine. Cost is \$75 for two months.

coming to THEATERS

THE EXPENDABLES



(Sylvester Stallone, Jet Li) A group of mercenaries hired to infiltrate a South American country and overthrow its ruthless dictator. Once the mission begins, the men realize things aren't quite as they appear, finding themselves caught in a dangerous web of deceit and betrayal. Barney Ross is a man with nothing to lose. Fearless and void of emotion, he is the leader, the sage and the strategist of this tight-knit band of men who live on the fringe. The team behind him is made up of Lee Christmas, former SAS and a savant with anything that has a blade; Yin Yang, a master at close-quarter combat; Hale

Caesar, is a long-barrel weapons specialist; Toll Road, a skilled demolitions expert and considered the intellect of the group; and Gunnar Jensen, a combat veteran and an expert in precision sniping who struggles with his own demons. Rated R (strong action and bloody violence throughout, language) 135 minutes

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

Aug. 19 - THE OTHER GUYS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 2 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE EXPENDABLES (R) 9 p.m.
 Aug. 21 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 4 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE EXPENDABLES (R) 9 p.m.
 Aug. 22 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 4 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 7 p.m.;
 Aug. 23 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 7 p.m.;
 Aug. 24 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 25 - JONAH HEX (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 26 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 7 p.m.

Mannheim, Schuh

Theater under construction until further notice.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

Aug. 20 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 3 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 21 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 3 p.m.; THE OTHER GUYS (PG-13) 7 p.m.
 Aug. 22 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 3 p.m.; THE OTHER GUYS (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

Aug. 19 - KILLERS (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; SPLICE (R) 11:15 a.m., 2:45 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m.
 Aug. 20 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:45 p.m., JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 10 p.m.
 Aug. 21 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:45 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 10 p.m.
 Aug. 22 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 p.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:45 p.m.
 Aug. 23 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.
 BABIES (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m.
 Aug. 24 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; BABIES (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m.
 Aug. 25 - THE EXPENDABLES (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; BABIES (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m.
 Aug. 26 - THE KARATE KID (PG) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.; JONAH HEX (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; BABIES (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 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

Suicide Prevention Training

Military Pathways will host a free Signs of Suicide Suicide Prevention Training Webinar 1 p.m. (EST) Aug. 26. S.O.S. is a nationally recognized suicide prevention and depression screening program designed for middle and high school students. Register for the Webinar at www.mentalhealthscreening.org/Military/webinar.aspx. This training will credit one hour toward the two hour requisite for Army Substance Abuse Training for FY10. DSN 486-5801, civ. 06371-865801.

CFC Training

Annual Combined Federal Campaign training will be 2 p.m. Aug. 26 in the NATO Room on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. Training will be provided by the CFC Overseas Representatives from the Kaiserslautern main office. Registration: DSN 373-8857.

Postal Service Closures

The Mannheim and Heidelberg Consolidated Mail Rooms and Army Post Offices will be closed for Organizational Day Sept. 9.

Women's Conference

Heidelberg Army Community Service will host the first annual Women's Conference in support of domestic violence month 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 14, at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. Childcare is available. Register online now at www.mwgermany.com. Open to the first 100 registrants. DSN 370-6883.

local EMPLOYMENT

Child Care Professionals

The Family Child Care programs in Heidelberg and Mannheim are recruiting family members who want a professional career with the benefit of working in their home. Training and assistance are provided at no cost. Civ. 06221-338-9378.

Loan Closet Monitor

Heidelberg Army Community Service is in need of a contracted loan closet monitor to issue basic housekeeping items to incoming and outgoing families. Start date is Sept. 1, 30 hours a week. Requisition #WK45V40211N751. DSN 379-6700, civ. 06202-80-6700.

Relocation Consumer Assistant

Heidelberg Army Community Service is in need of a contracted relocation consumer assistant to perform unofficial translation services, advocate for customers, and assist with general questions about Germany and the area. Must speak fluent German. Start date is Oct. 1, 40 hours a week. Requisition#WK45V40211N752. DSN 379-6657, civ. 06202-80-6657.

Education Center Substitutes

Patton Barracks Education Center is hiring for sub positions in facility administration, administrative assistant, testing examiner and Army Learning Center. DSN 373-6226, civ. 06221-17-6176.

ACS Career Fair

Heidelberg Army Community Service will host a career fair 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. Employers interested in participating can call DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883, dennis.menard@eur.army.mil.

KAISERSLAUTERN Education

♦Army Family Team Building

- The Level I class will be held 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sept. 8-9 in Bldg. 2917 on Pulaski Barracks. The class is good for promotion points and teaches Army life and how to maneuver through daily challenges by discovering how to decipher Army acronyms, use community resources, attain better financial readiness, and understand the goal and impact of the Army mission. DSN 493-4357, civ. 0631-3406-4357.

♦Suicide Prevention Training

- The Chaplain's Office will offer Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 16-17 at the Daenner Chapel Fellowship Hall, Bldg 3150, Daenner Kaserne. The ASIST workshop is for people who want to feel more comfortable, confident and competent in helping to prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Registration: DSN 493-4098 or mirma.oceguera@eur.army.mil.

♦Sponsorship Training - Sponsorship training is offered at 3 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in Bldg. 2891 on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 493-4064, civ. 0631-3406-4064.

Community

♦MOAA Picnic - Active-duty, Guard/Reserve, former and retired commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services are invited to the First European Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America's picnic at the Pulaski Park lower pavilion 3:30-5:30 p.m. Aug. 21. alanjolsen@gmail.com.

♦School's Out Summer Family Fun BBQ - Enjoy the summer heat with plenty of fun and entertainment for the entire family 12:30-6:30 p.m. Aug. 22 at Landstuhl Community Club. Tickets: DSN 486-7244, civ. 06371-86-7244.

♦Rocky Horror Picture Show Auditions - Auditions will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 7 at the KMC Onstage, Bldg. 3232, Kleber Kaserne. Must be 16 or over. Participants should wear clothing that allows you to move and dance, have a rock song prepared to sing and bring sheet music for the accompanist. Show dates: Oct. 31-Nov. 13. DSN 483-6626, civ. 0631-411-6626. www.mwgermany.com.

♦EFMP Support Group - Clinical psychologist, Dr. Kristal White, PhD, of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center's Pediatrics Behavioral Health will speak and provide parents with a better understanding of children diagnosed with Autism. The topic of discussion will be "Autism Diagnosis and Social Skills Implications." The support group will meet at Vogelweh Elementary School library, 6-7:30 p.m. Sept. 14. DSN 493-4016, civ. 0631-3406-4016.

♦Army Family Action Plan Conference - The AFAP Conference will take place at the Kaiserslautern

Community Activity Center Oct. 27-29. If you would like to submit issues or volunteer to work the conference, call DSN 493-4357, civ. 0631-3406-4357.

HEIDELBERG Education

♦ACS Classes - Intro to MS PowerPoint, 9 a.m.-noon Aug. 23 and 25; Active Parenting Now (three sessions) 2-4 p.m. Aug. 23, 25 and 30; 1-2-3 Job Fair Ready, 9 a.m.-noon Aug. 24; Smooth Move Class, 10-11 a.m. Aug. 24; Families Learning about Germany (FLAG), 5-9 p.m. Aug. 23-25 and Field Trip, 8:30 a.m. Aug. 28; Sponsorship Assistance Training, 10 a.m. Aug. 25; Volunteer Management Information System Training, 10-11 a.m. Aug. 25, 10-11 a.m.; Smart Banking, 9-11:30 a.m. Aug. 26; Coping with Divorce, 1-3 p.m. Aug. 26; and a Community Orientation Briefing, noon-3 p.m. every Monday. www.mwgermany.com/hd/acs.

♦Elementary School Orientation

- School registration for both new and returning students is open for Patrick Henry Elementary School students. Parents are encouraged to come in as soon as possible to register for the new school year. A new parent and student orientation will be held at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 24 in the multi-purpose room. DSN 388-9054.

♦Teacher Meet and Greet - There will be a teacher meet and greet 1:30-2:20 p.m. at Patrick Henry Elementary school for parents and students. The opening ceremony to begin the new school year will be 8 a.m. Aug. 30 in front of the school.

♦Middle School Orientation - Heidelberg Middle School will host a school orientation for families of students in grades six through eight who are new to the Heidelberg area at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 27 in the school's multipurpose room. DSN 388-9310.

♦German Language Classes - A German 1 daytime classes is being offered Aug. 30-Sept. 17 and a German 2 daytime class Sept. 27-Oct. 15. Classes are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9-11:30 a.m. Cost €80. Registration: info@Germanatpatton.com.

♦Master's Degree Cohort - University of Phoenix will begin a new Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Elementary and Secondary Teacher Education cohort during the last week of September in Heidelberg. Civ. 06221-588-0492, rebecca.fink@phoenix.edu.

Community

♦Anti-Terrorism Training - Level I training will be held at the PHV Theater 1:30-2:30 p.m. Aug. 19. Training can be taken online at: <https://atlevel1.dtic.mil/at>. Visit the new AT Awareness site online by clicking on the link under Hot Topics at www.

bw.eur.army.mil. DSN 373-7420.

♦No Hot Water on PHV - On Aug. 19, the city of Heidelberg will work on the district heat line at PHV. This will affect the warm water distribution. Hot water may not be available 9 a.m.-6 p.m. that day. DSN 387-3150.

♦Youth Ministry Summit - There will be a youth ministry summit 6-7:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at Mark Twain Village Chapel. Dinner will be provided. DSN 388-9406.

♦Service Project - Heidelberg Middle School and Club Beyond will sponsor a community service project 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 25 at the Heidelberg Middle School and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Patrick Henry Village Chapel. DSN 388-9353, civ. 0170-488-4942.

♦C.A.R.E. Fair - Army Community Service is hosting a Community Activities Registration and Education Fair 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 28 at the PHV Pavilion. There will be live performances, music, food and more. DSN 370-6883.

♦Theater Auditions - The Roadside Theater on Patton Barracks will hold auditions for "The Dumb Waiter" at 7 p.m. Aug. 31-Sept. 1. Seeking men ages 20 and over. Also looking for musicians, technical staff and crew. DSN 373-5020.

♦Breastfeeding Support Group - A new group for breastfeeding mothers will have its first meeting at 10 a.m. Sept. 8. There will also be a cloth diaper support group meeting at 10 a.m. Sept. 16. Both meetings will be held in the Yellow Ribbon Room in Bldg. 4531 on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 370-6883.

♦Volunteers Needed - The Heidelberg Community Spouses Club needs volunteers for their 46th annual Heidelberg Holiday Bazaar Oct. 8-10. As a volunteer you'll be entered into ongoing raffles to win prizes. Teens can also volunteer. www.hsc-heidelberg.com, www.mwgermany.com.

♦Children's Entertainment

- Klutz the Clown provides free entertainment for birthday parties, church, school, Family Readiness Group functions and other events. Civ. 0152 23320847.

♦Free Wireless Internet - The library now offers free wireless Internet for computer users. No password required. DSN 370-1740.

MANNHEIM Education

♦Testing Services - Electronic testing services are available through Central Texas College at the National Testing Center on Coleman Barracks. The center offers College Level Examination Program testing and DANTES subject standardized tests. Both are free for military service members and exams are offered electronically with immediate score results. Professional

certification exams are also available. www.europe.ctcd.edu.

♦Master's Degree Cohort - University of Phoenix will begin a new Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Elementary and Secondary Teacher Education cohort during the last week of September in Heidelberg. Civ. 06221-588-0492, rebecca.fink@phoenix.edu.

Community

♦German Police Station - The German Police Station within the Military Police Station has been down-sized. Police Officer Hans Schmidt will be available Monday -Friday 8 a.m.-1 p.m. He can be reached at DSN 385-2550, civ. 0621-738616. For German police assistance during afternoon duty hours contact Schmidt at the Mannheim-Vogelstang station at civ. 0621-1289788. For assistance after regular duty hours contact the Mannheim-Käfertal station at civ. 0621-718490. In case of an emergency, dial 110.

♦Weekend DFAC Hours - Sullivan Dining Facility has changed its meal hours on weekends due to mass block leave resulting in a low headcount. Until further notice, meal hours will be brunch from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. DSN 385-3001.

♦Wellness Expo - There will be a wellness expo noon-5 p.m. Aug. 18-20 at the School Age Center. SAC children will share their projects and the information they've learned throughout the summer. DSN 380-4321, civ. 0621 730-4321.

♦Blood Drive - The health clinic is sponsoring an Armed Services Blood Program community blood drive 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Sullivan Barracks Fitness Center. Walk-ins are welcome, or for appointments visit www.militarydonor.com and click on "Donate Blood" and "Landstuhl, Germany."

♦Parent Advisory Council - School Age Center parents are invited to attend the Child, Youth and School Services quarterly Parent Advisory Council meeting 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 24 at the Youth Center. DSN 380-4321, civ. 0621 730-4321.

♦Library Activities - Scrapbook Club meeting, noon-3 p.m. Aug. 28; free movie screening 4-5:30 p.m. Aug. 28; beginning Sept. 9 10:30-11:30 a.m., there will be story hour for toddlers and pre-school. DSN: 380-1740, civ. 0621-730-1740, bobbie.carr1@eur.army.mil.

♦The EDGE! Activities - Activities in September: Archery Antics, 3-5 p.m. Mondays; Rock Band Sensation, 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays; Do the WRIGHT Thing, 3-5 p.m. Tuesdays; Bowlerama Bonanza, 3-6 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays; Teck Deck Trek, 3:30-5 p.m. Fridays. Registration ends Aug. 31. Register: Parent Central Services in Bldg. 742 on BFV, DSN 385-2042, civ. 0621-730-2042.

Heidelberg Sports and Fitness seeks community members up for a challenge

Staff Report

Anyone up for a challenge is invited to join Heidelberg Sports and Fitness for the Fisherman's Friend Strongman Run in La Bresse, France, Oct. 17.

The Strongman Run is a 13-kilometer obstacle course through tires, hay bale walls, and military crawl under ropes – all in the name of fun. Campbell Fitness Center will be sponsoring pre-event training starting at the end of August.

More than 30 members from the local community have already signed up to compete. Anyone from the Heidelberg, Mannheim and Kaiserslautern communities can join the group by registering at www.strongmanrun.fr.

"Don't let the name scare you; the event is challenging, but the goal is to finish and have fun along

the way by dressing up in costumes and meeting others who share the same adventurous spirit," said Stefanie Paoletti, Heidelberg fitness coordinator.

Community members can still sign up for a €35 fee to participate in this unique race.

Participants do not have to be in elite shape, just prepared to have fun and challenge themselves.

"The Strongman Run is more than a running race with obstacles," according to the event's Web site. "It's a challenge you can do alone or with friends.

"Whatever your final time and your ranking, you'll be the winner if you finish it. Registration is now open and entries are limited."

Register now at www.strongmanrun.fr.

If you have questions about participation or training, call DSN 370-6489.

German-American Sports Camp



Photos by Brandon Spragins

(Above) Children ages 6-9 eagerly await their turn to make a goal during the German-American Friendship Sports Camp in Mannheim Friday. This was the first year this event was held in Mannheim, allowing 440 German and American children to create friendships while attending the event.

(Left) Julia Krutki follows instructions on how to pass a basketball in the Benjamin Franklin Village Sports Arena in Mannheim during the German-American Friendship Sports Camp Friday.



staying ACTIVE

Soccer Camp

Registration is now open for the Olympic Development Program Residential Soccer Camp. The camp will be held Sept. 4-6 at the Bitburg Sportschule in Bitburg. Cost is €250 and covers training sessions, lodging and meals. labordaycamp2010@googlemail.com.

Strongman Competition

Registration is open now for the Kaiserslautern strongman competition. Deadline is Aug. 20. The competition begins at 10 a.m. Aug. 21 at the Kaiserslautern Army Depot. Awards for first and second place. DSN 493-2088, civ. 0631-3406-2088.

Breast Cancer Awareness Golf Tourney

The Heidelberg Women's Golf Association's Rally for Breast Cancer Awareness event is seeking volunteers for this year's golf tournament event Aug. 28 at the Heidelberg Golf Course in Offetersheim. Training will be provided. www.rallyforthecurehd.com. Click on the volunteer link or e-mail qmstr1@googlemail.com.

Fallen Soldiers Walk

There will be a 5-kilometer German-American Walk to honor fallen and wounded Soldiers at 4 p.m. Aug. 28. The walk begins and ends at the Schutzenhaus Restaurant in Eppelheim and will be followed by food, drinks and festivities at the restaurant. The cost to register is \$10 or €6 for singles and \$15 or €10 for families. The cost includes dinner, drinks and giveaways provided by the sponsors. All proceeds from the walk go to the Fisher House at Landstuhl. Register: www.heidelbergski.com and click on the "Walk for Fallen Soldiers" link.

Outdoor Emergency Care Course

Alpine skiers and snowboarders in the Heidelberg community who want to take their skills to the next level will have the opportunity to take a nationally accredited outdoor emergency care course starting Sept. 7. Join the Heidelberg Ski Patrol by enrolling in its twice-a-week OEC class, which will take place through late November at Heidelberg High School. Candidates will head to the mountains in January to apply classroom skills on the ski slopes in Bichlbach, Austria, and Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland. Sign up for the OEC course during HSP's orientation night at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 7 at HHS. For details, e-mail jagcol@earthlink.net or visit the C.A.R.E. Fair booth at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion Aug. 28 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fall Bowling Leagues

Fall bowling leagues kick off in September at the Heidelberg Bowling and Entertainment Center on Patrick Henry Village; Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m. Mondays starting Sept. 13; Family and MWR Mixed, 7 p.m. Tuesdays starting Sept. 7; Fun League, 7 p.m. Thursdays Sept. 9-Dec. 9, no one allowed with over 175 average; Mixed, 7 p.m. Fridays starting Sept. 10; Heidelberg Junio, Registration Sept. 11. Competition starts Sept. 18; Adult Junio Mixed, 3 p.m. Sundays starting Sept. 12. DSN 388-9040.

Bowling Tournament

King of the Hill Bowling Tournament Series starts noon Sept. 19 and every third Saturday afterwards at the Heidelberg Bowling and Entertainment Center on Patrick Henry Village. \$40 fee. The tournament will be played in conjunction with the Mannheim Bowling Center on Benjamin Franklin Village. There will be 14 qualifying tournaments with one final year-end tournament.

Strongman Run in France

Get ready for the Strongman Run in La Bresse, France, Oct. 17. This is no ordinary run. It's 13 kilometers of running through hills of tires, climbing over hay walls, crawling under ropes, and mud, sweat and maybe some tears. Start training with Heidelberg Sports and Fitness. www.mwgermany.com, www.strongmanrun.fr.