

# HeraldPOST

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



Ina Stiewitz

Jennie Bödeker, graphic designer and artist, paints the walls of the new Warrior Zone, which opens soon in the former Arts and Craft Center on Patton Barracks. Besides the Kid's Zone and Bowling center in Darmstadt and the Commissary in Mannheim, this is the third place, she is artistically designing on a U.S. military installation, Bödeker said. As part of the Army Family Covenant, the Warrior Zone will provide a safe alternative for Soldiers to hangout and socialize – to spend their free time.

## Family Child Care provides a 'home away from home'

By Ina Stiewitz  
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Finding the appropriate day care program for your child can be a challenge sometimes, but people who are interested in providing child care, can also face the difficulty of deciding which childcare they want to provide.

Through Child, Youth and School Services, the U.S. Army offers several opportunities, depending on the families' needs and preferences.

Family Child Care is a program where your child experiences a home away from home.

"The greatest advantage to FCC is the small group," said Merenda Haynes, FCC director at U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg's CYSS. "It is siblings being able to stay together; it is having one care giver instead of multiple."

**"I thought 'well, people need good folks to watch their children and my daughter needs friends to play and learn with, so why not do both: give her someone to grow up with and I can meet new people and maybe even make new friends of my own.'"**

-Andrea Richardson, FCC provider

The FCC program is provided by military family members or civilians working as independent contractors in individual housing units located on the Heidelberg installations.

"To qualify, we do background checks on everybody in the family over the age of 12," Haynes said.

"They have a physical ... and there is a home visit that I conduct with the whole family," she said. "I do a home interview

with everyone in the family – the potential provider and the children of school age have questions to answer."

FCC providers and their homes meet specific requirements related to health, fire prevention, safety, and child development programming and are certified by the installation commander after all requirements are met.

Before a person gets certified, they see FCC page 11

**HP THURSDAY**  
Feb. 4, 2010

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Find out what Fasching is and what events are available to participate in during the 'foolish season'. 14



#### WINTER SPORTS CAMP

Children participated in the all-day sports camp which included basketball, soccer and dodge ball. 16



### Defense Details

#### 'DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL'

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates today established a Defense Department panel to prepare the military for the potential elimination of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that bans openly gay people from serving in the armed forces.

The working group is tasked to assess the relevant issues within a year in an effort to prime the department to adapt to any changes Congress makes to the 17-year-old law underpinning the controversial personnel policy – a legislative move supported by Gates, President Barack Obama and the nation's top military officer.

#### NO TRICARE HIKE

Tricare recipients will see no increase in their premiums next year, if Congress approves that provision of the fiscal 2011 defense budget request, as expected. However, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates told reporters yesterday he wants to work with Congress to find ways to help control escalating military health-care costs that are consuming an ever-increasing chunk of the budget.

Army news: [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)  
Defense news: [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil)

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## COMMENTARY

# Life after the Army; job-hunting and resume building

By Dijon Rolle

USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

I can't ever remember a time when I didn't have a job. In fact, I'm sure I came out of the womb with a time card clutched in my tiny fist (yes I was born before the computer age).

Yet here I was willfully resigning from the one job I held for almost seven years. After deciding to get out of the Army, I now had to figure out what I wanted to do for the rest of my professional life. Since my chances of winning the lottery, becoming a house wife with a rich husband, or snagging a hefty inheritance were pretty much nonexistent, I knew I had to get busy finding a new gig fast. It seemed like only yesterday, I was staring wistfully at the separation date printed on my monthly leave and earning statement. Once it was fast approaching I was sweating bullets thinking about all the stuff I had to do before the big day.

I started using the Army Career and Alumni Program about 11 months before I separated from the Army. ACAP was a good tool for me because I can be a wee bit lazy sometimes, and I despise a lot of random guess work. However, I do enjoy centralized resources and free help.

When it comes to job-hunting itself, a lot of it really is who you know, or better yet, who knows you need a job. I did my best to let everybody in my path to include strangers, small children, senior citizens and pets (no

stone unturned) acutely aware that I was on the hunt. Hey, you never know. It took me a while to narrow down what career I wanted to venture into post-Army. To help me, I made a list of the jobs I had performed in the past, the areas or skills I was strong in and not so strong in.

For example, I have a pretty spotless criminal record, and I intend to keep it that way, therefore, I knew right away I wouldn't really be cut out to work with children full-time, especially if they were anything like I was growing up. I also can't mow in a straight line either, so any landscaping jobs were probably out of the question, too. No offense to any of the kids, parents or landscape maintenance technicians (I learned that little term in my resume writing class) who may be reading this, but it's better to know these things up front, don't you think.

I really enjoyed my work at American Forces Network Europe and I liked the communications field, but I wanted to work in a different part of it, one where I didn't have to wear make-up (unless I wanted to), worry about mispronouncing somebody's name, or do battle with random bouts of laryngitis. I was ready to try something new.

The biggest thing I had to tackle first was putting together a resume. My first real job post-college was working for Uncle Sam. I knew I had lots of skills, but I had some trouble trying to transfer them into civilian speak.

After piecing together a rough draft

(and that's putting it politely), I called in the big guns to help me polish it up.

Never be afraid to ask for help, but only from people who honestly know what they're doing and aren't afraid to tell you if your resume rocks or stinks like a soggy diaper left in a hot car. Tough love, gets results people. I also made it a point to remain truthful about my qualifications. Lying on resumes is not cool, but I will agree the right wording can do wonders. I had no idea that when I helped serve meals and stock the pantry at my church, I was really a food logistics specialist. That should probably go on my apron.

I knew I wanted to work for the federal government, but I didn't know I would have to create another resume to submit online, enter Resumix. At first, I was completely overwhelmed by keywords and explaining in painful detail the duties of every single position I held for the past seven years. I'm lucky if I can remember what I did last week. In case you hadn't already figured it out in the above paragraph, the process is tedious, time-consuming and slow. It can take months to get hired. I knew I didn't have months to wait, and living in a cardboard box down by the river was not part of the game plan. In addition to applying for my dream jobs, I also applied for ones that would keep Hot Pockets in my freezer and gas in my tank. I made up my mind that I would do whatever I had to (as long as it was legal) to get where I wanted to be. I kept my op-

tions open.

Most importantly I asked God to keep me encouraged and in his will no matter what happened. For me having a solid spiritual and emotional support system was vital. There were still days when I was completely stressed out and worried about what to do next. I was worried I wouldn't find a job. Yet there was always someone there to keep me sane and focused. Not to mention all my daily pep talks in my bathroom mirror every morning.

While I was job-hunting I also checked out internships. If you didn't know, the Army offers paid internships in different career fields and guaranteed job placement after your training is complete. Since I knew I was going to remain here for a little while longer, I decided to start interning while I was still in the Army. I found a public affairs office willing to let me volunteer for a few hours a week, and I ran it through my chain of command.

Very few offices will turn down free help even if you can only come for an hour or two. Just find one you like and get busy. I wanted to learn the basics of how things worked and of course the people who made it work. Networking 101 folks. It also gave me a chance to show them what I could do.

Long story short, my free internship eventually turned into a paid position at the Herald Post. Imagine that.

To search for available government positions, visit [www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com) or [www.cpol.army.mil](mailto:www.cpol.army.mil).



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## BLOG ROLL

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

Leaders, Friends, and Families,

I highly recommend you check out this recent Oprah show on the use of cell phones while driving.  
<http://www.oprah.com/oprahshow/Watch-the-Full-Hour-Americas-New-Deadly-Obsession-Video>.

It's heartbreaking to listen to the guests' stories of how irresponsible behavior behind the wheel turned their lives upside-down.

I watched this for the first time today, and will

sit down with my wife tonight and establish some long-overdue ground rules for ourselves.

After showing this to my detachment today, I told them to either turn their phones off or ignore them when they're in the car.

No phone call (or text message) you receive is important enough to risk your life or the life of another human being. Return the call/text when you're not behind the wheel.

I strongly encourage you to share this video with your fellow Soldiers, leaders, friends, and community members.

And for us federal employees, remember that the President signed an Executive Order on 1 October 2009, that prohibits text-messaging while driving. Make your POV a "No Phone Zone" today.

-Major Steve Peters, BWnow member



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## U.S. Army Europe updates installation access policy, procedures

**Robert Szostek**  
USAREUR PROVOST MARSHAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Officials at the U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal announced changes to controls for installation pass holders and modified procedures that are the result of an update to the USAREUR installation access directive.

OPM officials stressed that the procedures for authorized ID card holders have not changed in the update to Army in Europe Regulation 190-16, which governs access to USAREUR installations.

"The regulation now requires individuals who are signed in to be escorted at all times while on the installation and then signed out when they leave," said DuWayne Bredvik, physical security officer at the USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal. People with sign-in privileges are now personally responsible for the people they sign onto an installation.

"For example, it is not uncommon for people with no access to our installations to wait outside a gate and ask U.S. personnel to sign them on, saying they want to go to an on-post club," he explained.

There have been situations where a person who was signed on was left at a club and then caused an altercation to which military and local police had to respond.

In addition, Bredvik added, Force Protection Condition Bravo is now the standard threat level that applies to most installation pass categories such as contractors.

In the future, sponsors of installation pass holders will have to justify why their applicants require access during times of crisis or attack – FP-CONs Charlie or Delta. Access to installations during those FP-CON categories is limited to essential personnel as designated by their job descriptions.

The revision also means that host-

nation military and government officials, NATO military members, and visitors will have to renew their installation passes every two years instead of the current requirement to renew every five years, OPM officials said.

"During an audit, we discovered many installation pass holders in these categories forgot to turn in their installation pass as required when they leave," Bredvik said.

He explained that a records review showed many individuals with active installation passes had not entered an installation in more than a year, but that those passes are designed for those who require recurring access on a regular basis.

Another change requires citizens of Cuba, Syria, Sudan and Iran to get approval from a garrison commander to enter installations under that commander's control.

For example, if a Department of Defense family member's parents are visiting from Iran, the family mem-

ber must visit the local Installation Access Control System office before those visitors arrive to coordinate signing them onto the installation or obtaining a visitor pass.

The IACS office staff will forward an access request to the garrison commander for approval.

The U.S. Department of State currently identifies Cuba, Syria, Sudan and Iran as state sponsors of terrorism.

The State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism changes periodically; updates can be found online at [travel.state.gov/visa/temp/info/info\\_1300.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/info/info_1300.html).

A new standardized access roster, AE Form 190-16f, and a new application form for installation passes, AE Form 190-16a, are also part of the changes to access policy, OPM officials said.

More information about the new procedures is available from installation IACS offices.

## Town hall keeps community updated

**By Mark Heeter**  
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern hosted a town hall meeting Jan. 25 at Armstrong's community club on Vogelweh Housing.

Lt. Col. Kevin Hutchison, the garrison's commander, opened the forum by introducing the Kaiserslautern Senior Working Group, comprised of leadership of the garrison, 21st TSC and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

The group was created in November 2009 to address concerns raised at previous town hall meetings.

"We are listening to you," Hutchison said, before announcing several developments grown from the KSWG efforts.

For example, he said, Community Bank will soon be allowed to operate inside the Vogelweh Commissary and will also extend its Saturday operating hours to 5 p.m. in the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center, beginning Feb. 22.

In addition, on behalf of the KSWG, Hutchison announced that Kleber and Panzer kasernes will also



Mark Heeter  
Jennifer Svan, European Stars and Stripes reporter, looks over informational materials following the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern town hall meeting Jan. 25 at the Armstrong Community Club on Vogelweh Housing.

receive a Subway franchise, and a larger assortment in the Military Clothing and Sales Store and a Service Credit Union on Kleber Kaserne.

"Tell us what you like, what you don't like, and what we can do better," said Tom Gross, AAFES general manager for the KMC, while updating the audience on a number of AAFES facilities, programs and improvements. Other topics at the town hall included planned construction projects on Vogelweh

and Kapaun Air Station, Army Community Service programs, and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities.

"I really enjoy these," said Marion Chin, an attendee at the town hall meeting, following the meeting. "It's always interesting to put names to the faces, and I like to see what's going on."

To view the complete slide show used during the town hall, visit the garrison's Web-site at [www.kaiserslautern.army.mil](http://www.kaiserslautern.army.mil).

## Knowing the road conditions

**Staff report**

As this recent cold spell shows, weather in Germany can change quickly and dramatically. It's important to know where to turn for up-to-the minute weather information and road conditions.

Community members have several options. The Heidelberg, Mannheim and Kaiserslautern garrisons Web sites have "Current Road Conditions" links under Hot Topics. Users can also visit [afneurope.net](http://afneurope.net) and click on Road Conditions. These links connect to the United States Army Europe road condition Web page.

Military Police update the Web information as the road and weather conditions change.

"Our patrols continuously monitor road conditions," said Master Sgt. Charles Cavanaugh, United States Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Provost Sergeant. "In the past, we updated the Web site only when the road conditions worsened or improved. Now patrols are updating the site on a more frequent basis to reassure community members that the updates are current."

Those who aren't near a computer can tune into AFN Heidelberg or AFN Kaiserslautern. Road conditions other than Green will be announced at least several times per hour on live FM and AM radio shows. Red and black road conditions and any delays or closures will be announced on radio and will be run as a crawl on AFN Prime Atlantic.

Another option is to call community Road Condition Hotlines. In Heidelberg, call, DSN 388-2223, civ. 06221-678-2223; Mannheim, DSN 385-2589, civ. 0621-730-2589; and Kaiserslautern, DSN 480-2653, civ. 06371-47-2653. Messages are updated as conditions change.

"It's critical for community members to know the road conditions and to understand what each color level means," said Cavanaugh. "While the green, amber, red and black levels pertain only to on-post conditions for military vehicle movement, the ratings can still give community members a good idea of the caution level they should be exercising with their privately owned vehicles."

Whatever the conditions, Cavanaugh reminds community members to be safe while driving on winter roads.

"Leave early," he said. "Take extra time and get to your destination safely."

### Road Conditions

**Green:** Road movement has no restrictions and vehicles may operate in accordance with normal safety precautions.

**Amber:** Road surface is wet, slushy, snow less than four inches.

**Red:** Only mission-essential and emergency vehicles are authorized. Road surface is flooded, snow is drifting and between four and eight inches deep. Visibility is between 15 and 20 meters.

**Black:** Only emergency-essential vehicle dispatches are authorized.

## Kaiserslautern 'Paws & Pals' build reading skills

By Christine June  
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's main library on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center has gone to the dogs – but only from 3:30 to 5 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month.

Man's best friend is the star attraction of the garrison's new Paws & Pals reading program.

A first for Army Europe libraries, Paws & Pals pairs young readers with volunteer dogs to build children's confidence in reading, said Shawn Friend-Begin, the garrison's supervisory librarian.

"There's always a need for programs to assist children in becoming strong readers," Friend-Begin said. "One way to succeed in life is to be a good reader."

Close to 20 parents and their children, and three volunteers and their dogs participated in the first Paws & Pals held Jan. 19 at the garrison's main library.

The next Paws & Pals will be Feb. 16, and four volunteers and their dogs are expected to be there, said Mike Colarusso, the garrison's librarian and manager for the main library on LRMIC.

Each child gets a one-on-one 15-minute session with one dog, said Colarusso.

The program is recommended for underage and under-grade level readers, said Kristin James, from the garrison's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation management finance section.

Keeping her children's attention was one of the aspects of this new program that really appealed to Rachelle Hitchler, who was reading "The Twelve Days of Christmas" to her four children, ages 6 months to 6 years.

Getting the attention was Mikey, a 7-year-old female mixed breed, as



Volunteer Mary Unruh listens as Joshua Walkingstick, 5, a home-schooled kindergartner reads to her 6-year-old Labrador Retriever Molly Jan. 19 at the new Paws & Pals reading program at the U.S. Army Garrison Main Library on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

she lounged while Annika Hitchler, 6, and Bryce Hitchler, 3, petted her light reddish-brown and splashes of white fur.

"Big and fluffy," is how Annika described Mikey.

Bryce kept petting Mikey, waiting for his turn to read to her. He brought his own book, "Care Bears: How Does Your Garden Grow?"

"Woof! Woof!," barked Mikey. "She wants you to scratch her belly," said Mikey's owner, Leah McCracken.

When Hitchler began reading, Mikey sat up and perked her ears, and all four children were quiet, and

Bryce kept on petting the fluffy fur.

"Even when they are petting the dog, I know they are taking in every word I'm saying," said Hitchler. "It's hard sometimes to get children to sit down and pay attention, so it's nice to have an attention getter."

How this program got rolling was when James brought the idea up to Friend-Begin and Colarusso.

"My niece was in a library dog program back in the states, and she enjoyed reading and the fact that she got one-on-one time with a dog," said James, on why she wanted to start a program here.

Also, she said that her dog Mav-

erick, an 8-year-old male Australian Shepherd, had been involved with other reading programs.

James is the one who is organizing volunteers and their dogs. What she is looking for in dogs for this program are those that have "basic canine good citizenship characteristics."

Dog owners who are interested in volunteering for this program can e-mail her at [kristin.k.james@eur.army.mil](mailto:kristin.k.james@eur.army.mil).

Parents interested in signing up their children for the next Paws & Pals, can call the garrison's main library at DSN 486-7322 or civ. 06371-86-7322.

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## USAREUR personnel learn strategies to end sexual violence

By Staff Sgt. Patricia Deal  
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Select USAREUR personnel learned intervention strategies as a means to ending sexual violence in a three-day bystander intervention training workshop here Jan. 12 through 14.

Taught by the University of New Hampshire, the "Bringing in the Bystander®" training program stresses that "everyone in the community has a role to play in ending sexual violence."

The "Bringing in the Bystander" training aims to dispel the typical approach to witnessing a risky or potentially risky situation – which is to do nothing. Rather, through presentation and scenario-based training, the course teaches participants strategies that can help them choose an appropriate level of intervention necessary for the inappropriate behavior they encounter.

Bystander intervention training teaches participants a variety of helping behaviors and actions they can take before, during and after an incident such as keeping resource phone numbers with them, monitoring drinking in social situations, questioning friends' intentions in potentially risky situations, stopping comments and conversations that are offensive and demeaning, and supporting victims without judging or blaming.

Sgt. 1st Class Stacey Mitchell, victim advocate and sexual assault response coordinator for the 40th Engineer Battalion in Baumholder, was impressed with the training.

"I have to admit that before this training, I had the completely wrong idea about being a 'bystander'. I thought of it in a negative connotation. But now I know what a positive thing it can be to get involved and take action," she said. "Being more aware in a situation and knowing some possible actions you can take to diffuse a situation certainly helps with prevention."

Using the "train-the-trainer" concept, Mitchell and other course at-

tendees will take the skills they learned back to their unit so as many USAREUR Soldiers as possible can benefit from bystander intervention training.

"We are already doing some of the things presented, as Soldiers do take care of Soldiers. But this training went more in depth. For example, I know it will help the Soldiers in my unit to learn how other people were able to handle peer pressure but still manage to head off risky behavior," Mitchell said.

Master Sgt. Christopher Mulvihill, a sexual assault prevention training development coordinator from the Joint Multi-national Readiness Center in Hohenfels, said he especially liked the way the course gave him new insight as to the individual's role in preventing sexual violence.

"I've taken lots of sexual assault prevention training, but it's mostly been awareness-type training. So often we tell Soldiers what to do, but don't tell them how to do it," he said. "Now I have actual strategies to take back to the Soldiers in my unit which they can apply to their own life. By knowing what to do and how to do it, Soldiers can make an impact."

"This training is unique in that it teaches you how you can help in a variety of ways whether it's de-escalating a situation or empathizing with a victim. By giving the Soldiers a thorough understanding of what it takes to be a bystander, they can then choose the best course of action for them. Since their actions are so individualized, they are more likely to get involved than not," he said.

Originally designed for college students, program developers had to adapt the program for military audiences.

"While there are many similarities, it was still a bit difficult to make the transition from college campus to military environment," said Robert Eckstein. "Bystander has been proven to have an impact on preventing sexual violence."

This workshop is one of two by-



Staff Sgt. Patricia Deal

Robert Eckstein and Angela Borges, Bystander Intervention program facilitators from the University of New Hampshire, sign the pledges of Staff Sgt. Oliver Herrera and Staff Sgt. Joseph Maki, both from the 40th Engineer Battalion in Baumholder. Witnessing the pledges of participants is an important part of the "Bringing in the Bystander®" training program, emphasizing participants' commitment to taking an active role in ending sexual violence.

grams USAREUR sponsored.

Rosalind Dennis, USAREUR sexual assault prevention and response coordinator, explained that USAREUR officials are currently evaluating both intervention programs to determine if one or the other or both are a good fit for USAREUR.

"We are certainly committed to doing what we can to prevent sexual assault and harassment, and this training is yet another example of how we are empowering our Soldiers to battle against sexual assault and harassment," Dennis said.

"Bystander intervention training is especially important for our Soldiers as it provides them with the necessary skills to take an active role in the intervention and prevention of sexual violence."

Dennis added that USAREUR efforts support the Army's "I. A.M.

Strong" sexual assault prevention campaign, with its focus switching from reaction to prevention, calling for Soldiers to "Intervene, Act and Motivate".

"We know this type of training truly does have an impact, so even if we don't implement either program full force, we know our Soldiers have benefited just from what we've done already," she said.

For more information about the "Bringing in the Bystander" training, visit the projects page at [www.unh.edu/preventioninnovations/index.cfm](http://www.unh.edu/preventioninnovations/index.cfm).

For more information about USAREUR Sexual Assault Prevention and Response programs, visit [www.per.hqusareur.army.mil/SA\\_Home.htm](http://www.per.hqusareur.army.mil/SA_Home.htm).

For more information about the Army's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program, visit [www.sexualassault.army.mil](http://www.sexualassault.army.mil).



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## Public speaking made easy with help of Toastmasters

### Staff Report

In January, the Boston Globe listed public speaking as one of America's top ten fears - beating out the fear of heights, death, insects, and even flying.

An international organization with an 85-year history, Toastmasters, can help participants become better presenters and conquer public speaking fears.

"Public speaking takes practice," said Heidelberg club member Daniel Meyers. "And the road to success is paved with failure."

Meyers said he didn't even remember his first public speaking experience.

"I was too nervous to remember who I was," he said.

The organization is open to anyone interested in participating - Soldiers, Family members, civilians, and local nationals.

Members practice their public speaking skills through learning to research a topic and talk about it for 5-7 minutes without any vi-

suial aides. They learn to receive and give critical feedback and feel comfortable standing in front of others and expressing themselves through their body language.

There's no charge to attend. Guests can participate in some events during the evening, but must become full fledged members prior to giving their first speech.

Membership costs vary depending when members sign up since dues are based on the calendar year.

"This is a great way to practice public speaking in a relaxed setting," Meyers said. "You can build confidence in yourself and learn a new skill."

The Toastmasters International Heidelberg Club meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at the Casa Sorrento Italian restaurant, Rohrbacher Strasse 176, Heidelberg.

To attend the next meeting or to learn more about the organization, visit <http://heidelberg.freetoasthost.net>.

## Gas, gas, gas



Sgt. Frank Sanchez III

Soldiers from Special Troops Battalion, 21st Theater Sustainment Command draw their M-40 series protective masks during a timed Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical drill at Daenner Kaserne in Kaiserslautern, Jan. 28. The 21st TSC Soldiers conduct training every Thursday on basic Soldiering tasks in order to maintain proficiency on their warrior tasks and drills.

## Free tax assistance available in Army communities across Europe

**Sgt. Daniel J. Nichols**  
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Tax assistance centers at U.S. Army garrisons across Europe will open by the beginning of February to offer free tax preparation and filing assistance to eligible members of the U.S. forces community.

Active, reserve component and retired service members, Department of Defense civilian employees, and their family members can use the free tax preparation services.

"There's no reason to put it off. As soon as you have your tax documents in order, come in and get them filed right away," was the advice Capt. Patrick Robinson, a legal assistance attorney and the officer-in-charge of the Heidelberg Community Tax Center.

This tax season is Robinson's first managing the tax center. He said he's looking forward to helping the military community.

"It's certainly rewarding. It definitely has quite a bit of support in the community, because we can provide a direct and quantifiable benefit to Soldiers," said Robinson.

The tax center is staffed by Soldiers and civilian employ-

ees certified to prepare taxes via the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. The tax center staff also receives training specific to overseas filing.

"We actually had an IRS instructor come over from Atlanta," said Mark Christensen, chief of client services for 21st Theater Sustainment Command's legal office.

"He came in, and gave the IRS VITA course...at the conclusion of which our folks take a test to ensure they're proficient. So one week of IRS training and testing, and another week of advanced training specific to overseas issues," said Christensen.

Specific issues, such as foreign-born spouses, declaring interest on overseas bank accounts, or having rental properties, can be confusing to Soldiers who file their own taxes.

Even if individuals wish to prepare their own taxes, the tax centers are still available to help.

"In addition to assisting people in preparing taxes, we want to be a location where people who prepare their own taxes can come in and get assistance," said Robinson. "If they have a tricky tax ques-

tion, but otherwise want to do it on their own, they can still come in ... and talk through their issue."

While overseas duty may complicate taxes, it also comes with a few extra tax benefits.

"Service members serving overseas have a two month extension automatically," said Sgt. Robert Harshbarger, NCO-in-charge at the Heidelberg tax center.

"Service members who have been deployed have 180 days from their redeployment to file their taxes," added Robinson.

With the exception of some uncommon tax files that must be mailed, most patrons of the USAREUR tax centers can "e-file" electronically, leading to much faster returns.

"If you e-file your return it usually takes seven to 14 business days," said Robinson. "If you don't want to e-file and you want them to mail you a check, it takes about six to eight weeks."

Most tax centers offer walk-in hours, but Robinson recommends making an appointment.

"We've found that appointments are generally the best for controlling client flow.

... and it also minimizes the amount of wait time for the clients," said Robinson.

Calling to make an appointment also gives clients the opportunity to ask questions and ensure they bring in all the proper legal documents required for filing, such as IRS W-2 Forms, 1099 Forms, Social Security cards for the filer and family members, and any other supporting tax documents.

The amount of time needed to prepare returns varies for each individual's tax files, but tax center staffers say the process isn't lengthy in any case.

For a basic 1040EZ return, the average preparation time is 40 minutes, said Harshbarger. Returns with more complex components such as overseas bank accounts or rental properties can take up to an hour and a half or more, he said.

Despite the extra training, preparation, and logistics involved in setting up the tax center, Harshbarger said helping run the tax center is one of the most rewarding jobs he can think of.

"You see what you produce right there. Somebody comes in and you file their taxes for

them -- you just saw them save money," he said. "And if you see what you get them back on their return, or that maybe you were able to prevent them from paying interest or any additional tax through the IRS, then that's rewarding in itself."

This year Spc. Pedro Rivera of USAREUR's plans and operations division will work at the Heidelberg tax center for the second year in a row.

Although the task was given to him as a military detail, Rivera said it is one he is looking forward to.

"I did it last year. It was good training, good people, good work. We had good times," said Rivera. "I've already got people asking me, 'Hey, when are you going to do my taxes?' And it feels good, because you know people rely on you."

### Tax Centers

**Heidelberg**- DSN 370-7510, civ. 06221-57-7510

**Kaiserslautern**- DSN 483-7688, civ. 0631-411-7688.

**Landstuhl**- DSN 486-6334, civ. 06371-86-6334

**Mannheim**- DSN 381-7978, civ. 0621-730-7987

# our ARMY around the world

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Army Chief of Staff George W. Casey Jr. peers at a diagram as Pvt. Joshua Marcum and Pvt. Ryan Bishop guide him through the task of finding continuity between a jack and plug. Bishop and Marcum are advanced individual training students at the Ordnance School at Fort Lee, Va. Casey paid the school a visit Jan. 28.



U.S. Army Photo



U.S. Army Photo

Spc. Isaac Danner re-enlists aboard an Iraqi Department of Border Enforcement patrol boat in southern Maysan province, Jan. 9. He is an indirect fire infantryman assigned to the 2nd Squadron 13th Cavalry Regiment. "I wanted the ceremony to be a joint effort with the people I see every day and built relationships with," said Danner.

A Soldier dangles from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as he is lowered to the ground during a training exercise conducted by Company C, 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Jan. 21. The training was conducted from several different altitudes so the helicopter crews could familiarize themselves on hoist operations.



U.S. Army Photo



Sgt. Jeffrey Alexander

A U.S. Soldier warms his hands by a fire alongside local nationals in the Zanbar province of Afghanistan Jan. 31. The Soldier is assigned to Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

FCC

continued from page 1

have to take two training sections, covering the basic CYS training and specific FCC training. They start to set up their homes, which are regularly visited and inspected by FCC, CYSS, and installation representatives.

"We make sure that (the home) is child proof, child friendly and the appropriate items are in there," Haynes said.

At the Heidelberg FCC office, the director and a training and curriculum specialist help the providers to set up their home.

"Through the whole thing we hold their hand as much as they want their hand held. Some are very independent," Haynes said.

According to Haynes, FCC has a lending closet with books, toys, baby beds, high chairs, and other items a provider needs for the children. Also a resource library with professional books is available. FCC provider training is ongoing, Haynes said. After the orientation training to open, an 18-month pre-described training needs to be completed, which is followed by the annual training plan, according to Haynes.

Providers can also choose to do the Child Development Associate Credential, or the National Association of Family Child Care Accreditation, which are both subsidized by the U.S. Army.

"The Army is really doing everything they can to insure these people become professionals," Haynes said.

There are a lot of requirements that have to be met and the inspections are not easy.

"So much of it is just like the Child Development Center – the diaper changing routine, the cleaning routine – all that is the very same as the CDC," Haynes said. "...It is not baby-sitting, they are childcare professionals."

"I chose to be an FCC provider for two reasons: I have a 14-month old daughter and while being in Germany, I have no family here and I don't know many people," said Andrea Richardson,



Andrea Richardson, Family Child Care provider for the U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg, plays with her day care children, Feb. 1 in her home at Patrick Henry Village. Her 12-hour workday starts at 5 a.m. and is based on a weekly plan focusing on all kinds of activities and games for the children.

Ina Stiewitz

FCC provider within the Heidelberg community. "I thought 'well, people need good folks to watch their children and my daughter needs friends to play and learn with, so why not do both: give her someone to grow up with and I can meet new people and maybe even make new friends of my own.'"

Caring for five children between eight weeks and three years old, Richardson has developed her own weekly plan, which is based on various activities and games like storytelling, different kinds of plays, the use of different toys, and free play.

"My day care is called Big Imaginations, because as we know, children have such imaginations and should be able to explore and try new things," Richardson said.

According to Haynes, the appropriate FCC provider has to be independent, has to enjoy children, wants to make difference, and has to be self-

motivated.

"I plan daily activities so that the children in my care can engage in social development and emotional cognitive skills," said Gail Martin, who has been providing childcare within the Heidelberg community for almost six years.

Martin has also earned her CDA Credential and her NAFCC Accreditation. Currently, she is caring for four 3-year-old children.

"I love working with children," Martin said. "It has given me the opportunity to stay home and take care of my own children."

Children have to be enrolled with CYSS and the fees are the same as for the CDC. Once the parent receives the providers' names, they meet for an interview and the provider can choose the children that they want to take.

The limit is six children according to the amount of space at the provider's home. The caregiver almost becomes

like an extended family member and the other children become the cousins that they don't have here in Germany, Haynes said.

"I have already developed relationships with most of my parents, I enjoy watching their children and it makes me feel so good that they know their child is in good hands," Richardson said.

"If you are thinking of going into the childcare business, just think of all the people you would help out; we are in such a need of good and trustworthy people to join our team..."

Richardson and Martin agree that the most important thing about their job is to "have lots of love and patience for children."

For more information contact the Heidelberg CYS Services FCC office at DSN 388-9378, or civ. 06221-338-9378.

Editor's note: This is the first story in a two-part series on Army child care.

## Customs helps guests "drive on" in Germany

Robert Szostek  
USAREUR PROVOST MARSHAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

One big plus of living in Germany is that friends and relatives can get that real European experience when they visit. But, if you want to lend your car to guests so they can tour on their own, you must get customs approval first.

"Just go to your local military customs office and fill out an application form," said Bill Johnson, director of the USAREUR Customs Executive Agency. "You will need your visitors' passport numbers, so get them early," he added. Also, you must have clear copies of the passport and stateside (or international driver's license valid for Germany) if your

relatives or friends are not there to fill out the form with you.

One key provision is that your guests have not established and will not establish residency in Germany. It is also very important that your automobile insurance covers your guests. Your guests can use this exception to policy to drive a USAREUR-registered POV in Germany for up to 90 days after arrival in Europe.

The document must be in the car when your guests use your vehicle independently, along with their passports, the vehicle registration, proof of insurance and their international driver's licenses (or official translations of their stateside licenses).

"Driving in Germany is tax and duty-free for U.S.

Forces personnel and their dependents," Johnson explained.

Your guests are not normally allowed this exemption, which is why the customs authorization is required. However, he warned that it does not allow them to use your gas coupons or buy gas at AAFES stations. Additionally, guests of U.S. Forces personnel who rent a car are likewise not authorized gas coupons or use of AAFES stations.

Your guests can have a great European vacation if you plan ahead. Call any military customs office or the Customs Hot Line at DSN 381-7610, civ. 0621-7307610 to find out more. Consult the customs Web site at [www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/custom3.htm](http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/custom3.htm) for more details and customs office locations.



## GERMAN GOVERNMENT

### Experience Stuttgart Capital city opens doors to American visitors

American personnel stationed in Mannheim and Heidelberg are invited to spend a day in Stuttgart as special guests of the Baden-Württemberg State Parliament, the state government and the city of Stuttgart.

Community members are invited to participate in the next city visit set for Feb. 22.

The Capital City Visitation Program is part of an initiative to increase German-American contact and offers Soldiers, civilians and family members a unique opportunity to learn more about the state of Baden-Württemberg and its history.

The program begins at the Baden-Württemberg State Parliament with a presentation on the political structure and current political situation, as well as a comparison to the U.S. political system. A luncheon will be hosted in either the restaurant of the State Parliament or in the "Ratskeller" as special guests of the city of Stuttgart.

A tour guide will provide a guided walking tour to some of Stuttgart's major sights — the State Theater, the New Palace, the Old Palace and the Market Hall of Stuttgart.

The program concludes with a reception at the city hall with the lord mayor or the lord mayor's personal envoy. The presentation at the city hall also includes a film showing some of the highlights of the city of Stuttgart and the state of Baden-Württemberg.

Each participant will receive informative brochures and books from both the State Parliament and the city of Stuttgart, covering a myriad of topics on history, politics and culture, as well as taking a light-hearted look at "those strange German ways."

The tour also provides an understanding of the history shared by the U.S. forces and the state of Baden-Württemberg with special emphasis on the crucial role the United States played in reconstructing war-torn Germany and providing it with its present day democratic constitution.

The visit will also provide an overview of Baden-Württemberg, which is the third largest of the 16 German federal states both in terms of area (13,803 square miles) and population (10.7 million). Baden-Württemberg is Germany's most prosperous state and one of Europe's leading industrial regions.

Stuttgart, the capital of Baden-Württemberg, is Germany's sixth largest city and is best known for its high-tech industry. Stuttgart is also world-renowned for its culture. The city features the Stuttgart Theater, which offers world-class ballet, opera and theater performances and is the largest theater of its kind in Europe. The Stuttgart region has Germany's highest density of scientific, academic and research organizations.

Furthermore, Stuttgart is one of Germany's largest wine-growing towns with a centuries-old viticulture tradition.

Participation in this program is free. Transportation to and from downtown Stuttgart will be via bus provided by U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg. The bus will depart the bus stop on Patton Barracks at 7:30 a.m. Expected return at approximately 5 p.m.

For more information or to register for the Feb. 22 visit, call DSN 373-1600 or e-mail [usaghdpaoo@eur.army.mil](mailto:usaghdpaoo@eur.army.mil) no later than Feb. 17. Space is limited, so reserve seats in advance.

Also, please note that this tour is not designed for children. The tour is open to all Soldiers, DoD civilians and spouses who are new to Germany.



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](mailto:dearmsvicki@yahoo.com).

**Dear Ms. Vicki,**

*Ok Ms. Vicki wrote you this letter many times but I'm finally sending it now. Long story short — my boyfriend gave me a facial and pedicure set for Christmas. That's it, nothing else.*

*I was appalled. I just knew he would propose and give me an engagement ring this time. Well, I was wrong.*

*We've been dating for three years and each year his presents continue to get more and more ridiculous, and he should know it.*

*Now I'm beginning to think he is trying to send me a clear message that he is never going to marry me despite the fact that we have been living together for two years.*

*I take care of him, I cook and clean, I host parties and I have been very good to his family. He knows I want to be married and that I want to have children. I'm 33 years old and I know it gets harder and*

*harder to conceive the older you get. After this Christmas, I feel totally offended. At least he could have given me a gift with more thought. I have been very good to my boyfriend in spite of his deployments, his cheating etc. I've remained steadfast and in his corner.*

*I'm at a loss as of what to do now. Do I let him know that I want to get married?*

*Do I tell him that I don't appreciate the meaningless gift he gave me at Christmas or just remember that it's better to give than receive? How long is too long to wait for someone to marry you? You have my permission to be brutally honest.*

**From: Waiting for Marriage  
Dear Waiting for Marriage,**

A pedicure set, huh? Well that's a strong message. So what's the message? He's not that into you, trust me. He will continue living with you and you can continue to cook, clean and multi-task to please him in every way possible, but he won't marry you.

Besides, you've set a bad precedent. In other words, you started something that you can't keep up. Who wants to be a maid for their live in boyfriend?

I can't name anyone. Here's my question? If you want to be married, then why would you live with him?

Especially with no firm commitment or firm date set in stone for marriage. Well, listen you are 33 and feeling rushed to get married and have children. Research and studies show it can be harder conceiving a child the older women get.

Conversely, many women are having children in their 30's, 40's and even older successfully. I'm

saying you can't sell yourself short and put up with anything just to stay with this guy hoping he will marry you.

I think you should definitely tell him you were disappointed with the gift he gave you. I receive a free pedicure set at Macy's for purchasing another gift during the holidays. You definitely deserved more.

Now here's the deal, if you mention an engagement or marriage now he will say you are forcing him.

So you have a choice; either you will stay in this relationship and remain content being his live-in lover or you will pack up and leave. Whatever you decide, I wish you well. Keep in touch.

**Response to previous columns:  
Dear Ms. Vicki,**

*I don't know why women would treat each other so trashy and have no respect for themselves. So many women are willing to do anything just to keep a man even if it means stabbing a good friend or your best friend in the back. I know how this writer feels, my cousin stole my husband.*

*They are married still today and have children together. We had two children together during our marriage. It was very hard for me to let go of the animosity, the resentment and the betrayal. I realize after going through counseling that I had to let go of the bitterness for the sake of my children. You speak a lot about being able to trust your man, but if I should ever have another relationship, I will never let women get close to my man. You will only be asking for trouble.*

Beth D.

## Military families gain access to free, on-line tutoring

By Elaine Wilson  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Defense Department has launched a free, online tutoring service for service members and their families.

The site — [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military) — offers round-the-clock professional tutors who can assist with homework, studying, test preparation, resume writing and more.

Marine Corps and Army families have had access to the program for more than a year.

Seeing the value, Defense Department officials decided to expand the service to encompass all service members and their families, officials said.

"Providing 24/7 academic and career support for military families during a time when so many parents have a deployed spouse has been an important and well-

received benefit for Marine Corps and Army families," said Tommy T. Thomas, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

"We are pleased to expand this program to all U.S. military families and provide peace of mind that their children are never alone when it comes to learning — there is always a certified, professional tutor available to help," he said.

Active-duty service members, National Guard and reserve personnel on active duty in a deployed status, Defense Department civilians in a deployed status and their dependents are eligible to participate, officials said.

Along with test preparation, the site is open to students of any age — from kindergartners to high school seniors — for one-on-one help in math, science, social studies and English.

Many of these students, officials said, are making the most of the live, one-on-one help.

"Thanks for having this service when our family is separated at this time due to deployments and training," a sixth grader of a Marine commented. "My father is unable to help one-on-one."

"I really appreciate this," another program participant, a ninth grader, said. "It really helps me understand my schoolwork. It's going to really help me ace my exams coming up! I am definitely going to use this very often."

Tutor.com's network includes more than 1,800 professional tutors and career specialists who have delivered more than 5 million one-on-one tutoring sessions since 2001, officials said. Each tutor is certified through the site, and all sessions are recorded for quality control.

# GET OUT!

area events  
More events online at <http://myBWNing.com>

## February 5

**Valentine's Bazaar** – Many European vendors will present their antiques, rugs, tapestries, wines and much more at the Benjamin Franklin Village Sports Arena through Feb. 7. Opening hours are Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. <http://www.mwrgermany.com>.

## February 6

**Jazz Orchestra Concert** – The Heidelberg German-American Institute hosts a concert of the DIVA Jazz Orchestra at 8 p.m. The DIVA Jazz Orchestra is an ensemble of 15 talented and versatile female musicians with New York as their home base. The orchestra always guarantees an evening of spirited and exciting entertainment that leaves the audience on its feet pleading for more. Tickets cost €15. Win free tickets by calling 06221-607313, 12-5 p.m. Feb. 5. [www.dai-heidelberg.de](http://www.dai-heidelberg.de).

**Vrije Flea Market** – If you like strolling around flea markets then you'll love the Vrije Markt in Cuijk, Netherlands. The market is about the size of four football fields and the Dutch say "if you don't find what you're looking for here, you won't find it anywhere." With over 1500 stands, you'll find antiques, furniture, lights, carpets, toys, clothing, hardware and flowers. When you need a break, relax in the food court where you can and think about your impending purchases. The market is covered and heated. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

**Salsa Night** – Kaiserslautern's Armstrong's Club will be hosting a Salsa Night 8 p.m.-1 a.m. This free event features free Salsa lessons, a live D.J., margarita bar, and free finger food. Civ. 0631-354-9986.

## February 7

**The Full Monty** – Join the Kaiserslautern USO for a trip to Frankfurt for the English Theater's production of Terrence McNally and David Yazbek's musical comedy The Full Monty. Arrive in Frankfurt before the performance in time to enjoy dinner (not included) at one of the many restaurants located near the theater. Tour price includes transportation, tickets to the play, and a USO escort. <http://affiliates.uso.org/kaiserslautern>.

## February 11

**Penny Bazaar** – The German American Women's Club will host the 28th Annual Penny Bazaar Feb. 11-13. The Penny Bazaar is a huge flea market held at the Rosengarten in downtown Mannheim. The club will accept donations from the community 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 6, 11

a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 7 and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 8. Donors can bring donations to the Rosengarten glass elevator on the street level across from the Water Tower. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 11 and 12; 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 13. The bazaar is not stroller friendly and there are no pets allowed due to crowding. Civ. 0160-696-1110 or e-mail to [kerstin.eisenbrandt@eur.army.mil](mailto:kerstin.eisenbrandt@eur.army.mil).

**Carnevale in Venice, Sightseeing in Florence** – It's Carnevale weekend in Florence. Participate in this festive celebration and see beautiful Northern Italy. Come and see Venice at its best, during the season of Carnevale. Tour Florence, the cradle of the Renaissance, one of the most prolific periods of arts and culture. Through Feb. 14 with the Kaiserslautern USO. <http://affiliates.uso.org/kaiserslautern>.

## February 12

**President's Day Ski Weekends** – Visit either Portes du Soleil or Interlaken, Switzerland, through Feb. 15 with Heidelberg Outdoor Recreation. DSN 388-9282, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

**Escape to Paris and Versailles** – Join the Heidelberg BOSS program and escape to Paris over Presidents' Day weekend, through Feb. 14. Enjoy the City of Lights including a sightseeing tour of Paris and Versailles. Slots go quickly, so contact your unit BOSS representative to sign up. [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

**Prague Weekend** – Join Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation for an exciting weekend in the "Golden City". [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

## February 13

**Paris Overnight** – What better way to spend Valentine's Day weekend than in Paris, the city of romance and lights. Visit the Notre Dame Cathedral and have a delightful French dining experience (included). The USO guide can make suggestions for your free time. Tour price includes transportation, city tour, five-course dinner, Seine River cruise, one overnight in hotel with one breakfast, and USO tour guide. <http://affiliates.uso.org/kaiserslautern>.

**Brugge, Belgium** – Time has long stood still in medieval Brugge, a romantic city that went to sleep in the Middle Ages, leaving a perfectly preserved gem that is today among the loveliest places in Europe. Tour the city, stroll through the lively markets, and have an opportunity for lunch at one of the many restaurants and cafes. Don't pass up this opportunity to visit a marvelous city that is often overlooked. This tour includes a long bus ride, strenuous walking on cobblestone streets, is not stroller friendly, therefore it is not recommended for children under 6. <http://affiliates.uso.org/kaiserslautern>.

**Tropical Islands** – What better way to relax than taking a tropical vacation. Explore the world's largest indoor rain forest, and then slip into the warm water of the Bali Lagoon. Or simply play on a sandy beach in the South Seas village. Swimsuit and changes of light clothing are recommended. Price includes all day admission to Tropical Islands' attractions. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

## February 14

**Valentine Overnight** – Spend the night at Hirschhorn Castle high above the Neckar River, with a wonderful view of the valley. Arrive early in the afternoon to have plenty of time to check in at the castle, and then spend some time relaxing together before a walking tour of the medieval village of Hirschhorn. Make your own magic over a romantic dinner for two, and then retire to your room with a bottle of bubbly compliments of the USO. Sunday morning, have breakfast in the castle and then explore this scenic valley on your own. Transportation is not provided. Choose from four room/dinner possibilities. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

**What is This Thing Called Love** – KMC Onstage will present a special Cabaret Dinner Theater with performances from Jeanne Ragonese at 6 p.m. at the Landstuhl Community Club. Tickets can be purchased by phone or in person at the FMWR One Stop on Kleber Kaserne and Landstuhl. DSN 483-6626, civ. 0631-3406-6626 or DSN 486-8146, civ. 06371-86-8146. [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

## February 18

**Pfennig Bazaar** – ACS will visit a large flea market at the International Gesamt School where you can find great bargains on clothing, home textiles, linen, electronics, books, toys, jewelry, CDs, DVDs and so much more. The proceeds go to local charity projects in both German and American communities. DSN 370-6883.

## March 6

**Outlet Shopping** – Visit Mettlach for outlet shopping at Land's End, Villeroy and Boch, Birkenstock and Tigma and many more. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinneckar>.

## Ongoing

**Free Billiard Class** – Learn cue ball control, banking, and many new games during free billiard lessons, sponsored by the Heidelberg KONTAKT Club at the Billiard World behind Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg-Rohrbach on Sundays at 3:30 p.m. Civ. 06226-785910 or 0151-12730208.

# coming to THEATERS

## ARMORED

(Matt Dillon, Jean Reno) A crew of officers at an armored transport security firm risk their lives when they embark on the ultimate heist...against their own company. Armed with a seemingly fool-proof plan, the men plan on making off with a fortune with harm to none. But when an unexpected witness interferes, the plan quickly unravels and all bets are off. Rated PG-13 (sequences of intense violence, some disturbing images and brief strong language) 88 minutes



## NINJA ASSASSIN

(Rain, Naomie Harris, Ben Miles) Trained in methods of killing from an early age, Raizo is a member of the secret clan of assassins known as the Ozunu. After the Ozunu kill his friend, however, Raizo breaks free from them and vanishes. Meanwhile, Interpol agent Mika Coretti discovers a money trail linking the group to murders. Raizo saves Mika from his former comrades and joins forces with her to bring down the Ozunu forever. Rated R (strong bloody stylized violence throughout, and language) 131 minutes

## PLAYING THIS WEEK

### Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

Feb. 4 - LEGION (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 5 - ARMORED (PG-13) 7 p.m.; EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 9 p.m.  
Feb. 6 - OLD DOGS (PG) 4 p.m.; NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 7 p.m., EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 9 p.m.  
Feb. 7 - OLD DOGS (PG) 4 p.m.; EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 8 - NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 9 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 10 - ARMORED (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 11 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 7 p.m.

### Mannheim, Schuh

Feb. 4 - PIRATE RADIO (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 5 - LEGION (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 6 - ARMORED (PG-13) 4 p.m.; NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 7 p.m.; LEGION (R) 9 p.m.  
Feb. 7 - ARMORED (PG-13) 4 p.m.; LEGION (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 8 - NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 11 - LEGION (R) 7 p.m.

### Vogelweh, Galaxy

Feb. 5 - ARMORED (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 6 - NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 3 p.m.; LEGION (R) 7 p.m.  
Feb. 7 - BOLT (PG) 3 p.m.; LEGION (R) 7 p.m.

### Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

Feb. 4 - THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6 p.m.; OLD DOGS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.; BOLT (PG) 12 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m.  
Feb. 5 and 6 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 9 p.m.; ARMORED (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m.; NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:15 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:45 p.m.  
Feb. 7 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; ARMORED (PG-13) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; SHREK THE THIRD (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.  
Feb. 8 and 9 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; ARMORED (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; SHREK THE THIRD (PG) 12:15 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 7 p.m.  
Feb. 10 - EDGE OF DARKNESS (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; ARMORED (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m.  
Feb. 11 - ARMORED (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.; NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; SHREK THE THIRD (PG) 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:45 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](http://www.aafes.com) for updated listings and more movie descriptions

# Fasching, Karneval, Fastnacht

*Enjoy Germany's fifth season, called the foolish season, of the year*

Germany's fifth season of the year, called the närrische Saison, the foolish season, officially kicks off annually 11 Nov. at 11:11 a.m. and ends on Ash Wednesday.

This fun season culminates in the Carnival Week and the date always depends on Easter. This year, the party begins Feb. 11 and goes until Ash Wednesday Feb. 17.

Most scholars trace Carnival back to the first century Roman period when the festival of Saturnus began to take place.

Saturn was the Roman God of Peace and Plenty, and the festival marked a time when order was turned upside down. Men dressed as women, and masters waited on their slaves.

If it did originate from this obscure historical reference is anyone's guess. Today Carnival goes by many names, depending on where you choose to celebrate.

Whether it's Karneval in Cologne, Fasching in Munich, or the Fastnacht in Heidelberg, every region celebrates this season a little bit differently. But rest assured that all festivals have one goal in mind: To live it up before Lent.

The "centers of gravity" for Carnival are in Aachen, Cologne, Düsseldorf and Mainz, all of which have nation-wide televised Rose Monday Parades Feb. 15.

Thursday, Feb. 11 is "Weiberfastnacht" or Women's Carnival. Tradition has it that women take over power on that day, which is symbolized by cutting off men's ties and displaying them as trophies.

Thus, men are advised to either not wear a tie at all on that day, or wear

an old "expendable" one.

The biggest parade of the Metropolitan region Rhein-Neckar takes place in Ludwigshafen Feb. 14 at 1:11 p.m. It is recommended to use public transportation.

Expect it to last for at least three hours, as more than 100 groups and floats will wind their way through the down-town district of Ludwigshafen.

At least wear a funny hat, or get out your Halloween stuff and you will fit right in - otherwise, you might feel out of place.

Bring a rucksack or bag for you and your kids when going to a Fasching parade, as candy, popcorn and other treats are being thrown from the floats as they go by.

#### Local parades:

Heidelberg, 2:11 p.m. Feb. 16, starting on Bergheimer Strasse over Bismarkplatz, Hauptstrasse to Marktplatz; Schwetzingen, Feb. 16; Ketsch, 2:11 p.m. Feb. 14; Ludwigshafen, 1:11 p.m., Feb. 14, down-town area; Frankenthal, 2:11 p.m., Feb. 13, down-town area; Ramstein-Miesenbach, 2:11 p.m., Feb. 16.

#### Children's events:

Children's Fasching in the Mannheim-Vogelstang Youth Center, 6 Feb., 2:11-5:11 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes. Admission is € 1.

Kids' Masquerade Ball on Sunday, Feb. 7, starting at 2:11 p.m. at the Kulturhaus in Mannheim-Käfertal. Tickets are € 2.50.

Children's Fasching with live music Feb. 15, 3-5 p.m. at the Halle 01, Güteramtsstr.2, Heidelberg. Tickets € 6.



Bruno Hetz

#### Adult events:

Vampire Ball, Feb. 13, 8:30 p.m. at the Stadthalle Heidelberg. This event has almost "cult status" in the greater Heidelberg area and features five live bands on three stages. Check with USO for ticket information.

Masquerade Ball of the Lionhunters in Mannheim-Käfertal, Feb. 13,

8:11 p.m., at the Kulturhaus Käfertal, Gartenstrasse 8, 68309 Mannheim. Admission is €12 with assigned seat, € 8 for admission without seat.

Ketsch "Lumbeball", Feb. 13, 8:11 p.m. at the Rheinhalle, Im Bruch, 68775 Ketsch.

SOURCE: Christine Gebhard, USAG Mannheim Public Affairs



Michael Pansé

community  
**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Snow and Ice Removal Changes**

The new common levels of service standards require main roads to be cleared within four hours after snowfall stops and designated parking lots and sidewalks within 24 hours. These are changes to the previous contract, which required roads and sidewalks to be cleared within three hours of being called in, and parking lots within four hours, if needed. There is still a policy in effect that makes each office building's occupants responsible for 50 feet from the building. Those areas will no longer be cleared by the contractor. Also, snow plows do not work unless there is more than two inches of snow on the ground, or roads are covered with ice. There will be no road clearing 9 p.m.-5 a.m. Road clearing begins no later than 5 a.m. on week days and 7 a.m. on weekends and holidays and ends at p.m. The contractor will spread grit and salt after clearing, so roads will remain passable 9 p.m.-5 a.m. All sidewalks will be done 24 hours after snowfall stops unless it is a weekend or holiday and the area is not used, to conserve funds. The Self-Help Store has salt, grit and shovels available, which are issued free of charge to all ID card holders for Army-owned or leased facilities. DSN 387-3104.

**IMCOM-Europe Postal Survey**

The IMCOM-Europe Postal Transformation Office is launching an online survey to provide valued customer service to postal customers in Europe. This survey will give you a voice to weigh in on important issues directly impacting you such as postal operating hours, Saturday operations, and email notification of packages. It will only take a few minutes to complete and will run until Feb. 15. Only authorized postal customers may participate. This includes Soldiers, U.S. retirees, civilian employees, contractors and their family members who have an authorized APO address. The survey can be found online at: [www.milmail.org](http://www.milmail.org). Complete the survey and you will automatically be entered to win a five-night stay at the Edelweiss Lodge.

**AWAG Annual Conference**

The 54th Annual American Women's Activities Germany Conference will be held May 9-13 at Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch. Registration deadline is March 26. [www.awagonline.org](http://www.awagonline.org).

local  
**EMPLOYMENT**

**Heidelberg Thrift Shop**

The Heidelberg Thrift Shop is accepting applications for a bookkeeper. Must be at least 18 years old with a valid ID card. Please submit resume in person to the Thrift Shop. Must have experience and references. The Heidelberg Thrift Shop is also accepting applications for on-call personnel. Please apply in person.

**Food Service Instructor**

The IMCOM European Region Child and Youth Services is seeking a contractor to conduct a hands-on Food Services Training Course for CYSS cooks. This contract involves travel throughout the European Region. For information, contact the Army NAF Contracting Europe Office or e-mail [rosemary.musto@eur.army.mil](mailto:rosemary.musto@eur.army.mil).

**Mannheim Elementary School**

MES seeks substitute teachers and teacher/classroom aides. DSN 380-4705, civ. 0621-730-4705, [joanne.griffin@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:joanne.griffin@eu.dodea.edu).

**KAISERSLAUTERN Education**

• **CSB Briefing** – The Transition Center hosts a briefing on Career Status Bonus Feb. 17 in Bldg. 3245 on Kleber Kaserne. This class is for Soldiers who reach the 15-year mark and are eligible for a \$30,000 bonus. To register, call DSN 483-7071, civ. 0631-411-7071.

• **Right Arm Night** – The garrison and FMWR will host Right Arm Night at Armstrong's Club at 4 p.m., Feb. 5. Enjoy happy-hour with snacks, bowling and Nintendo Wii. For tickets and more information, call DSN 493-4135, civ. 0631-3406-4135.

• **Main Library Events** – Lapsit Story Time, 9-9:30 a.m. Feb. 16; Chess 5 p.m., Feb. 17; German Story Time 1 p.m., Feb. 24; Fairy Tale Afternoon 3:30 p.m., Feb. 25. DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-7322/8390 or [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **President's Day Quiz** – All USAG Kaiserslautern Libraries will test your knowledge with the President's Day Quiz Feb. 8-20. All correct quizzes will be entered for a prize. This event is open to all 1st-8th graders. DSN 486-7322 or Civ. 06371-86-7322/8390 or go online to [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **American German Business Club** – The Kaiserslautern American German Business Club will hold its annual membership meeting and dinner at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 11 at Restaurant Asia, Mainzer Straße 105, 67657 Kaiserslautern.

• **Super Bowl Party** – BOSS will host the 5th Annual Super Bowl party and buffet at Kazabra Club 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Feb. 7. Tickets are available for purchase through your BOSS Representative or by contacting the FMWR One Stop at DSN 486-8146, civ. 06371-86-8146. [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **Sweethearts Bunco** – Landstuhl Community Club will host Sweethearts Bunco 6:30-9:30 p.m. Feb. 9. No experience necessary to play. Everyone will win a prize. Must be 18 to play. Call ahead to reserve your seat. DSN 486-7244, civ. 06371-86-7244 or [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **Midnight Bingo** – The Kazabra Club offers Midnight Bingo 9 p.m. Feb. 14. Enjoy free food and soft drinks while you play. Two Guaranteed \$1,000 games. Doors open at 7pm. DSN 493-4558, civ. 0631-536-7261 or [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **Volunteers Needed** – Volunteers are needed for the 27th Special Olympics Spring Games May 12 at the German Police Academy in Enkenbach-Alsenborn. All volunteers must be registered with the garrison's Army Community Service. DSN 493-4232, civ. 0631-3406-4232.

• **Bachata Dance Competition** – Armstrong's Club will host a Bachata dance competition 11 p.m. Feb. 20.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Registration is between 8-10:45 p.m. No entry fee is required. Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place. DSN 489-6000, civ. 0631-354-9986.

• **Leigh Jones Concert** – Pop and R&B Singer, Leigh Jones, will perform a free concert at Kazabra Club 5 p.m., Mar. 14. This concert will also feature hip-hop band Animate Objects and is being sponsored by BOSS, I.A.M. Strong, Army Entertainment, FMWR and the Army G-1 SHARP program. Ms. Jones will also make personal appearances at Landstuhl DFAC and USO Warrior Center. DSN 483.6252, civ. 0631-411-6252.

• **LRMC Service Expands** – Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services has expanded services at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center to help meet behavioral health needs of families within the military community. The CAPS department now includes seven care providers who are available to help. If you have concerns about your child and want help, contact CAPS at DSN 486-6037, civ. 06371-86-6037.

**HEIDELBERG Education**

• **ACS Classes** – Intro to MS Power-Point 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Feb. 8 and 10; Families Learning About Germany 5-9 p.m., Feb. 8-10; Resume Writing 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Feb. 9; Time Management and Goal Setting 1-3 p.m., Feb. 9; Hot Monogamy 1-3 p.m., Feb. 11. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6975, [www.mwgermany.com/HD/acs](http://www.mwgermany.com/HD/acs).

• **Shoes and Clothing Drive** – The Heidelberg International Friendship Club (KONTAKT Heidelberg) is assisting the Heidelberg Sergeants Major Association, in collecting shoes and clothing for children in orphanages in Afghanistan. Donations will be accepted until Feb. 26. Call DSN 387-3296 to schedule a donation.

• **Medical Library closure** – The Heidelberg Medical Department Activity Medical Library permanently closed Jan. 31. For library resources and support, please contact the Landstuhl Medical Library at 486-7111.

• **Patient Recognition Week** – Heidelberg Medical Department Activity and your Army health clinics are celebrating Patient Recognition Week, Feb. 1-7. HMEDDAC would like to thank you for taking charge of your health.

• **Speedy Wash closure** – Due to sub-freezing weather conditions, the Speedy Wash will be temporarily closed. Visit [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com) to see when the car wash will resume operation.

• **Antique Sale** – There will be an antique sale featuring school house antiques 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Feb. 6 at the Heidelberg High School. Free delivery, in-home lay-away, and appraisals are available; credit cards accepted. This

fundraiser is sponsored by the HHS Junior Class.

• **Valentine Banquet** – The Community Chapels will host a Valentine Banquet 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Feb. 12 at the PHV Pavilion. Tickets are now on sale. The cost is \$20 per couple or \$10 per individual and includes a buffet dinner and entertainment. Please see your Chaplain for tickets or more information. Seating is limited.

• **Heidelberg International Wandering Club** – Join the HIWC at the following volksmarches: Feb. 7, Forstfeld, France. Sign up for the overnight trip to Munich Mar. 13-14. The next General Membership meeting is Feb. 8 at the SG Gasthaus in Ottersheim. [www.hiwc.de](http://www.hiwc.de) or e-mail at [hiwc@yahoo.com](mailto:hiwc@yahoo.com).

• **Scholarship Gala** – The annual scholarship gala sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Inc. will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at the Village Pavilion on PHV. Civ. 0151-2415-7824.

• **German Hunting License** – A class to obtain your German hunting license and firearms ownership permit will be held at the Heidelberg Rod & Gun Club from Feb. 18 to April 10. Class fee is \$150. DSN 386-7120, civ. 06202-51193.

• **Grant Writing Workshop** – The next Workshop for Block 3 will be at 6:30 p.m., April 8 in ACS Conference Rm. 172. [welfare@hsc-heidelberg.com](mailto:welfare@hsc-heidelberg.com).

• **Technology Expo** – The winter Campbell Barracks/Heidelberg Area Technology Exposition is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Campbell Fitness Center. This event is being hosted by the 43rd Signal Battalion. All military, civilian, and contractor personnel are invited to attend for free. To pre-register, visit [www.FederalEvents.com](http://www.FederalEvents.com), click on "Campbell Barracks/Heidelberg Area," and choose the Government/Military link.

• **AFAP conference** – Heidelberg's AFAP is scheduled for March 30-April 1. Issues are being collected and can be submitted online at <http://www.mwgermany.com/HD/acs/afap.htm>. Contact ACS for more information at DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6975.

• **Valentine's Balloon-O-Grams** – Make your Valentine's Balloon-O-Gram orders for your special someone Feb. 6, 7, 10 and 11. Deliveries will be made Feb. 12 to Heidelberg installations and housing areas during normal business hours. \$4 fee plus balloon cost. To order your Balloon-O-Gram, stop by or contact the Heidelberg Arts and Cultural Center on PHV or log on to [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

• **Seibel Shoe Store** – The Seibel Shoe store is coming to Heidelberg. It will open in the Community Support Center Feb. 12.

• **Community Update** – The next community update is scheduled for 9

a.m., Feb. 10 at the Village Pavilion. DSN 373-5357.

**MANNHEIM Education**

• **Red Cross Classes** – CPR/AED and First Aid Course 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Feb. 20 in the office training classroom. The cost of the course is \$45, which includes all materials. DSN 385-1760, civ. 0621-730-1760.

• **AFAP Issues** – Submit issues and concerns for the local Army Family Action Plan conference, Feb. 10-11, on [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com)'s AFAP page (under Mannheim ACS). Volunteers are also needed for the conference to be delegates, facilitators, recorders, transcribers, issue support, and room managers. DSN 385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

• **Community Blood Drives** – The Coleman Health Clinic will sponsor a community blood drive 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 4 at the Coleman Fitness Center. The Mannheim Health Clinic will also sponsor a community blood drive at the Sullivan Fitness Center 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 5.

• **National Prayer Luncheon** – The annual National Prayer Luncheon is 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Top Hat Club. Guest speaker is Chaplain (MAJ) Shawn Connors; lunch will be catered. Tickets are available from unit chaplains, at the BFV Chapel and Ms. Sandra Rivera at USAG-M Garrison HQ. POC is Chaplain (LTC) Tim Bonner at the BFV Chapel.

• **Town Hall Meeting** – The next Mannheim Garrison town hall meeting is 6 p.m., Feb. 17. It will be held in conjunction with the grand opening of the new Community Center located on Grant Circle. During this informal gathering of community members, the USAG Mannheim garrison staff and garrison command team will be on hand to answer any community concerns as well as provide rules governing use of this great new facility.

• **Medical Appointments** – The phone numbers to make appointments at the Mannheim Army Health Clinic and the Coleman clinic have changed. To book an appointment, call DSN 371-2622, civ. toll-free 0800-914-6133. The call center hours have been extended to weekdays 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

• **Men's Health Awareness Month** – The Mannheim Army Health Clinic is celebrating Men's Health Awareness Month throughout February. Learn about weight management, energy drinks, diet supplements, hypertension and more on the following dates and locations: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 6 at the Mannheim PX and Commissary; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Commissary; 6:30 a.m. Feb. 23-24 at the Mannheim gym; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27 at the PX.

## AFN to air viewer commercials during Super Bowl

By George Smith  
AFN EUROPE

This year's AFN Europe Super Bowl coverage includes something never before seen on the military network: TV commercials created by viewers.

AFN Europe announced the "You Do It!" campaign in early December asking people to create and send in their own TV commercials to air during the Super Bowl. After the New Year, the production staff was a bit worried there were only nine submissions.

But, then, over the next couple of weeks, viewers zapped the network with more than 140 commercials that show everything from troops down range to talking dogs.

The American Forces Network (AFN) Europe introduced the innovative "You Do It!" campaign as

a way to get people more involved with their TV network.

AFN has long gotten complaints about military commercials airing too often, messages taking a negative approach, or spots "talking down" to viewers. And every year people ask to see Stateside Super Bowl commercials during AFN coverage, something the network cannot do because it is against regulations.

"The response from the audience was great and I think viewers are going to love the variety, and get some laughs along the way. Many are very clever and everyone will have their favorite," says Colonel Bill Bigelow, AFN Europe Commander.

Because AFN Europe received so many products, the "You Do It!" commercials will air during

pre-game, though the Super Bowl and finish off during the post game. To make sure producers get recognition, each "You Do It!" commercial will have a special logo giving credit to the person, unit or organization that submitted it. All "You Do It!" commercials will be available for viewing at [www.afneurope.net](http://www.afneurope.net) by Monday, February 8th at 12 noon.

Super Bowl pre-game coverage starts February 7 at 6 PM Central European Time on AFN|Prime Atlantic, with game coverage starting at midnight.

AFN Power Network radio airs the pre-game starting at 11 PM, with game coverage beginning at midnight.

Super Bowl XLIV features the New Orleans Saints and Indianapolis Colts.

## Winter sports camp



Mannheim FMWR

Abraham Rivera, 7, works on his dribbling skills during an annual Winter Sports Kids Camp at Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim Jan. 29. The event, sponsored by Mannheim Sports and Fitness and Child and Youth Services, started out with a basketball shooting, passing, dribbling skills and drills presentation. Then the kids played soccer, where they had to demonstrate skills in passing, heading, dribbling and side line throw in. Just before the lunch time intermission the kids participated in a fun filled dodge ball game. The final events of the day were a video presentation on better basketball skills, a lecture on the importance of education and leadership, and closed out with a performance skills clinic on the court.

### staying **ACTIVE**

#### Super Bowl Parties

##### Heidelberg

◆Legends will host a Super Bowl party at 9 p.m., Feb. 7. Legends is located on Patrick Henry Village Bldg. 4506. Event starts one hour before the game with snacks at halftime and small give-a-ways at the end of the third quarter. DSN 388-9570, civ. 06221-33-89570 or visit [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

◆The Recovery Room is hosting a Super Bowl party 10 p.m., Feb. 7. Tickets are \$10 at the door and price includes a food buffet. The Recovery Room club is located in Heidelberg on Nachrichten Kaserne in building 3608. DSN 373-5158 or 371-2762

##### Mannheim

◆The Top Hat Club is offering a free Super Bowl party at 9 p.m., Feb. 7. The Top Hat Club is located on Benjamin Franklin Village Bldg. 738 in Mannheim. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370 or visit [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

##### Kaiserslautern

◆BOSS will host the 5th Annual Super Bowl party and buffet at Kazabra Club 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Feb. 7. Tickets are available for purchase through your BOSS Representative or by contacting the FMWR One Stop at DSN 486-8146, civ. 06371-86-8146. [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

#### Skiing and Snowboarding

**Instructors** – Mannheim Outdoor Recreation is looking for ski and snowboard instructors to conduct beginner courses for the upcoming season. DSN 381-7215.

#### Live Coverage

AFN will be airing the DoDDs Europe High School Basketball Championships live this year. The games will be played Feb. 27 at USAG Mannheim and will air regionally on the Pentagon Channel so that all DoD personnel in Europe, Iraq, Afghanistan, and HOA will be able to watch. The games will also be streamed on the internet for worldwide availability.

#### Free Aerobics Classes

FMWR's SKIESUnlimited in Kaiserslautern now offers dance instruction in ballroom, jazz, hip-hop and ballet for youth. Classes offer students of all levels an opportunity to be exposed to the beautiful world of dance and fine arts. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406-4516, [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

#### Ice Hockey Players Wanted

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

#### Parents' Exercise Room

The Landstuhl Fitness Center recently opened its Parents' Exercise Room. The room features the latest in cardio equipment and offers a play area for your little ones to safely play or watch movies while you workout. DSN 486-7172, [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

#### Youth Dance Classes

Mannheim SKIESUnlimited Program is now offering creative movement, ballet, jazz dance and tap dance classes. All classes meet once a week with a cost of \$35 per month. All children must be registered with the Mannheim CYSS. DSN 380-9290, [darren.brown3@us.army.mil](mailto:darren.brown3@us.army.mil).