

# HeraldPOST

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

**HP THURSDAY**  
April 14, 2011

**Speed Read**

**DEFENSE POSTURE**

The Defense Department announced Friday that it is revising a 2004 plan to withdraw two of four brigade combat teams from Europe. **3**

**MPS TEACH DARE**

 Kaiserslautern Military Police make a difference by teaching school children Drug Abuse Resistance Education. **3**

**OFF-POST ACTIVITIES**

Last September, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg anti-terrorism officials, in coordination with U.S. Army Europe in Heidelberg, began testing a pilot program called the Off-post Activity Assessment Program. **6**

**EARTH WEEK**

Taking care of the earth is the highlight of Earth Week April 17-23 with activities scheduled throughout U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg. **13**

**THE MASTERS GOLF**

 Sixty-seven golfers teed off Sunday at the Heidelberg golf club's annual one-day version of the famous PGA Masters in Augusta, Ga. **17**

**Defense Details**

**GEN. GEORGE W. CASEY**

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. expressed great pride in his Soldiers and their families as he ended more than four decades of military service Monday.

**TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY**

The deputy director for traumatic brain injury at the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and TBI said new initiatives will aid in the recognition of concussion. Kathy Helmick said that not until a servicemember started to show signs of concussion would they seek medical help. Policy now outlines specific events that indicate a high likelihood a servicemember could have a concussion.

[www.defense.gov](http://www.defense.gov)  
[www.army.mil/news](http://www.army.mil/news)

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Oak processionary caterpillars nest on an oak tree. Above, close-up photos show the larvae and moth stages. Peter Zeisberger

## The itch lurks

*Processionary moth caterpillars cause significant health problems*

**ERMC Public Affairs**

Last summer, the picnic area at Tompkins Barracks in Heidelberg was home to a high population of the oak processionary caterpillar causing several people to experience a rash.

Just up the road in Wiesbaden, an entire family suffered severe skin reactions. It started on a warm spring day after the family had been on their terrace.

The family consulted a physician and subsequently had to move into a hotel for 20 days. The terrace, house interior and all family clothing were professionally cleaned. Air samples were taken and trees were inspected for processionary caterpillar activity.

Several caterpillar nests in close proximity to buildings had to be removed. Total costs exceeded \$16,500, quite a large chunk caused by a small caterpillar.

“Hairs from oak processionary moth caterpillar contain thaumetopoein, a toxin that may cause a rash or, if inhaled, asthma,” said Maj. Lesly Calix, chief of medical and veterinary entomology at the U.S. Army Public Health Command Region – Europe.

That can happen if people touch the caterpillars or their cocoon-like nests (see picture) or if the hairs are blown by the wind into contact with people, she said.

The oak processionary caterpillar lives in oak trees. Larvae develop from overwintering eggs laid on high twig tips in the previous season. They hatch when oaks start developing their leaves mid to end of April.

“The first two larval instars do not produce the toxin. Problems arise later, when the larvae build prominent cocoons on the tree bark,” said Calix.

see **CATERPILLAR** page 18

## Heidelberg JROTC earns academic honors

**By Andrew King**  
HEIDELBERG HIGH SCHOOL

Heidelberg High School's JROTC Academic Team and the JROTC Leadership Team earned the honor of advancing to the Army JROTC Academic Championship and the Leadership Bowl at George Mason University June 24-28 in Washington, D.C.

Students were tested on standard

high school curriculum including math, science and English during two rounds of competitive online play.

Heidelberg High School is among only four schools to send two teams and is the only school in Europe to advance to this level this year.

The event is sponsored by the Army JROTC and conducted by the College Options Foundation.

The Academic Team, composed of

Joshua Groom, Matthew Magee, Aidan Sabety and Joshua Yarbrough earned top scores out of the 1,316 teams that competed from across the world to win a place in the National Academic Bowl competition.

This team is one of only 24 academic bowl teams in the nation to advance to the finals.

The Leadership Team, composed see **JROTC** page 18

## COMMENTARY

# Help a hero heal, join team to fight substance abuse

## Command seeks workers to provide treatment services

**Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch**  
IMCOM COMMANDER

ARLINGTON, Va. – In this unprecedented era of persistent conflict, the risk for substance abuse among our Soldiers and their families has never been greater.

As I have often stated, the Army will not break because of our Soldiers. They are indeed the finest force in the world.

However, the Army is at risk as a result of the stress the past 10 years of conflict have placed on our Soldiers and their families.

The stress is often manifested in new or growing social problems. Multiple, extended deployments with too little dwell time at home strain relationships with loved ones. Partners and children face difficulty adjusting to new family dynamics as their Soldiers depart for and return from deployments.

Many warriors have difficulty transitioning from the battle field to the home front and post-deployment life.

The unfortunate reality is that some Soldiers and family members turn to alcohol and drugs to help them cope.

The Army implemented the Army Substance Abuse Program to enhance mission readiness through helping Soldiers cope with stress by means other than alcohol or other drugs.

The program focuses on prevention, identification, intervention and treatment of high-risk behaviors to enable Soldiers, their families and civilians achieve and sustain balance – and resilience – in their lives.

We've come a long way in helping our Soldiers become more resilient both on the battlefield and on the home front. Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated employees, we are continually improving.

But we must do better.

The Army currently faces a critical shortage of counseling psychologists, social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors to help our heroes heal. In fact, garrisons and installations are struggling to accommodate thousands of Soldiers every month as they transition from the battlefield to post-deployment life at home.

As the stigma of seeking treatment has decreased, an increasing number of Soldiers and family members are seeking help in making a successful transition. However, the number of qualified professionals entering the field has not grown to meet the need.

The Installation Management Command is seeking to expand the ASAP workforce so we can offer a wider variety of services, provide more intensive treatment over longer periods of time and explore alternative prevention and treatment techniques.

Now more than ever the Army needs civilians to step up and lend a hand to those who have sacrificed so much to defend our freedom.

IMCOM is enlisting the aid of civilians through several measures to address the needs of our active duty, reserve, and guard Soldiers, retirees, and their family members.

As an incentive to join the Army ASAP team, we are joining hands with universities across the nation to support post-graduate education by offering exciting new opportunities, such as the new clinical internship program, tuition reimbursement, salary and supervision towards licensure and hiring, relocation and retention bonuses.

**"We are joining hands with universities to support post-graduate education by offering clinical internships, tuition reimbursement, supervision towards licensure and hiring and bonuses."**

–Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, IMCOM Commander

In addition, the Army is expediting the hiring process to get qualified candidates on board faster.

The Army also offers competitive benefits and advantages, including life and health insurance plans; 13 paid vacation days with the ability to increase to 26 per year; 10 paid holidays and retirement benefits including a 401K-type government matching program.

But most importantly, an ASAP counselor will serve our country, help our heroes heal and build the strength of our nation, our Soldiers and their families.

If you or anyone you know is interested in making a difference in a Soldier's life, please go to [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) or [www.armycivilianservice.com](http://www.armycivilianservice.com) and apply for job series 0180 and 0185.

Or call toll free (stateside civilian) 001-877-880-2184 for information.

For information, visit these three sites online: <http://medcell.army.mil>, [www.imcom.army.mil/hq](http://www.imcom.army.mil/hq), [www.facebook.com/InstallationManagementCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/InstallationManagementCommunity).

Our promise is to ensure no Army family has to face the challenges of dealing with substance abuse alone. I encourage you to join our team and help a hero heal.



[www.facebook.com/BWnow](http://www.facebook.com/BWnow)  
<http://myBWnow.ning.com>

## DISCUSSION BOARD

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

Posted yesterday on BWnow's Facebook page:  
**The Heidelberg Health Center's Same Day Surgery department will close permanently May 1 and the Acute Care Clinic will be closed Sundays beginning April 24.**

"Wow. That s ... So what happens if we have an emergency on a Sunday?"

– Ellie Bunker, BWnow Facebook fan

"Hi Ellie, just saw your message and want to clarify. The Acute Care Clinic is for non-life threatening issues. In the event you have an emergency any day of the week, you should go to the nearest host nation emergency room. The Nurse Advice Line is also available at 00800-4759-2330 to answer

questions or make appointments with your primary care provider."

–Heidelberg MEDDAC Administrator

"Bike to work April 21 to mark Earth Day."

–BWnow Administrator

"... Ride to work is a great way to get healthy!"

–Peter Buttner, 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.

# Defense posture changes for U.S. forces in Europe

## Three brigade combat teams to remain, four until 2015

**DOD Public Affairs**

The Department of Defense announced Friday that it is revising its 2004 plan to withdraw two of its four brigade combat teams from Europe.

Based on the administration's review, consultations with allies and the findings of NATO's new Strategic Concept, the department will retain three BCTs in Europe to maintain a flexible and rapidly deployable ground force to fulfill U.S. commitments to NATO, to engage effectively with allies and partners and to meet the broad range of 21st century challenges.

The three BCTs remaining in Europe after 2015 – the heavy, stryker and airborne BCTs – offer capabilities that enable U.S. European Command to build partner capacity and to meet interoperability objectives while supporting the full range of military operations, including collective defense of our NATO allies under Article 5 of the Washington Treaty.

This BCT mix will be complemented by other capability enhancements including the forward deployment of Aegis ships, land-based missile defense systems in Poland and Romania as part of the European Phased Adaptive Approach, forward-stationing of special operations aircraft and a permanent aviation detachment in Poland.

Taken together, these measures will enhance and rebalance the U.S. force posture in Europe to make it more capable, more effective and better aligned with current and future security challenges.

No decision has been made regarding which BCT will be affected. The change will not be implemented until 2015, according to a U.S. Army Europe press release.

"Europe is a strategic location from which we can support operations throughout this hemisphere while we work with our allies and partners," said U.S. Army Europe Commander Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling. "So our goal is to be postured to respond to the wide range of challenges emerging in the 21st century."

"We will continue to work closely with host nation officials to maintain and strengthen our cooperation," Hertling said. "As we continue to look for transformational effectiveness, we will ensure that our Soldiers, family members, civilian employees, and our hosts are kept apprised of this process."

The brigade combat teams currently assigned to U.S. Army Europe are the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, and the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment.

NOTE: USAREUR Public Affairs contributed to this report.



Sgt. Mark Arnett and Spc. Kathy Ogburn, military police officers from U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern, look over a lesson plan for the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. National DARE Day was April 7.

# Military police dare to make a difference in fifth graders' lives

By Rick Scavetta  
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As Sgt. Mark Arnett wraps up his tenure teaching kids about the effects of drugs and alcohol, he can look back knowing he made an impact on children's lives.

For the past two years, Arnett has taught the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program in the Kaiserslautern Military Community's four elementary schools.

"It's been great for me to see the difference DARE is making in kids' lives," Arnett said. "The light bulb goes on and the wheels are turning."

Since 1983, DARE has taught millions of students worldwide about the effects of alcohol and drugs.

Each April, National DARE Day is commemorated in the States by a presidential proclamation, community events and activities. This year, it was April 7.

It's been a few weeks since Arnett, 29, of Libertyville, Ill., wrapped up his final class. Still, when kids see him in the community, they ask Arnett to come back.

"That's rewarding, to know that they learned and that it was a fun experience for them," Arnett said.

While at Fort Myer, Va., Arnett shook hands with kids as "Mc-

Gruff the Crime Dog." But he'd never been in front of a classroom. As Kaiserslautern's DARE instructor, Arnett learned the subtleties of teaching.

"As a Soldier, you instruct your peers," Arnett said. "It's totally different in front of fifth graders, trying to get them to listen to you."

Department of Defense Dependents Schools students complete 10 lessons over several weeks, working from DARE planners, Arnett said. Weekly lessons often include acting out skits on peer pressure and watching videos about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

In Europe, where beer and wine are often part of the local culture, alcohol is easier to obtain at a younger age. Children living overseas know about that, Arnett said.

"We stress the impact alcohol has on young bodies, the adverse effects that it can have," Arnett said. "Kids are pretty smart," Arnett said. "They know it's bad for you, just not how bad it can be."

What kids learn in DARE can have a ripple effect within their families. One Kaiserslautern fifth-grader recently brought her lessons home and helped her mother quit smoking, Arnett said.

Staffing a DARE officer at KMC

schools make sense, as police in military communities mirror the work of their civilian counterparts, said Master Sgt. Kenneth Pryor, 37, of Greensboro, N.C., the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern provost sergeant.

"It gives us an opportunity to have an officer go into the classroom, so the kids don't just see a police officer as a cop," Pryor said. "It humanizes the individual."

In February, Lt. Col. Kevin Hutchison, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern, spoke at the graduation of Kaiserslautern Elementary School's class. He thanked Arnett for his efforts in making the DARE program successful in the KMC.

"He is the face of DARE in our community," Hutchison said.

Arnett departs Kaiserslautern soon for Fort Knox, Ky., where he will serve with the 1st Infantry Division. He'll now pass the reigns to Spc. Kathy Ogburn.

In less than four years as a military police officer, Ogburn, 22, of Carrollton, Ky., has already served on patrol at Fort Hood, Texas, and helped train local police in Afghanistan's Panjshir valley. She's excited about taking on a new challenge, she said.

"I've worked the road and I've deployed," Ogburn said. "Now, I get a chance to do something completely different."

Rick Scavetta

## transformation UPDATE

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Have a transformation-related question you'd like answered?** E-mail [usaghd.post@eur.army.mil](mailto:usaghd.post@eur.army.mil). We'll find the answer for you and share it in the Herald Post and on the garrison's transformation Web page at [www.bw.eur.army.mil/transformation](http://www.bw.eur.army.mil/transformation).

**I keep hearing different dates for when Tompkins Barracks is scheduled to close – 2015 was put out last year when base closures were announced, but now I have heard 2012. Can you help shed some light on this for me?**

Tompkins Barracks will close no later than November 2012. Prior to that time, closures of facilities will take place. Nearby Kilbourne Barracks is scheduled to be vacated by December.

**I am wondering how in the world everybody is going to move around once we get into Erbenheim? Given the traffic situation outside the gate right now there's practically a standstill in the city. Moving everybody up there (to Wiesbaden) seems to make as much sense to me as relocating the forces to midtown Manhattan. So what's the plan to move everybody around?**

The garrison is working with the city of Wiesbaden and the Hessen traffic planners to improve the exit from B455 to accommodate more vehicles. Design is underway for a new access control point, which will have four lanes, plus a separate truck inspection lane. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2012. On post, a ring road around the installation is being constructed to facilitate the flow of traffic and a 1,100-space parking structure will be completed by November. Another 900-space parking structure is being designed to support the remaining two facilities that will be constructed.

**How is Wiesbaden preparing to accommodate the additional people?**

Wiesbaden has a lot of construction ongoing including a large facility that will be a 1,200 work station operational facility called the Command Battle Center to host all of the headquarters elements. It is scheduled to be completed in March of next year and ready for occupancy in the summer of 2012. Renovations of existing facilities have taken place over the past three years and most of the military intelligence and signal units have moved into them. Some additional renovation of facilities are ongoing for the anticipated arrival of USAREUR and V Corps elements. In the design phase are two more facilities, one for intelligence and one for signal. Those facilities start construction later this year if funded by the U.S. Congress. For more information about Wiesbaden construction, see <http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunior/Archive/WebAug2709/Transformation.htm>.

**Is there enough base housing in Wiesbaden?**

Wiesbaden has projects ongoing that are quality of life improvements that were due at this time regardless of who was going to be there. A family entertainment bowling center has been completed and a new Army lodging facility has opened. There have been numerous housing renovation projects and a new 326 dwelling unit housing area that's being built on the southern edge of the airfield. The coming year will see the start of a new Exchange complex.

**There are individuals who are not receiving LQA currently. If they move to Wiesbaden, will they be eligible for LQA, based on the management-directed reassignment?**

Management directed reassignments have certain components associated with them. Regarding Living Quarters Allowance, no determination has been made but it is being considered as plans to inactivate move forward. Once more is known about LQA for management-directed moves, we will get the information out in the Herald Post and on our Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/bwnow>) and BWNOW websites (<http://mybwnow.ning.com>).

**I just got hired for a new position in Heidelberg. I'm currently living in Kaiserslautern. The cost of living in Heidelberg is considerably higher than in Kaiserslautern and I'm led to believe that this is largely associated with LQA that is provided to some people. When people move from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden, I'm sure rents in that area will increase considerably once the local renters know that the government is paying the rent for the**

**employees. I'm wondering if they consider giving even a half LQA to those of us that don't receive it and that have to move to higher rent areas?**

It's true that Wiesbaden is a considerably higher rent district for housing. While there are no regulatory provisions for granting pro-rated Living Quarters Allowance at the present time, individuals need to take this through the chain of command and make sure your concerns are understood. Garrison and housing officials are working together to make sure appropriate controls are in place to ensure Americans are treated equally as far as rent payments go.

**How will the relocation affect the five-year rotation, if the employees are willing to move to Wiesbaden? Will they be required to enroll in PPP, utilize their return rights, or will they be allowed to extend? If they're allowed to extend, how long will they be allowed to extend?**

Individuals who have reached the end of their five-year terms normally enter the Priority Placement Program or exercise their return rights, if any, unless for some reason an extension is granted to the five-year period. Extensions are a management decision. The length of an extension is also normally a management decision. In relation to transformation, management will look at individual situations closely to determine the best course of action. Individuals need to talk to their supervisors to ensure they understand each individual case.

**With all the personnel moving to Wiesbaden, is there any plan to either expand the medical clinic there or to build a new one? Many of the patients from there who come to Heidelberg complain the Wiesbaden clinic is much too small and access to care for civilians is limited.**

The Wiesbaden medical facilities are being reviewed to determine how to best support the projected increase in population. Efforts are underway to increase the number of exam rooms to improve efficiency for primary care, but the number of Primary Care Managers also drives capacity. The clinic encourages family members to see their assigned Primary Care Managers for optimum quality of care, but sometimes patients cannot see their PCMs on the date or time they wish. The priority of effort goes to active duty and active duty family members but civilians and retirees not enrolled to a PCM always have the option of using the space available option.

**For Soldiers currently authorized to live in off post housing – will this still be authorized when we move to the Wiesbaden area or will they be forced back into military housing?**

Housing assignments generally follow the USAREUR housing policy which states enlisted service members E-6 and below must live on post and E-7 and above may choose to live off post. Housing appointments for incoming personnel assigned to USAG BW are now handled at the Community Support Center, Bldg. 3850 on the Shopping Center Kaserne in Heidelberg.

### Facilities Operations Changes

**Mannheim Education Center** – The Education Center on Sullivan Barracks will be open from May through July with classes running as long as class minimums are achieved. The center will be open Monday-Friday (except USAREUR training holidays). A counselor will be on site 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and remote counseling will be available 1:30-4:30 p.m. The center is closed 12:30-1:30 p.m. A night monitor will open and close the education center for evening classes 6-10:30 p.m.

**Herald Post** – The Herald Post will now be delivered to Sembach Kaserne. Drop-off locations are the shoppette, commissary and gas station.

**Mannheim Personal Property Processing** – The Mannheim Personal Property Processing office, also known as the Transportation office will close tomorrow (April 15). Mannheim customers will use the Heidelberg Personal Property Processing Office in Bldg. 3850, room 267. Hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday. The office is closed daily 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Exiting Mannheim** – The exit gate at Friendship Circle on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim has changed hours for traffic leaving the installation. The gate opens for exiting traffic and pedestrians (exiting

and entering) at 6 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m.

**Mannheim Customs Field Office** – The Customs office in Mannheim is now located in Bldg. 256 (the Military Police station).

**Mannheim Army Community Service** – Army Community Services will move from Bldg. 255 into Bldg. 246 May 16. The ACS Lending Closet services will relocate from Bldg. 250 into Bldg. 246 Monday.

**One number, two communities** – The 24-hour sexual assault and domestic violence hotline is now valid for Mannheim and Heidelberg. The Mannheim-specific number is no longer valid. The hotline for both communities is civ. 0170-609-2862.

**Parent Central Services** – Mannheim's Parent Central Services and Family Child Care have relocated to the Youth Services Bldg. 696 with new hours: 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Phone numbers remain the same: DSN 380-9135, civ. 0621-730-9132.

**Tompkins Launderette** – The launderette on Tompkins Barracks is closed due to low usage. Many Soldiers have washers and dryers available in their barracks and a large launderette is located on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg in Bldg. 4517, across from the Teen Center.

**AAFES Gas Station** – The gas station in Mannheim on Benjamin Franklin Village South will change its operating hours June 1. New hours will be 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturdays and 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sundays.

**Popeyes and Taco Bell** – Beginning July 1, Popeyes and Taco Bell on Benjamin Franklin Village South in Mannheim will be closed Mondays.

**Coleman Shoppette** – The shoppette on Coleman Barracks in Mannheim has expanded its hours to 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday and U.S. holidays.

**Mark Twain Village Shoppette** – The shoppette on Mark Twain Village in Heidelberg will close June 3. The Campbell Barracks shoppette will expand its hours on weekends – 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays – to support the Soldiers and family members who live on MTV.

**Burger King** – Burger King on the Shopping Center in Heidelberg will close May 30.

**Subway** – The Subway restaurant on Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim will close May 20 and reopen on the Shopping Center in Heidelberg June 13.

**Spinelli furniture** – The furniture store on Spinelli Barracks in Mannheim will close June 27. Some furniture has moved into the Exchange on Benjamin Franklin Village South.

**Mannheim Drivers' Testing** – Mannheim's Drivers' Testing Station located on Sullivan Barracks, Bldg 253, has closed. All drivers' testing services are offered in Heidelberg on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, room 136, with operating hours 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 370-7889, civ. 06221 57-6681.

**Mannheim to Heidelberg Shuttle Buses** – Mannheim's community shuttle bus service now stops at the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Central Processing Facility located on the Shopping Center in Heidelberg in Bldg. 3850. The bus stop at the Heidelberg Community Support Center also serves as the hub for the Heidelberg community shuttle bus that serves Tompkins Barracks, Patrick Henry Village, Mark Twain Village and Patton Barracks. Shuttle buses run four times a day, Monday through Friday, from Coleman, Spinelli and Sullivan Barracks and the hotel on Benjamin Franklin Village to the Shopping Center in Heidelberg and the Heidelberg Medical Clinic on Nachrichten Kaserne. Signs posted in bus stops indicate times and routes. Schedules are available at the in and out processing center, from building coordinators and at the hotel on Benjamin Franklin Village. The shuttle is for Soldiers to conduct official business. However, if space is available, family members and civilians can also ride. DSN 373-6410, civ. 06221-17-6410.

## Partner up for safety

By Anne Bowman  
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. Army in Europe is teaming up with German officials to kick off the 2011 "Fight the Risk" safety campaign in April.

USAREUR's goal for the campaign is to lower civilian, military and family member traffic and transportation-related accidents and their severity by raising safety awareness both on and off military installations throughout Europe.

"Fight the Risk" organizers want to reduce the accident numbers in three areas.

- ♦Traffic accidents involving military members, civilians or family members in motorized, wheeled vehicles and accidents involving non-motorized, wheeled, recreational vehicles that require a helmet under U.S. regulations – such as bicycles, skateboards and rollerblades

- ♦On and off post vehicle mishaps of all types
- ♦Materials transportation and associated handling accidents

"The 'Fight the Risk' campaign is about getting realistic risk identification and management in the forefront of peoples thoughts. Using good, factual information and experience are keys in making this happen," said Dave Scott, USAREUR's chief of safety.

Another key aspect of the campaign is starting conversations about safety, Scott said.

"On the family side and on the Soldier/employee side of the house, it's very important to get that awareness going, so that it's an integral, self-motivated 24 hour-a-day, seven day-a-week routine," Scott said.

The "Fight the Risk" campaign runs until June 2012 and includes a "Fight the Risk" website [www.fight-the-risk.army.mil](http://www.fight-the-risk.army.mil) where there is information about how one can be proactive in risk prevention.

## Faces of the community: Mannheim commissary



Donna Walker

Nora Doman, a 23-year employee at the Mannheim commissary on Benjamin Franklin Village, bags rolls at the bakery. The commissary experienced a 30 percent increase in sales Friday when government workers, including commissary employees and customers, expected to be furloughed beginning noon Saturday. Store manager Angel Garcia said the commissary received word late Friday evening that it would have been exempted from closure if a furlough had occurred. Mannheim commissary hours are 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and closed Monday. DSN 385-3940, civ. 0621-728-3611.

## Program aims to ensure safety at off-post establishments

*Surveys spotlight places that host 50 or more U.S. personnel on a regular basis*

By Dijon Rolle  
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Living in Europe affords many Americans the unique opportunity to take advantage of the local culture, and savor the sights and sounds of their host nation country. However, along with these opportunities, come an increased level of responsibility and awareness.

Last September, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg anti-terrorism officials, in coordination with U.S.

Army Europe in Heidelberg, began testing a pilot program called the Off-post Activity Assessment Program.

It's designed to identify security concerns at local establishments such as night clubs, restaurants, hotels and places of religious worship routinely frequented by U.S. personnel.

"The purpose is to identify security concerns we may have that could be a detriment to our American community here," said Tim Harmon USAG Baden-Württemberg physical security specialist. "What we do is make recommendations to the managers and supervisors of these places for improvement. We also like to see where we can offer a hand in improving security for our American personnel that do visit these locations, as well as for the local nationals community." It's another way that we can work together to

ensure the safety of the overall community," he said.

The program allows specialists in the security, safety and intelligence fields to collaborate and coordinate with local national law enforcement and host nation owners of popular off-post establishments, Harmon added.

It targets off-post establishments known to host a population of 50 or more U.S. personnel on a regular basis and it also works in conjunction with the garrison's iWatch program.

"iWatch is not only limited to the American community. We also like to invite our host nation community to be active in the program when we're out doing these assessments. It allows the owners and managers of these places to have a point of contact if something does seem suspicious, and it's also a way to

make sure our folks have access to iWatch information wherever they go," he said. During an assessment, a small team usually made up of a physical security specialist, an anti-terrorism officer and a local national police escort visit the off post establishment. With the owner's permission, they use a comprehensive checklist to survey the inside and outside of the building and parking areas.

"We start from the outside and work our way in," Harmon said. "We look at how close the parking areas are to the building, the vicinity of a main road or autobahn and how well lit the parking areas are. We also look at the basic structure of the building to see if it's wood or if it's brick, if there's adequate lighting at all entrances and exits of the exterior. We see if there is some type of access control,

whether it's a guard or someone at the door checking ID cards or an entrance with a secret pin number or card."

Other things the team checks for are security cameras, emergency exits, working fire extinguishers and proximity to host nation hospitals and emergency services.

The assessment usually takes about an hour and the findings are reported to the garrison. Officials from the establishment are also briefed on the results and presented with possible solutions if problems are found. So far, teams have gone to sites in Heidelberg and Mannheim, and there are plans to possibly take the program to the Kaiserslautern community.

For information on the Off post Activity Assessment, the iWatch program or other anti-terrorism resources, visit [www.bw.eur.army.mil/iwatch](http://www.bw.eur.army.mil/iwatch).

## Units recognized for supply, maintenance, deployment operations

### USAREUR Public Affairs

U.S. Army Europe and the Installation Management Command Europe honored units and organizations for their excellence in the areas of supply, maintenance and deployment operations during a Combined Logistics Excellence Awards ceremony at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg April 5.

The awards ceremony recognizes the best logisticians in Europe three multiple categories: the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence, the Supply Excellence Award and the Deployment Excellence Award.

Brig. Gen. Paul Wentz, the USAREUR deputy chief of staff for logistics, or G4, commended the assembled winners by reminding them of the words of Sun Tzu, the ancient Chinese general, strategist and philosopher.

Tzu summed up the value of military logistics by calling

it "the line between order and disorder."

USAREUR commander Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling provided another adage on the value of logistics; one that has been attributed to a host of military leaders, from Clausewitz and Napoleon to Omar Bradley.

"Amateurs study tactics, while professionals study logistics," he said.

Hertling saluted the winners, pointing to initiatives such as the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's push to reinforce the Task Force Harvest, a property accountability program, as "exactly the kinds of things we need to be looking at."

At the same time, he challenged logisticians to work at doing the important things the right way, instead of trying to do everything.

"Let's make our Army the leanest and most effective it can be," Hertling said.

Win or lose, just taking part in the CLEA makes processes and



Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett

Sgt. Wayne D. Salas, right, a supply sergeant with the V Corps Special Troops Battalion, reviews his property turn-in paperwork with Spc. William J. Lewis, an automated logistics specialist with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command last October as part of Task Force Harvest, a property accountability effort.

organizations better, Hertling added, by improving readiness and efficiency, reinforcing good uses of resources and saving money.

Each award is earned on the strength of an entry packet that contains the unit or organization's profile and descriptions of its achievements during the previous 12 months, followed by on-site evaluations by recognized experts in each field.

Following competition at the Europe level, some of the awardees will go on to compete for Department of the Army-level awards.

### Local Awardees

#### Army Award for Maintenance Excellence

Large:  
Maintenance Activity Kaiserslautern, Theater Logistics Center-Europe, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern

#### Deployment Excellence Award

Best Participating Unit Small Deploying Category:  
Delta Detachment, 106th Financial Management Company, 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern

#### Supply Excellence Award

MTOE Property Book Operations:  
Property Book Office, 21st Special Troops Battalion, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern

# AFAP Heidelberg and Mannheim AFAP issues

## Army Family Action Plan

The Mannheim and Heidelberg communities identified major issues of concern at the February AFAP conference. The command prioritized 13 issues. One issue is featured in the Herald Post each week. **Next week:** Lunch programs in DODDS schools.

## Issue: IP addresses for Soldiers overseas

### Scope

On overseas installations, servicemembers with Internet service are issued host nation Internet provider addresses. Companies providing online services from the United States are not able to identify these IP addresses as belonging to American users on U.S. installations. Overseas servicemembers are therefore denied access to many U.S.-provided online services.

### Recommendation

◆ Develop an online system that has a constantly updating list of current IP addresses for servicemembers on overseas posts.

### Command position

"This issue was brought up by the single Soldiers work group who want the same Internet services available to them as those who live stateside," said U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Commander Col. Bill Butcher. "For example, if Soldiers want to watch a Netflix movie online, they receive the message, 'Not available in your country' and yet they pay the same fees as those who receive the service in the states. The recommendation to provide an Internet provider address that recognizes users as living in the United States would allow military members overseas to receive equal service."

## What do you think?

Express your opinion of this issue on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/bwnow](http://www.facebook.com/bwnow)) and BWnow (<http://myBWnow.ning.com>) by answering the Question of the Week: Have you ever been denied access to an Internet service or product in Germany that was readily accessible in the United States?

### BWnow feedback on last week's issue: Compensation Gap Between Officers, NCOs

**Question: Do you think Congress should take a look at the compensation gap between officers and NCOs with more than 10 years of active duty?**

"No. College tuition has been covered at 100

percent for over 11 years now for active duty service members. The ability to access course-ware online has also enhanced opportunities to succeed in furthering education and career. If a military member chooses to take one path over another, one opportunity cost is pay. It is a known, even before

you join the military."

—Joey Hernandez, BWnow Facebook fan

"Yes, someone having four years of college does not give them the experience of a 10-year line Soldier. Plus, to make E5 and E6 in today's Army, one needs

to max out civilian education for promotion points (associate or bachelor's degree). I know a few E7s and up with master's degrees, so they should take a look at this gap."

—Tina, USAG Mannheim Facebook fan



Benjamin Faske

Four teams of Sapper competitors are loaded onto a Blackhawk helicopter and flown to the helocast drop zone during phase two of the Best Sapper competition on Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The Best Sapper competition, a grueling six-phase, three-day test, determines the best engineers in the Army.

**our**ARMY  
around the world

For more Army news,  
visit [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)



Staff Sgt. Tanya Thomas

Pfc. Diamond Madison helps fit a pediatric wheelchair to a disabled child at the Anbar Operations Center, in Anbar province, Iraq, April 2. Madison is with Charlie Company, 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Advise and Assist Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division.



U.S. Army

Spc. Marc Whittaker, 529th Military Police Company and a native of Livingston, Texas, holds back his military working dog Anax while Senior Airman Erin Simes, a canine handler attached to Task Force Duke and a native of Robins Air Force Base, Ga., acts as a decoy during an end of leash drill at Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan, April 5. The three portions of training involve detection, obedience and patrol skills. Scenarios incorporated real-life distracters to get the dog accustomed to them before going into the field.



U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Will Gingras pulls security at the gate of the Shah Joy Boys School, Zabul province, Afghanistan, while engineers from Provincial Reconstruction Team Zabul inspect construction at the new school Saturday. The school will house 20 classrooms and replace the old school next door. Gingras is assigned to PRT Zabul's security force.

## Landstuhl Soldier wins Army award

By Chuck Roberts

LANDSTUHL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Daniel Bridon has been received the U.S. Army Medical Department Mercury Award for Information Management/Information Technology Professional of the Year.

Bridon, Chief Information Officer for Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, was cited for his impact while deployed to Afghanistan last year while still assigned as the Health Information Systems and Communications Officer for 30th Medical Command.

The 36-year-old native of Buffalo, N.Y., was the first MEDCOM communications officer to take responsibility for the entire joint medical IT footprint in Operation Enduring Freedom during a period of rapid expansion of medical forces in Afghanistan.

He spearheaded the single greatest expansion of health information systems and medical communications in OEF history, significantly improving combat casualty care across Combined Joint Operational Area – Afghanistan.

His leadership and vision was cited for ensuring the rapid growth of proper inpatient and outpatient electronic medical records use. By the end of



U.S. Army  
Maj. Daniel Bridon, center, discusses the benefits of the deployed electronic health record with 1st Lt. Thaddeus Witenan, right, and Sgt. Timothy Kusik at Craig Joint Theater Hospital in Bagram, Afghanistan.

his deployment, electronic encounters entered into the system had increased by more than 500 percent from the previous year.

Bridon now serves as chief information officer for LPMC and seven Army Health Centers in Belgium, Germany and Italy.

"I am driven by the knowledge that technology can make providers of healthcare more efficient and effective in their treatment of wounded warriors, and we can capture every healthcare episode for the benefit of the servicemember, whether on active duty, transitioning back to the Reserves, or moving to well-deserved continuing medical care from the Department of Veterans Affairs," said Bridon.

## Seminar explains Army life

ACS Marketing

Heidelberg and Mannheim Army Community Service announce an Army Family Team Building Spring Fling 9 a.m.-3 p.m. April 25-29.

Army Family Team Building, originally designed by spouses for spouses, is a family training and readiness program that provides participants with an understanding of Army culture and the skills and resources they need to become self-reliant, self-sufficient members of the military community.

"This seminar is great if you're new to the Army, but even if you're not new to Army life, it's a great opportunity to refresh your skills. You will gain the knowledge and resources needed to become strong community leaders," said Christina Callaghan, ACS division chief. "It's a great way to earn promotion points, enhance your resume, meet new people and challenge yourself to reach new heights."

The seminar allows for personal growth and professional development, said Dawn Sykulla, ACS marketing specialist. "It will empower participants with knowledge and skill to become self-sufficient members of our Army community," she said. "It's also a great volunteer opportunity. After completing levels 1, 2 and 3, you can become a certified AFTB instructor."

AFTB is open to ID card holders. Pre-registration is required. Child care is available.

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# Into the Forest... Earth Week Activities

April 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

\* Featured Event

## Earth Week – April 18-22

**Heidelberg Shopping Center** – The Exchange will set up a bike tent in front of the annex for information on bicycles and gear to include discounts and giveaways

**Art Exhibit** – The Arts and Cultural Center in Heidelberg hosts a display of the environmental art of local children (April 18-23)

**Libraries** – The libraries on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg and Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim feature a weeklong display of environmental books and recycled art and sculptures

**Patrick Henry Elementary School Litter Cleanup** – Students pick up and sort litter according to type and use the data in academic projects

**Bird and Bat Boxes** – Heidelberg elementary students construct bird and bat boxes for local species, some of which are protected under German law

**Pollution Prevention Audits** – Participating installation volunteers can audit their buildings using a checklist

**Eco-Effect Energy Audits** – Select high school students enrolled in Heidelberg Child, Youth and School Services perform energy audits of garrison buildings

**Water Conservation Education** – Children at the Heidelberg Child Development Center learn about water and water conservation

**Clean Up Picnic Area** – Boy Scout Troop 26 cleans the picnic and campsite areas at Germersheim Army Depot

Date	Event	Description	Location	Time
April 18	Heidelberg Middle School field trip	Students walk through larger-than-life waste tunnel and learn about the processes involved in biodegradation	Wieblingen Compost Plant	9 a.m.-noon
	Recycled Art Class	Recycled art allows students to balance their eco-mindedness with a passion for artistic creation	Patrick Henry Village Elementary School, Heidelberg	11 a.m.-2 p.m.
	Trash pickup	Students clean up litter around the school and the community	Mannheim Middle School	all day
	Implementing a recycling bin system	Students create recycling bins and implement a recycling system in the hallways	Mannheim Middle School	all day
April 19	* Jakob Becker (Gelber Sack or Yellow Bag) field trip	Heidelberg High School students visit the Jakob Becker recycling plant in Worms to see how yellow bag items such as plastics, foils and metals enter the facility and get sorted	Jakob Becker Plant (Worms)	9 a.m.-noon
	* Recycling Center Open House	Visit the Open House at Recycling Center: Enjoy planting sunflowers and learning about tropical insects, "nature's recyclers"	Patrick Henry Village Recycling Center, Heidelberg	10 a.m.-3 p.m.
	Earth Expo	Fourth and fifth graders explore humankind's impact on our world starting with the Stone Age, presented by Dr. Ilka Braendle of the Kurpfälzisches Museum in Heidelberg	Patrick Henry Elementary School Gym, Heidelberg	10 a.m.-1 p.m.
April 20	Plant a School Garden	Students explore our impact on other animal species and natural resources. They will then plant a garden with local flowers to provide a habitat to native plant and animal species and re-seed grass in locations where it has eroded	Benjamin Franklin Village, Mannheim	all day
	Heidelberg forest rangers tour	Heidelberg high school students in Roots and Shoots, a Jane Goodall Institute program, tour the local forest eco-system with Heidelberg forest rangers	City of Heidelberg	9 a.m.-noon
	Chalk drawing contest	Elementary students create Earth Week chalk drawings (cancelled if raining)	Heidelberg Commissary	9:40 a.m.-11 a.m.
	Flower Pot Decoration	First graders will create Earth Day flower pots and learn how to plant seeds	Patrick Henry Elementary School	1:45-3 p.m.
	BOSS Cheap Eats Earth Week Eco-Cooking Class	Enjoy a cooking class and help prepare food for hungry Soldiers and their guests.	BOSS, Schuetzenhaus (Eppelheim)	class 5-6:30 p.m. dinner 6 p.m.
April 21	* Bike To Work	Military Police bicyclists escort riders to Patton and Campbell Barracks	Burger King lot, Patrick Henry Village	7-7:15 a.m.
	Water Education Program	Middle School students experience a special water education program	Heidelberg Middle School	to be announced
	* Dirty Sock Contest	Teachers place clean white socks over their vehicle exhaust pipes to reveal air pollution. Students use the scientific method and create posters for display	Mannheim Middle School	to be announced
	Energy-free 15 minutes	Electricity will be turned off in the school for 15 minutes.	Mannheim Middle School	to be announced
	CUMACS Tour	Technology-minded Heidelberg high school students tour the CUMACS center from which utilities are monitored and controlled	Campbell Barracks, CUMACS	noon-12:30 p.m.
	Butterfly Garden Maintenance	Students weed, maintain and replant a butterfly garden planted during Earth Week 2009	Mark Twain Elementary School, Heidelberg	12:35-1:55 p.m.
	Article Contest	Language Arts classes will participate in an Earth Week article contest	Mannheim Middle School	
	Recycled Art Contest	The Art Department holds an Earth Week recycled art contest	Mannheim Middle School	
Kids' Drawing Class	Earth Week drawing class for kids aged 8-12 lets them express themselves through art and drawing	Arts and Cultural Center on Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg	3:30-5:30 p.m.	
April 22	Hemp Jewelry Making	For anyone over 12, learn the art of creating jewelry using hemp, a low maintenance plant used around the world as a renewable resource	Arts and Cultural Center on Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg	4:30-7 p.m.
April 23	* Block Party	Earth Week party with rock band "Crazy." A mobile dishwasher will be used instead of disposable plates.	Slapshots on Patton Barracks, Heidelberg	4-9 p.m.
	* Graffiti Wall Contest	Using spray paint and an eco-theme, teens compete for a grand prize	Lion's Den on Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg	4-7 p.m.
April 28	Eco-Effect Program	The Eco-Effect Program is based on the book "Eco Effect: The Greening of Money" by Neale S. Godfrey. Students perform energy audits on buildings, participate in the Eco-Effect Program and share their experiences in a world-wide teleconference. The goal of the Eco Effect is to connect ECONomics and ECOlogy to empower parents, teachers and children to learn, share and create positive social action at home, in school and in the community	Patton Barracks, Heidelberg	3-7 p.m.

## GERMAN NEWS

### Berlin Condemns Crackdown

The German government Monday slammed deadly crackdowns on peaceful demonstrators in Syria and called on Damascus to stop grave human rights violations. "The ongoing violence against protesters (in Syria) is alarming and shocking," government spokesman Steffen Seibert told a regular news briefing in a strongly worded statement. He said the flashpoints of violence in recent days "represented grave human rights violations by the Syrian government and its security forces." Anti-regime demonstrations and clashes with security forces raged across the country Friday leaving 28 dead, including 26 in Daraa, according to an updated toll by six Syrian rights groups. On Sunday, witnesses said government forces killed at least four people and wounded 17 in the coastal town of Banias.

### Planned EU Diesel Tax Hike Blasted

Transport Minister Peter Ramsauer on Monday slapped down a European Union plan to raise the tax on diesel. "The regulatory frenzy from Brussels must have an end. The president of Germany's largest automobile club, ADAC, told the daily Bild that ever more gouging-ideas were driving motorists to ruin. "Relief through a hike in commuter tax breaks or cuts in the green tax really have to be discussed," he said. "Otherwise, motorists will revolt." The European Commission, the executive body of the EU, reportedly plans to announce an overhaul of fuel taxes that would gradually raise the levy on the energy content of diesel. According to some media reports, the plan could raise the tax per liter on diesel from 47 cents to 75 cents by 2020.

### Police Warn of Fixed Mileage

Police warn that a European odometer "mafia" is manipulating mileage on used cars – costing consumers more than €6 billion annually. One third of the more than 6 million used cars sold in Germany are affected, according to a Sunday report. Violators face up to a year in jail, as well as fines but the transport ministry cited enforcement problems. Once the law against mileage-fixing took effect in 2005, criminals simply started working outside of Germany. Police calculated that consumers who buy pre-owned vehicles with falsified mileage overpay by €3,000 on average. Some rental car agencies, private car sellers and taxi companies have also clocked odometers on vehicles.

SOURCE: [www.thelocal.de](http://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](mailto:dearmsvicki@yahoo.com).

Dear Ms. Vicki,

*I have a personal dilemma that really has me pondering if I'm right or wrong. My son is 27 years old and I'm 51. He was in the Army for six years. He did not reenlist last year, so it's been almost a year since he's been out. He attends college full-time and also works full-time.*

*He has been very generous with me. I have always worked hard to take care of him and me, but about two years ago I was laid off of my job because of the Base Realignment and Closure. I was making over \$50,000 a year. I could have relocated to another position but I became ill. I have recovered but not 100 percent and I receive a monthly disability of about \$900.*

*My son has been amazing. He is basically paying the mortgage because I was in foreclosure. He saved my home. He also helps out with the utilities, food and upkeep of the home. There is no way I could make it without him.*

*We get along great except for one*

*issue. His girlfriend is here all the time. She even wants to stay here (in his room) even when my son is not home.*

*Why, is she doing this? I don't need her company. She spends the night and makes herself at home in the kitchen cooking and even doing her laundry. I told my son I think it's disrespectful for his girlfriend to spend the night. I've never heard anything like sexual noises, but I heard them having fun in the shower one morning.*

*Am I supposed to leave and let them have the house for the weekend? I've asked my son to get a hotel room or go to her house and spend the night with her. He said this is his home just as much as it is mine. He pays all the bills so I cannot look at him as a son on this issue but just as another person.*

*Is he right Ms. Vicki? He even had the nerve to say, "Well, your boyfriend spends the night." I'm his mother, not his buddy. Why can't he get this in his head? How can we solve this problem?*

*Mother or Just Another Buddy*

**Dear Buddy,**

Well you're right, it wouldn't make a difference if your 27-year-old son were an engineer, lawyer or school teacher, the issue would be the same. This is a tough situation.

How do you establish boundaries with your adult son with whom you are sharing the home?

Yes, you are the parent. I totally agree and I empathize with your situation. You're a 51-year-old woman who fell on hard times. You lost your employment due to downsizing and then faced a major illness. Now you are receiving less than \$1,000 in disability you need your son's income to help you keep your home out of foreclosure, purchase food and

other necessities.

In many ways I'm sure you've thought of your life as crumbling or spiraling downward. For this reason, I'm happy your son has been able to help you sustain your livelihood to some measure.

Conversely, from your son's point of view: He is 27, single, working full-time and attending college. He is also paying a mortgage, utilities, insurance, food and other costs for the upkeep of the home. In his mind, it's his home that he is sharing with his mother. He's not thinking that it's your home and he's a guest.

I'm sure he's not viewing this as a respect for his mother issue. He views you as a roommate. So how can you ask him not to bring his girlfriend to the house? Even more how can you say she can't spend the night? Your boyfriend spends the night, right?

Many multi-generational families are sharing homes to save money. This definitely sheds light on the many issues that can surface when parents share homes with their adult children. This may be an arrangement that you are not willing to contend with.

I think you should consider downsizing to a smaller living situation that you can afford without your son's financial assistance.

Try working with employment agencies and even taking some classes at your local community colleges that will lead to a professional certificate or diploma. My heart goes out to you. I wish you health and prosperity.

I hope you will be able to make it back to your earlier monetary earnings and even more. Tell your son that I said thank you so much for his sacrifice and service.

# Coalition honors military children all year long

By **Kathy Tone**

MCEC PARENT TO PARENT TEAM

April is the Month of the Military Child and there are numerous events in the community to reinforce the message to military children that they are celebrated and honored for the challenges that come with their unique lifestyle.

One organization is devoted to this mission all year long – the Military Child Education Coalition.

Like many great ideas, the inspiration for MCEC had a humble beginning. In 1996, a small group of concerned parents, educators and military members had a conversation around a kitchen table that would ultimately result in the creation of the Military Child Education Coalition.

Sandy Schwartz, retired Lt. Gen. Pete Taylor, Linda Pelton, Vicki Higgins and Dr. Mary Keller discussed the challenges frequent transitions pose during a military child's educational years.

They asked themselves, "How could school systems, communities and military installations work together with families to ensure military-connected students could meet these challenges?"

Retired Col. Paul Callen, Mary Jo Reimer and Patty Shinseki joined this ongoing search to answer the question and find a solution.

In 1997, Dr. Charles Patterson, then the Killeen Independent School District superintendent, suggested a conference where those concerned could share information and ideas to

support the military child.

Over 100 participants from across the nation attended and this working group inspired the idea for a permanent organization devoted to the needs of the military child.

Then in August 1998, the MCEC non-profit charter was fulfilled in the state of Texas. Soon after, Sandy Schwartz and Dr. Mary Keller were named co-chairs and the Military Child Education Coalition was officially born.

Today MCEC is a world-wide, non-profit organization which supports military children in all 50 states, Europe and the Far East. MCEC's programs and initiatives are designed to address all issues that affect military children – education, deployment and transitions.

MCEC's resources are available to anyone involved with military students – local and military communities, teachers, administrators, family support providers and children's first teachers, their parents. At the core of MCEC's philosophy is the recognition that service members' children face a myriad of challenges which can complicate their school years, but the experience builds resilience and confidence that will last a lifetime.

Some familiar MCEC programs in the local community are Parent to Parent, Student to Student, Tell Me a Story and many free workshops available to any group desiring information on military transitions that involve children's education.

For information on MCEC and its resources, visit [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org).

# GET OUT!

## area events

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

### April 14

**Orchestra Concert** – Tickets are now available now for the Paul Potts and Frankfurt New Philharmonic Orchestra concert. The concert is scheduled to be held at 8 p.m. Nov. 26 at Mannheim's Rosengarten. The tenor of "Britain's Got Talent" fame ("American Idol" equivalent) will tour Germany to promote his third album featuring classic tunes from classic movies, such as Breakfast at Tiffany's, Titanic and Doctor Zhivago. Tickets: civ. 0621-10-1011, [www.bb-promotion.com](http://www.bb-promotion.com) or [www.rhein-neckarticket.de](http://www.rhein-neckarticket.de) and at local ticket agents.

### April 15

**Frankfurt Fair** – Millions of people will be at the first open air fair of the year on the Festplatz am Ratsweg for Frankfurt's Spring Dippemess Fair. There is a huge fireworks displays, carousels, a rollercoaster, wine, beer and food. The fair is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. through May 8 at Festplatz am Ratsweg, Am Bornheimer Hang 4, 60386 Frankfurt.

### April 16

**German Soccer Match** – 1.FC Kaiserslautern hosts its first home game of the season featuring last year's European Champions league runners-up Bayern München at the Fritz-Walter Stadion, Fritz-Walter-Str. 1, 67663 Kaiserslautern. Season tickets and day tickets: [www.fck.de](http://www.fck.de).

**Munich Spring Beer Festival** – Think Oktoberfest, then shrink it. The Munich Spring Festival is sometimes called the "Kleine Wiesn" (Little Oktoberfest) or the "Kleine Schwester des Oktoberfestes" (Oktoberfest's Little Sister). The fest runs until May 2 and takes place on Munich's Theresienwiese. [www.buzzoffbase.com](http://www.buzzoffbase.com).

**International Easter Egg Market** – Luisepark in Mannheim hosts the International Market of Easter Eggs. Forty artists from around the world will showcase their different decorative eggs. Market is open 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. April 16 and 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. April 17.

### April 17

**Trey Songz Concert** – Rhythm and Blues singer Trey Songz will perform 8 p.m. at Huxley's Neue Welt in Berlin. Tickets are still available at [www.worldticketshop.com](http://www.worldticketshop.com).

**Blue Sunday** – The Top Hat on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim hosts Blue Sunday 5-9 p.m. Jam to some of your favorite blues and oldies songs with disc jockey Big Money. Free finger food.

### April 22

**Salsa Party** – Dance to the Latin Rhythms

of Disc Jockey Spike and show off some of your best salsa moves at the Top Hat Club in Mannheim 9 p.m. – 4 a.m.

**Garmisch Spring Fling** – Enjoy the beauty of Garmisch during a spring weekend getaway and "Spring in the Park" Zugspitze Park jam. Sign up available at Outdoor Recreation in Heidelberg on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 388-9282, civ. 06221-338-9282.

### April 23

**Easter Market** – Slip into spring at the Kaiserslautern Easter Market. Discover decorative and traditional arts and crafts such as wooden eggs, ceramics, lanterns made out of glass and leather goods. The market is located at Stadtmittel, Fackelstr. 1, 67655 Kaiserslautern.

**Dinner and Wine Tasting** – Discover medieval half-timbered houses surrounded by vineyards and dominated by the mighty 13th century castle Landshut. After a city orientation, you'll have time for shopping, exploring, and a light snack. Later on pay a visit to a family-owned Weingut where you'll be served a traditional German meal and given a tour of the vineyards. <http://affiliates.usa.org/kaiserslautern>.

### April 25

**Segway Tours** – See the sights of Nürnberg on a Segway tour. Segways are two-wheeled electrically powered vehicles that are operated by shifting your weight forwards and backwards to control speed and direction. Segway tour Nürnberg is located at Weißgerbergasse 10, 90403 Nürnberg in the center of town and offers two different tours. Call civ. 0911-93-3250 to book a tour. [www.segwaytour-nuernberg.de/index.html](http://www.segwaytour-nuernberg.de/index.html).

### April 27

**Roxette Concert** – Tickets are now on sale for the Roxette concert. The Swedish pop duo will play the SAP Arena in Mannheim, 8 p.m. Oct. 16. Tickets are on sale now at civ. 0621-1010 11, online at [www.rhein-neckarticket.de](http://www.rhein-neckarticket.de) or [www.bb-promotion.com](http://www.bb-promotion.com) and at local ticket agents.

### April 28

**Holland Tulip Tour** – Enjoy the beauty of Holland during tulip season. During this guided tour, take a visit to a wooden shoemaker, a cheese farm, an old fishing village and shop for the world famous Delft ware, lace and other Dutch specialties or visit the harbor and have lunch. <http://affiliates.usa.org/kaiserslautern>.

**Rihanna Concert** – Tickets are now on sale for pop star Rihanna's Frankfurt concert at the Festhalle 8 p.m. Oct. 26. [www.kartenkaufen.de](http://www.kartenkaufen.de) and at most local ticket agents.

[worldticketshop.com](http://worldticketshop.com).

### April 30

**Sound of Music Tour** – Come relive the magic of this all-time favorite movie during the 45th anniversary of its filming. Visit several of the sites made famous in the movie and enjoy the beauty of Salzburg and Berchtesgaden. <http://affiliates.usa.org/kaiserslautern>.

**Stuttgart Spring Festival** – Travel to Stuttgart for the Spring Festival, Europe's biggest and most attended festival that attracts 1.5 million guests to the Cannstatter Wesen fair grounds between mid April and the beginning of May. Enjoy modern and traditional fairground rides, side-shows, beer tents and catering stalls full of family fun and entertainment. <http://affiliates.usa.org/rheinmain/files>.

**Maimarkt** – Mannheim's May Fair, April 30 through May 10, boasts a tradition of over 400 years as a regional fair among Germany's largest. Over 1,400 vendors on the fairgrounds near Mannheim's SAP Arena offer everything from tools, building materials, livestock, home entertainment, travel information, sporting goods and farm supplies. The fair is open 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily. Advance tickets are now on sale. A good bargain is the VRN Maimarkt ticket which combines a public transportation return ticket from anywhere inside the VRN network available at more than 300 outlets in the region. [www.maimarkt.de](http://www.maimarkt.de).

### May 5

**Sade Concert** – Sade's European tour comes to Germany. The legendary songstress Sade and her band perform at the Festhalle Messa in Frankfurt 8 p.m. Tickets: [www.worldticketshop.com](http://www.worldticketshop.com).

### May 8

**Mother's Day Cruise** – Enjoy a trip on the Rhein river and cruise to the famous Loreley. You'll spot castles and beautiful scenery along this stretch of the Rhein. There will also be time for lunch, shopping and more sight seeing. <http://affiliates.usa.org/rheinmain>.

### Ongoing

**CATS Come to Play** – Tickets are on sale now for a German language version of the otherwise original CATS musical. The show will play in Mannheim May 27-June 12. Due to high demand, additional shows have recently been added beginning July 16. The shows will take place on Europaplatz in a unique custom-tailored tent which brings the audience closer to the circular stage. Tickets: civ. 0180-515-2530, [www.kartenkaufen.de](http://www.kartenkaufen.de) and at most local ticket agents.

# THEATERS

## ARTHUR

(Russell Brand, Helen Mirren) Irresponsible charmer Arthur Bach has always relied on two things to get by: his limitless fortune and the good sense of lifelong nanny Hobson to keep him out of trouble. Now he faces his biggest challenge – choosing between an arranged marriage that will ensure his lavish lifestyle or an uncertain future with the one thing money can't buy, Naomi, the only woman he has ever loved. With Naomi's inspiration and some unconventional help from Hobson, Arthur will take the most expensive risk of his life and finally learn what it means to be a man. (Rated PG-13 for alcohol use throughout, sexual content, language and some drug references.) 110 minutes.



## PLAYING THIS WEEK

### Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

April 14 - NO STRINGS ATTACHED (R) 7 p.m.  
 April 15 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 9 p.m.  
 April 16 - THE EAGLE (PG-13) 4 p.m.; ARTHUR (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 9 p.m.  
 April 17 - THE EAGLE (PG-13) 4 p.m.; ARTHUR (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 18 - THE EAGLE (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 19 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 20 - THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 21 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 7 p.m.

### Vogelweh, Galaxy

April 15 - THE EAGLE (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 16 - TANGLED (PG) 4 p.m.; LOVE AND OTHER DRUGS (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
 April 17 - THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 4 p.m.

### Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

April 14 - NO STRINGS ATTACHED (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; SANCTUM (R) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; YOGI BEAR (PG) noon, 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.  
 April 15 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:45 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:15 p.m.  
 April 16 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:45 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:15 p.m.  
 April 17 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.  
 April 18 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; MEGAMIND (PG) 11:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 7:45 p.m.  
 April 19 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 a.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; MEGAMIND (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 7:45 p.m.  
 April 20 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; WAITING FOR SUPERMAN (PG) "Special Showing" 4 p.m., 7 p.m.  
 April 21 - ARTHUR (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE EAGLE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

## THEATER INFORMATION

Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg, 06221-27-238  
 Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 06311-50017  
 Gateway Cineplex, Ramstein, 06371-47-5550  
 Visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) for updated listings and more movie descriptions  
 Mannheim, CinemaxX, P413, 68161 Mannheim, civ. 01805-62-5466, [www.cineplex.de](http://www.cineplex.de)

## Mannheim, CinemaxX

April 14 to 19 - PAUL (R) 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m.; Rio (G) 7:45 p.m.  
 April 15-16 - THE FIGHTER (R) 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.  
 April 17 to 19 - THE FIGHTER (R) 8 p.m.

## community HIGHLIGHTS

### Optical Shop Closes Mondays

The Optical Shop on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg announces a temporary closure of the shop on Mondays until further notice. It will return to regular hours of operation as soon as possible. Civ. 06221-18-3063.

### West Virginia Residents

On May 14, West Virginia will hold a special primary election for governor to fulfill the unexpired term through Jan. 13, 2013, of former Governor Joe Manchin who was elected to the U.S. Senate. Two West Virginia Counties, Harrison and Upshur, will have local questions on the ballot. Voting Assistance Officers should contact West Virginia voters and assist them in requesting and returning their absentee ballot. Applications must be postmarked April 25.

### Heidelberg Health Center

The Heidelberg Health Center Same Day Surgery department closes May 1, and the Acute Care Clinic will be closed Sundays beginning April 24. Pick up a host nation healthcare guide at the TRICARE service center inside the Heidelberg Health Center or go to <https://ermc.amedd.army.mil/heidelberg/index.cfm>.

### Prescription Refills

Effective May 1, patients who need refills on prescriptions at the Heidelberg Health Center must use the phone-in automated system to order refills and then pick them up the next day. The call-in system can be reached at DSN 486-5601, civ. 06371-86-5601.

### Scholarships for Wives

Wives of uniformed service members may apply for the Saban Military Wife Educational Scholarship to attend vocational training programs in the medical field. Applications will be accepted through May 1. [www.OperationHomefront.net/scholarship](http://www.OperationHomefront.net/scholarship).

### SAFER Exposition

The Mannheim and Heidelberg Soldier and Families Evaluating Risk Exposition and Summer Safety Day will be held 8 a.m.-4 p.m. May 5 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. The day promotes healthy lifestyles among Soldiers, civilians, students and family members by presenting safety training and information. DSN 373-1670, civ. 06221-17-9082.

### TRICARE Representative

A TRICARE beneficiary services representative will be at the commissary on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg 11 a.m.-3 p.m. the first Saturday of every month. The TRICARE Overseas Program patient handbook can be downloaded at <http://tricare-overseas.com>.

### Federal Benefits Phone Number

The Federal Benefits Unit in Frankfurt has a new telephone number to provide assistance with Social Security, Medicare or Veterans Administration issues. The new number is civ. 069-905551-110. All previous extensions and phone numbers are discontinued. The Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt can also be reached at [FBU.Frankfurt.ssa.gov](http://FBU.Frankfurt.ssa.gov) or fax 069-749352.

### New York Residents

New York will hold a special election May 24 for the 26th Congressional District to fill the seat vacated by Representative Christopher J. Lee. The district includes: Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming counties. <https://forums.army.mil/community/browser.aspx?id=1355241&lang=en-US>.

### KAISERSLAUTERN

#### Education

♦ **Classes** – AFTB Level I, April 20-21. DSN 493-4357, civ. 0631-3406-4203; Newcomers Class and Tour, 9 a.m. April 28-29 in Bldg. 2891 on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 493-4203, civ. 0631-3406-4203.

♦ **German** – Free German classes are offered noon-1 p.m. Tuesdays at Landstuhl Library, Bldg. 3810, and Miesau Library, Bldg. 132 and on Fridays at Kleber Library, Bldg. 3205. Landstuhl: DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-8390. Miesau: DSN 481-3755, civ. 06372-842-4355. Kleber: DSN 483-1740, civ. 06371-411-1740.

#### Community

♦ **Comedy Show** – The Kazabra Club on Vogelweh will host a comedy show featuring Queen Aishah and M-Dub 9 p.m. April 15 with an after party to follow. DSN 489-6000, civ. 0631-536-6000.

♦ **Vehicle Safety** – Pulaski Auto Skills will provide free safety checks on Vehicle Safety Day 10 a.m.-7 p.m. April 20 in Bldg. 2859 on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 489-6162, civ. 0631-536-6162. [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

♦ **Right Arm Night** – Bring your "Right Arm" and play poker, darts, billiards and more 6-10 p.m. April 21 at the Landstuhl Community Club. DSN 486-6107, civ. 06371-86-6107.

♦ **Free Movie** – For Sexual Assault Awareness month, the Galaxy Theater on Vogelweh Housing presents a free showing 3 p.m. April 21 of "Open Window" for those over 18. DSN 493-4203 or Civ. 0631-3406-4203.

♦ **Mother's Day Bazaar** – This bazaar 9 a.m.-6 p.m. April 25-28 in Heaton Hall, Landstuhl hospital, is designed to help you find the perfect Mother's Day gift.

♦ **Game-A-Ganza** – The Kaiserslautern Community Activity Center offers Game-A-Ganza 2-6 p.m. April 30 featuring pool, chess, cards and board games. DSN 483-6500, civ. 0631-411-6500, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

♦ **Military Child Celebration** – Be treated to food and entertainment 11 a.m.-3 p.m. April 30 in Pulaski Park for the Month of the Military Child Celebration. DSN 486-8915, civ. 06371-86-8915.

♦ **U.S. Army Soldier Show** – The 28th annual Soldier Show will be 7 p.m. June 8. [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

♦ **Kazabra Karaoke** – Sing your favorite songs 8 p.m.-midnight Thursdays at the Kazabra Club on Vogelweh. DSN 489-7261, civ. 0631-536-7261, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

### HEIDELBERG

#### Education

♦ **ACS Classes** – Applying for a Federal Job, 9-11 a.m. April 18; Intro to MS Excel, 9-11 a.m. April 19-20; Key Caller, 2:30 p.m. April 19; Effective Management of Volunteers, 10-11 a.m. April 20; ACS Overview, 10-11

a.m. April 20, Yellow Ribbon Room on Patrick Henry Village; Exceptional Families Network, 10-11:30 a.m. April 20, Heidelberg office; Buying Your First Home, noon-1:30 p.m. April 20; Smart Banking, 9-11:30 a.m. April 21; Life in Balance, 10 a.m.-noon April 21 on Nachrichten Kaserne, Bldg. 3622.

♦ **Field Sanitation** – Become Field Sanitation Team certified in this weeklong class hosted by the Heidelberg Medical Department Activity Preventive Medicine April 25-29 on Nachrichten Kaserne. Must have appointment orders and six months retainability. DSN 371-3120, civ. 06221-17-33119.

♦ **FAST Class** – A Functional Academic Skills Training to reinforce basic math and reading skills and to improve General Technical scores for reclassification or re-enlistment will be held 8 a.m.-noon April 27-May 17 at the Patton Education Center on Patton Barracks. The mandatory pre-test will be offered April 26. DSN 373-6176.

#### Community

♦ **Detour** – Construction on the road outside of Patton Barracks, Speyerer Strasse, will cause traffic deviations April 18 until the end of May. A right turn onto the road by the German Fire Station followed by a u-turn will no longer be possible. Motorists will need to travel to the next stoplight and use the traffic circle near ADAC to go back to Patton. Also, the lanes of traffic on Speyerer Strasse will be reduced to one in both directions depending on the time of day.

♦ **Volksmarches** – The Heidelberg International Wandering Club is registered for walks in Sprendlingen, Dallau April 16-17 and in Cleebronn 23-24 April 23-24. [www.hiwc.de](http://www.hiwc.de).

♦ **Magic Show** – Magician Rob Lake will present a free show featuring mentalism, magic and mesmerizing illusions 7 p.m. April 15 at the Village Pavilion. DSN 373-7414, civ. 06221-17-7414.

♦ **Snow White** – The Missoula Children's Theater directs local students in the presentation of "Snow White" 5:30 p.m. April 16 at Heidelberg Middle School.

♦ **Teddy Bear Tea Party** – Children ages 2-10 (accompanied by an adult) are invited to a special tea time 2-4 p.m. April 17 at the Village Pavilion. Mr. Teddy Bear will make an appearance so formal attire is recommended. DSN 388-9240, civ. 06221-338-9240.

♦ **Pajama Story time** – School-age children can enjoy pajama story time 7:30 p.m. April 21 at the library on Patrick Henry Village.

♦ **Old School Party** – The Recovery Room on Nachrichten Kaserne will host an old school dance 9 p.m.-3 a.m. April 16 with disc jockey Madlogic. DSN 371-2762, civ. 06221-17-2762, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

### Easter Egg Hunts

Kaiserslautern kids can hunt for eggs 11 a.m. April 23 at Pulaski Park on Pulaski Barracks. Mannheim will host an Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m. April 23 on the Sullivan Gym Field. Heidelberg's Easter egg hunt is 12:30 p.m. April 24 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg.

♦ **Recycled Art Class** – The Arts and Cultural Center on Patrick Henry Village will offer a class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. April 18 on turning recyclables into art to observe Earth Week.

♦ **Easter Worship** – Catholic Mass will be 6 p.m. at Mark Twain Village chapel and Episcopal service will be 6 p.m. at Nachrichten Kaserne chapel April 21. Stations will be 3 p.m. at the Mark Twain Village chapel, Mass will be 6 p.m. on Patrick Henry Village chapel and Episcopal service will be 6 p.m. at Nachrichten Kaserne chapel April 22. Easter Vigil will be 8 p.m. April 23 at Nachrichten Kaserne chapel. Services on Easter Sunday are at regular times.

♦ **Trash Pick Up** – The Easter holidays will change pick up dates for all trash and recyclables in Heidelberg housing areas and economy housing. Pick up in the pre-Easter week will be one day earlier than usual, i.e. if scheduled for Monday, April 18, pick up will be made Saturday, April 16 and so on. Accordingly, in the week after Easter, pick up will be postponed by one day ending with the Friday pick up April 30.

♦ **Easter Brunch** – Easter Sunday Brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 24 at the Village Pavilion comes complete with a German-American breakfast buffet. DSN 388-9098, civ. 06221-338-9098.

♦ **Kiddie Volksmarch** – The Heidelberg International Wandering Club will sponsor a kiddie Volksmarch April 30 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Patrick Henry Village Library. Don't miss the picnic next to the skate park at 10 a.m. [www.hisc-heidelberg.com](http://www.hisc-heidelberg.com).

♦ **Right Arm** – Right Army Night for April is cancelled. The next Right Arm Nights are May 20, June 16, July 15, Aug. 18 and Sept. 16 5-7 p.m. at Legends on Patrick Henry Village.

♦ **Summer Academics** – Parent to Parent is presenting the workshop "Preventing the Summer Slide: How to Keep Children Academically Engaged over the Summer" 8:30 a.m. May 6 at Patrick Henry Elementary School and 8:30 a.m. May 19 at Heidelberg Middle School. All parents are welcome.

### MANNHEIM Education

♦ **ACS Classes** – Saving and Investing Basics, 2:30-4 p.m. April 14; Mommy and Baby Wellness Group, 1-2 p.m. April 14 in Bldg. 251; Car Seat Safety Checks by appointment

only April 18 in Bldg. 251; Stress Management, 1-3 p.m. April 19 in Bldg. 251; Mommy and Me Signing Time, 3-4 p.m. April 19 in Bldg. 251; AFTB Level I, 6-7:30 p.m. April 19; Debt Management, 9-10 a.m. April 20; Fund Management, 9-11 a.m. April 20; Sponsorship Assistance Training, 10-11 a.m. April 20; Bringing Baby Home, 5:30-8 p.m. April 20 in Bldg. 251; Pregnancy Support Group, 1-2:30 p.m. April 21 in Bldg. 251. Classes are at ACS unless noted.

#### Community

♦ **Salsa Lessons, Party** – Learn how to salsa 6-7 p.m. for level one and 7-8 p.m. for level two April 20 at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village. Then show off your talent at the Salsa Party 9 p.m.-4 a.m. April 22. DSN 380-9370.

♦ **Mannheim's Got Talent** – Mannheim's Got Talent is open to all ages and talents 6 p.m. April 16, 23 and 30 at the Top Hat Club. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

♦ **Europa Park** – Visit Germany's largest amusement park with over 100 attractions, entertainment and rides. Outdoor Recreation bus departs Mannheim Schuh Theater 7 a.m. April 17. DSN 384-6300, [www.mwrgermany.com](http://www.mwrgermany.com).

♦ **Easter Worship** – On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, Catholic Mass will be 6 p.m. On Easter Sunday, a 6:30 a.m. sunrise service will be at the Benjamin Franklin Village chapel. Other services are at regular times.

♦ **Month of the Military Child Exhibit** – See how children express themselves through art 3:30-5:30 p.m. April 22 at the School Age Center, Bldg. 737. DSN 380-4321, civ. 0621-730-4321.

♦ **Snow White** – Mannheim's children perform in the Missoula Children's Theater production of "Snow White," 6 p.m. April 23 at Mannheim Elementary School.

♦ **Month of the Military Child Barbecue** – Wrap up the Month of the Military Child 11 a.m.-noon April 29 at a barbecue at the School Age Center, Bldg. 737.

♦ **Community Yard Sale** – Buy or sell at the community yard sale 8 a.m.-2 p.m. April 30-May 1 on Benjamin Franklin Village. Residents may set up in front of quarters except residents on Washington and Lincoln Streets who must set up in front of the Sports Arena. Rent tables from Spinelli Outdoor Recreation or on-site (at the Sports Arena). DSN 385-3169, civ. 0621-730-3169.

♦ **Moving On** – Mannheim Middle School and Mannheim High School will host a "Moving On" celebration 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. June 9 on Woods Field. Entertainment will be provided by the USAREUR band, both school bands and drama students.

# Heidelberg Masters golf like the pros

Sixty-seven golfers teed off Sunday at the Heidelberg golf club's annual one-day version of the famous PGA Masters at Augusta, Ga., with Steffen Schweikert's one under par 71 winning the Low Gross (without handicap).

Fifteen-year-old Max Boegel was runner-up with 73.

The field was divided into three flights with each golfer's net score (with handicap) combined with the third round score of a Pro



SCHWEIKERT

golfer playing at Augusta.

Nikolaj Straetz won Flight A with a net score of 141. Paul Walsenbach was second with 143 and Hans Nieder third with

144. Flight B winner was Marco Armbruster with 142. Rudolf Brixle was second at 143 and Fred Perez third with 145. Flight C's winner was Roberto Valentino

(141), with Andrea Worthmann second (145) and Kim Perez third (147).

Closest to the pin winners were Karl-Heinz Karg, Max Boegel, Ronald Childs, Helga Worm and Joachim Kaiser. Long drive winners were Lori Schlichter and Steffen Schweikert.

Club official Lamar Porter met all players on the first tee as they teed off and emcee'd the awards ceremony.

SOURCE: Rex Gribble

# Youth Soccer



Wendy Aldcroft

Wearing the orange pinnies, left, Ajay Limin from Mannheim and Nico Cloma from Ramstein, participate in a U.S. Youth Soccer spring sports camp at the Bitburg Sportschule in Bitburg Saturday and Sunday as part of the organization's Olympic Development Program. The camp was by invitation only for soccer players across Europe. Selected high school boys will travel to San Diego in July to take part in the college showcase known as the Surf Cup July 30-31 and Aug. 1 in Del Mar, Calif. The Surf Cup promotes the highest level of competition available in youth soccer and the tournament draws attention of major college programs. The tournament also attracts large crowds from 25,000-28,000. Younger teams will travel to Heumen in Holland to take part in the Easter Open April 23-24. <http://usysa.goalline.ca>.

SOURCE: Wendy Aldcroft

A clerk at a Denver beauty supply store reported to authorities that a customer was buying large amounts of products containing ingredients that could be used to make bombs. The outcome? Authorities foiled a planned attack on the New York subway system.

*Sometimes it's the little things.*

**SEE SOMETHING.  
SAY SOMETHING.**

[www.eur.army.mil/vigilance/iWATCH.htm](http://www.eur.army.mil/vigilance/iWATCH.htm)  
[www.bw.eur.army.mil/iwatch](http://www.bw.eur.army.mil/iwatch)

## staying ACTIVE

### Hole in One Club

**Theron J. Mitchell** got a hole in one on hole four using a pitching wedge on the 117-yard hole at the Heidelberg Golf Club March 23.

**Sy Daranouvong** used an eight-iron to get a hole in one on hole nine, a 144-yard shot, at the Heidelberg Golf Club April 2.

### Rod and Gun Club

The Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club on der Bundestrasse 291 in Oftersheim offers bluegrass, 7 p.m. April 14; archery safety, 1 p.m. April 16; fisherman's meeting, 7 p.m. April 27; shotgun safety, 5 p.m. April 29; skeet, 1 p.m. April 30. Civ. 06202-51193.

### Heidelberg Golf Club

Head over to the Wednesday night scramble 6 p.m. Wednesdays April 20-May 25. Registration starts at 4 p.m. and is limited to the first 60 paid participants. Open to eligible users with verifiable handicap. DSN 379-6139.

### Late Night Cosmic Bowling

The Heidelberg Bowling and Entertainment Center on Patrick Henry Village offers late night cosmic bowling 10 p.m.-1 a.m. April 21. DSN 388-9040, civ. 06221-338-9040.

### Heidelberg Softball Officials Clinic

Heidelberg Softball officials' clinic and tournament has been rescheduled for April 26-30. Classroom instruction will be 6-9 p.m. April 26-29 in the Heidelberg sports office, Bldg. 128, on Patton Barracks. The tournament will be April 30. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

### Youth Tackle Football Camp

Registration for tackle football camp is ongoing through May 1 for the camp June 22-25 on the Rhine Ordnance Barracks sports field. The event is open to 9-18 year olds and those interested must be enrolled with Kaiserslautern Child, Youth and School Services. Register at Parent Central Services on Pulaski Barracks or <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil>.

### Heidelberg Unit Level Softball Program

The registration deadline for Heidelberg Softball leagues is May 4. The season begins May 11 and goes until Aug. 1 and is open to military assigned to Heidelberg. All participants must be 18 years and older and not in high school. Teams may register at the Campbell, Patton and Tompkins Barracks Fitness Centers customer service counters. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

### Dog, Human 5-K Run, Walk

Dogs and owners can run or walk 5 kilometers May 21 at the Campbell Barracks Fitness Center. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and the run and walk event begins at 9 a.m. Non-dog owners can also participate. DSN 370-6489, civ. 06221-57-6489, [www.mwgermany.com](http://www.mwgermany.com).

### Family, Fitness, Fun Festival

Find nutritious foods from the farmers market while kids work up a sweat in the bouncing balloons or play basketball toss. Adults can join the Zumba Fitness Party, get personal trainer assessments and get tips on staying fit 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 28 during the Family, Fitness and Fun Festival in the commissary parking lot on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim. Civ. 0621-728-3626.

### Send the HP Your Sports Photos

Do you have photos from sporting events in your community? E-mail your photos, along with the details of the event and names of those pictured to [usaghd.post@eur.army.mil](mailto:usaghd.post@eur.army.mil).

### Find Photos Online

Don't forget to check out the photos we couldn't fit in this edition of the Herald Post online at [www.flickr.com/heraldpost](http://www.flickr.com/heraldpost).

## CATERPILLAR

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“The most common symptoms are an itchy rash and dermatitis, an inflammatory skin condition.”

The rash may consist of flat discolorations or raised bumps on the skin. If the caterpillar hairs come in contact with eyes or mouth, a person may develop conjunctivitis (red eyes, sticky discharge, and inflammation of the eye) and irritation to the throat/airway. Itching typically begins two to 12 hours after exposure and the rash may be widely spread over the entire body.

The best way to prevent oak processionary caterpillar rash is to avoid

infested trees.

“The hairs can only be seen under a microscope so you will not notice them simply by inspecting your clothing,” Calix said.

If you experience rash-like symptoms or itching and over-the-counter remedies are not working, please make a medical appointment. If you are experiencing any other symptoms please make an appointment to see a health care provider.

The U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Directorate of Public Works takes a proactive approach in treating the first and second instar larvae with an approved pesticide. This will help reduce the threat. Once

the larvae have developed the poisonous hairs, pesticide treatments are no longer effective. Only mechanical removal of the cocoons, larvae and hairs will alleviate the problem.

Approval of outdoor pesticide treatment follows state law. The USAG BW DPW is currently seeking approval to spray at Tompkins Barracks between the end of April and the middle of May, but the timing depends upon the weather and how fast the oaks leaf out. In Heidelberg (state of Baden-Württemberg), such treatments have been approved to better cope with the persistent caterpillar problem. In other federal states, the legal framework may differ.

### How to Avoid Caterpillar Hairs

- Do not touch caterpillars or nests.
- Do not try to remove nests by yourself. Call your local Pest Control shop.
- Do not play, picnic or walk under oak trees during peak infestation months from May-July.
- Do not wear short-sleeved clothing in the woods or walk in the underbrush.
- When participating in outdoor activities, wear long sleeves, pants and a hat.
- Keep children away from caterpillars and nests.
- If you get exposed to the oak caterpillar hairs, take a shower and wash your clothes immediately.
- Consult a physician in case severe symptoms develop.



Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Fincham

Pfc. Lashun Douglas, a combat medic with the 557th Medical Company (Area Support), provides first aid to a simulated casualty at the Medical Simulation Training Center in Vilseck March 30.

## JROTC

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of John Alombro, Eugene Bowen, Tyler Hockensmith and Dallas Marshall earned top scores out of the 1,138 teams that competed from across the world to win a place in the National Leadership Bowl and symposium.

This team is one of only 40 Leadership Teams in the nation to advance to the finals.

The JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl is a nationally recognized academic competition created exclusively for JROTC students.

By participating, cadets learn the values of citizenship, academic competition and college opportunity. The competition creates tremendous opportunities for JROTC and its cadets by demonstrating the academic abilities of JROTC students.

## Soldiers train with sim-men that bleed

By Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Fincham

30TH MEDCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

VILSECK, Germany – Soldiers of the 30th Medical Command's 557th Medical Company (Area Support) used the state-of-the-art Medical Simulation Training Center here March 28-April 1.

During the scenarios, a combat medic was teamed up with a combat lifesaver to treat various simulated casualties. The wounded Soldiers, though simulated, replicate human characteristics, said Joe Aubihl, lead instructor.

“They breathe, bleed, talk and blink. They can have unilateral or bilateral rise and fall of the chest,” Aubihl explained. “They can do a lot.”

These “sim-men,” as they’re known, give real-time feedback to the medics – a training value that simply can’t be replicated elsewhere.

“This allows them to actually work on a breathing, bleeding casualty. Granted, it’s not a human being; they don’t move around too much. But

it’s getting away from the days of putting tape on someone’s arm saying that they have an amputation or chest wound,” Aubihl said.

The 557th ASMC, the only area support medical company in Europe, is designed to simultaneously provide level I and II medical care.

“We created this circular lane that goes from point of wound care, to tactical field care, to level II echelon care and evac,” Aubihl said.

This led to an experience for the unit’s medics and combat lifesavers.

“Our headquarters is composed of cooks, supply Soldiers, mechanics, admin operations – the usual headquarters type set up,” said Sgt. 1st Class Richard Kling. “When we have the main aid station set up and our teams pushed out, the headquarters is always with the main aid station. So in the event of (numerous casualties), we have our medical personal and these combat lifesavers to assist.”

For the combat medics, the training is challenging.

“The stress level helps us to learn how to work through things under difficult circumstances. This really helps get more confidence in your skills and recognize what you need to work on,” said Pfc. Lashun Douglas. “When I first went through I was all over the place. The more times I go through, I’ve gained some confidence and focus.”

The experience of working on responsive patients is priceless, and the MSTC facility allows the Soldiers to repeatedly practice processes and steps that will save lives.

“Imagine if they can put in a (chest tube) 100 times before they have to put a real one in. Repetition is the key to adult learning, and you get to do it here. Yeah, it’s going to be a little different and a little more intense in real life, but they’ll be able to just fall back on the training that they’ve had,” said Capt. Avery Walker, a doctor at the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic. “They need to be able to do this in their sleep and coming out here makes it that much easier,” Walker said.

## New simulation center opens on Panzer Kaserne

By Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett

21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command opened a new Joint Multinational Simulation Center on Panzer Kaserne in Kaiserslautern March 28.

The success of the new simulation center

on Panzer depends on the 21st TSC’s ability to maintain a strong partnership between the units in the command and the Joint Multinational Simulation Center’s main facility in Grafenwöhr, said Douglas Meckley, simulations center manager.

Most of the equipment used to assemble

the center on Panzer, which operates with many of the same capabilities as the facility in Grafenwoehr, came from JMSC Graf. The classrooms support a digital university which trains Soldiers how to operate command and control systems.

Another benefit is its ability to cre-

ate geographic specific terrain locations through which units can maneuver using simulation while becoming familiar with locations of potential deployments.

The digital university of JMSC Graf and the Panzer simulation center train units and individuals on 17 battle command systems.