

HeraldPOST

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

HP THURSDAY
March 31, 2011

Speed Read

LARGE LOAD

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HEIDELBERG TRACK

The Heidelberg Track and Field team started the season with the girls winning and the boys in second at Ansbach Saturday. 17



Defense Details

MILITARY CHILDREN

During April, U.S. military installations around the globe will recognize the contributions and sacrifices that servicemembers' sons and daughters make daily. April is Month of the Military Child and is being celebrated with a theme of "Celebrate Military Children: The Strength of Our Future" on Army garrisons. More than 1.7 million children under the age of 18 have at least one parent serving in the armed forces. It is estimated that more than 900,000 children have had one or both parents deployed multiple times. Accordingly, special events will be held to honor military children.

www.army.mil/news

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Richard Bumgardner

Adm. James Stavridis, right, commander of U.S. European Command, waits to receive the USAREUR colors from Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Capel, center, before passing them to Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, marking his formal assumption of command of U.S. Army Europe during a ceremony at Heidelberg's Campbell Barracks Friday.

Hertling assumes command

By Bruce Anderson
U.S. ARMY EUROPE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling formally assumed command of U.S. Army Europe during a ceremony at Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg Friday.

He is the 36th commander in USAREUR's nearly 70-year history and the first three-star general appointed by the U.S. government since 1952 to lead U.S. Army forces in Europe. Lt. Gen. Manton S. Eddy served as the commander from August 1952 until April 1953, when, according to the Army's Command and General Staff College website, he presided over the command's

transformation from an Army of occupation to one of deterrence.

During the ceremony, Adm. James Stavridis, commander of U.S. European Command, passed the USAREUR colors to Hertling, symbolically passing responsibility for, and authority over, the unit to the new USAREUR commander.

After noting during his remarks that Hertling is a fan of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team, Stavridis used a quote by the Cardinals' manager, Tony La Russa, to describe Hertling's qualifications.

"He's got special talent and he's got special attitude. Guys who have that play in the big leagues."

"We will continue with the transformation of our Army in Europe, while providing trained Soldiers and units for combatant commanders as they face an increasingly demanding operational environment."

— Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling, U.S. Army Europe commander

see **HERTLING** page 12

Army Community Service becomes a directorate

By Grant Sattler
USAG VICENZA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

VICENZA, Italy — Vicenza's Army Community Service finishes a test period today, officially becoming its own directorate tomorrow, to complete a separation from its parent organization, the directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recre-

ation.

Vicenza was one of 22 pilot sites leading the way on the changes, which are intended to enhance delivery of services to Army communities worldwide.

The pilot period was a way to offer lessons learned to garrisons around the Army as they prepare to transform.

Full implementation of the transformation Army-wide is expected to be completed by October.

Lessons learned from the pilot program will be implemented at every installation as directed by the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff of Installation Management.

The transformation is a result of feedback from 450

garrison focus groups, surveys and installation visits by IMCOM Commander Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch in 2009 and 2010.

The change aims to make it easier and faster for Soldiers and their family members to get the help they are seeking, said Vicenza ACS Director Marva Dixon.

see **ACS** page 12

COMMENTARY

Moving pets into family housing brings responsibility

By Jacqui Haggerty
BWNOW FACEBOOK FAN

I've been following the discussion boards and eavesdropping, I mean, listening, to folks as the yearly rituals of spring begin: "The sun is out" followed by, "I'm not cutting that grass, DPW can do it."

"Look at all the beautiful flowers" is followed by "OMG, where did all these bees come from?"

"I can't wait to get some fresh air into this house" quickly turns into, "Who left the freakin' windows open again? I am sick and tired of all these flies."

Then there's, "Awwwww, look at the puppy," the five words that herald the beginning of what I refer to as "The Great Poo Debate."

I think back to my years of living in post housing and here's how I see it.

If you have a pet (and for the purposes of this rant, we are referring to dogs), I'm going to go out on a limb and say that at some point in your life, you made the choice to bring an adorable ball of fur into your heart and your home. Now that the adorable ball of fur has turned into 150 pounds of drool-



ing, flatulating ALPO, you still have a responsibility to take care of this creature the way you did when they were five pounds and an incredibly effective means of making you the most popular man, woman or child in housing. This means, dear reader, that you feed, water and walk it on a regular basis.

What else do we do? Pick up the poo. (Say it with me.) What do we do? Pick up the poo. (A little louder.) What do we do? Pick up the poo!

Bella, our 18-month old boxer, can poo with the best of them, not to mention drool, shed and, well, "create methane" on a regular, gag-inducing, basis. She tears across farmer fields chasing rabbits, fox and heaven knows what else might catch

her eye.

She has a penchant for the kitchen trash container and has recently discovered a way to open the doggie snack drawer with all the stealth and cunning of one of those evil wraiths from Lord of the Rings.

She waits until Mike and I are fast asleep and then hops up on the bed to get nice and comfy for the night – effectively cutting off all circulation to my lower legs. In short, she drives us completely insane 90 percent of the time.

The bottom line? We chose to bring her into our lives, our hearts and our home. Do we enjoy carrying what amounts to a diaper bag for doggies with us everywhere we go (water, collapsible

bowl, treats, leash, collar, ball, pull rope, frisbee)? Heck, no. Do we enjoy walking her in the rain and snow? No. Do we enjoy picking-up her poo? Uh, no.

Do we enjoy looking at her sad little boxer mug which has the capability to melt even the most jaded of hearts? Yes. Do we enjoy playing tug-o-war with her in the house? Most of the time (lol). Do we experience the joy she obviously feels when she gets to run free through the field around our home? Oh, yes. Do we melt a little each time she snuggles up to our laps and lays her head down with a huge doggie sigh? Yes, yes, yes.

The suggestion is always raised that the solution to irresponsible pet owners in housing is to simply ban dogs altogether. I don't buy it. We never owned a dog while we were living in base housing – but that, too, was our choice. Did dog poo exist back then? Duh. Did the issue of lazy pet owners ruining family picnics, barbecues and general play time for kids come up? You betcha.

As I see it, if you have a dog and live on post (all together, now), pick up the poo. If you

don't have a dog and live on post, and you see a defecating doggie with a negligent owner – even if the person holding the leash is a child – don't just walk away shaking your head in disgust. Say (all together, now), "Pick up the poo."

Keeping pets in government quarters is a privilege, not a right. If we still lived on post, and we had Bella, I'd make darn sure that I did everything in my power to ensure that she wouldn't have to leave us because of someone else's lazy, irresponsible approach to pet care.

Bottom line: Dogs must be on a leash in government housing areas. Period. Methinks that human needs to hold on to the leash with one hand and have a decent supply of plastic bags in the other and learn how to use them.

What do we do? Pick up the poo. What else do we do? Quit griping and do something about it. If you cannot or will not be a responsible pet owner – then I say the command has the right, the responsibility and the obligation, to ban your pet from post. Period. And you can explain it to your family.



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

We posted a link on the BWnow Facebook page to an article about finger shoes and the fact that DODDS has ok'd them for use by student athletes. BWnow Facebook fans commented 12 times when we asked, "Does anyone have a pair?"

"I sometimes recommend forefoot running in shoes

such as these to my patients, but they are not authorized for use with the physical fitness uniform ... It's important to remember that if you do get some shoes like this you need to get used to them gradually or you may develop an overuse injury in your calves."

— Paul Froehlich, BWnow Facebook fan

"I have a pair of the KSO trails. They are super com-

fortable. They are kind of hard to come by sometimes because stores sell out quick. I paid 130 dollars for mine at REI. I don't recommend buying them online because there are a lot of fakes out there and you really have to try them on to get the right size. Great for strengthening your feet just make sure to start out slow. :)"

— Amber Haas, BWnow Facebook fan



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Advertising:

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

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

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and

provided by the USAG Baden-Württemberg Public Affairs Office.

Printed circulation: 17,000.

The Herald Post offices are in Building 107, Patton Barracks, Heidelberg. Military address: Herald Post, PAO, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg, Unit 29237, APO AE 09014. Civilian address: Herald Post, Patton Kaseme, Gebäude 107, Kirchheimerweg 4, 69124 Heidelberg. E-mail address: usaghd.post@eur.army.mil.

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

In Honored Glory



Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantini

A group of Soldiers pay final respects to Staff Sgt. Eric Trueblood, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician with the 720th EOD Company, 16th Sustainment Brigade, who died from battle wounds suffered in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, at the conclusion of his memorial service at the Benjamin Franklin Village chapel in Mannheim March 17.

Helicopters move by land

Staff Report

The U.S. Army will move large loads across German roads tomorrow when helicopters arrive here from Antwerp.

A set of six Army CH-47 Chinook helicopters will arrive at the NATO barge site near Lampertheim on Rhine River, if the river is high enough for the barges to pass.

After they have been unloaded, the shrink-wrapped helicopters will be transported by heavy hauling equipment to

Barracks in Mannheim where they will be completely reset and tested. Two to three test flights will occur in the local area and last about 30 minutes each. Following the testing, the helicopters will fly to their new station in Ansbach.

The oversize transport will be escorted en route by German and U.S. Military Police. Drivers are asked to use caution and to be ready for possible traffic delays on the B44 road between Lampertheim and Mannheim-Sandhofen.

Woman of Checkpoint Charlie seeks MPs who helped

By Robert Szostek
OPM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Two military policemen on duty at Checkpoint Charlie touched the life of a victim of communism in 1984 and 1985.

Now, 27 years later, that lady wants to contact those MPs who were on duty at Checkpoint Charlie so she can thank them for their kindness.

On Oct. 7, 1984, Jutta Gallus planted herself at Checkpoint Charlie, the Allied border crossing in Berlin, with a placard around her neck reading: "My children have been forcibly given up for adoption! Please help us!"

Gallus became a daily fixture at Checkpoint Charlie, demonstrating from dawn to dusk drawing the attention of curious tourists and journalists. Her image and the tale of her fight spread around the world.

In a recent interview at the U.S. Forces Liaison Office in Wiesbaden, Gallus who has since remarried and is now Jutta Fleck, recalled her turbulent past and the two MPs who were so kind to her 27



Courtesy photo

Jutta Gallus stands with signs at Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin in the '80s telling the world she is separated from daughters Claudia and Beate, shown below, who were forcibly kept in East Germany.

years before.

She described them as about 5 feet 7 to 9 inches tall, slim and about 25 years old. That would put them in their early 50s today.

The MPs used to put her placards inside the checkpoint hut at night so they would not be vandalized by communist sympathizers.

One of them gave her tea from a thermos flask when it was cold outside. Apparently this MP visited the Checkpoint Charlie Museum in 2006 and saw a picture of



Fleck at the exhibition and said, "I know that woman."

Fleck said the presence of the American MPs at the checkpoint made her feel completely safe while she demonstrated, even though the East German Army guards would come right up to the

demarcation line.

"You just feel stronger," she said.

"The Woman from Checkpoint Charlie" is now even a film and book.

In 1982, Fleck tried to escape with her two young daughters by pretending to take a vacation in Romania, where she hoped to escape to the West through the less stringent border controls.

But the East German government foiled her plan and the family was forcibly separated. Fleck was thrown into prison, while her two daughters, aged 9 and 11, were put in a children's home.

Two years later, the West German government bought Fleck's freedom, but the East German regime refused to let her take her children to the West.

"Checkpoint Charlie was a legend in Berlin," Fleck said in an interview with Berlin daily Tagesspiegel, explaining why she chose to demonstrate there.

"Besides, there were tons of tourists there – it was just what I needed," she added.

Gallus proved untiring in

her efforts to be reunited with her children in West Germany.

Not surprisingly, her public demonstrations embarrassed and annoyed the two German governments, who were at pains to maintain good diplomatic relations.

But her tactics worked.

In 1988, six years after Gallus first began protesting, her daughters were allowed to leave and join their mother in the West.

"I simply wanted to show that a normal person without weapons is in a position to change things," Fleck said when the film of her story premiered in Berlin.

Fleck now works for the state government of Hesse in Germany as chief of a project to evaluate the history and legacy of the former East German regime. One part of her mission is to educate young people about the way things really were under the communist dictatorship.

People with information on the identity of the two MPs can send an e-mail to the U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal at webinfo@eur.army.mil.

transformation UPDATE

Frequently Asked Questions

Have a transformation-related question you'd like answered?
E-mail 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.

There are individuals who are not receiving LQA currently. If they move to Wiesbaden, will they now 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 BNow Web (<http://mybwnow.ning.com>) sites.

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, you need to take this through your chain of command and make sure they understand your concerns. 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 make sure 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

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

Exiting Mannheim – Starting tomorrow, the exit gate at Friendship

Circle on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim will close at 6 p.m. (instead of 9:30 p.m.) The gate opens for exiting traffic and pedestrians (exiting and entering) at 6 a.m.

Mannheim Customs Field Office – The Customs office in Mannheim will be closed April 1 to relocate from Bldg. 255 to 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 April 18.

Coleman BOSS and Warrior Zone – Mannheim BOSS headquarters located in the Warrior Zone on Coleman Barracks in Mannheim has new phone numbers: DSN 382-4148, civ. 0621-779-4148. The Warrior Zone on Coleman also has new phone numbers: DSN 382-4149, civ. 0621-779-4410. The Warrior Zone, Bldg. 86, is open 4:30-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, noon-1 a.m. Saturday and noon-midnight Sunday.

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 will close tomorrow 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 for use.

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.

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

You are not to blame.
You are not alone.
There is help.
Make the call.

24 Hour Hotline
0170-609-2862

This 24 hour hotline is for victims of sexual assault and/or domestic violence in USAG Baden-Württemberg. The Mannheim Hotline, 0151-562-86442, is no longer valid. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



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USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG
HEIDELBERG: 370-6883/6975; 06221-57-6883/6975. MANNHEIM: 385-3101; 0621-730-3101

Transformation Information

- ◆ The Baden-Württemberg website can be found at www.bw.eur.army.mil – click on Transformation under Hot Topics.
- ◆ Wiesbaden website is at www.wiesbaden.army.mil – click on Transformation Update.
- ◆ U.S. Army Europe information is found by going to www.eur.army.mil/internal.htm – click on USAREUR relocation blog.

You can also ask your questions on the garrison social media pages:

www.facebook.com/BNow

<http://myBNow.ning.com>

Local students advance to state geography bee

Heidelberg PTSA

Two of the top 10 students competing to represent the Department of Defense Dependents Schools in the National Geographic Bee hail from local schools.

Victor Nguyen, a seventh grade student at Heidelberg Middle School and Josh McGlone, a Mannheim Middle School eighth grade student have been notified that their scores on a geography exam have qualified them to advance in the competition.

This means each will take another geography exam in early April. Their scores this time decide whether one of them will represent DODDS at the National Geo Bee competing against the winners from the 50 states.

Nguyen and McGlone won the geography bees at their schools in January.

Now, they go up against each other to vie for the chance to go to nationals. The winner of the state level competition earns a trip to Washington, D.C., in May for the preliminary rounds. The final 10 state competitors will compete in the final round that will be televised and hosted by Alex Trebek of Jeopardy fame.

Last year, eighth grade student Will Smith became the first Heidelberg Middle School student to make it to nationals. Smith encouraged Nguyen by saying he hopes Nguyen does as well "because it was a great experience."

Anyone can take a GeoBee challenge, an on-line geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee.

Faces of the community: Heidelberg Army Lodging



Brandon Spragins

Frank Valetta, right, and Matthew Lambino, desk clerks for Heidelberg Army Lodging, Bldg. 4527, on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg, reserve rooms for incoming guests. Heidelberg Army Lodging provides complimentary continental breakfast, free Internet connections, strip maps of the local areas and group reservations for events. DSN 370-1700 and 388-9387, civ. 06221-79-5100.

Observing tax relief rules helps buyers avoid problems

IMCOM Europe Public Affairs

Thinking of using a value added tax relief form to buy a house or maybe to buy your host nation landlord a nice gift? Wrong. VAT relief doesn't do that.

Rules and regulations govern how VAT relief can be used, and according to Rafael Wunsch, program manager and business consultant for Installation Management Command Europe, individuals need to be aware of how to use VAT forms to avoid negative repercussions.

Wunsch explained that before a person attempts to use a VAT relief form, it is important the individual understands that tax relief from host nation value added tax for personal purchases is not an entitlement of U.S. Forces members stationed in Europe, it's a privilege granted by the

host nation.

"VAT relief is intended to provide individual tax relief for personal purchases for authorized personnel. It is not intended to help you purchase real estate or help you avoid paying taxes on gifts for non-authorized personnel," Wunsch said. "It's important we use the tax forms as intended to avoid repercussions caused by misuse, such as loss of individual privileges."

Tax relief forms are not discount coupons, but they are important host nation tax documents, similar to a U.S. 1040 tax form. Not following the rules will eventually have consequences, Wunsch noted.

In addition to loss of tax relief privileges, Wunsch explained that host nation fiscal authorities could file charges against individuals for tax evasion. Also, individuals could be required to pay un-

paid taxes plus potential fines.

"General tax relief rules are fairly easy to understand and to follow," Wunsch said. "A couple key guidelines include not buying things for ineligible persons and not buying things for business purposes or resale."

He explained that, generally, items should be for individual use or for authorized personnel. Official guidelines are contained in Army in Europe Regulation 215-6. People may also seek information at local garrison VAT offices or from program management.

The most common issues are:

- Using VAT forms for social functions, such as military balls, weddings and conferences may or may not be authorized. Contact your local VAT office before engaging the hotel or restaurant. VAT offices are not authorized to

issue VAT forms after the hotel or restaurant has been contracted or even after the event occurred. If that happens you personally are required to pay the tax.

- Splitting a purchase of more than €2,500 across multiple VAT forms – or buying an item that costs more than €2,500 on a regular VAT form – instead of using the special and required over €2,500 VAT form process.

- Collecting receipts over a long period of time (more than one month) from one vendor and then obtaining a VAT refund form the vendor, for example, at the end of a year. Some vendors may offer that but it is not permitted.

- Conducting unauthorized repairs or replacements related to real estate, such as replacement of heating systems, windows, doors, driveways, roofs, pipes, wiring, and tiles.

- Using VAT forms for telecommunication expenses or utilities.

- Using a VAT form to buy a vehicle and then registering it in the German system.

- Using VAT forms to make purchases for unauthorized personnel.

- Following incorrect guidelines provided by vendors. Many vendors don't know the rules. Placing an order with a vendor first or signing a contract or bill of sale and then coming to the VAT office for relief is not authorized. You must have the VAT form with you when placing the order or making the purchase.

The solution to any potential conflict is to talk with the VAT office or program management prior to the purchase to ensure you use your VAT form correctly, Wunsch said, because forms are tracked and purchases are monitored.

Worldwide garrisons identify 88 quality of life issues; Army Family Action Plan delegates whittle them to 16

Senior leaders identify five top AFAP concerns

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
INCOM COMMANDER

Earlier this month, I discussed the progress we made resolving 17 of 40 quality of life issues at the AFAP general officer steering committee held in February.

During the same week, AFAP delegates representing Army garrisons and commands worldwide met in our nation's capital to review and prioritize 88 quality of life issues that had been identified throughout the year at mid-level AFAP conferences across the Army.

As the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and the overseer of the AFAP process, I had the privilege to speak to these delegates and impress upon them the great responsibility of identifying the most critical issues for the Army

to work. Delegates were Soldiers, spouses, civilians, wounded warriors and survivors.

Each brought their own ideas, perspectives and experiences to share in the decision making process. The task before them was not easy, yet they met the challenge with an overwhelming sense of enthusiasm and energy. They reviewed, they discussed and they challenged each other on the issues. At the conclusion of the conference, 16 new quality of life issues were identified and reported to senior Army leadership.

The Top Five

The top five issues identified to senior Army leaders are:

- ◆ ID cards for surviving children with an active duty sponsor that annotate both active duty and survivor status
- ◆ Wounded warrior caregiver training
- ◆ Medically retired servicemembers' eligibility for concurrent receipt of disability pay
- ◆ Military child development program fee cap
- ◆ Medical retention processing time restrictions for Reserve Component Soldiers.

Currently, there is no way to annotate both dependent survivor status

and active duty status on an identification card. This issue affects dependents of dual military parents when one military parent dies or children of a surviving parent who remarry a servicemember.

This may cause undue emotional stress when survivors must justify their survivor status in order to qualify for survivor-specific services.

The delegates recommend ID cards annotate both dependent survivor status and active duty status to ensure survivors quickly receive all services available.

Delegates also recommend providing caregivers of wounded warriors formal standardized training on self-care, stress reduction, burnout and prevention of abuse or neglect.

Without this training, caregivers may suffer from caregiver fatigue which may ultimately lead to neglect of a wounded warrior or damage to the wounded warrior and caregivers' relationship.

The implementation of formal standardized, face-to-face training for designated caregivers of wounded warriors is critical to those who help heal our nation's heroes.

The elimination of the 20-year time

in service requirement for medically retired servicemembers to be eligible for concurrent receipt of disability pay was also identified as an issue to be worked this year. The CRDP eliminates the offset between retirement pay and Veterans Administration disability compensation.

Removal of the 20-year restriction would restore the full retirement pay and VA entitlements to the medically retired servicemembers with less than 20 years of active service.

Some military families using military child development programs pay more than 25 percent of their total monthly family income for childcare.

The recommendation is to cap program fees at 25 percent of the military family's total family income.

Lastly, medical retention processing for Reserve Component Soldiers is limited to six months from their date of release from active duty.

However, medical conditions resulting from active duty service are not always visible within the first six months of release from active duty.

Extending the medical retention processing to five years would allow Reserve Component Soldiers to receive proper medical treatment.

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:** compensation gap between officers and NCOs.

Issue: Costs of Pet Relocation

Scope

Costs are often a factor in deciding whether or not to ship a pet during a permanent change of station move. Due to the high costs of pet transportation, Soldiers and families are often forced to abandon pets during a PCS.

In 2007, issue 593 was deemed unattainable because there was no support for a one-time reimbursement for pet transportation costs specifically from overseas. Increasing the dislocation allowance will help defray the high costs of pet transportation, reducing stress on the family during relocation.

Recommendation

- ◆ Increase Dislocation Allowance to help defray costs of pet relocation

Command position

"Soldiers and families often face hard decisions when it's time to move and must assume the high costs of transporting their pets. The AFAP recommendation to increase the dislocation allowance for those with pets is a valid option. Perhaps this will help cut down on cases of pet abandonment in Germany," said U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Commander Col. Bill Butcher.

What do you think?

Express your opinion of this issue on Facebook (www.facebook.com/bwnow) and BNow (<http://myBNow.ning.com>) by answering the Question of the Week: Did you and your family have to decide whether or not you should bring your pets with you when you PCS'd because the cost was too high?

BNow feedback on last week's issue: Child Care Pre-Registration

"How about allowing people to fill out all of their registration paperwork online? It would save so much time and running around if you could have all your paperwork already done before you even arrive here. I understand you may not have physical addresses or emergency contacts yet but there is still a lot you have done ... (Also) it would be nice

if ... all the paperwork requirements were given to all new families right away. When my husband went through his inprocessing we had so many things thrown at us at once, it took me days to get through all the information and then start getting everything together. If doing all the paperwork online is not possible, then I really think that there

needs to be some kind of spousal inprocessing to make sure that we know what is going on and what all we need to have done. Every place is different and every place asks for different things ..."

—Susan, BNow Facebook fan

"Being that I am new to the community, it would

have been easy if there was some place to register the children where the Soldiers go to in-process. If you think about it, it works. You already have housing and ACS together, why not add child care? When you are new to the area, that is where most of your time is spent anyway."

—Kenya Davis, BNow Facebook fan

U.S. Army Gen. Carter F. Ham, center, commander of U.S. Africa Command, is piped aboard the amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC/JCC 20) during a visit to Augusta Bay, Italy, March 24 in support of Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn. JTF Odyssey Dawn is the U.S. Africa Command task force established to provide operational and tactical command and control of U.S. military forces supporting the international response to the unrest in Libya and enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973.



U.S. Navy Specialist 2nd Class Daniel Viramontes



U.S. Army

Soldiers from A Company, 101st Airborne Division, Special Troop Battalion air assault into a village inside Jowlzak Valley, Parwan province, Afghanistan. Afghan National Police searched the village while Soldiers provided security and conducted key-leader engagements.

Cavalry Scout Club cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York conduct training with Austrian cadets and Soldiers during an exercise in Austria.



U.S. Army

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Operating the Jaws of Life



Staff Sgt. Michael J. Taylor

Spc. Christopher Page and Spc. Stephen Virgil, firefighters with the 23rd Ordnance Company show Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston how to use the jaws of life during a walk through on Ramstein Airbase March 23. McQuiston observed the fire fighters as they trained to put out a fire on a make-shift airplane.

Cancer screenings prove critical

By Kristen Marquez
HMEDDAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A colonoscopy is something many people try to put off as long as possible – it just doesn't have a great reputation for being a screening to get excited about.

For many people who are at average risk of colon cancer, a colonoscopy is not recommended until age 50. For those at higher risk because of family history or other issues, earlier and more frequent screenings may be necessary. For Mannheim-based defense contractor Tony Voles, that issue was found during routine pre-deployment medical exams.

Voles, 49, who served in the Army for three years and has been a contractor for 25 years, thought he had a little bit of time before he needed to be screened.

"I am a civilian employee of a defense contractor, and I was going through my pre-deployment physical at the Heidelberg clinic in December," he said in an e-mail. "I was preparing to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan after the New Year. Part of the physical involved completing a (fecal) occult blood test."

Due to Voles' other health issues, when the test came back positive, it was almost dismissed as being normal. However, Leslie Mittag, Heidelberg Medical Department Activ-

ity's population health nurse case manager, noticed the result while looking over his paperwork and insisted he have a follow-up test.

"She insisted that I have another test that covered a three-day period," he said. "At this point, I did not think it was necessary and since the doctor had already signed my paperwork, I did not want to do the test. But she insisted. I did the test and all three samples came back positive. At this point, I was not alarmed because the doctor advised me that a second test would probably come back positive."

Nevertheless, Mittag encouraged him to schedule a colonoscopy with a local German facility. He did, and the results were frightening – a cancerous tumor.

"I was devastated when I heard the news," he said. "I was speechless, I heard what the doctor was saying, but I could not believe he was talking about me."

"Physically I felt fine so, how could I have cancer? This was my worst nightmare, and I did not know what to do. If my wife was not there to support me, I am not sure how I would have handled the days and weeks following the news. I also sought out the advice from a good friend who was diagnosed with cancer two years ago. Talking with him about his ordeal helped me accept my situation," he said.

Voles is now back in the United States being treated for the cancer.

"I was not planning to have a colonoscopy until sometime after April of 2011 when I turn 50 years of age," he said. "However, since I did not have any symptoms and I do not of a family history of colorectal cancer, I cannot say for sure when I would have actually had the procedure done."

Mittag said she was just doing her job when she encouraged him to get the screenings – a job she simply loves.

"I had my intuition tell me something wasn't right, and felt he needed further testing," she said. "I went to (his doctor) and informed her of the patient since she had recently also seen him regarding immunizations. She put a hold on his deployment, and then I took him over to the TRICARE Service Center to get assistance on getting him a colonoscopy procedure as soon as possible. I felt obligated to thoroughly make sure he was totally looked at regarding the positive fecal occult blood testing that was done."

Voles now understands the importance of the screenings. "I urge everyone to follow the guidelines for fecal occult blood test screenings, sigmoidoscopies, and colonoscopies. It is important to have these procedures done in order to detect cancer at its earliest stage," he said.

Troops seek TBI treatment

By Joanne Hsu
U.S. ARMY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

March is National Brain Injury Awareness Month. Brain injuries, specifically traumatic brain injuries, are major health concerns in the military.

Twelve percent of troops (about 320,000) returning from Iraq and Afghanistan reported experiencing TBI.

TBI is defined as a blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury that disrupts the function of the brain. "Concussion" is also used to describe TBIs.

Symptoms of TBI include headaches, dizziness, tiredness, trouble concentrating, forgetting things, irritability, balance problems, trouble sleeping and changes in vision.

Servicemembers can benefit from being aware of TBI and its symptoms because it is easy for TBI to be undetected by a doctor.

This could be because brain injury symptoms may not be present until weeks or months after a traumatic event. This is especially true with closed-head trauma where there are no visible effects such as bleeding or a fractured skull.

TBI is hard to distinguish from other emotional or behavioral problems such as post traumatic stress disorder or depression. There are still many unknowns about injuries to the brain that result from blasts or explosions. According to the New York Times, "These are the first wars (Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom) in which Soldiers protected by strong armor and rapid medical care, routinely survive explosions at close range and then return to combat."

Explosions or blasts are the leading cause of TBI for active duty military personnel in war zones.

There are two major things Soldiers and their families can do about TBI.

- ♦ Know the signs and symptoms of concussions and see a doctor if symptoms continue for more than three months.
- ♦ Keep the Defense Veterans Brain Injury Center phone number (stateside civ. 800-870-9244) nearby. DVBIC can answer questions about TBI or direct Soldiers to medical providers.

For deployed Soldiers, here are tips on how to protect against brain injuries.

- ♦ Wear a helmet or other appropriate head gear when on patrol or in other high-risk areas.
- ♦ Wear safety belts when traveling in vehicles.
- ♦ Check for obstacles and loose debris before climbing or rappelling down buildings or other structures.
- ♦ Maintain clean and orderly work environments that are free of debris.
- ♦ Be aware of what is on the ground around you at all times when aircraft rotors are turning.
- ♦ Use care when walking on wet, oily or sandy surfaces.
- ♦ Employ the buddy system when climbing ladders or working at heights.

HERTLING

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Hertling and his wife, Sue, return to Europe from Fort Monroe, Va., where he was the deputy commanding general for Initial Military Training at U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

His history in USAREUR is long. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy, Hertling served as a second lieutenant with 64th Armor Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, in Schweinfurt in 1975. He has also served in Katterbach, Hanau, Grafenwoehr and Wiesbaden.

During his remarks, Hertling described how he and his wife feel about being back in Heidelberg.

"My name is Hertling," he said, "and I am a Soldier. It is a tremendous honor to serve in Europe, a place I consider my professional home, a place where Sue and I have so many fond personal memories."

Through his assignment as commander of the Joint Multinational Training Command from September 2004 to August 2005 followed by an assignment as the USA-REUR chief of operations and

training, Hertling has been involved in USAREUR's unique role in building allied and partner nations' capacity to operate together in coalitions with the U.S.

Hertling said that America's traditional allies have evolved and become even stronger. He also finds the development of new relationships and alliances, some of whom "used to be on the other side of a wall or a fence," inspiring.

That inspiration will be put into action during Hertling's tenure at USAREUR.

"We will continue to find ways to strengthen partnerships with old and new allies especially as we recognize the ever evolving security environment faced by the United States, Europe and the world," Hertling said,

Hertling experienced the development of partnerships during his most recent tour of duty in Europe. He served as the commanding general of 1st Armored Division from May 2007 to May 2009, including his third deployment with the division to Iraq.

First Armored Division's



Richard Bumgardner

Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling laughs at a comment made by Adm. James Stavridis, commander of U.S. European Command, during Hertling's assumption of command at Campbell Barracks Friday.

headquarters returned from Iraq in November, and is in the process of moving to Fort Bliss, Texas, as part of U.S. Army Europe's ongoing transformation process that began in 2003.

Since 2003, USAREUR has reduced its size by one third, from 62,000 Soldiers to about 42,000 today. In addition, USAREUR has planned,

and Installation Management Command-Europe has executed, the closure of nearly half of the 239 sites the Army in Europe had in 2003.

As some of the final actions from that 2003 plan begin to unfold, including the consolidation of the headquarters in Wiesbaden, USAREUR is better postured to respond to the wide range of challenges emerging in the 21st Century.

Hertling said he monitored the planning of USAREUR's transformation and participated in the early stages of executing the plan. He sees moving forward with that plan as one of his missions.

"We will continue with the transformation of our Army in Europe, while providing trained Soldiers and units for Combatant Commanders as they face an increasingly demanding operational environment," Hertling said.

After listing the challenges, including the transformation USAREUR will face in the coming months, Hertling signaled his readiness to take them on.

"Given all this, there is no place on earth Sue and I would rather be."

Tax Centers

**Heidelberg
and
Mannheim**
Shopping Center
Bldg. 3860
DSN 370-7510
civ. 06221-57-7510

Kaiserslautern
Kleber Kaserne
Bldg. 3210
DSN 483-7688
civ. 0631-411-7688

Landstuhl Post
Bldg. 3701
DSN 486-6334
civ. 06371-86-6334

The tax deadline is April 18.
Visit your local Tax Center
for help from the experts.

Who decides how much money Soldiers living off post get to pay for their utilities? They do!

Staff Report

When eligible Soldiers fill out the Overseas Housing Allowance Utility/Recurring Maintenance Survey, they provide the data the Department of Defense uses to determine exactly how much money will be provided for off-post utilities and maintenance costs in Germany.

There is still time for eligible Soldiers and members of other U.S. forces stationed overseas to participate in the survey.

Those who have not received an e-mail with a link to the survey may visit the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Web site at www.bw.eur.army.mil and click the link under "Hot Top-



Illustration by Brandon Spragins

ics."

Service members who have lived in a private lease dwelling under the OHA program in Germany for at least the past six months or longer are eligible to take the online survey.

Because accuracy is important, survey participants should use their records and receipts to help them report the average monthly cost of each of their utilities, as well as the average monthly cost of any routine maintenance expenses.

The survey can be stopped at any time, for example to research costs or search for receipts and started again later. The survey continues through April 15.

The direct link to the survey is <https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/ss/wsb.dll/seg4a>.

ACS

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"ACS will remain a one-stop information hub and a location where customers can make their first contact for all available services on the installation," Dixon said.

"What is changing is that we are developing more of a generalists approach to service delivery. Everyone is being cross-trained to handle multiple programs in ACS to better serve every customer," she said.

The transformed ACS will also be taking more programs and services to units, housing, schools, lodging, commissary, exchanges and off-site locations to meet customers' needs, Dixon said.

Since it was established in 1965, ACS has developed from a place for spouses to find assistance and information to centers of diversified programs staffed by professionals.

ACS programs include: Army Family Action Plan, Army Family Team Building, Deployment/Mobilization Program, New Parent Support, Army Volunteer Corps, Master Resiliency Training, Exceptional Family Member, Family Advocacy, Financial Readiness, Victim Advocacy, Army Emergency Relief, Information and Referral, Reloca-

tion Readiness, Sexual Assault and Response Program, Soldier and Family Assistance Center, Spouse Employment Readiness, Survivor Outreach Services, Military Family Life Consultants and Computer/Yellow Ribbon Rooms.

ACS assists commanders in maintaining individual and family readiness and helps deliver services to promote self-reliance, resiliency and stability.

The community will probably not notice the internal changes to allow cross-training, but they will notice the improvement when they can get information on any program at ACS even if a particular specialist is not in, Dixon said.

Some positions within ACS require the staff to have specialized credentials or licenses, while others such as the deployment and mobilization programs, require more generalized credentials.

With the transformation, ACS will no longer be a division under Family and MWR, but will report directly to garrison commanders.

"ACS will continue to work in close partnership with FMWR on many programs and activities as joint providers in service delivery to the military community," Dixon said.



Celebrating Month of the Military Child

Phone Numbers

U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Child, Youth and School Services, DSN 388-9240, civ. 06221-228-9240
 Heidelberg Patrick Henry Village Library, DSN 370-1740, civ. 06221-57-1740
 Kaiserslautern Main Library, DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-8390
 Mannheim School Age Center, Bldg. 737, DSN 380-4321, civ. 0621-730-4321
 Heidelberg International Wandering Club, civ. 06227-84-1226, hiwc@yahoo.com

Kaiserslautern

April 3: Family Bingo and free hot dogs and drinks, 3-6 p.m., Kazabra Club, Bldg. 2057 on Vogelweh
 April 9-10: Petey the Parrot pictures, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Kids' Zone on Pulaski Barracks
 April 16: Merlin Award winner Rob Lake magic show, 7 p.m. Free at KMC Onstage
 April 19: Paws and Pals, 3:30 p.m., Kaiserslautern Main Library on Landstuhl, Bldg. 3810, teams children up with dogs to improve literacy skills by reading books
 April 30: Month of the Military Child Celebration, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. April 30 in Pulaski Park

Heidelberg

All month: Month of the Military Child special guest readers at the Library on Patrick Henry Village
 April 1: Child Development Center, 9 a.m., walk from the center to the elementary school, where U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Commander Col. Bill Butcher and Command Sgt. Maj. Annette Weber will proclaim the start of the month of the military child at 9:45 a.m.
 April 2: Egg Drop and Science Fair, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Heidelberg Middle School
 April 6: Stay and Play, 3:30 p.m., Child Development Center on Patrick Henry Village
 April 8: High school Lion's Den, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Europa Park Trip
 April 8: Cyber chat with deployed family members, 6 p.m., School Age Center, Bldg. 3850, Shopping Center
 April 8: ACS free family movie "Toy Story 3," 2 p.m., at the theater on Patrick Henry Village, includes child-size drink, popcorn and a goody bag

April 12-15: Independent activities Library on Patrick Henry Village, For school age children.
 April 13: After School Easter Craft, 3:30 p.m., Library on Patrick Henry Village
 April 15: High School Lion's Den Movie and Popcorn, theater on Patrick Henry Village
 April 16: Missoula Children's Theater performance of "Snow White," 5:30 p.m., Heidelberg Middle School
 April 17: Teddy Bear Tea Party, 2-4 p.m., Village Pavilion
 April 20-22: Earth Week Children's Art Exhibit, Arts and Cultural Center, Patrick Henry Village Pavilion
 April 21: Pajama story time, 7:30 p.m., Library on Patrick Henry Village. Open to school age children
 April 24: Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Patrick Henry Village Pavilion
 April 30: Kiddie Volksmarch, 9 a.m.-noon, Library on Patrick Henry Village and at 10 a.m., Family and MWR picnic next to the skate park

Mannheim

April 1: Child Development Center parade, 9:30-10 a.m., Bldg. 699
 April 1: Month of the Military Child Information Fair, 3:30-5 p.m., School Age Center, Bldg. 737
 April 7: Muffins with Mom, 8 a.m., Child Development Center on Benjamin Franklin Village April 8: Boot Camp, 1-5 p.m., School Age Center, Bldg. 737
 April 11-15: Spring Break and Community Service Week (throughout Benjamin Franklin Village)
 April 12: School Age Center field trip to Kids World, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Lampertheim
 April 14: School Age Center field

trip to Kids Inn, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Frankenthal
 April 22: Month of the Military Child Exhibit, 3:30-5:30 p.m., School Age Center, Bldg. 737
 April 23: Participation in Kinderfest and Easter Egg hunt, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.,

on Sullivan Field at the Sullivan Gym
 April 23: Missoula Children's Theater performance of "Snow White," 6 p.m., Mannheim Elementary School
 April 29: Month of the Military Child barbecue, 11 a.m.-noon, School Age Center, Bldg. 737

Month of the Military Child Highlights

Missoula Children's Theater

Watch Mannheim and Heidelberg children perform like stars in the Missoula Children's Theater production of "Snow White" 5:30 p.m. April 16 at Heidelberg Middle School and 6 p.m. April 23 at Mannheim Elementary School. Children audition in each community the Monday before the performance and then practice every day.

Teddy Bear Tea Party

Bring your child to the annual Teddy Bear Tea Party 2-4 p.m. April 17 at the Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. Enjoy delicious tea and party sandwiches while engaging in fun activities. Mr. Teddy Bear will stop by for a special appearance. Dressy attire is recommended (formal hats, gloves and neckties are encouraged). The event is open to children ages 2-10 who are accompanied by an adult.

Easter Egg Hunts

Heidelberg and Mannheim communities will host Easter Egg hunts 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 23 on the Sullivan Gym Field in Mannheim and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. April 24 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg.

Month of the Military Child Celebration

Bring the family to Pulaski Park 11 a.m.-3 p.m. April 30 for a grand celebration. The teen shuttle will be running throughout the Kaiserslautern Military Community for this event. There will be free food, entertainment and demonstrations on the main stage. Visit the podium area for puppet and magic shows.

Volksmarch and Barbecue

The Heidelberg International Wandering Club will stage a Kiddie Volksmarch 9 a.m.-noon April 30 on Patrick Henry Village in conjunction with a Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation free picnic starting at 10 a.m. next to the skate park. Children 12 years and under can participate in the 5-kilometer walk for free but must be accompanied by an adult. Children will receive a medal and certificate upon completion. The start and finish will be at the library on Patrick Henry Village.

GERMAN NEWS

Muslims in Germany

German Interior Minister Hans-Peter Friedrich said on Tuesday Muslims should help root out Islamists in their community, announcing a new initiative targeting extremists like the one responsible for a recent deadly attack in Frankfurt. The conservative minister, presenting his plans to Muslims at the government's so-called Islam Conference in Berlin, said he planned to promote closer cooperation between security officials and the Muslim community. After the recent murder of two U.S. Airmen at the Frankfurt Airport by an allegedly freshly radicalized Islamist, Friedrich said more should be done to understand the hidden world of jihadists. On Tuesday he said the government and Muslims should work together to fight violent extremism. But Muslim leaders and members of the socialist Left party accused Friedrich of misusing the Islam Conference, which was initiated in 2006 as an attempt to open a healthier dialogue with some 4 million Muslims living in Germany to improve relations between the two.

Stuttgart 21 Derailed

Construction work for the controversial Stuttgart 21 rail project will cease until Baden-Württemberg's new state government has been formed, Deutsche Bahn said Tuesday. The announcement followed the unprecedented political upset by the environmentalist Greens and the center-left Social Democrats (SPD) in Sunday's state election in Baden-Württemberg, where the two parties are set to form a coalition. The new alliance has thrown the future of Stuttgart 21 into question, though. For years the Greens have opposed the multibillion-euro rail project and last year became part of a massive protest movement that aims to halt the revamp of the city's main train station. But the SPD has backed the project which requires 16 new tunnels, 18 new bridges, 60 kilometers of new train track and three stations, including an underground through-station in Stuttgart.

Jet Fuel Over Bavaria

The Luftwaffe has admitted that a German Eurofighter jet accidentally lost two external tanks filled with fuel over the countryside near the Bavarian city of Augsburg during a training flight. What caused the tanks to dislodge during a routine exercise was not immediately clear. The Bundeswehr is now investigating the incident. The fighter jet's tanks, which can hold up to 1,000 liters of fuel each, were found in a forest and field some 19 kilometres from Augsburg.

SOURCE: www.thelocal.de



DEAR MS.
Vicki

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

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I am writing for advice about my wife. We've been married seven years and have had major ups and downs.

I am 34 and it is getting difficult for me because she turns off and on like a water faucet. She was sexually abused as a child by two family members and has never gotten over the pain.

This affects our marriage and our sex life. Sometimes she does not want to make love to me for months. When I try to initiate any closeness, she becomes angry and compares me to her abusers. I am not the abuser. I just want my wife.

I am young with a great career in the Army. I'm not a bad looking guy. Women are constantly coming on to me and it's getting harder for me to look the other way.

How can I approach this issue with my wife without making her angry at me or making her feel like I only want sex?

Husband Wants Issues Resolved

Dear Husband,

Being a victim of sexual abuse

can stay with us for an eternity, but counseling can help heal the wounds.

Have a heart-to-heart talk with your wife and tell her you love and support her, but you think it's time she saw a professional counselor, a clinical social worker or a psychologist who specializes in healing sexual abuse.

This is paramount. The professional must specialize in this area. You can check with Social Work Services or the Behavioral Health department for an appointment. You could also call Tricare or Military OneSource.

Your wife needs your love and support right now. Please don't complicate things by having an affair to validate your manhood or to make yourself feel needed or wanted. You would only make matters worse.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I have been a military spouse for two years and I can honestly say that it has ruined my relationship with my husband.

Before he deployed, we were in a healthy relationship. But as the training began getting heavier, he became more distant. When he came back from deployment, it was as if I had married a completely different person.

He doesn't care about me. He cares more about himself. He would rather be with other girls than with his own wife. He puts any type of priorities unrelated to work before me.

The more I stay, the more I feel taken for granted. He has made so many empty promises about how he is going to change, yet he falls right back into old habits. It doesn't feel as if he loves me anymore.

I think he loves the idea of me because I take care of everything in the house, from cooking to balancing

the check book. I have suggested marriage counseling and he refuses to attend. His excuse is that it's stupid and it won't help.

I have suggested a trial separation and he feels it's going to break up the marriage – more than it already is, if you ask me.

I have been through so much and I feel like I can't handle any more. I'm really depressed, and I don't want it to affect my schoolwork. What else should I do before I cut him off for good?

Emotionally Wrecked

Dear Wrecked,

Deployments can be tough emotionally and can cause emotional distance between any couple. However, the couple must move expeditiously to try and bridge the emotional gap.

Many couples report that during the deployment they distance themselves emotionally as a form of protection, i.e., "It will help me not to think about the other person as much, therefore I will be able to cope with the length of time away."

Your marriage can survive this. However, it will take the two of you working together, and it sounds like you are willing, but your husband is not. He has to be willing to invest in spending time with you to help re-create the intimacy between you.

If he is not willing to submit to counseling you could be at an impasse. Even if he is unwilling, you should still see a clinical social worker, a marriage and family therapist or a professional counselor.

You could use the listening ear, the support and suggestions. If they don't have these services at your local base, I think you should contact Military OneSource at (stateside civilian) 800-342-9647. The services are free.

Into the Forest...

Earth Week Photo Contest

If you have dreamed of being a wilderness photographer, now's your chance! You don't have to travel far to go into the woods. The United Nations has declared 2011 to be the International Year of the Forests. Explore the woods of Germany, with your eyes and cameras. Leave only your footprints behind you, but bring back your best photographs or collages and submit them to the [myBWNOW.ning.com](http://mybwnow.ning.com) – Earth Week Photo Contest page. The winning and runner up photos will be published in the Herald Post during Earth Week.

Go to <http://mybwnow.ning.com/profile/intotheforest> to upload photos.

Photos/collages should be taken in Germany. Please submit by April 10. See the website for more information. You must have a myBWNOW account to upload photos.

GET OUT!

area events

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

March 31

Trier Cathedral – Trier Cathedral, or Dom St. Peter as it is also known, holds a vast array of holy relics and art works and is one of the most important and oldest churches in Germany. Construction began in 326 AD by Constantine. This historical site also provides a great insight into the history of the area. Free entry or €45 for a group guided tour. www.buzzoffbase.com.

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 and at most local ticket agents.

Limp Bizkit – Tickets are now on sale for the Limp Bizkit concert at Mannheim's SAP Arena 8 p.m. June 25. Tickets are available at 0621-10-1011, online at www.rhein-neckarticket.de, www.bb-promotion.com and from local ticket agents.

Tribute to the Rat Pack – Top performers Reamonn's Rea Garvey, Xavier Naidoo, Sasha and comedian Michael Mittermeier get together to pay tribute to the legendary rat pack – Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Joey Bishop. Supported by a big band, the foursome present swing classics with the unequalled coolness, smugness and drive of Las Vegas fame. Shows will be at Mannheim's Rosengarten 8 p.m. Dec. 20-21. Tickets are available now at civ. 0621-10-1011, www.bb-promotion.com, www.rheinneckarticket.de and local ticket agents.

April 1

Orchestra Concert – Tickets are 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 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 start at €35 plus fees and are available for purchase at civ. 0621-10 10 11 or online at www.bb-promotion.com or www.rheinneckarticket.de, and at local ticket agents.

Roadside Theater – See Arthur Miller's classic play, "All My Sons" about the life of a family after a World War II hero returns home 7:30 p.m. April 1-2 at the Roadside Theater on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. Recommended for mature audiences. DSN 373-1520, civ. 06221-17-1520, www.roadside-theater.com, www.mwgermany.com.

KMC Onstage – "Doubt, a Parable" is

a Pulitzer Prize winning drama by John Patrick Shanley centering on a Catholic school principal, Sister Aloysius, who takes matters into her own hands when she suspects Father Flynn of improper relations with a male student. The play, set in the Bronx, N.Y., in 1964, will be performed 7:30 p.m. at KMC Onstage on Kleber Kaserne in Kaiserslautern April 1-2. DSN 483-6626, civ. 0631-411-6626, www.mwgermany.com.

April 6

English Language Stammtisch – "American Foreign Policy in the Middle East" is the topic of this meeting 6:30 p.m. at the historic Ritter Hotel St. Georg in the heart of Heidelberg's Old City, Hauptstrasse 178 next to the Market Place. Join the lively discussion in English of topics of current interest in the Rhein-Neckar Valley. lirica100@yahoo.com.

April 7

South of France – Romans, Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, French cowboys, Paul Cezanne and more await during this guided tour of Southern France. Celebrate the end of winter and step into spring by exploring some of the world's most beautiful French treasures. Spend three days crisscrossing Provence and Camargue. <http://affiliates.uso.org/Kaiserslautern>.

April 9

Celebration of the Arts – Celebrate the arts at this first-time event at the Hohenfels Community Activities Center Bldg. 40. All crafters and artists are invited to sell and share their handmade goods during the event. The celebration features a free craft show from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The craft show will feature more than 30 local crafters and artists selling beautiful, handmade goods. Afterwards, stay for a celebration of the Arts Gala 7-10 p.m. at the same location. Enjoy live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine bar and auctions during this elegant event. Purchase Gala tickets at www.HohenfelsCSC.com. Event is open to U.S. I.D. cardholders.

Veterama – Experience one of Europe's largest classic and vintage car and motorcycle markets and swap meets. Find whole vehicles, spare parts, tools, accessories and documentation. Trade and meet fellow aficionados. The event in Ludwigshafen, sports more than 1,500 exhibitors offering about 100 complete cars and 600 motorbikes on two weekends. April 9-10 features cars and motorcycles, April 16-17 is for motorcycles only. Location: Friedrich Ebert Gelände, Erzberger Straße, 67063 Ludwigshafen. Hours: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays; 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays. www.veterama.de/en/1-home.html.

Long Night of the Museums – The "Long Night of Museums," 7 p.m.-2 a.m., features 30 new locations this year to include a rediscovered bunker in the hillside under the Heidelberg castle and a boat tour of Mannheim's industrial harbor. A wealth of offerings are available with a single ticket that gives access to 130 venues: museums, art galleries, historic monuments, theaters, libraries in Mannheim, Heidelberg and Ludwigshafen. The ticket includes public transportation (Museumslinie) between sites. Featured are special exhibitions, workshops, guided tours, concerts and performances. Tickets are available online and at participating museums and galleries, public transportation salespoints. A children's program is available 7-10 p.m. The website features a "Nachtplaner" (night planner) to help visitors map a route in advance to get the most out of the offerings. <http://langenacht.meier-online.de> (German language only).

April 12

Mannheim Tour – If you're new to the Mannheim area or just curious about the city, this special tour is for you. Visit some of the city's most popular sights such as the Water Tower, the Holocaust memorial, the Paradeplatz, the Farmer's Market and the castle. There will also be time for lunch and shopping. Let USO Heidelberg be your guide. <http://affiliates.uso.org/rheinmain>.

April 14

Saltmines Tour – Enjoy an underground tour at Berchtesgaden Salt Mines. These amazing mines have been in operation for almost 500 years. Take a trip down into the mine to see its salty wonders. The mines are open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. May 1 - October 31 and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. November-April 30. Call civ. 0865-26-0020 for ticket prices and tour times. www.buzzoffbase.com.

April 30

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. Major side shows include a horse riding competition and entertainment in the glass cupola. The fair is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Advance tickets are now on sale and 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 (German language).

THEATERS

SUCKER PUNCH

(Emily Browning, Vanessa Hudgens) A young girl's dream world provides the ultimate escape from her darker reality. Unrestrained by the boundaries of time and place, she is free to go where her mind takes her, and her incredible adventures blur the lines between what's real and what is imaginary. Locked away against her will, Babydoll has not lost her will to survive. Determined to fight for her freedom, she urges four other young girls to band together to escape their captors. Rated PG-13 (for thematic material involving sexuality, violence and combat sequences and for language) 105 minutes.



PAUL

(Seth Rogen, Simon Pegg) For the past 60 years, an alien named Paul has been hanging out at a top-secret military base. For reasons unknown, the space-traveling alien decides to escape the compound hopping on the first vehicle out of town – a RV containing Earthlings Graeme Willy and Clive Gollings. Rated R (language including sexual references and some drug use) 104 minutes.

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

March 31 - PAUL (R) 7 p.m.

April 1 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE RITE (PG-13) 9 p.m.

April 2 - THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 4 p.m.; SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 7 p.m.; THE RITE (PG-13) 9 p.m.

April 3 - THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 4 p.m.; SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 7 p.m.

April 4 - THE RITE (PG-13) 7 p.m.

April 5 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 7 p.m.

April 6 - THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 7 p.m.

April 7 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

April 1 - PAUL (R) 7 p.m.

April 2 - THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 4 p.m.; THE RITE (PG-13) 7 p.m.

April 3 - THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

March 31 - DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; TRUE GRIT (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7 p.m.

COUNTRY STRONG (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:45 p.m.

April 1 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9 p.m.

April 2 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9 p.m.

April 3 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

April 4 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

April 5 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

April 6 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

April 7 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.;

THE GREEN HORNET (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.;

THE RITE (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

THEATER INFORMATION

Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg, 06221-27-238

Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 0631-50017

Gateway Cineplex, Ramstein, 06371-47-5550

Visit www.aafes.com for updated listings and more movie descriptions
Mannheim, CinemaxX, P4 13, 68161 Mannheim, civ. 01805-62-5466, www.cineplex.de

Mannheim, CinemaxX

March 31 to April 3 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 4:45 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 11 p.m.

April 3 and April 5 - SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) 4:45 p.m., 8:15 p.m.

April 6 - NO STRINGS ATTACHED (R) 8:15 p.m.; GNOME O & JULIET (G) 8:45 p.m.

community HIGHLIGHTS

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 beginning April 2. The TRICARE Overseas Program patient handbook can be downloaded at <http://tricare-overseas.com>.

Asymmetric Warfare Group

The Asymmetric Warfare Group recruiting team is seeking senior NCOs and officers for operational advisor teams and support staff. Unique skills sought include combat experience, maturity, analytical and innovative thought and communication skills. Briefings will be 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. April 4 on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg, Bldg. 135, the old chapel.

Federal Benefits Phone Number

The Federal Benefits Unit in Frankfurt will have a new telephone number starting April 4 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 will be discontinued. The Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt can also be reached at FBU.Frankfurt@ssa.gov or fax 069-749352.

Best Logisticians

Logistics Soldiers, civilians and units in Europe will be saluted during the U.S. Army Europe and Installation Management Command-Europe Combined Logistics Excellence Awards ceremony 1:30 p.m. April 5 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg. The ceremony recognizes logisticians who have achieved excellence in maintenance, supply and deployment-related categories. Three awards are presented: the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence, the Supply Excellence Award and the Deployment Excellence Award.

Amnesty Day

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command has scheduled an amnesty day to allow individuals to turn in ammunition and explosives April 12 at the Theater Logistics Support Center – Europe's Ammunition Supply Point 9 at Miesau Army Depot. DSN 481-3516, civ. 06372-842-3664.

Acute Care Clinic

The Acute Care Clinic in the Heidelberg Health Center will be closed Easter Sunday April 24. Those in need of urgent care during this time should go to the nearest host nation hospital. The clinic will resume normal hours, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., April 25.

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/communitybrowser.aspx?id=1355241&lang=en-US>.

local EMPLOYMENT

Physical Therapist

A part-time pediatric Physical Therapist is needed for Education and Developmental Intervention Services, a school-based service, for the 2011-12 school year. DSN 371-2738, civ. 06221-17-2738.

KAISERSLAUTERN

Education

• **Conversational Spanish** – A free Learn to Speak Spanish class is offered 9 a.m. Tuesdays in Bldg. 2891 on Pulaski Barracks. Register: DSN 493-4203, civ. 0631-3406-4203.

• **Educational Success** – Students in grades 9-12 can explore college selection, financial aid, SAT and ACT exams 4-5:45 p.m. April 6, 13, 20 and 27 at the Landstuhl Library. Youth must be enrolled in Child, Youth and School Services. DSN 493-4122, civ. 0631-3406.

• **Youth Scholarships** – Youth will learn how to get money for college through a combination of scholarships, grants and loans 4:30-6:30 p.m. April 7, 14, 21 and 28 at the Landstuhl Library. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406.

Community

• **ASAP Moves** – The Army Substance Abuse Program office is now located at Daenner Kaserne, Bldg. 3104, 4th floor. The new numbers are DSN 483-7857, civ. 0631-411-7857.

• **A Piece of Cake** – Children in grades 6-12 are invited to learn about cake recipes, techniques and cake decorating 4-6 p.m. March 31 at the Landstuhl Combined Club. Free for children enrolled in Child, Youth and School Services. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406-4516, www.mwrgermany.com.

• **Cards For A Cause** – Anyone can help make blank cards and small projects for the wounded warriors and traveling Soldiers to send to friends 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. April 4, May 2 and June 6 at Woodlawn Golf Course, Ramstein Airbase. The club also makes cards for veterinarians to send to families with ailing pets

• **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, Bldg. 2859, on Pulaski Barracks, DSN 489-6162, civ. 0631-536-6162. www.mwrgermany.com.

• **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.

• **Parent Survey** – Save 5 percent on Child, Youth and School Services fees by completing the parent survey at www.mwrgermany.com/cyss.html before March 31. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406-4122.

• **Trivia Night** – Fun trivia will

challenge the smartest 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays at the Java Café on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. DSN 493-2623, civ. 0631-3406-2623, 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.

• **Quilt Guild** – The Rhineland Pfalz quilt guild meets 9:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month in the Ramstein North Chapel and 6 p.m. on fourth Thursday in the Kaiserslautern Landstuhl Spouses Association building on Pulaski Barracks. Stitch n' Gab meets 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fridays in the Kapaun Chapel Annex.

HEIDELBERG

Education

• **ACS Classes** – Stress Management, 1-3 p.m. April 5, Intro to MS Word, 9-11 a.m. April 5-6; PCS Briefing, 12:30-3 p.m. April 5 in room 141, Community Support Center, Bldg. 3850; SNAP Meeting, 3 p.m. April 6 in Child Development Center on Patrick Henry Village; DSARC, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. April 7; Relaxation Techniques, 10 a.m.-noon April 7, on Nachrichten Kaserne, Bldg. 3622, Company B conference room.

• **UMUC Registration** – University of Maryland University College Europe announces registration for online courses through April 3. Classes start April 4. Students can apply for scholarships for up to \$100 of textbook costs. www.ed.umuc.edu/financial_aid.

Community

• **DPW Gate** – The entry and exit gate next to the Deutsche Post is permanently closed. The new entry and exit gate is near the vacant Vehicle Inspection building. All traffic coming in and out of the DPW Compound must use this gate. The city has constructed a roadway that connects the new entry/exit gate to the main parking lot. In the coming weeks, roadways will be marked and directional arrows painted on the ground.

• **Parent to Parent** – Parents will be offered a workshop "Elementary School Transition" to provide helpful resources for parents of children who will be attending a new school in the fall. The workshop will be presented by the Parent to Parent team 8:30 a.m. April 1 in the Patrick Henry Elementary School cafeteria.

• **Line Dance** – Get free line dance instructions 7-9 p.m. April 1 at Legends on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 388-9670, civ. 338-9570, www.mwrgermany.com.

• **April Fools** – Hop over to the Recovery Room on Nachrichten Kaserne 9 p.m.-3 a.m. April 1 for an April Fools Hip-Hop Party. DSN 371-2762, civ. 06221-17-2762.

• **Volksmarches** – The Heidelberg

International Wandering Club is registered for a walk in Ludwigshafen, Huettenthal April 2-3. The full list of trips is now online. www.hiwcd.de.

• **Free Movie** – Take the kids to the Patrick Henry Village Theater 2 p.m. April 8 for a free viewing of "Toy Story 3" with a child size popcorn, drink and take-home hero bag. Arrive early as seats are limited. www.mwrgermany.com.

• **Magic Show** – Magician Rob Lake will present a free family magic show open to the community 7 p.m. April 15 at the Village Pavilion. DSN 373-7414, civ. 06221-17-7414.

• **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.

• **Road Block** – Hang out at the Earth Week Block Party 4-9 p.m. April 23 at Snapshots on Patton Barracks with live music, food and drinks. DSN 373-5194, civ. 06221-17-5194, www.mwrgermany.com.

• **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.

• **UMUC Graduation** – The commencement ceremony for University of Maryland University College is 2 p.m. May 7 in the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion. Guest speaker will be retired Gen. William T. Hobbs, former commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe, commander of NATO Allied Air Component Command and director of the Joint Air Power Competence Center.

• **Kids' Zone Redemption Tickets** – The Kids' Zone at the Patrick Henry Village Bowling and Entertainment Center no longer issues redemption tickets for the games. Tickets can be redeemed at the prize counter until April 1. Games now accept only quarters. DSN 388-9040, civ. 06221-338-9040, www.mwrgermany.com.

• **Why Catholic** – Sessions of "Why Catholic? A Journey through the Catechism," for adults and high school students wishing to learn more about their faith, take place through April 10:30 a.m. Sundays and 6:30 p.m. Mondays at Patrick Henry Elementary School; 9:30 a.m. Mondays at Mark Twain Village Chapel and 7 p.m. Thursdays at Patrick Henry Village Chapel. DSN 370-8238, civ. 06221-57-8238.

MANNHEIM

Education

• **ACS Classes** – Intro to MS Excel, 10 a.m.-noon April 1; Mommy and Me Signing Time 3-4 p.m. April 5 in Bldg. 251, Soldier and Family Assistance Center lounge; AFTB Level II 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 5-7; FRG 101, 9-11 a.m. April 6; SNAP Meeting, 1 p.m. April 6 at the Mannheim Clinic; Green Baby

Group, 1-2 p.m. April 6 in Bldg. 254; Pregnancy Support Group, 1-2:30 p.m. April 7 in Bldg. 251, Soldier and Family Assistance Center lounge.

• **American Red Cross** – Pet First Aid, noon-3 p.m. for dogs and 3-6 p.m. for cats April 2 and April 6 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for dogs and 12:30-3:30 p.m. for cats; Standard CPR, AED and First Aid, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. April 6; Registration is required: Bldg. 242 on Sullivan Barracks, DSN 385-1760, civ. 0621-730-1760.

Community

• **Customs Field Office** – The Customs office will be closed April 1 to relocate from Bldg. 255 to Bldg. 256 (the Military Police station).

• **Reading Exhibition** – Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and Mannheim Middle School will sponsor a reading exhibition 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. April 1 in the multi-purpose room to promote self-confidence and reading fluency. Readers will be judged on choice of selection, interpretation and stage presence. DSN 380-9181, civ. 0621-730-9181.

• **Salsa Lessons, Party** – Learn how to Salsa 6-7 p.m. for level one and 7-8 p.m. for level two April 6, 13 and 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.

• **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.

• **Protestant Women** – Women of all faiths are invited to join the Protestant Women of the Chapel 9:30 a.m.-noon and 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays until May 17 at in the Benjamin Franklin Village Chapel basement.

• **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, with the exception of those who live on Washington and Lincoln Streets, may set up in front of quarters; all others may set up in the parking lot in front of the Sports Arena. No new or commercial items may be sold. 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 and both the school bands and drama students.

Bowlers burn up the lanes to benefit children with cancer

HSMA Public Affairs

More than 120 bowlers rolled out Saturday to raise funds for German children living with cancer at the third annual Heidelberg Sergeants Major Association Bowling Tournament at the Patrick Henry Village bowling center in Heidelberg.

The nine pin, no-tap tournament brought out some of Heidelberg's best bowlers.

The winning team: Bo Batten, Ron Himbourg, Greg O'Dell and Paul Schardt, took first-place prizes with a combined three-game score of 2,959 points.

The second-place finishers, Tim Smith, Theron Mitchell, Tre Sutton and Allan Smith, were right on the heels of the first-place team with a combined score

of 2,877 points.

Sheila Touchet walked away with bragging rights and prizes for the women's high game and high series.

But the competition was much stiffer for the men's high game and high series, where Paul Schardt and Allan Smith both bowled 300 games.

Their second game score broke the tie with Schardt bowling a 266 and Smith bowling a 264.

The association made more than \$1,200 from the fundraiser. All proceeds will go toward hosting holiday parties for local German children living with cancer.

For more information about joining or requesting support from the Heidelberg Sergeants Major Association, e-mail hsmagermany@gmail.com.



Lisa Hunter
Susan Garrow shows off her bowling flare, Saturday, at the third annual Heidelberg Sergeants Major Association Bowling Tournament.

Heidelberg Track



Aaron Tribble-Knowles runs the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.94, qualifying him to compete in the European championships. Camille Jackson, right, hands the baton to Aaliyah Woods during the 4x100-meter relay contributing to a second place finish with a time of 57.07. At the meet Saturday in Ansbach, the Heidelberg girls finished first overall with 89 points over Patch (80), Vilseck (58), Ansbach (46), Black Forest Academy (35), Hohenfels (24) and Bamberg (14). The boys finished second with 80 points, falling to Patch (98) but winning over BFA (55), Bamberg (51), Patch (29), Hohenfels (24) and Ansbach (17).



Photos by Linda Steil

staying ACTIVE

Heidelberg High School Sports

Heidelberg girls and boys soccer teams face Hohenfels at home April 1. Varsity girls play at 4 p.m.; Varsity boys at 6 p.m. Junior Varsity girls play at 8 p.m., JV boys at 9:30 p.m. Soccer teams go to Vilseck April 2 when Varsity girls play at 10 a.m. and Varsity boys play at noon. JV girls play at 2 p.m. and JV boys at 3:30 p.m. Heidelberg baseball and softball teams play double headers April 2 at Vilseck with first game at 10 a.m. and second game at 12:30 p.m. Track team plays at home 10 a.m. April 2 at against Kaiserslautern, Vilseck, BFA, Bamberg, Hohenfels and Mannheim

Power Lifting Invitational

Register through April 1 for the Powerlifting Invitational on Kleber Kaseme in Kaiserslautern starting at 10:30 a.m. April 9. Open to ID card holders 18 and older. Register: www.mwrgermany.com/sportsevents.htm.

Adult Softball Tryouts, Practice

Kaiserslautern softball teams are looking for players and coaches to try out and practice 1 p.m. April 2 at the Rhine Ordnance Fitness Center, Bldg. 172. Must be 18 or older. DSN 493-2088, civ. 0631-340-62088.

Kaiserslautern Bowling Tournament

The Kaiserslautern Sergeants Major Association's Bowling Tournament will be noon-3 p.m. April 2 at the Vogelweh Bowling Center. Register: DSN 484-7548, civ. 0631-413-8118.

Golf Tournament

Sign up by April 3 for the Masters Golf Tournament scheduled for April 10 at the Heidelberg Golf Club on der Bundesstrasse in Oftersheim. Open to all eligible users with a verifiable handicap. DSN 379-6139, civ. 06202-53-767, www.mwrgermany.com.

Intramural Golf

Register by April 5 for the Heidelberg intramural golf program which is scheduled for April 7-June 23 at the Heidelberg Golf Course. Program is open to the first 20 two-player teams that register. An organizational meeting will be held 3 p.m. April 7 at the golf course. DSN 373-8032.

Upcoming Community Volleyball

Upcoming unit-level volleyball games: U.S. Army Europe plays the Roughnecks at 6:30 p.m. and the Heidelberg Medical Department Activity faces the 4th Air Support Operations Group at 7:30 p.m. April 6. On April 11, the Roughnecks play 4th ASOG at 6:30 p.m. and USAREUR faces HMEDDAC at 7:30 p.m.

Heidelberg Softball Officials Clinic

Heidelberg Softball officials' clinic and tournament will be April 19-23. Classroom instruction will be 6-9 p.m. April 19-22 in the Heidelberg Sports office, Bldg. 128, on Patton Barracks. The tournament will be April 23. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

Late Night Cosmic

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.

Soccer Players

Heidelberg Community Soccer is seeking players for the community team. Practices and tryouts are 6-9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the Patton Barracks fitness center in Heidelberg and the Tompkins Barracks fitness centers in Schwetzingen. Must be 18 years or older. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

Baden Bruins

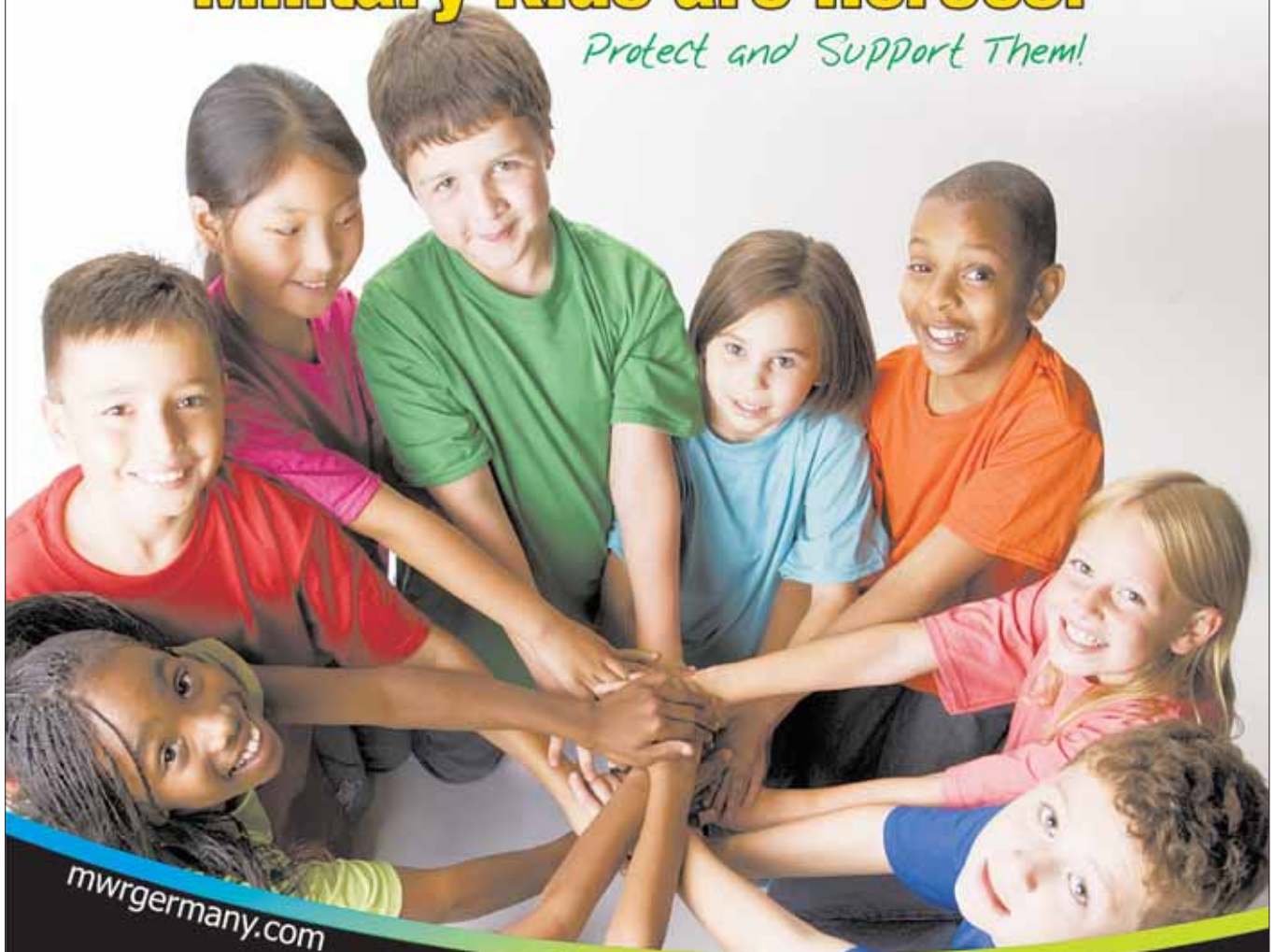
The Baden Bruins Army hockey team is looking for new players to fill their recent expansion team – the Province Bruins, a new team for skilled Army hockey players. Inline season begins April 1. Those interested in inline skating or ice hockey should e-mail info@badenbruins.com.

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM



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