

HeraldPOST

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

HP THURSDAY
Feb. 2, 2012

Speed Read

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HUMAN RESOURCES AWARD

Four Soldiers and a civilian won G-1 Frederick E. Vollrath Human Resources Awards for Excellence Jan. 25. 18



Defense Details

THINK WINTER SAFETY

Despite an unseasonably mild winter, military safety officials offer a reminder that Old Man Winter still has two months to go as they underscore the importance of winter safety for service members and their families. The Army Combat Readiness and Safety Center is promoting a 'Take 5' message that promotes safety awareness. It encourages taking five minutes, five seconds, or more or fewer as necessary, to think situations through to make the right safety decisions, explained Army Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, the Army center director, in a message to the field Monday.

www.defense.gov
www.army.mil/news

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Transformation town hall on AFN television

USAREUR Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden, the Department of Defense Dependents Schools and the Europe Regional Medical Command will be among the guest speakers at the "Welcome to Wiesbaden" briefing 1 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg.

The meeting is open to the public and is focused on presenting Wiesbaden information to the U.S. Army Europe headquarters Soldiers, civilians and family members, commonly referred to as Main Body 1, who are scheduled to move to Wiesbaden this summer and fall.

"This is a great service the Wiesbaden community is doing for us," said Col. George Seiferth, chief of the USAREUR Relocation Task Force.

To ensure everyone has the opportunity to see and participate in the briefing, AFN will stream live video of the briefing on www.afneurope.net.

AFN will also broadcast the briefing on television on AFN Prime Atlantic for those who live on post and on channel 15 for those who live off-post and use a satellite decoder.

While this particular briefing is geared toward presenting information for those who have been identified to move as part of USAREUR's Main Body 1, anyone in the community who has questions about the headquarters move is welcome to attend, Seiferth said.

Community members may send questions in advance by filling out an online form found at www.eur.army.mil/relocation/question.



Parent to Parent team member Kathy Tone, right, reads to Jeanette and Nina Keithan, left, and Barbara and Emily Narvaez, center, at the library on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg. Join Parent to Parent for the family literacy event Tell Me A Story 2-4 p.m. Feb. 12 at Patrick Henry Elementary School when guest reader Brig. Gen. Nadja West, Commander of Europe Regional Medical Command, will read "More Than Anything Else" by Marie Bradby. It tells the story of Booker T. Washington and his quest to learn to read. Tell Me A Story, an initiative of the Military Child Education Coalition, is geared toward children ages 4-12. Each family receives a copy of the book. The event is free but space is limited, so make reservations by emailing PtoPHeidelberg@MilitaryChild.org by Monday.

How will retirees get medical care after facilities close?

This is the second in a three-part series on the TRICARE overseas benefits packages.

By Stefan Alford
HMEDDAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When Tom Martin first came to Heidelberg in 1978, the transplanted Tranquility, N.J., native had no idea he'd still be here 34 years later.

After retiring as a lieutenant

colonel in 1982 with 20 years of service, he worked for awhile in Belgium and the Balkans, but settled here with his wife so they could be close to their daughter who lives in the area with her German husband and two children.

And while the Army is moving out of Heidelberg over the next several years, Martin has no intentions of

following suit and leaving the place he calls home.

He and his wife are only two of the 1,926 retirees and their family members enrolled in the Heidelberg Health Center's TRICARE Plus program faced with the decision to remain after closure or pack up and move to a location that offers logistical support, including health care.

And that's not counting what could be hundreds of additional retirees in the Heidelberg and Mannheim footprint who fall under TRICARE Standard or TRICARE For Life, the more common entitlements for retirees not enrolled in Plus.

TRICARE Plus is a unique benefit only available to retirees overseas close to a see **TRICARE** page 18

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Customs responds to family member question on rules applying to home-based businesses in Germany

Dear Editor,

The Herald Post recently featured an article regarding home based businesses (Jan. 12, page 3, "Know rules for home-based businesses.")

I have been a consultant for a U.S. based direct sales business for the last 10 years and have successfully operated my business according to Army Regulations at five different installations, having received solicitation permits at all that required it.

I understand that there are some sensitivities to consider with operating a business overseas; however, according to the article it is imperceptible how a family member is to be able to successfully work and provide supplemental income for their families through the flexibility of a home based business like mine.

The perceived inability to work these businesses, due to the restrictions identified, provides additional stress in an already limited job environment.

When I tried to reach the contact indicated as "the commercial affairs" office for clarification, I discovered that this contact doesn't exist here in Heidelberg. With some help from friends, I was given a contact at the [Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation] business affairs office. There has been no answer and no voicemail.

It appears that the main concerns leading to the restrictions are twofold:

Please consider that this life affords us few opportunities to find a job that can travel with us ...

profits attained using tax free services such as our [privately owned vehicles] and [Army Post Offices,] and our host nation missing their fair share of taxation from individuals working in their country.

Nearly everyone drives their car to work; why should I not be able to do the same?

And my company is a U.S. company with a sister company in Germany which means Germans sell to Germans only and U.S. consultants may only sell to ID card holders (while respecting all U.S. Army Regulations to protect its Soldiers and their families from unwanted solicitations and pressure to buy) and U.S. citizens with a U.S. address.

All products are paid for in U.S. currency. So there is no risk for the German economy as this is apples and oranges. May I or may I not keep the job I have worked hard for? Are you really going to tell spouses that we cannot keep the jobs we do have?

We accept the terms of multiple deployments, limited job openings and non-existent career advancement because we are unable to accrue tenure

due to moves.

Don't get me wrong; I love my Soldier. I love being in this beautiful place and all the amazing places we have had the opportunity to live and I wouldn't change being a military family for the world. If anyone bleeds green, it is our family.

Please consider that this life affords us few opportunities to find a job that can travel with us, and that can be flexible so that we can be flexible for our Soldiers and our families.

Thank you,
Cassandra Smith
Dear Ms. Smith,

Thank you for your questions and for allowing the opportunity to further educate the community about conducting business ventures from their homes.

As regards operating home-based businesses, Customs is concerned with the use of a U.S. registered vehicle, the Army Post Office, the Exchange, commissary or the tax relief program. As you point out, the garrison commander may also require certain permissions such as a solicitation permit.

Finally you also need permission from the German tax office for your commercial venture. If you haven't done so, you must register your home-based business with German finance authorities (Finanzamt) and obtain a tax identification number.

To do so, contact your local city hall, or Rathaus, and ask who in the administration to see for a "Gewerbeanmeldung" (registering a business). This office will tell you exactly what you need to do.

Driving a U.S. Army Europe-registered vehicle to work is completely different than driving one in connection with a business or enterprise. Army in Europe Regulation 190-1, Driver and Vehicle Requirements, and Army in Europe Regulation 210-70, On-Post Commercial Solicitation, both state that U.S. Forces-registered POV's will not be used for any type of commercial enterprises. Additionally, AER 210-70 states the military postal system will not be used to send or receive any parcels or correspondence related to a home-based business.

The local financial management division of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation can assist you with all the steps involved in the process. The office is in Bldg. 4526 on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg, and it can be reached at DSN 388-9124, civ. 06221-338-9124. Additional information may be obtained from the Customs Executive Agency at DSN 370-4967, civ. 06221-577-4967.

Respectfully,
Fred Evans
Chief, Military Customs Services



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'd like to send a huge thank you to everyone who tuned into the townhall Jan. 26. It was a big success. Also a big thank you and a "high five" to all of our friends at AFN Europe who helped to make it happen.
—BWnow Facebook Administrator

"Great idea! Thank you for making it happen."
—Katja Pinkston, BWnow Facebook fan

"Fab that I was able to participate even being in the hospital. Thank you."
—Rosemarie K. Smith, BWnow Facebook fan

"I'm sure everyone (including myself) appreciate that it was opened to Facebook. Such a great way for us at home to communicate and ask questions live."
—Cris Davenport, BWnow Facebook fan

"Thank you for the Q and A. I never thought liking this page would be helpful for me, until today. Please continue to provide this service ..."
—Jeff Cook, BWnow Facebook fan

"Thank you for the livestream. It's great for those of us who aren't able to leave the office to attend ..."
—Ashley Grassl, BWnow Facebook fan



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

Bruchsal police seek witnesses in hit, run accident



Courtesy photo

Clues at the scene lead police to believe a purple Opel Corsa like this one may be involved in a hit-and-run accident that injured a 74-year old pedestrian Jan. 20 in Bruchsal.

Heidelberg Police

Police are looking for witnesses and clues in a hit and run accident which occurred in Bad Schönborn Jan. 20.

Around 6:40 p.m. that day, a 74-year old pedestrian was struck by a car when crossing Waldparkstrasse in the Mingsheim suburb and had to be hospitalized.

Although the pedestrian suffered severe leg injuries, the driver of the car did not stop.

The impact left the car's right exterior mirror on the scene of the accident which helped police identify the make and model of the car as a dark purple Opel Corsa, B model.

The mirror had likely been damaged before

the accident as it had been affixed to the vehicle with silver-colored duct tape.

Since the driver still has not been identified, police are asking for witnesses to come forward to help identify the car or its driver or owner.

Police also are looking for persons who may have been approached

for a spare mirror or for shops where a mirror repair on this type of car has been commissioned.

Anybody with information potentially pertaining to this case should contact Bruchsal traffic police at civ. 07251-726-510 or the local military police at DSN 388-2222, civ. 06221 678-2223.

TRANSLATION: Thomas Heiss

Health care council hears patients concerns

By Stefan Alford
HMEDDAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Beneficiaries of the Heidelberg Health Center and Coleman Troop Medical Clinic are empowered to play a bigger role in their overall health care through the Patient and Family-Centered Care program.

The next PFCC meeting is 5 p.m. Wednesday in Bldg. 3613, Room 1081, on Nachrichten Kaserne in Heidelberg.

The program not only allows patients to offer inputs to improve their health care, but also to affect policies and produce change on a much higher, strategic level, said Capt. Janie Mena, PFCC coordinator.

"We have always striven to provide the best care for our patients, but with their personal involvement we can now take it to the next step and work to provide the best health care with our patients," said Mena.

The concept of patient and family-centered care makes the patient part of the health care team. In PFCC, patients have the power to ask questions about their plan of care, medications and treatments. Families are no longer considered visitors, but part of the team, as the patients choose.

"In PFCC we do not work to make the patient fit into the system, but rather work the system to fit the patients' needs," explained Mena.

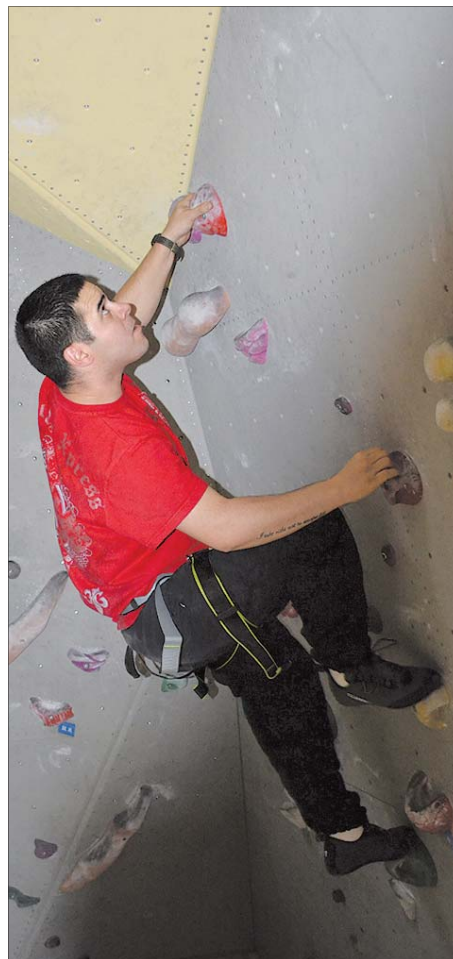
When the program was initiated in Heidelberg and Mannheim in 2010, the Heidelberg Medical De-

partment Activity created the PFCC council to meet monthly and discuss health care related issues affecting patients. The meetings are open to all community members to let their voices be heard and provide the patients' point of view.

"The PFCC philosophy is one in which the voices and concerns of patients and families are integrated into all levels of HMEDDAC; the delivery of care, facility design planning, program development, policy, quality improvement and safety initiatives," said Irene Misiewicz, who has been a part of the council since its inception. "It is this philosophy that ultimately places the patient and family in a new place within the care structure – at the center."

The Heidelberg PFCC council includes HHC staff, active-duty spouses, retirees, civilians, school employees and U.S. Army Europe staff. The council aims to create a system in which patients are no longer seen as visitors but as working side by side based upon four concepts:

- ◆ Information sharing between patient, family and health care providers;
- ◆ Respect and dignity for the needs, concerns and perspectives of the patient and family while taking into account their personal beliefs, values and cultural backgrounds;
- ◆ Choice and participation in the education, information and decision making process;
- ◆ Collaboration with all levels of the health care process.



Staff Sgt. Michael Mattice

Sgt. Victor Mendez, of Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe's Alpha Company, climbs the rock wall at the St. Wendal Rock Climbing Park while participating in Project Odyssey Jan. 24, in St. Wendel.

Odyssey relieves combat stress

By Staff Sgt. Michael Mattice
WTB-EUROPE

OBERHAMBACH, Germany – Soldiers of Alpha Company, Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe took part in Project Odyssey Jan. 24-26 at the Hambachtal Activity Center and Resort.

The three-day event allowed Soldiers to participate in various activities including rock climbing, fishing, archery and golf.

"It's a way to get Soldiers out of their rooms and outside in a group setting, where they realize they are not alone," said Nancy Schiliro a Project Odyssey staff member.

Project Odyssey's name is derived from Homer's epic poem about overcoming adversity and finding the way home, according to the organization's official website. It is an outdoor, rehabilitative retreat that encourages a connection with nature and is designed to help Soldiers deal with the affects of combat stress.

"Injuries are not just, 'I have lost an arm or a leg.' It's more than that. There are injuries you can't see that we deal with on a daily basis," said Sgt. Ruben Bustos of A Company WTB-E.

"This project takes you away from the stressors and puts you in the position of a caregiver through the team building exercises," he said.

Project Odyssey is completely sponsored by the Wounded Warrior Project, which is a non-profit organization run by veterans and funded completely by donations. Any Soldier or veteran can participate in Project Odyssey. For information, contact projectodyssey@woundedwarrior-project.org.

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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.

NEW – When will Grant Circle housing in Mannheim be closed?

Grant Circle is considered part of Benjamin Franklin Village, so all families there will have to move no later than Sept. 30. If your DEROS is after that date, please contact the housing office. DSN 387-3310, civ. 06221-4380-3310.

NEW – Any word on when Coleman Barracks (specifically the correctional facility) will be closing?

Right now we don't have a confirmed closure date for the correctional facility, but Coleman is scheduled to close in 2014.

NEW – What's the possibility of having MP crossing guards by the main Burger King gate when the kids are walking to school in the morning?

There are two Military Police officers stationed at the Patrick Henry Village access control point near Burger King each morning and afternoon directing traffic. They are there to ensure the safety of the school children and to expedite the movement of the school buses. The hours are 7:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. until the intersection is cleared.

NEW – If our children are enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program in Heidelberg, will we need to redo their paperwork when we move to our next community?

Yes, each time you PCS to a new community, you will need to complete an eligibility screening and submit the appropriate paperwork.

When will a decision be made about employees who are not receiving Living Quarters Allowance during a Management Directed Reassignment?

Officials from the Heidelberg Civilian Personnel Advisory Center advise that the decision to provide LQA to employees relocating under a management directed reassignment (that are not currently receiving it) would be up to that particular organization. Employees may submit documentation through their supervisors to request LQA and their receiving organization would be responsible for either approving or disapproving the individual request, which is then sent to civilian personnel for final approval.

When will the Mannheim Commissary and Exchange close?

The Mannheim commissary and the Exchange are scheduled to close in September and their actual closure dates will only be accelerated if customer demand or commissary and Exchange resources decline more rapidly than expected.

Facilities Operations Changes Mannheim

Base Operations – For assistance, residents should contact Sgt. 1st Class Damien R. Hunt, who is now the Base Operations noncommissioned officer in charge located in Bldg. 245 on Sullivan Barracks, DSN 385-1610, civ. 0621-730-1610, civ. 07622-70-0535, damien.r.hunt@eur.army.mil; Bob Isbell, Mannheim Base Operations Manager, DSN 385-3944, civ. 0621-730-3944, robert.n.isbell2.civ@mail.mil; or Master Sgt. Romeo Satsatin, acting USAG Baden-Württemberg command sergeant major, romeo.satsatin@mail.mil, DSN 373-1300, civ. 06221-17-1310.

The Benjamin Franklin Village South Gate – The BFV South gate entrance is now closed 9 p.m.-5 a.m.

Commissary – The commissary is closed Mondays and Tuesdays and open 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Early bird hours are 8:30-10 a.m. Wednesday-Sunday. Bakery items have been decreased, but customers can still special order products they need, if two days notice is provided. DSN 385-3940, civ. 0621-728-3611.

Education Center – The Mannheim Education Center is closed. Educational services are available at the Education Center in Bldg. 106 on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. GPS: Speyererstrasse 15, 69124

Heidelberg. DSN 373-6176, civ. 06221-17-6176, www.bw.eur.army.mil/contacts/service_directory.html.

Gospel Service – The Gospel Church Service for Mannheim members is now held in Heidelberg at the chapel on Mark Twain Village. DSN 373-6190, civ. 06221-17-6190.

Guest Lodging – Mannheim customers may use the guest house on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg or receive a certificate of nonavailability for housing on the economy on a case-by-case basis or if no rooms are available on PHV.

Health and Dental – Health and dental care for Mannheim members are now offered in Heidelberg only. TRICARE enrollment offices are on the Heidelberg Shopping Center in the Central Processing Facility and at the Heidelberg Health Center on Nachrichten Kaserne, Bldg. 3613, Room 2047. Both are open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 371-2445, civ. 06221-17-2445. Coleman Dental: DSN 382-5262, civ. 0621-779-5262. PHV Clinic: DSN 388-9500, civ. 06221-338-9500. Retirees and their family members who have been disenrolled may seek care at the Heidelberg Health Center on a space available basis. Retirees may pick up prescription medications at the Coleman pharmacy.

Library Support – A library support office is open in Bldg. 246, Room 118, to assist community members 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 1-6 p.m. Thursday. Patrons may activate online accounts to enable them to download books and videos and to receive library materials in their mailboxes. Services include assistance with electronic databases, registration and clearing. Computers, a small study room and free paperbacks are available. Items may be returned to the office or to the drop box outside. DSN 385-2688, civ. 0621-730-2688.

Overpass Closure – The overpass from Benjamin Franklin Village to Columbus Street has closed.

NEW – **Postal Office Hours Change** – Mannheim postal facilities have changed their operating hours. The finance window at Postal Service Center 418 on Coleman Barracks is now open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The community mail room hours are open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and closed Tuesdays and Thursdays. At postal service center 437, finance is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. The community mail room is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and closed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

School Age Center – The School Age Center on Benjamin Franklin Village in Mannheim is in Bldg. 699 next to the elementary school. DSN 380-4321, civ. 0621-730-4321.

Self-Help – The Self-Help Store on Funari Barracks at the recycle center compound is open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays and closed American and German holidays. DSN 380-4435, civ. 0621-730-4633.

NEW – **Sullivan Gym Hours Change** – The Sullivan Fitness Center has new hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. federal and training holidays.

Tax Relief Office – The Tax Relief Office on Sullivan Barracks is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, closed Tuesdays, Thursdays, weekends and U.S. holidays. DSN 385-3616, civ. 0621-730-3616.

Transportation Motor Pool – The Transportation Motor Pool on Spinelli Barracks has closed and all vehicles are dispatched at the Heidelberg TMP, Bldg. 157, on Patton Barracks. DSN 373-8350, civ. 06221-17-8350, www.bw.eur.army.mil/Directorates/DOL/TMP.html.

Vehicle Inspection – Spinelli Barracks is the single-service location for vehicle inspections. Telephone numbers are: vehicle registration manager DSN 384-6100, civ. 0621-730-6100; support DSN 384-6911, civ. 0621-17-6911; vehicle inspection DSN 384-6120, civ. 0621-730-6120. The GPS address is: 68259 Mannheim-Feudenheim.

Vehicle Registration – The vehicle registration office on Spinelli

Barracks in Mannheim is in Bldg. 1563. Customers should first call or visit the official home page for the U.S. Army Europe Registry of Motor Vehicles to ensure they have the proper paperwork and fee amount for their transaction, and bring checks or money orders to pay fees. The Spinelli office is open 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday (including training holidays) and closed American holidays. DSN 384-6909/6100, civ. 0621-730-6909, www.hqusaareu.army.mil/rmv.

Work Orders – All Star no longer responds to service order calls in Mannheim. Customers should call the Directorate of Public Works service order desk in Heidelberg at DSN 387-3310/3311, civ. 06221-4380-3312.

Heidelberg

Army Emergency Relief – AER requests are processed at Army Community Service in Heidelberg on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, Room 250. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6975.

Drivers Testing – All drivers' testing services are offered in Heidelberg on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, Room 136, with operating hours 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 370-7889, civ. 06221-57-6681.

Health Center – Weekend services at the Heidelberg Health Center on Nachrichten Kaserne have ended. All emergency and after-hours urgent care is provided on the economy by host-nation providers. Health Center normal hours are 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m.-noon Fridays. Pick up a "Guide to Host Nation Health Care" at the Heidelberg Health Center or visit <https://ermc.amedd.army.mil/heidelberg/index.cfm>. The nurse advice line, civ. 0800-825-1600. For help after hours, call civ. 06221-17-2605.

Library – The library on Patrick Henry Village is open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Sunday and closed Mondays. Patrons can check out, download and renew services at the MYACCOUNT on-line library service, www.library.eur.army.mil. To set up an account, visit <http://mylibraryeu.fmwv.net/screens/firsttime.html>. Library staff at civ. 06221-338-9443 can answer questions, or assist in setting up an account when patrons visit the library. The IMCOM-Europe library is also available online at www.library.ulinet.army.mil.

Postal Finance and Official Mail Service – The Postal Finance and Official Mail service at postal service center 432 on Tompkins Barracks has been discontinued. Services are now located at the Heidelberg Shopping Center APO, Bldg. 3850, and the Official Mail and Distribution Center on Campbell Barracks, Bldg. 19, respectively. Consolidated mail room operations at PSC 432 continue uninterrupted. DSN 370-7940, civ. 06221-57-7940.

Commissary Gate – The hours for the commissary gate on Patrick Henry Village are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. daily. Commissary hours are 7:30-9 a.m. daily for early bird shopping, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday.

NEW – **Postal Office Hours Change** – The Heidelberg Army Post Office on the Shopping Center is now open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and closed Mondays. The post office on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and closed Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Red Cross – All Red Cross services are handled by the Heidelberg station, Bldg. 3850, on the Shopping Center. In case of a family emergency when a communication message is needed, the Heidelberg number will reach an emergency caseworker. The Heidelberg station is open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 370-1760, civ. 06221-57-1760.

Sexual Assault Hotline – The 24-hour sexual assault and domestic violence hotline for Mannheim and Heidelberg is civ. 0170-609-2862.

Veterinary Treatment Facility – Veterinary care is available at the Heidelberg Veterinary Treatment Facility on Patrick Henry Village. All records from the Mannheim clinic have been transferred to Heidelberg. DSN 388-9469, civ. 06221-338-9469.

Faces of the community: Pond Guards



Master Sgt. Romeo Satsatin

Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, Commander of U.S. Army Installation Management Command and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, center, listens to Gernersheim Army Depot Pond guard Halil Tuncay, right, as acting IMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Felt, left, watches. Ferriter and his wife Margie visited U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg in Heidelberg Jan. 25 to discuss ongoing transformation plans, to assess fitness and wellness programs and to promote fiscal stewardship. The Ferriters also toured USAG Ansbach and Grafenwöhr.

Registration open for free geo-political training seminars

By **Spc. Adam P. Garlington**
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In the last decade, the Army has reinforced that cultural awareness is a vital key to building partnerships. Learning about economics, history, politics and social issues here in Europe has helped the Army improve theater security cooperation.

Each year U.S. Army Europe sponsors a series of five-day geo-political training seminars at Haus Rissen, an international institute for economics and politics. Located in Hamburg, the institute provides civic education about democracies and social market economies.

USAREUR Public Affairs funds the per diem including seminar fees, lodging and meals. Sending organizations only need to fund travel and residual per diem for travel days.

Officers, noncommissioned officers and U.S. and local national civilian employees with at least one year of service remaining in USAREUR are eligible to attend the seminars. Spouses of the attendees can also participate in the seminars at their own expense.

Six seminars are annually scheduled to provide participants the opportunity to discuss German and European geopolitical issues

in a combined U.S. and German Armed Forces setting.

Evaluation forms from attendees described the event as an excellent seminar for building personal and professional development and gaining a better understanding of the bilateral relationship between the United States and Germany.

The instructors explained how the European Union has the challenging task of passing laws that apply to all its members without taking away the rights of the sovereign nations to exercise self-governance, like the Greek debt crisis, said Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Sterner, a human intelligence observer controller with the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.

Jim Cave, a U.S. European Command operations plans specialist, said other topics discussed at the seminar were German foreign policy, history, national security and the roles of NATO and the United Nations in the modern world.

"If you want to learn more about a good solid ally and some of the unique nuances of how to make German and American relationships better, [the geo-political training seminar] is an excellent forum," Cave said.

Personnel can register for the seminars by visiting the USAREUR geo-political seminar web page.

Piggee to get second star

21st TSC Public Affairs

The President of the United States nominated the Commander of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command for appointment to the rank of major general, the Defense Department announced Jan. 23.

Brig. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee, a native of Stamps, Ark., assumed command of the 21st TSC in Kaiserslautern Aug. 25.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Piggee served in Germany from January 1986 to April 1988 as a Direct Support Maintenance Officer and Commander of the 77th Maintenance Company, both in the 85th Maintenance Battalion, V Corps, respectively.

His previous duty assignments include plans officer, G3, 13th

Corps Support Command and III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas, in 1994-1995.

Piggee's deployments include commander of the 15th Forward Support Bn., 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, during Operation Joint Forge, Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1998-2000 and Commander of the 15th Sustainment Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, between June 2005 and February 2008.

Piggee served as deputy assistant chief of staff, C4 and assistant chief of staff, J4, at the United Nations Command and Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea from September 2009 to August 2011 before assuming command of the 21st TSC.



Spc. Iesha Howard

Brig. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee, right, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, shown here giving flowers to the Kaiserslautern Carnival Princess at the annual New Year's Reception in Kaiserslautern in January, has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Qualitative Management Program provides tool to begin drawdown

By 1st Lt. Sara J. Fite
PATTON LAW CENTER

Beginning in March, the Army will begin a drawdown of 50,000 Soldiers, using a combination of accession cuts and voluntary and involuntary separations.

One of the tools available to achieve this reduction in force is the Qualitative Management Program.

The QMP does not apply to Soldiers who have an approved retirement.

Only senior non-commissioned officers in the rank of sergeant first class through command sergeant major who have at least 20 but less than 30 years of active federal service are subject to QMP.

In order to be eligible for a QMP board, the Soldier must have one of the following documents in his or her unrestricted official military personnel file:

- Conviction by Courts Martial or Article 15,
- General officer letter or memorandum of reprimand,
- Relief for cause non commissioned officer evaluation report,
- Senior rater rating of four or

five in the overall performance or potential blocks of an NCO evaluation report,

- An annotation of "no" in Army Values on an NCO-ER with an ending date of April 30, 2011 or later,
- An academic evaluation report indicating course failure.

Only documents filed since the NCO's last promotion will be considered.

Notification will be sent from Army Human Resources Command through the Soldier's chain of command.

AHRC will send an electronic memo to the command informing them the Soldier is being considered for denial of continued service and identifying the specific promotion board that will make this determination.

At that time, the Soldier may present matters in mitigation to the Selection Board, and he or she will be notified of the outcome of the selection board.

A Soldier who has been selected for denial of continued service has several options.

They can request voluntary retirement under any provision of law for which he or she is otherwise eligible. Election

must occur no earlier than 90 days from the date this option is elected.

Another option is to request voluntary discharge, which will occur 90 days after pre-separation counseling.

The Soldier can accept the involuntary honorable discharge, which will occur the first day of the seventh month following the month the QMP results are approved.

The Soldier also has the right to appeal the decision of the QMP board by requesting retention and submitting an appeal within 30 days of notification.

The chain of command will recommend approval or disapproval and forward the appeal with comments to AHRC.

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, Army G-1, is the final authority for disposition of all QMP appeals.

If you have received notification of denial of continued service, the legal assistance office can help with preparing appeals.

The office is located in Bldg. 107 on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg and in Bldg. 3210 on Kleber Kaserne in Kaiserslautern.

How do you get your information?

The Public Affairs Office is conducting a survey to find out how community members in Heidelberg and Mannheim get their information

about what's happening.

The survey will be distributed by email. Results will show how to best get news and information to community members.

Everyone's opinion is important.

It takes just minutes to complete with about 30 clickable questions. All submissions are anonymous. You help tremendously when you

fill out the survey.

The survey can be found at:
http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125474&s=226&dep=*DoD&sc=1

ICE
gets
results

To submit an ICE comment, look for "ICE-HD" for Heidelberg, "ICE-MA" for Mannheim or "ICE-KL" for Kaiserslautern at the bottom of the garrison website's home page at www.bw.eur.army.mil.

Interactive Customer Evaluation allows customers to rate products and services provided by Department of Defense offices and facilities worldwide.

Comment card ratings are used to improve the products and services in the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg. Community members are encouraged to use the ICE system to provide feedback, both positive and constructive, about

garrison issues.

The garrison convenes a Chill Board each quarter to discuss and evaluate the satisfaction rates received from customers throughout the community.

The Herald Post will periodically feature issues brought to leaders through the ICE system and ask readers to submit comments on garrison social media sites.

Issue: Response time from Directorate of Public Works

Scope

The Directorate of Public Works recognized that customers often called the work order desk at night and on weekends to inquire about the status of their work orders. Also, during peak periods, customers had difficulty because of staff shortages and an aging

phone system.

Customer Feedback

Customers' ICE comments often centered around the length of time it took for their work orders to be remedied and long waits on the phone.

Command Response

DPW added managers to the work

order system who could receive comments and respond to them.

This gets the issues directly to the person responsible for solving them, causing less delay in the process. In addition, more managers responding to customers speeds up the response time.

What do you think?

Express your opinion on Facebook (www.facebook.com/bwnow or www.facebook.com/army.kaiserslautern) and BNow (mybnow.ning.com) by answering the Question of the Week: "Have you noticed that the Directorate of Public Works is responding faster to work orders?" Comments may also be emailed to the Herald Post at usaghd.post@eur.army.mil.

Bnow feedback on the previous ICE issue – shuttle from Kaiserslautern East to Ramstein:

"This is [the Army Family Action Plan] in action! This was one of the top five AFAP issues for 2011. Thank you to the garrison and all those involved for listening and putting into action."
–BNow Facebook fan

Family Readiness Groups build strong family teams

By Spc. Adam P. Garlington
USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers and their families assigned to Europe have the unique opportunity to experience cultures and visit places that they've only read about in history books, but this unique opportunity also places them thousands of miles and many time zones away from their family and friends.

Army Family Readiness Groups can help compensate for the distance and time gaps that separate them from their support networks back home.

FRGs are command-sponsored organizations that provide mutual support, assistance and a communications network for family members, the chain of command and community resources, according to the Army FRG

Leader Handbook.

"FRGs bring the unit together by supporting Soldiers and their families," said Amber Newlon, a FRG leader in the 21st Theater Sustainment Command. "FRGs help you meet the other families in the unit, make new friends and develop support systems."

Newlon said she didn't know what to expect with her new military life overseas when her husband was ordered to go to Germany. The acting FRG leader introduced her to other spouses in the unit, which made her feel welcome and eased her transition overseas.

"Getting to know the different [people] in your [spouse's] company is a great way to form bonds and build a support network," said Betsey Mercado, a FRG leader in

the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. "Friendships that start at FRG events become really strong. You can depend on one another for whatever you may need."

Barbecues, fundraisers, holiday carnivals, shopping trips and wine tastings are some of the FRG events that help bring families together and help them cope with their Soldier being deployed, said Diana Lindell, a FRG leader in the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

Army Community Service classes are another tool that FRGs use to support families.

ACS offers different classes to aid families, Mercado said. Reintegration classes are the current focus of her unit, because their Soldiers are beginning to return from Afghanistan. The classes give families

realistic expectations of how their Soldier may behave following a deployment, which can help ease the transition process.

There are also ways for family members in the U.S. that have Soldiers here in Europe to participate in FRGs.

They can sign up for FRG emails to receive information about the unit, Lindell said.

Family members in the U.S. can send items to Soldiers preparing for deployments, so they will have things to put in their rooms, Mercado said. They can also write letters of encouragement for the Soldiers on the unit Facebook wall.

"FRGs offer support and help build resilient families," Mercado said. "It's helpful to have someone to lean on that you can trust. Our company

"Friendships that start at FRG events become really strong. You can depend on one another for whatever you may need."

—Betsey Mercado, FRG leader

always has someone you can rely on when you're having a bad day or need help finding information. Someone is always there to help.

"I encourage everyone to try FRGs at least once. FRGs give you the opportunity to support your Soldier and family, and other Soldiers and their families."

Employee led Mannheim equipment maintenance center to multiple successes, prepares for next mission following four decades of work

By Staff Sgt. Michael Taylor
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For some, preparing for retirement can be stressful and overwhelming because there are many questions that have to be answered.

But for Josef A. Molitor, a German local national who dedicated 44 years to the U.S. Army and is a recent retiree from the Maintenance Activity-Mannheim, the answer to the question, "What are you going to do next?" is simple.

"I'm going to take care of my grandchildren," Molitor said.

"After more than four decades of taking care of people, it seems suiting that Mr. Molitor would move on and continue to do the same thing," said Rainer Paulus, the director of Maintenance Activity in Mannheim and Molitor's boss.

Molitor started his service Feb. 6, 1967, at the age of 18. He served an apprenticeship as a vehicle mechanic in Weinheim. Upon completion of his schooling, he found himself in search of a job.

Coincidentally, at that time, the civilian chief of the Mannheim Equipment Maintenance Center, now referred to as MA-M, lived in Molitor's hometown of Abtsteinach. Molitor asked him if they were hiring workers; he was directed to the civilian personnel office and shortly after, he began his service.

Molitor worked different jobs before ending up as a general supply specialist supervisor. From 1967 until



Staff Sgt. Michael Taylor

Josef A. Molitor, a German local national who recently retired from the Maintenance Activity-Mannheim after 44 years of service to the U.S. Army, poses next to a statue of George Washington during a trip to the United States just after the MA-M was recognized as the winner of the Supply Excellence Award at the Department of the Army level in 2005. The MA-M won the DA-level award a total of three times.

1972, he worked as a vehicle mechanic.

In November of 1972, he changed his job to an expeditor of the production control office. In February of

1973, he accepted a supervisor position of the supply support account. Molitor worked in that position until April of 1985 when he switched jobs and became a computer operator. In 1991, Molitor worked as a general supply specialist supervisor until his retirement.

Although Molitor served his native country by being a member of the German Bundeswehr for 18 months, he has dedicated the majority of his life to the U.S. Army. Molitor managed to help the Maintenance Activity-Mannheim win the Supply Excellence Award for the Table of Distribution Allowances-large category at the Department of the Army level in 1999, 2005 and 2006.

According to Paulus, the MA-M would not have received the SEA without Molitor's knowledge and contributions. Additionally, Molitor helped the MA-M win the SEA nine times for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and seven times at the U.S. Army Europe level.

"Being a part of an organization and helping them to win not one but three Department of the Army level awards is my most proud accomplishment throughout my career," said Molitor. "That shows the level of quality and professionalism of the people that I was working with."

According to Molitor, winning those prestigious awards was a proud accomplishment in his career, but he is most proud of his beautiful family.

"I got married in 1973 and have been married ever since to my won-

derful wife Ingrid," said Molitor. "If it wasn't for the support of my wife and kids, I couldn't have accomplished half the things I accomplished at my job."

Molitor and Ingrid have two sons, Alexander, 34, and Marco, 28. Molitor said he normally worked eight hours a day and was usually home every evening to spend time with his family.

"Occasionally I would have to work late nights but my family understood and always stood behind me," Molitor said.

Now, Molitor prepares for the next mission.

"My oldest son has two daughters; the oldest is 3 and the youngest is 1 year old," said Molitor. "It will be my main pleasure to take care of my grandchildren. That is my new mission."

"I will miss my job and most of all I will miss my co-workers and friends that I worked with," he said. "When you are eight hours every day with the same people for many years, they are not just your co-workers, they become your family also. My co-workers are my second family."

"Mr. Molitor was like a dad to me. He was a mentor and he was a good friend," said Fritz Hoffstaetter, a supply technician with the MA-M. "Now that he is retiring I will miss his friendship the most."

According to Hoffstaetter, Molitor plans to get together with all his co-workers and friends every three months for coffee or dinner. But for now, Molitor will only focus on taking care of his grandchildren.

our **ARMY** around the world

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U.S. Army

Soldiers in the Warrior Leader Course walk with "humanitarian aid" through an icy gorge Jan. 17, as part of a situational exercise. The multi-component course offered at Fort Carson, Colo., is organized by the 168th Regiment, Regional Training Institute. During each 15-day course, WLC officials evaluate Soldiers using exams and tasks. As a culminating event, students transition to a tactical environment, where they must treat combat injuries and call for medevac support.



U.S. Army

A group of Afghan children gather around Spc. Gadiel Ortega, a cannon crewmember from Escondido, Calif., for a Battery, 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, Task Force Spartan Steel, during security combat patrols in Khowst province Jan. 25. TF Spartan Steel is part of the Spartan Brigade based on Forward Operating Base Salerno in Support of Operation Enduring Freedom XII-XIII.



Sgt. Michael J. MacLeod

Army medics unload a mock casualty from a UH-60 Black Hawk medevac helicopter during a training exercise at the Joint Readiness Training Center on Fort Polk, La., Jan. 23.

Feb. 11, 7-11pm

TASTE ★ of ★ SOUL

Village Pavilion

Program features: Soul Food Tasting,
Jimmy's Souliquity Soul Band,
Art Exhibit, Heidelberg High
School JAAM will perform,
DJ and dancing!

Prizes for the best entree,
appetizer and dessert!



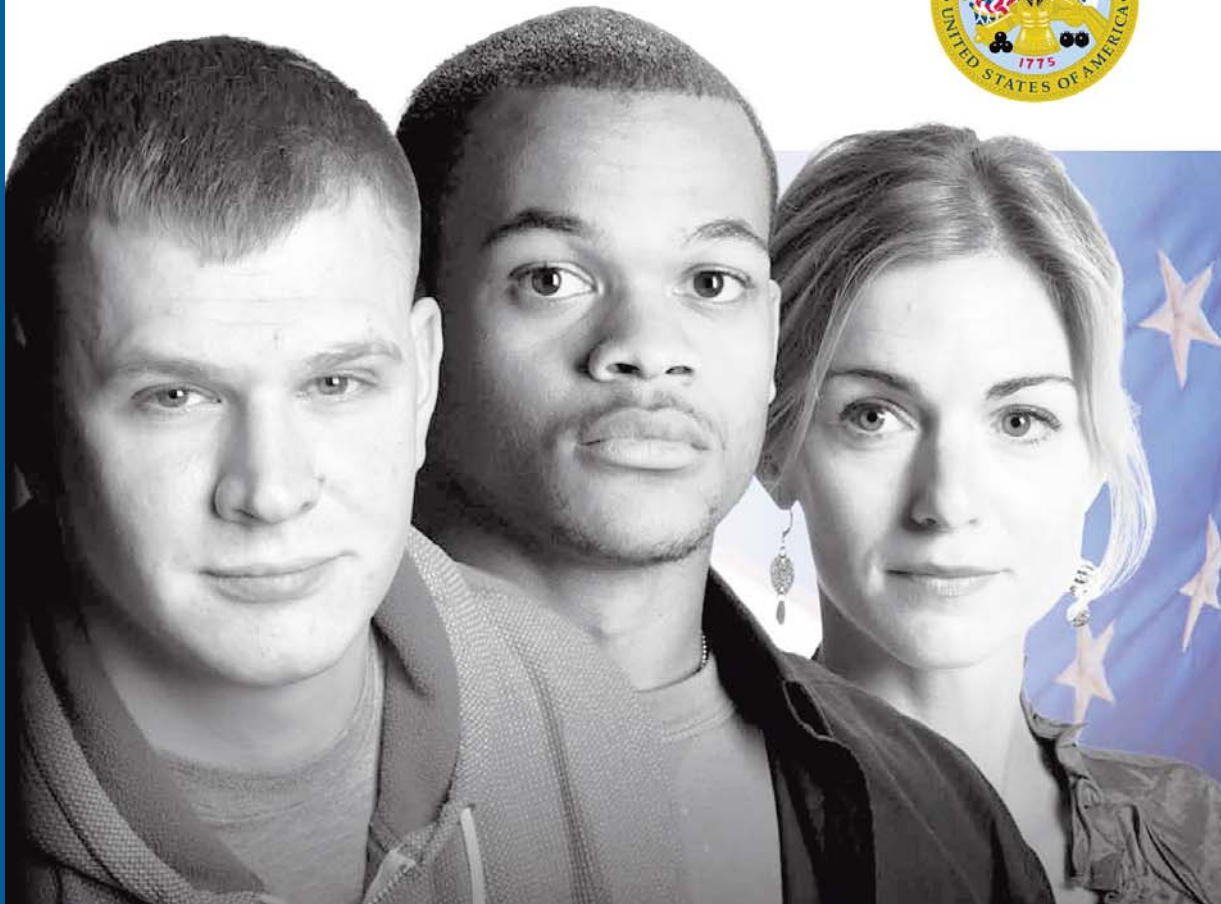
Cost: \$10 per person
Children ages 5-12 is \$5
Children 4 and under are free.



Community Black History Month Observance.
Bring your own soul dish. Sign up at Arts & Cultural
Center. DSN: 338-9418 or CIV: 06221-338-9418.

mwrgermany.com





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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Marc Behring

Dublin Castle visitors can take in the view of its park from the inside or take a walk around the carefully landscaped greenery. Dublin Castle served as a fortified seat of British rule until 1922.

No blarney: Ireland filled with history, beauty

By Elizabeth Casebeer
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Established more than a millennium ago, Dublin is a city saturated in history and immersed in the future. Today the capital of the Republic of Ireland, it was originally a small Viking village known as “Dub Linn,” which means “black pool.”

Dublin is a two-hour flight from Frankfurt Airport with several flights offered daily. Ireland uses the euro, unlike Northern Ireland, which as part of the United Kingdom uses the British pound. Bus services offer transportation from Dublin Airport to popular hotels. There are nearly 180 within city limits to choose from. Taxi cabs are also available but cost much more.

Famous for its legendary draught Guinness, invented in 1759 by Arthur Guinness, the Guinness Storehouse at St. James’s Gate is Ireland’s number one international visitor attraction. The tour starts in the bottom of the world’s largest pint glass, which is seven stories high and overlooks the city.

If full, the glass atrium would hold 14.3 million pints. Visitors can view the 9,000-year lease for the brewery signed by Guinness himself, smell and touch ingredients and enjoy the included pint while overlooking the city from the Gravity Bar.

The city may be synonymous with Guinness, but it has much more to offer for history buffs, shopping mavens and even homesick Americans.

While most Irish speak English, Irish (Gaelic) is also written on every public sign, from the baggage carousels at the airport to monuments. As the national and first official language of Ireland, there are even Gaelic-only TV channels.

The River Liffey splits the downtown, but most attractions are accessible by foot if time and energy allow. For those with just the weekend or with small children, the hop-on, hop-off buses might be a good idea. Start south of the Liffey at the Gothic-style St. Patrick’s Cathedral, nearly as old as Dublin itself and today the national cathedral of the Church of Ireland. Jonathan Swift, author of “Gulliver’s Travels” and once the cathedral’s dean, is buried there. But St. Patrick’s is by and far not the only cathedral in the city. Christ Church is the elder of the two medieval cathedrals and boasts beautiful architecture, a lush green park and a tomb combined with a museum.

The church holds a world record for its 19 full-circle bells, and the oldest bells still in use date from

1738. The first record of the bells is from 1423. In the tomb, costumes from the TV show “The Tudors,” based on the reign of Henry VIII, are displayed. In fact, the show was filmed at the cathedral, including the scenes set at the Vatican in Italy.

Trinity College was founded under Queen Elizabeth I’s rule in 1592 and is divided into 24 schools. It remains Dublin’s only university. Inside the Old Library is the Book of Kells, an illuminated manuscript of four New Testament Gospels written by Celtic monks in Latin around 800.

Moving onward, medieval-era Dublin Castle off Dame Street served as the country’s fortified seat of British rule until 1922. In May 2011, Mary McAleese, then-president of Ireland, hosted a state dinner to welcome Queen Elizabeth II, the first British monarch to visit an independent Ireland (and the first in a century).

Underneath the castle’s cobblestone street lay ruins of the old city, complete with the old wall and standing water. Guided tours are usually available, unless there is a state function.

Not far from the castle is Temple Bar, famous for its cultural institutions like the Irish Photographer Centre, the Irish Stock Exchange, the Central Bank of Ireland and of course, its bars. Standing on narrow cobble streets, which follow the original medieval street pattern, Temple Bar’s restaurants feature everything from typical Irish (and English) fare like bangers and mash (sausage and mashed potatoes) to Thai.

Entertainment here and in the rest of the city abounds; it’s not hard to find a bar to slip into or to locate a place to learn how to dance Irish-style, all while enjoying a pint or a soda. For dessert, Aunty Nellie’s Sweet Shop in Temple Bar specializes in Irish confections from local chocolate producers. Its old-world charm includes neat rows of brightly colored candy, all sold individually or by the gram.

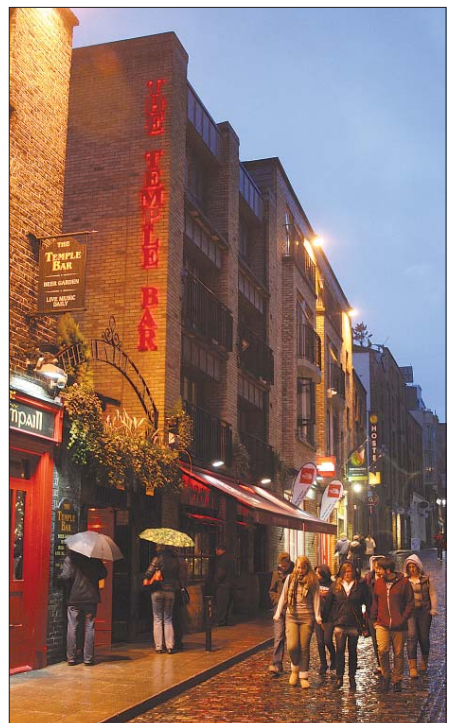
For those who prefer a quick lunch or dinner, Beshoff on Upper O’Connell Street has offered fresh fish and chips three generations. A generous portion of fish and fries costs about €8.50, but make sure to bring your appetite.

It’s impossible to take in all the city’s hotspots and truly enjoy them in a few days. Great shopping, myriad tourist attractions, history and culture combined with the friendly persona the Irish are known for make it easy to understand where phrases like “the luck of the Irish” come from. You’ll consider yourself just as lucky when you go.



Marc Behring

Author Elizabeth Casebeer stands on a bridge over the River Liffey en route to the Guinness Storehouse at St. James’s Gate in Dublin on New Years Day 2012.



Marc Behring

Temple Bar, famous among young and old tourists and locals alike for its narrow cobble streets, restaurants, bars and shopping, is one of Dublin’s must-see areas.

GERMAN NEWS

Urban Slang More Logical

Kiezdeutsch, the slang spoken by young people in Germany's big cities, is so distinct that one language expert said it should be recognized as a dialect. Roughly translated as neighborhood German, it is a mutated, fluid form of high German that incorporates many foreign words and simplifies German grammar but is often dismissed as ruining the purity of the language. For example, the word so is used to emphasize a statement, even though it is not grammatically accurate. "Gestern war ich Schule" (Yesterday I was school) is also incorrect but is generally accepted. The slang differs from city to city, but is most common in multicultural areas, where different languages are mixed.

Grenade Toy

A hand grenade disguised as a toy was placed on a shelf at a child's eye level in a Real supermarket in Wetzlar, said German prosecutors investigating it as an attempted murder. A security guard spotted the grenade on the toy aisle amidst real toys and called police, who evacuated the shop. About 50 officers searched the supermarket, while experts removed the grenade for examination. It was "most probably functional," and whomever hid the grenade had intended for it to explode and hurt children, said a spokesman for the Hessen state prosecutor. Detectives are examining security footage, but the spokesman said not all aisles were covered. There are currently no reported suspects.

SOURCE: www.thelocal.de



Vicki Johnson is a military spouse and clinical social worker with more than 13 years experience working with families in crisis. Contact Ms. Vicki by e-mail: dearmsvicki@yahoo.com, follow her on Twitter @dearmsvicki, or visit www.dearmsvicki.com.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I have befriended a guy on Facebook, but I can't seem to find any information about him, and he is not very open about anything. He is in Afghanistan, or so he says.

My question to you is, how can I find out if he is for real, or some jerk on Facebook? He told me his name, and I would like to know how to find out if he is really in the military. I

tried looking for more information in your paper, but I can't find any. Is there another way I can find out? Any help would be appreciated. MB

Dear MB,

I advise you to carefully take it slowly. What's the rush, right? You don't have to let this guy know every single thing about you.

He doesn't need to know where you live, where you work or anything about your relatives or friends. You are simply getting to know him, and there is no rush with that.

Many people will lie about being in the military. I guess it gives them a sense of power and esteem, too, especially with what is going on globally and what our military is facing. Some people may want to feel like they too have a place with our military.

I have no way of finding out for you if he is truly in the military or serving in Afghanistan.

However, here is a tidbit of information: You should know if he is in the Army, if he is active duty, National Guard or Reserves.

You also should know the name of his unit and where it's located. When he gives you the name, you can obtain unit information via the Internet.

Lastly, he should have a

military email address. You could correspond to him at this email. My husband uses his military email more than his commercial email.

The information I've listed above does not have to be kept a secret from anyone. A service member can share this information.

Again, take it slowly with him. There is no rush.

Responses to previous columns:

Dear Ms. Vicki,

I'm a happy Army wife. No complaints to speak of. Just wanted you to know how much I love your articles and advice. Great job. Keep it up. Nicole

Dear Ms. Vicki,

We are getting ready to PCS to Fort Hood, and much to my surprise, you are not in any of the local papers or the post paper either.

What a tragedy. You have been the topic of conversation around our dinner table and especially with our teenage daughters.

Your advice is much needed and has provided a way for me to engage them with conversations about young women in relationships. Every chance I get, I will try to read your column online.

Keep up the good work and God bless you.

KMC honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Spc. Ilesha Howard
21ST TSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. influenced change through non-violent means during the civil rights movement.

Two of his most famous contributions were the organization of the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 and his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln monument in Washington, D.C., during the March on Washington in 1963.

King's influence continues today as Soldiers of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern, Airmen of 86th Air-lift Wing, Kaiserslautern Middle School students, Department of Defense employees, military family members and German local nationals gathered to celebrate King's life, commitment and legacy at the Galaxy Theater on Vogelweh Jan. 20.

This year's theme, "Remember, Act and Celebrate," is focused on celebrating the tremendous positive change brought about by the civil rights leader.

Sgt. Maj. James Stewart, the guest speaker and the 21st TSC religious support team sergeant major, honored King with a speech. During his remarks, he quoted Melvin Sylvester, a professor at Long Island University and a black history author.

"In a span of 13 years, from 1955 till his death in 1968, he was able to expound, expose and extricate America from many wrongs," quoted Stewart.

"His tactics of protest involved non-violent passive resistance to racial injustice. It was the right prescription for our country, and it was right on time.

"I was not born before or during the civil rights



Spc. Ilesha Howard

Soldiers of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern march together on Vogelweh in Kaiserslautern Jan. 19 to commemorate the March on Washington, in which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave the famous "I Have a Dream" speech. The march is conducted every year to celebrate the progress catapulted by the civil rights movement.

movement, but I am reaping the benefits of all the hard work that my forefathers did to be in the position I am in today," said Staff Sgt. Melvin Lucas, a network operations supervisor for 86th Communications Squadron.

"Being a free Airman or being a free Soldier or just being in the military and being able to experience the things that I have been able to experience, gives us another element to the civil rights movement and makes it more evident of our equality across the board."

USAG Kaiserslautern and 21st TSC leaders

contributed support to the event by cutting the celebratory cake and organizing a commemorative march symbolic of the March on Washington.

"We had a lot of children and younger Soldiers here today," said USAG Kaiserslautern Command Sgt. Maj. Gene Canada.

"This event gives them a foundation of history and lets them know that they can achieve anything regardless of their creed or national origin.

This event gives Soldiers a form of unity and reminds them that we are all one family."

GET OUT!

area events

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

February 2

Penny Bazaar – The 31st annual Mannheim Penny Bazaar will be at the Rosengarten in Mannheim through Feb. 4. The bazaar hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 3 and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 4.

Sea Life – Imagine taking a dive without getting wet. Visit the Sea Life Europe Aquarium and come face to face with everything from sardines to sharks, and see loads of fascinating creatures and marine life. The center's star attraction features several monsters of the deep: Great White Sharks of the Jaws movies fame. Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Im Hafengebiete 5, 67346 Speyer. Civ. 06232-69780. www.buzzoffbase.com.

February 3

Chronicle of the Immortals – Blood Night, a rock opera by Wolfgang Holbein with the band Vanden Plas, will be performed 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3, 8 and 6 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Pfalztheater in Kaiserslautern. www.pfalztheater.de.

February 4

Photo Exhibit – American photographer and Detroit native Dave Jordano profiles the scenes of urban renewal popping up across the Motor City in a new photo exhibition entitled Detroit Unbroken Down at the Amerika Haus in Munich. Open noon-5 p.m. Monday – Friday and noon-8 p.m. Wednesday through March 30. Free admission. Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz 3. www.amerikahaus.de. Civ. 089 5525 3713.

Salsa Night – Dance the night away 9 p.m.-2 a.m. during Salsa Night at Armstrong's Community Club in Vogelweh Housing, Bldg. 1036, in Kaiserslautern. Lessons available 9:30-10:30 p.m. www.mwgermany.com.

February 5

Discussion – Princeton University professor Dr. Michael Wood will lead a discussion on Habits of Distraction 5 p.m. at the German-American Institute in Heidelberg Civ. 06221-607322. Sofienstrasse 12, 69115 Heidelberg. www.dai-heidelberg.de.

Ritter Sport Chocolate Factory – Take a sweet trip to one of the biggest chocolate stores in Germany and home to the company's actual production factory in Waldenbuch. Unfortunately, factory tours are not available, but the factory store houses hundreds of delicious offerings, a museum and a café for relaxing. Purchase Ritter chocolate at low factory prices and sample brand new products. Hours: 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday - Friday and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday. Alfred-Ritter-Straße 25, 71111 Waldenbuch, www.buzzoffbase.com.

February 6

Art Exhibit – Modern art meets the supermarket in the art exhibition I Love Aldi named after the German discount supermarket chain. See a shopping cart immersed in seven tons of white sugar, 2,000 vacuum-packed sausages littering the floor and thousands of slices of bread forming little houses and more. Catch the exhibit at the Wilhelm-Hack museum in Ludwigshafen through March 4.

Music Festivals – Tickets are on sale for Germany's most popular twin open air festivals Rock at the Ring/Rock at the Park, held simultaneously at the Nürburgring race track and at Nuremberg's Zeppelfeld June 1-3. International headliners include Metallica, Linkin Park, Soundgarden, Billy Talent, Gossip, The Offspring, Motörhead and Marilyn Manson. These artists are complemented by an impressive list of primarily British and German bands who have garnered national fame in their home countries. Ticket price includes sales fees, parking and camping permissions. For a complete listing of performers, ticket and other detailed info visit www.bb-promotion.com.

February 7

Festspielhaus Baden-Baden – Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, the city's world-famous opera and concert hall, also bears the unique distinction of being Germany's largest. Take a guided tour to relive magical moments in the Festspielhaus' history. Past seasons have included performances of Othello, A Streetcar Named Desire performed by the Hamburg Ballet, the Children's Music Festival, a Celebrate Billie Holiday evening, the Trumpet Gala and The Nutcracker, performed by the Marinsky St. Petersburg Ballet. Beim Alten Bahnhof 2, 76530 Baden-Baden. Civ. 07221-301-3101. www.buzzoffbase.com.

February 8

Cologne – Party in Cologne during the Carnival season. Straddling both sides of the Rhein River, Cologne is famous for its architecture as well as its famous Fasching Parade. The day starts with a guided walking tour of Cologne's Altstadt to get an insight into the 2,000-year-old history of the metropolis. A great many sights are concentrated within 1 square kilometer of the Cathedral and the Town Hall. In the narrow, cobblestone alleys of the Old Town and on the busy squares, you will get a feeling for life in the cathedral city, yesterday and today. After the guided tour, explore on your own. <http://affiliates.usa.org/rheinmain>.

Art Exhibit – Local artists David Sohl and Andrew Washington will present their latest works to the public during Sohl and Washington: Two Artists - One Exhibition

at 3 p.m. through Feb. 25. Schulstrasse 2, 69214 Eppelheim. Civ. 06221-79-4404.

February 10

That Was Roadside Music – Come celebrate more than 50 years of Roadside Theater musicals in this tune-filled trip down memory lane. Show features the Roadside Theater Show Choir and starts at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10, 11, 17, and 18. There will be a special family matinee Feb. 12 at 3 p.m. Tickets available at the Roadside Theater, Bldg. 109 on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg or www.roadside-theater.com.

February 12

Old School Concert – '90s Rhythm and Blues favorites SWV, Ginuwine, Dru Hill and Silk hit the stage for the R and B Superstars 2 concert. Show starts at 7 p.m. at the HMV Hammersmith Apollo in London. Tickets: www.ticketweb.co.uk.

February 16

Carnevale in Venice – Experience Carnevale weekend in Venice and participate in this festive celebration while strolling through beautiful Northern Italy. Enjoy a guided tour through this famous city and see the canals, bridges and the imaginative, elaborate costumes of the Carnevale. After taking in the sights of Venice, the tour will travel to Florence. <http://affiliates.usa.org/kaiserslautern>.

February 17

France – Enjoy a tour of the beautiful city of Lyon, France, and learn more about the ancient Romans, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance in France. <http://affiliates.usa.org/rheinmain>.

February 20

Rottweiler Fasnet – Members of the American Military Catholic Community will travel to the Rottweiler Fasnet (Mardi Gras) in Rottweil. The Rottweiler Carnival is one of the oldest and most traditional of the Swabian-Alemannic Carnivals. Main parade starts at 8 a.m. Group will depart at 5:30 a.m. from the Mark Twain Village Chapel in Heidelberg and return that evening. Civ. 06221-57-8238.

Fasching Parade – Grab your Fasching hat and head to Mainz for the famous Rosenmontag Parade. Although Fasching (Mardi Gras or carnival) officially begins in November, it reaches its climax during the 'drei tolle Tage', the three crazy days before Ash Wednesday. Fasching is a time of celebration and fun for Germans from all walks of life. See scores of decorated floats, groups wearing colorful costumes and wild masks and hundreds of horses, and bands. <http://affiliates.usa.org/kaiserslautern>.

coming to THEATERS

THE MUPPETS

(Amy Adams) On vacation in Los Angeles, Walter, the world's biggest Muppet fan, his brother Gary and Gary's girlfriend Mary, discover the evil plan of oilman Tex Richman to raze the Muppet Theater and drill for the oil recently discovered beneath the Muppets' old stomping grounds. Gary and friends decide to host the greatest Muppet telethon ever to raise the \$10 million needed to save the theater, but first they must reunite all the Muppets who have all gone their separate ways. (Rated PG for some rude humor) 103 minutes.



PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

Feb. 2 - J. EDGAR (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 3 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 7 p.m.; 10 p.m.
Feb. 4 - THE MUPPETS (PG) 4 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 7 p.m.; ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 10 p.m.
Feb. 5 - THE MUPPETS (PG) 4 p.m.; ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 6 - THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 - THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 9 - THE MUPPETS (PG) 7 p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

Feb. 3 - RED TAILS (PG-13) 4 p.m.; EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 4 - HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 4 p.m.; J. EDGAR (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 5 - HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 4 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

Feb. 2 - RED TAILS (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. 7 p.m.; J. EDGAR (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 3 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 8:15 p.m.
Feb. 4 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 8:15 p.m.
Feb. 5 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m.
Feb. 6 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.
Feb. 7 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.
Feb. 8 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m.
Feb. 9 - ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 11 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 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 Cineplex (P4 13), CinemaxX (N7, 17), Mannheim, civ. 01805-625466, www.cineplex.de

Mannheim, CinemaxX, Cineplex - English Language movies

Feb. 8 - IDES OF MARCH (R) 4:45 p.m.; GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (R) 8:15 p.m. at Cineplex

community HIGHLIGHTS

Technology Expositions

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Kaiserslautern Chapter 158 will host the Ramstein Winter Technology Exposition 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Ramstein Officers' Club. The event is free to all military, civilians and contractors and includes demonstrations from more than 40 exhibitors in the latest in optical equipment, satellite solutions, office furniture and more. To register, visit www.FederalEvents.com, click on Ramstein AB and choose the pre-register link. The 43rd Signal Battalion will also host a semi-annual technology exposition 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Casablanca Room on Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg. More than 30 exhibitors will demonstrate the latest in cloud computing, data storage, digital imaging and more. To register, visit www.FederalEvents.com, click the Campbell Barracks link and select the pre-register link.

GSAs Fleet Vehicle Sale

EURO Interagency Fleet Management System will hold a live public auction via the Internet of used U.S. government vehicles Feb. 10-19, with a public inspection period 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 15 at EURO IFMS Consolidated Vehicle Processing Center, McCully Barracks (Wackernheim). Starting Feb. 10, vehicle photos, descriptions and minimum bid starting prices can be found at www.vebeg.de/web/en/auktionen/index.htm. Prospective bidders must be registered. DSN 334-4268, civ. 06211-705-7781.

Equal Opportunity Training

All civilian employees, military and local nationals who supervise civilian employees are required to attend annual classroom equal opportunity training. Employees must have classroom training every other year and the online version, www.bw.eur.army.mil/Directorates/EEO/Training/EEONoFEAR.pdf, on the alternating year. Classes are 1-2 p.m. Feb. 15 and monthly until September in the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg EEO Training Room, Bldg. 128, on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg.

i3T Conference and Exposition

Registration is open for the information, innovation, integration and technology conference and exposition hosted by the U.S. European Command's directorate of intelligence Feb. 13-16 in Munich. The conference includes collaboration and discussion on the EUROM intelligence strategic plan and more. www.ncsi.com.

local EMPLOYMENT

Career Fair

Army Community Service and the Association of the U.S. Army will host a career fair 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Heidelberg Marriott Hotel. GPS address: Vangerowstr. 16, 69115. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883, mwrgermany.com.

University Of Phoenix Faculty

Professionals who have graduate degrees and in-depth field knowledge are needed to teach 6-10 p.m. one night a week at the University of Phoenix campuses on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg and on Ramstein Air Base in Kaiserslautern. http://www.phoenix.edu/faculty/become_a_faculty_member/overseas_military_instruction.html.

KAISERSLAUTERN Education

♦ **Language Classes** – Beginner English as a Second Language for adults, 9:30 a.m. Mondays; Intermediate English as a Second Language for adults, 9:30 a.m. Fridays; Conversational Spanish, 10 a.m. Tuesdays. Classes are in Bldg. 2891 on Pulaski Barracks. Registration is required. Conversational German (10-week series; sign-up required), noon-1 p.m. Tuesdays and 6-7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in Bldg. 2926 on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 493-4203, civ. 0631-3406-4203.

Community

♦ **Family Fun Days** – Play darts, virtual bowling, pool, board games and video games during Family Fun Day 3-6 p.m. Feb. 5 and 19 at Armstrong's Club, Bldg. 1036, Vogelweh Housing. Civ. 0631-354-9986.

♦ **Cards For A Cause** – Cards for a Cause stamps blank cards for warriors to send to family and friends 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Woodlawn Golf Course, Pinehurst Room on Ramstein Air Base. There will also be a prize drawing and food for purchase.

♦ **Abuse Survivor Peer Group** – The incest, sexual abuse and assault survivors peer group meets 6-8 p.m. Feb. 8 and every Wednesday in the Yellow Ribbon Room in Bldg. 2926 on Pulaski Barracks. Children under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Civ. 01609-797-8785.

♦ **Valentines Day Chocolate** – Order candy for your sweetheart by Feb. 7 and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will deliver them to any on-post office or living quarters. Orders include chocolates, personalized Valentine note and delivery. DSN 493-4469, civ. 0631-3406-4469.

♦ **Cinema Sunday** – Watch Shrek while snacking on free popcorn 2:30-6:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at Armstrong's Club, Bldg. 1036, Vogelweh Housing. Civ. 0631-536-6000.

♦ **BOSS Tropical Weekend** – Register by Feb. 9 for a Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers trip to the world's largest indoor rainforest in Krausnick Feb. 17-19. Tropical village includes restaurants, shops, white beaches, lagoon and tropical sea. Register with Army Outdoor Recreation on Pulaski Barracks, Bldg. 2905. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

♦ **Valentine's Wine Tasting** – Adults 18 and older can enjoy a finger food buffet and sample wines, cheeses and chocolates 7-10 p.m. Feb. 14 at Armstrong's Irish Pub, Bldg. 1036, Vogelweh Housing. Reservations: civ. 0631-354-9986.

♦ **Mother, Daughter Book Club** – The book club for youth ages 9-12 and their mothers meets the second and fourth Thursdays at the main library, Bldg. 3810. February's book is *The Creep Makers' Bond* by Julie Grabtree. Civ. 0151-5877-6489.

♦ **Military Officers Association** – Active duty, National Guard, Reserve, former and retired commissioned and warrant officers are invited to the First European Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America's membership meeting 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Restaurant Barbarosahof in Eselthur (near Kaiserslautern). Stop by for lunch, check out membership benefits, and meet the members of the Chapter. Civ. 0613-460-4859.

HEIDELBERG Education

♦ **Beginner Italian, German** – Beginner Italian classes will be 6:30-8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays March 5-May 30, and beginner German classes will be 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays March 6-May 31 at the USO on the Community Support Center for ages 15 and older. Enrollment is limited. Sign up at the USO. DSN 370-7924, civ. 06221-57-7924.

♦ **UMUC Europe** – The University of Maryland University College Europe offers registration for the spring 2012 online mid-session for graduate and undergraduate students until Feb. 12, with class start Feb. 13. DSN 370-6762, civ. 06221-176-3780, www.ed.umuc.edu.

♦ **ACS Classes** – After "I Do" (four sessions), 7-9 p.m. Feb. 3, March 2 and 16 and April 6, ACS Annex, PHV, Bldg. 4531; Introduction to Microsoft Word, 9-11 a.m. Feb. 7-8; Financial Readiness Brief, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 8; Finding the Time During Transformation and Other Life Changing Events, 9 a.m. Feb. 8; Army Community Service Volunteer Orientation, 10-11 a.m. Feb. 8; Stress and Transformation, 2 p.m. Feb. 8; Scream Free Parenting (four sessions), 2-4:30 p.m. Feb. 8, 15, 22 and 29, ACS Annex, PHV, Bldg. 4531; Hands-On Interactive Stress Reduction, 10-11:30 a.m. Feb. 9, Nachrichten Kaserne, Bldg. 3622, Warriors in Transition Conference Room; English as a Second Language, 6-7:30 Mondays, ACS Annex, PHV, Bldg. 4531. Registration is required. Classes are in the Community Support Center, Bldg. 3850, on the Shopping Center unless noted. DSN 370-6975, civ. 06221-57-6975.

Community

♦ **Speed Dating** – Meet new people during speed dating 6-8 p.m. Feb. 3 and stay to bid on favorite staff members or friends during an auction at Slapshots on Patton Barracks. DSN 373-5190, civ. 06221-17-5190.

♦ **Oratorical Scholarship** – High school students can compete in the 42nd annual American Legion high school oratorical scholarship program, sponsored by Rhein Neckar Post GR03, 10 a.m. Feb. 4 in Heidelberg High School, Room 342. Students will

present an 8-10 minute oration. DSN 370-8236, civ. 06221-57-8236.

♦ **Texas Hold 'Em** – Buy-in for a Texas Hold 'Em tournament starts 6 p.m. Games start 7 p.m. Feb. 4 and 18 at Legends on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 388-9570, civ. 06221-338-9570, mwrgermany.com.

♦ **Book Group** – In recognition of a movement to end violence against women, the Patrick Henry Village Library will host a discussion based on Eve Ensler's *Vagina* Interviews 7 p.m. Feb. 5. DSN 370-1740, civ. 06221-57-1740.

♦ **Breastfeeding 101** – Parents can attend Breastfeeding 101 in the Wellness Center, Bldg. 3617, on Nachrichten Kaserne 9 a.m.-noon Feb. 7 and first Tuesdays. Sign-up is required. Civ. 06221-17-3200.

♦ **Taste of Soul** – Enjoy performances from Jimmy Souliquery Band and the Heidelberg High School JAAM, taste soul food dishes, browse artwork and more during the Taste of Soul, in honor of Black History Month, 7-11 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion. Prizes will be awarded for best appetizer, entree and dessert. Art exhibit submissions must be ready to hang and delivered to the Arts and Cultural Center by Feb. 3. DSN 388-9418, civ. 06221-338-9418, mwrgermany.com.

♦ **Cooking Class** – Learn how to prepare a romantic French dinner of filet mignon with mushrooms and chocolate mousse for dessert for you and your valentine during a free international cooking class, sponsored by Army Community Service 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Patrick Henry Village Commissary. Registration is required. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883.

♦ **Valentines Day** – Slapshots on Patton Barracks hosts a Valentines Day party for singles and couples 8 p.m. Feb. 14. DSN 373-5190, civ. 06221-17-5190, mwrgermany.com.

♦ **Threat Awareness Briefings** – Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP) briefings in English will be held 10 a.m. in the Patrick Henry Village Theater Feb. 15. The TARP has replaced the annual SAEDA briefings. There will be no German session.

♦ **BOSS Cheap Eats** – Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will host just-like-home dinner 5 p.m. Feb. 15 at the Warrior Zone on Patton Barracks. DSN 373-5275, civ. 06221-17-5275.

♦ **Right Arm Night** – Ages 18 and older can enjoy happy hour with their bosses and co-worker 5-7 p.m. Feb. 16 at Legends on Patrick Henry Village. DSN 388-9570, civ. 06221-338-9570.

♦ **Sweetheart Dance** – Join the party and enter to win the cutest couple contest 9 p.m. Feb. 17 at Legends on Patrick Henry Village.

DSN 388-9570, civ. 06221-338-9570, mwrgermany.com.

♦ **Oklahoma! Auditions** – Actors, singers and dancers age 8 and older with and without experience can bring prepared musical numbers to audition for the classic musical *Oklahoma!* 7 p.m. Feb. 21-22 at the Roadside Theater on Patton Barracks. Perusal scripts are available at the Roadside Theater. A pianist will be provided. Musicians, technical staff and crew are also needed. DSN 373-5020, civ. 06221-17-5020.

♦ **Mancala Board Game** – In honor of Black History Month, the Patrick Henry Village Library will host a traditional African game of stones and skill 6:30 p.m. Feb. 24. DSN 370-1740, civ. 06221-57-1740.

♦ **JROTC Uniforms** – The Heidelberg High School Army JROTC is accepting donations at the JROTC building (Bldg. 3744 on Mark Twain Village) of Army Combat Uniforms, Army Service Uniforms (Class As) and other equipment. DSN 370-8004, civ. 06221-57-8004.

♦ **HMS Yearbooks** – Heidelberg Middle School yearbooks for the 2011-12 school year are available online at internationalmemories.us and at the school. Contact HMS for user ID and password to order online. DSN 388-9311, civ. 06221-338-9311.

♦ **German Customs** – The Heidelberg German Customs (Zollamt) office has moved from Gueteramt Straße 2. New GPS address is Dischinger Straße 8 (second floor), 69123 Heidelberg-Pfaffengrund. Civ. 06221-438-0730.

♦ **Toastmasters** – Learn to effectively communicate by practicing public speaking at Heidelberg International Toastmasters Club meetings 7:30-9:30 p.m. first and third Mondays. GPS address: Treff am Turm, Franz-Kruckenbergr-Straße 54, 69126 Heidelberg. www.heidelberg-toastmasters.de.

MANNHEIM Community

♦ **Variety Night** – Adults 18 and older can enjoy a variety of tunes 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Feb. 3 and every Friday at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village, Bldg. 738. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370, mwrgermany.com.

♦ **'70s, '80s Night** – Adults 18 and older can enjoy a variety of '70s and '80s tunes 10 p.m.-3 a.m. Feb. 4 and every Saturday at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village, Bldg. 738. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370. www.mwrgermany.com.

♦ **Story Time** – The library on Sullivan Barracks offers story time for preschoolers and toddlers 10:30-11:30 a.m. Feb. 15 at the library support office (Room 118), Bldg. 246. DSN 385-2688, civ. 0621-730-2688.



Linda Steil

Seconds before the official calls the pin, Heidelberg High School sophomore Justin Vatcher, left, who wrestles in the 160-pound weight class moves into position to defeat his opponent from Ansbach and win the match Saturday at Heidelberg High School.

Heidelberg wrestlers give strong showing at home meet

By Jamie Williams
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The gym at Heidelberg High School was full of energy Saturday as the Lions hosted a seven-team wrestling tournament.

This season brought many changes for the Lions team. New head coach Charles Russ has switched up the team's conditioning and training routines in hopes of taking one of the top spots at Europeans this year.

"We have three Division I wrestlers [on the coaching staff] this year," said Russ. "The atmosphere in the room at practice is way different than last year. This year there is a lot more technique."

That technique showed in what was arguably the most exciting match of the day between Heidelberg sophomore Kristina Bean and Vilseck's Marcus Lerma in the 152-pound weight class.

"Everything I've learned this season just came rushing back," said Bean, describing what pushed her to get her first win of the season in a third-round pin.

Senior Daniel LeJeune, one of the team's four co-captains, was happy with the team's performance at Saturday's meet.

"I think we did really well today. As a team we had four first place finishers. This is probably one of the best meets we've



Jamie Williams

Heidelberg senior Daniel LeJeune gains control of his opponent, Kaiserslautern's Arvin Hrushka. LeJeune took first place in the 152-pound weight class during Saturday's wrestling tournament in Heidelberg.

wrestled all season," he said.

The Lions took second place at the meet.

"I feel we did well today, but there is always room for improvement," Russ said. "We have a really strong team, though, and I think we'll end up taking a lot of wrestlers to Europeans."

The team has two more weeks to gear up for the sectional qualifier hosted by Patch High School in Stuttgart. Wrestling Europeans will be held Feb. 17-18 in Wies-

"... This year there is a lot more technique."

—Charles Russ, Head Wrestling Coach

baden.

The final tournament results had Patch taking tournament honors with 211 points, Heidelberg in second with 123, Kaiserslautern was third with 116.5, then Vilseck 54, Ansbach 40, Schweinfurt 4 and Hohenfels 0.

staying ACTIVE

Heidelberg Community Basketball

Heidelberg unit level basketball league upcoming games at the fitness center are: **Feb. 6** – Medical Department Activity vs. Slayers at 6 p.m., NATO vs. 1-214th at 7 p.m. and Medical Command vs. Warriors at 8 p.m.; **Feb. 8** – MEDDAC vs. NATO at 6 p.m., 529th Military Police vs. 60th Engineers at 7 p.m. and Warriors vs. 1-214th Aviation at 8 p.m.

Bike Maintenance Workshop

Novice and intermediate bike maintenance workshops will be held 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 9 and 23 and March 8. Workshops include roadside repair, tire and tube changing, drive train repair, brake and derailleur systems and wheel and spoke service. Advanced payment is required. DSN 370-6489, civ. 06221-57-6489, www.mwrgermany.com.

Super Bowl XLVI Parties

Patrick Henry Village Bowling and Entertainment Center in Heidelberg will host a Super Bowl XLVI party 11 p.m. Feb. 5. Two roasted pigs will be served at half time. Bowling is \$1 a game with the Super Bowl showing on all televisions. DSN 388-9040, civ. 06221-338-9040.

The Kaiserslautern Kazabra Club's Super Bowl Party is 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Feb. 5 featuring a buffet, games and giveaways. Get tickets at the Kazabra Club, from your unit Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representative or at the One Stop Shop. DSN 486-8943, civ. 06371-86-8943.

Indoor Ice Skating

Book now with Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation for the indoor ice skating trip Feb. 12 to Zweibrücken. DSN 493-4117, Civ. 0631-3406-4117.

Shamrock Shuffle Fun Run

Join the Shamrock Shuffle Fun Run March 10 starting at the Patrick Henry Village Commissary in Heidelberg. Registration is 8:30 a.m. and the race starts 9 a.m. DSN 370-6489, civ. 06221-57-7294, www.mwrgermany.com.

Volleyball Officials Clinic

A volleyball officials clinic and tournament will be held 6-9 p.m. March 6-8 at the Patton Fitness Center in Heidelberg. Classroom instruction will be 6-9 p.m. March 6-8 at the Heidelberg Sports Office, Bldg. 128, on Patton Barracks; the tournament will be March 8. Free entry for the first four unit level teams that register. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

Community Volleyball

Unit Volleyball games will take place 6-9 p.m. March 12-May 7 at the Patton Fitness Center in Heidelberg. Competition is open to all military units or components assigned to the Heidelberg military community. Participants must be at least 18 years old and authorized to use MWR facilities. Team registration: 6 p.m. March 8 at the Patton Fitness Center during the 2012 Heidelberg Volleyball organizational meeting. DSN: 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

Adler Alliance

The Army, Air Force, Adler Alliance is currently looking for hockey sports writers. A4 is a non-profit sports media organization run by military members, providing information about professional and military hockey in Germany. Partnered with the Mannheim Adler, A4 has special access to players and team personnel. Anyone with a knack for writing and a passion for hockey should contact info@adleralliance.com or civ. 0172-626-3642.

Heidelberg Sports Camp Instructors

U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Child, Youth and School Services seeks instructors for 2012 summer camps. Experience in instructing and coaching in a specific sport is required. DSN 388-9397, civ. 06221-338-9397, www.mwrgermany.com.

Human resources personnel receive Vollrath awards

Service, leadership cited

USAREUR Public Affairs

U.S. Army Europe recognized four Soldiers and one civilian at the second Annual G-1 Frederick E. Vollrath Human Resources Award for Excellence ceremony Jan. 25.

The winners are:

- ♦ Capt. Thomas Cho, U.S. Army NATO Brigade
- ♦ Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laura Gentry, V Corps
- ♦ Staff Sgt. Alex Casaretto, 21st Theater Sustainment Command
- ♦ Spc. Tavia Shelton, V Corps

♦ John Spillman, U.S. Army Europe G-1

The program was named after retired Lt. Gen. Frederick E. Vollrath and developed to recognize human resource personnel for their quality service and leadership. Vollrath is a 45-year professional in the human resources field and second adjutant general officer to be promoted to lieutenant general.

USAREUR G-1 Deputy Chief of Staff Larry Gottardi emphasized the importance of the program and its role in helping recognize excellence among human resource professional.

"We needed something – to take a good look at the way we did busi-

ness and begin to evaluate how we conduct military personnel operations," Gottardi said. "In spite of everything that has happened in the last year with personnel services delivery redesign, we are trying to tie the field back together.

"There are HR professionals within USAREUR who are doing superb work, day in and day out, literally seeking no recognition other than their own realization that what they are doing is worthwhile and taking satisfaction in helping people out," Gottardi said. "This program is to recognize them."

Guest speaker, USAREUR Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen.

James Boozer also emphasized the significance of those serving in military personnel management.

"You literally touch the lives of Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and their families every day," Boozer said.

"You are unsung heroes in everything you do. I take my hat off to you," he added.

Capt. Thomas Cho of the U.S. Army NATO Brigade was humbled by receiving the award, and he had advice for those aspiring to receive the award.

"Work hard. Take care of your responsibility and take care of Soldiers," Cho said.

TRICARE

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a military treatment facility that can assign a Primary Care Manager to them based on number of patients per provider.

Martin undoubtedly echoed the sentiment of many of his demographic when he said the biggest loss of benefits resulting from the Army's move out of Heidelberg was not the purchase of American goods in the Exchange and commissary or having a post office box, but rather "health care issues, like getting medications for (the) long-term."

"Health care is the biggest concern for our retiree community," agreed George T. Hall, a fellow military retiree and chief of the Heidelberg Retiree Services Office in the shopping center compound.

"The health care issue is naturally at the forefront. People aren't as concerned about using the PX or commissary as they are about their medical treatment options," he said.

Those concerns are not lost on officials looking to ease the health care transformation process to all beneficiaries – active duty, family members and retirees alike – by educating them on how and when services will be affected, and working to integrate them into the Preferred Provider Network and get them comfortable using those host nation treatment facilities.

That support network is well established to meet the needs of the patient population, said Col. Telita Crosland, Commander of the U.S. Army Medical Activity Center Heidelberg.

"This has always been a standard procedure," she explained. "If appointments at the HHC are not readily available to ensure timely, quality health care, then host nation referral has always been the quality alternative. As our providers and services decrease, such referrals will increase to maintain the standard of care to which our beneficiaries are accustomed. Services offered in the community will remain consistent with a level received today."

Crosland lauded the quality of off-post medical facilities and cited the "tremendous working relationship with local host nation providers. We have referred our patients to these facilities for a long time. As we right-size, many services rendered by American military care providers will shift to our host nation partners."

That approach is beneficial in continuing to provide access to care for both the active-duty population in the short term and the retiree community in the long term. For the latter, however, the HHC staff understands the additional uncertainty with the eventual discontinuation of local military medical services.

"Many retirees are worried when we go away how they will file their claims, and they have anxiety about where they'll be able to go to get their questions answered," said Elfinesh Worku, beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator with the TRICARE Service Center at the HHC.

In addition to providing personal one-on-one beneficiary counseling to help

patients understand how the system will work for them even after the military leaves the area, the TRICARE staff has a variety of literature and handouts – from brochures and pamphlets to fact sheets and cards – to help explain the processes.

"We have an extensive listing of local PPN physicians," said Worku.

"They are part of the Preferred Provider Network because they understand the TRICARE system and what it covers; they speak English and some of the hospitals for inpatient care could file the claim with TRICARE on behalf of the beneficiary. In that regard, there's absolutely no difference from the previous procedures," Worku said.

Beneficiaries can find a listing of all preferred providers in the Heidelberg area through the following link: www.tricare-overseas.com/ProviderSearch/SearchContent.aspx.

After the Army leaves Heidelberg, retirees in the area can call the International SOS to inquire about their benefits and available services. The ISOS administers the TRICARE Overseas Program and its Germany offices can be reached in Frankfurt at civ. 06102-3588-441. Their alarm center number for urgent care needs is civ. 06102-3588-100. In addition, the ISOS European Region Customer Service line is available 24/7 at +44-208-762-8384 or toll-free at civ. 0800-589-1599.

Worku noted that TRICARE Europe, located at Sembach Kaserne near Kaiserslautern where the Europe

"Health care is the biggest concern for our retiree community. The health care issue is naturally at the forefront. People aren't as concerned about using the PX or commissary as they are about their medical treatment options."

– George T. Hall, military retiree

Regional Medical Command headquarters will relocate, may also be available to provide assistance to retirees in the Heidelberg area after closure.

One of those retirees will be Hall, who like Martin doesn't intend to leave. He has lived in Heidelberg for more than 30 years, has five grandchildren here and has volunteered his time at the RSO since 1989. He says the organization will continue in some capacity after closure to help the large retired population expected to remain.

"We will continue to provide some kind of service, even if it's out of my house somehow," he said with a laugh that belied the truth.

"We've been fortunate. The Army support has been wonderful here to retirees. They provide us an office, computers, phones, a fax machine and e-mail. But when they leave, we'll have to fend for ourselves," he said.

Still, Hall said that in conjunction with other remaining organizations such as the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, there will be some assistance to the retiree community that's left. One initiative his office is currently working on

is a transportation service to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center after the HHC closes.

"Older folks like me may not want to, or be able to, make that two-hour round trip drive to Landstuhl," he said. "We're looking at some ways to try and set something up so that we can offer transportation there a couple of times a month to help folks go there for doctor's appointments and to pick up medications."

In the meantime, however, the HHC will continue to provide access to care on post or off for all beneficiaries.

"Right now, there are no set calendar dates associated with reduced services for any of our clinics," Crosland said.

"However, as we lose providers and staff over the normal course of personnel rotations, and they are not replaced because of the impending closure, some clinic services may be rolled into Family Practice and that's also when we will rely more on our host nation network," she said.

"Rest assured, we will strive to make the most efficient use of personnel and facilities to continue to meet the needs of the commands and communities we serve," she added.