

THE CITIZEN

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U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

March 11, 2010

Serving the Greater Stuttgart Military Community

AER: taking care of Soldiers, families

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Staff Sgt. Kristina Staub was in the middle of a family crisis. Sgt. Dana Eynon was going through a divorce. Spc. Eddie Sherrod's young son was being treated for cancer. Richard Pressley, a retired sergeant first class, struggled to make ends meet.

Four Soldiers, four separate sets of circumstances — yet each found help through Army Emergency Relief.

AER provides emergency financial assistance to active duty and retired Soldiers, their family members, surviving spouses and orphans.

For Staub, assigned to U.S. Africa Command, a \$1,500 AER loan helped to ease some of her anxiety during a turbulent, emotional period.

"It made my life and my circumstances so much easier to get through — knowing there was one less thing I didn't have to worry about,"

Staub said. "In a matter of 24 hours, I had the money to take care of the situation."

Staub was one of 66,038 people who received \$70.9 million in emergency assistance in 2008.

Soldiers and their families may find themselves in need of financial assistance for vehicle repairs, emergency travel, rent, utilities or medical expenses, according to Faith Barnes, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart AER officer.

"Things happen and we understand that. We're here for that particular happenstance," Barnes said.

AER emergency financial assistance is provided as either an interest-free loan, a grant or a combination of the two.

"We look at the total situation and make a decision based on that individual's needs. No two cases are alike," Barnes said. "We try and help them the best way that we can."

AER is supported by voluntary contributions from active and retired Soldiers. "Helping the Army take care of its own" is the program's slogan.

"The money comes from Soldiers and it goes back to the Soldiers," said Barnes.

The Army will conduct the Army Emergency Relief annual campaign through May 15. The campaign gives Soldiers the opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers through donations to AER.

The program also accepts unsolicited donations from individual donors and corporations.

For more information on the 2010 AER campaign, call Capt. Timothy Mitchell, campaign coordinator, at 431-2086/civ. 07031-15-2086. For information on AER assistance, call Faith Barnes at 431-2085/civ. 07031-15-2085, or visit the AER Web site at www.aerhq.org.



Larry Reilly

Col. Richard M. Pastore, USAG Stuttgart commander (right), and Faith Barnes, Army Emergency Relief officer (center), along with senior leaders of various garrison tenant units, share a moment of laughter during the AER kickoff March 3.



Record breakers

See page 12

Patch High School sophomore Calen Fields, in yellow and black, counters a move by Baumholder's Cody Clay in their 145-pound finals match during the DODDS-Europe wrestling championships Feb. 19-20.

Tony Seely

AFAP delegates hammer out issues

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

If you've ever tried to change your Army Post Office address through the U.S. Postal Service Web site, you know you can't.

Want to order a Macintosh computer from the Apple Online Store or curtains from Overstock and have them mailed to your APO address? Ditto.

Delegates at the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart 2010 Army Family Action Plan conference feel your pain.

That's why the lack of global acceptance of APO addresses was one of 12 issues presented for resolution to USAG Stuttgart leadership during the conference, held Feb. 25-26 in the Swabian Special

See AFAP on page 4

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'Rabbit Hole' play explores resilience

The latest production at Stuttgart's Kelley Theatre won a Pulitzer Prize for its poignant plot describing a family dealing with the accidental death of a child.



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Felines shine during FMWR fun show

From fat cats to cats with the longest whiskers, Stuttgart military community members' feline friends were on display at the 2nd Annual Feline Fun Show.



INSIDE
THIS
EDITION

Host nations give special contribution to Army communities

Commentary by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Installation Management Command commander

In America, the Secretary of the Army created the Army Community Covenant in 2008 to build relationships and strengthen bonds between Soldiers, families and American communities.

The ACC has been a valuable tool in fostering and sustaining effective state and community partnerships with the Army to improve the quality of life for Soldiers and their families on the home front.

The ACC recognizes the selfless service and contributions of community volunteers, and also shows Soldiers the compassion and support of the American public.

Though the ACC is not a formal program at European garrisons, Europe has long carried the torch as a pillar of support for the U.S. Army, ever since we helped liberate it from the bonds of tyranny during World War II and the bonds of oppression during the Cold War.

Europe's positive impact on the strength of the Army Family overseas is a jewel in our nation's crown.

Soldiers and families who call Europe their home away from home enjoy fabulous friendship and selfless support from community leaders, business owners and citizens in numerous German, Italian, Belgian and Dutch communities who empathize with the sacrifices of forward-stationed Soldiers and families.

In my travels, I hear countless stories of the extent to which our European communities strive to support

Europe's positive impact on the strength of the Army Family overseas is a jewel in our nation's crown.

our Soldiers and families before, during and after the many deployments, without expecting a reward. These partnerships strengthen ties between our Soldiers and local national hosts, which builds added resilience in our families.

The generosity of Europe's neighborhoods, cities and countries is astounding. Just as in America, communities surrounding our European Army garrisons devise new ways, both large and small, to demonstrate their appreciation for Soldiers and families. The following initiatives demonstrate the scope of their support:

- Families and Soldiers attend host nation community, cultural and tourism events through reduced-fee or gratis incentives provided by local cities.
- Soldiers and families visit German political centers through host nation visitation tours to enhance their understanding of host nation sociopolitical workings.
- Host nation volunteers from the KONTAKT program at German garrisons donate thousands of hours annually to support events at garrisons that enhance the quality of life for Soldiers and families.
- School exchanges encourage cross-cultural awareness, understanding and appreciation, and develop bonds of friendship.

• Army communities rely on critical life and safety support provided by host nation law enforcement, medical and fire first responders.

• Garrison sports exchange programs organize competitions that develop comradeship between sports teams and enhance cultural understanding.

• Access to host nation medical care facilities for Army families ensures the health concerns and priorities of Soldiers and their families are effectively addressed in a timely manner.

When you eventually return to the U.S., the ACC will pick up where your gracious European hosts left off. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the program online at www.army.mil/community, where you can see the best practices of Soldiers, family members, leaders, and community organizations in the States. Perhaps you will even discover something you can adapt to your European community, or send me your ideas on something that has worked for you overseas that we can use here in the U.S.

Relationships are everything, and I encourage you to take every opportunity to thank the members of your host nation community for their sincere and active caring for Soldiers and their families in Europe. The Army is eternally grateful and thankful for their support.

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart@army.mil **AdvantiPro**

ON THE STREET

How can our community be improved?



Velma Nwafor
(Army spouse)

"I'd like to see the youth sports events closer to home."



Candice Kracyla
(Army spouse)

"More parking spots on Patch."



Cornelius Taylor
(Civilian)

"I'd like to see the hours of operations of base facilities coincide."



Chief Petty Officer Kelley Jones
(U.S. Navy)

"I'd like the new hotel on Panzer to be finished."



Petty Officer 1st Class Dagoberto Serrano
(U.S. Navy)

"More action regarding issues in town hall meetings."



Raina Goodlow
(Civilian)

"I'd like to see the base bus system work better with the Stuttgart system."



Maj. Doug McDaniel
(U.S. Air Force)

"More sports events on Robinson Barracks."



Tech Sgt. Shawn Parker
(U.S. Air Force)

"I'd like to see a skate park on RB for the youth."

Patch Barracks' unmanned pedestrian gate now open

Story & photos by Susan Huseman
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The unmanned pedestrian gate on Patch Barracks became operational Feb. 25.

The Enhanced Security Pedestrian Gate allows pedestrians to enter or exit the installation without having to walk to the main gate.

It's a time saver. "You only get 30 or 45 minutes for lunch," said Lt. Col. Dawn Hilton, who works in the U. S. European Command antiterrorism division.

"We're able to have a business lunch in 30 minutes," she said, returning on foot from a restaurant just outside the Patch Barracks gate on Feb. 25.

The ESPG is conveniently located next to the K and K gate on Kurmärkerstrasse.

"It's the best location—it's next to housing and close to the bus stop on Pascalstrasse," said Lynwood Smith, a physical security inspector with U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services.

The green metal "booth" allows a person who is enrolled in the Installation Access Control System to enter the installation through an automated verification system.

To use the gate, one must slide his or her ID card through the card reader slot. The card reader communicates with the IACS database to determine if the person is enrolled in IACS and authorized on the installation.

Once inside the ESPG, one must place his or her index finger on a biometric reader.

The system then communicates with the IACS database and compares the fingerprint presented to the image on record for the swiped ID card.

If they match, the door will open to the installation side, allowing the person onto the installation.

The ESPG is designed to reduce the need for security guards, as well as detect, deter, and prevent unauthorized personnel from entering the installation using a lost or stolen ID card.

Using the ESPG may be a little tricky at first, according to Lynwood.



Lt. Col. Dawn Hilton of EUCOM uses the biometric reader in the Enhanced Security Pedestrian Gate at Patch Barracks on Feb. 25.

Because there is a 30-second time limit from the time the card is swiped to when the door is opened, cyclists and people with pets, small children or strollers need to hit the intercom button before swiping their cards.

"This alerts the security guards, who will override the entrance door," Lynwood said.

If the system times out, the user must exit the booth, re-swipe the ID card and try again.

Once inside the ESPG, "Listen to the prompt," Lynwood said. "Keep your finger on the fingerprint reader until prompted, or you will be rejected and will have to go outside and try again.

"It might take a few attempts to process through the ESPG. Be patient," said Lynwood.

He recommended that if users have problems they should use the intercom and call security, or call the Military Police. "Don't leave frustrated," he said.

Using the Enhanced Security Pedestrian Gate

The ESPG is a fully automated system that allows one Common Access Card holder at a time to enter an installation. A "call" button located below the CAC reader can be used to alert security to provide assistance to adults with small children, heavy objects or people with bicycles or pets.

Follow the simple instructions posted on the ESPG to avoid overwhelming the system.

- For force protection reasons, the ESPG will only allow access to one person at a time, unless the "call" button is activated for special assistance.

- When the booth is free, swipe your CAC through the card reader and wait for the green light to open the door, then enter.

- Let the door close behind you. You cannot proceed if the door is left open.

- Gently place the tip of your right or left index finger on the fingerprint reader. Once your identity is confirmed, the other door will open, letting you on post.

Exiting the installation

When exiting through the ESPG, push the but-

ton to open the door, step inside the gate, allow the door to close, push the exit button inside the gate, and the exit door will then open.

Problems and emergencies

If a problem should arise when inside the ESPG, simply press the intercom button located to the left of the fingerprint reader, and you will be connected with the guard house.

The emergency button located above the fingerprint reader is for emergencies only. Once pushed, you will not be able to utilize the intercom to speak with the guards. To communicate with the guards, use the intercom button. Push the emergency button only if a real emergency should arise.

News & Notes

Web site offers free tax filing

Military OneSource offers free electronic tax filing services to active duty, National Guard and reserve service members, spouses, dependent children and family members standing in for a deployed service member. Access the free H&R Block at Home program by visiting www.militaryonesource.com and clicking on "Tax Filing Services."

Filers can call a Military OneSource tax consultant from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern Standard Time at civ. 001-800-730-3802.

General Schedule information now online

The Defense Department National Security Personnel System Web site provides information for employees working in NSPS who will be transitioning to the General Schedule system. An online course called "GS-101" assists employees in learning about the GS system. Visit www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps.

Garrison to host "Diversity Day"

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Equal Employment Opportunity Office Special Emphasis Committee will host a Diversity Day on May 6.

The theme is "We Are the World: Celebrating Our Continental Diversity." Units and organizations have the opportunity to represent a continent during the event. Groups and individuals can showcase their talents through performances that demonstrate cultural diversity.

To participate, contact Yasmin Rosa at 430-5256/civ.0711-680-5256 or yasmin.a.rosa@us.army.mil. The deadline to respond has been extended to March 26.

Community students aid Haiti

- The students at Patch Elementary School collected and donated \$1,568.71 to Haiti through the American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund.

- The Patch Youth Center Torch Club will collect clothing donations during March for the victims of January's earthquake in Haiti. To donate, stop by the Patch HUB or call 430-7204/civ. 0711-680-7204.

USAREUR, AAFES announce new fuel policy

U.S. Army Europe and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service-Europe will transition to a self-enforcement policy for fuel sales at AAFES gas stations Germany-wide March 22.

The policy will eliminate the need for pre-fuel purchase registration checks, according to AAFES leaders. Customers are still required to show their registration, fuel ration card and military identification at the time of payment.

Customers who exceed their authorized fuel rations or have an invalid or deactivated fuel ration card at AAFES gas stations will be charged German fuel prices.

Customers must submit an AE Form 600-17A through their chain of command to Headquarters USAREUR for additional rations.

For more information, visit www.imcom-europe.army.mil.

AFAP

Continued from page 1

Events Center on Patch Barracks.

AFAP allows members of the Stuttgart community the opportunity to voice concerns and issues to installation, Army and even Defense Department leadership.

Issues are solicited from across the community. At the conference, delegates examine the issues, recommend resolutions and determine which issues they consider the most important to the welfare of the community.

“We’re going to take these issues, and over the next several months, meet with Col. Pastore [the USAG Stuttgart commander] and subject matter experts to see what we can do locally to resolve any part of the issue,” said Lisa Ordukaya, the USAG Stuttgart AFAP program manager.

“Then, we will work on sending the issues further up the chain. Our goal is to get the issues pushed up as far as we can take them,” she said.

While AFAP is an Army program, many times the results are advantageous to all military members.

“There are a lot of changes that have come out of AFAP that don’t just benefit the Army, but all the services,” said Ordukaya.

She offered up the Post 9-11 GI Bill as an example. “That’s a huge thing that came out of AFAP and impacted all military folks,” she said.

Because Stuttgart is a joint services environment, conference delegates are selected to reflect the demographics of the community.



Birgit Thompson

Patch High School students, as part of the youth working group, discuss issues of importance to young people during the USAG Stuttgart 2010 Army Family Action Plan conference Feb. 26.

“There’s a cross mix of every branch, every rank, active duty and reserve,” said Ordukaya. Family members, youth, civilian employees and retirees are also included, she added.

Marine Sgt. Lydia Davey was a first-time delegate this year. Not sure what to expect, she anticipated the conference would be “death by Powerpoint.”

She was wrong. “I didn’t expect it to be as interactive, interesting and as relevant as it was. I was surprised at the passion people carried into the room,”

she said. “It was a positive experience.”

Bob Williams, an operations research analyst with U.S. Africa Command who has participated in other installations’ AFAP conferences in the past, seconded that opinion. “The people here are very interested in seeing that issues for the Army and joint services are carried forward to the decision makers.

“It’s a meaningful process that will bring a lot of good not only to Stuttgart, but to the services, as well,” he said.

Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club



Spring BAZAAR
Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club

Volunteers still needed!
Please e-mail us at
scscbazaarvolunteer@yahoo.com,
or follow us on FB @ Stuttgart Bazaar



March 19, 20 & 21
Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Patch Community Center

*Over 70 vendors
from all over Europe!*



Bazaar brings one-stop shopping to Patch Barracks

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Stuttgart Community Spouses Club will host its annual spring bazaar March 19-21 in the Patch Community Club and Fitness Center on Patch Barracks.

The bazaar will be open Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (an extra hour of shopping has been added) and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For shoppers, the bazaar is all about getting those coveted European collectibles without incurring the expense of traveling.

For the SCSC, however, the bazaar is about helping the Stuttgart military community.

"Last year we raised more than \$125,000," said Ann Welton, bazaar chairperson.

The funds went to support the SCSC scholarship program and dozens of local organizations such as Girl and Boy Scouts, Youth Services and the elementary, middle and high schools.

More than 70 vendors will display their wares, from tea sets to wine racks to military collectibles, at the bazaar. This year, 10 new vendors have been added to the roster, according to Welton.

These vendors will offer products

such as articles carved out of olive wood from Bethlehem, pen and ink drawings of famous European attractions and custom-made furniture.

Of course, the ever popular Polish pottery, Italian ceramics, Dutch cheese and English antique vendors will be on hand.

Sixteen private organizations will offer shoppers an assortment of snacks such as catfish, burgers and Filipino cuisine, in addition to German favorites served by a local off-post restaurant.

The bazaar is open to everyone who falls under the Status of Forces Agreement, said Welton.

ID cardholders may bring German

guests, but "they can only browse, not purchase," she said.

Shoppers may pay by credit card, check or cash. Only U.S. dollars will be accepted.

An early "by invitation only" shopping session will be offered to bazaar volunteers on March 18.

Welton said volunteers are still needed to help out with raffle, hospitality and finance duties.

To volunteer, contact the SCSC at scscbazaarvolunteer@yahoo.com.

For more information, visit the "Stuttgart Bazaar" page online at www.facebook.com.

'Rabbit Hole' takes viewers through pain, grief to hope

Story & photo by Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Audience members will want to bring a box of tissues with them to the latest performance at the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Kelley Theatre.

"Rabbit Hole," which opened March 5 through Stuttgart's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Entertainment Branch, presents an emotional, sometimes painful, look at death and grieving.

But, through their tears, viewers may glimpse a vision of hope and healing.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play, by David Lindsay-Abaire, focuses on Howie and Becca, a husband and wife struggling to deal with the aftermath of their 4-year-old son Danny's accidental death.

"It's a brilliant play," said Director Richard Roberts. "I think the play shows how adaptable the human psyche is — how you can bounce back from the most crushing things."

The play also ingeniously allows the audience moments of relief during a very emotional show, he added.

"There is also a lot of humor, a lot of wit," Roberts said. "There is an underlying feeling of grief, but there is also great warmth to it."

"Rabbit Hole" is also one of the theater group's entries in this year's Tournament of Plays Topper Awards.

The plot weaves Becca and Howie's struggles to regain a sense of normalcy with the lives of Izzy, Becca's sister; Nat, Becca's mother; and Jason, the teenage boy involved in the accident that killed their son.

In the absence of dancing, singing or elaborate sets, the show spotlights the actors' abilities.

Liz Winkler, who plays Becca, finds it is tough to



T. J. Downing and Liz Winkler rehearse their roles as Howie and Becca, a couple grieving for their 4-year-old son, who was accidentally killed, in "Rabbit Hole." The show, produced by the USAG Stuttgart FMWR Entertainment Branch, opened last weekend at the Kelley Theatre.

portray a character who ignores her pain.

"The way my character deals with emotions is to shut them out completely; otherwise, it would be unbearable for her," Winkler said. "I'm curious to see whether the audience finds any sympathy with her at all — how many people can relate."

Watching Becca and Howie live through this tragedy is an opportunity for audience members to learn, Winkler added.

"This is for people who want to work things through," she said. "It's always tough ... but it can be very cathartic."

The subject matter makes it all the more important for the cast of five to deliver any comic lines with gusto. "Hopefully, the audience will know that they're allowed to laugh," she said.

T.J. Downing, an Air Force major assigned to U.S. European Command, plays Howie. He said playing a character with so much grief is almost unbearable at times. "It is painful to act," he said.

However, the show won't leave audience members wading through the sorrow, he added.

"It ends with a kernel of hope," Downing said. "It's evocative. I think it will affect people past the play."

"Rabbit Hole" is rated PG-13 for content and some language, and not recommended for young children.

Remaining show times include March 12, 13, 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. and March 14 and 21 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, call 421-3258/3055/civ. 0711-729-3258/3055.



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Web: www.ibcstuttgart.de

For more news, visit www.stuttgart.army.mil



HOMES FOR RENT
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Contact 0179- 39 36 835

See more community photos at
www.flickr.com/photos/usagstuttgart/

Consulate staff assists during Passport Day

Tanja Tretter, right, of the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt, processes a report of birth abroad application for Jason and Leslie Bennett's 2-month-old son, Justin, during the USAG Stuttgart Passport Day on Feb. 24. During the four-hour event, 242 passports and 52 reports of birth were processed by the visiting consulate staff. Those who missed Passport Day can make an appointment at the USAG Stuttgart Passport Office by calling 431-2767/civ.07031-15-2767.

Susan Huseman



OPSEC • Simple guidelines help protect information, military community

By Master Sgt. Richard Gillispie
USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Plans,
Training, Mobility and Security

Practicing good operational security helps to keep military members and their families safe.

It is important to safeguard information about our troops. Sensitive information can be critical to the success of a terrorist or spy, and consequently, deadly to Americans.

The OPSEC guidelines are simple.

Never talk about military movements. This includes deployments, redeployments, missions and training exercises. Troop movements, whether stateside or overseas, should never be discussed.

Troop movement dates should



www.photos.com

Intelligence collectors gather small bits of information from many sources and assemble them to form an overall picture.

Many postings on message boards, social network sites and blogs can easily violate operational security.

never be released. Be aware that "next Tuesday," "next week" or "in nine days" all constitute releasing dates and are a violation of OPSEC.

Never give specific locations.

While many military units allow family members and friends to know

the country where the military members are serving, specific locations within that country should not be released.

To say a Soldier is in Iraq or Afghanistan is acceptable. To release the name of the camp he or she is at is not.

Always practice OPSEC, especially online. OPSEC violations are more prevalent online than anywhere else.

Many postings on message boards, social network sites and blogs can easily violate operational security. Family members should be especially watchful of what information they place on these networking sites.

Always be aware of pieces to the puzzle.

Though a service member may have released very little information

in his or her last blog or message board post, a quick glance through the poster's history on that site could reveal pertinent information needed to complete the puzzle, such as unit name or location. It is easy to fit together the puzzle pieces online.

Be careful of what you discuss and with whom.

Handle any attempt by unauthorized personnel to solicit sensitive or critical information as a subversion and espionage incident.

Report all facts immediately to Stuttgart Military Counterintelligence Detachment at 430-4702/civ. 0711-680-4702, or after hours to civ. 0162-296-7230; or the Military Police at 430-5162/civ. 0711-680-5262.



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ARMY@theSource.com
to see what the Army Family Covenant can mean for you or someone you know.



Estate claim notification

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estates of

- Spc. Matthew E. Clark of G Company, 52nd Aviation Regiment, or
- Chief Warrant Officer 2 Clayton M. Hickman of G Company, 52nd Aviation Regiment, should contact the summary court officer, 1st Lt. Albert James, at 421-4268/civ. 0711-729-4268.

Get EFMP respite care

Exceptional Family Member Program respite care provides a temporary rest period for family members responsible for regular care of people with disabilities. Eligibility is based on EFMP enrollment and the exceptional family member's medical or educational condition.

For more information, call Army Community Service at 431-3362/civ. 07031-15-3362.

Sign up for VAO training

USAG Stuttgart will conduct a Voting Assistance Officer workshop on March 16 from 1-3 p.m. Organizations with over 25 military and/or civilian personnel must appoint a primary and alternate VAO. The workshop will be held in Room 118, Building 2913, Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-2745/civ. 07031-15-2745 or e-mail cliff.heisler@eur.army.mil.

Nominate volunteers of the year by March 26

The deadline to nominate volunteers for the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Volunteer of the Year program is March 26. Nomination categories include military, retired military, civilian, local national and military spouse.

To fill out a volunteer award nomination form, visit <http://stuttgartmwr.com> and click on the link for Army Community Services, then Army Volunteer Corps.

For more information, call 431-3330/07031-15-3330, or visit www.stuttgart.army.mil.

Bowl to raise scholarship dollars on March 12-14

The Germany Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi will host the 4th Annual Community Scholarship Bowling Tournament March 12-14 in the Galaxy Bowling Center on Panzer Kaserne. Cash prizes will be awarded in singles, doubles and 9-ball no tap categories. All proceeds will be applied toward the organization's community scholarship program.

For more information, call Michael Morrissette at civ. 0152-03473061.

Sign up for Women's Leadership Forum

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Equal Employment Opportunity Office will host the 2nd Annual Women's Leadership Forum on March 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks. Doors open at 8 a.m. This year's theme is "Cultivating Leaders Through Mentorship."

The forum aims to empower participants through discussions on leadership, communications skills, mentoring and career guidance.

Katherine Canavan, foreign policy advisor to the U.S. European Command commander, and Col. Cheryl Harris, assistant chief of staff, U.S. Africa Command, will be the keynote speakers.

The registration deadline is March 18. To sign up, call Yasmin Rosa at 430-5256/civ. 0711-680-5256 or e-mail yasmin.rosa@eur.army.mil.

Blood drive March 23

The Army Services Blood Program will hold a Stuttgart military community blood drive March 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Kelley Fitness Center. Seventeen-year-olds may now donate.

To make an appointment, visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Banks to open later

Community Banks in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will open later because of mandatory training March 17. The branch on Patch Barracks will open from 1-4 p.m. and those on Panzer Kaserne and Kelley Barracks will open from 1:30-4 p.m.

SCSC Spring Bazaar needs volunteers

Volunteers are needed to assist with the setup of the Stuttgart Community Spouses Club Spring Bazaar on March 15-16, and during the bazaar, March 19-21. Volunteers will earn rewards such as VIP shopping. For more information, e-mail scscbazaarvolunteer@yahoo.com.

The bazaar hospitality committee also needs volunteers to help provide meals and snacks to vendors and volunteers from March 11-21. To donate, contact Heidi Taflan at topplewood@aol.com.

Ansbach hosts bazaar

The USAG Ansbach Spring Fling Bazaar will take place on Katterbach Kaserne in Katterbach/Ansbach from March 12-14 in Hangars 3 and 4 on the Katterbach Army Air Field. The

bazaar is open Friday from 2 to 7 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Take child CPR class with Red Cross

The American Red Cross Stuttgart will host a New Parent Support Child/Infant CPR class on March 19 and 26 from 8 a.m. to noon in the ARC office, Room 314, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

Stop by the office to register. For more information, call 431-2812/civ. 07031-15-2812.

AVID applications now available; tutors needed

AVID applications for the next Patch High School school year (2010-2011) may be picked up in the front office of the high school.

AVID is a college preparatory academic elective for above-average students who are not working to their full potential. To qualify for AVID, a student must have a grade point average of 2.0-3.5; above average standardized test scores; a completed interview; a signed contract committing to preparation for college; a teacher recommendation, and plans to take honors/advanced placement courses.

Tutors are needed for the 2010-2011 program. These are part-time paid positions; individuals must be on the substitute list.

For more information, call Claire Dickmeyer, AVID coordinator, at 430-4006/civ. 0711-680-4006 after 3 p.m.

PCS/pre-separation briefing set for March 17, 31

The next scheduled permanent change of station (PCS)/pre-separation briefings will be held March 17 and 31 at 1 p.m. in Building 2913, Panzer Kaserne. All service members and civilians departing within the next four to five months should attend. Information will be provided from various agencies, including Transportation/Customs, Medical, and Army Community Service.

Army personnel will receive briefings on personnel and finance issues. All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive pre-separation information. Pre-registration is required.

For more information and to sign up, call 431-2599/civ. 07031-15-2599.

Prepare for life after high school at forum

U.S. Africa Command will host an education forum March 28 from 1-3 p.m. at the Patch Theater on Patch Barracks.

This workshop includes information for students in grades 7-12 on portfolio building, choosing a major and taking Advanced Placement exams, and an educational travel workshop for seniors whose families live overseas.

For more information, call 421-4783/civ. 0711-729-4783.

Unity walks close Black History Month



Sgt. Rocco DeFilippis

USAG Stuttgart tenant units walked simultaneously Feb. 26 in honor of Black History Month.



Brittany Carlson

[Above left] Sgt. Johnathan Nelson (center) and Cpl. Shannon Leibach (right) join the Marines of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Africa, during a unity walk in honor of African American/Black History Month. The unity walk was a joint effort between U.S. European Command and AFRICOM units at each barracks in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart. [Above right] AFRICOM Commander Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward leads a procession of walkers through Kelley Barracks in the rain Feb. 26 in recognition of African American/Black History Month.

Cooks, books and cats' good looks

FMWR activities offer families, felines chance to learn skills, make friends



Lilia Alessi (left) cuts her sushi roll into bite-size pieces while Maria Moline considers ingredients for her next sushi creation during the "Art of Sushi" class, hosted by the USAG Stuttgart FMWR Arts and Crafts department Feb. 23.



Ashleigh Smith samples one of her cucumber sushi rolls dipped in soy sauce during the Arts and Crafts-hosted sushi making class Feb. 23.

Community members master 'Art of Sushi' in class

Story & photos by Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Anyone can make sushi. Just ask Kelley Sarles, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Arts and Crafts director and sushi class instructor. She taught herself to make the Japanese-style rice rolls by reading a book.

"I've never been to Japan. I've been to California once," Sarles said.

Nevertheless, the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Arts and Crafts' class on "The Art of Sushi" Feb. 23 filled the Patch Library conference room to the max — 21 people, besides helpers — with a waiting list the size of another class.

"People are just crazy for it," Sarles said. "It's kind of expensive to eat it on the economy, so it makes sense."

The \$25 fee provided students with all the necessary tools and ingredients: bamboo mats for rolling the sushi; rice; seaweed wrap; and fillings, such as vegetables, smoked salmon and shrimp. No raw fish was used.

"There's a misconception about sushi," Sarles said. "Sushi doesn't mean 'raw fish,' it means 'vinegar rice.'"

Sarles and her co-instructor, Miyoung

Taut, who formerly worked in a Hawaiian sushi restaurant, showed students how to make their own sushi rice. They also demonstrated making several types of sushi rolls, including "inside-out" sushi, which wraps the seaweed and ingredients in rice, and "battleship" sushi, featuring pockets of caviar.

After rolling the ingredients in a seaweed wrap, students cut it into bite-size slices.

Taut also showed students how to pair vegetables and meats of different colors as a filling. "Foods complement each other when they're different colors," she said.

For Carol Colwell, a retiree, putting ingredients together wasn't the challenge; getting the sushi to hold a round shape was.

"This is harder than it looks," she said, holding up a flattened sushi roll. However, she was soon aided by one of the five class helpers, who showed her how to reshape her sushi using the bamboo mat.

While practicing, Colwell said she looked forward to making more at home. "Now, I can add this to my repertoire," she said.

Capt. Gracie Hall, another first-timer, was also thankful for the extra guidance.

"You need someone to explain to you with hands-on experience," she said.

The class was all Hall needed to plan her

own sushi night, she added. "I'm on my way to be a master sushi maker. I'm going to surprise my husband when he comes home from jump school," she said.

Learning to make sushi at home not only saves money, but is a good way to ensure quality, Sarles said.

"When you do it, you control how fresh it is, and you get to choose your ingredients," she said.

Students found their favorite ingredients by tasting the sushi during class — with the help of soy sauce and wasabi.

Marine Master Sgt. Joseph Henry found his favorite ingredient quickly: chili paste.

"Spicy is good," he said. "I'm all about clearing [sinuses]."

Henry has wanted to take the class for two years, but travel assignments have kept him from enrolling until now.

This class could have been his last chance, until Sarles saw how popular it had become.

"I thought this was going to be the last class, but it looks like we're going to keep going," Sarles said.

For more information on this class and others offered through Arts and Crafts, call 430-5270/civ. 0711-680-5270.

Cats strut their stuff at Feline Fun Show

Story & photos by Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Competition was fierce at the 2nd Annual Feline Fun Show Feb. 27, hosted by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports Office.

Cats displayed their long whiskers, fluffy tails and best tricks for the judges.

Others, like the 27-pound Leo, a Norwegian wildcat, merely had to lay on a blanket to compete for the coveted Fat Cat award.

"I'm looking for a carrier on wheels," said owner Beverly Melvin.

Still, Leo's extra heft earned him a first place ribbon and some kitty treats.

Community members trickled in throughout the afternoon to see the 30-plus cats on display at the Patch Community Club.

While 19 cat owners participated last year, this year's total was 27, said Oliver Stith, FMWR sports coordinator.

"You can see from the turnout that people love their cats," Stith said. "A lot of people come out just to look, too."

While the club was filled with feline mews, one cat's voice stood out.

Snoopy won the Loudmouth Cat contest, which didn't surprise his owners, Spc. Bryan and Pamela Ward.

"He lets us know when he needs the litter box changed, and when he needs to be fed, especially when we're cooking bacon,"

Bryan Ward said.

New categories in this year's event included Best Trick, Best Costume and Cartoon Cat Look-a-like.

Army Staff Sgt. Jennifer Jenson came from Heidelberg with her one-eyed cat, "The Dread Pirate Jenson," who wore an eye patch and peered out from her carrier decorated like a pirate ship.

While "Dread Pirate" took first place in the costume category, the best-decorated carrier went to Bootsie, who arrived at the show in a shiny, silver UFO carrier.

The decorations reflect Bootsie's life, said owner Alishia Adams.

"Bootsie showed up out of nowhere in a parking lot one day. Obviously, she came from outer space," Adams joked.

Juliana Barnes entered Enzo in the Cartoon Look-a-like category. Enzo not only looks like the famous Garfield cartoon, but he acts like him, Juliana said.

"He eats lasagna, too," she added.

Although the competition was fun, the main point of the show was to give community members a chance to enjoy the cats' antics, the garrison commander, Col. Richard M. Pastore, pointed out, before handing out ribbons.

"Look at all the kids here having a wonderful time," he said, adding: "My cat actually adopted a kid."

FMWR plans to host a dog show in June. For more information, call 421-2089/civ. 0711-729-2089.



[Left] Glen Martin demonstrates how his cat, Hung Ju, will jump for a treat at the Feline Fun Show. Hung Ju, which means "mop," won first place for longest whiskers and fluffiest tail. [Above] Jacob Cilley, 9, and his mother, Jodi, show off their cat, Nemo.



Spc. Bryan Ward relaxes with his cat, Bear, at the 2nd Annual Feline Fun Show Feb. 27, sponsored by the garrison FMWR Sports Office.

Book club: Monthly dose of literature gets seasoned with perspective, observations of others

Story & photo by Levi Smith
Special to The Citizen

Normally, the Patch Library is a quiet place.

Not on the last Wednesday of each month, however.

On these days, the conference room is filled with laughter and lively discussion and, instead of quieting the occupants, the librarian himself is leading the group.

The meeting is for the Patch Library Book Club, which focuses on reading and reviewing on a variety of authors and their literature.

During the hour-long meetings, club members praise and critique the works they read.

Members of the club read one "work book" and one "fun book." per month.

The Army European Library System supports the book club through its "Books in a Box" program. This program sends Army Europe libraries a box filled with 10 or more



Thomas Edgar

books and a guidebook, which offers discussion topics and analyses on particular books.

The book club was started two years ago to offer community members the chance to meet with one another, be introduced to new authors, analyze literature and offer their own views on the books.

Many members use the book club as an opportunity to get out in the community. "I came to meet people," said Elizabeth Gortan.

The book club currently consists of 12 members, with around six to eight members attending per meeting.

"We're planning on introducing a young adult book club and science fiction book club"

said Thomas Edgar, the Patch Library librarian and leader of the club meetings.

"If there is enough interest, I'd like to also introduce an Anime and graphic novel club as well," he added.

The Patch Library Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. The Young Adult Book Club will have its first meeting March 16 from 4-5 p.m. and the Science Fiction Book Club will meet for the first time March 18 from 6-7 p.m.

For more information, e-mail thomas.b.edgar@eur.army.mil or Patch_book_club@groups.yahoo.mil.

Social media: New policy authorizes access from non-classified government computers, with caveats

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

Attention all Facebookers, Twitter tweeters and YouTubeers: a new Defense Department policy authorizes access to these and other Web 2.0 platforms from non-classified government computers, as long as it doesn't compromise operational security or involve prohibited activities or Web sites.

Defense Department officials issued the long-awaited policy March 1, establishing consistent rules for all military members and employers.

Deputy Defense Secretary William

This really is giving people this avenue to do amazing things in terms of getting information shared and making decisions happen much more rapidly.

David M. Wennergren
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Information Management and Technology

J. Lynn III, who signed the policy, said it strikes a critical balance between the benefits and potential vulnerabilities of these applications. "This directive recognizes the importance of balancing appropriate security measures while maximizing the capabilities afforded by 21st-century Internet tools," he said.

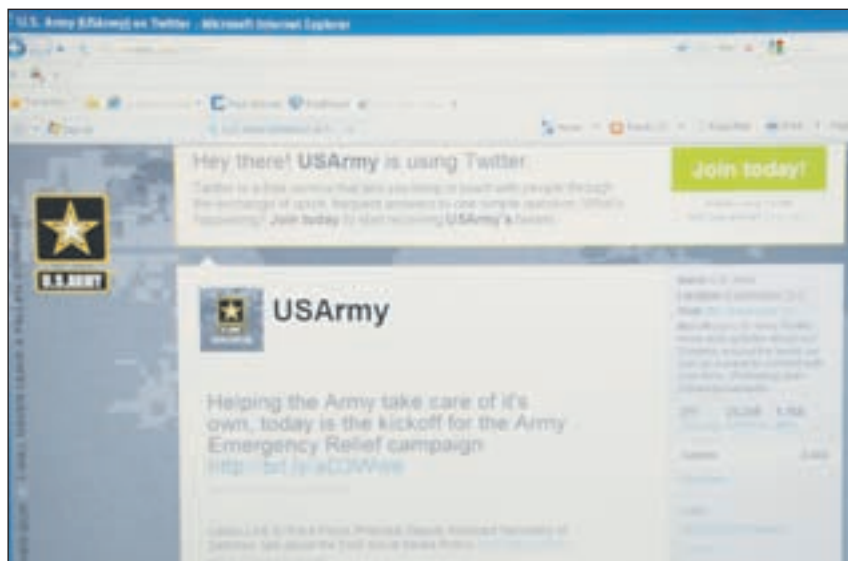
While authorizing access to these tools, the new policy also recognizes the importance of protecting military networks and operations, explained David M. Wennergren, deputy assistant secretary of defense for information management and technology.

For example, the new policy allows commanders to temporarily limit access as required to maintain operations security or address bandwidth constraints. It also prohibits malicious activity on military information networks and denies access to sites promoting prohibited activities such as gambling, pornography and hate crimes.

While information sharing may seem the polar opposite of security to some people, Wennergren said the Defense Department can no longer afford to consider just one or the other.

"If you look at either one individually, you will fail," he said. "You will have great security, but no ability to access information sharing. [Or], if you think only about sharing, you will run into issues of operational security."

The new policy promotes what Wennergren calls "secure information



Susan Huseman

The new Defense Department social media policy allows access to social media sites, including Twitter, from a non-classified government computer.

sharing," providing the balance needed to tap into the capabilities social media networking offers, without compromising security.

"It is everyone's responsibility in the department to make sure they are doing all that they can to protect our information and our information systems," Wennergren said.

"The world of Web 2.0 and the Internet provide these amazing opportunities to collaborate," he continued.

It not only promotes information sharing across organizational boundaries and with mission partners, but also

enables deployed troops to maintain contact with their loved ones at home.

"So, if you work on those two pieces" — access and security — "this really is giving people this avenue to do amazing things in terms of getting the information shared and making decisions happen much more rapidly," Wennergren said.

DoD component heads are expected to immediately take action to ensure compliance. The timeline for each component will vary.

Analysis program focuses on preventing combat injuries

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

Every time a service member is killed or wounded in combat, it sets off a process aimed at identifying what happened, who perpetrated it and how it might have been prevented — and instituting changes to reduce the likelihood of it being repeated.

The Joint Trauma Analysis and Prevention of Injury in Combat Program brings together experts within the Defense Department's medical, operational, intelligence and material development communities, who analyze each casualty to glean life-saving lessons, explained Army Lt. Col. Mark Dick, the program manager.

They study autopsy information, pore over after-action reports and medical files, assess vehicle damage reports and ballistic studies and conduct computer simulations to replicate and confirm operational events.

The goal, Dick said, is to identify vulnerabilities and give decision-makers the concrete findings they need to help shore them up.

The JTAPIC program, which was stood up in 2007, taps into the full spectrum of expertise across the department to mitigate combat risk. The Army serves as the executive agent, with the program office based at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command at Fort Detrick, Md.

Although leaders may have a hunch about what caused a catastrophic incident, Dick said the JTAPIC analyses provide a scientific assessment.

"If you make a decision based on just one subset of the data, you don't always come to the appropriate conclusion," he said. "We take everything from medical data to threat data ... and we integrate those into analysis products."

JTAPIC analyses have revealed the need to change tactics, techniques and procedures, modify weapons systems and provide better force protection and medical care for wounded troops, he said.

Some findings get passed directly to commanders on the ground, who, in some cases, can introduce immediate changes to reduce their troops' vulnerability to enemy threats, Dick said.

In other cases, the analyses lead to longer-term changes that impact the broader military community. They can result in doctrinal changes that guide military operations or warfighter training programs.

They also can impact weapons systems — how they're designed, what capabilities they have and what force protections they include. Rather than making specific recommendations to program managers, Dick's team provides analyses to help program managers in their decisions.

Dick acknowledges that the true impact of the program is hard to quantify, because it's largely measured in injuries prevented and lives saved rather than lost.

"We don't always see the success stories, where

there was an incident and Soldiers, because of the protective systems that have been incorporated, have walked away," he said. "In some cases, they may have been treated at the platoon level, or immediately gone back to the fight, and we never hear about it."

But Dick has little doubt that the JTAPIC program is making a difference for troops on the front lines — and will continue to benefit tomorrow's service members as well.

"Suffice it to say that what we're doing is limiting the number of lost lives, and it's also limiting the severity of injuries," he said. "This effort has increased Soldier survivability, and the safety of our combat systems."

Dick praised the commitment of JTAPIC partners, who, by leveraging existing programs and infrastructure, have provided a critical new capability. "It's been a success story in itself," he said

What we're doing is limiting the number of lost lives, and it's also limiting the severity of injuries.

Army Lt. Col. Mark Dick
JTAPIC program manager

Animals, move over: zoo also spotlights history, plants

Story & photos by **Brittany Carlson**
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Nineteenth-century Moorish-style homes and lavish gardens — some animals have all the luck.

The 1,000 species of creatures that live in Stuttgart's Wilhelma Zoo are the tenants of what was once the private garden retreat for King Wilhelm I.

They share the 70-acre park in Bad Cannstatt with Some of the king's original glass-enclosed buildings and 6,000 varieties of plants.

In fact, the zoo is the only combined zoological, botanical garden and historical building site in Germany, said Karin Herczog, Wilhelma Zoo press officer — "... three things in one that no other garden and park like ours can show."

The zoo is unique in other ways as well.

"Wilhelma is the only zoo in Germany with a kindergarten for little apes that have lost their mothers," Herczog said.

The "kindergarten" provides the baby primates with human surrogate mothers until they are about 3 or 4 years old. Then, they can be reintegrated into gorilla families living in other zoos.

Meanwhile, zoo visitors can benefit by watching the babies play and grow in the gorilla kindergarten. Currently, 3-month-old Claudia is the newest member, but the gorilla family in the Ape House next door also has a few new additions of its own.

Other notable exhibits include the nocturnal animal area, which houses an entire room full of different bat species, and the Amazon House, a small-scale replica of the South American rain forest.



[Left] The Wilhelma Zoo still has buildings from when it was a king's retreat in the 19th century. [Above] Zoo patrons roam the Amazon House.

"Plants and animals are living together, like in the original rain forest," Herczog said.

Wilhelma showcases a wide range of plants from around the world in the botanical gardens, ranging from orchids to giant sequoia trees from California.

"The gardens at Wilhelma Zoo are beautiful in the spring and summer months when the plants are at their peak," said Kristin Goad, a Stuttgart military community member who visited the zoo Feb. 25.

"The gardens and interesting buildings make the perfect backdrop for the zoo's many animals," she added.

The zoo also features an aquarium, insectarium and demonstration farm, which allows patrons to pet and

feed domestic animals, such as goats and sheep.

For a €100 fee, visitors can see other animals up close through Wilhelma's "Contact with Animals" program, available by appointment. The half-hour visit may include feeding or holding the animal, depending on the species.

The zoo also offers English-language guided tours, if booked in advance, Herczog said.

These tours provide an insider's look at the animals, plants and buildings, she added.

"[The zoo keepers] tell you stories from backstage," she said.

For more information, visit www.wilhelma.de.

What's happening in FMWR

Arts and Crafts contest open for entries

The deadline to submit works of art to the 2009 Stuttgart Arts and Crafts contest is May 1. Guidelines and entry forms are available at both the Patch and Kelley Arts and Crafts centers.

The exhibition will be held in the Swabian Special Events Center on May 12 at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 430-5270/civ. 0711-680-5270.

Have Sunday Brunch at RB Club

Each Sunday, the RB Club offers a German-American Brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations are recommended.

After brunch, the club will offer traditional German cakes and pastries from 2-5 p.m.

March is National Craft Month

Throughout the month of March, the USAG Stuttgart FMWR Arts and Crafts program will host several free classes and demonstrations, including hand sewing, digital scrapbooking, glass fusing and lampwork beads.

The RB Cafe will also open

in March. The cafe will host craft classes such as Mom and Tot classes, digital scrapbooking and family ceramic painting.

For more information, call 430-5270/civ. 0711-680-5270.

Youth to perform play; EFMP showing set

Young community members will perform "Patchwork" in the Kelley Theatre on Kelley Barracks March 26 and April 2 at 7:30 p.m. and March 27 and April 3 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The 11 a.m. show March 17 is a special performance for members of the Exceptional Family Member Program. To RSVP, e-mail serena.defilippis@eur.army.mil by March 19.

For more information, call 421-3258/civ. 0711-729-3258.

Audition for 'Man of Lamancha'

Auditions for the play, "Man of Lamancha," will be held March 15-17 at 7 p.m. in the Kelley Theatre on Kelley Barracks. The Kelley Theatre group will host a pre-audition workshop on acting in a musical drama March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 421-3258/civ. 0711-729-3258.



Coming to Patch Theater

6 p.m.

March 18 — Youth in Revolt (R) 7 p.m.

March 19 — Avatar (PG-13) 6 p.m., Green Zone (R) 9 p.m.

March 20 — The Princess and the Frog (G) 4 p.m., Youth in Revolt (R) 7 p.m., Green Zone (R) 9 p.m.

March 21 — The Princess and the Frog (G) 2 p.m., Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (PG) 4 p.m., Greenzone (R) 7 p.m.

March 22 — Greenzone (R) 6 p.m.

March 23 — Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (PG) 6 p.m.

March 24 — Youth in Revolt (R) 6 p.m.



"Alice in Wonderland," directed by Tim Burton, boasts an all-star cast, including Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter.

Disney Enterprises, Inc.

photos.com

SPORTS SHORTS

Sign up for Spring Fling 5K April 10

The sixth annual Spring Fling 5K, sponsored by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, is scheduled for April 10.

The registration cost for U.S. ID cardholders is \$12 per individual and \$30 per family. The route starts on Husky Field.

For more information, call the Patch Fitness Center at 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

Join golf club

The Stuttgart Golf Course annual membership drive will be held March 20 from noon to 3 p.m. Participants can meet the staff, sign up for an annual membership and get discounts.

The Stuttgart Golf Course driving range is open Monday from 11 a.m. to dusk, and Tuesday through Sunday from 8 a.m. to dusk.

For more information, call civ. 07141-879-151.

Soccer officials' clinic set for March 13

The Kaiserslautern Athletic Officials Association will hold a mandatory rules clinic and certification testing for soccer officials who desire to referee Department of Defense Dependent Schools soccer this season.

The clinic will be held March 13 at the Landstuhl School Age Center, Building 3851 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic is free and reference material will be provided.

The DoDDS soccer season begins March 20 and referees are needed in all communities.

For more information, e-mail Mike Donohue at mike.donohue2@eur.army.mil or Gerd Backhaus at gerd.backhaus@eur.army.mil.



Tony Seely

Patch's Robert Davis, senior, easily handles Vincenza's Joe Bozwell on his way to winning a gold medal at the DODDS-Europe wrestling championships in Wiesbaden Feb. 19-20.



Tony Seely

Octavio Otero, PHS senior, takes things into his own hands to win a gold at the DODDS-Europe wrestling championships in Wiesbaden Feb. 19-20.

While defending their D1 wrestling title, Patch High School students became DoDDS-Europe ...

Record breakers

By Larry Reilly

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Patch High School wrestling team set out to defend its 2009 D1 title during the Feb. 19-20 DODDS-Europe wrestling championships in Wiesbaden.

With half the team making it to the finals, the deck was stacked in their favor.

Seven of the team's 14 championship participants made it to the finals in their respective weight divisions. The results: three Patch Panthers came away with gold, four with silver, and the team earned its second consecutive D1 title and the total points record.

"The team scored 232 points — five points more than the old record of 227," said first-year head coach Norman Matzke, who added that the team's success at the championships capped off a winning record in all of its tournaments.

"I'm very proud of all our wrestlers. The coaches and I pushed them pretty hard throughout the year, and they came up big in the finals," Matzke said. "In a sport that is as much an individual sport as there is, it was our team-first mentality that helped propel the wrestlers to do well individually."

The team had no shortage of in-

dividual talent, and the wrestlers who came away with silver medals included junior Marshall Haas (189 pounds), junior Jason Pinnow (171 pounds), sophomore Matt Seely (152 pounds) and senior Mike Niccoll (215 pounds).

"Matt's loss seemed to put a damper on the celebration the team was enjoying after winning three out of three matches' prior to his," Matzke said. "In this sport, a small mistake can turn into a pin, and unfortunately, that is what happened to Matt."

Although the Haas and Pinnow matches grabbed the crowd's attention, the toughest Panther match in the finals was more of a mental than physical battle. Senior Octavio Otero faced off against his best friend and former teammate Jaron Henningen, in the 125-pound division.

Henningen transferred to Heidelberg before the start of the school year.

"It was my toughest match of the year by far, and it brought tears to my eyes when it was over and I had narrowly defeated him 4-3," Otero said. "Talking with Jaron after the match, I found it was just as tough for him as it was for me."

Also earning a gold medal for the Panthers was senior Robert Davis, who

defeated Ethan Montang of Baumholder in the 135-pound division.

Of the three Patch victories in the finals, the only one earned by a pin came from a wrestler who questioned whether he was even good enough to compete, let alone take gold in the championships.

"I didn't think I would even wrestle this year, because I didn't believe I was good enough, but Coach Kevin Levija told me to stick it out," said sophomore Calen Fields, who went 24-2 during the season and pinned Cody Clay from Baumholder in five minutes, 11 seconds for the 145-pound gold medal. "I will be back next year and hope to be a captain and help lead the team to another European title."

After this year's dominance on the mats and a Division 1 trophy to show for it, teams such as Heidelberg, Lakenheath and Ramstein will be gunning for the Panthers come next year.

However, with seasoned wrestlers like Pinnow, Haas and Fields, as well as freshman David Kellet-Forsyth (who took fifth place in the 103-pound division), the team will have a strong corps of returning wrestlers to help keep the D1 title trophy nestled nicely in the Patch High School trophy case for yet another year.

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AUTOS

1988 VW Scirocco \$1300 OBO, passed inspection 2 Feb 2010. German Specs, 286,000 KM please email miapia83@hotmail.com or call 015123571248 for pics and more information

2001 Nissan Sentra GXE (previously registered in Arlington, TX) For Sale: 4000 EUR.

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2008 128i convertible bmw, fully loaded, premium package, sport package, cold weather package, voice command, ipod hook up, navi, s.o.s., bluetooth and much more. The car has every option possible and still under warranty. The car is black with lemon interior. \$31000.00 or best offer. Thank you, jessica Kastler 017621505130

2008 BMW 335xi AWD Sedan, Excellent condition, 12K miles. 6-spd manual. Sport Pkg, Tech Pkg, Cold Weather Pkg, Ipod/MP3. White w/black leather interior. Ramstein area. Cell: 015151159798, Work: 063714051719.

2008 BMW 335xi AWD US Spec, 12,200 miles, manual 6-speed. Sport, premium and cold weather pkgs. White exterior w/black Nevada leather. Ipod/USB outlet. \$36,000 (negotiable) Ramstein Area. Mobile: 015151159798 Please leave a message if no answer.

2008 Honda Accord EX Top of the line, fully loaded Black Honda Accord V6 EX with 7,000 miles. Leather, wood grain, sunroof, automatic Everything.And heated seats!!!! Great for this cold weather. Includes Extended warranty which is transferable and can be used everywhere! For more info please call Tony @ 01622-932-978

or Karly @ 0711 680 5922. Currently car is parked in garage. Please check out the kbb price, it's listed @ \$26,500!!!! Great car, great gas mileage, super comfortable! Asking \$25,000. Please call or e-mail if interested and want to take a look, we live close to all of the bases!

2009 Mercedes SLK 300 black (US Specs), fully loaded, 5000 miles, includes winter tires and rims. \$39,999 (under blue book) 07031-686-972 or 0160-718-6692 becky_piers@yahoo.com

97 BMW 316i Blue Coupe, Automatic, 2 door, power windows + locks, heated seats, CD player, working AC/heater. 2 tires all season and 2 tires winter tires. Mileage: 133Tkm. Passed inspection last week, US specs. Good running car. \$3600/OBO. Call 015224350080

HSE, 21k, US Specs, Santorini Black Exterior and Ebony Interior, Dark Zebrano Wood, Luxury Cold Climate package, dealer maintained and detailed, Navigation system, 3 years mile warranty, Road Side assistance Call 0160-97962459

Mini Cooper Convertible '06, \$18,000, US Specs, 24K easy miles; manual trans; English Racing Green, black power top; Harmon Kardon CD-stereo; new front tires; Chrome package & Climate package, heated seats; garage kept on Ramstein - great condition! 063718020103; 015121309917; cjhebner@yahoo.com

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FOR SALE--MISC

Bosch 220 washer/dryer 3 transformers: 2/1000W 1/750W. Contact: 07116562880 after 5pm or uvula8@yahoo.com

Down hill ski set for sale. Includes: Atomic ski, 156 cm length with bindings Salomon Ski boots, size 42-43, 28 cm Ski poles and ski caring bag. Price 270 Eur negotiable e-mail: petkeviciusmm@gmail.com

Half size Siemens 220-dishwasher, great for 1-2 persons \$75 or best offer. uvula8@yahoo.com

Hi - I am looking for a PowerVu receiver with valid subscription.if you or someone else can help me then please let me know ptech@gmx.co.uk or icq 430974952

Used household items for sale: Black & Decker 3/8" reversible electric drill 110v., \$20; Black & Decker toaster 110v., \$5; Black & Decker Smart Brew 12-cup programable coffeemaker 110v. \$17; Braun Aromaster 8-cup coffeemaker 110v., \$10; Rival Freedom 70 Steam Iron 110v., \$5; Kenmore Whispertone power mate vacuum cleaner 12 Amps 110v., \$50; Goldstar microwave 110v., \$40; Toastmaster Platinum electric food slicer 110v., \$35; Brita Aquaview On Tap faucet filtration system, \$15; Labtec Spin-50 PC Stereo Speakers 110v., \$7; Fellowes FS5 paper shredder 110v., \$15; Toshiba FT-8930 Cordless Phone w/ digital answering machine 110v., \$20; Funai 9" TV/VCR Combo NTSC 110v., \$45; T'nB CD-Organizer Trays (x4), \$5 ea.; Vicks humidifier 110v., \$10; 2x Holmes 10" Fans 110v., \$10 ea.; Graco baby Rock'n Bounce, \$15. Phone: 07031-6816694, email: ellisina@hotmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I am looking to get a group of people interested in running together, even if you have never run before. Would like to meet up a couple times a week to train. Beginners very welcome and encouraged! Please email me at amsterdamlux@gmail.com

New Club Forming - if you are interested in joining a fun group and meeting interesting people from a variety of backgrounds and interests then LNO (ladies night out) Stuttgart is for you...what we do is meet once a month for dinner and conversation at a different restaurant ... we share interesting stories and laugh... on occasion we will do a tour in conjunction with dinner...if you are interested in joining...please send an e-mail to Isabel at Inostuttgart@yahoo.com, our first outing will be in January.

Ski Verbier 26-28 March 2010 with the Patch Ski Club. The winter paradise The Four Valleys is an immense ski resort in the French region of Switzerland. Stay at the 3 star "Le Déserteur" hotel in Nendaz with easy access to all lifts of the Four Valleys - including Verbier. A half double is € 255 and includes transport by motor coach, hotel Room, (2) breakfasts and Saturday dinner. See http://www.patchskiclub.com or email Brian Peterson for more details at lonepeak@mail.com

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NEWS FOR NEWS MAKERS

email resume and statement of interest to: lisa.jayne.clark@us.army.mil

Volunteers To Work In The Stuttgart Military Personnel Division (MPD) On Panzer the MPD is recruiting a volunteer to work in our Stuttgart Passport Office for data entry, preparing mail packages and tracking in-/out-going applications. Our other volunteer positions will work in our Joint Central Processing Facility (the face of Stuttgart) to assist and welcome all in-/ out processing personnel to Stuttgart. Our office will provide the training, computer access and work space since you are a member of our team. This is great experience and will contribute to any resume. We are flexible on time and the number of hours available. For additional information contact Ms Quinn, Chief MPD by EMAIL at Teressa.Quinn@eur.army.mil or at DSN: 431-2886, Commercial: 07031-15-2886 (No voicemail capability).

LOST & FOUND

For Sale - In Schonaich, 2 miles from Panzer, 2 bedroom maisonette, 128 quadric meters, open floor plan with skylights, fireplace, balcony, and 2 car garage, with access from inside the building. 246,000 Euros to see and more info call home 07031-2048758 or cell 0176-62904487 or email ann.peterson@eu.dodea.edu Ann Rae Peterson

Found iPod in BX parking lot on 11 Feb. Please call to identify. Paul at 01609-27-88529
Lost car keys. Panzer in PX parking lot. Please call 07157 532973 if found.

PERSONAL

56 year old widowed woman (Gemini) seeks American, colo(u)red veteran man (Taurus) for a lasting relationship. If you're interested in getting to know me please call me at 06782-981447

PETS

Afghan Hound Puppies For Sale, AKC-Registered \$850 to \$1200.00 6 adorable Afghan Hound Puppies, blonde w/black

masks, show-quality, sire German, mother show-winner Scotland, vet-checked w/ vacs, rare opportunity to own unique and stunning dog. Choose early. kimberlykurtz@hotmail.com Call 067326002366 or 01736346750

Andalusian Mare, 14HH horse \$2400.00 15yrs, great horse that has it all: looks, temperament and forward thinking, easily trainable, great attitude. Trained & competed dressage, now loves the trails. 100% to box & super with new/young riders. 06221-573182 or email at stripesadresponse@gmail.com

Cat: short-haired Cornish Rex for adoption. Six year old, Baby is very loving and affectionate! Born in Manhattan, she has all documentation and veterinary paperwork. Great with cats, dogs & kids. Cost \$2500, asking \$500. Email for more info! kathlyn.padilla@yahoo.com. K-Town.

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TV & Satellite Service Jakubovski, Sat-Systems, installation, cable BW, Call: 0711-50874143 or 0162-8092967 e-mail: leukubik@aol.com

WANTED

A 4 bdr home in the Nufringen, Ehningen or Gartringen area with at minimum 165 sq meters. Available to move after May 2010 (dates flexible). Please email quinnnot@hotmail.com if you know of a home/duplex that will be available.

Hi - I am looking for a PowerVu receiver with valid subscription.if you or someone else can help me then please let me know ptech@gmx.co.uk or icq 430974952

Nine yr. old looking for gently used upright piano to buy/adopt. Please contact 01747325388. Will pickup.

Spring is almost here, a time when a mans fancy turns to Banjo. Looking for other 5-string banjo players, especially banjo teacher. email 5-stringendingen@live.com

U. S. Army Fire Dept. Stuttgart, is looking for electrical household items for free: big coffeemaker with thermos, television, water heater, etc. For all the support we are grateful. Contact soeren.teuchert@us.army.mil

Volunteers To Work In The Stuttgart Military Personnel Division (MPD) On Panzer the MPD is recruiting a volunteer to work in our Stuttgart Passport Office for data entry, preparing mail packages and tracking in-/out-going applications. Our other volunteer positions will work in our Joint Central Processing Facility

(the face of Stuttgart) to assist and welcome all in-/ out processing personnel to Stuttgart. Our office will provide the training, computer access and work space since you are a member of our team. This is great experience and will contribute to any resume. We are flexible on time and the number of hours available. For additional information contact Ms Quinn, Chief MPD by EMAIL at Teressa.Quinn@eur.army.mil

quinn@eur.army.mil or at DSN: 431-2886, Commercial: 07031-15-2886 (No voicemail capability).

Wanted: I am having a wedding party (outside) June26,2010 in Ludwigsburg. I am looking for Gospel singer or choir that can sing at this wedding party. Of course I am willing to pay. Please call 01737144267 or email to geemeli@yahoo.de

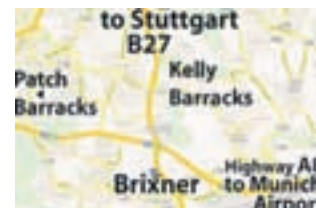


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