

THE CITIZEN

Vol. 38, No. 21

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

November 12, 2009

Serving the Greater Stuttgart Military Community

USAG Stuttgart DFMWR wins employee training award

By Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

There's a lot to celebrate lately in the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Department for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The department recently won the FMWR Command Exemplary Employee Development Award for 2009, the cherry on top of a sundae of honors, including top Installation Management Command-Europe Recreation Awards for best overall program, Arts and Crafts, Entertainment, and Sports and Fitness for large garrisons. In addition, the Arts and Crafts program earned the title of best in the Army for large garrisons.

The Exemplary Employee Development Award recognizes garrisons that promote training and professional development among employees and management.

This is the award that makes all of the others possible, according to FMWR leadership.

"It enables us to offer better programming and better customer service, which, in the end, really enhances what FMWR does for the community," said Christine Charles, nonappropriated funds human resources officer

USAG Stuttgart's FMWR department has won the award for three years in a row — every year since the award's inception.

"No other garrison has done that," added Greg Holzinger, USAG Stuttgart FMWR director.

See *FMWR award* on page 3



Command Sgt. Major Mark A. George, command sergeant major for the 52nd Signal Battalion, administers the oath of the NCO to 14 newly-inducted Army NCOs during a ceremony in the Kelley Theater on Kelley Barracks Nov. 2.

Ceremony honors 14 new garrison NCOs

Story & photo by Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

After years of preparation, the day had finally come.

Sgt. Willie Hentz received his sergeant stripe Nov. 2 inside the Kelley Theater on Kelley Barracks, promoting him to the rank of noncommissioned officer, alongside 13 other U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Soldiers newly-inducted into the NCO Corps.

"I'm speechless," Hentz said, looking around at his fellow NCOs following the ceremony. "I've been waiting for this for eight years."

While Hentz, a 52nd Signal Battalion Soldier, was one of two Soldiers to receive their promotion during the ceremony, the other 12 Soldiers present were just as excited to be inducted officially as

an NCO.

"It's a milestone for me," said Sgt. Marzett Grant, who works for European Command. "I feel like I have a lot to give to our Soldiers. I'm excited."

Inductees came from various units in the garrison, including the 52nd Signal Battalion (which hosted the event), EUCOM and the 554th Military Police Company

At the start of the ceremony, the theater lights dimmed and three candles were lit, symbolizing the traits of an NCO: courage, purity and valor.

Command Sgt. Major Ralph R. Beam, command sergeant major for U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, spoke to the new NCOs on the importance of leading Soldiers by example.

"More is expected from you when people see those stripes," he said.

Beam, who plans to retire soon, encouraged the new NCOs to take the reins

of leadership. "In 10 years, we're [still] going to have an Army, and it's going to be led by you," he said.

Command Sgt. Major Mark A. George, command sergeant major for the 52nd Signal Battalion, said he hoped the new NCOs left the ceremony with an appreciation for their new responsibilities as an NCO. "Life is different now," he said. "It's time for you to have initiative."

Those new responsibilities are also in the NCO creed, which was recited during the ceremony.

For several NCOs, including Grant, the creed is a blueprint for their upcoming years in the Army. "It gave me the fundamentals on how to be a more professional NCO," Grant said "Integrity is really special. [Even] when nobody's around, I make sure that I'm doing the right thing. That's the making of a good NCO."

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Susan Morris named DoDEA Teacher of Year

Böblingen Elementary/Middle School teacher Susan Morris was named the DoDEA Teacher of the Year for 2010 for making a strong impact on her students.



Pages 8-9

Patch High celebrates Homecoming 2009!

The Patch Panthers came out in full force for the PHS Homecoming week, featuring sports, a pep rally, powderpuff football and a hefty dose of school spirit.



INSIDE
THIS
EDITION

Everything we do is a vital piece of the puzzle

Commentary by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Weaver
37th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron (U.S. Air Force)

As an independent duty medical technician deployed to Southwest Asia, I have always felt that I was never doing enough. I've always wanted to go into Iraq or Afghanistan to be closer to the fight, to be the medic who is performing lifesaving care in the field.

However, more often than not, I'm dealing with someone who has a cold, sore muscles and joints,

‘ *What I've come to discover is that we are all movers and shakers; one person's small action will ultimately lead to a bigger action. Everything we do is a little piece of the puzzle, but each of us only sees a small portion of it.* ’

or an upset stomach. I'm sure that other Airmen in their respective career fields have had similar feelings of wanting to do more than their daily routine, but something recently occurred that made me see things in a new light.

A little more than a month ago, I attended my first fallen warrior ceremony for Staff Sgt. Bryan Berky, who died of wounds he sustained from enemy fire while engaged in combat operations.

As I was standing on the ramp, I remembered seeing his name before, either doing his personal health assessment or giving him predeployment shots. I began to think that, in a small way, I was involved in his being able to protect, defend and ultimately give his life for our country.

A few days later, I read a commentary submitted by an aircrew member in the 37th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron. The story explained that although the crew didn't know it at the time, one of the targets they received while flying a sortie was to assist Berky's ground unit when he was gravely wounded.

The moment I finished reading that story was when I realized that the tasks I thought were mundane were so much bigger in the grand scheme of things. As one of the IDMTs assigned to the 37th EBS, things I do, such as managing the "Go/No-Go" program for aircrew counter-fatigue, ensuring everyone is healthy enough to fly safely, or even giving a vaccination to prevent sickness, make an impact on getting the overall mission completed.

What I've come to discover is that we are all movers and shakers; one person's small action will ultimately lead to a bigger action.

Everything we do is a little piece of the puzzle, but each of us only sees a small portion of it. No matter how seemingly big or small, every job is important.

We may not always be in the middle of all the action, but if you think about one thing you did today that affected or will affect another Airmen, Soldier, Sailor or Marine, no matter how big or small it was, you just played a part in making the mission happen.

CORRECTIONS

In the story "Using no-fee passports on leisure can leave you stranded" in the Oct. 29 issue of *The Citizen* (Page 4), we wrote that countries including Africa, France, Egypt and Great Britain have announced that they will not allow anyone on leisure travel with a no-fee official (red), diplomatic (black) or no-fee official (blue) passport to enter, as of Feb. 1. The story should have read "countries including France, Egypt, Great Britain and several African countries."

In the story "Zumba adds Latin dance to fitness routine" in the Oct. 15 issue of *The Citizen* (Page 12), we wrote that classes are on Tuesday from 7-8 a.m. and Saturday from 9-10 p.m. The story should have read "Saturday from 9-10 a.m."

THE CITIZEN

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STUDENT ON THE STREET

What is the best part of Homecoming?



Briana Heber
(Senior)

"Dressing up and having a blast."



Bradley Rivette
(Sophomore)

"We get to show spirit through wearing fun stuff."



Tenekeyia McGaskey
(Freshman)

"Spirit Days, because it's a chance to be different."



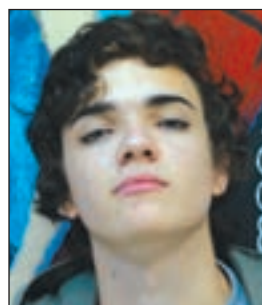
Will Crandal
(Senior)

"The pep rally: it means it's the end of the week and we get out of class."



Karim Grajo
(Junior)

"I get to dress up and chill with my friends."



Javier Hilty
(Senior)

"The week itself: it breaks up the monotony of school."



Andrea Carbajal
(Senior)

"Homecoming week: work is easy and teachers are more laid back."



Max Hall
(Senior)

"The school spirit helps teams get their minds right."

Constabulary Soldiers retrace decades-old steps

Story and photo by Larry Reilly
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

More than a dozen original members of the United States Constabulary Force recently visited locations in Germany where they preserved civil order some 60 years ago, including Patch Barracks, where a monument commemorating their contributions now stands.

“For many of us, it’s an opportunity to get together and see the various locations where we served so many years ago, and coming to Patch Barracks to view the monument helped bring it all together,” said James Deming, Commander of the United States Constabulary Association, as he and his 15 comrades viewed the monument outside the EUCOM headquarters building Oct. 22.

According to Deming, the Constabulary Force was established to bring civil order and to help rebuild

the war-torn countries of Germany and Austria in 1945.

“[Germany] was in ruins, and a period of occupation to restore order and help rebuild was urgently needed,” Deming said during the monument’s unveiling ceremony last year.

The combat configuration of the U.S. Force at the time was not suited for such a police-force type of mission; a smaller, lighter and more mobile force was needed.

“An elite new force was established on July 1, 1946, whose mission was to maintain military and civil security as well as control the borders of the United States zone,” Deming said. “We accomplished our mission on horseback, motorcycle, various motor vehicles, single engine aircraft and on foot.”

The Constabulary Soldier not only helped bring order back to the country of Germany, but it helped the German people see that the American Soldier

was there to help.

“At first, the German people kept their distance and seemed to fear us, but, after awhile, they realized that we were there to help,” said Tony Alvarez, a Constabulary Soldier for more than three years.

“Times were tough for all German citizens back then and a simple cup of coffee was considered a luxury, and although we didn’t have much of such luxuries ourselves, what we could give them was well-appreciated,” he added.

The Constabulary Force continued its unique mission, which also included assisting in the Berlin Airlift and border patrols, until Dec. 15, 1952, when it was deactivated.

“Constabulary members understood that restoring order to post-war Germany during the period of 1946 to 1952 was critical to German and Austrian citizens,” Deming said. “Stuttgart is an appropriate place for our monument.”



Sixteen original members of the United States Constabulary Force pose Oct. 22 next to a monument on Patch Barracks commemorating their contributions to restore order in Germany more than 60 years ago.

FMWR award

Continued from page 1

Through the encouragement of leadership and multiple training opportunities, each garrison FMWR employee (currently upwards of 375) receives training of some kind.

All employees are required to register at the FMWRC online training site, where they can take more than 100 classes. Half of all garrison FMWR employees have taken the online orientation course, and 90 percent of managers have completed a basic management course online, Holzinger said.

“I want to see employees at the garrison continue to further their knowledge and experience,” Holzinger added. “I want to set them up for success. I

had that opportunity in my career, or I wouldn’t be sitting where I’m at.”

Managers also attend a quarterly brown bag luncheon, hosted by the NAF Civilian Personnel Office.

“This is a total team award,” he said. “Everybody did their part. Employees continue to work at individual training — that doesn’t happen everywhere.”

In addition to offering training, the FMWR department encourages high employee performance through incentives, such as a certificate, coin or a monetary award. Last fiscal year, 415 incentive awards were given out, compared to 328 in FY08.

“It’s pretty amazing that we’re able

to reward our employees and have a program that makes them feel good, and makes them feel like they have opportunities for growth within this organization,” Holzinger said.

USAG Stuttgart was also the only garrison outside the continental U.S. to win the award. Other winners include West Point, Fort Knox, Fort McCoy and Fort Detrick.

The winnings include \$2,500 for training materials and tuition assistance funding, as well as a two-day training session conducted by FMWR headquarters staff for all FMWR employees.

“They deserve it,” Holzinger added. “They won it. I’m proud of them.”

News & Notes

US Customs holiday shipping guide

As the holiday season approaches, community members wishing to mail gifts should be aware that some items cannot be mailed. Alcohol, even if it is inside a piece of candy, and controlled substances are not mailable items.

Lithium batteries may not be mailed, which means customers need to check toys and other electronic devices that might use them. Aerosol cans are also prohibited.

Sharp objects, such as knives, must be sheathed or placed in some type of protective covering. Anything that uses flammable materials, such as cigarette lighters, must be drained before being shipped.

Meat and meat products, including European delicacies like German wurst, are banned from shipping back to the United States.

Also, canned meats and even soup mixes or pasta containing meat, fresh fruits or vegetables are prohibited.

The maximum weight allowed for any package shipped through the military postal system is 70 pounds. In addition, the combined length and girth of the package must not be more than 130 inches.

For more information, contact the Customs Office on Panzer Kaserne at 431-2657/07031-15-2545.

FMWR hosts events for military families

November is Military Family Appreciation Month. USAG Stuttgart’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has put together an entire month of special offers for military families. Pick up your copy of the calendar of events at ACS and other FMWR facilities.

For more information, call 431-2268/civ. 07031-15-2268.

Garrison to host annual Stallion Shake

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart and local national emergency response personnel will conduct a full-scale force protection, antiterrorism and emergency management exercise on Nov. 17.

Garrison residents should be advised that the exercise will be taking place at the Stuttgart Army Airfield during normal duty hours.

Ask a JAG

Editor's Note: Do you have a question you would like to see answered in a future edition of *The Citizen*? If so, contact "Ask a JAG" at aaron.lancaster2@eur.army.mil.

By Capt. Aaron L. Lancaster (U.S. Army)
Stuttgart Law Center

Q: My spouse and I have been having some marital difficulties and are separating and possibly divorcing. If we decide to pursue this route, what services can the Stuttgart Law Center provide to us?

A: The Stuttgart Law Center can provide invaluable assistance to you and others contemplating divorce, including face to face legal support and guidance from a licensed American and/or German attorney, explaining what, if any, military benefits you may be entitled to, as well as offering free legal services. These free services are available to all military members and Department of Defense employees.

Upon calling Legal Assistance, the paralegal will assist you in setting up an initial consultation with an attorney to discuss your situation. At this initial consultation, the attorney will listen to your situation and assist you in pursuing the appropriate legal action. Because each individual's circumstances differ, the attorney will help you figure out what course of action is best for you. For many individuals, this may be to work with their spouse and the attorney in drafting up a separation agreement.

A separation agreement is a contract, signed and notarized by both parties, in which the married couple decides on how to split up their assets, including, but not limited to, real estate, monetary matters, retirement issues, child custody, and visitation issues. These issues (if applicable) must be addressed either in a separation agreement or at the time of divorce. By spearheading the issue and having both parties agree to the terms of the separation, the parties can often save thousands of dollars in attorney's fees and hours of headache litigating these differences in a courtroom. Another advantage of a separation agreement is that it is helpful when the couple is initiating an Early Return of Dependents for the non-military spouse and/or beginning the six or twelve month separation period required by some, but not all, states prior to getting a divorce.

After separation, if the married couple does decide to pursue a divorce, the Law Center can assist by communicating with their civilian attorney to ensure that they are being well-represented and that their civilian attorney fully understands the complexities of military regulations, pay, benefits, and retirement. By regulation, Army Judge Advocates are unable to provide in-court representation. By policy, the Law Center is unable to represent both parties of a marriage. This guarantees that both parties in a divorce action are provided with the best possible legal advice.

This column is not intended as individual or specific legal advice. If you have specific issues or concerns, you should consult a judge advocate at 421-4152/ civ. 0711-729-4152.

Financial hardships affect security clearance

By Felice Procaccio
USAG Stuttgart Security Office

Financial hardships can affect the status of a military member or Department of Defense civilian employee's security clearance.

Therefore, both should be aware of how the Office of Personnel Management and the Army's Central Adjudication Facility evaluate debt in their investigation and adjudication processes.

In an e-mail titled 'Difficult Financial Times and Its Potential Impact on Security Clearances,' dated Feb. 13, 2009, the U.S. Army G-2 addresses Adjudicative Guidelines concerning finances.

The e-mail states: "We have heard concerns from the field regarding individuals that are experiencing economic hardships (loss of job by spouse, filing for bankruptcy, foreclosure of home, inability to pay debts, etc.) and the perceived impact this situation may have on the retention of their security clearance. While we are concerned as well with regard to these tough economic times, it is important to emphasize that the Adjudicative Guidelines, specifically Guideline F: Financial Considerations; provide mitigating conditions that apply to the current economic situation.

"One example would be when the conditions that resulted in the financial problem were largely beyond the person's control (such as loss of employment, a business downturn, unexpected medical emergency, or a death, divorce or separation), and the individual acted responsibly under the circumstances. Mitigation can also occur when the individual has initiated

a good-faith effort to repay overdue creditors or otherwise resolve debts."

The financial situation of service members and DoD civilians is of interest to investigators and adjudicators because an individual who is financially overextended is at risk of having to engage in illegal acts to generate funds.

According to OPM Federal Investigative Notice 10-07, dated Aug. 29, 2006, "If the subject's credit report reflects current delinquencies (120 days or more) on combined delinquent debt totaling \$3,500 or greater, OPM will obtain specific releases as necessary and obtain pertinent information from individual creditors. Bankruptcy records will be reviewed if the bankruptcy occurred within the past 2 years. And, when the bankruptcy occurred in [the next] 3-5 years, it will be reviewed if current credit issues are admitted or developed."

If military members or DoD civilians in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart are having financial difficulty, they should take action to mitigate the situation.

Some circumstances are beyond a person's control, such as loss of employment. However, while they seek another job, persons affected by situations such as this should communicate with their creditors. Full disclosure with creditors and developing a payment plan with them is considered a good-faith effort or, in other words, a mitigating factor.

For questions concerning security clearance and an individual financial situation, call the USAG Stuttgart Security Office at 431-2008/2013/2014/civ. 07031-15-2008/2013/2014.

Holiday mail schedule and postal hours

The postal holiday season for U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart runs from Nov. 14, 2009, to Jan. 15, 2010.

Holiday mailing deadlines:

Space Available Mail (SAM): Nov. 27
Partial Airlift (PAL): Dec. 4
Priority/1st Class: Dec. 11
Express mail: Dec. 18

Mail transit time from USAG Stuttgart to the continental United States:

Express mail: 2-3 days*
Priority/1st Class: 4-10 days
PAL: 2-4 weeks
SAM: 4-6 weeks
*Could be longer if US customs inspects mail

APO hours Nov. 16 to Dec. 23:

Patch Barracks APO
Mon, Wed, Fri: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thu: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Panzer Kaserne APO
Mon - Fri: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sat: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kelley Barracks APO
Mon, Wed, Fri: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Robinson Barracks APO

Tue and Thu: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Holiday Community Mail Room hours from Nov. 21 to Dec. 19:

Patch Barracks CMR:

Mon - Fri: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat: 12 - 3 p.m.

Panzer Kaserne CMR:

Mon - Fri: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat: 12 - 3 p.m.

Kelley Barracks CMR:

Mon - Fri: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat: 12 - 3 p.m.

Robinson Barracks CMR:

Mon - Fri: 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Appointment scheduling:

Customers can make appointments for holiday mailing by calling the Patch Barracks APO at 430-7226/civ. 0711-680-7226, or the Panzer Kaserne APO at 431-2563/civ. 07031-15-2563.

Appointments will be made during the one-hour period before the APO opens for business.

USAG Stuttgart clubs aid local area on Make a Difference Day

Story & photo by Birgit Thompson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Stuttgart military community, in conjunction with Army Community Service, recognized Make a Difference Day, the national day of volunteering, Oct. 24 (and 23) by providing aid to local organizations and beautifying public areas.

Last year, the day (usually held on the fourth Saturday in October) inspired three million people in the United States to help 20 million others, according to U.S.A. Weekend.

This year, groups from U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart helped make a difference to the German community through donating to an animal shelter and cleaning up local areas.

The Masons and Boy Scouts cleaned up a small stretch of the Stuttgarter Strasse, the back road between Patch and Panzer, collecting eight bags of litter.

Karen Jorgenson, station manager of the Panzer American Red Cross, and her volunteers cleaned the housing area on Panzer Kaserne, picking up 12 pounds of trash in the process.

"Some folks who saw us picking



Raquel Lacey, 9, and Grace Eassa, 11, from Girl Scout troop 292 collect animal food in front of the Patch Commissary, during the Oct. 24 Make a Difference Day event. The Girl Scouts later brought the food to a local animal shelter.

up thanked us right there and then," she said.

Junior and Daisy Girl Scout troops from Patch and Robinson Barracks, as well as the German-American Outreach

Club, Kontakt, delivered more than 2,000 pounds of dog and cat food, kitty litter, treats, blankets and toys to local animal shelters in Böblingen and Stuttgart-Botnang. The troops gathered

the food through donations from USAG Stuttgart community members.

"It is amazing how much the Girls have collected in such a short time," said Angelika Schmidt-Straube, chairperson of the Tierschutzverein Stuttgart e.V. ('Animal Protection Club Stuttgart'). "We will probably be able to feed our animals for two weeks on what was delivered."

The animal shelter relies mainly on donations, as well as a small city budget, Straube added. "We need €1.7 million a year to keep the shelter going and this large donation is just wonderful!"

Other USAG Stuttgart community members plan to donate human food to the Stuttgarter Tafel, a local soup kitchen, later in the week.

This year's Make a Difference Day marked the first time the garrison participated, said Laura-Jean Davis, the Army Community Service Army Volunteer Corps program manager.

"Since we are not in the U.S., we wanted to go out into the German community and help there," she added. "We are so fortunate to be in this community that we felt that we had to give something back."

Garrison students 'sock it to drugs' during Red Ribbon Week

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

This year, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart recognized Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 26-30) in several new ways, including a sock drive for Soldiers and "Crazy Red Socks Day."

The socks were part of a new initiative called "Sock It To Drugs," introduced by this year's Red Ribbon Week Coordinator, Joanna Ashley, in an effort to promote drug abuse awareness and prevent drug abuse in the community.

The program encouraged students, school counselors and Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Service to donate socks for Soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Garrison Department of Defense Dependent Schools collected about 500 pairs of socks, which will be shipped through the American Red Cross.

The 2009 Red Ribbon Week, sponsored by the garrison Army Substance Abuse Program, was themed "Drug-free is Key."

"Our students wore red to signify their support for saying 'No' to drugs," said Jim Hancock, elementary school counselor at Böblingen Elementary/Middle School. "Students participate in activities to help them

Students participate in activities to help them see how drugs can impair an individual's reaction time and coordination.

Jim Hancock

BEMS Elementary School Counselor

see how drugs can impair an individual's reaction times and coordination," he added.

In addition, some middle school students at BEMS gave a presentation on the history of Red Ribbon Week to elementary school students. BEMS students also signed a pledge to be drug free and to make good choices.

Red Ribbon is not only important to the community, but to each individual, Hancock added, and Red Ribbon Week programs help students to see the importance of the decisions they make.



Jim Hancock

Böblingen Elementary/Middle School students display their "Crazy Red Socks" as part of Red Ribbon Week.



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BEMS teacher wins DoDEA Teacher of the Year award

By Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Susan Morris is the best teacher in the Department of Defense.

Don't just take her students' word for it: the Böblingen Elementary/Middle School teacher was recently named the Department of Defense Education Activity's Teacher of the Year for 2010.

"She doesn't just have us sit there and copy stuff," said Taylor Lapierre, 13, who was in Morris' 7th-grade social studies class last year. "She actually helps us by giving us opportunities to do fun things, instead of just sitting at a desk."

Morris coordinates the school-wide National History Day program, in which students write a research paper and create a display to enter in competitions. She merges this program with her Advancement via Individual Determination class, designed to help prepare students with average grades for college.

Last year, eight BEMS students (two of them in AVID) made it to the national competition with their National History Day projects.

"She's a great teacher because of her 'I want you to be successful' attitude and the fact that she doesn't give up on kids," said Dale Moore, BEMS principal. "She's always positive."

Morris, a wife and mother of one, believes relationships play a vital role in her teaching success.

"Relationships are the number one thing we can do as teachers," Morris said. "[Students are] more plugged in, more excited, and more learning takes place."

Morris' ability create these relationships earned her a parent's letter of recommendation for the Teacher of the Year award. Last year, a boy joined Morris' class who was new to the community and very shy in school. Morris said that she worked with the student



Susan Morris calls on a student during a 7th-grade social studies class at Böblingen Elementary School Oct. 27. Morris was recently named the Department of Defense Education Activity's Teacher of the Year for 2010.

in AVID to help bring him out of his shell.

"It was like watching a flower bloom," Morris said. "His grades improved to Honor Roll and his confidence skyrocketed."

The parent's letter of recommendation was key to helping Morris win the DoDEA award, Moore said. "It's that special, one-on-one connection she makes with individuals that really makes a difference."

Morris was selected for the the DoDEA Teacher of the Year award from a highly-qualified group of applicants, including the district Teacher of the Year winners

in Europe, the Pacific and about 20 stateside districts.

As part of earning the title of DoDEA Teacher of the Year, Morris will compete against the top state and U.S. territory winners for the National Teacher of the Year award. She will also be awarded a sabbatical next semester to work on a project which will benefit DoDEA teachers and students alike.

She hopes to create tools to help other teachers to foster relationships with their students. "I'm totally excited," she said. "If I can share my experience with our DoDEA team, I'm absolutely going to."

Pumpkin Drop a 'smash'



Levi Smith

Physics at work: Patch Elementary School students, parents and teachers look on as pumpkins are dropped from cranes to boxes designed by students to break the pumpkins' fall during the annual 'Pumpkin Drop' outside PES Oct. 27.

PHS journalism class seeks funding for school newspaper

By Levi Smith

Special to The Citizen

Patch High School has something new to offer students and the Stuttgart community: a school newspaper.

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Department of Defense Dependent School's journalism class, taught by Mary Kelley, has high expectations for the school newspaper they plan on releasing to the student body by mid-November.

"What we are hoping to accomplish is a student-led paper," said Kelley. "I would like the paper to be an instrument for the students."

This is Kelley's first year teaching the journalism class at Patch, but not her first time to work on a publication. Prior to teaching at Patch, Kelley taught a journalism class at Adamson High School in Dallas, Texas, and worked for a local Galveston newspaper.

The class at Patch currently has 17 students in grades nine through 12, something that pleases Kelley. "I'm partnering upperclassmen and lower-

classmen in the hopes that once the upperclassmen leave, lowerclassmen will have the experience needed to continue the paper in the future," Kelley said.

Kelley plans on having a student achievement section in the paper to recognize student accomplishments.

Student Editor Eddie Eggleston, senior, has goals for the paper as well, such as including a section on current world events.

"I would like to get away from the standard school newspaper [and] print articles that benefit the reader," he said.

However, the class is facing a few setbacks, such as a lack of funding.

"Without a budget, we have no funds to purchase cameras or quality paper. We also have no computers for the students to work on, so help in these areas would be much appreciated," Eggleston said. "We're just trying to get our first issue [published]."

If funds permit, the journalism class will soon reveal their work to the community, describing life in Patch High School through the eyes of those experiencing it: the students.

Thanksgiving meal scheduled

The Black Stallion Dining Facility on Patch Barracks (Building 2386) will host a Thanksgiving Day meal on Nov. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition, the 1/10th Dining Facility on Panzer Kaserne will host a Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All service members, family members, Department of Defense civilians, other U.S. ID cardholders and guests are invited to attend. All guests, to include local nationals, must be escorted by an ID card holder.

Blood drives set for Nov. 18-19

The Armed Services Blood Program will hold two blood drives in the USAG Stuttgart community Nov. 18 and 19.

One drive will be held Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kelley Barracks Fitness Center and the other will be held Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Patch Barracks Fitness Center.

NAF office holds benefits open season

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Nonappropriated Funds Human Resources Office, in conjunction with the U.S. Army NAF Employee Benefits Program, will conduct a NAF Benefits Open Season Nov. 2-30.

NAF employees will be able to make benefit elections and changes in their current programs.

NAF benefits programs available include the NAF Retirement Plan, NAF 401(k) and the latest addition, Flexible Spending Accounts.

For more information, visit www.nafbenefits.com or call 431-3119/civ. 07031-15-3119.

Give holiday cheer with Angel Tree

Join the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Community in providing holiday cheer for all by supporting an "angel" on the community Angel Tree. Angels will be available Nov. 16 through Dec. 16.

To participate, select an angel off any one of the eight Angel Trees in our community, then purchase your gift to reflect your angels' information. Place the gift in a bag with

Local church musicians perform gospel 'Extravaganza'



Brittany Carlson

The Stuttgart Gospel Service Music Ministry hosted its 3rd Annual Music Extravaganza Oct. 24 in the Patch Gym, with the theme "Making a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord." The event included musical selections by the Stuttgart Gospel Choir, led by Maurice Wilkes, music minister, dance performances by the SGS youth, adult, and teen dance ministries, and a message from Henry Young, a church elder. Guest recording artist D.a.n.-emi Omar also performed. Approximately 200 U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart community members attended.

the angel stapled to the bag or in the bag and put your unwrapped gifts in the box near the tree.

Angel Tree Locations:

- Army Community Service, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne
- Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Panzer Kaserne
- Community Exchange, Robinson Barracks
- Kelley FMWR Theater Broadway Cafe, Building 3320, Kelley Barracks
- AAFES Theater, Patch Barracks
- FMWR Fitness Center Building 2337, Patch Barracks
- Service Credit Union branches, Panzer Kaserne and Patch Barracks

Combat training available on Patch

The Patch Fitness Center is hosting a Mixed Martial Arts Combat Sambo Training Seminar on Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The instructor, Vladislav Chernyavsky, is a 2009 European Combat Sambo Bronze Medalist and a repeating World & European Combat Sambo Medalist.

Sign-ups will be held at the

Patch Fitness Center. The cost is \$60 before the event date and \$70 that day. For more information, call 430-5386/civ.0711-680-5386.

PCS/pre-separation briefing scheduled

The next permanent change of station/pre-separation briefing will be held Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. in Building 2913 on 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, Housing, Claims and Army Community

Service.

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.

Golf course, club house renovated

The Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim recently completed six days of tree-trimming, opening up more spacious play-

ing areas on the course.

In addition, the club house restaurant received new patio railing and siding, new bathroom sink tops, fresh paint in the locker rooms and bottom floor, and three new outdoor stairways.

Health benefits season underway

The Health Benefits Open Season runs from Nov. 9 to Dec. 14. The following updated information is now available:

- The Flexible Spending Accounts for Federal Employees brochure at <https://www.fsafeds.com/forms/OPM-FSA-OVTF-10-031.pdf>.
- The 2010 Federal Employees Health Benefits rates at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/rates/index.asp>.
- The Benefits Administration letter #09-405, which includes significant plan changes, located at <http://www.opm.gov/retire/pubs/bals/bal09.asp#404>.

For more information, call Adrienne Barber at the Stuttgart Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at 431-3152/civ. 07031-15-3152.

Vehicle registration, IACS closed Nov. 27

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Vehicle Registration Office and Installation Access Control System Office will be closed on Nov. 27.

Panzer commissary to close for new roof

The Panzer Commissary on Panzer Kaserne will close for four weeks starting Nov. 23, due to the construction of a new roof.

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[Left] Seniors Claire Richardson and Julius Johnson-Rich, Homecoming Queen and King, walk through an archway of swords during halftime at the Homecoming football game Oct. 24. [Below] Senior Julius Johnson Rich (7) makes a run during the Homecoming game against Vilseck. The final score was Vilseck 47-14.



Brittany Carlson

PATCH HIGH STUDENTS SHOW SCHOOL SPIRIT

By Levi Smith
Special to The Citizen
& Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

This year's Homecoming week found the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Patch High School Panthers showing their school spirit not only in the area of sports, but during the school spirit competitions throughout the week.

The Department of Defense Dependent School hosted its annual Spirit Week Oct. 19-23, which kicked off with "Pajama Day." Students arrived at school in their pajamas in order to earn "spirit" points for the week's competition. Other theme days included "Wacky Tacky Day," "Disney Cartoon Character Day," "Movie Genre Day," and "Black and Gold Day," in which students sported the school colors.

"School spirit is very important; the theme days are opportunities to get the whole school involved," said Claire Richardson, senior and student council member.

By the end of the week, the school's hallways were decorated with posters and decorations cheering on the various sports teams.

On Friday, students headed to the gym for the traditional pep rally, which included an introduction of the school sports team players, class games, and the announcing of the Homecoming Court. Seniors Julius Johnson-Rich and Claire Richardson were crowned King and Queen.

The senior powderpuff cheerleaders — male students dressed as female cheerleaders, including makeup and

styled hair — brought laughs and cheers to the student body as they performed a choreographed dance routine.

The pep rally ended with the seniors winning the week's spirit competition and the sought-after "spirit stick."

That evening, the senior girls beat the junior girls in the powderpuff football game on a muddy Husky Field on Patch Barracks, followed by a bonfire.

Saturday was a flurry of competition, as each Patch High sports team vied for a win on their home turf.

"Homecoming is always a highlight for everyone because it's focused on the fall sports, regardless of what the scores are," said Tom Manuel, PHS athletic director and cross country coach.

The Patch teams did come away with their share of victories, as well as losses. The girls' volleyball team defeated Heidelberg 4-0 and lost to Ramstein 3-0.

The boys' cross country team finished first and the girls' team finished second against Vilseck, Kaiserslautern, Mannheim and Ansbach. The boys' and girls' tennis teams defeated Ansbach, both winning 9-0.

The football team took on Vilseck, but was defeated on both counts: JV lost 6-26, Varsity 14-47. However, a crowd of spectators, as well as the school cheerleading team and pep band, kept up a steady stream of cheers, music and shouts of encouragement for their home team.

The homecoming week officially ended that Saturday night with the Homecoming dance, which was held at the Swabian Special Event Center on Patch Barracks.

"Homecoming week always seems to set the tone for the school year," said Susan Page, PHS principal. "It's great to see the positive energy and enthusiasm generated by all these kids."

[Right] Bailey Glover, sophomore, plays the clarinet as part of the Patch High School pep band during the Homecoming football game Oct. 24. The band kept the crowds singing and cheering with songs like "Tequila" and "We Will Rock You."



Brittany Carlson



Eddie Eggleston

The senior girls' powderpuff football team cheers after winning the annual Homecoming powderpuff match against the junior girls' team Oct. 23. The game was fought on a muddy Husky Field on Patch Barracks during a dark and rainy evening, but the weather did not seem to dampen the seniors' spirits after the victory.



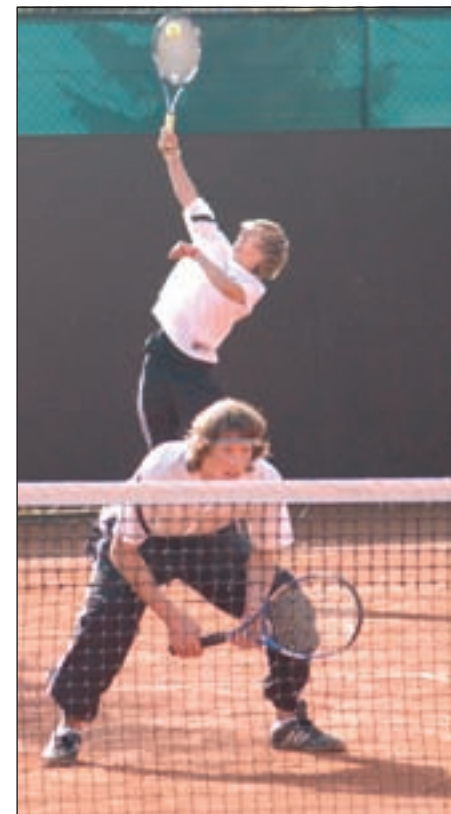
Brittany Carlson



Brittany Carlson

[Above] The PHS cheer squad performs during halftime at the Homecoming football game Oct. 24. Halftime also featured the Homecoming Court, which walked through an archway of swords presented by the school's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps students.

[Left] PHS students Justin Mc Manus, serving, and Charlie Schoonover, at the net, take on tennis players from Ansbach during their Homecoming match Oct. 24. Both girls' and boys' Patch tennis teams beat Ansbach 9-0. McManus and Schoonover also beat the number seven seed during the European Championship the following weekend.



Larry Reilly



Brittany Carlson

[Above] The senior boys' powderpuff cheerleading team perform a choreographed dance routine, to the delight of the other students, during the Homecoming pep rally Oct. 23. The cheer featured Irish step dancing and a guest appearance by one student dressed as "the Joker," a Batman character.

[Right] The PHS girls' cross country team start the 5-kilometer Homecoming race Oct. 24 against Kaiserslautern, Ansbach, Mannheim and Vilseck. The girls' team took second place overall, and the boys' team took first place.



Larry Reilly



Brittany Carlson

PHS students show their enthusiasm for the boys' powderpuff cheer performance during the school pep rally Oct. 23.

For more Homecoming photos, visit www.flickr.com/photos/usagstuttgart.

H O M E C O M I N G 2 9

USAG Stuttgart clinic to administer H1N1 vaccine Nov. 24-25

Vaccine for non high-risk DoD employees, family members pending

Europe Regional Medical Command
Public Affairs Office

H1N1 flu vaccine for uniformed service members and high-risk Department of Defense personnel and family members arrived last weekend at the U.S.

Army Medical Materiel Center, Europe in Pirmasens, Germany.

The H1N1 flu vaccine will be administered to military units in Stuttgart through coordination with the Stuttgart Health Clinic. Military personnel and high-risk DoD employees and family

members in USAG Stuttgart can receive the vaccine at the Patch Barracks Fitness Center on Nov. 24 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. and at the Panzer Barracks Post Exchange on Nov. 25 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Additional dates in December for

Stuttgart community locations are being coordinated through the health clinic and will be listed in the Nov. 25 edition of *The Citizen*.

In addition to uniformed service members, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense has directed that the vaccine also be offered to beneficiaries who have a medical condition that places them at a higher risk for influenza-related complications. Manufactured by Novartis, the vaccine is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for ages four years and older.

High-risk beneficiaries who fall into one of the categories below should visit their clinic for their H1N1 vaccine. Non-uniformed beneficiaries will be screened prior to vaccination to verify medical conditions that place them in a higher risk status, such as:

- Pregnancy
 - Blood disorders
 - Chronic pulmonary, including asthma
 - Cardiovascular, except for hypertension
 - Renal, cognitive, hepatic, neurologic/neuromuscular conditions
 - Metabolic disorders, including diabetes
 - Immuno-suppression disorders, including those caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus
- Future vaccine shipments approved for non-uniformed beneficiaries — including DoD employees, contractors and family members — are expected in the near future. Manufactured by Sanofi-Pasteur, it is FDA-approved for ages six months and older.

Garrison, tenant units prepare for H1N1 scenarios

By Larry Reilly

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

To help prepare for the increase in confirmed H1N1 influenza cases in the Stuttgart military community, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart conducted a pandemic influenza table top exercise at the Swabian Special Events Center Oct. 29.

The exercise, which involved leaders from the garrison, health clinic, schools and tenant units focused on a pandemic that affects the community.

After the group of about 70 people was given an overview of the impact that the H1N1 influenza has had around the world and in the European community, the group was then presented with three scenarios, ranging from handling an increase of confirmed cases to handling hundreds of confirmed cases.

“The overall purpose of the exercise was to gain an understanding



Christina Jackson

of the issues that the USAG Stuttgart community is likely to face during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. This exercise addressed several very important

issues, including risk communication and community education, H1N1 vaccine distribution, and H1N1 case management,” said Christina Jackson, pandemic influenza health educator, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. “This exercise gave all partners the opportunity to test their plans in a no-risk environment and determine what areas need to be improved upon.”

The second scenario, in which a large number of children were H1N1 positive, seemed to ignite the group.

“This scenario really got the group talking because we have many single parents or dual-employed parents within the community,” said Ron

Kirkemo, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Installation Emergency Manager. “We discussed children staying home when they are sick, as well as the policies governing how parents would be able to remain at home to care for their children. We also found that not all emergency contact information at schools or Child Development Centers is up-to-date, which creates problems when notifying parents of sick children.”

The working group will continue to meet and discuss the situation.

“It’s important to realize that while we are in a pandemic, it has been mainly mild to moderate in most cases,” said Jackson. “The working group will continue to engage the community so everyone understands what they need to do at the individual level to protect themselves and their loved ones.”

For additional information, visit <http://www.stuttgart.army.mil> and click on the “H1N1” icon under “Hot Topics.”

Gen. Ham challenges USAREUR community to employ disabled

Story and photo by Sgt. Daniel J. Nichols

U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office

In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, several key leaders in U.S. Army Europe lauded disabled persons for their continued perseverance with both working in and service to the armed forces.

“The strength of the Army workforce comes from its diversity, and persons with disabilities are another aspect of the diversity that makes our Army so great,” said Gen. Carter F. Ham, U.S. Army Europe commanding general, during a lunchtime event in Heidelberg Oct. 20.

Harry Connors, government relations advisor for U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Wuerttemberg, also spoke at the event, telling how he struggled to overcome injuries he received in Vietnam so he could continue to serve.

“If you are or become, quote — disabled — unquote, you do not have to accept the limitations it seems to impose on you,” said Connors. “You can do everything in your power to overcome it and find ways around it. Society may say that you are disabled or handicapped, but you are only so if you believe them and agree with them.”

The event recognized those with disabilities who are currently employed by the Army, and encouraged Army organizations to continue to employ the disabled. During his remarks, Ham cited examples of senior leaders and other members of the Army workforce who overcame disabilities and continued to serve and perform their duties successfully.

“These are single examples of individuals who refused to be deterred by their physical disability,” Ham said. “They have not given in to the disability; in fact, they have answered the question for themselves ... ‘What is it that I can do?’, and they have pursued those goals.”

Ham encouraged the Army in Europe community to give equal consideration to people with physical disabilities when filling job vacancies.

“Provide the opportunities, raise your expectations, and allow those with disabilities to fully participate in your organization,” said Ham. “Our Army has a long tradition in leading the nation in change such as this, and now it’s our opportunity to lead the way for all of America to show that Americans with disabilities can and will exceed all expectations. Our job — all of our jobs — is to provide that opportunity.”



Gen. Carter F. Ham, USAREUR commanding general, addresses community members Oct. 20 in Heidelberg at a Disability Employment Awareness event.

'Traces of Remembrance' project trails across Europe

USAG Stuttgart community helps honor handicapped murdered in WWII

By Carola Meusel

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Last month, a long, painted purple line connected the road leading from Grafeneck, Germany to the Ministry of the Interior in downtown Stuttgart.

The line marked the locations where thousands of handicapped persons were put to death during the Nazi regime in World War II and was part of the "Trace of Remembrance" campaign.

Altogether, the line, which started in Grafeneck on Oct. 13 and ended in Stuttgart on Oct. 16, passed about 20 cities, towns and communities with more than 17 groups participating in various events. The events included lectures, exhibitions, educational programs and school discussions.

Residents of the greater Stuttgart area, including U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, gathered outside the Stuttgart Army Airfield Oct. 15 to remember and continue painting the purple line.

The new, volunteer-run campaign launched this year, under the theme "Educate, participate, remember and reflect: laying traces."

The focus of the project was the 70-kilometer line, painted on roads by citizens, students and city officials in each community along the way

About 1,500 kilograms of purple paint was used to draw the line, painted to remind people of what happened during the war, so that they will always remember these crimes against humanity.

In Grafeneck, a small town close to Metzingen, the handicapped had a home in a former castle that, under Adolf Hitler, was turned into a concentration camp and became the central point of the Nazi-enforced murders. According to records provided by the Tübingen court, 10,654 people were murdered in Grafeneck in 1940. Employees of the Ministry of the Interior at the Karl's Square in Stuttgart planned the murders on paper, earning them the title "desk murderers."

At the SAAF, representatives from Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Filderstadt and the Karl-Schubert-Working Group for the handicapped, as well as students from the Eduard-Spranger-Gymnasium, the Jahnschule, and the Bildungszentrum Seefälle were also in attendance.

"We chose this site to remember the crimes against humanity during the Nazi regime because the memorial site for victims of the former concentration camp in Echterdingen is located here," said Gabriele Dönig-Poppensieker, lord mayor of Filderstadt.

"We are able to emphasize the importance of not forgetting the past and meditate on what happened to the victims to cultivate remembrance on this special memorial site," she added.

After a dance performed by students of the Karl-Schubert-Working Group, Col. Richard M. Pastore, USAG Stuttgart Commander, emphasized the principle that every human being is equal. "We cannot afford to forget. We [the Armed Forces] stand united in firm respect that nothing like this will ever happen again," Pastore said.

During the event, students from the Eduard-Sprang-



Stadtarchiv Leinfelden-Echterdingen
USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Richard M. Pastore paints part of the purple line marking the locations where thousands of handicapped persons were put to death during WWII.

er-Gymnasium and the Education Center Seefälle read poems from Erich Fried and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

The Jahnschule presented artwork: a wooden board with nails representing the memory of the victims. "It is a very sensitive topic and very difficult to understand. Learning and dealing with this part of history helps us to reflect and makes us more appreciative of life itself," explained Lisa Krauthem, a 9th-grader from Jahnschule.

"The intent of the "Trace of Remembrance" project was to make students aware of history and also of living together with handicapped individuals today. Awareness and learning from history are the most important things," said Wolfgang Schiegg, history teacher at the Eduard-Spranger-Gymnasium in Filderstadt.

Students from the Education Center Seefälle continued painting the purple line. "We painted the purple trace from Filderstadt Bonlanden to Bernhausen and it was a great experience to be part of this project," said Steffen Geis, 9th-grader from Seefälle.

The Rev. Rainer Kiess, minister at the protestant congregation in Bernhausen, encouraged participants to never forget the past. "Every meter of color is a step against forgetting and for life," he said. "Remembering the past is prevention."



Carola Meusel

Students from the Karl-Schubert Working Group for the handicapped perform a dance Oct. 15 at the SAAF as part of the "Trace of Remembrance" project, created to pay tribute to disabled persons murdered during WWII.

For more information on the "Trace of Remembrance" project, visit www.spur-der-erinnerung.de

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USAG Stuttgart soccer team takes third in finals

By Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart intramural soccer team defeated the top-seeded Grafenwoehr at the U.S. Forces Soccer Championship semi-final game at Camp Darby, Italy, Oct. 25, giving the team a third place finish overall.

The team battled through five games in four days for a shot at the top slot — four round robin games and a semi-final game — but was defeated by Aviano in the semi-final round 2-1. (Ramstein beat Aviano for first place 4-3 in penalty kicks). However, Stuttgart's victory over Grafenwoehr in the third place game gave the team reason to celebrate.

"That [win] was probably the highlight of our time there," said Sgt. Peter Lucas (U.S. Marine Corps), head coach. "There's a little friendly rivalry between the two teams."

During the regular season, the Stuttgart soccer



Joyce Costello

USAG Stuttgart's number 33 in red, Folgalla Nkweti, scores the winning goal during the semi-final match against Grafenwoehr, clinching third place for his team during the U.S. Forces Soccer Championship tournament Oct. 22-25 in Camp Darby, Italy.

team only lost one game — to Grafenwoehr.

In the semi-final, Stuttgart's Isaac Aku Jr. scored the first goal, and the first half ended with a tied score of 1-1. Late in the second half, Stuttgart's Folgalla Nkweti

scored the winning goal, assisted by a long kick from Sgt. Jacob Sutherland, sweeper and team captain.

"It was almost like revenge for us," Sutherland said with a laugh. "We're always the top two Army teams in Germany."

The victory was sweetened even more by the fact that the team was exhausted from round robin games, and had only 14 players on the roster during the tournament.

"It was exhausting," said Cyndal Llanas, left midfielder and the only female on the team. "Toward the end of the tournament, everybody was sore."

Still, she added, the team played its best during that final match against Grafenwoehr. "After we scored the second goal, we were determined not to let them score again," she said.

The team has a record for fighting against the odds, Lucas said. In fact, he added, during most of the regular season games, the opposing team scored first.

"Our major strength is that we have strong willpower to come back," he said. "We're just a fighting team. We go in there and get it done regardless of the obstacles."

After taking second in the finals last year and third this year, the Stuttgart team has one goal in mind for next year: to win the tournament.

Llanas, who will re-join the team next year, sees a first place finish as a very real possibility.

"I think if we started from the beginning playing as well as we did in the end [of the tournament], we probably would have won [this year]," she said. Still, she added, beating Grafenwoehr was exciting in itself. "We have bragging rights now."

(Additional information provided by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs)

Our major strength is that we have the willpower to come back. We go in there and get it done regardless of the obstacles.

Sgt. Peter Lucas (U.S. Marine Corps)
USAG Stuttgart soccer head coach

Garrison hosts Great Pumpkin Run

Angi Buckley, Army spouse, jogs up the final hill during the U.S. Army Garrison's 6th Annual Great Pumpkin Run Oct. 24, which included a 5- and 10-kilometer race. About 303 community members participated.

Jennifer Caywood and Jimmer Sullivan won the women's and men's 5K, respectively, and Cathy Walter and Chris Bennett won the women's and men's 10K races. For more photos, visit www.flickr.com/photos/usagstuttgart.



Brittany Carlson

PHS freshman wins cross country championships

By Larry Reilly

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Considered a decent runner at the start of this year's high school cross country season, Patch High School freshman Katherine Castro surprised herself and her competition by capturing first place in the Division-I European cross country championships in Schwetzingen Oct. 30.

Castro had hoped to at least medal in the 5-kilometer race by keeping the defending champion, Natalie Pecoraro from Frankfurt International School, within sprinting distance, but cheering fans changed her strategy.

"We were at the half-way point and the crowd was cheering Natalie and me on," Castro said. "Against my dad's advice not to kick it in too soon, I picked up the pace. I knew I had enough in me to maintain the [increased] pace and still have the energy to finish strong."

Castro's increased pace seemed to affect Pecoraro, who finished in fifth place. Although her overall lead was increasing, Castro knew the race wasn't won yet.

"I knew the girls trailing me were fast, so I kept a fast pace," said Castro. "As I made my way up the last hill, I sprinted the final 200 yards."



Ben Bloker

Katherine Castro, PHS freshman, took first place in the European cross country championships Oct. 30.

Castro clocked in at 20:15 and beat the second place finisher, Kaiserslautern's Colleen Davis, by 19 seconds.

Next year, Castro's status will probably change from a decent runner to the one to beat, and she is fine with that.

"My goal is to win Europeans as a team," Castro said. "That is far more important to me."

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Patch Commissary will conduct a fresh Seafood Rodeo Show on 13 and 14th November

Patch, Kelley and Panzer Commissaries will be closed on Thursday, 26 November, Thanksgiving Day.

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Exclusive 2BR maisonette apt in Filderstadt close to Kelly & Panzer for rent. 140sqm, 2bathrms, bik, huge balc w/ nice view & BBQ area. Stor & guest rm in basem. Kitchen & garage incl! No Relator! Brand new renov. Move in November. €1.700 + 250€ util. U. Martin 0172-7347958, 07158-7245

Exclusive 5BR maisonette apt in Filderstadt close to Kelly & Panzer for Rent. 220 sqm, master bathrm, kids upstairs w/ own bathrm, huge livrm, 2 balc, stor in basem. Kitchen incl! €2.850 rent +300€ util. Brand new renovated. Wolf-Haus, 0170-6886723, 0711-67251122, info@wolfhaus-bw.de

HOUSES/APTS FOR SALE

3BR Apt w/carpport. 4th floor (no elevator). Recently renovated. Central location in Sindelfingen. 10min from Patch Barracks & Panzer Kaserne. 1 block from Daimler, Stern Center Mall & Kaufland. Close to future Sindelfingen S-Bahn station. Lg livrm, BIK, bath w/ sep WC, balc, wood burning stove & many other extras. Move-in cond. Only 149,000 Euro. For pictures & information from real estate agent, please see: ImmobilienScout24.de ID Nr.: 52693808 More information and pictures available upon request. Please contact Richard or Silvia Koch. Email: Richard.koch.ctr@disa.mil or richardmkoch@yahoo.de Home: 07031-26 94 38 Mobile: 01520-186-8014

Beautiful condo 2BR in Stuttgart few min from Kelly for Sale. 104sqm, 2 bathrms. Huge sunny backyard. Brand new. US washer, dryer & fridge. Kitchen & garage incl! €330'000,

\$2'300 a month, No down-payment, no relator fee. Wolf-Haus, 0170-6886723, 0711-67251122, info@wolfhaus-bw.de

Beautiful maisonette condo 3BR in Renningen few min from Patch & Panzer for Sale. 145sqm, 2 bathrms. 3 spacious sunny balc. Brand new. US washer, dryer & fridge. Kitchen & garage incl! €299'000, €2'200 a month, No down-payment, no relator fee. Wolf-Haus, 0170-6886723, 0711-67251122, info@wolfhaus-bw.de

Huge Single House 6BR in Waldenbuch few min from Kelly & Panzer for Sale. Built to suit, 200 sqm, 3 bathrms. Spacious sunny backyard. US washer, dryer & fridge, 110V incl. Kitchen & garage incl! €475'000, \$2'900 a month, No down-payment, no relator fee. Wolf-Haus, 0170-6886723, 0711-67251122, info@wolfhaus-bw.de

PCSing to Kaiserslautern area? A+ Immaculate Freest Home for Sale by Owner (no realtor fees) €317,000. 16 Km from Landstuhl (15 min via autobahn, 20 min to RAM). Turnkey cond. You will not find a better finished, well built home. It will not be on the market for long. Everything covered by LQA! Mortgage, firewood, util are well under LQA limits. Particulars: No Realtor Fees if sold privately (savings of over €12K). Solid, professionally built, finished to highest standards. Exterior 100% newly painted (incl wood finish) July 2009, Good for 15 years! Living Space approx 220 SM, 3-4 very large bedrms, Landscaped Yard approx 800 SM, 100% Fenced (Chain Link). 2car garage (w/one auto maint pit). Landstuhl & Kaiserslautern School Districts. Floor heat 1st floor w/ firepl in open flr plan liv area. Custom hardwood kitchen / cabinets incl! Finished basem, workshop / bedrm (w/wood stove). Quiet loc, great views, easy access to autobahn. Call John @ 015223165851 or e-mail zepley@googlemail.com for viewing appt.

Single-family house in Bruckberg (Landkreis Ansbach), close to Katterbach AAF. 4 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, nice yard, 2 car garage. Euro 235,000. Rick (moderier@hotmail.com)

AUTOS

1996 Plymouth Voyager SE 3.3ltr Engine V6 7 Saeter, White, Asking price is \$700.00 Just passed inspection in Sept 2009 and good till Sept 2010. Seats are removable and great for doing odd jobs like hauling things. If interested then email rdc_collins@yahoo.com or call 0711-8104270 /0152-22338005.

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Euro Spec 1996 BMW 520i: Lt green, 5-speed

manual, dark cloth interior, 115,000km (72k mi), pwr windows/locks & sunroof, no mechanical problems, 2nd owner, I've had it for 1 year, BMW mechanic maintained, Mobile 1 synthetic oil used, all-season tires, USAEUR insp. good till 7 Nov 09. Bike rack not incl. Car is located in the Heidelberg area. Email justin.lemire@eur.dtra.mil or call 0162-272-8101. \$6900 OBO, Will accept cash or cashier's check.

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Computer hutch w/file drawers, rollout keyboard, CPU space. Cherrywood finish. \$40. bkilgallen@aol.com. 0163-9709744.

For Sale: Baby glider in excellent condition. Green Padded frame includes Ottoman. Selling for \$100. Call Kristine at 0711-6569-6426.

For Sale: Colonial style dresser with mirror. Cherry wood finish. Good condition. \$40. bkilgallen@aol.com. 0163-9709744.

Lost camera Halloween night during trick or treating on Patch on or around Nevada, Texas and Florida Strasse and up toward the K & K gate. It is a hot pink Sony Cybershot. If found, please call Liz at 0175-350-4298.

Moving out Sale - Bed Room Closets 120€, Drawing room closets 160€, New Washing machine (still has warranty) 150€, Dryer 70€, Freezer 100€ etc., in 71701 Schwieberdingen. Contact Prab, 0176 850 87332

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DRS in Stuttgart seeks a SATCOM System Engineer to provide systems engineering, requirements derivation, and technical support on a large SATCOM program. 8+ yrs exp., B.S., and US citizenship required. COLA and HOLA. Email resume to GES-ID@drs-defensesolutions.com. EOE/M/F/D/V

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Seeking someone to watch my cat 16 Dec - 1 Jan and possibly other times. Live in Scharnhauser Park/Ostfildern, prefer someone close. mrstuttgartge@hotmail.com, 0171-778-0433, easier to reach via email.

Yard Worker Needed for mowing and hedge trim. 4 hours per month, 40E or \$55, flexible hours, equipment provided. Quick bus ride from Kelley Barracks in Plieningen. Must be responsible and be 18 years of age. Contact jennjeff1@hotmail.com or 0711-933-53001.

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