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**MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**

Family and MWR will celebrate military kids all month long — **PAGES 12-13.**

# The Citizen

Thursday, April 2, 2015 Sustaining & Supporting the Stuttgart U.S. Military Community Garrison Website: [www.stuttgart.army.mil](http://www.stuttgart.army.mil) Facebook: [facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart](https://facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart)

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

## PHS sponsors throw-down with 'pi'



Patch High School students are covered in shaving cream March 12 following the PHS math honor society's Pi Day celebration. More than 1,000 participants from across the community gathered on Washington Square in an attempt to break the world record for the world's largest shaving cream pie fight. For the story, see Page 3. — *Photo by Susan Brown.*

**OPINION**

For Month of the Military Child, a teen shares her thoughts on being a military kid and why she wouldn't have it any other way — **PAGE 2.**

**PCSING?**

If you are shipping a vehicle back to the States, the LRC Stuttgart Transportation Division has a few tips for you — **PAGE 4.**

**ON THE BLOTTER**

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**GOING GREEN**

Earth Day is April 22. To celebrate, the USAG Stuttgart environmental specialists will provide timely activities at local schools — **PAGE 9.**

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# Musings of a military child

Commentary by Megan Brown  
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

This month is Month of the Military Child, a time to recognize the sacrifices military children make on an everyday basis. While they may seem small, military children face challenges their civilian counterparts will never have to experience.

New schools, friends, houses and sometimes even countries are something I and the other two million military kids know all too well. Whether we like it or not, we have to be resilient. We don't have a choice.

My story begins in Nevada. From there I moved to Florida, Mississippi, California, Colorado, Turkey, and now here, Germany. That's five states, three countries and six schools, and I am only 16 years old.

## New schools

Since I have started school I have had many mascots, like a roadrunner, bear, mustang and a timber wolf. However, my favorite mascot by far was in Turkey, and it was a Hodja.

A Hodja is a Turkish religious figure and looks like a man riding a donkey backwards. My favorite part about the mascot was how unique it was and knowing most people would never be able to say it was their mascot.

With every move there is always the feeling of anticipation and excitement. When I move I wonder what my new teachers, classrooms and sports teams are going to be like, but eventually I adjust and as a result I have

become more adaptable.

Although it's sometimes hard, I have started to enjoy the challenges that come along with moving to a new school every two to three years because I am experiencing the world, seeing new cultures and meeting new people.

## New houses

When I was younger, the best part about moving was unpacking the boxes because during that time, a sacred family tradition developed.

Moving into a new house meant one thing to my sister and me: yellow, numbered moving stickers. The rules of the game were simple; we had to wait until the movers were gone, and then the race was on to find as many stickers as possible.

For each sticker we found, my sister and I received 10 cents. It was a great way to get us involved and excited about the move.

For most of my life I have lived in base housing, however when we moved to Colorado we lived in a three-story house right by a 7-11 store. Out of all the houses I have lived in, that is one of my favorites because I could get Slurpees all the time. It's funny about the little things we remember.

## New countries

If I said moving to Turkey was an easy transition it wouldn't be completely accurate. I had traveled outside the United States before, to places like Canada, the Bahamas and Mexico, but nothing could prepare me when I

stepped off the plane in Turkey.

The culture shock came in places I would least expect it. For example, I had never seen a 220 outlet before, and I did not know about Turkish cuisine. I also had a difficult time learning the customs and language.

Eventually, I adjusted to my new home, but needless to say, my transition to Germany during the summer of 2014 was very easy.

## New friends

One time I read a pessimistic quote that said, "Military children will have to say goodbye to more significant people by the time they are 18 then most people will have to in a lifetime."

This provides a different outlook on the situation. Although I have had to say goodbye to a lot of people, I am grateful for having met them in the first place. Social media sites like Instagram and Facebook allow me to keep in touch with old friends while staying connected with my friends here.

Despite all the challenges of moving, making new friends, and not being able to answer the question "where are you from?," I am happy I was born into this life, because otherwise it would be boring.

I am a resilient military kid, and I wouldn't want it any other way.

*Editor's Note: Megan Brown is a Patch High School career practicum intern who works for the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Public Affairs Office.*

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# PHS attempts record-breaking 'pi' fight

By Megan Brown

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Members of the Stuttgart military community gathered at Washington Square on Patch Barracks March 12 in an attempt to break two world records during a massive event sponsored by Mu Alpha Theta, Patch High School's math honor society.

The event aimed to celebrate Pi Day in an enormous way.

Pi is used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159, according to [www.piday.org](http://www.piday.org).

This year, Pi Day fell on March 14; or in other words, the first five digits of pi: 3.1415 (03-14-15). Since this date only occurs once every century, Mu Alpha Theta wanted to do something that would be talked about for years to come, according to PHS teacher Daniel Coapstick, the club's sponsor.

This is the club's third celebration of the nationally recognized holiday. In the past, students have held pi reciting contests, sold pizza and pie, had hula-hoop contests and the favorite, a pie-in-the-face fundraiser.

However, this year's event was designed to surpass the previous years' events and put PHS in the Guinness Book of World Records, twice.

Mu Alpha Theta decided to bring hundreds of people together for an enormous shaving cream pie fight and set a new record for the recitation of the first 20 digits of pi in unison.

The previous record for the pie



A Patch High School student takes a pie in the face March 12 during the PHS math honor society's Pi Day celebration. More than 1,000 participants from across the community gathered on Washington Square in an attempt to break the world record for the world's largest shaving cream pie fight and establish a group record for reciting pi in unison. — Photo by Susan Brown.

fight was broken by the Christian Cornerstone church in Arizona in 2013, with 815 people taking part.

While numerous individuals have attempted to set records for reciting pi, there has never been a group effort.

Mu Alpha Theta wanted to shatter the pie fight record and establish a pi reciting record with 1,000 or more participants.

Before the pie fight, PHS assistant principal Dr. Trent Blankenship stood in the rescue bucket of the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart aerial ladder truck and held up the first 20 digits of pi, one by one, for a crowd of 1,002 to repeat in unison.

Then, armed with video cameras, selfie sticks and even cans of shaving cream, the students, parents, faculty, visiting German students and various community members prepared for what would be the largest shaving cream pie fight in history.

The intense fight, carefully planned since the summer of 2014, took a little more than a minute. "It was awesome. I would do it again and again," said PHS freshmen Mason Bonton.

Currently Patch High School unofficially holds both world records. "The footage needs to be reviewed, which can take up to six weeks," Coapstick said, adding that the community will

be informed as soon as he knows. The results most likely will come in May.

To pull off an event like this took 650 cans of shaving cream to make 2,118 pies. The commissary had a limited number of shaving cream cans in stock and had to express ship about 300 cans.

When the pie fight ended, Mu Alpha Theta continued old traditions by selling homemade pies, among other snacks.

"[My] favorite part was watching a goal be realized. I was confident we could beat the record ... you just never know until it actually happens. Everyone had a great time; it was great," Coapstick said.

## News & Notes

### SOCAF changes command

Special Operations Command Africa will host a change of command ceremony April 24 at 10 a.m. in the Panzer Fitness Center.

Maj. Gen. James B. Linder will pass the helm of SOCAF to Brig. Gen. Donald C. Bolduc, the current U.S. Africa Command deputy director for Operations.

Linder has been named the new commander of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School in Fort Bragg, S.C., where he will oversee training for the Army's Special Forces, psychological operations and civil affairs, and continuing

education for special operators from across the services.

In support of the ceremony, the fitness center basketball court will be closed April 23-24. The fitness center parking lot and the center row of parking in the bowling center parking lot will be blocked starting at 11:59 p.m. on April 23.

Vehicles parked in these locations should be removed before barriers are put in place. Those that remain will be towed at the owners' expense.

### Potential scam

The Department of Defense

Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service Benefits and Entitlements Branch would like to alert all federal employees of a potential scam by a benefits and retirement planning company, Government Employee Services. The scam intends to use misinformation as well as fear about the Affordable Care Act and its impact on the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program to influence federal employees to buy its services.

Government Employee Services is in no way affiliated with the federal government. It is a company seeking to get business through a

misleading advertisement.

FEHB retirement coverage is not altered or impacted by the Affordable Care Act. An employee still has to retire on an immediate annuity and have FEHB coverage five years prior to retirement.

Employees should be aware of calls, mailings or emails seeking to "help" with federal benefits. Contact your local Human Resource Office to verify whether claims about changes to any federal benefits are true. If you are unsure whether or not the correspondence came from your agency, contact your local HRO.

# Shipping a POV? Some things you need to know

405th Army Field Support Brigade Logistics  
Readiness Center Stuttgart

As the peak permanent change of station season approaches, the 405th Army Field Support Brigade, Logistics Readiness Center Stuttgart Transportation Division, would like to remind the Stuttgart military community of what to expect and the steps to take when planning and tracking privately owned vehicle shipments.

Because the peak season from May to September is extremely busy with higher than normal volumes of POV shipments, diligent planning, attention to detail and flexibility are key elements to reducing the stress associated with a PCS move.

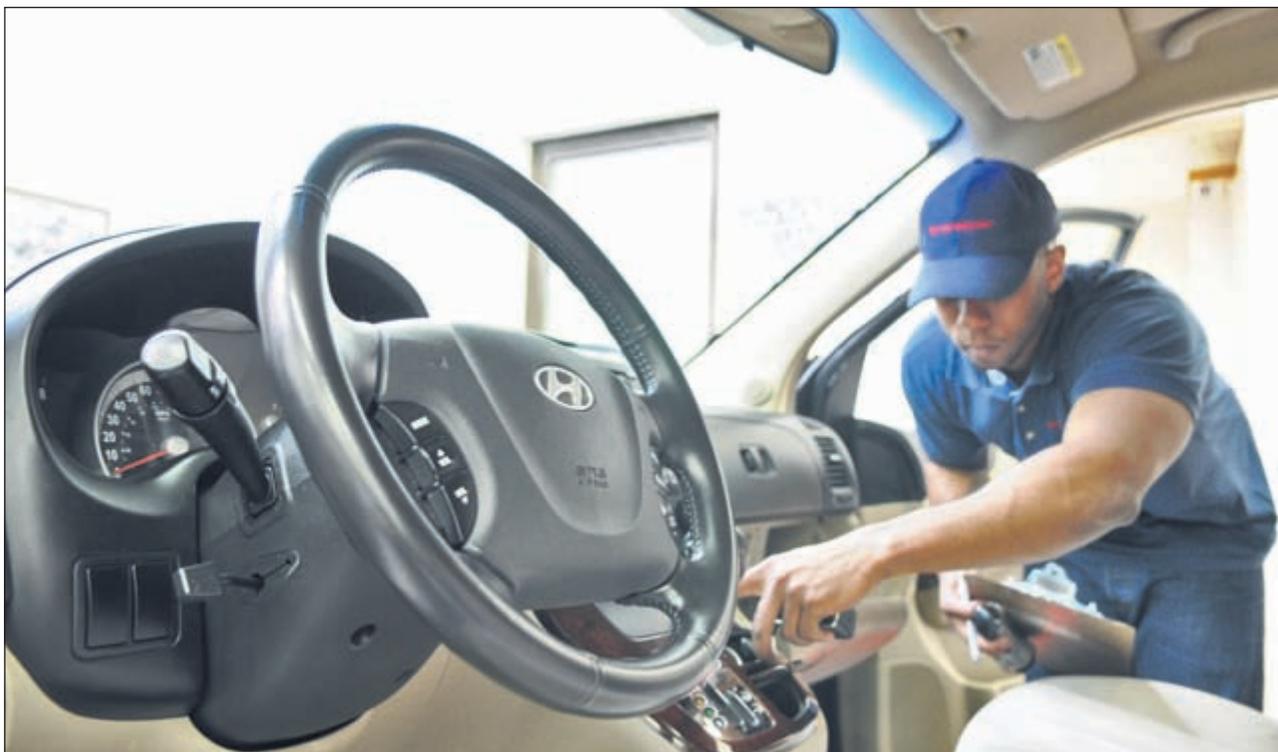
The Surface Deployment and Distribution Command offers the below guidance based on previous peak season lessons learned.

- Once you receive orders, immediately begin planning your move.
- Contact your local Personal Property Processing Office for assistance with POV shipment transit times for planning purposes.
- The PPPO will assist in counseling customers and providing guidance on POV shipments and authorized vehicle processing center turn-in and pick-up locations.

International Auto Logistics begins its second year as the global POV contractor. The following should aid customers in planning, shipping and tracking POVs, and contacting the global POV contractor:

Customers can obtain detailed information on the shipment and storage of their POV from the IAL website at <https://www.pcsmypov.com>.

Based on entitlements, in accordance with the Joint Travel



If you are shipping your vehicle, you do not need an appointment at the Böblingen VPC. Walk-in service is available, however, customers should sign in before 4 p.m. as processing can take up to an hour. — *Photo by U.S. Transportation Command.*

Regulations, Chapter 5, Paragraph 5350, POVs can be turned in at the closest VPC to the member's duty station, or any VPC between the old and new duty stations. Locations and contact information for contractor-operated VPCs can be found at <https://www.pcsmypov.com/locations>.

## POV turn-in procedures

IAL does not require an appointment to accept the turn-in of a POV at the VPC. A majority of POVs are handled on a walk-in basis. However, IAL recommends the use of the appointment system, which can be scheduled at <https://www.pcsmypov.com/turnin> or by calling the VPC. Customers are required to provide a valid email address which must be

accessible 24/7.

IAL's webpage provides additional information to assist in the smooth processing of a customer's POV, to include all necessary documentation for POV turn-in and shipment. Printing, completing and bringing the "IAL Shipping Instruction Form" with you to the VPC will expedite the turn-in process.

## Tracking POVs

Customers may check the status of their POV by selecting "ITV Lookup" from the IAL homepage at [www.pcsmypov.com](http://www.pcsmypov.com). Customers must enter the shipping instruction number. The vehicle tracking screen will provide transit information, including the required delivery date.

IAL's Customer Service toll free number is 855-389-9499. This number will reach a call center that is operated 24/7. Customers can also contact the VPC locations directly by calling the phone numbers provided on IAL's website as indicated below.

*Editor's Note: The Böblingen VPC is located in Building 2931, Panzer Kaserne, and processes POVs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Customers should sign in before 4 p.m., as processing can take up to an hour. The VPC closes at 5 p.m.*

*The Böblingen VPC is closed on weekends, U.S. federal holidays, and select local German holidays. For more information, call 431-2617/civ. 07031-15-2617.*

## On the Blotter

### Feb. 21

A local national was caught shoplifting from the Exchange. Exchange loss prevention personnel witnessed the suspect placing a black bra and a tester bottle of perfume in her purse and proceeding past the point of purchase without rendering payment. The individual was apprehended and escorted to a German Polizei station.

### Feb. 22

A military couple became engaged in a verbal altercation that became physical. MPs responded to the scene where both declined medical attention. Injuries sustained by the parties included

scratches to the upper body and face.

### Feb. 26

MPs found a burned cigarette in the basement of a building on Patch Barracks. Later testing confirmed the presence of THC in the cigarette.

### March 2

A tree fell on a service member's vehicle on Panzer Kaserne, resulting in scratches and dents to the fender, hood, driver-side door, a broken driver-side window and a cracked windshield.

### March 3

A service member reported that

damage occurred to a unit government vehicle on Stuttgart Army Airfield sometime between the evening of March 3 and the afternoon of March 4. Damage consisted of scratches and a dent to the passenger side door.

### March 9

A service member was titled for disorderly conduct stemming from an incident last fall in which he threw various objects out of a hotel window, damaging the parked cars below.

### March 11

A family member was bitten on the leg by a dog on Robinson Barracks. The

owner of the dog is unknown.

### March 21

A family member found drug paraphernalia on Patch Barracks and reported it to the Military Police.

*On the Blotter is compiled by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services and the Stuttgart Law Center. Entries may not be completely accurate and are not adjudications of guilt or innocence of any person. If you have information regarding any of the crimes above, please call the USAG Stuttgart Military Police Desk at 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262.*

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**SHARP SUMMITS TO BE HELD APRIL 15**

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will conduct a Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention stand-down April 15-17 to reinforce the military's commitment to preventing sexual assault.

As part of the stand-down and to increase awareness on preventing of sexual assault, bystander intervention, and the services and support available in the community, USAG Stuttgart will hold three SHARP summits on April 15 in the Kelley Theater.

A summit will be held from 9 a.m. to noon for military leaders, directors, division chiefs (O6/GS-15) and battalion/detachment leaders (O4/5 and GS-13/14).

An afternoon session will follow from 1-2:30 p.m. for victim advocates, first responders and supervisors, as well as civilian employees and family members who desire to attend.

A session for victim advocates only will be held from 2:30-4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 431-3327/civ. 07031-15-3327.

**LEARN SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS**

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Employee Assistance Program will host an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training workshop April 28-29 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at

the Panzer Chapel.

The free workshop is designed for service members E-4 and above, civilian employees (GS-7 and above), chaplains and Family Readiness Group leaders.

This interactive, practice-oriented workshop will teach participants specific skills that will help them identify those at risk and how to better listen to and care for those having thoughts of suicide.

Through group discussions and skills practice, participants will learn suicide "first aid," how to recognize invitations for help, and how to reach out and offer support.

To attend, contact the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Employee Assistance Program Coordinator at 431-2530/civ. 07031-15-2530.

**EASTER HOLIDAY CLOSURES, TRAFFIC**

Easter is April 5. During the Easter holidays, German stores and businesses will be closed on Good Friday, April 3, as well as on Easter Monday, April 6. Stores will be open for shoppers April 4.

Easter vacation for local German schools is March 30 through April 10. Traffic on German roads is anticipated to be heaviest on the weekend of April 11-12 when vacationers return home.

The following U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart facilities will be closed April 3 and 6 in observance of Good Friday and Easter Monday:

- Community Banks
- Housing Office
- Privately Owned Vehicle

Inspection Station

- Personal Property Processing Office
- Installation Property Book Office
- Driver Training and Testing Station
- Central Issue Facility
- Carlson Wagonlit (SATO) Travel

• 1-10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Dining Facility

On April 3, the Personal Property Processing Office will service customers by appointment only from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will close at 1 p.m. On April 6, customers will be served by appointment only.

Shuttle buses will run as usual.

Patrons are advised to call ahead before visiting any facility.

**MAGIC SHOW COMES TO STUTTGART**

Family and MWR is partnering with Armed Forces Entertainment to bring the internationally renowned grand illusionists, Rob Lake, to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart for a free performance April 24 at 6 pm. in the Patch Barracks High School Forum.

The show is free and open to U.S. military ID cardholders on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information, call 430-2110/civ. 0711-680-2110.

**SPRINGFEST IS FOR FAMILIES**

The Stuttgart military community is invited to celebrate Month of the Military Child during the SpringFest April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Patch Youth Center, Patch Fitness Center and Bowman Field.

The event features games and activities that the entire family can enjoy: face painting, pony rides, western shows, line dancing, prizes, information booths and carnival games.

Food will be available for purchase during the event.

For more information, call 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7488.

**VOLUNTEERS TO BE HONORED**

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will conduct its annual

**Bible Church of Stuttgart**

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Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
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Pastor Bob Matthews | cell: 0176-567-34427 | office: 0711-93388243  
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[www.cfcstuttgart.org](http://www.cfcstuttgart.org)  
pastor@cfstuttgart.org (0176) 8418 5896

Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 17 at the Swabian Special Events Center to honor volunteers and celebrate their invaluable contributions to the Stuttgart military community. Volunteer registration begins at 5 p.m.; the award ceremony starts at 6 p.m.; and the reception runs from 7-9 p.m. The event features free food, prizes and the K.D. Riffkyn Band.

For more information, call 430-8205/civ. 0711-680-8205.

**DO YOU HAVE TOO MUCH STUFF?**

Looking for a place to store all your extra belongings? The Stuttgart Golf Course now offers storage units in three different sizes at low monthly rates. The minimum rental period is three months; customers who pay for one year will get an additional month free. Storage space is located next to the Stuttgart Golf Course in a secure area.

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

**USING THE APO IN GERMANY**

Retired military personnel, widow(er)s, retired reservists, 100 percent disabled veterans, and unaccompanied dependents whose sponsors are serving in a restricted tour area, can apply to use the U.S. Forces postal system.

To obtain Army Post Office privileges, you must make arrangements with the local APO to receive mail through "Box R" (General Delivery Mail Section). Mail must be addressed to "Box R" and must include the word "retired."

The postal officer can advise Box R recipients of any restrictions on package sizing. The personnel categories mentioned above are authorized to receive parcels through the APO, however, the value of the goods/items cannot exceed €45 when received from a private person and cannot exceed €22 when received from a company. All Box R mail that exceeds the 16-ounce weight limit and/or the €22/45 monetary limit will be immediately returned to the sender. The intended recipient will be notified of the

delivery rejection and return of the parcel in writing.

For questions regarding any personnel category not listed here, contact the Stuttgart Customs Office at 431-2657/civ. 07031-15-2657.

**STUDENTS INVITED TO APPLY FOR AVID**

Recruitment for Patch High School's Advancement Via Individual Determination students for the next school year is in progress. Applications for 2015-2016 may be picked up from the front office.

AVID is a college preparatory academic elective for above-average students who are not working to their full potential. Students in AVID perform better in high-level classes each year they are in the program and 95 percent of AVID graduates go to college.

To qualify for AVID, a student must:

- have a grade point average of 2.0-3.5
- have good standardized test scores
- complete an interview
- sign a contract committing oneself to preparation for college
- have teacher recommendations
- high school students must take honors/Advanced Placement courses

For more information, call the AVID coordinator at civ. 0711-680-7191, extension 4062, after 3 p.m.

**PCSING SOON?**

For those who plan to relocate to a new duty station this year, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Central Processing Facility will host permanent change of station/preseparation briefings April 15, May 6 and 20, June 17, July 15 and Aug. 19.

The briefings will be held at 1 p.m. in Building 2913 on Panzer Kaserne.

Service members and civilians departing should register to attend a briefing as soon as they know they are PCSing. Seats are limited and advance registration is required.

Information will be provided from agencies such as transportation, customs, health and dental clinic, Tricare, vehicle registration,

housing and Army Community Service. Army personnel will also receive a briefing on finance issues.

All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive preseparation information.

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

**CYS SERVICES IS HIRING**

Interested in a career with Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation to serve and make a positive difference in the life of military members, their families and civilians in the Stuttgart community?

Stuttgart Family and MWR is recruiting to fill positions for child and youth program assistants within the Child, Youth and School Services facilities.

Non-appropriated Fund positions are open to all qualified candidates eligible for appointment under U.S. employment conditions.

To view vacancies, visit USA Jobs at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

**GET FREE HELP WITH FILING TAXES**

Service members, retirees Defense Department civilian employees and family members can get free, professional help in filing their tax returns between now and June at the Stuttgart Tax Center.

All filers are required to bring in a filled-out IRS Intake Pub 13614-C, found in the Stuttgart Law Center section of the garrison website at [www.stuttgart.army.mil](http://www.stuttgart.army.mil).

Appointments can be made via email through the contact form on the law center webpage at the address above. A drop-off service is also available.

Walk-in clients will be accepted from 9 a.m. to noon, but those with appointments will have priority.

The Stuttgart Tax Center is located in Room 215, Building 3312, Kelley Barracks.

**AFCEA OFFERS STEM SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association Stuttgart

Chapter announces its 2015 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Scholarship competition for high school seniors. The purpose of the scholarship competition is to encourage students to seek careers in critically needed science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

The competition closes on May 1. To enter, email a one page summary/abstract of project goals, objectives and findings by 5 p.m. on May 1

to: [afceastuttgartscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:afceastuttgartscholarship@gmail.com).

The winners will be notified in advance and recognized at the monthly AFCEA luncheon on May 21.

For more information, contact AFCEA at [afceastuttgartscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:afceastuttgartscholarship@gmail.com).

Send your community-wide announcements to [editorial@stuttgartcitizen.com](mailto:editorial@stuttgartcitizen.com).



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# How Germans celebrate Easter, arrival of spring

By Carola Meusel

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

This year, Easter or as Germans say, "Ostern," is celebrated April 5. During Easter, Christianity celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The festivities traditionally start with Good Friday (April 3), one of the most highly observed Christian holidays where people commemorate Jesus' crucifixion. Good Friday also marks the last day of the holy week and the end of the 40-day fasting period that started on Ash Wednesday.

In Germany, Easter is celebrated for four days: Good Friday; Easter Saturday, when Jesus was entombed; Easter Sunday, when Jesus rose from the dead and Easter Monday, a German federal holiday.

Some believe the word "Easter" refers to the direction of sunrise. Reflecting on the Christian tradition, the rising sun is a symbol for the resurrection and the homecoming of Jesus Christ.

Easter also marks the beginning of spring, a season that cherishes rebirth, renewal and growth. Germans like to ring in spring by filling their homes with fresh flowers and other Easter decorations.

"In spring, people typically prefer tulips, daffodils and buttercups. With the first sunrays and warmer days, most Germans spring clean their homes and feel like decorating with fresh flowers and plants," said Lena

Gschwind, a florist in Esslingen.

Tulips are typically the flower of choice, according to Gschwind. Other Easter decorations include painted eggs, rabbits, hens and chicks as well as wreaths and nests for decorating a homes' front door or the dining table.

People also like to arrange blooming branches along with birch tree and pussy willow branches in a large floor vase and decorate the branches with hand-painted eggs. As for this year's trend, metallic-colored eggs are what people prefer, Gschwind said.

The tradition of artfully painting eggs dates back to the ancient world. Inspirations came from Greece, Italy, Russia and Armenia. During the 13th century, the first painted Easter egg was mentioned in an official document in Germany, where it also became a symbol for fertility.

The colors of the eggs have specific meanings. For example, red symbolizes Jesus' sacrifice, yellow is enlightenment and wisdom, green means youth and innocence, and orange stands for strength, resiliency and ambition.

Painted eggs are also used throughout Germany to add grace to "Easter fountains," a tradition that originated in Franconia.

To this day, fountains in smaller towns and villages are decorated with eggs, multicolored ribbons, wreaths, tulips and daffodils. Other decorations include Easter nests that are made out of branches and moss and



Lena Gschwind, a florist in Esslingen, forms a small wreath from birch tree branches to craft an Easter bouquet last year. — Photo by Carola Meusel, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office.

are typically filled with eggs, wooden bunnies or chickens, Gschwind said.

In Germany, Easter Sunday is traditionally celebrated with close family. Often times, the festive day starts with an Easter brunch and is followed by an Easter egg and nest hunt in the garden or out in the woods.

Much like in the U.S., many European children search for their Easter nests, which are filled with chocolate eggs and bunnies or other smaller presents and candy.

Another tradition during Easter Sunday is to serve baked goods such as a sweet cake shaped in the form of a lamb (a symbol for the resurrection), shortbread cookies, and Easter bread and rings with almonds or sesame seeds, during breakfast or afternoon tea.

Whether you're German or American, Easter is a time for families and friends to celebrate traditions, regional customs, values and the arrival of spring and its new beginnings.

## More about Easter and eggs

By Teri Weiss

Special to the Citizen

Easter is celebrated as a great religious holiday, as the triumph life over death and light over darkness. It is a feast of joy and color, flowers, music and ringing church bells.

Scholars assume the name Easter is derived from Oestara, goddess of rebirth and renewal. Pre-Christian Saxons observed the spring equinox with a festival honoring Eostre, a deity associated with eggs and hares.

The timing for Easter on the church calendar was fixed to the Sunday after the first full moon of spring in AD 325 by the Roman Emperor Constantine (who may also be responsible for starting the traditional Easter Parade). The seven days before Easter were called 'White

Week.' All recently christened persons wore fresh white clothes as a sign of their new life, believing that baptismal gowns worn on Easter Sunday would bring good luck.

Easter — Christ's resurrection — has been depicted for centuries with images of crosses, lambs, spring flowers, bunnies and eggs. Yes, the simple egg, one of the oldest and most universal symbols of rebirth and new life, has long been a widely used token for spring, dating back nearly five thousand years.

The ancient Egyptians and Persians used to dye eggs in bright colors to give to friends, and old myths of several Eastern and Middle Eastern cultures maintain that the earth itself was hatched from a giant egg.

Egg coloring also preceded Christianity by almost a millennium,

evidence indicating that even the Chinese were adorning eggs as early as 900 B.C. The exchanging of colored and decorated eggs became in time a cherished Christian holiday tradition.

Judeo-Christian culture blended ancient pagan traditions with the message of spiritual renewal, thus "egg art" evolved with intricate ornamentation using Christian symbols, iconography, and portraits.

It is hard to imagine Easter in Germany without colored Easter eggs. Young people have given decorated eggs to their sweethearts since the 16th century.

Beautifully colored eggs are a perfect Easter gift. In Germany children nowadays still receive eggs from relatives, especially from their godparents. And no doubt, the family ends up



Many German families celebrate Easter with a lamb-shaped cake. — Photo by Shutterstock.com.

eating hard-boiled eggs for weeks afterwards, along with other tasty delights such as Easter bread and Easter lamb cakes.

In some areas of Southwest Germany, also in Austria and Switzerland, Easter food used to be taken to church on Easter Sunday to be blessed, maintaining at least an aura of religious observance on this important holiday.

# Stuttgart Golf Course recognized for environmental excellence

Audubon International press release

Stuttgart Golf Course has retained its designation as a “certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary” through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, an Audubon International program.

Participation is designed to help course personnel plan, organize, implement, and document a comprehensive environmental management program and receive recognition for their efforts.

To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas including: environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, outreach and education, chemical use reduction and

safety, water conservation, and water quality management.

“Stuttgart Golf Course has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property,” said Tara Pepperman, director of Cooperative Sanctuary Programs at Audubon International.

The Stuttgart Golf Course is the only course in Germany and one of 902 courses in the world to receive the honor. Golf courses from the United States, Canada, Africa, Australia, Central America, South America and Southeast Asia have also achieved certification in the program.

The golf course was first designated as a certified Audubon Cooperative



The Stuttgart Golf Course is the only golf course in Germany and only one of 902 courses in the world to be designated as a certified Audubon cooperative sanctuary. — Photo by Chris Konik.

Sanctuary in 2008. After designation, courses go through a recertification process every three years.

This year the recertification process, coordinated by Chris Konik, the course superintendent, required a visit by a local community representative. Dr. Ottmar Funk

of Kornwestheim was given a tour of the course and sent his observations to Audubon International.

“We see the site visit as an important component of a course’s recertification,” said Pepperman. “It provides an objective verification of some of the more visible aspects of

the course’s environmental management activities. In addition, it offers an opportunity for golf course representatives to share publicly some of the voluntary actions they have taken to protect and sustain the land, water, wildlife and natural resources around them.”

## Celebrating Earth Day, Earth Week

USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division



On April 22, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart joins with people across the globe in celebrating Earth Day. Earth Day aims to inspire awareness and appreciation of the environment.

The USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division has teamed up with the Stuttgart Department of Defense Dependents Schools to sponsor hands-on educational sessions for students in grades four to six during Earth Week, April 20-24.

The theme for the week is “Air.”

Students will be guided by garrison environmental specialists and will have the opportunity to explore the properties of air through various experiments, investigate air pollution sources in our daily environment, and learn about wind as a renewable energy source.

### About Earth Day

Earth Day is an international event raising awareness of and concern for the environment. First celebrated April 22, 1970, Earth Day rallied more than 20 million Americans in support of environmental activities.

The event was the largest grassroots movement in U.S. history and also sparked the first major pieces of environmental legislation: the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act.

Earth Day is now a worldwide event which hundreds of millions of people in close to 180 countries celebrate each April 22. It represents a U.S. and international commitment to environmental security.

With more than 13 million acres of land and hundreds of plant and animal species in its care, the Army, its Soldiers, families, and civilians recognize the importance of sound environmental stewardship. Although Earth Day is April 22, it is important to remember sustaining the environment is an everyday responsibility and one the Army takes seriously.

Army Earth Day exemplifies the Army’s commitment to protect the public resources entrusted to military care and provides an opportunity to focus attention on its environmental program.

— Source: Army Environmental Command



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# Motorcycle gear, training reduce risk of injury, accidents

By Greg Jones

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

As spring weather warms up the roadways, motorcycles are being brought out of storage and back onto the blacktop. While motorcycling can be an incredibly rewarding pastime, it also brings risks and taking steps to manage those risks can help ensure your hobby doesn't kill you.

Wearing the right gear, keeping riding skills sharp, and inspecting your motorcycle regularly can help reduce those risks.

Motorcycle Personal Protective Equipment includes gear that is meant to protect motorcycle riders and reduce the risk and the severity of injuries in case of an accident. While much of the gear is intended to protect the rider in an accident, some of it is also intended to help prevent the accident in the first place.

Not only is wearing the right PPE good common sense, it also is required by regulation. U.S. Army in Europe Regulation 190-1 is the governing regulation for all U.S. military forces in Europe on matters of vehicle licensing and traffic law. This regulation applies to active duty service members of all four services, Department of Defense civilian employees and family members.

The regulation and an accompanying policy letter require the following PPE:

**Head:** a helmet properly fastened under the chin. Helmets must meet the standards set by the American National Standards Institute, the Snell Memorial Foundation Standards, the Institut für Zweiradsicherheit e.V. (Institute for Two-Wheel Safety), or the Economic Commission of Europe for bicycle helmets.

**Eyes:** Eye protection must meet the Vehicle Equipment Safety Commission Regulation standards or the European equivalent. Eye protection must be impact- or shatter-resistant goggles or a full-face shield properly attached to the helmet. A windshield or eyeglasses alone are not proper eye protection.

**Hands:** full-fingered gloves.

**Upper Body:** long sleeve, high-visibility, bright fluorescent colored upper body garments (for example, fluorescent yellow, green, red, or orange) for day travel and reflective clothing for night travel. This garment may be a shirt or a jacket, though the Motorcycle Safety Foundation recommends sturdy jackets made of leather or reinforced materials. Operators in military uniform may wear bright fluorescent colored approved motorcycle riding



Two of the best ways to improve your safety on a motorcycle are to wear the recommended personal protective equipment and refine your riding ability. There are several course offerings for military members in Europe. — Photo by Shutterstock.com.

jackets with their uniform. The brightly colored mesh vest commonly used for physical training does not meet this requirement, nor does the physical training, or PT, jacket.

**Legs:** full-length trousers.

**Feet:** Over-the-ankle footwear should be made of sturdy leather and have a good oil-resistant sole to reduce slipping hazards. Service boots meet this requirement.

While these policies have been in effect for some time, a renewed emphasis on motorcycle safety has prompted much more stringent enforcement, including a policy of gate security personnel recording infractions and reporting them to the Military Police.

The penalty for failure to wear the proper PPE is the same violation as not wearing a seatbelt in an automobile, and carries a mandatory USAREUR license suspension of seven days. The violator's license will also be assessed three points.

The standards outlined in AER 190-1 are actually based primarily on a DOD instruction, so they should not be very different than the guidelines in place with the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. Also, all of these organizations have based most of their motorcycle safety policies and education on practices and standards set forth by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

The PPE listed above protects the rider in two ways. It makes the rider less likely to be in an accident, and it helps reduce the severity of injuries in

the case of an accident.

Bright, fluorescent colored clothing makes the rider more visible, and being seen by motorists is the first step to a motorcyclist avoiding a collision. Also, gloves, eye protection, and sturdy boots can protect the rider from the elements, reducing distraction, fatigue and the effects of inclement weather. A more focused rider is a safer rider, according to the MSF.

If an accident does occur, a proper helmet can often mean the difference between walking away and being carried away on a stretcher or worse. The MSF and the USAREUR policy highly encourages sturdy clothing made of leather or reinforced materials, or purpose-made motorcycle clothing. It protects the skin from abrasions and can absorb impact, making broken bones and other internal injuries less likely, or less severe, according to the MSF.

Whether it keeps riders from being in an accident or reduces their injuries, PPE is not only enforceable by military law; it also might just save the rider's life.

Training is offered through the Installation Management Command Europe Safety Office for motorcyclists of varying skill levels. For military members, a MSF Basic Rider's Course certification is required.

The following classes are offered to military personnel stationed in Europe: Basic Rider's Course: The BRC is an introductory class and is a requirement

for obtaining a U.S. forces certificate of license (commonly known as a USAREUR driver's license) motorcycle endorsement. The course is accepted for up to two years. Riders attending the course must have a stateside license with motorcycle endorsement. In some cases, a motorcycle may be provided. Riders should bring all required PPE with them.

**Experienced Rider Course:** This course is intended for riders who have at least six months to a year's riding experience and several thousand miles under their belt. This course will build on the basics in the BRC. Riders are to provide their own motorcycle and of course, all required PPE.

**Military Sport Bike Course:** Similar to the ERC, this course builds on a basic foundation of skill, but is targeted for sport riders. Riders provide their own motorcycle and all PPE.

The nearest training sites to Stuttgart are Ansbach or Kaiserslautern. Military personnel are encouraged to talk to their supervisors about being allowed administrative time to complete the required course.

Currently, the training is not being offered to civilians, though many local riding clubs and groups conduct their own training efforts.

*To find out more about motorcycle courses offered to military personnel in Europe, visit [www.imcom-europe.army.mil](http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil) and navigate to SAFETY and select ATSP from the drop-down menu.*

# What's happening in FMWR

## HONORING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

The Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center on Panzer Kaserne will honor children of the military with free shoe rentals and 50 cents off of kids' combo meals during the month of April.

For more information, call 431-2575/civ.07031-15-2575.

## GOLF SPRING SCRAMBLE

Sign up for the Spring Scramble at the Stuttgart Golf Course to be held April 18 at 9 a.m.

The Spring Scramble is a four-person team event that will be handicapped using the 20-15-10-5 percent U.S. Golf Association system. All teams will have an even chance to win gift certificate prizes. Winners will be determined by net score.

Bring your own team or the golf staff can place you on a team. Entry fee (\$55 for non-members, \$40 for members) includes green fees, cart, range balls, contests and food.

Format is a modified Texas Scramble where each team member's tee shot must be used a minimum of three times. A handicap is preferred but not required.

For more information, call civ. 07141-879-150.

## TICKETS ON SALE FOR RUMBLE IN THE GART

Don't miss the Rumble in the Gart boxing tournament at the Patch Fitness Center on April 4 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now at the Patch Fitness Center.

Bleacher seats are \$5; ringside seats with a barbecue rib dinner, two sides and beverage are \$20 each.

For more information, call 430-2354/civ. 0711-680-2354.

## PLAY TEXAS HOLD 'EM WITH BOSS APRIL 10

Try your hand at the Better Opportunities for Single Service Members Texas Hold 'Em Tournament on April 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Warrior Zone on Patch Barracks.

There is a \$10 buy-in. First, second and third place winners will win Exchange gift cards.

Free drinks and snacks will be available. A friendly table with no buy-in or prizes will also be available.

For more information, call 430-7135/civ. 0711-680-7135.

For more Family and MWR events, visit [www.stuttgart.armymwr.com](http://www.stuttgart.armymwr.com).

## COMING TO PATCH THEATER

- April 1 – The Divergent Series: Insurgent (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- April 2 – Get Hard (R) 6 p.m.
- April 3 – Home in 3D (PG) 6 p.m., Furious 7 (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- April 4 – Home (PG) 3 p.m., Get Hard (R) 6 p.m., Furious 7 (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- April 5 – The Divergent Series: Insurgent (PG-13) 4 p.m., Furious 7 (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- April 6 – Closed
- April 7 – Closed
- April 8 – Get Hard (R) 6 p.m.
- April 9 – Furious 7 (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- April 10 – Cinderella (PG) 6 p.m., The Longest Ride (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- April 11 – Home in 3D (PG) 3 p.m., The Longest Ride (PG-13) 6 p.m., The Longest Ride (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- April 12 – Cinderella (PG) 4 p.m., The Longest Ride (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- April 15 – The Longest Ride (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- April 16 – The Longest Ride (PG-13) 6 p.m.



© 2015 - Universal Pictures

Continuing the global exploits in the unstoppable franchise built on speed, Vin Diesel, Paul Walker and Dwayne Johnson lead the returning cast of *Fast & Furious 7*. James Wan directs this chapter of the hugely successful series that also welcomes back favorites Michelle Rodriguez, Jordana Brewster, Tyrese Gibson, Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, Elsa Pataky and Lucas Black. They are joined by international action stars new to the franchise including Jason Statham, Djimon Hounsou, Tony Jaa, Ronda Rousey and Kurt Russell. Neal H. Moritz, Vin Diesel and Michael Fottrell return to produce the film written by Chris Morgan.

## Family and MWR Advertisement

[stuttgart.armymwr.com](http://stuttgart.armymwr.com)

**THEATRE**

**WORKING**  
Apr. 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Apr. 12 & 19, 3 p.m.  
Stuttgart Theatre Center  
Kelley Barracks

The hopes, dreams, joys and concerns of the average working American are the focus of this unique, extraordinary musical. Contact the Stuttgart Theatre Center today and reserve your seats.

DSN 430-2328/CIV 0711-680-2328

**EXPLORE**

**3 CASTLE TOUR**  
Apr. 25-26  
Outdoor Recreation  
Panzer Kaserne

Take the 3 Castle Tour with ODR. \$199 adult, \$149 youth (10-17), \$99 child (9 and under). Price includes transportation, lodging, breakfast on Sunday, guide, entrance and guided tour of Neuschwanstein, Hohenschwangau and Linderhof castles. Registration deadline is April 17.

DSN 431-2774/CIV 07031-15-2774

**STORAGE**

**SELF-STORAGE**  
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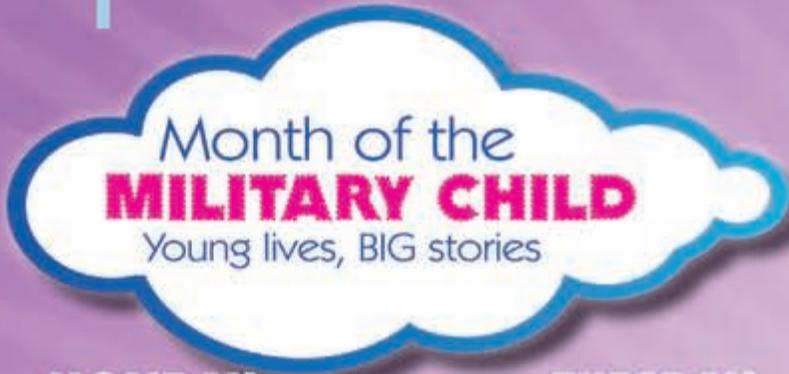
Need more space at home? The Stuttgart Golf Course is offering storage units that vary in size at low monthly rates. \$75 large unit, \$55 medium unit or \$35 small unit. Storage space is located next the Stuttgart Golf Course in a secure area.

CIV 07141-879-150

To follow us on Facebook go to [www.facebook.com/familyandmwr](http://www.facebook.com/familyandmwr) and Like us!



# April 2015



## WEDNESDAY

**CYS Services MOMC Parade**  
All CYS Services Facilities  
3:30 - 4 p.m. (all ages)

**Preschool Storytime**  
Patch Library  
11 a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

**Scream-free Parenting**  
ACS Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915  
6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

**Creative Expressions**  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. \$10 per session,  
materials included (ages 3 and above)

**CAPM Kick-off Pinwheel Planting**  
Patch Barracks, J Mall  
3:30 p.m. Free



## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

**Blue Ribbons for Prevention** 6  
Panzer Kaserne front gate  
8 - 9 a.m.  
Representatives from ACS will be passing out ribbons with information cards on child abuse prevention to people driving onto the installation.

**Blue Ribbons for Prevention** 13  
Patch Barracks front gate  
8 - 9 a.m.  
Representatives from ACS will be passing out ribbons with information cards on child abuse prevention to people driving onto the installation.

**Blue Ribbons for Prevention** 20  
Robinson Barracks front gate  
8 - 9 a.m.  
Representatives from ACS will be passing out ribbons with information cards on child abuse prevention to people driving onto the installation.

**Blue Ribbons for Prevention** 27  
Kelley Barracks front gate  
8 - 9 a.m.  
Representatives from ACS will be passing out ribbons with information cards on child abuse prevention to people driving onto the installation.

**Europa Park Trip** 7  
Patch Youth Center  
7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
CYS youth grades 6 - 12. \$65

**Mad Science Craft Camp - EDGE**  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
1 - 2:30 p.m. (ages 8 - 12) \$30

**Know Your SLO**  
Exchange, Panzer Kaserne  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Meet your School Liason Officers

**Family Child Care Recruitment Event**  
Exchange, Panzer Kaserne  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Strategic Living Teens - Self Defense for Teens** 14  
ACS Building 5 - 6 p.m.  
Opened to CYS Services registered youth ages 12 - 18 Free.  
Preregister before April 6, 2015 through EDGE!

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**  
Patch Library FREE!  
Tuck in time 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Pick up at 10:30 a.m. (April 15)  
Bring your stuffed animal, read him a story and tuck him in for a slumber party in the library

**DoDDs Re-registration** 21  
Exchange, Panzer Kaserne  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Register your children for school year 2015-2016!

**Mad Science Craft Camp - EDGE** 8  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
1 - 2:30 p.m. (ages 8 - 12) \$30

**Creative Expressions**  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. \$10 per session,  
materials included (ages 3 and above)

**Scream-free Parenting**  
ACS Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915  
6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

**German-American Baseball Game** 15  
RB Baseball Field 5 p.m. Free

**Preschool Storytime**  
Patch Library  
11 a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

**Creative Expressions**  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
11a.m. - 6 p.m. \$10 per session,

**Scream-free Parenting**  
ACS Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915  
6 - 8:30 p.m.

**DoDDs Re-registration** 22  
Exchange, Panzer Kaserne  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Register your children for school year 2015-2016!

**Preschool Storytime**  
Patch Library  
11 a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

**Creative Expressions**  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
11a.m. - 6 p.m. \$10 per session,  
materials included (ages 3 and above)

**Scream-free Parenting**  
ACS Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915  
6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

**Creative Expressions** 29  
Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
11a.m. - 6 p.m. \$10 per session,  
materials included (ages 3 and above)

**Scream-free Parenting**  
ACS Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915  
6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

\*Events are subject to change.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** [www.stuttgart.armymwr.com](http://www.stuttgart.armymwr.com)



**THURSDAY**

**Preschool Storytime**

Patch Library  
11 a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

2

**Penny A Pin**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
Starting at 5 p.m. (all ages)  
Children receive free shoe rentals and 50% off of children's combo meals.

**Penny A Pin**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
Starting at 5 p.m. (all ages)

9

**Mad Science Craft Camp - EDGE**

Patch Arts and Crafts Center  
1 - 2:30 p.m. (ages 8 - 12) \$30

**Corso Movie and Picnic**

Depart from Patch Youth Center  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Open to CYS youth grades 6 - 12. \$25  
Movie TBD.

**Crazy Costume Bowling**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
5 - 7 p.m. Free

16

**PAWS to Read**

Patch Library, 3 p.m.  
Children build reading confidence with the help of a service dog.

**Preschool Storytime**

Patch Library, 11a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

**Penny A Pin**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
Starting at 5 p.m. (all ages)

**DoDDs Re-registration**

Exchange, Panzer Kaserne  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Register your children for school year 2015-2016!

23

**Preschool Storytime**

Patch Library  
11 a.m. - Noon (ages 3 - 5)

**Penny A Pin**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
Starting at 5 p.m. (all ages)

**Strike Out Child Abuse!**

Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center  
4 - 6 p.m.  
Open to U.S. ID Card Holders  
One free game plus free shoe rental for families who participate.

**Young Americans Workshop**

Patch High School Gym  
3:30 - 8 p.m.  
Open to CYS Services registered youth (ages 8 - 18), \$75  
This is a 3 day intensive musical and performing arts educational workshop for youth between the ages of 8 - 18 that will culminate in a two-hour live musical performance/show. Students learn to create and perform a live musical concert that incorporates an array of music and dance styles, lighting, staging, costumes, and props.

30

**FRIDAY**

**"Brave"**

Patch Movie Theater  
2 p.m.  
Free for U.S. ID Card Holders  
Rated PG (Parents must attend movie with children)

3



**Teen Career Fair**

Patch Youth Center  
3 - 6 p.m. Free  
Open to CYS Services registered youth grades 6 - 12  
USAG Stuttgart Youth are invited to participate in a Career Fair. Various representatives of USAG Stuttgart organizations will be available providing information, demonstrations and activities. Food will be provided and raffles will take place throughout the day.

17

**Parents' Night Out**

Patch Child Development Center and School Age Center  
6:30 - 11:30 p.m.  
(ages 6 weeks - 5th grade)  
\$20 First child/\$18 each additional sibling  
Register by April 22.

24

**Rob Lake Magic Show**

Patch High School Forum  
6 p.m. Free for ID card holders  
Come experience the wonders of the world class illusionist Rob Lake.

**Young Americans Workshop**

Patch High School Gym  
3:30 - 8 p.m.  
Open to CYS Services registered youth (ages 8 - 18) \$75

May 1

**SATURDAY**



U.S. Army Child, Youth & School Services

**Disney Character Dress-up and Movie**

Patch Library, 3 p.m.  
Free  
Open to Children and Youth.  
Join us for a free showing of a classic Disney movie. Dress as your favorite Disney character and enjoy snacks courtesy of the library.

11

**Kidz Only Flea Market**

Parking lot across from Patch Car Wash  
\$10 per table  
Open to all families  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact Special Events Coordinator for more information at DSN 430-2110, CIV 0711 680 2110.

25

**CYS Services SpringFest**

Patch Youth Center & Fitness Center, Bowman Field 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Free. Open to all families  
In honor of our unsung heroes we are traveling to the old west. Families are encouraged, to put on their best western outfits and dancing shoes. We will have activities for the entire family to enjoy. We will have face painting, games, pony rides, western shows, information booths, fun games and prizes!

**Saturday Storytime**

Patch Library, 10:30 - 11 a.m.  
(ages 3-5), Free.  
Early literacy activity led by an active duty Soldier.

**Young Americans Workshop**

Patch High School Gym  
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Open to CYS Services registered youth (ages 8 - 18) \$75  
**Young Americans Show**  
Patch Fitness Center  
7 p.m.  
Free for US ID Card Holders  
Come experience the magic with the Young Americans, featuring our talented USAG Stuttgart children and youth!

2



# TIME CAPSULES



Photo by Daniel L'Esperance

Meet some of Boeblingen Elementary School's 4th grade time travelers. Students from Mr. L'Esperance's gifted class culminated their studies of time travel and Einstein's theories of relativity by creating real time capsules. These time capsules will be opened in 2035, on these students' thirtieth birthday, thus plunging them back to the past. The year will be 2015!



# Youth Activities

Take a look at what's going on in Stuttgart's schools.





Prague is the capital of, and largest city in, the Czech Republic. Although many of us who PCS to Germany don't necessarily have it on our list of places to see, this Bohemian city will steal your heart if you make the trip.

# PRAGUE: ENJOY THREE DAYS IN THIS BEAUTIFUL BOHEMIAN CITY

**Story by Susan Melnyk**  
Advantipro online editor

Prague (pronounced "Pra-ha" by the locals) is driving distance from many U.S. Army and Air Force bases here in Germany: 5.5 hours from Ramstein, 5 from Wiesbaden, 4.5 from Stuttgart and only 2.5 from Grafenwöhr. If you would prefer to go with a tour, the USO has a great overnight trip a few times a year, so contact them for more details.



With a little planning, Prague can be a much more affordable trip than Paris, London or Venice, without sacrificing the incredible architecture, wonderful restaurants and conveniences of Europe's more well-traveled cities. We recommend you grab a book from the library or bookstore to accompany you on your trip, as Prague is a city deeply steeped in history, much of it utterly fascinating.

Being a mainly pedestrian city, you'll easily be able to explore with just a map and a comfortable pair of shoes. The vibe here is much more laid back than Paris, but the architecture will astound you. From the many different patterns of cobblestone streets to the etched stone facades and intricate sculptures on nearly every corner, you will

be hard-pressed to find a better place to test your photography skills.

Get an early start to beat the tourists and make your way to Charles Bridge with camera in hand. This 1,700-foot cobblestone bridge has some of the most beautiful views of the river and 30 baroque statues to line the way.

The Museum of Communism in Prague is an interesting look back at the hold communism once had on the country and how the citizens rose up against it in the so called "Velvet Revolution." You can learn more at the museum's website (in English) at [www.muzeumkomunismu.cz/en](http://www.muzeumkomunismu.cz/en).

If you'd rather sleep late and explore the nightlife, Prague is a great place to visit. While very family-friendly, Prague is also the home of great beer and a very healthy nightlife scene. The local universities and arts culture provide an abundance of active pubs and dance clubs located throughout the city and in the near suburbs.

The weather in Prague ranges from quite hot in the summer to very cool in the winter, so dress accordingly.



If you plan to visit in early spring, be sure to check local news reports for information about flooding in the city. The Vltava River runs through the city center and has flooded on numerous occasions.

If you are driving to Prague from Germany, be sure to stop at ADAC (or just before the border) to purchase a registration sticker. The stickers are normally less than €20 and are similar to a toll, allowing you to use the Czech highways as a tourist.

Czech police are infamous for searching cars at rest stops and gas stations near the highway, and the tickets they give out cost far more than the original toll price, so don't try your luck. Also, don't forget your passport!

For more great places to visit in Germany and around Europe, make sure to visit [www.militaryingermany.com](http://www.militaryingermany.com)



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# SONNENBÜHL EASTER EGG MUSEUM

Sonnenbühl (sunny hill) is a little town nestled in the Swabian Alb, located just south of Reutlingen in Baden-Württemberg. Sonnenbühl is one of the friendliest towns in which we had the privilege to discover its overwhelming hospitality. We were immediately greeted with smiles and warmth when we started the day at Albkorn (local bakery) on Market Street, near the beautiful downtown church.

The gorgeous drive up the mountain to Sonnenbühl lets you slow down and discover other interesting destinations on the way. While travelling through Reutlingen, we noticed several shops of interest to explore and discover on our next trip to Sonnenbühl.

Just like the crocuses popping up all over the region, this light yellow building greets you like the flowers of spring. You will see signage for the museum as soon as you enter the town, and find easy parking right across the street. Upon



entering the museum you will be greeted by their welcoming staff, Susanna and Anna. Entrance is 4 Euros for adults and 2.50 Euros for children ages 6-14. There are special rates available for groups as well. The exhibition of Easter eggs is unforgettable as you wonder how in the world these talented artists can create such masterpieces on an egg. Our group asked several times "How do they do that?"

The museum is hosting on-site artists for the spring exhibition from all over Europe, with a

special exhibition until November 2015. One of the working artists we met was Jana Wendt, a porcelain painter with exquisite designs. The museum also offers several children's activities including an egg roll. We had fun participating in this game too. The museum staff told us a tale of how young men of the town would roll an egg down the hill for a friendly competition to win the heart of a girl. Fun history!

Read the full story at <http://militaryingermany.com/sonnenbuhl-a-quaint-time-with-an-easter-egg-museum>

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### AUTOS

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**~7,000 KM (~ 4,300 Miles)**, US Spec, 6 speed manual, 3.6 liter V6, 300 HP, 295 ftlb, 0 - 60 MPH 7.1 seconds, top speed 143 MPH (230km/hour)loaded, still on warranty, Meteor Grey Metallic, email or phone 06374-4319.

**2004 Corvette Coupe**, Commemorative Ed, 27,500 miles, Exc. Cond, LeMans Blue, New Michelin Pilot Sport Run-flat Tires, New brakes and rotors, New battery, 4 sp. Auto, Comfort Access, Leather, Cruise, Power Everything, Dual Airbags, Moon Roof/Targa, HUD, Bose CD, ABS, Traction Contrl, Active Handling, Dual Climate, Sport Exhaust. Loud and fast. \$24,500 obo. slutz2004@gmail.com; tel. 0711 722 48 680

**2005 Acura TL 3.2 Sport Sedan**, \$11,895-, US Spec, Manual Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Perfect Condition, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2005 Infinity FX35 4X4 SUV**, \$15,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent Condition, New Service, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2005 Mercedes Benz CLK 320 Convertible**, \$15,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Navigation, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy Wheels, Excellent Condition, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2005 Toyota 4Runner Sport Edition**, \$16000, sfritz17@yahoo.com,

**2008 Saturn VUE, XE, SUV, V6.** 104,000 Miles. IN excellent shape, \$7500, genetgruener@gmail.com,

**2011 BMW 135i Coupe**, \$28,995-, US Spec, Double Clutch, Leather, Sunroof, Power Seats, Alloy, Sport Package, Excellent Condition! Free Home Shipping! Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2011 BMW 328i Sport Sedan**, \$24,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Cruise Control, Heated Seats, Alloy, Park, Excellent Condition, Free Home Shipping, Call: 0176 22730967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2011 Chrysler 200 S Sedan** (S861), \$15,699, wonderful sporty luxury car. And its ready to be driven! info@usedcarguys.net,

**2011 Nissan Altima "S" Sport Coupe**, \$14,995, US Spec, Automatic Transmission, Alcantara Sport Bucket Seats, Cruise Control, Alloy Wheels, Perfect Condition, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2012 Chrysler Town & Country Touring DVD and Navi**, \$19,799, Wonderful loaded van perfect for traveling around Europe. info@usedcarguys.net,

**2013 Dodge Journey Crew AWD** 3rd row DVD and Navi, \$23,999, Beautiful must see car!Loaded!!!!info@usedcarguys.net,

**2013 Mini Countryman S All4**, \$26,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Cruise Control, Alloy Wheels, All Wheel Drive, Heated Seats, Excellent Condition, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

**2013 Volkswagen GTI Autobahn Series** push start, day-time LED running lights, heated seats and mirrors, leather interior, navigation, 18" Premium Wheels, Touch Screen Dynaudio sys, sport shifters, automatic, power roof, bluetooth & more. reidthis@gmail.com

**BMW 318 I**, 4 Door, Black Met, 5 Speed, ABS, Power Steering, All Weather New Tires, Radio Cassette And We Deliver Any Where With Cash In Hand My Ph 0175-3213199 Price, \$1799, ddundkk@



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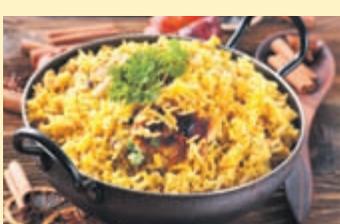


Soon the beer garden season will be here again.  
**Let's go!**  
Spring has sprung! Can you feel it, too? Great! Because the dry spell is coming to an end. What is probably Baden-Wuerttemberg's most charming beer garden will be kicking off the new season in April of 2015 - weather permitting. Look forward to smooth beers outdoors, the 8th US-Car Meeting in Leinfelden with around 1,000 chrome-shining coaches and a traditional costume week with a morning pint serving Bavarian veal sausages.  
The Schwabengarten family is already looking forward to your visit. So, we hope to see you soon in Leinfelden!  
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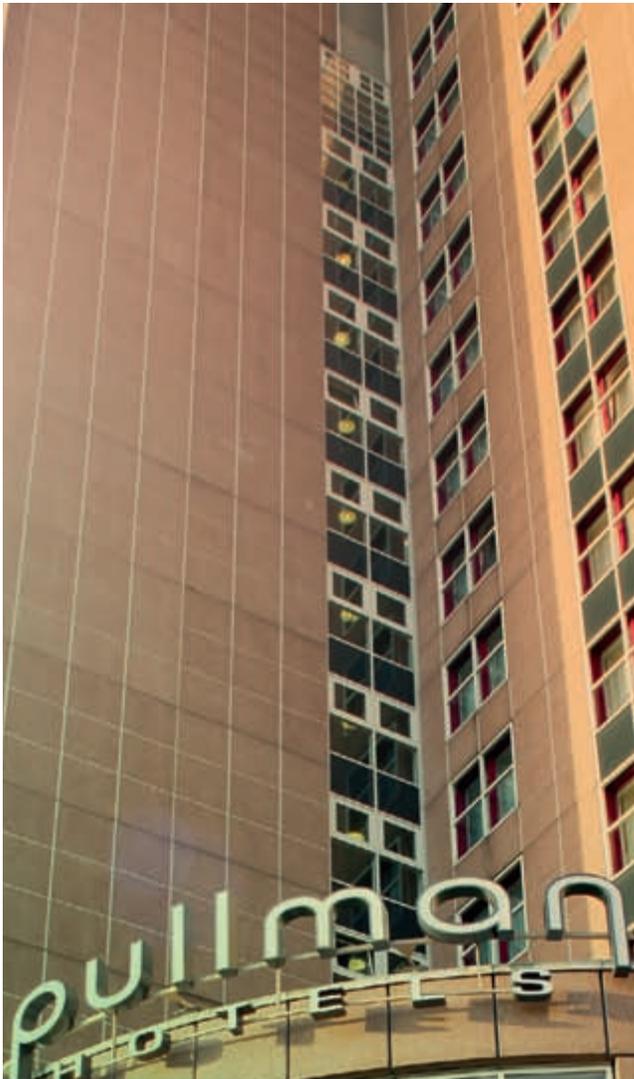
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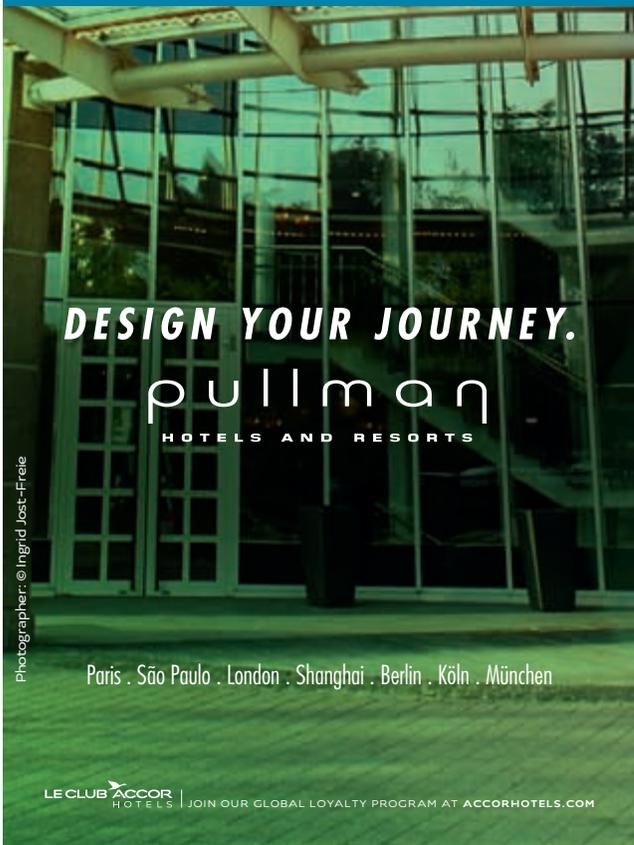
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**BMW 2011 328i**, \$23,200  
jc93474@gmail.com, automatic, Premium Pkg, Leather Interior, Park Distance ft&bk, Comfort Access (touch to open dr/trnk), push to start, 2-zone AC, Adaptive Headlights, excellent cond., Tire Michelin Alpin: 3,700mi

**Chrysler Neon**, 4 Door, Automatic, Air Cond, Air Bags, Elec Windows FT, German TUV Till Dec 2015 Year Is 1999, Alu Rims, All Weather Tires New, My Ph Is 0175-3213199, \$1900, ddundkk@hotmail.de,

**For Sale Nissan 350Z**, \$9,800, 2005 base model, 3.5L, V6, 287HP/274TQ, black & gray interior, 6 speed, manual, 77,000 mi (very low mileage), garage kept, no dings & dents. Used as a summer car only. PCSing, c: 01751011315, pgfig01@gmail.com

**Hamp Synergy**, \$18, oil filters. H1540-PFB-004, isabell\_1\_98@yahoo.com / 017622987498

**Opel Astra, White**, 4 Door, 5 Speed, \$ 1450, ddundkk@hotmail.de, German TUV Till Aug 2015 , And We Deliver Anywhere, My Ph Is 0175-3213199

**Opel Vector White**, \$1799, 4 Door, Automatic, Elec Windows FT, German TUV Till Dec 2015, 1.8 Ltr, Very Clean Inside And Outside, No Rust, My Ph 0175-3213199 ddundkk@hotmail.de,

**VW Golf 111**, 1.6 Ltr, Blacl Met, 2 Door, 5 Speed, 1.6 Ltr, German TUV Till 07/2015 Very Good Running, We Deliver Anywhere With Cash In Hand, My Ph Is 0175-3213199 Price, \$1550, ddundkk@hotmail.de

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**Lookin for Sportster parts** or a bike which needs some work, basket case or sittin longer time too. BT Ultra Classic perhaps too. Just make me your offer what you have and we will see. 2wheelmechanic@web.de

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### ELECTRONICS

All ads and pics on [class-world.com](http://class-world.com)

**Metal Slug Anthology**, Wii game, played once, perfect condition - like new!, €15, copongracz@gmail.com \*\*See pics on class-world.com

**T-Eumex 220PC**, for fast and comfortable internet communication. Isdn \$15, isabell\_1\_98@yahoo.com,

**The Bigs Baseball**, Wii Game, perfect condition, like new! €8, coemser@gmail.com \*\*See pics on class-world.com

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Tel.: 0711/46 87 981

Rotebühlstr. 155  
70197 Stuttgart-West  
Tel.: 0711/67 41 87 81

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Tel.: 0711 / 30 54 73 90

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Sun: 12:00 - 23:00 (Take out available)  
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# Have fun with the locals

## Events



## Segway tour

Sat, Apr 4

### Stuttgart, city center

Explore the city of Stuttgart on Segways on April 4. The tour will start at 1:30 p.m. and will go until 3:00 p.m. You will ride by palaces, lakes and parks. You will be able to glide through the wonderful city of Stuttgart and spare your feet. Price is €55. For more information go to [www.stuttgart-tourist.de](http://www.stuttgart-tourist.de)

## EVENTS

### Ravensburger children's world

Thu, Apr 2

#### Kornwestheim, Ravensburger

Need a little change of scenery with the kids? Why not spend a fun day at Ravensburger children's world on April 2. You can spend a day in an area of 2000 sqm filled with games, fun and action. Parents and children can immerse themselves in their favorite game while children climb the giant tree which is connected to the "Kinderwelt." Opening hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information visit [www.ravensburger-kinderwelt.de](http://www.ravensburger-kinderwelt.de)

### International theater house jazz

Thu, Apr 9

#### Stuttgart, Theaterhaus

Fans of jazz can enjoy some extraordinary days starting on the 9th of April at 8 p.m. This year the jazz days are celebrated for the 28th time in Stuttgart. In a row of amazing concerts, the world of jazz will be told to you like a story. From interpretations of Schubert and Beethoven to the modern big band sound – there will be something for every taste. For more information go to [www.theaterhaus.de](http://www.theaterhaus.de)

### Slow food fair

Thu, Apr 9 – Sun, Apr 12

#### Stuttgart, Messepiazza

From April 9 to 12 the slow food fair will take place at the Landesmesse Stuttgart starting at 2 p.m. The focus is totally on regional and sustainable food. At the fair you have the chance to meet the producers of your favorite food in person to talk to them. This fair is a must for everybody concerned

with healthy living! Don't forget to taste some of the healthy and delicious cereals, fish, meat, herbs and many more. For more info see [www.messe-stuttgart.de](http://www.messe-stuttgart.de)

### Kreativ – creative design exhibition

Thu, Apr 9 – Sun, Apr 12

#### Stuttgart, Messe

Whether you like scrapbooking, crafting and everything that falls under the category of creative design, find it all at the exhibition fair in Stuttgart from April 9 – April 12. Find items including artist's supplies, craft work, jewelry, home decor, and so much more. Let your imagination roam free as you see all the great new products to help you craft. Opening hours are Thursday from 2 to 10 p.m. and Friday to Sunday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Prices vary. One day tickets are €13. For more information go to [www.messe-stuttgart.de](http://www.messe-stuttgart.de)

### Wine tasting

Fri, Apr 10

#### Hessigheim, Felsengartenkellerei

Enjoy a classical wine tasting at the Felsengartenkellerei Hessigheim. After a champagne reception, the cellar of the winery can be visited. Afterward, you can taste exquisite regional wines. Share a traditional German "Vesperteller" with cold meat, cheese and bread. For tickets for €17.50 call 07143 816017. For more information go to [www.felsengartenkellerei.de](http://www.felsengartenkellerei.de)

### Wine tasting

Sat, Apr 11

#### Stuttgart, Travertinkeller

Why not enjoy a day at the Travertinkeller in Stuttgart for a glass of wine. Come on April 11 and taste 4 different kinds of

wine. You will also receive a pretzel to nibble on and have a glass of Sekt as a welcome drink. The event will start at 2 p.m. and will run until 3:30 p.m. For more information call 07112163682 or go to [www.stuttgart.de/weingut](http://www.stuttgart.de/weingut)

### 90's party

Sat, Apr 11

#### Stuttgart, Sensapolis

DJ Crazy Pee is going to rock the floors on April 11 in Sensapolis. Loads of 90s music will be playing, anything from Vanilla Ice to Dr. Alban and the Backstreet Boys. There will be a little of everything for everyone's taste. The party will start at 9 p.m. and entry fee is €10. For more information go to [www.sensapolis.de](http://www.sensapolis.de)

### Underground tour

Thu, Apr 16

#### Esslingen, city center

Experience Esslingen's underground during the tour "Keller, Krypta, Katakomben" (cellar, crypt, catacombs). The tour will start at 5 p.m. from the "Dicker Turm" (big tower) at the castle and will lead to Esslingen's ossuary under the city archive, some excavations and many more secret locations. The tour is normally in German but if you inform the Tourist Information at your registration, they will do a bilingual tour. Admission is €11. For more information call 0711-39693969 or see [www.esslingen-marketing.de](http://www.esslingen-marketing.de)

## CONCERTS

### Maroon 5 – world tour

Wed, Jun 10

#### München, Olympiahalle

Maroon 5 are going on their world tour this year. Don't miss out on their show. Hit songs like "Animals" will be played as well as others from their album. Show starts at 8 p.m. Ticket price starts at €42. For more information visit [www.eventim.de](http://www.eventim.de)

### Mumford & Sons

Sat, Jul 18

#### Berlin, Waldbühne

Mumford & Sons are going on tour this year. See the British folk rock band from London live in Berlin on July 18 at the Waldbühne. Ticket price is €66.50. The show starts at 6 p.m. For more information about Mumford and Sons go to [www.mumfordandsons.com](http://www.mumfordandsons.com)

## SPORTS

### Baseball

Mon, Apr 6

#### Stuttgart, Turnverein Cannstatt

Baseball is an awesome sport. Why not grab your tickets to see the Stuttgart Reds play against the Haar Disciples on April 6. There will be 2 games, one will be at 1 p.m. and the other at 3:30 p.m. For more information about the Reds go to [www.stuttgart-reds.com](http://www.stuttgart-reds.com)

### Handball

Fri, Apr 10

#### Stuttgart, Scharrena

On April 10 see the TV Bittenfeld go up against the TV Großwallstadt in the Scharrena in Stuttgart. The game starts at 8 p.m. Ticket prices start at €13. For more information in German go to [www.tvb1898.de](http://www.tvb1898.de)

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**Rayman Raving Rabbits**, Wii game, perfect condition, like new! €10, copongracz@gmail.com, \*\*See pics on class-world.com

**SmackDown vs. Raw 2010**, Wii game, like new!, €12, ccopong racz@gmail.com \*\*See pics on class-world.com

**Steering wheel "Microsoft Side-winder Force Feedback"** for your PC! Love to play auto games? Wanna feel like yr r driving for real? Then dont miss this!, pics on class-world.com, €20, copon gracz@gmail.com \*\*See pics on class-world.com

**Super Mario Galaxy**, Wii game, perfect condition, like new! €15, copongracz@gmail.com \*\*See pics on class-world.com

**2011 Suzuki Hayabusa**, \$9,500, njarboles@gmail.com, Excellent condition, well maintained, 13,000 Stateside miles. Have another bike so need to sell this one.

**Bible study books** etc, \$20, isabell\_1\_98@yahoo.com

**220 volt transformer**. 1 X 75 watt for \$20. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674.

**Aeropostale long sleeve**. Pink. On the front are pictures of peace signs and the label name is shown. Size M. Barley worn. Good condition. For pics see [www.class-world.com](http://www.class-world.com). €9. jani na.wuttke@gmx.de

**Aeropostale long sleeve**. Pink. On the front are pictures of peace signs and the label name is shown. Size M. Barley worn. Good condition. For pics see [www.class-world.com](http://www.class-world.com). €9. jani na.wuttke@gmx.de

**Beautiful hand-made felt** shoulder bag in purple with flower design, medium size, jenniferwil king@hotmail.com

**Beautiful hand-made purple/pink** felt flower brooch, perfect gift, can be pinned on jackets, scarves, bags and more! €12, for pics see [class-world.com](http://class-world.com) jenniferwil king@hotmail.com

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**Org. Thomas Sabo** Charm, price new was 49€, never used, was a bday present, selling price €20, for pics please see [class-world.com](http://www.class-world.com), s.vogl75@web.de

**Oversized Cardigan** from Review. Black and white stripes. For pictures visit [www.class-world.com](http://www.class-world.com). €10. [janina.wuttke@gmx.de](mailto:janina.wuttke@gmx.de)

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**K-12 School Leadership Research Study Invitation**

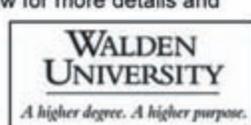
K-12 staff members in Germany, serving in supervisory to executive level positions, are invited to participate in a Walden University sponsored research study titled:

**"Business-Oriented Leadership Competencies of K-12 Educational Leaders"**

Participation is fully voluntary and will remain strictly confidential. Participation involves completion of the on-line California Psychological Inventory (CPI) 260 assessment. All participants will receive a CPI 260 Coaching Report for Leaders at no cost.

Please contact the researcher listed below for more details and instructions on how to participate:

**Kevin Kaufman**  
Mobile: (+49) 0173-634-5979  
Email: [kevin.kaufman@waldenu.edu](mailto:kevin.kaufman@waldenu.edu)



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