Prevention: Stuttgart’s ACS drives activities for April’s Child Abuse, Sexual Assault Prevention Months

By Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The total well-being of service members and their families is critical to the military community, and preventing abuse is one of many ways that Army Community Service is seeking to improve quality of life in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart. ACS will host a variety of programs in April, which is both Sexual Assault Prevention Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month, to promote education and awareness on similar services offered year-round.

Sexual assault prevention

According to the Defense Department’s Sexual Assault Statistical Report for fiscal year 2010, there were 1,390 unrestricted reports and 299 restricted reports of sexual assault in the Army during FY2010, an eight percent decrease from FY09. However, only 33 percent of service members have a propensity to report assault, the report states.

“This is obviously an issue. We see that world-wide,” said Mariana Graupmann, the contracted victim advocate coordinator for the garrison.

In USAG Stuttgart, there are very few reports of sexual assault, said Graupmann, who handles reports for adults ages 18 and over. However, one instance of assault is one too many.

“Our numbers are low here, but that doesn’t mean that nothing’s happening,” she said.

To heighten community awareness of sexual assault, ACS will host a “Denim Day,” event April 27, in which community members support sexual assault victims by wearing jeans. Denim Day originated in protest to a 1999 Italian High Court decision to overturn a rape charge because the victim was wearing tight jeans, which the court stated could not have been removed without the victim’s help.

“As a community, we’re getting an opportunity to talk about sexual assault and raise awareness on that day,” Graupmann said.

The community event builds on the annual sexual assault prevention training Graupmann provides to service members. The training defines sexual assault and describes the different types of reporting available to victims. It also focuses on bystander intervention.

“Even if they themselves aren’t the victim, they will know someone who is,” Graupmann said. The training focuses on “being able to identify high-risk behavior [and] knowing what sexual assault is, so that you can intervene."

ACS also provides youth-oriented training throughout the year.

Joneila Henselman, ACS Family Advocacy Program educator, conducts a teen dating violence program for Stuttgart middle and high school students.

“It’s great that they have the opportunity to reflect on healthy relationships and say, ‘Yea, that’s what I want to be a part of — that’s what I want to actively look for,’” Henselman said.

See Prevention on page 4

Sea Gals, Bryan Ricci visit USAG Stuttgart

Comedian Bryan Ricci acts as master of ceremonies for the Seattle Sea Gals show March 27 before performing himself. Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony M. Bryant (left), garrison command sergeant major, and a Stuttgart community member stretch with a Seattle Sea Gal and the Seattle Seahawks’ mascot, Blitz, during the Armed Forces Entertainment show at the Patch Community Club March 27.

Photos by Steve Roark

USAG Stuttgart community member Tilaya Lyons (front center), 4, poses with the Seattle Sea Gals following their performance March 27 at the Patch Community Club. The Seattle Sea Gals and Bryan Ricci were on a two-week tour of Germany and the United Kingdom.

Inside This Edition

Are you ready for PCS season? Experts advise preparing for a permanent change of station move months in advance. Keep your security deposit (and sanity) with these moving tips.

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Growing up on the wrestling mat

Child, Youth and School Services wrestling has a strong following in the Stuttgart military community — in part because so many parents believe in the lessons it teaches their kids.
Commander’s Column

This spring, show neighborly goodwill, stay safe

Commentary by Col. Carl D. Bird
USAG Stuttgart commander

I hope I’m not being hasty, but it seems that spring has arrived in Stuttgart.

As warmer weather comes our way, children head outside to play and families get together for barbecues and parties.

With shared stairwells, landings, sidewalks, parking and playgrounds, residents of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart’s family housing have an extra responsibility to their neighbors.

It doesn’t take much to be considerate ... keeping the common outdoor areas safe and clean by putting toys, bicycles, skateboards and strollers away in storage rooms goes a long way in building neighborly goodwill.

So does picking up the trash after a party, keeping music at a reasonable volume or planting flowers as part of a self-help beautification project.

And while spring is the perfect time to fire up the grill, make sure to set it up in a safe place.

Grilling on balconies of government-owned housing is not permitted because the building exteriors are not insulated and can easily be damaged by a heat source that is too close.

The safest place to barbecue is on the lawn or patio areas where neighbors won’t be bothered, and there’s no risk of damaging any facilities.

I realize many residents store their grills under one of the gazebos near their quarters, but they shouldn’t grill under a gazebo. Keep grills a minimum of six feet from any combustible material.

If you decide to upgrade your grill with a newer model, don’t let the old one become an eyesore. The installation coordinators can dispose of your old grill or any other item too large for a dumpster. Just call them.

With this season’s focus on new beginnings, many of us will do some type of spring cleaning in the next several weeks.

It may not be fun, but spring cleaning helps to support our families’ health and wellness as we rid our dwellings of dirt, dust and other irritants that have accumulated over the winter.

But I urge you to do it safely. Make sure you prevent accidental poisonings by keeping kids and dangerous chemicals, such as cleaning products, paint and solvents, as far apart as possible.

Children are an integral part of our military community, and their safety and well-being are of utmost importance.

As temperatures rise, children are more likely to play outside and commute to and from school by foot or bicycle. Drivers should be more cautious and aware of children in crosswalks, parking lots and streets.

If your children enjoy skateboarding, biking or skating, make sure they wear an approved helmet and other safety gear.

And don’t forget to replace the helmets as children grow, if the helmet is damaged or after any accident.

Let’s all make this spring a safe one.

Editor’s Note: More spring cleaning tips can be found on page 11.
Hertling takes helm of USAREUR

By Bruce Anderson
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office


Hertling is the 36th commander in USAREUR’s nearly 70-year history, and the first three-star general appointed by the U.S. government since 1952 to lead U.S. Army forces in Europe.

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

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

“He’s got special talent and he’s got special attitude. Guys who have that play in the big leagues.”

Hertling and his wife, Sue, return to Europe from Fort Monroe, Va., where he was the deputy commander of the Joint Multinational Training Command, from September 2004 to August 2005, followed by an assignment as commander of U.S. Army Europe, while providing trained Soldiers and units for combatant commanders as they face an increasingly demanding operational environment.

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

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

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

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

News & Notes

PHS rifle team named fourth in nation

The Patch High School Junior ROTC Precision Air Rifle Team took fourth place in the All Service JROTC National Air Rifle Championships March 25-27 in Anniston, Ala.

Congratulations to team members Allie Carlson, senior; Addison Flynn, senior; Chaz Gillespie, junior; and Mercedes Romih, junior.

Donate to Airmen involved in Frankfurt Airport event

Community Bank has set up accounts for the Airmen who were involved in the recent events at the Frankfurt Airport. Individuals can donate money at any of the local Community Bank locations. Further information can be obtained from Community Bank.

New telephone numbers for Frankfurt federal benefits unit

The Federal Benefits Unit at the American Consulate General in Frankfurt has new telephone numbers.

The new central number is civ. 069-90555-1100. For applications for benefits, call civ. 069-90555-1101; for applications for Social Security numbers, change of address or non-receipt of payments, call civ. 069-90555-1102; for electronic funds transfer or report of beneficiary’s death, call civ. 069-90555-1103; for Veterans Administration medical examinations, call civ. 069-90555-1104.

For more information, visit http://germany.usembassy.gov/acs/federal_benefits.

Nominate Volunteer of the Year

Nominations for U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart’s 2010 Volunteer of the Year are now being accepted. This recognition program honors those with volunteer service from January through December 2010 for their dedication and commitment.

Nominations for youth, local national, civilian, military, military retiree and military spouse and family are due by April 19. Volunteer of the Year nomination packets are available online at www.stuttgart.army.mil under “Hot Topics.”

All nominees must be registered through the Army Community Service Volunteer Corps coordinator.

For more information, call ACS at 431-3362/07031-15-3362.

Spring Bazaar a success

The Stuttgart Community Spouses Club Spring Bazaar held last month earned $132,335 in net proceeds, about $17,000 more than last year, according to SCSC officials.

The cool, slightly wet weather helped to push up sales, according to Ann Welton, an SCSC vice president. “The vendors were very happy with the light rain. They said a sunny day tends to drive customers away.”

Welton offered her thanks to the volunteers, private organizations and agencies that supported the bazaar.
Prevention

Continued from page 1

She also presents puppet shows on sexual assault and child abuse — along with other topics — throughout the year to children in kindergarten to third grade, using life-size “Kids on the Block” puppets.

The puppets illustrate themes that can be hard for children to understand, such as the difference between a “good touch” and a “bad touch,” Henselman said.

“Our children need to be aware that there’s support and that there are answers to problems,” she added. “They never have to be a victim.”

Child abuse prevention

ACS also provides a variety of classes and programs to identify and help eliminate child abuse in the Stuttgart military community.

“The key to prevent of child abuse is education and services offered to military parents,” said Monica Sadler, USAG Stuttgart ACS Family Advocacy Program manager.

Many factors contribute to child abuse, she added. These include the pressures of daily life, attitudes towards violence, isolation from family and friends and family background, to name a few. ACS classes can help parents avoid becoming statistics, she said.

“One of our most important programs designed to reduce child abuse in the military is the New Parent Support Program,” Sadler said. “The program offers classes to moms and dads, as well as home visitation.”

The ACS Family Advocacy Program also offers “Managing Your Emotions” classes on anger management and a series of “Love and Logic” classes for parents. “It is very important to have both parents participate in the program to learn good parenting skills,” she added.

Child abuse is not always at the hands of the parent. In addition to family classes, ACS provides child abuse prevention classes to caregivers, including Family Child Care providers, sports coaches and Child, Youth and School Services employees.


Avoid back taxes: Americans working overseas still owe state tax

Stuttgart Law Center

Don’t assume that working overseas precludes you from paying state taxes.

Every American citizen has a legal state of residence. A taxpayer arriving to a new overseas duty station and home does not lose their state residency status. Some states opt to treat military pay as non-taxable under strict criteria, but the exemption does not apply to military spouse or Defense Department civilian earnings overseas.

For example, Maryland tax law states: “Military and other individuals whose domicile is in Maryland, but who are stationed or work outside of Maryland, including overseas, retain their Maryland legal residence. Such persons do not lose Maryland residence just because of duty assignments outside of the state.”

Every DOD employee, military and civilian, is covered by the Joint Ethics Regulation, DOD 5500.7-R, which sets forth the standards of ethical conduct expected and demanded of Executive Branch federal employees. Principles of Ethical Conduct Number 12 states, “Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those — such as federal, state, or local taxes — that are imposed by law.”

In conclusion, it is up to a taxpayer to accurately identify their legal state of residence. A state’s tax publication or revenue department can assist in determining the correct filing status. Community members should not assume that they are not obligated to file a state income tax return merely because they are not working within the state. DOD employees working overseas are only doing so on a temporary basis.

Do not get caught in an ethics situation, possibly owing back taxes, interest and penalties, because of avoiding the rules.

For more information, call the Stuttgart Law Center at 421-4152/civ. 0711-729-4152.

April ACS activities

April 7, 14, 21, 28, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Information booths on child abuse/sexual assault prevention at Panzer eXchange, Patch commissary.

April 18, 10-11 a.m.: ACS New Parent Support Program class on choosing child care providers in Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

April 27: Denim Day (all day). Reception at 11 a.m. in Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

April 28, 5:30-7 p.m.: “See It, Know It, Report It!” Child abuse prevention training for teens and adults, followed by a discussion on “sexting” in Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

Editor’s Note: Do you have a legal question you would like to see answered in a future edition of The Citizen? If so, contact “Ask a JAG” at jason.mckenna1@eur.army.mil.

By Capt. Jay McKenna (U.S. Army)
Stuttgart Law Center

Q: My privately owned vehicle was damaged while parked on post. Specifically, the windshield was cracked. The vehicle was parked near the elementary school and I suspect the damage was caused by a student. Will I successfully recover damages if I file a claim with the Military Claims Office?

A: In this instance, active duty military personnel and Defense Department civilian employees are proper parties to file a claim with their respective Military Claims Office. Under U.S. Army regulation, for this type of vandalism claim, claimants are required to file a claim with their private insurance carrier prior to filing with the MCO. The other military branches have similar regulations and requirements.

Claims for vandalism to vehicles are payable only upon submission of proof that the vandalism occurred while the vehicle was located on a military installation, or was otherwise directed at the claimant’s property because of the claimant’s status as a member of the U.S. military or U.S. government employee. Additionally, to be successful in a claim for vandalism under Army regulation, the claimant must show the damage was caused intentionally, without justification. Stray marks from children playing, rocks or gravel thrown up by vehicles, falling branches, and other similar occurrences are not considered vandalism under the law and are likely non-compensable.

For claims involving theft or vandalism of a vehicle, the claims regulation presumes the loss did not occur at assigned quarters or on the military installation. Thus, to be compensated, the claimant must rebut this presumption and show by clear and convincing evidence that the loss occurred in an incident to service at assigned quarters or on the military installation. To help rebut the presumption, claimants should contact the Military Police immediately to investigate the scene. For example, an MP report corroborating that broken glass found a claimant’s vehicle was found on the parking lot outside his place of duty will help show the damage occurred on post. A statement by a disinterested third party who witnessed the vandalism will also enhance the claimant’s chances for recovery. By itself, a claimant’s unverified statement that a vehicle was vandalized on the military installation or quarters is not sufficient to satisfy the burden of proof.

These examples pertain specifically to damage caused by vandalism. The U.S. Army claims regulation applies differently when the damage is caused by other extraordinary hazards. Contact your respective service’s MCO for more details.
Terrorists won’t attack what they can’t see

By Shay Edwards
USAG Stuttgart Antiterrorism Office

Although there is no specific threat to U.S. personnel and their dependants serving in Germany, the U.S. Department of State has issued a general worldwide caution to Americans overseas that there are terrorists everywhere in the world and they can attack Americans by any means possible.

Terrorist groups have been active throughout Germany for many years — recruiting, financing and supporting terrorism worldwide. The German police and intelligence services identify potential terrorist threats and work to reduce terrorists’ capability to conduct attacks on U.S. citizens. However, a terrorist or criminal will occasionally manage to evade surveillance and successfully attack Americans.

Terrorists and criminals target Americans for different reasons, such as a desire for media attention or monetary gain.

There are several ways Americans and their family members can avoid becoming terrorist targets.

• Try not to look like a foreigner. Dress like the locals. Leave baggy, loose-fitting clothes, baseball caps, tennis shoes, flip-flops, and any shirt with a sports team logo at home. Observe what Germans wear, and buy clothes from local stores. This doesn’t require a new wardrobe: Simply omit the clothes that stick out.
• Buy a German brand vehicle, if possible. Many large-model trucks, SUVs, or vehicles with an American brand logo on it could become targets for bombs, theft or kidnapping. For those who do drive these types of vehicles, be discreet and stay aware of the surrounding area when driving.
• Remove personally identifying stickers from vehicles. These include installation stickers from a former duty station, along with bumper or window stickers with English writing, military qualification badge stickers and military spouse stickers. These stickers make a vehicle an obvious target for a terrorist.
• When traveling, use civilian backpacks and luggage. Digitally camouflaged backpacks and duffel bags are signs that owners are in the American military. Be discreet, especially in public places, anytime you are off-post. Keep your voice down. When visiting new places, it’s easy to get carried away with the sights and sounds of a busy tourist spot. Avoid yelling, which will also attract the attention of pickpockets, robbers and active shooters planning an attack.
• Terrorists often target a location where Americans meet, especially on a predictable and reoccurring basis, such as hotels, neighborhoods, restaurants and clubs. Be aware of your surroundings and avoid going to off-post locations where Americans are known to congregate.

Take advantage of living in Europe and traveling around, but maintain your situational awareness, and don’t be ignorant of danger. Remember these tips, and reduce the signature of yourself and your family. It may save your life and the lives of your loved ones.

For more information, review the Antiterrorism Self Help Guide, located on the USAG Stuttgart website at www.stuttgart.army.mil under “Hot Topics.”
Forum aids women seeking to enhance careers

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Accomplished professionals revealed their strategies for success during the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Women’s Leadership Forum held March 24 on Patch Barracks.

The forum, hosted by the USAG Stuttgart Equal Opportunity Office Special Emphasis Program Committee, is designed to help women advance in their federal careers, according to Yasmin Rosa, U.S. Africa Command Equal Employment Opportunity manager and lead SEP action officer.

In its third year, the forum offered more than 130 women the opportunity to network and hear from local civilian and military leaders.

“Here, you meet people you otherwise would not, and you can ask them questions on how they got ahead,” Rosa said.

As the number of participants in the forum increased this year, so did the program.

The forum grew from four to eight hours and included a senior leader question and answer session. This year, the invitation to Patch High School students included ninth- and 10th-graders, Rosa said.

The morning keynote speaker, Col. Elizabeth A. Bierden, Defense Information Systems Agency-Europe commander, recalled her introduction to Army leadership in 1988, when she was stationed in South Korea as a second lieutenant. She discovered a mentor in a superior officer.

“Army Capt. Rosemary Stewart, taught me how to be a female leader in an Army where the [percentage] of women was two percent,” Bierden said. “I overcame prejudices in the Army because of Rose.”

Following Bierden’s speech, the panelists addressed this year’s theme: inspiring, motivating, and hearing from local civilian and military leaders.

“Here, you meet people you otherwise would not, and you can ask them questions on how they got ahead,” Rosa said.

There were takeaway lessons for everyone. Fernanda Hernandez, a PHS sophomore, said she learned to seek advice from mentors and coaches. “Leaders do ask for help,” she said.

In the afternoon, Rear Adm. Norman R. Hayes, EUCOM Intelligence Headquarters director, moderated a question and answer session with senior leaders Katherine Canavan, EUCOM civilian deputy to the commander and foreign policy advisor; Brig. Gen. Barbara J. Faulkenberry, AFRICOM deputy director for operations and logistics, and Jane Dickerson, director of EUCOM’s National Geospatial Intelligence Agency.

For Vonda Kenion, the Stuttgart Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director and afternoon keynote speaker, leadership is about setting good examples and respecting others. She likened the leadership process to parenting, adding “it is a lot of hard work.” However, she reminded the audience that “the only place you will find success before work is in the dictionary.”

For participant Faith Barnes, USAG Stuttgart Army Emergency Relief manager, the event confirmed that anything is possible for women in the workplace. “We are only limited by the boundaries we set,” she said.

Eligible service members are encouraged to take the 2011 Overseas Housing Allowance Utility/Recurring Maintenance Survey.

The deadline to take the survey has been extended to April 15.

All service members who have lived off-post under the OHA program for at least six months are eligible.

The survey takes approximately 30 minutes.

Service members in Germany can take the survey at www.defense-travel.dod.mil/ssh/wsb.dll/csg4a.

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News/Features

The Citizen, April 7, 2011

Bible Church of Stuttgart

Holding Forth the Word of Life Phil. 2:16

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Cut back on alcohol use with forethought, practice

By Kate Phillips
Special to The Citizen

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, and there’s no better time to consider cutting back on alcohol consumption.

The National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse recommends the following strategies for cutting back.

• Identify triggers and avoid them. If certain people or places trigger drinking, try to limit time with them. Make plans for healthy activities during normal drinking times. If drinking at home is a problem, empty the house of alcohol.

• Practice saying “no, thanks.” It may sound a little silly, but practicing a firm but kind “no, thank you” will help when the time comes to turn down a drink. Hesitating allows the brain to come up with excuses to drink, so practicing “no” helps get to a quick and positive response in a tough situation.

The hardest part of changing a behavior is handling urges as they arise. Knowing some strategies in advance will increase the chances of success. Talk things through with a trusted friend, or engage in a healthy activity. Accept the fact that having urges is a natural part of making a change, and that, with time, the urge will pass. Remember the reasons for cutting back and don’t give in to those cravings.

To cut down on alcohol use, the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse recommends planning what to consume beforehand, drinking slowly, and limiting time spent with people and places that trigger poor drinking habits.

Changing any habitual behavior is difficult, but there are many resources in place for guidance and support. In most cases, the help is confidential.

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For more information, resources or support, call the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Substance Abuse Program at 431-2530/civ. 07031-15-2530.
USAR leadership describes future initiatives

Story & photo by Gloria Colon-Buzatu
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Reserve commanding general and command sergeant major held a town hall meeting at Patch Barracks March 20 to brief reservists stationed in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart on the Army Reserve 2020 Vision and Strategy, the Army Reserve’s road map for the future. Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, chief of the U.S. Army Reserve, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael D. Schultz, USAR command sergeant major, discussed the challenges facing the force and new initiatives that will change the way the Reserve works.

Stultz iterated that the Army must have a Reserve trained and ready to meet the operational challenges today and in the future.

Between the Cold War and Sept. 11, 2001, the Army Reserve evolved from a strategic to an operational Reserve. Explaining this change was first on Stultz’s agenda.

“Operational Reserve is not a Reserve component term. It’s an Army term — that’s what we’ve become,” he said. “The idea now is you’re in the Army Reserve — you’re going to go forward, somewhere, about every five years and you’re going to do something.”

The landscape of the USAR missions will be different in order to meet the military demands of the nation, he added. Security cooperation and training missions in Africa, humanitarian missions in South America, and supporting military exercises around the world will require an operational force.

Streamlining to maintain and develop a mentally and physically stronger Reserve is part of the 2020 plan.

“To make room for growth, you have to show cause to stay in the force,” Stultz said. This is the reason for reinstituting the qualitative management program and implementing tighter controls in the promotion system, he added.

Schultz described three new initiatives in detail.

The first is a semi-centralized enlisted promotion system. In the past, enlisted Soldiers seeking promotion to a sergeant or staff sergeant could be awarded points toward the promotion by the their commander and promotion board (up to 150 points each). Now, these points will be eliminated and more emphasis in being placed on military training and education.

A Soldier going before a sergeant’s board under the new system will receive points in the following areas: awards (125 instead of 100), military education (260 instead of 200), civilian education (75 instead of 100) and military training (340 instead of 100) for a total of 800 points. This system will go into effect in June 2011.

Second, enlisted Soldiers are required to complete certain levels of “Structured Self-Development”— a five-level online program. SSD levels 1-4 are required and linked to noncommissioned officer education schools and promotion. The purpose of SSD is to close the gap between classroom NCO education and continued military education during operational assignment.

The new policy will take effect in June.

Third, officers, enlisted Soldiers and civilians will soon be able to plan and track their careers using the Army Career Tracker, a personalized, web-based program. Reservists can access the ACT in July.

These initiatives will provide a bright future for the Army by keeping Soldiers on track with training and education, Schultz said.

“As we shape the force, it’s going to be the best and brightest who want to serve,” he said.

For more information on 2020 Vision and Strategy and the Army Reserve, visit www.usar.army.mil.

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The Citizen, April 7, 2011

Richard Herman and Lise Desjardins Downing rehearse their roles as Ken and Chris Gorman, a couple intent on avoiding scandal in “Rumors,” now playing at the Kelley Theatre.

Richard Roberts rehearses his role as “Lenny Ganz,” a wise-cracking attorney — intent on opening a bag of pretzels — in “Rumors,” now playing at the Kelley Theatre.

**Door-slamming fun, scandal star in ‘Rumors’ at Kelley Theatre**

**Story & photos by Brittany Carlson**

**USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office**

The deputy mayor of New York lies bleeding on the floor and his wife is missing — just in time for their 10th wedding anniversary party: thus opens “Rumors,” a farcical play by Neil Simon, now showing at the Kelley Theatre. The show begins when the first guests arrive at the party and try to cover up the situation. As more couples arrive, they try harder to prevent scandal, and only succeed in creating confusion — and hilarity.

“When you think of farce, you think of wacky, door-slamming fun, and that’s exactly what this is,” said Ron Paoletti, director for the Stuttgart Theatre Center performance. “Its characters find themselves in bizarre situations and when they try to get out of them, things just get worse — and funnier.”

In fact, when the actors began rehearsals for “Rumors” in February, they couldn’t get through the first read-through of the show because of playwright Simon’s signature one-liners.

“It took us two nights to read it through because the first night we were laughing so hard,” said Joe Holder, who plays party guest and psychologist Ernie in the show.

In order to get past the giggles and memorize the lines, Holder and other actors often carried their scripts with them to work. Holder even made a recording of himself reading other characters’ lines, so that he could learn his cues.

The actors’ dedication is impressive to Paoletti.

“Everybody has day jobs, yet they’ve got to learn the material,” Paoletti said. “You’ll see them at work with a script tucked in between their briefing materials or standing in line at Subway, mumbling their lines.”

This practice is vital to a show like “Rumors,” which, in the absence of musical numbers, elaborate sets and costume changes, relies on the clever script and the actors’ delivery to keep the audience riveted.

“The challenge in a show like this is pace and timing — to keep it moving,” Paoletti said.

Another directing obstacle came two weeks before opening night, when a main actor had to be replaced due to a deployment.

“Anytime we change like that, the tone changes. I have to give the cast a lot of credit for working so hard, staying with it, keeping up the pace,” Paoletti said.

The “Rumors” cast includes both stage veterans and new actors. Marissa Shams-White is joining the cast in her first major role on the stage.

Shams-White plays Cassie, a politician’s wife who believes her husband is having an affair. She spends much of her time in the spotlight yelling at her stage husband.

“I’m not a big yeller, so to do so is, I guess, cathartic,” she said.

However, she did require training. “The problem is projecting with yelling and not ruining my voice,” she said. “They’ve been giving me tips.”

Even harder than the yelling is trying not to laugh on stage, she added. “There’s some really funny parts … it’s hard to keep a straight face.”

The role of laughing is reserved for the audience, Shams-White said. “I think it’s a great way to spend an evening or an afternoon, just to get a load off and get some laughs in.”

“All courses are taught in English and in the American method in accordance with American accreditation standards. The classes are small, on average 10 to 15 students, and students have continuous access to faculty, most of whom have extensive business backgrounds,” Touro College Berlin said.

“A Bachelor degree in Business Management and, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) are accredited in the United States by the Council on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. All courses are taught in English and in the American method in accordance with American accreditation standards. The classes are small, on average 10 to 15 students, and students have continuous access to faculty, most of whom have extensive business backgrounds,” Touro College Berlin said.

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Stuttgart’s ‘Long Night of the Museums’ long on entertainment

By Carola Meusel
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Stuttgart’s “Long Night of the Museums” provides patrons the opportunity to enjoy the city’s museums, art galleries and clubs in a new light — starlight, that is.

This year’s “Long Night of the Museums” is April 9 from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. The program features over 100 events located in and around downtown Stuttgart, such as jazz and gospel concerts, city tours, boat trips on the Neckar River, laser shows, exhibitions, lectures and parties.

Tickets cost €15 and include transportation, along with admission into every venue. Shuttle buses run all night from the Karlsplatz stop. “The special thing about the ‘Long Night of the Museums’ is that visitors have the chance to experience so many different event locations and cultural institutions in Stuttgart in just one evening,” said Maria Melber, event organizer from “Lift” Stuttgart (city magazine).

Besides exhibitions in Stuttgart’s main museums such as the “Kunstmuseum” (art museum), “Landesmuseum” (Württemberg state museum), and the State Gallery, as well as the Porsche and Mercedes Benz museums, many smaller institutions and galleries offer one-of-a-kind programs during this long night out.

The Carl-Zeiss Planetarium, for example, features a colorful laser show called “Fantastic Lights.” The show will run hourly from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The planetarium also hosts a photo exhibition displaying celestial images by Sebastian Vollmer, a well-known photo artist. The planetarium is located at Willy-Brandt-Straße 25 (shuttle bus stop Planetarium, Stuttgart Mitte).

Another first-time event is a boat tour of the Stuttgart industrial harbor along the Neckar River. “During this tour, the harbor is artfully illuminated to present this industrial area in a different way, with all sorts of special effects,” Melber said.

Patrons can also enjoy live music during the boat trips. Boats will run every 30 minutes from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. from the Mittelkai 5 (shuttle bus stop Mittelkai, Stuttgart-Wangen).

The bunker in Stuttgart’s city district of Untertürkheim offered shelter during war times. Today, it is used to store champagne and wine. For the “Long Night of the Museums,” the bunker turns into an event location for spine-chilling stories about vampires and other dark creatures. Candlelight story time (in German only) with Stuttgart actor Irfan Kars will be held every 30 minutes from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Due to its special acoustics, the bunker also makes the perfect location for a gospel concert with Jimmi Love and the Harlem Praise Family gospel choir. The gospel concert will be performed hourly from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The “Bunker Untertürkheim” is located at Strümpfelbacher Straße 47 (shuttle bus stop, Kelterplatz, Stuttgart-Untertürkheim).

“Out & About in Baden-Württemberg” is your guide to German culture. Read it at www.stuttgart.army.mil

For more information, visit www.lange-nacht.de. To purchase tickets, visit www.lange-nacht.de/tickets/tickets-online or call civ. 0711-6015-444.
Stuttgart branch of the American Red Cross will offer the following classes:

- Standard First Aid with CPR/AED (adult and child plus infant CPR), April 30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Babysitter Training/ CPR, April 22-23 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

To register, visit the ARC office in Building 2915, Panzer Kasernen. For more information, call the ARC at 431-2812/iv. 07031-15-2812.

Send community-wide announcements to stuttgart-media@eur.army.mil.
Don’t let moving day catch you by surprise. Plan ahead to protect your belongings, peace of mind.

Cindy Strickland, USAG Stuttgart Transportation Office outbound counselor, added that videotaping belongings is beneficial to the service member, should he or she need to make a claim later. “If it has damage or goes missing, they have proof,” she said.

Strickland suggested videotaping electronic items while they are still plugged in, to prove that they worked at the time of shipment.

It can also be helpful to make a list of common items that would cost more normal to replace, such as signed CDs or collector’s edition DVDs, Reed added.

“The carrier is only required to write down general contents,” he said. If CDs or DVDs are lost, the owner will only be reimbursed the “replacement cost,” or value of an average CD or DVD.

This rule goes for everything in the household goods shipment. If the entire shipment is lost or destroyed, the carrier is only liable for $4.25 per pound, up to $50,000, Reed said.

“If the stuff in your house is worth more than $50,000, you may want to consider purchasing private insurance,” Reed said.

Certain items should not be shipped at all, such as jewelry or collections of coins, stamps or baseball cards, Strickland added. Personally-identifying paperwork, including birth certificates and Social Security cards, should also be hand-carried, she said.

 “[Thieves] could wreak havoc with your identity,” Strickland said. “Never, ever ship that.”

On moving day, families should ensure that all of these items, including PCS orders, are packed away in a locked room or in the trunk of their car, Reed said.

Recently, a young specialist PCSing from USAG Stuttgart realized that the movers had packed his passport with his household goods, Reed said. When he called the transportation office for help, it was too late.

“Unfortunately, the truck was gone — on its way to Bremerhaven,” Reed said.

Someone should always be present to watch the movers during pack-out, he added. “Go behind them, and make sure they didn’t leave something you wanted packed with your household goods.”

Don’t let moving day catch you by surprise. Plan ahead to protect your belongings, peace of mind.

Story & photo by Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

In light of the warehouse fire last fall, which destroyed the household goods of 120 military families stationed in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, families planning a permanent change of station this summer may be wondering how to ensure maximum protection of their belongings.

There are several steps military families can take, such as taking an inventory.

Jerry Reed, USAG Stuttgart chief of transportation, recommends making a list of high-value items, such as mahogany furniture or Polish pottery, which cannot be easily replaced.

Owners may want to photograph or videotape these items to show details, he said.

Personal-identifying paperwork, in- cluding birth certificates and Social Security cards, should also be hand-carried, she said.

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Air Force Capt. David Dougherty (left), hold his daughter Allina, 5, during a short video visit before he ships his household goods March 30, in his quarters on Patch Barracks.

To ensure that the right items are packed on moving day, military families must watch the movers during pack-out, he added. “Go behind them, looking in cupboards and drawers, to see if anything was left behind. Note the descriptions that the movers put on the boxes. Do not accept a box until you’ve been detailed the description, the easier it will be to unpack the boxes at the other end.”

The Housing Office uses a standard form to receive a request for housing to your gaining unit by the third Wednesday of every month.

• Contact the Housing Office (431-2420/civ. 07031-15-2420) to give your projected departure date for leaving your quarters. Make arrangements for pre-inspection.

• Start budgeting for PCS. Extra money will be needed for travel and miscellaneous expenses at the new duty station, such as clothes and home incidentals.

For a more detailed and personalized checklist of tasks, contact Dan Adams, Army Community Service Relocation Readiness Program manager, at 431-3436/civ. 07031-15-3436.

• Attend a PCS/pre-separation briefing at the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Central Processing Facility. Briefings are held on the third Wednesday of each month.

• Contact the Housing Office (431-2420/civ. 07031-15-2420) to give your projected departure date for leaving your quarters. Make arrangements for pre-inspection.

• Start budgeting for PCS. Extra money will be needed for travel and miscellaneous expenses at the new duty station, such as clothes and home incidentals.

• Pack everything except items you plan to use during the move.

• Close out any local charge accounts.

• Keep Transportation number on hand.

• Contact the Transportation Office (431-2675/civ. 07031-15-2675) to schedule a counseling session. Book pick-up and delivery dates for household goods. Keep in mind that temporary living allowance for a hotel is three days for residents of government quarters, 10 days for private rentals.

• If living off-post, inform your landlord about your move and set up final inspection.

• Contact the Stuttgart Relocation Readiness Program Manager to receive relocation resources.

• Send a copy of your orders and request for housing to your gaining unit Housing Office.

• Request a sponsor from your gaining unit.

• Notify POV shipping if you are planning to ship a vehicle.

• Plan a date for a garage sale.

• Start using consumable food.

• Spouse should give notice of termination to his/her employer and obtain a letter of referral.

• Update your address book and make a list of people and organizations to notify, such as the phone company, bank, insurance company, creditors and magazines.

• Complete vehicle maintenance and repairs.

• Contact insurance company and check transit coverage of your homeowners or renters insurance policy.

• Have pets checked by a vet.

• Close out any local charge accounts.

• Check expiration dates on major credit cards that you plan to use during travel.

• Select a new bank, establish accounts.

• Renew and pick up prescriptions.

• Notify credit card companies.

• Ship car.

• Call the airport shuttle bus to schedule pick-up.

• Pick up final clearing form at CPF.

• Separate items into hand carry, unaccompanied, professional, household goods and storage.

• Organize personal records that will need to be hand-carried, such as PCS orders (minimum of 10 copies), shipping documents, POV documents, ID cards, medical records, marriage certificate, birth certificates, passports. (For a complete list, contact the Central Processing Facility.)

• Obtain a change of address kit from the post office.

• Take care of medical, dental and optical appointments. Find out the procedures for forwarding records. Check immunizations.

• Sort through clothing and determine which items to sell or give away.

• Create a household inventory, divided into four categories: unaccompanied, professional, household goods and storage.

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• Have pets checked by a vet.

• Close out any local charge accounts.

• Check expiration dates on major credit cards that you plan to use during travel.
catch you by surprise

Planning ahead can ensure renters get security deposits returned

By Tanya Fogg Young
Special to The Citizen

Remuneration of security deposits are due at the time of move-out to those renting on the German economy, if there are no claims in dispute.

However, all too often renters do not receive their security deposits — which are typically $1.5 to two months’ rent, — in full or at all, due to landlords’ claims of reimbursement for damages and other charges at move-out.

Housing and legal assistance officials agree that one of the best ways to help ensure that you receive most, if not all, of your security deposit back is to have a pre-inspection with the landlord and a housing office representative at least two weeks prior to the move-out date.

The pre-inspection is a recommended step that some renters unadvisedly skip when it’s time for a permanent change of station, said Iris Jones, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Housing chief.

“Most people come to us after they don’t get their deposit back, and we contact the landlord and try to resolve it,” Jones said. “But the best thing to do is identify damages, if any, to those off-post quarters during the pre-inspection and try to resolve those issues before (lease) termination.”

Jones said renters should notify the Housing Office when they receive PCS orders and suggested they attend a housing out-processing briefing, preferably within 45 days of PCSing.

The Housing Office uses a standard form contract with a military clause that allows a tenant to cancel a lease in one month, due to reasons such as PCSing, early return of dependents, deployments and a command directed move onto post.

However, as soon as the date of departure is known, a renter should give the landlord notice of termination of the lease in writing, said Werner Sukup, German attorney advisor for the Stuttgart Law Center.

Sukup said it is the tenant’s responsibility to know the landlord’s expectations for things such as repairs, cleaning, garden maintenance and leaving items behind.

“There should be a list made from that pre-inspection so that you know what to fix,” he said. “It’s a good way to save a lot of money.”

Sukup said the burden of proof is on the tenant when it comes to damages, so digital photos should be taken at final inspection as documentation in case of a later dispute. Landlords will not typically return the security deposit on the spot at the final inspection, Sukup said, because very often there are some unpaid charges — such as reconciliation of utilities.

In Germany, utility bills are based on estimates. At the end of the accounting period, the meters for water and heating are read and the tenant will either pay more money or be reimbursed, based on the actual usage. German courts grant landlords up to 12 months after the meter readings to provide the tenant with the reconciliation statement.

If the tenant moves out within the accounting period, the meters have to be read at the time of the move-out. However, the bill is not due at this time. The landlord is allowed to withhold an appropriate part of the security deposit if an additional utilities payment is expected, based on the last year’s reconciliation.

For out-processing information, contact the USAG Stuttgart Housing Office at 431-2230/civ. 07031-15-2230. For information on German landlord/tenant laws, contact the Stuttgart Law Center at 421-4152/civ. 0711-729-4152.

Tips before:
- Visit the CPF to initiate pre-cleaning process, which saves time.
- Ensure ID card is up-to-date.
- Make travel arrangements.
- Determine any PCS entitlements.
- Send out change of address cards.
- Gather personal records.
- Notify utility companies of disconnect dates and forwarding address for final bill.
- Notify credit card companies.
- Apply for new bank cards, accounts.
- Book hotel, based on TLA allowance.
- Transfer bank accounts.
- Settle outstanding bills.
- Return library books.
- Retrieve any loaned items.
- Have drapes and rugs cleaned.
- Renew and pick up prescriptions.
- Obtain vet records and arrange for pet’s transportation.
- Have propane tank purged.
- Disassemble outdoor play equipment.
- Verify schedules with Transportation.
- Cancel deliveries and services.
- Arrange child care for moving day.
- Separate items into hand carry, unaccompanied, professional, and ship categories.
- Pick up final clearing form at CPF.
- Call the airport shuttle bus to schedule a pick-up and drop-off at the airport.
- Ship car.
- Visit CYS Services Parent Central Services to transfer children’s registration.
- Sell unwanted cars or turn them in to Family and MWR (for fee of $75). Abandoned vehicles will incur a fine.
- 10 days before traveling, obtain pet’s health certificate.
- Notify school registrar and main office two weeks before child’s last day.
- Disassemble electronic components such as stereo and VCRs. Disconnect computer system after “parking” hard drive.
- Set aside cleaning materials to prepare for final inspection.
- Pick up medical and dental records (Power of Attorney required for sponsor to pick up spouse’s records).
- Dispose of perishable food.
- Find your plants a loving home.
- Pack luggage and hand-carry items.
- Keep the household inventory list and welcome packet for the new location on hand.
- Pack a “moving day needs” box with cleaning supplies, bathroom needs, eating utensils, snacks, light bulbs, scissors, hammer and trash bags. Put it in your car.
- Remove light bulbs from lamps.
- Pack everything except items you immediately need.

Moving day:
- Be ready for the movers early.
- Get children to child care, and ask a neighbor to watch pets.
- Make sure cash, jewelry and important documents are secure.
- Keep a marker on hand to make extra notes on boxes.
- Have drinks and snacks available for yourself and the movers.
- Watch the movers carefully to ensure that the correct items are packed.
- Verify that the movers’ inventory is detailed, complete and accurate. Do not accept “miscellaneous” labels or entries.
- Make sure the condition of belongings is accurately noted.
- Keep Transportation number on hand.
- Before leaving the house, check each room and closet. Make sure windows and outside doors are locked. Turn off lights.

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**What’s happening in FMWR**

**Paint pottery for Mom**
A children’s pottery painting class is set for April 9 at 9 a.m. in the Brewed Awakening Café on Robinson Barracks.

Children are invited to paint a piece of pottery as a Mother’s Day gift. The cost is $15.

Register by April 8 by calling Brewed Awakening Café at 420-6037/civ. 0711-819-6037.

**Watch free movies**
Free movies are shown every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 6 p.m. at the Robinson Barracks theater. There are new movies every week.

Upcoming movies include “Yogi Bear” (PG) April 13-15 and “Burlesque” (PG-13) April 20-22.

**Become a screenwriter**
The Child, Youth and School Services EDGE! Program will host a Screenwriter’s Challenge April 18 and 25 at 3:30 in the Patch Library. Children ages 11-18 are invited to learn how to write a screen play or movie.


**Egg hunt, Spring Fest set for April 23**
Stuttgart’s Child, Youth and School Services will host its annual egg hunt and Spring Fest April 23 on Patch Barracks.

The egg hunt will begin at 10 a.m. on Husky Field, followed by activities at the Patch Hub, including pony rides. All activities are free of charge.

**Sign up for ‘Amazing Race: Teen Edition’**
Stuttgart’s Child, Youth and School Services will host “Amazing Race: Teen Edition,” on April 23. The race will start at the Patch Hub at 9:30 a.m. The cost is $5 for youth in grades six and up.

**Kiddie Boot Camp set**
Stuttgart’s Child, Youth and School Services will host “Kiddie Boot Camp” April 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Panzer Fitness Center. Children in first through fifth grade can take part in free training-style activities.

For MWR updates, e-mail mwr-marketing@eur.army.mil, photos.com

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**Coming to Patch Theater**

**April 7** — The Rite (PG-13) 6 p.m.

**April 8** — No School ‘Twilight’ Marathon. Twilight (PG-13) 3 p.m., Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG-13) 6 p.m., Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG-13) 9 p.m.

**April 9** — Rango (PG) 4 p.m., No Strings Attached (R) 7 p.m., Sanctum (R) 9 p.m.

**April 10** — Rango (PG) 2 p.m., Rango (PG) 4 p.m., No Strings Attached (R) 7 p.m.

**April 11** — Rango (PG) 6 p.m.

**April 12** — The Princess and the Frog* (G) 3 p.m., No Strings Attached (R) 6 p.m.

**April 13** — Sanctum (R) 6 p.m.

**April 14** — How to Train Your Dragon* (PG) 3 p.m., The Roommate (PG-13) 6 p.m.

**April 15** — Arthur (PG-13) 6 p.m., The Eagle (PG-13) 9 p.m.

**April 16** — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 4 p.m., The Roommate (PG-13) 7 p.m., Arthur (PG-13) 9 p.m.

**April 17** — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 2 p.m., Arthur (PG-13) 4 p.m.

* Reduced rates
Children glean life lessons on wrestling mat

Story & photos by Brittany Carlson
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Tuttgarten families are devoted to wrestling.

That much was clear at the Child, Youth and School Services regional wrestling tournament hosted in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart at the Patch High School gym March 26.

The Stuttgart team had 48 wrestlers, twice as many as any other individual team, including USAG Schweinfurt, Bamberg, Ansbach, Hohenfels, Vilseck, Grafenwöhr.

“We have a consistently strong wrestling community,” said Caitlin Smith, CYS Services sports and fitness director.

The event was designed to provide young wrestlers with a chance “just to come out and give it [their] best shot and walk away feeling good,” Smith said.

Nine-year-old Gabby Peltier, Stuttgart’s sole female wrestler in the pro-
ting community, did just that. She wasted no time

“cradle.”

“You grab the head, the leg and the arm, and you lock hands and lean to their shoulders,” she said.

Peltier, already a national and state wrestling champion, has high aspirations for her future in wrestling. “I want to go to the Olympics,” she said.

For now, she’ll settle for the respect of her male counterparts. “When I wrestle, some boys — they don’t really give it their all,” she said. “At practice, they think it’s a joke or something.”

That is, until they get on the mat with her. Peltier has one of the best pinning streaks on the Stuttgart team, according to Smith.

She is also one of many children in USAG Stuttgart whose parents are actively involved in the CYS Services wrestling program; her brothers Lance, 11, and Drew, 7, are also on the team.

The support of parents and volunteer coaches are a huge reason why the program is so successful, Smith said.

“We have such a plethora of parent volunteers,” she added — almost as many coaches as there are wrestlers.

Many parents volunteer because they believe wrestling will instill valuable lessons in their children.

“It’s good discipline. It teaches [children] to work hard,” said Frank Hart, a volunteer coach and father of team member Andres Hart, 10. “Once you’ve wrestled, everything else in life is easy.”

Another parent and volunteer coach, Russ Hill, said that wrestling teaches children individual responsibility.

“The people that excel in this sport do so because of their self-discipline, self-confidence and a lot of individual hard work,” said Hill. “If you lose, you can’t blame it on your teammates.”

Hill’s son, Russ Jr., 13, uses this lesson to pick himself up after a rare loss. “I tell myself … ‘You’ve got more self-confidence and a lot of individual hard work,’” he said.

CYS Services wrestling is offered to children ages 6-14 during the winter season. For more information, call 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-2616.

[Left] Stuttgart’s C.J. O’Gorman, 11, in a headlock at the CYS Services tournament.

[Above] Stuttgart’s Gabby Peltier, 9, keeps pressure on Hohenfels’ Eric Dietrich, 8, during the CYS Services wrestling tournament.

Patch Fitness Center closed April 8

The Patch Fitness Center will be closed April 8 for cleaning.

German-American baseball game

The annual German-American baseball game will take place April 20 at 5 p.m. on Husky Field. Come cheer on the Patch High School Panthers!

Dance into shape with ‘Zumba Rumba’

A “Zumba Rumba” open air class is set for April 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Panzer eXchange parking lot. The class is free.

Join Peaceful Warriors Yoga class

A Peaceful Warriors Yoga class meets Tuesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Panzer Chapel (upstairs) for service members and spouses. The class focuses on relaxation techniques.

The class is sponsored by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Religious Support Office. Child care is provided.

For more information, e-mail centeryourselfyoga@yahoo.com.
Remstalhorns Alphorngruppe

The Remstalhorns Alphorngruppe from Switzerland entertains students at Böblingen Elementary/Middle School. This event was sponsored by the PTA.

Used book fair

Patch Elementary School second-grader Brianna Hatfield, a student in Mr. Zappey’s class, examines books during the school’s PTA Used Book Fair that took place March 29 and 30.

Folk Dance

Patch Elementary School Folk Dance Troupe members, under the guidance of Barbara Maynard, perform the Danish dance “Seven Jumps” at their spring concert March 21.

Community Helpers

From left, Kayla Joubert, Ava Livingston, Andrew Gansewendt and Bobby Holloway, kindergartners in Mrs. Elliott’s class at Böblingen Elementary/Middle School, learn about community helpers.
Art display

BOTTOM LEFT: Patch Elementary School first-grader and artist William Simmons, a student in Mrs. Gershkoff’s class, proudly shows off his sculptures for the First Grade Art Show March 25.

TOP LEFT: Patch Elementary School student Diego Melendez Soares, a student in Lori Smith’s class, stands ready to explain his art work during the art show.

TOP RIGHT: Patch Elementary School first-graders Marin Dickman and Josie Brutsche, students in Mrs. Gershkoff’s class, admire paintings from the exhibit “From the Dot to Seurat” March 25 after reading “The Dot” in the Reading Streets DODEA reading program.

Talent Show

LEFT: Patch Elementary School fourth-grader Brennan Schroeder, a student in Mrs. Palladino’s multi-age class, plays three songs on his guitar during a school talent show March 25.

RIGHT: Patch Elementary School fourth-grader Connor McCoy, a student in Mrs. Gradeck’s class, sings “Grenade” during the school’s talent show. Twenty-five participants, including third, fourth and fifth-graders, courageously took the stage and performed in front of a packed house.
BRAIN TEASER

Double Jumble
First, unscramble each of the seven words below to form common English words.

Then, take the first letter of each of those seven words and unscramble them, and take the last letter of each of those seven words and unscramble them. The result will be two words that form a common phrase.

1. pluit
2. ftiles
3. uuienq
4. tbxiieh
5. ilscsca
6. itererpt
7. belemers

Synonymous Countries
Use synonyms of the words used to arrive at country names. (Ex. Starving. Starving = Hungry. Solution: Hungary).

1. Greetings-chai
2. Analyze State
3. Cave-imprint
4. Angry-a-fume-vehicle
5. Chant-a-spill
Birth Announcement

Send your birth announcement to the Citizen. Include your baby’s name, time and date of birth, hospital name, weight and length, parents’ first and last names, and the place where your family is stationed, along with a JPEG photo. Send information to: pictures@stuttgarcitizen.com

Kyden Lee
Snow

Kyden Lee was born at 10:50 p.m. July 11, 2010, at the Böblingen hospital in Stuttgart, Germany. He was 3,195 g and 52 centimeters long.

Kyden Lee was born to Nicole Marie Smalls and Shelby Scott Snow. Both parents reside in Stuttgart, Germany.

Aiden Richard
Gavel

Aiden Richard was born at 7:05 a.m. August 28, 2010, at the Böblingen hospital in Stuttgart, Germany. He was 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 22 inches long. Aiden Richard was born to Nathan and Candace Gavel. The family is stationed in Stuttgart, Germany.

Crossword Puzzle

This is the solution to the crossword puzzle from March 24!
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Cozy and quiet one bedroom apartment in Stuttgart 93m², bathroom Plus WC, kitchen incl., nice patio for your barbecue, plenty of space for big furniture, separate dining room, spacious living room, built in closets, big storage and much more! Few minutes from Patch. 1700€ per month Warm and all inclusive. Only one month rent as realtor fee. We are looking forward to meeting you! Wolf-Haus, 0711-67251122, 0177-5932342, info@wolfhaus-bw.de

Vaihingen, excl. 5.5 room apartment, approx. 1614 sq.ft., 2 full bath, EUR 1850 + utilities, depot, commission, Immopointeurope Tel 01607988336

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Had a baby recently? Want to let the world know about it? Have a Birth Announcement in the Citizen. For more info see page19!

Close to Patch/Kelley Barracks Fantastic view! Free standing house with big garden on the outskirts 73760 Ostfildern-Nellingen 240 sqm, 3 bikes, 3 bathrooms, 5BR, open firepl, garage, free at 01.04.2011, cold rent Euro 2500,00 + utilities.Our broker-commission amounts 1,5 net-cold-rents + VAT. Real Estate LIMA Immobilienpartner, Michael Lindenmayer Immobilien, Tel: 0711-4791555. Descriptions and pictures: www.lima-immobilienpartner.de

Country house in Weisssach, 9 rooms, approx. 2583 sqft living space on 3 floors, 3 bath one with Jacuzzi and sauna, EUR 2000 + utilities, deposit and commission, Immopointeurope Tel 01607988336

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GerMINI Coopers is a driving club starting in the K-town area. We are looking to do some awesome things this year. Friend us on GerMINI Coopers on FB. Free GerMINI.KTownFB@gmail.com

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc will hold its Annual Krimson and Kreme Scholarship Ball on April 30th at the Penthouse Hotel in Wiesbaden. Contact Mr. Kellem at 015157610261 or Mr. Yearwood at 01703268843 for more details. Sip on 41 Euro. All proceeds will go towards Scholarships for DODDS seniors.

FOR SALE -- MISCELLANEOUS

115V Stereo (Turner, 5-Disc CD Player, Equalizer, Cassette Player, 2 Lg Speakers and cabinet). Available mid-May. Price: 55 Dean at 0170-921-0834 or dbarsaleau@gmail.com.

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Alpine MP3/WMA/CD Receiver Model CDE-9852 The radio was never installed. Radio is still in original box. Cell 0170-6373500 alpinerecords@hotmail.com Price: 75.

American Whirlpool washer and dryer, only used 6 months with 220V connections. Can deliver, please email for appt to view them: 450 Euro OBO Call: 0711-736-4264.

Amstrad DRX200 Sky UK satellite receiver, with remote control/cables. Watch free British TV! Does not include pay/premium channels/dish. Price: 25 Dean at 0170-921-0834 or dbarsaleau@gmail.com.

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