

Happy Holidays from USAG Stuttgart

Stuttgart. Photo by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Winter is upon us, and 'tis the season for colorful markets with maroni, or chestnuts, roasting on open fires. Find your market with the handy guide on p.8.



Bamberg. Photo by Larry Reilly, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs



Esslingen. Photo by Kevin Abel, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Give the gift of a CFC donation this holiday season

By John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

It's the holidays, and the annual Combined Federal Campaign makes it easier than ever to donate to the charities of your choice.

CFC 2019 is ongoing until Dec. 13. If you haven't already been approached by your unit/office's CFC rep, you can still donate, 24 hours a day, online.

Online is an easy option. The website is great because donors no longer have to wait to be contacted; they can do it at the office or while they're at home. There are more than 7500 different charities to choose from, so no matter what you support, you can find it online. Paper pledges are still accepted, but cash is no longer an option as of last year. Stuttgart military community members are encouraged to visit the website and find something they passionately support. CFC contributions help support your cause and your community.

Money isn't the only way members of the Stuttgart military community may contribute. The CFC also accepts pledges of hands-on help time from those who can volunteer instead of donating cash, and individual's units can be located online so that your organization gets credit for the donation.

Whether you make your pledge online or on paper, be sure to check the specifics of the charity to see how effective your donation will be.

Donors may remain anonymous if they wish.

Simply go to <https://cfcoverseas.org/> to donate to your favorite charity. Be sure to click the "I am located in a non-US or foreign territory without a ZIP code" box and enter our unit code, JEJAWJ, for Army civilians and "VPYNH5" for active duty Army to ensure your pledge is counted towards our community.

Since it began 58 years ago, CFC has raised billions of dollars for charities.

How CFC works



1. Choose your cause.

Whether you care about youth development, military families, housing and shelter, or animal welfare – the CFC has a charity for any cause you want to support. You can even give to multiple charities with one pledge.

1. Make your pledge.

The online pledge portal allows you to easily renew your pledge each year and offers the full range of pledge options:

Payroll deduction
Credit/debit card
e-check
Volunteer hours
Paper pledge forms are also available upon request.

1. Help is on the way!

Thanks to your generosity, your chosen charities will make a difference in your local community, across the nation, and around the world.

For more information, call the CFC project officer at 596-2541.

Garrison online scheduler now using customer IDs

By Rick Scavetta
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Protecting personal information is very important to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart.

The garrison recently made changes to further minimize the amount of personal information collected to schedule appointments, said Bardia Khajenoori, an analyst with the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office.

"Right now, our app has an appointments button," Khajenoori said. "Newcomers, and those of us who have been here a while, use our app to schedule a variety of things: vehicle registration, hospital tours, host nation orientation, housing appointments, etc. Up until now, the scheduling service has asked for your full name."

Customers will now create a customer ID.

"Users input the initial of their first name, the initial of their last name and the last four numbers of their phone number," said Col. Jason Condrey, commander, USAG Stuttgart. "For example, Jason Condrey would be = JC1234."

Customers will enter this number into the customer ID fields and the form can be submitted. In fact, there's a box that needs to be checked stating that the customer ID is used rather than a full name. There is space for a

phone number, to receive a text – but this remains optional.

The appointment instructions and forms have been updated to explain this. Our garrison services that use the appointment scheduler have also been briefed, so they will expect to see people using these new customer IDs.

"This is a recent change, so we ask for your patience and cooperation as we make this transition to further protect personal information," Condrey said.

Have you taken the family housing survey yet?

Public Affairs
USAG Stuttgart

Are you living in Army owned and leased Family Housing? Then take the U.S. Army Housing Survey before Dec. 12.

Your feedback is critical to shaping housing and services provided to our

communities. The survey should've been sent from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com to the service member's email on Nov. 7. You have until Dec. 12 to complete it.

If you do not receive the survey, please first check your bulk or spam folders. Contact the USAG Stuttgart Housing Office with any questions or

if you did not receive an email at all. Call the Housing customer service desk at 431-2230 or 07031-15-2230 or email usarmy.stuttgart.usag.list.dpw-housing-email@mail.mil.

Stuttgart military community residents are encouraged to attend the final community town hall of 2019 to address concerns regarding housing

and other issues. It will take place in the Kelley Theatre, 6:30 p.m., Dec. 11. All who live in Army housing are invited.

Click on this link to submit your questions in advance, or by using the event page on the garrison Facebook page—it will be also be streamed on Facebook with some questions taken live online.

The Citizen

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The Stuttgart Citizen is printed by AdvantiPro, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Govt., under exclusive written agreement with U.S. Army Stuttgart. It is published monthly using the offset method of reproduction and has a printed circulation of 5,000 copies.

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Angel Tree benefits local families during holidays

Story and photos by Rick Scavetta
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Dozens of people gathered at the Panzer Exchange mall for the kickoff of Operation Angel Tree, a holiday event that benefits junior service members facing financial hardship, Nov. 21.

The program, hosted by USAG Stuttgart's Army Community Service, runs until Dec. 13. Deserving families, with sponsors from pay grade E-1 to E-5 and civilian grades GS-6 and below are eligible.

For Kathryn McNeely, deputy to the garrison commander, it's the third year she's taken part in this gift donation. Her child is grown, so she enjoys having a chance to offer something to a child in need, she said.

"This is just one small way that you can give back to the community," McNeely said.

The idea for an angel tree comes from the Salvation Army. The program began in 1979 in a shopping mall in Virginia. Back then, children would use greeting cards with angel images to write their hopes for gifts and place them on the tree. Shoppers would select a card and purchase a gift based on the angel card. Later, Nashville radio, CNN and the Larry King Show promoted the idea, launching a nation-wide effort.

The garrison headquarters team picked two paper angels from the tree for an 11-year-old girl and a 16-year-old boy, McNeely said.

"Those are some of the hardest years of being a kid, and being



A paper gingerbread man with information about a child within the Stuttgart military community awaits a sponsor.

a military child," McNeely said. "I have a lot of fondness for tweens and young people coming of age. If we can help make their holidays a little better, then that will be a good thing."

The Angel Tree will be displayed at the Exchange until Dec. 13. Community members can pick a card from the tree, purchase holiday gifts for them, then drop off those gifts at ACS on Panzer Kaserne or the Exchange's customer service section. All gifts will be delivered to Angel Tree recipients Dec. 18-19.

For more information, call 596-3362 or 09641-70-5963362.



Community members passing the tree before entering the Panzer Exchange may read and choose an angel for a boy or girl, purchase a requested gift, and deliver it to ACS in time for Christmas.

Changes at Panzer Kaserne's childcare programs underway

By Rick Scavetta
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Closing the Panzer Youth Center will open new childcare opportunities for community members with younger children.

Staff at Child and Youth Services, part of USAG Stuttgart's Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, often face a daunting task of providing supervised childcare with limited resources. This includes: Child Development Centers, caring for infants and children up to pre-kindergarten; School Age Centers from grade kindergarten to five; and Youth

Centers for middle school and teens. Demand is high. Wait lists are long. Space for children is limited.

Yet, staff create ways to improve conditions, albeit through often tough decisions on where to focus

services, said Jamie Ruffini, who leads CYS.

"We are committed to doing the best we can, with the resources we have, and looking to the future to determine where we have some maneuverability," Ruffini said. "As we're looking to what programs need renovation or new programming ideas, we look at everything to make a good decision for the overall community."

In Stuttgart, CYS maintains a long waiting list for both CDC and SAC age groups, which require supervision.

"With this closure, we are able to open 23 additional school age care spaces on Panzer and 12 additional full-day CDC spaces," Ruffini said.

Reallocating resources is not easy. Finding space to meet the community demand requires CYS staff to work with other FMWR divisions to find solutions. School age

children will use the space formerly used as a youth center. The current Panzer school age center then has space for kindergarteners from the CDC, a move undertaken already on Patch, Robinson and Kelley.

Once word of the Dec. 1 closure surfaced on social media, parents of teens who use the center voiced their concerns. Complaints don't go unheard. In fact, Ruffini personally called parents of Youth Center patrons to explain.

"It was important to me that the parents understand, one-on-one, what our future intent is. So, they don't believe that we just decided to close something randomly, with no reflection," Ruffini said. "We're trying to maximize availability for everybody."

Teens at Panzer can take the duty bus to the Patch Youth Center, also known as the HUB. Another youth center is on Robinson Barracks.

Also, staff requested a new youth center on Panzer Kaserne, with hopes that it can be located closer to the high school where teens often congregate after school.

Meanwhile, as a mitigating solution, plans are underway to convert a room at the Galaxy Bowling Center into a supervised gaming room they can use after school. Community members will have access during other times. Once an aging indoor playground for kids, the garrison closed that space this autumn for safety reasons. There are no plans to replace that activity.

"We trying to put in things that the community is interested in, young and old alike," said Corrie Schwab, FMWR's operations officer. "This will be for teens who lost their youth center, during afterschool hours, and a great place for parents and young people to join in gaming together."

Commissaries open Saturday before Christmas

The Kelley Barracks Commissary is extending store hours, Dec. 13, in support of the annual AFRICOM Christmas Market, remaining open an additional two hours until 8 p.m.

To further accommodate customer holiday shopping, the Kelley Commissary will be open regular weekday hours of 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21.

The Patch and Panzer commissaries will close at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and be closed on Christmas day.

The 6th Annual Military Star "Your Holiday Bill is on Us" sweepstakes is ongoing until Dec. 31. Every time patrons swipe their Military Star card, they're automatically entered to win.

Holiday closures round-up

Directorate of Emergency Services

Some of the services provided by the USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services will be affected by the holidays:

- Vehicle Registration will close at 2 p.m. on Dec. 20, and will be closed Dec. 24-26, Dec. 30-Jan. 1. On Dec. 27, Jan. 2, 3 and 6, registration will be by appointment only.
- IACS: Being a contracted service, the IACS office will only be closed on federal holidays and weekends;

it is not affected by German holidays or U.S. training holidays.

- Police Department: The long arm of the law never rests. There will be no reduction in police patrols or at the Military Police desk in Bldg. 2949.
- Fire Department: Like law enforcement, the garrison's firefighters will be on duty at normal strength for fire response or fire control dispatch.
- Physical Security: This service is closed on U.S. federal holidays.

Driver Training And Testing Office Hours

The Driver Training And Testing Office will be open with reduced service on Dec. 23, 24, 26, 27, 31 and Jan. 6; there will be no classes on Dec. 24, 27 and 31. It will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Directorate of Human Resources

From Dec. 23 to Jan. 3, the Civilian Personnel Facility, also known as in-processing, will have reduced hours, closing at 4 p.m. instead of 4:30 p.m. It will be closed Dec. 24, 25 and Jan. 1.

Also closed on Dec. 24 will be the Army Personnel Service Branch and the Passport Office. Those offices will work half-days, closing at noon, Dec. 27 and 31.

Army Substance Abuse Program will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

AAFES

All of the following Exchange services will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day, except the Patch Express, which will be open 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

- The Patch Express and gas station* will be open Dec. 24 and 31, 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
- The Kelley Express and gas station will be open noon-5 p.m. on Dec. 24 and 26, and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on New Year's Eve.
- Robinson Barracks Furniture Store will be open noon-5 p.m. on Dec. 24, 12-7 p.m. Dec. 26, and 12-5 p.m. on New Year's Eve.
- The Reel Time Theater will be open 6-9 p.m., Dec. 24, 5-11 p.m., Dec 26, and 5-7 p.m. Dec. 31.
- The Patch Food Court will have the following hours: Burger King, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 24, 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Dec. 26, and 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 31; Taco Bell and Subway will be open 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 24 and 31, and 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 26; Sehne Bakery will be open 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31, closed on Dec. 26.
- The Panzer Exchange will be open for last-minute shopping, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Christmas and New Year's Eves, and 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Dec. 26. Many of the mall concessions will be open at their regular times, closing a little

earlier than regular on Dec. 24 and 31.

- The Panzer Express will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 24, but Military Clothing Sales will be closed; the Express and MCS will be open 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Dec. 26, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Dec. 31.
- In the Panzer Food Court, Sehne Bakery will be closed on Dec. 26 while Starbucks will be open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. that day, otherwise both will be open Dec. 24 and 31, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Burger King will be open 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31, and 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Dec. 26; Pizza Hut, Popeye's and Charley's will be open 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Dec. 24 and 31, and 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Dec. 26.
- Car Care will have retail service only, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 24 and 26, and all services Dec. 31, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Dec. 31.

For FMWR, please visit their webpage at <https://stuttgart.armymwr.com/>.

*Work continues on the Patch Express fuel tanks and is expected to be completed the last week of 2019.... the Exchange will keep you posted as the six-week project progresses. Watch this space. Meanwhile, AAFES wants to know how has it been for you getting benzin at die Tankstelle off post.

Background image by Julia Manga / Shutterstock.com

DeCA is listening

The Defense Commissary Agency wants to hear from shoppers to gauge how it's doing, what improvements shoppers recommend and other feedback. Use your latest receipt to complete the survey. Tell DeCA what you think. Visit <https://mydeca.me/receipt>.

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Ask a JAG: The Stuttgart Law Center wants to hear from you

By Capt. Nicole A. Oberjuerge
Judge Advocate, US Army

The Stuttgart Law Center is the primary legal office for members of the USAG Stuttgart community. Here at the SLC, we process claims and German tickets, give notaries and powers of attorney, and provide legal consultations with U.S. and German attorneys on a host of legal issues to include family law, military law, landlord/tenant law and personal finance.

Beginning Dec. 23, the SLC will be open half-days for the holidays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Additionally, the military attorneys will see only have walk-in appointments and

German attorneys will only see scheduled appointments. This schedule will continue until Jan. 3.

In Client Services, meeting the needs of the military community is our primary goal, taking actions to increase customer service. Client Services also submits monthly articles for the Stuttgart Citizen on preventative law topics and general information. And in coordination with the garrison Knowledge Management team, the SLC initiated an online-appointment request system so individuals can request appointments. This is the first Army

installation, and first Army JAG Corps Client Services Division, to offer an online appointment process.

Further, the SLC added another German attorney to ease the backlog of appointment requests for individuals requesting assistance on German legal issues.

We also put in time-limited SLC parking signs to enable clients to park near the Law Center.

We want to hear from the community on ways we can better serve you and receive feedback on what is helpful. Tell us about topics you want

to hear about on "Ask a JAG" on AFN or read about in the Stuttgart Citizen.

We need to hear about the processes that are not working, but we also need to hear about the processes and systems which are working. If you like or appreciate any of the listed changes, let us know. If you hate them, let us know. To provide feedback, please put in an ICE comment to the Staff Judge Advocate, Stuttgart Law Center and Tax Office.

Happy Holidays—We look forward to serving you.

Need legal advice?

If you have specific issues or concerns, visit the Stuttgart Legal Assistance Office in Bldg. 3312, Kelley Barracks; call 421-4152 or 0711-729-4152, or email usarmy.stuttgart.21-tsc.mbx.slcla@mail.mil. You can also request an appointment through the USAG Stuttgart mobile app or by visiting here.

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NEWS BRIEFS



Send your announcements for upcoming events to the USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Something to sink your (kid's) teeth into

The Panzer Dental Clinic now has a pediatric dentist on staff seeing children 12 years or younger for cleaning, examinations and treatment.

Commissary improved

The Kelley Commissary replacement freezer installation was successful, enhancing the shopper experience.



Home on the range

Are you living in Army owned and leased Family Housing? Take the U.S. Army Housing Survey before Dec. 12.

celassociates.com. If you didn't receive the survey, please first check your bulk or spam folders.



Speaking of the range ...

Ready, aim, fire! The Stuttgart High School JROTC Air Rifle Team challenges all sharpshooters to outshoot them and earn bragging rights for defeating the all-time European champions.

Original dining

"The Originals" dining facility on Panzer Kaserne advises the community about its upcoming training and holiday closures through the end of the year: Dec. 24-5, and Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 2020.

In February, more than

2,000 chefs, from more than 50 nations, including some of the Originals, will compete in Stuttgart in the world's largest professional competition.

Last housing town hall of 2019 on Dec. 11

The garrison has one remaining town hall this year at the Fitness Center, Dec. 11, to address concerns regarding housing and other issues.

Bus-less holidays ahead

The garrison duty buses will not be operating on these upcoming days: Christmas Eve, Dec. 24; Christmas Day, Dec. 25; New Year's Day, Jan. 1

Banking and mail

Banking services are offered to the Stuttgart military community by Service

Credit Union and the Community Bank. Payment of many German bills, and occasionally retail purchases, are often accomplished through a direct bank transfer system (Überweisung).

both of which are connected to the German banking system. Community members always have the option of banking off-post using International Treasury services.



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Advertisement for DENT TEX SMART REPAIR, featuring a car with a dent and a list of services: Paintless Dent Removal, Smart Repair, Detailing Service, etc.

Advertisement for PTM PREMIUM TEMPORARY MANAGED EXCLUSIVE APARTMENTS & HOUSES, featuring a photo of a furnished apartment and contact information.

Advertisement for Monica Hansen Attorney at Law, FAMILY LAW SERVICE, with contact information.

Advertisement for FIND IT GUIDEPROPERTIES.COM, featuring a child in a cardboard house and the text 'Need a place to live?'.

Large holiday-themed advertisement for AdvantiPro, featuring 'Dear Readers', 'We wish everyone a super Holiday Season!', and AdvantiPro logo.

MPI sought by CID

As part of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's continued effort to recruit the best of the best to become special agents, CID is currently seeking Military Police



Investigators from Career Management Field 31 to become CID Special Agent Warrant Officers. The application timeframe begins in December and runs through May 2021. Approved applications will

be considered by warrant officer accession boards convening in FY 20 and FY 21. Qualified MPI applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the USACIDC Recruiting Operations Cell at USArmy. Join-CID@mail.mil to speak with the USACIDC recruiting team regarding questions about the process and to start the application process. For questions about application procedures, see MILPER 19-346, MPI Application Requirements for Appointment to CID Warrant Officer (MOS 311A), or contact the CID Special Agent Management Division ROC team at USArmy.Join-CID@mail.mil or call 571-305-4348/4369/4337/4112.

Polyglot potluck

Army Community Service's "English as a Second Language" class will hold a holiday potluck luncheon for international families Dec. 18, from noon to 2 p.m. at Bldg. 2915, Room 222, on Panzer Kaserne. Participants are encouraged to bring a traditional dish from their country and enjoy lunch with community members from all around the world. ESL classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. at ACS on Panzer Kaserne. Currently, students enrolled in the class represent 14 countries to include Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nigeria, Mexico and more. For more information on ESL, call 09641-70-596-3362

Open Season for the Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Flexible Spending Account and the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program are in open season until Monday, Dec. 9. The Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program and the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program do not participate in the annual Federal Benefits Open Season. Read more at www.stuttgartcitizen.com.

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Biddy Early's Irish Pub, Marienstraße 28, 70178 Stuttgart, 0711-6159853, info@biddyearlys.com

Customs custom

The Stuttgart Customs Office in Bldg. 2913, Panzer Kaserne, reminds the community that it is closed in the morning for required training on the second Thursday of every month; on those days, the office is open 1-3:45 p.m. for normal operations. For more info on what you can and cannot mail, visit www.stuttgartcitizen.com and search "customs."

Holiday law rules

The Stuttgart Law Center will be open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning Dec. 23 and ending Jan. 3. Additionally, with the half-day schedule, U.S. attorneys will only have walk-in appointments and German attorneys will only have scheduled appointments.

Got insurance?

The 2019 Federal Benefits

Instant family meal

Don't miss out on the holidays just because you're away from home and family. The USO is preparing a special celebration just for singles and unaccompanied military service members, with an incredible meal, gifts and so much fun. 6 p.m., Dec. 19. Sign up to attend through the link found on USO's Facebook page or website.

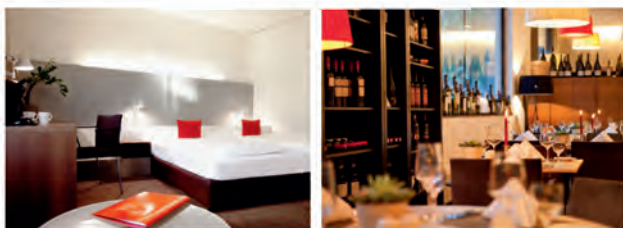
Holly Jolly Holiday Meal at Galaxy Bowling

Working on Christmas? Living in the hotel? Let USO Stuttgart take care of Christmas lunch for you! One of the greatest traditions of the holidays is dinner with family and friends. Living overseas can make this difficult financially, logistically, and those are some mighty tiny German ovens! A holiday meal will be served by USO at the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center, Panzer Kaserne, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Dec. 25.

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'tis the season ... to visit markets and castles



Stuttgart. Photo by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs



Esslingen. Photo by Kevin Abel, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs



Bamberg. Photo by Larry Reilly, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

By USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Here's where to go to celebrate the season.

Stuttgart

The Stuttgart Christmas market is ongoing until Dec. 23. It's located in the downtown pedestrian area. With more than 250 festive booths and attractions, it's one of Europe's largest Christmas markets.

The market is one of the oldest and most beautiful Christmas in Europe, dating back to 1692. The splendidly decorated inner courtyard of the old castle offers a perfect setting for the performance of the Hymnus-Chorknaben boys' choir and the performance of brass instruments of the Stuttgart music school; they all provide a wonderful pre-Christmas atmosphere. The 25-meter high red spruce Christmas tree at the Schlossplatz is one of the tallest in Germany and is decorated with more than 40,000 lights. Admission is free to the concert at the inner courtyard.

The market is open Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Wilhelma Zoologisch-Botanischer Garten

The annual Christmas Garden, going on now, lasts until Jan. 6. Open evenings at 5 p.m. with thousands of lights, colorfully illuminated trees and a vintage merry-go-round make it inviting for families. Admission fee.

Esslingen

Esslingen's medieval Christmas market is ongoing until Dec. 22, featuring more than 180 booths and huts in the city center. There's plenty of food and drink, arts and crafts entertainment, such as jugglers, fire-breathers and jousting. The combination of the medieval market with the magnificent half-timbered houses and the historic buildings makes this market unique. The market is open Sunday to Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Thursday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Bad Cannstatt

Until Dec. 23, the historic center of Bad Cannstatt hosts the World Christmas Market around the city church and the town hall with lots of attractions. The market is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sindelfingen

The Christmas Market in the Sindelfingen downtown area is Dec. 6-8. The market offers handmade arts and crafts, entertainment, a live nativity scene, a historic merry-go-round, food and Glühwein. The market is open Dec. 6, 6-10 p.m., Dec. 7, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Ludwigsburg

A baroque-inspired Christmas village is located in the market place of Ludwigsburg's historic downtown area, Dec. 22, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Leinfelden

The "Engelesmarkt," or angel's market in downtown Leinfelden takes place 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Dec. 7. This one-day market features a holiday concert and choir performance.

Echterdingen

For Saturdays, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, the "Adventszauber," or Advent magic, will be held at Rathausplatz in the downtown area. Shoppers can enjoy brats and Glühwein while enjoying music and choir performances by local clubs and associations. The market is open

10 a.m. — 4 p.m., with musical entertainment 11 a.m. - noon.

Tübingen

Do you love chocolate to the point you consider it a food group? Germany's biggest chocolate experience "ChocolART 2019," continues until Dec. 8 throughout Tübingen's historic downtown area and features hundreds of decorated huts and booths set up in front of the city's beautiful half-timbered houses. If you're looking for an extraordinary holiday gift, Tübingen is the ideal place. Most of the goods offered are handmade: jams and honey, shawls, gloves, ceramics, toys, paintings, candles and Christmas tree decorations. The market is open Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Fellbach

The market is in downtown Fellbach around the town hall. Music, festively-decorated booths, a fairy-tale tent and an ice skating rink are also featured. The market is open until Dec. 21, weekdays noon — 8 p.m., Saturdays 10:30 a.m. — 8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Stuttgart photos on this page by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Triberg

Enjoy the magic of a million lights, a children’s land, five daily spectacular fire shows, four fireworks displays Dec. 27-30, a Ferris wheel, and international programs. The event runs Dec. 25-30.

Outside of Swabia

Nürnberg

Bavaria’s second largest city, with more than 400 years of Christmas market tradition, continues until Christmas Eve, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Until then, it’s open daily 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Bamberg

The big Bamberger Weihnachtsmarkt, is ongoing until Dec. 23, Monday–Saturday 9:30 a.m.–8 p.m., in the old part of the city. In addition to the market, there are dozens of other things to see, such as art exhibits, nativity scenes at different churches, music and food. Bamberg is an epic city to visit regardless of season, and is especially enticing with holiday decorations and light.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Two for one in the joined

towns of Garmisch and Partenkirchen. The Garmisch side is in the long pedestrian zone and Partenkirchen’s is on historic Ludwigstrasse. Tons of booths offering food, drink, decorations and gifts. The city promises the “heavenly scent of roasted chestnuts.” The Garmisch side continues daily until Dec. 23, 12 - 8 p.m. (Saturdays until 9 p.m.) Info about the Partenkirchen side was not available at press time. As a bonus, the annual New Year’s Eve fireworks in the pedestrian zone and New Year’s event at the Olympic alpine ski jump is beyond memorable. Bundle up, as it’s very cold next to Germany’s highest peak.

Heidelberg

The market is open daily, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., until Dec. 22. It’s held in Heidelberg’s picturesque downtown area with more than 140 vendors offering magical presents and souvenirs, holiday foods and more.

Castles

Durlach

The medieval Christmas

market in Durlach near Karlsruhe, features medieval jousting tournaments, fire-breathers, locally brewed mead, glass blowing, gift huts and more. The market is located at Schlossplatz in front of the “Karlsburg” Castle and will open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. until Dec. 22.

Hechingen Royal Christmas

On the Dec. 6-8, a romantic Christmas market Burg Hohenzollern Royal Christmas market takes place in in a castle setting. Enjoy the castle’s atmosphere and history while shopping for family and friends in the castle’s courtyard and ramparts. The market is open Friday 2-8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.–8 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m.–7 p.m. There’s an entry fee for visitors over 17 that includes parking and a shuttle bus to the castle.

Maulbronn Monastery

The Maulbronn Monastery is one of the most well-preserved medieval monasteries north of the Alps. The difference from other Christmas markets is the special atmosphere and high quality of arts and crafts, woodwork, holiday

floristry, nativity scenes, jewelry and plenty of food. Open Dec. 7, noon until 9 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

Neuenbürg

Neuenbürg Castle was built in 1200 by the Dukes of Calw-Vaihingen. Its Advent market is held in and around the castle and makes for one of the most festive Christmas markets in the region with more than 60 vendors offering arts and crafts, wooden sculptures, jewelry, food and beverages, and musical entertainment. Parking is available in downtown Neuenbürg with shuttle buses transporting visitors from Wilhelmshöhe, Rathaus and Schloss stops to and from the castle for a euro.

Burg Stettenfels Medieval Advents

From two days, Dec. 21 from 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., Burg Stettenfels features medieval traditions such locally brewed mead, jousting tournaments, fire-breathers, glass blowing, many gift huts and more. Try the seasonal Stollen.

Holocaust victims remembered at SAAF

By John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

In the final months of World War II, as the Allies were quickly advancing into Germany, some concentration camp military personnel took extreme measures to keep the war machine running, including literally working concentration camp prisoners to death. In 2005, 34 of the 119 prisoners who worked and died at Stuttgart Army Airfield were discovered in a mass grave; on Nov. 21, 2019, USAG Stuttgart's Ch. (Col.) William A. Lovell joined Echterdingen Lord Mayor Christoph Traub, local Jewish community leaders and hundreds of community members at gravesite and memorial adjacent to the SAAF entrance in memoriam to those who perished.

Prisoners were housed in Hangar 13 on SAAF, then a Luftwaffe night fighter field at Echterdingen, from late 1944 to early 1945. The concrete runway was cratered by Allied air attacks until the end of the war. At least 119 of the 600 prisoners died during that time; some estimates claim

many more died. The prisoners were brought to the airfield to help repair damages to the runway and other facilities from Allied bombing.

A memorial erected in 2010 consists of two paths and the inscription "Wege der Erinnerung" or paths to remembrance, adorns one of two white walls of intersecting paths pointing toward the site of the mass grave and the hangar. A sound system within the memorial continuously plays the names of the 600 prisoners.

"We cannot forget—we will not forget—their memory and the lessons that this period of history still teaches us," Lovell said.

Lovell represented the garrison at the ceremony, where those in attendance placed white stones on the grave markers, a somber practice in the Jewish faith.

In the aftermath of the war, it was difficult for the Allies to find solid information about the disposition of those who died in concentration camps and similar facilities. At SAAF, it is known that 19 of the dead were cremated and a mass grave of 66 was



Photo by Rick Scavetta, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The names of the prisoners found in the mass grave are carried by community members who attended the commemoration, Nov. 21.

discovered in 1945. The discovery in 2005 of the mass grave with the remains of 34 prisoners was discovered by workers excavating a construction project. Investigations conducted on the airfield where the bodies were discovered was converted to a gravesite in Jewish tradition, and the bodies of the Holocaust victims were reburied there.

am encouraged to see the progress we have made toward common values and mutual understanding. The fact that we keep gathering here together year after year is the proof that we have built a better world and that we are determined to keep improving it."

(Historical information for this article was contributed by Greg Jones; background information on Jewish faith gravesites was provided by Rabbi Netanel Wurmser. The original article can be found on www.stuttgartcitizen.com.)

Lovell quoted the previous garrison commander, Col. Neal Corson, who said in 2018: "As I look back on those atrocities, I



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Photos © Dirk Kittelberger

Healthcare advice for travelers to Europe

By Kirk Frady
Regional Health Command Europe

SEMBACH, Germany – The winter holiday season is here and with it comes visits by relatives, family and friends. The last thing on their mind as they plan their trips is getting sick and having to seek medical care while overseas. However, it is something that everyone should take into consideration before traveling abroad.

As a general rule, visiting relatives and friends who are not TRICARE beneficiaries are not eligible to receive healthcare from military medical treatment facilities.

Those visitors coming to Europe are encouraged to have private health insurance, or travelers insurance, if they seek medical care from a host-nation provider.

According to Regional Health Command Europe officials, they should expect to pay up front and then file with their insurance company to get reimbursed. If they don't have insurance, they could end up paying out of pocket and may not be reimbursed for their expenses.

For military retirees, whether they are TRICARE for Life back home, TRICARE Select or TRICARE Prime, the rules are still the same when they come overseas. They may be able to receive space-available care at the military medical treatment facility, or they can go off base and see any provider they like, as they do not require a prior authorization for most inpatient and outpatient services. However, there will be the standard copays/cost-shares and deductibles associated with their plan, according to the TRICARE website.

TRICARE recommends that all eligible beneficiaries traveling to Europe contact International SOS customer service for assistance in finding a provider and understanding their benefits and potential out-of-pocket costs.

While not a complete and detailed explanation of benefits, the information in the paragraphs below provides an overall summary of who, where and how visitors to Europe can receive healthcare during their travels abroad.

Active duty service members and their families

Visiting active duty military and their family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime will need to request authorization from ISOS when seeking care outside of a medical treatment facility for urgent medical needs. Urgent medical concerns are those that cannot wait for your primary care provider, such as allergic reactions, cold or flu symptoms not

managed with self-care, persistent diarrhea, sprains and strains and more.

In addition to providing the authorization for care, ISOS can also provide healthcare finder assistance. In some cases, they may be able to coordinate cashless, claimless billing, which means no up-front, out-of-pocket costs and the medical facility will file the claim for the patient. When possible, it is best to utilize a TRICARE network provider or facility. However, patients should be aware that many European medical facilities do not file claims, and to be safe, they should be prepared to pay up front.

Emergency care, for the potential loss of life, limb, or eyesight, works a little differently. When seeking medical attention for any of these situations, patients should seek care first and call ISOS once they are stable, typically no later than three business days from the date of emergency.

After patients call ISOS, they should make sure to write down the care authorization number in a safe place. This number will be associated with their TRICARE claim for reimbursement.

When paying out of pocket for care, patients should make sure to keep copies of all medical records, discharge paperwork and receipts. Once home, they should visit their nearest TRICARE office for assistance with submitting claims for reimbursement and documents for translation.

For routine care, active duty and

their families should wait until they have returned home and can see their primary care manager.

Friends and family visitors who aren't TRICARE beneficiaries

The U.S. Department of State recommends travelers learn what medical services their health insurance will cover overseas. If their health insurance policy provides coverage outside the United States, travelers should carry both an insurance policy identity card and a claim form.

Although some health insurance companies pay "customary and reasonable"

hospital costs abroad, very few pay for medical evacuation back to the United States. Medical evacuation can cost more than \$50,000, depending on the location and medical condition.

For Medicare patients in general, healthcare they get while traveling outside the United States is not covered by Medicare. In rare cases, Medicare may pay for inpatient hospital, doctor, ambulance services, or dialysis received in a foreign country. Visit gov for more information.

Medicare eligible adults may wish to contact Medicare, the American

Association of Retired Persons or a travel agent for information about foreign medical care coverage with private Medicare supplement plans.

Many private health insurance policies do not cover care outside the United States so patients may be required to pay some, or all, of their bill up front and file a claim to try and get reimbursed upon their return to the United States.

Veterans enrolled in the Veterans Affairs Foreign Medical Program and traveling overseas, may receive covered healthcare for service-connected disabilities in civilian medical clinics and military medical treatment facilities (space-available basis), but they will need to be prepared to show proof of enrollment. Some hospitals in foreign countries may not recognize the program and may still require up-front payment.

Only TRICARE beneficiaries are eligible for care at military medical treatment facilities. All others should seek medical care from a host-nation provider. Due to fluctuating availability of appointments and specialty services, there are times when even eligible beneficiaries may need to receive care on the local economy.



Resources you can use

VA Foreign Medical Program
<https://www.va.gov/communitycare/programs/veterans/fmp/index.asp>

TRICARE
<https://www.tricare.mil/>

International SOS Medical Assistance 24/7
Toll Free from Germany: 0800-589-1599
From the United States: 1-877-678-1207

Nurse Advice Line
Toll free from Germany 0800-825-1600
Appointment Line 06371-9464-5762 (LRMC),
Nurse Advice Line option
From the United States 1-800-TRICARE

For phone numbers from other countries, please visit https://rhce.amedd.army.mil/Families/nurse_advice_line.h



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SHS freshman is new ruler of the Galaxy

Story and photo by John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

There's a history of great bowlers who roll at the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center, including a champion Navy bowler and youth bowlers who've gone to the annual Junior Golden Youth Bowling Championship; now there's Matthew Shearer, 14 year old Stuttgart High School freshman who took

the crown for the highest series score at the center.

"This bowler has rolled the highest 3-game series to date that I can remember in this center," said Jim Einhorn, bowling specialist. "He shot a 749 in three games of 249, 248 and 232."

Einhorn would know. He has been at the center of the Galaxy for a long time, noting it has been around since 1986, back when it was a

12-lane center.

"Then they renovated it around 2003 and added another 12 lanes, and opened up the Irish Pub," Einhorn recalls.

Matthew is a unique bowler with a special two-handed delivery, Einhorn explained. "It used to be the one-handed delivery was difficult enough, but two-handed delivery-it's working for some bowlers that wouldn't work for an older bowler like myself. Certainly, for someone who is 14 years old, he's gotten this down."

Although he comes from a bowling family, throwing strikes and spares with his parents and two brothers, Matthew is self-taught and never bowled the traditional one-handed way most people know. His father, also named Matthew Shearer, took up the sport 25 years ago while in the Air Force stationed at Aviano, Italy. He watched his dad bowl and decided three years ago to give it a try, and is now a member of the Galaxy's youth



bowling league. Matthew adopted the two-handed technique on his own.

"I got it from the best bowler in the world, Jason Belmonte," Matthew explained. "I watched him do it, and that's how I learned to do it."

When he bowled that high-scoring series on Nov. 9, Matthew was in the zone.

"Yeah, I was pretty focused," he said. "The score for three games was 729."

In addition to the highest

series, he made it to Junior Golden in Detroit last year and is slated to attend the 2020 championship in Las Vegas.

"He did okay. He was around a lot of really good bowlers," his father said, adding Matthew also went up against former All-Navy Bowling Team star Lt. Cmdr. Sandy Longworth. "Matthew bowled against her in a tournament a couple of months earlier and they were neck and neck. Sandy just edged him out by a few pins."



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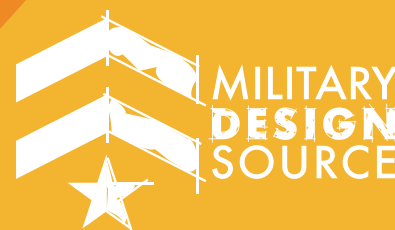
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USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

You check the weather before heading to work and find a thick blanket of snow on the road. Is it safe to drive or not? And what's the condition of the roads on and off post?

Generally, reporting delays or closures are made early in the morning. Official weather reports are received around 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Closure or reporting delays will be announced soon after. You can expect a notification on the garrison Facebook posted by the USAG Stuttgart Installation Operations Center, through the ALERT messaging system or on AFN.

When in doubt, you should always default to the most recent updates, whether on the garrison Facebook page or the IMCOM-E Road Conditions website. If the road conditions are reported as amber as of a certain time, and haven't been updated since then, that is the most recent condition to report.

Current on-post road conditions can be found at <https://home.army.mil/roads/>, which can be easily accessed from the garrison website or app. Stuttgart's on-post road condition status is determined by the Military Police and posted online by the IOC.

It is garrison commander Col. Jason Condrey's decision to close the installation or delay reporting for non-essential civilian. Essential personnel should have their status noted in their position description. If you are unsure, contact your supervisor for clarification. Military personnel may be impeded by the absence of civilians. However, military personnel remain under the authority of their military chains of command. If you are unsure whether you should report, contact your chain of command for clarification.

When driving a vehicle, green,

amber, red and black are used to determine road conditions on Army installations. Drivers should always take into account their individual driving experience before heading out. If the garrison commander decides to close the garrison or delay start time due to inclement weather, your supervisor or chain of command can still provide mission guidance to account for your duty hours. Outside of a garrison ordered delay or closure, if you feel your local conditions are too hazardous for you to report, contact your chain of command.

School delays and closures are not a school decision. School closure decisions are included in the post closure or delay decision, made by the garrison commander prior to school buses beginning their routes at 5:30 a.m. If school is closed or delayed, it will be announced through ALERT mass notification system, the garrison Facebook page and AFN Stuttgart.

If the school bus is late or doesn't show up at the expected time during inclement weather, it is recommended to not wait longer than 30 minutes. If your child's school bus does not show up at the expected time, you may call the school or DoDEA-E transportation office (0611) 705-337-2251 to check the status. Please consider your individual situation, keeping the safety of your student in mind. Remember, parents should not leave younger children unattended at bus stops. Always comply with child supervision guidelines. In addition, further caution by parents is recommended during inclement weather.

All student absences are considered on a case by case basis. School buses exercise extreme caution in all situations, particularly those involving inclement weather. Sponsors may be aware of situations and circumstances and apply common sense in their situation for the safety of their



Photo by USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

children. The school will be notified if your child's bus is running late. In these cases, the child will not be considered tardy.

German local television stations tend to broadcast local information on the area around Stuttgart. However, they may not broadcast immediate information outside of their local newscast.

German local radio stations are good sources for information such as local weather alerts and road conditions for German speakers. AFN Stuttgart begins broadcasting weekdays at 6 a.m. The Eagle will also announce closures and delays, based on information received from the garrison.

Deviations to the shuttle bus route will be posted on the garrison

Facebook page by the Stuttgart IOC. Public transportation systems websites give information on current public transportation delays, but may not always be up-to-date, depending on the situation.

According to the Housing Office handbook, "In snowy weather, residents are responsible for the removal of snow and ice from entrance areas, steps, porches, driveways and sidewalks in the front and rear of their buildings and will clear walkways daily. Snow and ice on entrance areas and walkways shall be removed no later than 7 a.m. Snow shovels and salt/sand are available in the Self-Help Store. Snow and ice shall be removed prior to sprinkling salt."

Hardware stores and the Exchange sell approved de-icing agents and

can answer most questions about them. Generally, most German states and cities prohibit the use of salt on the sidewalks. If you still use salt, you may face a fine, depending on where you live. The approved materials for sidewalks are abrasives, such as sand or "Streugut."

If you get injured after slipping and falling off-post during inclement weather, contact the local German emergency services right away by dialing 112 for the fire department and ambulance or 110 for the Polizei.

(Editor's note: Some information for this article is courtesy of the USAG Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office.)

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Enjoying the holidays in Germany

By Ch. (Capt.) Brady Frederick
52d Signal Battalion

I, like many of you, have spent the holiday season in a few places very different from the snow and mountains of my youth.

I think of the Decembers spent in the Middle East, where a white Christmas was never in the forecast. I spent a couple of Decembers in the Gulf of Mexico waiting for large lizards to cross the road, because they had the right of way and often held up traffic. Southern Texas, while much closer to my home, still lacked the sledding opportunities of my childhood.

Now I live in Germany, a land full of pine trees, snow covered hills,



Patch Chapel photo by USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

and Christmas markets. Of all the places I've lived in the past ten years, Germany resembles home the most. I enjoy taking my kids sledding and

making large snowmen. I appreciate the familiarity Germany brings to this season for me, but I learned atmosphere does not change what makes

this time of year special.

This season brings constant reminders of what matters in life. Symbols of faith, family and love for others surround us. We don't need to be in a familiar place for this season to root us in what really matters.

I invite you to approach this holiday by connecting with the deeper meaning. When you see a decoration, say a quick prayer for family, peace on earth and your connection to God. Attend a worship service and send a European gift to loved ones back home. Extend patience and grace to those stressed or upset this year.

Allow the spirit of the season to take hold, even though your surroundings may be far different from what is familiar.

Stuttgart Chapels: World-class volunteers, Part 2

By Dr. Becky Powell, Natalie Lacey, and Kayleen Meade
Religious Support Office
USAG Stuttgart

(Editor's note: In this second installment, learn more about volunteering opportunities with the garrison chapels.)

Volunteers Lead Stuttgart Vacation Bible School – Twice

Stuttgart chapel congregations led two Vacation Bible School programs in 2019. A chapel volunteer, 14-year-old Rachel Turner, reported on VBS at Patch in the August issue of the Citizen. Kayleen Meade, also 14 and a volunteer, reported on VBS at Robinson Barracks.

VBS is an annually occurring program which occurs across the world teaching children how to apply the Bible to their lives. It's been a favorite among American kids and grownups alike for more than 100 years.

In an African safari theme called 'Roar,' teachers were adult and teen volunteers from across the community. The RB 5-day program started on Sunday afternoon and ended on Thursday noon. It was more inclusive due to the new edition of a teen crew. The six teenagers

returned to the history of VBS and allowed teenagers to receive Bible study with adult instructors rather than just providing service. The teens also learned how to run the chapel audio visual system as well as how to train others. Building on the success of this program, the garrison's Religious Support Office is already making plans for a teen crew in the 2020 VBS programs.

Stuttgart VBS programs was a roaring success, thanks to the labor of more than 106 world-class volunteers.

Volunteers organizing basements to background checks

Army Chapel programs occur at all times of the day and evening on all days of the week. In Stuttgart, the programs occur on every installation using three chapels, one office, and at least seven borrowed buildings. The work to make it all happen is more than any Religious Support Office can sustain. Thankfully, Stuttgart is home to an abundance of highly skilled volunteers. Each congregation has the leadership of groups like Parish Council staffed with stalwart volunteer presidents like Chris Isham, Rick

Kuenning, Samantha Vann and Jim Robinette.

There are numerous world class coordinators of ushers, masses, children's churches, fellowships, men's and women's ministries, and youth programs: Ed Wilson, Wendy Rodriguez, Marie Bispo, Teri Hein, Jack Tindle, Sarah Krawczyk, Berlinda Terry, Jenni Crider, and many others pay attention to details and communications.

Volunteer chapel volunteer coordinators act as human resources managers for chaplain sponsors bringing in volunteers, matching their skills to chapel needs, and assisting with background checks as needed. USAG Stuttgart is blessed to have a world class team of volunteer chapel volunteer coordinators scattered across the garrison—Tina Tindle, Jaime Showers, Sarah Wills, Erick Posner, Sarah Bowman, Heidi Frederick, Samantha Vann, & Gary Stalnaker.

There are many volunteers who work behind the scenes in quiet ways like Kathy Horn who works in the basement storage each week bringing order out of a chaotic collection of religious education supplies. There is

even a quiet group of chapel dusting angels!

Volunteer Academy trains, supports and rewards Stuttgart's world-class volunteers

Did you know that there are about 527 volunteer positions in the Stuttgart chapels?

The garrison RSO offers volunteer training at least monthly. The lessons provide training and doctrine command-level instruction, and are the equivalent of one day in a college-level class. Through the Volunteer Academy courses, our volunteers receive certificates of completion and develop new skills for use in the chapel or in their wider life and career. These classes are a small way of showing high-class appreciation for our world class volunteers.

Stuttgart's volunteers are world-class leaders in the Army's largest volunteer force. Our volunteers come with gifts of heart and spirit as well as with skills which include administration, music, education, art, journalism, photography, sound technology, computers, human resources, psychology, nursing, and organization.

Become a chapel volunteer

To become one of the 527 world-class USAG Stuttgart chapel volunteers, ask your chaplain sponsor or email usarmy.stuttgart.id-europe.mbx.rso-events@mail.mil.

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CYS Sports completes volleyball season, seeks officials for 2020

Story and photos by John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The USAG Child & Youth Services Sports finished the 2019 volleyball season at the Patch Fitness Center and Middle School, and leaned forward into next year with winter sports workshops for basketball, wrestling and cheerleading.

Volleyball concluded with a 21-team jamboree hosted by Stuttgart, with six bantam teams of athletes ages 8-11 and 15 junior teams of players, ages 12-15, playing a vigorous 22 game schedule.

"In the league play during the regular season, all teams played a 12-game schedule prior to the jamboree," explained Tom Hlavacek, CYS Sports. "Junior teams traveled to Ansbach for games and hosted teams from Ansbach and Grafenwoehr."

Opposing teams from garrisons at Ansbach, Baumholder, Kaiserslautern, Sembach, Landstuhl, Grafenwoehr and Wiesbaden participated. All matches were conducted in a single day, with four matches that began hourly. Teams were guaranteed to play at least two matches.

All of the "Wolves" enjoyed the volleyball season—players, coaches, and parents alike, said Ross Coffey, volleyball coach.

"Everyone picked up some new skills and enjoyed the friendly

competition, and most of the kids indicated they would play volleyball again in the future," Coffey said.

The jamboree was a highlight for Coffey.

"I particularly enjoyed how the kids won with humility and lost with grace," he said.

With the end of volleyball, a CYS basketball officials' clinic was held on Panzer Kaserne, Nov. 13-14. Learning how to officiate properly is important, Hlavacek said.

"CYS is governing by National Federation High School rules," he said.

The upcoming 2020 winter sport season and the basketball officials' clinic have passed. The wrestling clinics are scheduled 6-9 p.m., Jan. 14-15. A wrestling practicum will take place Jan. 29 or 30 at Stuttgart High School. Watch for an announcement in the January issue of the Stuttgart Citizen and online with more details.

CYS Sports will be hosting a free Cheer Workshop for any child interested in developing the fundamentals of cheerleading. Workshop is scheduled 5:30 pm, Dec. 12 and is open for children ages 5-10 years. Registration is not necessary.

"New officials are required to attend a sport official's clinic within a calendar year. Veteran officials with a valid sports contract are required to undergo refresher training on a



Oct. 26 CYS volleyball photos by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

biennial basis. We highly recommend officials to attend a refresher training on a yearly basis as sport rules are changing each year and we want officials, coaches, administrators to be on the same page before the season begins," said Jason Kettenhofen CYS Sports & Fitness Director. "If unable to attend, please contact our office so we

can attempt to schedule a time to meet that works for both of us."

CYS reviewed the National Federation High School rules and local bylaws for each division for basketball during the November official's clinics.

"We look forward to the season and thanks for your support," Kettenhofen said.

Get into Galaxy bowling—Saturdays are cosmic

Story and photo by John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The annual Cosmic New Year's Eve Party at the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center, starts at 9 p.m., Dec. 31 and continues until 1 a.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 children, and general admission \$15 without shoe rental, unlimited games, party favors, cheese or pepperoni pizza buffet, and sodas, prizes given out every half hour, champagne for adults and sparkling cider or fruit juice for kids at midnight. Party tickets go on sale at the Galaxy on Dec. 15.

This year, the format for New Year's Eve is a little bit different.

"We used to have a big spread of turkey. This year we have pizza," said

bowling instructor Jim Einhorn.

The Galaxy offers free bowling and pizza nights once a month for BOSS.

"It's a good deal for the BOSS folks," Einhorn said, adding there are also special dates for participants of the Exceptional Family Member Program.

"Certainly, it's a lifetime sport that anybody can do, no matter what age," Einhorn said. "Our youth league is on Saturday mornings at 10:30 am. We have some very good coaches who can help children out with their games." Einhorn is one of the certified instructors who also gives lessons.

Einhorn said the community is invited every Saturday for black light cosmic bowling. After 5 p.m, when you get a strike with a red pin in the number one position, you win a free game.



The Galaxy has everything new or experienced bowlers need, including fitting and drilling new bowling balls and other equipment.



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