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The Citizen

Thursday, February 19, 2015 Sustaining & Supporting the Stuttgart U.S. Military Community Garrison Website: www.stuttgart.army.mil Facebook: [facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart](https://www.facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart)

stuttgartcitizen.com

Carnivals make resilience fun



Susanne Klaus, an instructor with the Stuttgart Laugh Yoga school, leads participants in a session of laugh yoga during the USAG Stuttgart Resiliency Carnival at Patch Fitness Center Feb. 5. Laugh yoga incorporates stretching exercises and forced laughter and smiling into a mood-lifting exercise, and was one of several comprehensive fitness related activities during the recent Resiliency Carnivals. For the full story and more photos, see Pages 12-13. — *Photo by Greg Jones, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office.*

OPINION: FAREWELL

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Commander bids fond farewell

Commentary by Col. John P. Stack
USAG Stuttgart commander

The past three years have easily been among the best in my entire career, and perhaps even my entire life, and long after I've hung up my uniform and Petrina and I have settled down to watch the grandkids grow up, we'll remember our time here with great fondness.

We've had the chance to enjoy travel opportunities and the diverse, rich culture this city has to offer. We've been able to go shopping in the bustling downtown area of Germany's fourth largest metropolitan area, and then just a 45-minute drive later, be in the heart of the Black Forest, a national forest that is, quite literally, the stuff of German legend.

And yet what's really made this such a great assignment is the community we've been a part of. It's unlike other community in the world.

It starts with our fantastic and gracious hosts and neighbors in Stuttgart and the surrounding communities. In my role as the garrison commander I have an opportunity to interact with the civic leadership of the greater Stuttgart area, and as a service member living in Germany, I get to interact with Germans on a daily basis, much like the rest of this military community. In the few years I've been here, they have never made me feel like an outsider or visitor, but more as a neighbor, a fellow community member, almost a family member.

The host nation community here is warm and welcoming, and enthusiastically supportive of our military community. From cooperative efforts like the improved heating plant project, to the absolutely vital host nation employees among our ranks, to the day-to-day business of supporting a 22,000-plus military community, this garrison and the tenant units it supports couldn't ask for more engaged and supportive hosts.

On post, we enjoy a vibrant joint services community. One of only two military installations with two combatant commands, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart also supports a number of other diverse and crucial organizations. These tenant units are actively engaged in critical missions for our nation every day, and the pace of operations rarely slows for them. Despite that, they still manage to do something more than just reside in this community; they contribute to it on a meaningful basis.

The final piece of the puzzle in the USAG Stuttgart community is the workforce of professional, dedicated garrison employees. From the team at the



Col. JOHN P. STACK
Commander, USAG Stuttgart

Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate who provide a wide variety of support for service members and their families, to the military police and firefighters overseeing the day-to-day emergency and security operations, to the many others throughout this amazing staff, this team works hard to go unnoticed.

What I mean by this is because of their hard work, the vehicle registration office is able to handle customers in a timely manner, and Military Police are on patrol keeping our roads and communities safe. The gyms open on time in the early hours of the morning, and hundreds of working families have child care. All of these day-to-day things go unnoticed unless there is some sort of challenge.

Making things go smoothly so that the customer is not aware of what's going on in the background is only achieved through dedication and professionalism. So, the next time you don't notice a wait at vehicle registration, the next time you don't see a car speeding through housing, or the next time your morning routine includes hitting the gym early, you can thank a garrison team member, because they make that possible.

But there's so much more to what we've all been able to do together as a team. Our German partners, our tenant units and the amazing garrison workforce here have put their shoulders together and pulled this community through some major accomplishments.

The garrison won the Army Communities of Excellence Most Improved award in 2014 for a variety of community efforts, including an aggressive water and energy efficiency program that generated almost \$2 million in cost savings, and major initiatives to improve quality of life for the assigned personnel. For the first time in over 10 years, we reduced our total energy costs by more than \$2 million over the last

year through a multi-layered energy conservation plan that included utilities modernization projects, renewable energy project execution, and the Green Boot energy conservation program.

We also broke ground on a Panzer school complex that I think will be one of the greatest improvements to this garrison for a very long time. This elementary and high school complex will provide a state-of-the-art learning facility and a perfect learning environment for our students. Opening this complex will also allow a shuffling of other schools that will enable significant improvements to those facilities as well.

We also continually improved our facilities here, including remodeling projects at both the medical and dental clinics, expanding our vehicle registration and inspection facility, and adding balconies to our family housing units to further improve the quality of life of our families living in Army housing.

One thing that's critical to our operations in the garrison is our ability to reach the community members with important and useful information. The improvement of our ability to reach those audiences has been astounding.

There has been a 77 percent increase in the use of our website, a 35 percent increase in smartphone engagement and a 66 percent growth in our social media subscription rate. Most impressive though, is the 650 percent increase in social media engagement and the four-fold growth of our daily email subscribers. Truly, we are keeping this community informed like never before.

I could continue on detailing the great things this community has accomplished, but most of you reading this already know what a great community this is, populated by great people.

I want to close by reiterating that it is not the on-post facilities, or the great sites and communities outside the gate that have made this a great assignment. Nor is it the great things we have accomplished together, though that is also something I will take with me forever.

It's simply the people that make up this community. From our host nation neighbors and friends, to the service members, civilians and families of this joint community, to the hard-working garrison workforce; it is all of you who have made this such a great assignment. It is each and every one of you who have made me truly feel our garrison motto on a daily basis; "I'm glad I live here!"

From the entire Stack family, to the entire Stuttgart military community, thank you so much for a wonderful experience, and we wish you all the best of luck.

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IMCOM Europe region director visits Stuttgart

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart played host to Installation Management Command Europe senior leadership Command Europe senior leadership during a visit here Feb. 10.

Michael Formica, IMCOM Europe region director, and Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez, IMCOM Europe's senior enlisted advisor, met with leaders, service members, family members and civilians of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart during Formica's first visit to the garrison.

Formica officially took the helm of IMCOM Europe last month.

As director for the IMCOM's Europe Region, Formica is responsible for management and execution of all installation management programs at seven garrisons in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy.

"The visit provided Mr. Formica an opportunity to talk with our directors, get a firsthand look at ongoing construction projects and discuss ways that IMCOM can support our infrastructure challenges," said Col. John P. Stack, the USAG Stuttgart commander.

During his visit, Formica, accompanied by Stack, toured Panzer Kaserne and the construction sites of the new schools. The entourage then went to Robinson Barracks for a working lunch with garrison directors at the RB Club, where Formica stressed the importance of the ongoing mission of the U.S. military in Europe, the importance of IMCOM's support to operational units across Europe and the importance of working to ensure a strong Europe.

Formica then toured Patch Barracks,

where he met with Lt. Gen. William B. Garrett, the U.S. European Command deputy commanding general. He then visited the Defense Information Systems Agency Europe facilities, the Military Police station, where he discussed the dispatch capabilities of the garrison's military police and fire department with Maj. James Ramage, the Director of USAG Stuttgart Emergency Services, and toured the Patch Child Development Center.

Meanwhile, Command Sgt. Maj. Montez was accompanied by Command Sgt. Major Lynice Thorpe, the garrison senior enlisted advisor, on a tour of several Panzer Kaserne facilities. Montez visited the Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program office, the Education Center, and other service providers in Building 2915, and spoke to newcomers during an in-processing class at the Central Processing Center. Montez also ate lunch with USAG Stuttgart Soldiers at the Panzer Dining Facility.

On Patch Barracks, the senior enlisted advisors stopped at the Warrior Zone, where they met with the advisor and president of Stuttgart's Better Opportunities for Single Service members program. Montez also took time to meet with his counterparts at DISA Europe, EUCOM and U.S. Africa Command.

Kimberly Formica, who accompanied her husband on the visit, spent the day touring several of USAG Stuttgart's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities, as well as the Stuttgart Army Wellness Center and the Physical Therapy Clinic.



Michael Formica, (from left) the IMCOM Europe region director, and Col. John P. Stack, the USAG Stuttgart garrison commander, are on their way to tour the Patch Child Development Center during Formica's visit Feb. 10. The region director was here to talk with garrison leaders, get a firsthand look at ongoing construction projects and discuss ways that IMCOM can support the garrison's infrastructure challenges. As IMCOM Europe's director, Formica is responsible for management and execution of all installation management programs at seven garrisons in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy. — Photo by S.J. Grady, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office.

News & Notes

TARP briefings to be held next month

The 66th Military Intelligence Stuttgart Field Office will hold Threat Awareness and Reporting Program briefings during March at the following locations:

- March 2, Kelley Theatre;
- March 25, Panzer Chapel;
- March 27, Patch Chapel.

Briefings in English will be offered at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and should last approximately one hour.

The briefing is an annual requirement for all Defense Department employees, contractors and service members. Family members are not required, but highly encouraged to attend.

If an organization requires a brief in German, contact the Stuttgart Field Office at 591-5001.

Observe Black History Month Feb. 26

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Equal Opportunity Office, along with EO leaders from across the military community, will host a Black History Month observance Feb. 26 in the Kelley Theatre from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Entertainment includes performances from the Patch High School and Stuttgart Gospel Service choirs, and a cultural food sampling. Displays will highlight

aspects of African American culture, and a short film will look back on 100 years of Black history.

For more information, call the USAG Stuttgart EO Advisor at 430-7945/civ. 0162-297-5922.

Ansbach to host bazaar March 20-22

The Ansbach and Illesheim Spouses and Civilians clubs will co-host a Near and Far Spring Bazaar March 20-22 featuring vendors from all over Europe. The bazaar will run Friday and Saturday from noon to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hangar 2, Katterbach Army Airfield. Vendors will accept U.S. dollars only.

For further information, contact ascgermany@googlemail.com.

CFC-O announces 2015 coin design contest

The 2015 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas Annual Coin Design Contest invites eligible ID cardholders to create a coin design that embodies the spirit of the campaign: "Give because you care." The chosen design will be featured on a commemorative coin distributed to select contributors during the 2015 CFC-O. Contest entries will be accepted through March 15.

Interested designers can obtain detailed instructions and submission guidelines at <http://cfcoverseas.org>.

Funding shortfalls force prioritization of housing maintenance

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Due to funding shortfalls in the Army-wide family housing budget for fiscal year 2015, housing maintenance services are currently limited to Priority 1 service orders; those that address conditions that present a danger to life, health or safety.

Service orders for any sort of water or heating outages, or critical broken appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers will still be done, as will any service orders for major electrical outages, according to Glenn Mitchell, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart director of housing services.

All services are expected to return to normal with fiscal year 2016 funding beginning in October.

Customers can continue to call in service orders and the service orders will be entered into the database, but only the Priority 1 service orders will be acted on until the funding shortfall is addressed.

These funding shortfalls have also caused the closure of all of the housing self-help stores until further notice. Basic, critical household items like light bulbs and other small maintenance supplies can be purchased at the Exchange, Exchange Express stores or off-base at home improvement stores for prices comparable to those found in the U.S. Customers may also wait for a possible resolution to funding that would re-open the self-help stores.

Change of occupancy maintenance is also currently not being done, however there is an inventory of suitable housing for most lower-enlisted families. This housing has had change of occupancy maintenance completed.

If housing that has had proper change of occupancy maintenance is not available, families will be provided a certificate of non-availability to seek

off-post housing options. Those families will be provided all of the housing referral services associated with that process.

As an alternative, families may request to view units that have not had change of occupancy maintenance. If they find the quarters suitable for them, they may voluntarily accept the quarters as-is. They will be given a statement of as-is acceptance and the move-in condition of the quarters will be documented. When they vacate the quarters those families will be allowed to turn those quarters in as-is, as long as the condition matches what was documented at acceptance.

For families clearing housing, the quarters must still be brought up to the appropriate standards for clearing (unless accepted under an "as-is" agreement). This includes painting over walls that have been painted other colors by the occupant. A housing policy allows residents to repaint quarters with certain light colors at their own expense as long as they return the walls to the original color. The paint color the contractors use for housing, and the standard color throughout housing, is RAL9003 MallerWeiss. Providing that exact paint match number to just about any of the local hardware or home improvement stores will get the customer the correct paint for repainting, or touch-up painting.

Light bulbs and other small items that may need to be replaced can also be purchased locally or at the Exchange.

Finally, each sponsor will get a pre-inspection walk-through with a housing inspector several weeks prior to clearing housing. During this pre-inspection, residents can discuss with the housing inspector specific items that may or may not need to be replaced or repaired prior to clearing. Housing



To preserve resources for critical services, such as repairing water leaks, fire and smoke alarm systems, and other issues affecting life, health and safety, USAG Stuttgart housing maintenance services in other areas have been limited until funding becomes available. — Photo by Shutterstock.com.

inspectors can also help explain the various options to those in the process of preparing their quarters for clearing.

"We understand this impacts our valued customers in this joint community, and we are working very hard to address the funding shortfall," said

Mitchell. "The health and safety of our service members and their families is of the utmost priority so we are still doing those critical service orders that may cause risk of injury or illness, and we want customers to continue to call those orders in."

Ask a JAG: German traffic points system

By Werner Sukup
Stuttgart Law Center

Question: Can you explain the German traffic points system and how tickets affect my driving record?

Answer: As in the U.S., the Germans use a points system, assigning offenders demerit points according to the severity of the offense. The more points you accumulate, the worse off you are.

In Germany, once a driver accumulates four to five points, he or she will receive a warning, along with information about the points system. With six to seven points, a

driver must attend two 90-minute seminars within three months of notification. With eight or more points, the driver's license is revoked.

Examples of one point offenses include following too closely, illegal passing, failing to yield at a railroad crossing, racing and the obstruction of emergency vehicles.

Two point offenses include unintentional injury, coercion, operating a motor vehicle with a breath alcohol concentration of 0.25 mg / l or more, or with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.5 parts per thousand or more, and failure to aid.

Three point offenses include man-

slaughter, unintentional injury, coercion, dangerous disruption of road traffic, dangerous driving, failure to stop after an accident, drunk driving, failing to provide aid or assistance, and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

These points are in addition to any fines, penalties or damages that may result from an infraction.

Points will remain on a driver's record for a minimum of 2.5 years. Serious violations may remain on the record for as many as 10 years. Unfortunately, there are no voluntary options to reduce one's points.

This new penalty point system was put into place in May 2014. If you had previously acquired points, they have been converted to a new eight-point scale with the following results: 1-3 points = 1 point; 4-5 points = 2 points; 6-7 points = 3 points; 8-10 points = 4 points; 11-13 points = 5 points; 14-15 points = 6 points; 16-17 points = 7 points.

Editor's Note: Do you have a legal question you would like to see answered in a future edition of the "The Citizen?" If so, contact "Ask a JAG" at usarmy.stuttgart.21-tsc.mbx.tax@mail.mil.

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A PLACE YOU CAN CALL HOME

IMPROV COMEDY COMES TO PATCH

Armed Forces Entertainment will bring improvisational comedy group Four Day Weekend, based out of Fort Worth, TX, to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart for a performance at the Patch Community Club March 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Cast members Oliver Tull, Joshua Roberts, Anthony Bowling and Zachary Muhn create a performance from audience suggestions and participation.

The show is free.

BASKETBALL TEAM HOLDS TRYOUTS

The Stuttgart Eagles Basketball Club is an authorized private organization for U.S. military dependent children whose parents are assigned to units within the Stuttgart military community.

The Eagles play friendly games against German youth teams.

The Stuttgart Eagles Basketball Club will hold tryouts for boys and girls March 1 and 8 in the Panzer Fitness Center.

Tryouts for Under 10 and Under 12 boys and girls teams will be held March 1 from 9-11 a.m. Tryouts for the Under 15 girls team will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

On March 8, tryouts will be held for Under 14 boys from 2-3:30 p.m., Under 16 boys from 3-4:30 p.m. and Under 18 boys from 4-6 p.m.

For more information, visit the team's website at www.stuttgarteagles.com.

GARRISON CHANGE OF COMMAND

Col. Glenn K. Dickenson will replace Col. John P. Stack as commanding officer of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart during a change of command ceremony scheduled for Feb. 27.

The ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. in the Patch Fitness Center, Building 2337.

Michael D. Formica, the region director for Installation Management Command Europe, will preside over the ceremony.

Dickenson comes to USAG Stuttgart after serving as the chief, of the Current Operations Division, Department of the Army G2.

Dickenson is married and has three teenage children.

Stack will now report to Fort Bragg, N.C., where he will prepare for a yearlong deployment to the U.S.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

The Stuttgart Theatre Center will present "Her Stories," a collection of African and Caribbean folk tales.

Performances will be held Feb. 20, 21 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. A matinee performance is scheduled for Feb. 22 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for students.

Reservations can be made by calling the theater box office at 420-3055/civ. 0711-729-3055 (Tuesday through Friday, 12:30-5:30 p.m.) or online at www.stuttgart-armymwr.com.

For Black History Month, the Patch Movie Theater will also feature a special viewing of "The Butler" Feb. 22 at 5 p.m.

For more information, call the USAG Stuttgart Equal Opportunity Advisor at 430-7945 or civ. 0162-297-5922.

HOUSING OFFICE TO CLOSE EARLY

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Housing Office will close Feb. 23 at 2:30 p.m. for employees to attend a workforce town hall meeting.

UMUC TO HOLD CLEP-A-THON

The University of Maryland University College will host a CLEP-A-Thon Feb. 26-27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Panzer Education Center to allow students to earn college credit by taking as many CLEP/DSST exams as they can manage.

Most of the computer-based exams will provide instant scores.

The testing is free for active duty service members (except for retakes) and \$100 for civilians.

No appointment is necessary.

The last test starts at 3 p.m.

Service members should bring their U.S. military ID card. Civilians will need a credit or debit card.

The testing will take place in Room 423b, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-2303/2305 or civ. 07031-15-2303/2305, or send an email to ntcstuttgart-europe@umuc.edu.

MILITARY SAVES WEEK FEB. 23-28

Military Saves Week, Feb. 23-28, is an annual opportunity for service members and their families to assess their own saving status.

When you take the Military Saves Pledge to save money, reduce debt, and build wealth over time, you'll also receive regular newsletters with savings advice from national experts.

For more information, visit www.militarysaves.org.

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN MEETS FEB. 27

Join WIC Overseas Feb. 27 from 10-11 a.m. for a morning of hands-on cooking, prizes and storytelling. This is a free event for children ages 3-5 (parents must be in attendance). Space is limited, so call 07031-15-3351 to reserve your spot.

You do not need to be a WIC participant to attend.

PCSING SOON?

For those who plan to relocate to a new duty station this year, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Central Processing Facility will host permanent change of station/preseparation briefings March 4 and 18, April 1 and 15, and May 6 and 20.

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

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

Information will be provided from agencies such as transportation, customs, health and dental

clinic, Tricare, vehicle registration, housing and Army Community Service. Army personnel will also receive a briefing on finance issues.

All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive pre-separation information.

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

LEARN SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Employee Assistance Program will host an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training workshop Feb. 24-25 at the Panzer Chapel.

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

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

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

EXPANDED POST OFFICE HOURS

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Post Offices

on Panzer Kaserne, and Patch and Kelley Barracks are now open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. On Thursday, these APOs are open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The APOs are closed on U.S. federal holidays and weekends.

SELF HELP ISSUE POINTS NOW CLOSED

Because of funding cuts in the Army Family Housing budget, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Self Help Issue Points on Patch and Robinson Barracks are closed until further notice.

Items normally available at Self Help, such as light bulbs, hardware and painting supplies, can be purchased at any home improvement store off post or Family Housing residents may elect to wait until these items are again available.

VOLUNTEER FOR SPRING BAZAAR

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club will host the 2015 Spring Bazaar March 13-15 on Patch Barracks.

Volunteers are needed March 8-15 to assist vendors, check ID cards and help in the finance office. Teens can volunteer by making home-baked goods or helping the hospitality committee.

All volunteers will have two hours of early VIP shopping privileges March 13

and will be entered into a special raffle reserved for volunteers.

To find out more information on how to become a bazaar volunteer, visit www.stuttgartspringbazaar.org.

GET FREE HELP WITH FILING TAXES

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

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

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

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

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

Send your community-wide announcements to editorial@stuttgartcitizen.com.

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Storks: in Germany, the stuff of legends

By Teri Weiss

Special to The Citizen

Last month, various regional newspapers reported that several storks had been sighted in “the Ländle,” or state of Baden-Württemberg. Apparently, the birds returned one and a half months earlier than usual. In past years, storks have migrated back from their winter quarters in Spain, the Mediterranean and North Africa around the middle of March and in early April.

In Southwest Germany storks have been celebrated for centuries as messengers of spring and good luck, and as coat-of-arms motifs. In fact, many legends revolve around these large, black-and-white feathered, long red-beaked, red-legged migratory strutting birds.

For centuries, storks have been associated with new babies and families. Here, as in the U.S., storks are depicted as delivering a newborn in a cloth bundle to the doorstep or window sill of its welcoming parents.

The legend is part of ancient European folklore popularized by the Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen during the 19th century in a story called “The Storks.”

Carl Spitzweg, a German romanticist painter and poet during the 19th century, even dedicated a painting to the stork, called “Klapperstorch,” or The Stork, in 1885.



For centuries, storks have been associated with good luck, the arrival of spring, and various myths and legends. In centuries past, people felt fortunate to have storks nesting on the roofs of their homes. It was believed that they would protect the house from fire, lightning and other natural, and even manmade, disasters. — *Photo by Shutterstock.com.*

And they tend to come back to the same nesting place often with the same partner, year after year.

For years efforts have been made to increase the dwindling stork population not only in

Baden-Württemberg, but throughout Germany, by improving the local environment with the restoration of wetlands and meadow areas for storks to roost. In 1975, 15 pairs were sighted. Last year, 760 pairs were counted in

the region. Their arrival is quite an event in towns lucky enough to have them choose to settle there.

If you live on the economy, perhaps you might be witness to such a joyful happening. If so, happy stork watching!

German folk sayings ‘predict’ seasonal change

By Teri Weiss

Special to The Citizen

As with all other cultures, local and regional customs developed over centuries out of distinct religious beliefs, festivities and agricultural events.

The fact that some of these traditions are still observed today add a welcoming touch of warmth and light to the cold, dark winter months.

February is the second month of the year in our modern western, or Gregorian, calendar. Some old German names refer to February as “Taumond,” or thawing month, “Schmelzmond,” melting month, “Narrenmond,” fools’ month, and “Hornung.” The latter meaning the stags shed their antlers and grow new horns.

Some of you might have already noticed that the mornings start getting

lighter earlier and the days are getting longer. Also, the first flowers and buds appear out in nature.

Snowdrops, also known as “Candlemas Bells,” or “Schneeglöckchen,” are one of the earliest to bloom between January and February. The bulbous plant symbolizes hope that milder weather and spring are on their way in a matter of weeks.

In the various peasants’ guides for farming, hundreds of years of observations have fashioned the rules for the agricultural year based on past weather and seasons, and may or may not indicate what’s in store for us today. Some of these Old German “Bauernregeln,” or peasants’ sayings, state:

- “Februartau bringt Nachfrost im Mai.” February dew will bring night frost in May.
- “Viel Nebel im Februar, viel Regen

das ganze Jahr.” Lots of fog in February, much rain all year.

- “Wenn's im Hornung nicht schneit, kommt die Kält zur Osterzeit.” If there’s no snow in February, the cold will come at Easter.

- “Im Februar Schnee und Eis, macht den Sommer heiss.” Snow and ice in February will make for a hot summer.

Take your pick of these premonitions. The little farmers’ wives’ ditty in Swabian dialect sums it all up: “Dr Februar isch älls no kalt Ond Obends dunkelts au no bald. Oft gib't no Schnee ond kalta Wind, im zwoita Monet mir jetzt sind. Doch Lichtmess isch im Februar, do wird's dann wieder heller ab zwoita, des isch währle war, ab Lichtmess do gots schneller.”

Translated, the poem reads: Everything’s still cold, and evening darkness comes early. Often there’s



Snowdrops, also known as “Candlemas Bells,” or “Schneeglöckchen,” bloom between January and February. The bulbous plant symbolizes hope that milder weather and spring are on their way in a matter of weeks. — *Photo by Shutterstock.com.*

snow and a cold wind blowing in the second month of the year. But Candlemas is in February. As of the second, this is true: it will be lighter much earlier each day.



Krakow, Poland, is one of Europe's best bargains. According to the travel website PriceofTravel.com, a frugal couple staying in a low cost, three-star hotel can expect to pay about \$105 per day for lodging, transportation, meals and entertainment, while a person sleeping in a hostel will pay about \$30 for the same expenditures. — Photo by De Visu/Shutterstock.com.

Traveling Europe on the cheap

By Megan Brown & S.J. Grady
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

If you resolved this year to save money and travel more, 2015 could be the year to do both.

With the dollar at its strongest against the euro since 2003 and predictions that the euro will continue to fall, there's no better time to start checking things off your bucket list.

Keep in mind a stronger dollar will hardly make a dent in certain European cities known for luxury. Think Paris, Venice, London, Copenhagen, Brussels, Oslo and Zurich -- all considered among Europe's most expensive cities, according to USA Today.

So in order to maximize your dollar, we suggest that you pick your destinations wisely.

A good place to start your research is Price of Travel, an online database of travel costs for 110 cities worldwide, 56 of them in Europe. The site's Europe Backpacker index for 2015 ranks cities from cheapest to most expensive based on the price of a hostel bed, two public transportation rides, the cost of one cultural attraction and other incidentals for each day in that city.

If you prefer the comfort of a private hotel room, the site's 3-Star Travel index rates 51 European cities, substituting a shared hotel room and taxi rides for the hostel and public transportation.

Once you have your locations targeted, how do you get there?

Flying

You probably are already aware of price-comparison website giants such as Kayak, Expedia, etc. But when

searching for budget airfares within Europe, guidebook author and TV travel host Rick Steves suggests sky-scanner.com as the best site to use.

For international flights and unusual combinations of flights, New York Times travel columnist Stephanie Rosenbloom recommends Momondo.com.

Or you can go straight to the source.

Europe has a number of low cost airlines, the largest and most established being easyjet, Ryanair, germanwings and airberlin.

Germanwings and airberlin fly various routes out of Stuttgart, and this summer, easyjet will add Stuttgart to its routes from London, while Ryanair will add a route between Manchester and Stuttgart.

Hannah Schlagel, a member of the Stuttgart community, said she loves flying on low cost airlines because of the rock bottom fares, but warned about the carry-on situation.

"My husband and I always take backpacks since they are strict on their hand luggage, but they never asked us to weigh the backpacks or check the size. It's a great way to get from A to B," she said.

Some airlines offer surprise bookings for travelers willing to give up control in exchange for savings.

"We did two blind booking trips. The first took us to Brussels and the second to Milan. We find it exciting to travel this way, as it was cheap and exciting," said community member Anna Schuhart.

Travel experts also suggest you can save money by flying on holidays, early in the morning, in and out of places

where there's airline competition and by opting for a smaller airport in a metro area.

Riding the rails

An alternative travel mode is by train. While train travel is not always the least expensive, traveling by train in Europe is comfortable and relaxing.

Most European train systems offer discounts for travelers under 26, free passage for children under 15 when traveling with an adult, special group rates and weekend deals. And you can usually save a substantial amount when you buy tickets in advance.

Many systems offer rail cards that allow travelers to save 25 to 50 percent on tickets, and are valid for a year from the purchase date.

Deb Teagan took advantage of the German train system's rail card for a trip from Stuttgart to Paris on the TGV, the French high speed train. "It saved us over 25 percent on the fare, and the train goes really fast ... we made it each way in three and a half hours," she said, adding that she hopes investing in the card will help her family travel more without having to use a car.

According to James Feess, one of the creators of the website The Savvy Backpacker, if you are planning a complicated rail journey, the German train website, www.bahn.de, is a good place to do your homework. While you won't be able to buy tickets online unless you're buying tickets for German train travel, you'll be able to see the schedule of just about every train in Europe. You'll also find out if reservations are needed and if sleeping cars are available.

Lodging

Hotels can be expensive. Fortunately there are several options for those who are willing to try something different.

Hostels are a great low budget choice. A hostel is somewhat like a no-frills hotel, only with dorm rooms and shared bathrooms. You basically rent a bed. Some hostels offer double and family rooms, but these should be booked in advance and can cost a little more. Prices can range from €30 to €90.

The invention of room-rental websites allow travelers to bypass the hospitality industry and rent accommodations such as single rooms, apartments, trailers, villas and castles, and live like the locals.

Bri Tegtmeier said she loves this option because it saves her family money not only on accommodations, but also on other amenities such as Wi-Fi, and means her family has access to a full kitchen where they can store snacks or prepare meals.

When booking, Tegtmeier advises families to inquire if linens are included or if the host offers discounts for staying a longer period of time, such as more than four nights.

For those with a sense of adventure larger than their pocketbooks, there is always the option of couch-surfing.

If you don't already have friends where you want to visit, you will after registering with an online hospitality exchange organization such as BeWelcome or the Hospitality Club.

These networks bring tourists and travelers together with hosts who offer accommodations free of charge, with the ultimate goal of fostering international friendships and intercultural understanding.

Show your heart some love this month

By Maj. Jasmine Peterson
U.S. Army Public Health Command

Did you know that your heart beats more than 100,000 times a day, pumping nearly 1,900 gallons of blood? This means your heart is beating almost 42 million times and pumping about 700,000 gallons of blood a year.

February is American Heart Month, a time to bring awareness to the risks of heart disease and ways to stay 'heart healthy.' So, show your heart some love this month.

One of the first steps to cherishing your heart is to know and understand your heart health numbers:

Monitor and know your blood pressure

High blood pressure or hypertension is often called the "silent killer" because many do not know they have it; and it is one of the leading causes of death within the United States. A healthy blood pressure is a systolic pressure (the top number, pressure when the heart is beating) below 120 and a diastolic pressure (the bottom number, pressure when the heart rests between beats) below 80.

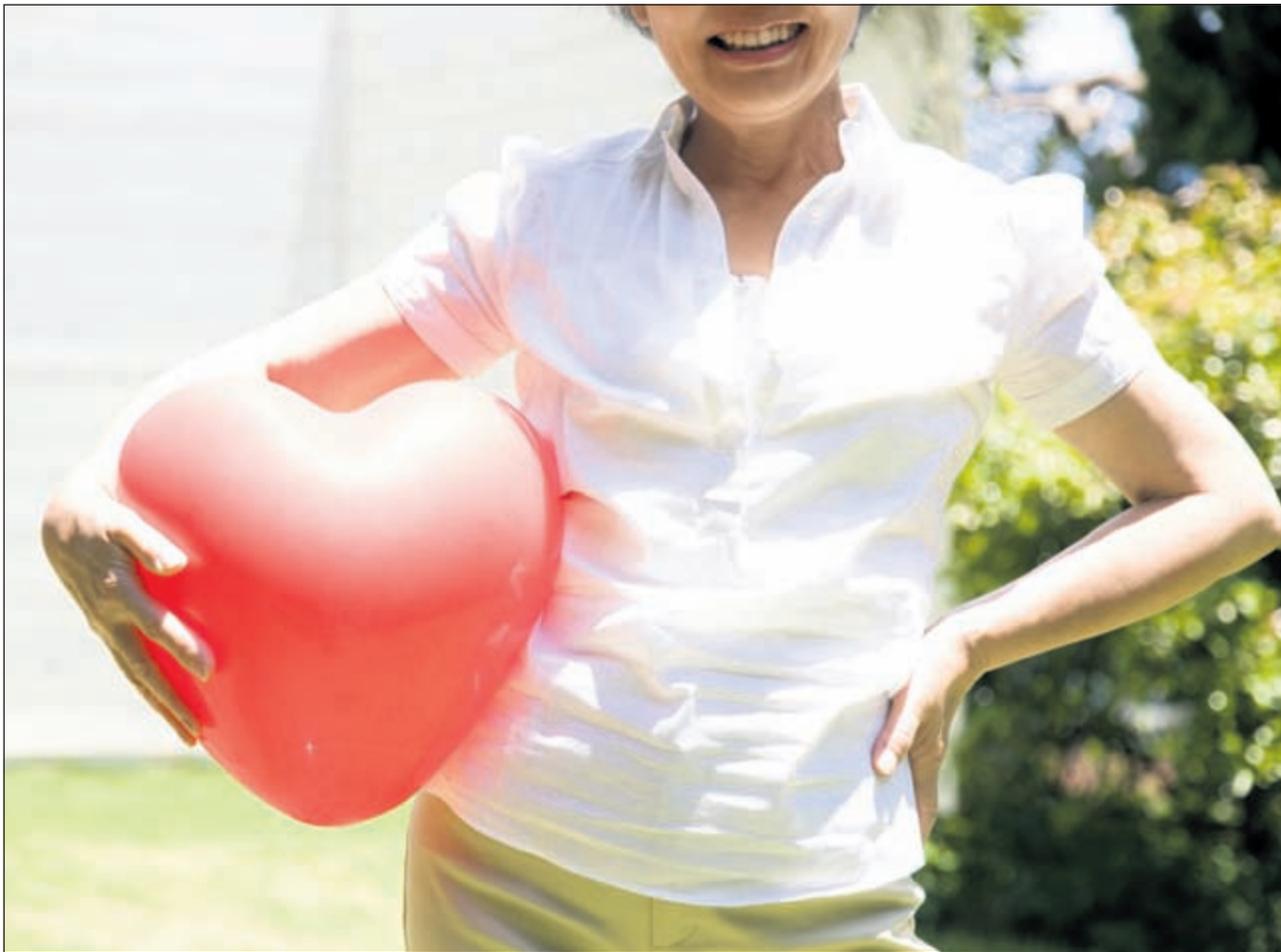
Check your cholesterol

Cholesterol is a waxy fat-like material that your body needs. However, too much of it puts you at risk for heart disease and stroke. You can check your cholesterol through a simple blood test. Get your cholesterol checked every five years, unless your health care provider recommends more frequent checks, ensuring that your heart is pumping as smoothly as possible.

Be passionate about your heart's health by putting some prevention into play.

Track your weight

Maintain a healthy weight. Being



February is American Heart Month, a time to bring awareness to the risks of heart disease and ways to stay "heart healthy." Monitor and know your blood pressure, check your cholesterol and get an annual checkup. — Photo by Shutterstock.com

overweight or obese can increase your risk for heart disease.

Get a yearly check-up

Work with your health care team even if you feel healthy. This is a great way to check for and control conditions that may be putting you at risk for heart disease such as hypertension or diabetes.

Eat healthy

Eat foods high in fiber and low in saturated fat, trans fat, salt and cholesterol. Aim to eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day. Choosing to eat a healthy diet can help you avoid heart disease.

Exercise

One of the best ways to make your heart strong is to work it out. Getting at least 150 minutes of exercise a week, like brisk walking, can help you stay at a healthy weight and lower your cholesterol and blood pressure.

Don't smoke

If you smoke, quit. If you don't, do not start. Smoking cigarettes greatly increases your risk for heart disease. Your health care team can help you quit, so give them a call if you smoke or use tobacco products.

Limit your alcohol

Drinking too much alcohol over

time can increase your risk for heart disease. If you are a woman, stick to no more than one alcoholic beverage a day and if you are a man, no more than two.

So, go ahead and make your heart your valentine this month and try these tips. As always, contact your health care provider before starting any diet and exercise program as well as to get more

For more information on getting healthy, visit the American Heart Association at www.heart.org. Learn more about the Performance Triad at <http://armymedicine.mil>.

Storing medicines, vitamins

USAG Stuttgart Safety Office

Medicines and vitamins can help families stay healthy, but children are curious; to keep them safe, parents and caregivers must practice safe medicine storage. Medicines and vitamins should always be put out of a child's reach and sight each time they are used.

The following tips can help:

Store medicines in a safe location that

is too high for young children to reach or see.

- Never leave medicine or vitamins out on a kitchen counter or at a sick child's bedside, even if you have to give the medicine again in a few hours.
- Always relock the safety cap on a medicine bottle. If it has a locking cap that turns, twist it until you hear the click.
- Tell children what medicine is and why you must be the one to give it to them.

- Never tell children medicine is candy so they'll take it, even if your child does not like to take medicine.
- Remind babysitters, houseguests and visitors to keep purses, bags or coats that have medicines in them away and out of sight when they are in your home.

To contact the Poison Control Center Europe for emergencies or with questions about poisonings, call 00-800-444-88-444. The number is toll free



from either a cell phone or home phone. The Poison Control Center can also be reached by calling DSN 486-7070/civ. 06371-86-7070.

For more information, visit the National Capital Poison Center website at www.poison.org

What's happening in FMWR

GET READY TO SHOP AT SPRING BAZAAR

More than 50 vendors will offer antiques, home decor, jewelry, artwork, cheese, wine, ceramics and more during the Spring Bazaar March 13-15 at the Patch Fitness Center, the Patch Community Club and various tents in between the two.

The bazaar will be open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To learn more about the vendors and their products, visit the Stuttgart Spring Bazaar Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StuttgartSpringBazaar.

BECOME A FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER

Learn how to become a Family Child Care provider on during an FCC expo March 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Panzer Exchange.

Benefits include free training, job mobility, continuing education credits and professional resources. For more information, call 430-4047/civ. 0711-680-4047.

REGISTER FOR SPRING FLING 5K ON PATCH BARRACKS

The 13th annual Spring Fling 5K run will be held March 28 at 10 a.m. at Husky Field, Patch Barracks.

Register at any USAG Stuttgart fitness center from Feb. 23 to March 22 and pay \$15 per person or \$40 for a family; from March 23-26, the cost is \$20 per person or \$50 per family. The registration fee includes a \$5 deposit for a race chip and will be returned on race day when the chip is turned in.

The first 300 people to register will receive a free T-shirt. Bib pick-up is on March 28 only from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the Patch Fitness Center.

For more information, call 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

COMFORT MEASURES FOR CHILDBIRTH

Don't let fear and anxiety derail your birthing experience. Join the Army Community Service Comfort Measures class Feb. 25 from 5:30-8 p.m. and learn about all aspects of childbirth, and practice breathing, relaxation and positioning techniques with your birthing coach.

Couples are asked to bring a pillow, water bottle and wear comfortable clothes.

The class will be held at ACS, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

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

For more Family and MWR events, visit www.stuttgart.armymwr.com.

COMING TO PATCH THEATER

February 19 — Kingsman: The Secret Service (PG-13) 6 p.m.

February 20 — The Hobbit: The Battle of The Five Armies (PG-13) 6 p.m., Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) 9 p.m.

February 21 — McFarland USA (PG) 3 p.m., TheSpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) 6 p.m., Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) 9 p.m.

February 22 — Strange Magic (PG) 2 p.m., The Butler (PG-13) 5 p.m., Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) 8 p.m.

February 23 — Closed

February 24 — Closed

February 25 — McFarland USA (PG) 6 p.m.

February 26 — Fifty Shades of Grey 6 p.m.

February 27 — The Hobbit: The Battle of The Five Armies (PG-13) 6 p.m., Focus (R) 9 p.m.

February 28 — The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water in 3D (PG) 3 p.m., Focus (R) 6 p.m., Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) 9 p.m.

March 1 — McFarland USA (PG) 4 p.m., Focus (R) 7 p.m.

March 2 — Closed

March 3 — Closed

March 4 — Fifty Shades of Grey (R) 6 p.m.

March 5 — Focus (R) 6 p.m.

March 6 — Chappie (R) 6 p.m., Unfinished Business (R) 9 p.m.



© 2015 - Walt Disney Pictures

McFarland — Set in the 1980s and inspired by actual events, the inspirational Disney sports drama McFarland stars Kevin Costner as a California track coach determined to shape a predominately Hispanic team into state champions.

Family and MWR Advertisement

stuttgart.armymwr.com



FORE

GET HOOKED ON GOLF

Feb. 28, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Stuttgart Golf Course
Aldinger Strasse 975
70806 Kornwestheim

Interested in learning how to golf? Come out to the Stuttgart Golf Course for free golf instructions taught by a PGA Professional. Range balls & club usage are free.

CIV 07141-879-150.



LAUGHING WEEKEND

FOUR DAY WEEKEND COMEDY SHOW

Mar. 5, 6:30 p.m.

Patch Community Club
Patch Barracks, Bldg. 2345

Need a break from your stressful week? Come out to the "Four Day Weekend" comedy show and laugh your workday blues away, as exciting performers bring you hilarious jokes and improvisation. Enjoy great laughs and bar snacks.

DSN 430-7111/CIV 0711-680-7111.



CONQUER THE SLOPES

OBERAMMERGAU & GARMISCH OVERNIGHT

Mar. 7 - 8

Outdoor Recreation
Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2953

Take an overnight trip to Oberammergau & Garmisch with Outdoor Recreation. Price is \$199 for adults (18 and older), \$169 for youth (10-17), \$99 for the SWPC (ASAP) and includes transportation, lodging and equipment rental from ODR. Trip departs Outdoor Recreation at 6 a.m.

DSN 431-2774/CIV 07031-15-2774.

To follow us on Facebook go to www.facebook.com/familyandmwr and





Dina Miller, with her 5-year-old son Kai Miller, enjoy some wild riding during a motorcycle video game that was one of many interactive games at the USAG Stuttgart Resiliency Carnival at Patch Fitness Center.



David Grant, an athletic trainer who has worked with professional athletes and Olympians, demonstrates stretching techniques.



Three-year-old Alexandra Fabbilli takes her best shot.

Stuttgart hosts Resiliency Carnivals

Story and photos by Greg Jones
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

With a carnival-style sledgehammer game, a punching bag contest and even a motorcycle simulator video game, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Resiliency Carnivals held Feb. 5 at Patch Fitness Center, Feb. 12 at Panzer Fitness Center and Feb. 19 at the Kelley Club focused on making resilience fun.

Despite the carnival atmosphere, the core of the event was all about Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness, according to event organizer Martha Povich, USAG Stuttgart Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

“The center of it all is the five dimensions of strength,” Povich said. “Each of the activities somehow links to one of those dimensions, but we’ve tried to make it fun, as well as informative, by presenting it in a carnival-style event.”

Each event featured more than

twenty booths that offered information about resiliency, related concepts or community resources, or some sort of interactive game. The interactive games, which included a ball toss, various Nerf shooting games and even a motorcycle video game, earned participants raffle tickets which were then entered into drawings for a wide variety of prizes.

The carnivals also featured a number of fitness-oriented special events.

In Goal Ball, teams of two pitted against one another on a racquetball court for a blindfolded mix of handball and soccer. The goal of the game is to get a ball (roughly the size of a soccer ball) past the opponents’ defenses and into their goal. The catch: Everyone is blindfolded.

Laugh Yoga was an exercise that combined stretching with forced laughter. The stretching relaxed participants and the forced laughter eventually translated into genuine natural laughter,

boosting participants’ moods.

At the Panzer Fitness Center carnival, licensed athletic trainer David Grant held training sessions in a variety of injury prevention stretches, exercises and concepts. Grant has worked with professional athletes and Olympians.

Additional offerings included “calm and safe place” visualization exercises, body-fat testing, group scavenger hunts and other resiliency related activities.

The combination of fun activities and information resources made for an engaging learning environment, according to Sgt. 1st Class Vincent Horne, 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, who attended the Panzer event.

“I liked having all the different activities and booths to choose from” Horne said. “The way it was presented, Soldiers didn’t have to feel bored or intimidated by the information. It was a good atmosphere for Soldiers to come and learn.”



Feb. 5.



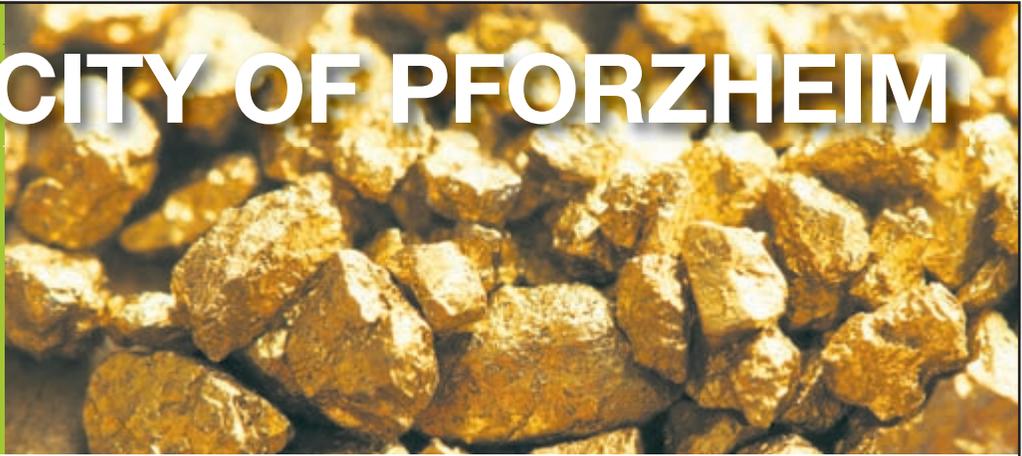
not with a hula-hoop.



Col. John P. Stack, USAG Stuttgart garrison commander, plays Goal Ball during the Patch Fitness Center Resiliency Carnival.

THE GOLDEN CITY OF PFORZHEIM

Visit www.MilitaryInGermany.com for fun and interesting things to do in Stuttgart and throughout Germany.



Just outside the Black Forest in Southwest Germany is Baden-Württemberg's Pforzheim, a city of more than 120,000 people. Pforzheim is famous for its watch and jewelry making industry and is referred to as the Golden City or "Goldstadt". This city, that lies between Karlsruhe and Stuttgart at the convergence of Wurm, Nagold and Enz rivers, awaits your visit.

History

Pforzheim was bombed heavily during World War II with the worst air raid carried out by the Royal Air Force on February 23rd, 1945. The raid in this city was heralded as one of the most destructive of all aerial bombardments during the war. A third of the population (17,600 inhabitants) were killed and approximately 83 percent of the buildings across the city were destroyed. The Allies believed the town was the production center of precision instruments used in the war by the Germans, as well as a major German troops' transport zone. In fact, Wolfram: The Boy Who Went to War, a book by Giles Milton, recounts the dramatic bombardment of Pforzheim. Two decades after the Second World War, the city was rebuilt with a wholly new modern look.



Things to Do

The Golden City has a variety of things to do, especially for visitors. You can start off at the Pforzheim Theater for some classic opera performance, such as the ever fresh Marriage of Figaro. Towards the center of the city is the Jewelry Worlds building or Schmuckwelten, where



the long tradition of watch and jewelry making of the city comes alive. Apart from numerous shops devoted to these products, exhibits are largely present too. A couple of blocks from the Schmuckwelten you will find the Jewelry Museum, a place worth stopping by.

To commemorate the devastating bombing of the city, the square known as the "Platz des 23. Februar 1945" was created close to the modern city hall and only pedestrians are allowed. It includes a modern fountain, flower beds and benches.

The Stadtkirche, a Protestant City Church with a tall spire and green sharp roof can be seen from far, is a very vital landmark for those who have lost their bearings. It was entirely built between 1962 and 1968 using the stones from the neo-gothic 19th century old Stadtkirche, destroyed in the RAF bombing of 1945.

Bird watchers will love the view by the Enz River, whose water has a unique green that attracts lots of exotic birds including the Cinclus cinclus or the Water Ouzel. At the center of

Pforzheim, where the Nagold and Enz confluence, the river banks have been transformed into a walker's paradise with bike and foot trails. It's a pleasant place to walk or bike along, especially on a spring morning.

Make sure your Pforzheim sightseeing does not end before you have taken a look at The Plague, a unique exhibit at the Stadtmuseum (City Museum). This wooden piece of art with some mechanical elements shows a panorama view of the old town of Pforzheim at night during times of the Plague. In terms of size, it is approximately 1.5 to 2 meters in size.

For some soccer moments, make a beeline to the 1st FC Pforzheim 1896 soccer club's Brötzingen Valley Stadium that was first used in 1913.

Food and Accommodation

Grab some unique Pforzheim cuisine at a number of hotels with excellent service and prices. To-



wards the city center close to the Stadthalle is the Parkhotel Pforzheim with first class convenience and great for budget travelers. Another is the Hotel Restaurant Cafe Hasenmayr with clean comfortable large rooms and a lot of parking space.

You can also try out the Hotel Garni Gute Hoffnung, Hotel Krone, Hotel Europa, Hotel Residenz, Queens Hotel Pforzheim-Niefern and Best Western Queens Hotel Pforzheim-Niefern among others, for great food, accommodation and comfort.

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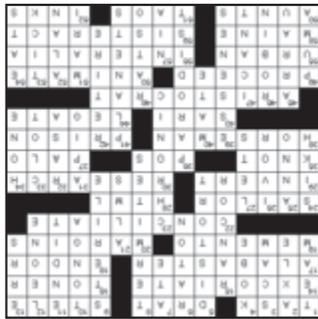
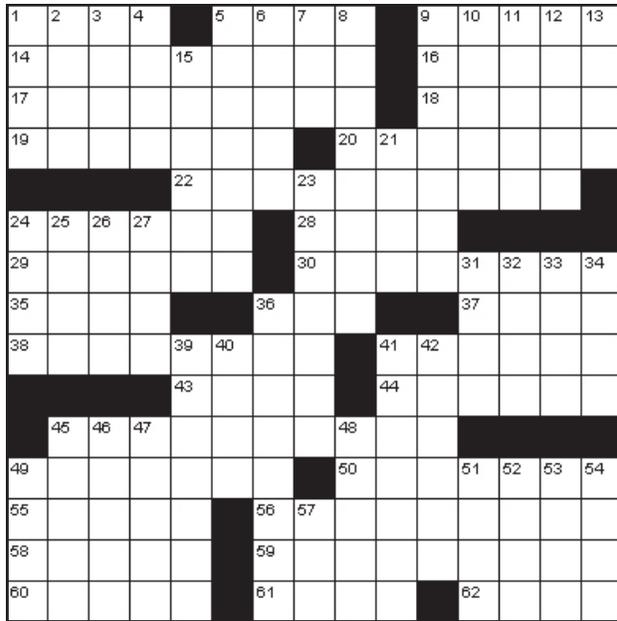
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Crossword Puzzle



This week's solution!
Courtesy of thinks.com

ACROSS

- 1 Chore
- 5 Fieldsian expletive
- 9 Carved monument
- 14 Flay
- 16 Printer refill
- 17 Smooth and white
- 18 Biblical witch's home
- 19 Keepsake
- 20 Borders
- 22 Win over
- 24 Mariner
- 28 Web language
- 29 Flip
- 30 Investigation
- 35 Measure of speed
- 36 Not neg.
- 37 ___ Alto
- 38 Equestrian
- 41 Pen
- 43 Agra attire
- 44 Emissary
- 45 Blueblood
- 49 Go on
- 50 Galvanize
- 55 Built-up
- 56 Among other things
- 58 Pine Tree State
- 59 1992 Whoopi Goldberg movie
- 60 Bee and Em
- 61 New Mexico resort
- 62 Calligrapher's supply

DOWN

- 1 Squad
- 2 Wagon part
- 3 Grifter's ploy
- 4 Honshu seaport

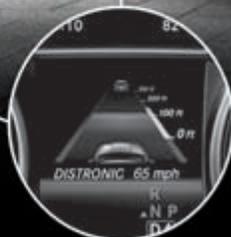
- 5 Misrepresent
- 6 Boca ___
- 7 Broke a fast
- 8 Destructive insects
- 9 Unproductive
- 10 Friendly Islands
- 11 Break up
- 12 "A Fistful of Dollars" director
- 13 Gets it wrong
- 15 Resentment
- 21 Charitable donations
- 23 Persistent
- 24 Punjabi believer
- 25 ___ Domini
- 26 Actor-songwriter Novello
- 27 "Shall we?" response
- 31 ___ in a poke
- 32 Tabula ___
- 33 Coagulate
- 34 Sharpen
- 36 One taking off
- 39 Ancient ascetics
- 40 Chess conclusion
- 41 Orbiting bodies
- 42 Bow out
- 45 Concert pianist Claudio
- 46 Red-breasted bird
- 47 "___ Help Myself" (Four Tops hit)
- 48 Hoffman's "Midnight Cowboy" role
- 49 Mountain lion
- 51 French husband
- 52 Playwright Ayckbourn
- 53 Check mark
- 54 Chows down
- 57 Actress Peeples

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1995 Mazda RX7, Japanese spec, highly modified with 430hp, garage kept, and well maintained by a Mazda professional. Turbo is fairly new. Price is \$30,000 and negotiable. Call or email for more info. 0175-7914858. Email: Wisefamilie@aim.com

2002 BMW 525i Sport Sedan, \$9,995-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent, New Service, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2003 BMW 325i Sport Sedan, \$10,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent, New Service, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: sales@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

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

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

2006 Audi A4 Sedan 3.2 Quattro AT6, €8,000, 0157 32589256 / k4ggmwdp85@snkmail.com, US specs, 89,700 Kms, automatic 6 cyl., leather interior, 6-CD Symphony, all-weather & winter tires, dual-zone A/C, sunroof, rain sensor, cruise control

2006 Volvo C70 T5 Coupe/Convertible, \$103,995-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Navigation, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent Condition! Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2009 Honda Accord LX 2.4 Sport Sedan, \$12,995-, US Spec, Automatic, Cruise Control, HiFi Stereo System, Multi Function Steering Wheel, Perfect Condition, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

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

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

2011 BMW 328i Sport Sedan, \$25,995-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Sport Pack, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent, New Service, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2011 Ford Focus SE Sedan, \$14,695-, US Spec, Automatic, Cruise Control, Power Windows, Alloy Wheels, Cloth Seats, Excellent Condition, Two Owner Vehicle, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2013 Mercedes C-300, \$28700, Factory Warranty to Nov 16, Dealer Maintained, 26K Miles, Contact fxdwngflyr@yahoo.com,

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

2012 Ford Focus Titanium, Fully loaded, excellent condition, 56k miles, great gas mileage, price (\$15,500.00) includes 18" tires on sport rims and 4 nearly new snow tires on rims. alicia.g.yanchi sin.civ@mail.mil or 016094621480. Price is negotiable.

4 Michelin winter tires 205/55R16H, \$250.00, larry_johnson12000@yahoo.com,

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2013 BMW 335i Sport Sedan, \$39,495-, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, Excellent, Remaining BMW Factory Warranty, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2013 BMW X1 28i**Low Miles**Free Home Shipping, inc Drivers Assist, ultimate Pack, Premium Pack & xDrive Like new condition \$31990, Adam Studd: office: +496134-2002-33 cell +49151634-90967 or email adam.studd@bmw-karl-co.de

2013 GMC Terrain "SLE" SUV, \$19,350-, US Spec, Automatic, Cruise Control, Semi Power Seats, Alloy Wheels, Towing Package, Low Miles, Perfect Condition, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

Hamp Synergy, \$18, oil filters. H1540-PFB-004, isabell_1_98@yahoo.com / 017622987498

Jeep Grand Cherokee in excellent, well-kept condition, 1994, Aircon, ABS, Automatic, Power Steering, Airbag, 150.000km, Rootwood Interior, CD-Player, no rust, good condition, mob: 0172 8391637, email:kimbekbaker@aol.com, home: 0631 84234116

Set of 4 summer tires with BMW wheels, \$150, 3 years old, but like new!!! Size= 225/ 50R16. Brand Ventu K102. Mounted on original BMW Wheels. Asking \$150, pickup in Holzgerlingen or Panzer. Contact Kris at krismcwill_04@hotmail.com

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
All ads and pics on class-world.com

KCON - Kaiserslautern Comicon 28MAR15 @ KMCC. 1st Annual Kaiserslautern Comic convention. 1,000's of comics; original art, costume contests; art contests and more! Check out <https://www.facebook.com/KCON15> for more information!

The 2015 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O) Annual Coin Design Contest is underway. The contest is open to all Department of Defense (DoD) employees and their family members to create a 2015 CFC-O coin design that embodies the spirit of the campaign: "Give because you care." The chosen design will be featured on a commemorative coin distributed to select contributors during the 2015 CFC-O this fall. Contest entries will be accepted through 15 March 2015. For more information visit www.cfcoverseas.org.

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ELECTRONICS
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HP 2544 Smartphone and Tablet Printer, \$25 (obo), digioia2@hotmail.com, 015232718331

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

PS4 "Player Bundle" (2 controllers and 3 games), unopened, original packaging with original invoice from Jan 2015, €490, copongracz@gmail.com - more details at !!!!!!! www.class-world.com !!!!!!!

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

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Covenant Fellowship Church

Interested in a church right in your own community of Stuttgart? Covenant Fellowship Church was established on December 30th, 2012 and has been serving your community for the last 2 years. They are an English speaking church in the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition. The emphasis at this church is on preaching and teaching the Bible. Most importantly is the fellowship among their believers. Covenant Fellowship Church provides a warm and welcoming church family for Americans during their stay here in Germany. The current meeting place is in Stuttgart-Möhringen, halfway between Patch and Kelley barracks. This makes your church services only 10 minutes away.

Although the services are conducted in English, they also provide translations of the sermons into German at their evening services. The Covenant Fellowship Church is looking forward to welcoming you! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the friendly Pastor Steve Walton. He would be happy to assist you in any way.

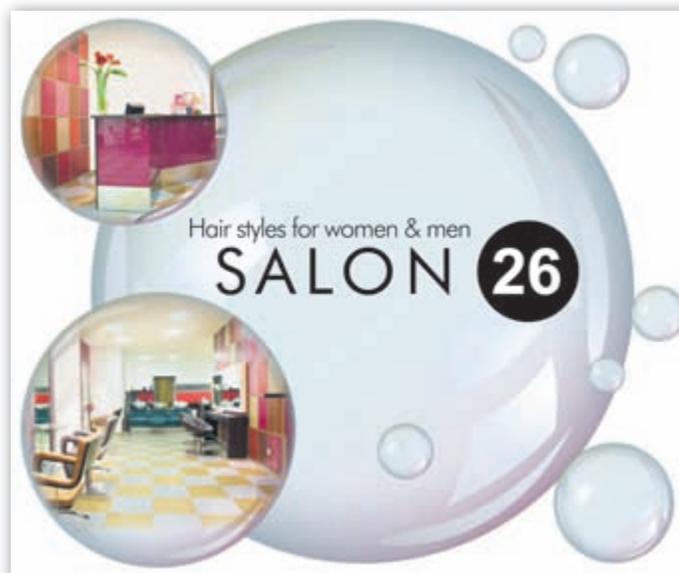
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Salon 26

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2.77
Prawns 25/30 Uncooked, peeled, defrosted for selling, 100 g



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3.99
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5.99
Fürst von Metternich sparkling wine 0.75 l bottle (1 l = € 7.99)



.88
Fa shower gel various kinds, 250 ml bottle ea (100 ml = € 0.35)

Friday Special Feb. 20, 2015 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. - Test our Fitness Salad and get advice from our dietary service with the motto "fit for spring"



Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015, from 09:00 - 12.00 a.m. 1 fish sandwich + 1 glass Sekt, €2,-



2.00
1 fish sandwich + 1 glass Sekt

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015, from 09:00 - 12.00 a.m. Weißwurst breakfast



2.00
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Offers valid from Thursday, Feb. 19 till Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015 - Week 8

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Have fun with the locals



Events

Night of the Jumps

Fri, Mar 6

Berlin, O2 World

These guys are taking freestyle motocross to a whole new level! Extreme stunts and a fun-filled show will keep you on the edge of your seat! Come see them on March 6 in Berlin. Tickets start at €39.80 and the show starts at 8 p.m. For more information or pictures go to www.nightofthejumps.com

EVENTS

Tarzan musical

Thu, Feb 19

Stuttgart, Apollo Theater

On February 19, Tarzan will be swinging from vine to vine in the Apollo Theater in Stuttgart. Come see the story with Jane and Tarzan. This great musical will inspire you. Perfect for children to see their Disney star in real life. Ticket prices start at €63.54. For more information see www.eventim.de

Caribbean night

Fri, Feb 20

Sinsheim, Badewelt

Enjoy a clothing free evening in the Badewelt in Sinsheim on February 20. Listen to the band Black Pearl and see a Brazilian tropical show from the Bahia Dance Group that will give you the feeling of being in the Caribbean. The palm paradise is open for a clothing free evening every Friday. For more information go to www.badewelt-sinsheim.de

Ludwigsburg castle tour

Sat, Feb 21

Ludwigsburg, Residenzschloss

Experience the Residenzschloss (residential castle) Ludwigsburg (just north of Stuttgart) during an English tour every day at 1:30 p.m. Ludwigsburg's castle is one of the biggest baroque castles in Germany, which is still preserved in its original form. The magnificently decorated rooms can only be visited with a tour guide who will inform you about all important facts about the castle. The castle doesn't have to be boring for the little visitors at all. With costumes and antique games, children can

experience the daily life of princes in the 18th century. For more info see www.schloss-ludwigsburg.de.

Finissimo

Sat, Feb 21

Stuttgart, Weingärtner Uhlbach

Wine is a great topic to get familiar with. Come to Finissimo in Stuttgart on February 21 and try various wines as well as discuss everything there is to know about wine. The event starts at 7 p.m. For more information visit www.collegium-wirtemberg.de

Pool party for kids

Sun, Feb 22

Filderstadt, Fildorado

Why not have a day with the kids at the pool on February 22 at Fildorado from 2 p.m - 5 p.m. Enjoy the waterslides or try to balance on the bouncy climbing course in the middle of the pool. Kids can join the exciting races or just have a day of fun at the pool. For more information visit www.Fildorado.de

Bon Bon Museum

Mon, Feb 23

Vaihingen, Bonbon Museum

Let your senses go wild as you come to the Bon Bon Museum in Vaihingen. See all the different kinds of candy and chocolate, and try some. The museum's exhibition covers the history and evolution of candy making from its conception in the 8th century to the fully automated factory production of the 20th century. Actual candy production machines are on display as well as vintage advertising materials and candy packaging. Open Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays

9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more information visit www.bonbon-museum.de

Wine and candlelight hike

Fri, Feb 27

Besigheim, Enzplatz

Take part in the night hike with wine and candlelight on February 27. You will walk from the Enzufer through the vineyards and around Besigheim. The hike will be approximately 4 hours. The price is €32 and included in this price is your ticket, a glass of sekt, one Glühwein and something to eat. For more info about the hike go to www.felsengartenkellerei.de

ABBA Gold

Sat, Feb 28

Ludwigsburg, Schlosspark

This ABBA tribute show brings back the biggest hits of Sweden's most popular band of the last century. See them on February 28. The show starts at 8 p.m. at the Forum am Schloßpark in the Bürgersaal. For more info and tickets visit www.eventim.de

International Easter egg market

Sat, Feb 28

Maulbronn, Kloster Maulbronn

Visit the international Easter egg market in Maulbronn on February 28 and March 1. Whatever you can possibly imagine to do with decorated eggs, you will find it all here. Works by 50 of the finest German and international egg artists will be presented in one of the first egg shows of the season. The egg market takes place in the "Fruchtkasten" hall of Maulbronn monastery (the former harvest storage barn). For more information on the market visit www.ostereiermaerkte.de

SPORTS

Soccer

Fri, Feb 20

Stuttgart, Mercedes Benz Arena

VfB Stuttgart Bundesliga team is playing against Borussia Dortmund on February 20. The game starts at 8:30 p.m. For tickets visit www.vfb.de

International husky racing

Fri, Feb 27 - Sun, Mar 1

Todtmoos, Rennengelände

Come to the international husky race from February 27 to March 1. There will be around 800 huskies and 120 mushers chasing through the Black Forest. Sprint race - pulka - skijöring: 6-24 km. The event starts at 9 a.m. Check the website before you go, as the event may be cancelled due to lack of snow. For more information visit www.todtmoos.de

CONCERTS

Katy Perry

Thu, Mar 5

Köln, Lanxess Arena

See Katy Perry live in Köln at the Lanxess Arena on March 5. Don't miss out on her Prismatic World Tour, as she will only have 4 shows in Germany. For tickets go to www.tickettube.de

Lynyrd Skynyrd

Wed, Apr 29

Ludwigsburg, MHP Arena

See this American rock band on April 29 in Ludwigsburg. Lynyrd Skynyrd is best known for southern hard-rock. Ticket prices start at €69.50. The show starts at 8 p.m. For tickets go to www.eventim.de

More events on: www.militaryingermany.com

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ELECTRONICS
All ads and pics on class-world.com

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

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

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

T-Eumex 220PC, for fast and comfortable internet communication. Isdn \$15, isabell_1_98@yahoo.com,

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

FOR SALE
All ads and pics on class-world.com

Caution: Some Classified ads have become a target for scams. Please be cautious if potential buyers offer you payment methods other than cash.

searing football cleats, €50.00, size: US 9, brand: Nike, new or slightly used, call Alex 015756524692 please don't call before 2 p.m*****

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

The Notebook from Nicholas Sparks - wonderful book!, €2, pic on class-world.com, copongracz@gmail.com

Apollo Amateur Night Tickets, \$20 Now, \$25 at The Door, Contact The POC's on The Attached Flyer! Interested In Performing? Are You Good Enough To Walk Away With a \$500 Cash Prize? Email oo7dizzy77@gmail.com

Are you an avid Nutcracker Collector? You're going to love this must have Vintage Volkmar Matt-hes Nutcracker, infamous King Ludwig. Perfect condition, ~30" tall. Handmade in West Germany of solid wood. Email tropicalparadise96@gmail.com

Bible study books etc, \$20, isabell_1_98@yahoo.com

Black knitted pullover. Size XS but fits also for size M. €5. See www.class-world.com for pictures. Janina.Wuttke@gmx.de

Bracelet - Brown, handmade! Beautiful accessory for any oca-tion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, copongracz@gmail.com, pics on class-world.com

Bracelet - Gray/Black, handmade. Beautiful accessory for any oca-tion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, copongracz@gmail.com, pics on class-world.com

Dark green Roxy Jeans. Size 30. Find pictures at www.class-world.com. €10. janina.wuttke@gmx.de

Engleby from Sebastian Faulks! Great book., €2, pic on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Gorenje Washing Machine WA60149, white, capacity 6kg, lg door 33cm dia, Max spin 400 rpm. Energy class A: engy eff A, spin eff A, wash perf class A; 15 prgms, incl short/delayed start, \$200 obo, avail Erfenbach, call 06301669780.

Handbag "Alexander": Brown, leather bag, hardly used, perfect condition! €8, pics on class-world.com, copongracz@gmail.com

Handbag "Esprit brand": Small bad, black leather, ideal if you only need to carry few things around with you like purse, cell phone etc., €5, pics on class-world.com, copongracz@gmail.com

Handbag: Classy black leather bag. Hardly used, perfect condition!, pics on class-world.com, €15, copongracz@gmail.com

Hollister strapless top. White color, size M. With ribbons to tie a bow on the back. €15. For pics see www.class-world.com. Contact janina.wuttke@gmx.de

Necklace, fashion jewelry, black, different pearls & stones, \$5, s.vogl75@web.de

Org.Thomas Sabo Charm, price new was 49€, never used, was a bday present, selling price €20, for pics please see class-world.com, s.vogl75@web.de

Oversized Cardigan from Re-view. Black and white stripes. For pictures visit www.class-world.com. €10. janina.wuttke@gmx.de

Portable A/C Unit- Asking \$150, 220 Portable A/C Unit. Bought- at OBI 2 summers ago. Works great! Energy efficient, makes rooms nice and cold! Pick up in Holzgerlingen or meet on Panzer. Contact Kris at: krismcwil_04@hotmail.com

Bicycle Trailer, \$40 (obo), simple to connect to an adult bike, our kids loved this thing, digioia2@hotmail.com, 015232718331

Pumps, black, hardly worn, great condition, size 9M!, €5, pics on class-world.com, copongracz@gmail.com, pics on class-world.com

Roller Girls of the Apocalypse, Live Roller Derby*Season Opener*Unisport, Paul-Ehrlich Strasse 28 Kaiserslautern. 1st Bout starts at 18:00! 7€ and up, for more info! Don't miss out!!!<http://www.brownpaper tickets.com/event/1193348>

Sandals "Anne Klein": Classy s..., Sandals "Anne Klein": Classy shoes, brown leather, great to wear at work or for going out at night. Only slight signs of usage. Size 9M, €5, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Shamballa Bracelet - Black/Gray, handmade, adjustable in size, fits almost every wrist. Beautiful accessory for any oca-tion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €12, copongracz@gmail.com

Shamballa Bracelet - Lilac/white, handmade, adjustable in size, fits almost every wrist. Beautiful accessory for any oca-tion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, coemser@gmail.com

Shamballa Bracelet - Purple/white, handmade, adjustable in size, fits almost every wrist. Beautiful accessory for any oca-tion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, copongracz@gmail.com

Slazenger Golf Clubs w/trolley, good starter set of clubs, rarely used, \$40 (obo), digioia2@hotmail.com, 015232718331

T-Shirt "America", perfect condition, like new, size small! €5, copongracz@gmail.com ***pics on class-world.com

Various music CDs for sale, all from the 2000er years. Single CDs from Nelly Furtado, Christina Aguilera etc. for €3, music samplers like Bravo Hits and The Dome €4. For a picture of the selection see www.class-world.com. Contact janina.wuttke@gmx.de

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



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FURNITURE

All ads and pics on class-world.com

2 IKEA Fjelle Bed frames, \$80, (no mattresses), less than one year old. Moving, must sell. They normally retail for \$70 each, selling both for \$80 or \$40 for one. Pickup in Holzgerlingen or on Panzer. Contact Kris: krismcwill_04@hotmail.com

Antique 100 y.o. German china cabinet, matching dining table with 4 chairs. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674., €950, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique Bench, Antique bench with cushion seat, storage space and wheels. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674., €600, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique corner desk. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €150, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique reproduction secretary desk. See photos on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €120, eyates9761@aol.com

Art Deco Mirror from Napier, New Zealand. A beautiful mirror from early 20th Century. Beveled glass. Very good condition. Please see the on-line ad for more details and pictures. €75 firm. agameone@yahoo.com

Beautiful China cabinet with two adjustable glass shelves and two draws. bwg58@icloud.com

Black Steel Bunkbed, \$90 (obo), 8 months old, mattresses not included, lower bunk fits a queen sized mattress, upper bunk fits a twin sized mattress, very sturdy and in very good condition, originally priced 149 EUR, digioia2@hotmail.com

Extending Dining Room Table with Glass Top, \$100 (obo), 215cm when extended (165cm normal length), 90cm high, digioia2@hotmail.com, 015232718331

Hand-Carved Beverage Bar. Beautiful detail. Unique and sure to please. Please see on-line ad for pictures. Personal showing anytime, in Wiesbaden. Buyer pick-up only. €300 firm. agameone@yahoo.com

Leather bed, 180x200cm, incl. 2 x mattresses, 2x slatted frames, has signs of usage, all together only €480 obo, for pick-up only in 66877 Ramstein-Miesenbach, pics online www.class-world.com, call Marco after 5p.m. at 0172-29 88 434

Living Room Furniture complete just four \$450 Phone: 015117610336 Pries: obo

Queen Sleeper Sofa, \$50, cahilldd@yahoo.com, call 0035226361883 for details

TV Stand, \$25 (obo), small chip in back corner but otherwise looks nice, digioia2@hotmail.com, 015232718331

Very Nice antique Sewing Machine perfect for the den or home decor, \$150.00, spvendor@gmail.com

Wooden bookshelf. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674., \$150, eyates9761@aol.com

Dog Kennel, \$100, cahilldd@yahoo.com, call 0035226361883 for details.

French Bulldog puppies, €600, jessicamillar08@gmail.com,

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
All ads and pics on class-world.com

Professional Services are offered by registered businesses as well as private people. To ensure a satisfactory service experience, please always ask for credentials and deny payments up front. For cleaning services, arrange for payments after a final walk-through and inspection of the clean house.

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Wanted: Full-time Dental Office Manager for busy American practice in Ramstein and Wiesbaden. Must have prior management experience. Excellent pay and benefits for the right person. If interested please email resume to: ramsteindentalofficemanager@gmail.com

WANTED
All ads and pics on class-world.com

American teacher needs a free standing house for rent in July 2015. Contact Gloria or Mike 07156-435-6243 or 0173-481-9382 mikenwangoro@hotmail.com

Wanted: Musical Equipment: guitar/bass amplifiers (220v), upright bass (3/4 size), drum kit (jazz/club size). Contact: cxladson@gmail.com

PETS
All ads and pics on class-world.com

There have been reports of pets being sold from breeding facilities that are not managed at the highest professional standards. Please choose your pet carefully. Make sure you check the credentials of the people selling the pet, and get proper paperwork showing shots and/or other proof of healthy condition. For further advice, consult your Veterinarian.

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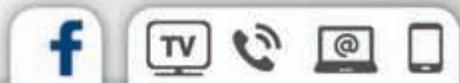
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