



Susan Huseman

Construction of the Panzer Hotel gets underway in February 2009. This photo was taken from the same angle as photo to the right.



Brittany Carlson

The completed Panzer Hotel officially opened Dec. 15, 2010 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The hotel has the capacity for 720 guests.

Panzer Hotel hosts grand opening

By Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

It's official. The Panzer Hotel is now open for guests, following a grand opening ceremony Dec. 15.

"I want to welcome you to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's latest pride and joy — and it's the Panzer Hotel," said Garrison Commander Col. Carl D. Bird during the event.

"This has been a huge project. It's taken a while to come to fruition," he said.

Two years, in fact. Construction on the seven-floor, \$32 million hotel began in January 2009. The project was managed by USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the German construction agency, SHBA (Staatliches Hochbauamt Reutlingen).

The hotel is the 13th lodging facility in the world to be completed under the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Headquarters' Army Lodging Wellness Program, according to Frank Kislán, FMWR Command project manager for major nonappropriated

“It is the first place that your new Soldiers and their families come to ... a warm, hospitable environment”

Frank Kislán

FMWR project manager for major NAF construction in Europe

fund construction in Europe.

The hotel is a result of a 2005 Army Lodging wellness survey, which found that demand in USAG Stuttgart merited another lodging facility.

However, it's more than just a place to spend the night, Kislán added. The Panzer Hotel is the first and last impression that service members and families have of USAG Stuttgart.

"It is the first place that your new Soldiers and

their families come to," Kislán said. "This is their first night, they're tired from PCSing, and they come in here to this facility. They see a warm, hospitable environment ... they enjoy the amenities, and when they leave, hopefully, they have the same feeling."

The Panzer Hotel opened just after the garrison's two oldest hotels, the Hilltop Hotel on Robinson Barracks and Swabian Inn on Patch Barracks, were closed. The Hilltop was recently funded for use as an Army Post Office, according to Stephen Ritterbush, chief of the DPW Master Planning Division.

This leaves the Panzer Hotel and Kelley Hotel to meet the community's lodging demands — a daunting task.

In 2010, 3,387 military and civilian families either moved into or out of the community, according to Iris Jones, USAG Stuttgart Housing Office chief.

The Panzer Hotel is up to the challenge with capacity for 720 guests. The hotel has 69 standard rooms, 84 extended-stay rooms and 65 family suites, and is fully air-conditioned.

See Panzer Hotel on page 4

Pages 9-12

Year in Review: Highlights of 2010

Sports, news, awards and people: Our four-page special section takes a look back at the highlights of 2010 in the Stuttgart military community.



Page 16

Trying to get fit in 2011?

USAG Stuttgart FMWR offers new spin bikes and fitness classes, and variety of ways to help community members keep their fitness New Year's resolutions.



INSIDE THIS EDITION

IMCOM leaders to share vision for the future

Commentary by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
Installation Management Command
commander

Like many others this time of year, I have been reflecting on the past 12 months and looking forward to the new year. In my professional capacity, I am focusing on the future of the Installation Management community. Specifically, I've been asking myself: "What should the Installation Management community look like a year from now?"



Lt. Gen. Lynch

I have been asking this question of Installation Management personnel during meetings, town halls, and garrison visits. I have also been seeking feedback from Soldiers, families and leaders.

This feedback is critical because everything we do is focused on providing Soldiers and families the programs, services and facilities that support their well-being, resilience and readiness.

I urge everyone to continue to send me solid ideas that help answer three

Once we have a shared vision of what "right" looks like, we can figure out how to get there from here.

fundamental questions: Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?

I am meeting with senior Installation Management community leaders this month to develop a shared vision for next year, based on all of this input. Once we have a shared vision of what "right" looks like, we can figure out how to get there from here.

We started 2010 by producing version one of the Installation Management Campaign Plan. The campaign plan laid out a vision, strategy and way ahead for providing the programs, services and facilities that support Soldiers and families. With the campaign plan and the three fundamental questions as our guides, we have continually challenged ourselves to improve our performance.

Some of our efforts are visible to those we serve. For example, based on feedback from Soldiers and families, we have enhanced delivery of

several vital programs, including the Exceptional Family Member Program, Survivor Outreach Services, the Total Army Sponsorship Program, the Army Substance Abuse Program and the Army Continuing Education System.

Many of our efforts will not be immediately apparent to those outside of our workforce. For example, we are reducing the number of administrative regions from six to four and integrating the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command into IMCOM Headquarters. Soldiers and families will see no difference in the quality of support or number of services they receive, but behind the scenes, we will be working smarter. We will streamline the delivery of services to our customers and generate savings that can be applied to Soldier and family programs.

As we build a shared vision of what the Installation Management community should look like and lay

out the plan to achieve that vision, we will continue to challenge ourselves to go beyond what we already know and are comfortable with. We will continue to look at the shape and size of our organization and workforce. We will continue to reach out and build relationships with others committed to supporting Soldiers and families, including universities, businesses, non-government organizations, and other government agencies.

The process of developing a shared vision is important for us to do if we take our jobs seriously. For one, we owe it to our fellow citizens to be good stewards of all the resources entrusted to us. We always have to be mindful of how we impact the environment, how we treat our people and how we spend taxpayer dollars.

An even more important reason to develop this vision is to better provide a strong, supportive environment in which Soldiers and their families can thrive. If the only reason we do something is because we have always done it that way, then we can do better. We owe it to our Soldiers and families to ask what "right" looks like and make sure we are on track to get there.

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ON THE STREET

How will you improve your well-being this year?



Sgt. Altamese Laudor
(U.S. Air Force)

"[I will] change my perspective on eating right and exercising."



John Hamilton
(Civilian)

"Watch a little bit more what I drink."



Kiersten Mathison
(Family member)

"My mom and I, we're going to ... work out as much as we can."



Makayla Lasker
(Family member)

"Running. I run a lot in the house because it's good exercise."



Tech Sgt. Travis Welborn
(U.S. Air Force)

"I plan on trying to gain at least five pounds of lean muscle mass."



Gabriele Evans
(Civilian)

"Continue to be committed to myself ... listening to myself when I need a break."



T.C. Lasker
(Retiree)

"I have a treadmill in my basement which has been sitting there. I need to start putting it to use."



Pat Donerson
(Civilian)

"I'm going to try and get my certification so that I can teach Zumba. It's fun and it's not repetitive."



Richard Herman

Rear Adm. John Messerschmidt, U.S. European Command J7, pins the new Information Dominance Warfare insignia on Rear Adm. Norman Hayes, EUCOM J2, during a ceremony at EUCOM Headquarters on Patch Barracks Dec. 16. Officers who were pinned demonstrated expertise in their particular field.

U.S. Navy prepares for future of information warfare

By Lt. Christopher Nelson (U.S. Navy)
U.S. European Command J2

The U.S. European Command Director of Intelligence presented the first group of Navy officers under the EUCOM umbrella with the new Information Dominance Warfare insignia at EUCOM Headquarters in Stuttgart Dec. 16.

As a service that relies on high levels of technologies, the U.S. Navy is transforming its culture to lead the world of information operations by training experienced personnel from various Navy disciplines.

Rear Admiral Norman R. Hayes, EUCOM director of intelligence, presented the warfare device to 28 naval officers, all from specialties that make up the new Information Dominance Corps.

“As we build for the future of warfare in an age of information ... the Information Dominance Corps places the Navy squarely in the forefront,” Hayes said. “We have taken specific missions that synergize between each other and brought them under one construct.”

“This will exponentially increase the effectiveness and produce optimal effects in the very complex cyber environment,” Hayes added.

Those who qualified for the pin include informa-

tion warfare officers, naval intelligence officers, meteorological and oceanography officers, information professional officers, and space cadre officers.

“The warfare pin signifies a command identity for the Information Dominance Corps and denotes the wearer’s expertise in information-centric disciplines,” according to Rear Admiral Robin Braun, EUCOM deputy J3. “These officers will be viewed not just as enablers, but as warfare specialists, executing and leading the fight.”

These officers demonstrated experience in their particular fields and passed a test demonstrating their knowledge of the new Corps.

Hayes spoke to the officers about their duty to lead the way as some of the first recipients of the new warfare device. He told them to take care of the officers and enlisted working for them, and to ensure their subordinates and understand their roles in the Corps.

The Information Dominance Corps consists of more than 44,000 active and reserve officer, enlisted and civilian personnel Navy-wide and is an initiative of the U.S. Cyber Command.

Editor’s Note: Gloria Colon-Buzatu, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office, contributed to this story.

News & Notes

CFC-O honors Stuttgart units

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart and its tenant units raised a total of \$612,843.38 for the Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas program last month. Garrison Commander Col. Carl D. Bird would like to thank everyone who gave and congratulate them on a job well done.

To honor those units with the highest levels of participation, a CFC award luncheon is scheduled for Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Pavilion in Heidelberg.

Eleven units from the Stuttgart military community will receive awards: **Gold** — 66th Military Intelligence Battalion, 52nd Signal Battalion, 502nd Aviation Regiment and Patch Elementary School; **Silver** — USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobility and Security, Directorate of Public Works and Directorate of Human Resources, and the Navy Communications at Speed and Depth Program; **Bronze** — 554th Military Police Company, Böblingen Elementary/Middle School; **Platinum** — Stuttgart JAG.

(This information was provided by USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Human Resources.)

Mandatory TARP briefings

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will hold Threat Awareness and Reporting Program briefings for military and civilian personnel. Family members are also encouraged to attend.

Briefings in English are scheduled in the Patch Theater Feb. 7-11 at 9 and 11 a.m., and 1 p.m.; a 3 p.m. briefing will also be held on Feb. 8 and 10.

In the Kelley Theatre, English briefings will be held Feb. 14-17 at 9 and 11 a.m., and 1 p.m.; on Feb. 15 and 17 a 3 p.m. briefing is also scheduled. On Feb. 18, briefings will be held at 9 and 11 a.m.

Briefings in German will be held Feb. 7, 9 and 11 at 3 p.m. in the Patch Theater, and Feb. 14 and 16 at 3 p.m. in the Kelley Theatre.

Military and civilian personnel are required to attend a TARP briefing at least once a year.

For more information, call the Stuttgart Field Office at 430-4586/civ. 0711-680-4586.

(This information was provided by the Stuttgart Field Office.)

Electronic devices prohibited

German authorities will assess the use of prohibited electronic devices on Robinson Barracks Jan. 19.

The following items purchased in the U.S., at an exchange or online are prohibited from use in Germany (unless they have CE or BNetzA symbols):

- Baby Monitors (900 Khz)
- V-tech or other wireless telephones (1.8-1.9 Ghz)
- Remote radio-controlled toys
- Other electronic devices without CE or BNetzA symbols.

The frequency range on these devices interferes with host nation communication systems.

U.S. personnel who own these devices are subject to German Federal Communication Center law and fines. German authorities have the right to confiscate the prohibited items and DoD personnel will be held liable by German communication companies or organizations.

Note: Information for this News Brief was provided by the USAG Stuttgart, DES)

Volunteer, submit issues for AFAP conference

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Family Action Plan program is seeking issues that once resolved, will improve the quality of life for U.S. Armed Forces worldwide. Issues will be discussed in the 2011 AFAP conference, set for Feb. 10-11. To submit an issue, visit Army Community Service, go to www.stuttgart.army.mil and click on the link under Hot Topics, or fill out an AFAP issue form at drop boxes located throughout each installation.

Volunteers are also needed. Submit an issue or sign up to volunteer by Jan. 25. For more information, call 431-3362/civ. 07031-15-3362.

Ask a JAG

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

By **Capt. Sean A. Marvin (U.S. Army)**
Stuttgart Law Center

Q: I am planning to marry a German but am unsure of how she can become an American citizen. We also plan to have a child soon. If the child is born in Germany, is there anything we must do to ensure that the child is an American citizen?

A: Before the non-citizen spouse may permanently relocate to the U.S., you as the citizen-spouse will need to sponsor your non-citizen spouse for an immigrant visa.

Following the marriage, the citizen-spouse should file a *Petition for Alien Relative* with the local Consulate General's Office in Frankfurt. You can obtain forms online or by contacting the Stuttgart Law Center. Along with the petition, applicants must include certain other items, including a copy of the marriage certificate and a translated copy of the document. Although applications may be mailed to the Consulate's Office, to avoid unnecessary delays, it is wise to make an appointment to visit that office.

Once the petition is approved, the applicant will be instructed on how to file for a visa, commonly referred to as a "green card." After an interview and upon approval of the application, the non-citizen spouse will be granted a visa. The visa, however, is normally valid for a short period of time, during which the non-citizen spouse must travel to the U.S. to receive *Lawful Permanent Resident* status from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. If the couple has been married for less than two years, the non-citizen may still receive LPR status, but that status will be conditional and subject to termination if, for example, the couple divorces during that period.

Regarding the possibility of your child being born abroad, there are certain instances when a person born outside of the U.S. may be considered a U.S. citizen at birth. One such instance is where a child is born overseas and his or her parents are both U.S. citizens. When a child is born in a German hospital, however, a German birth certificate will be issued. This is not sufficient to establish the child's U.S. citizenship. Therefore, new parents should contact the Consulate's Office to file a Report of Birth Abroad and file for a U.S. passport for the child. If only one parent of the child is a U.S. citizen, additional steps must be taken through the Consulate's Office for the child to acquire U.S. citizenship.

Please note that unlike the U.S., Germany does not automatically confer citizenship to any individual born within its boundaries. For citizenship to be conferred upon birth, one of the child's biological parents must be a German citizen.

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

Panzer Hotel

Continued from page 1

The Kelley Hotel, which opened in 2001, has room for up to 264 guests.

The Panzer Hotel meets 100 percent of the new Army Lodging standards. It also earned the LEED Sustainable Project Silver Standard Rating, according to Norm Seare, DPW project manager and general engineer.

It was also designed to meet the needs of service members, Defense Department civilians and their families, according to Dave Roach, Panzer Hotel manager.

"One of the things they'll find out once they stay here is that the location is perfect," he said. "It's right next to the Exchange. The credit union, in-processing, out-processing, the USO [and] driver's education office are within a five-minute walk of the facility."

Even the rooms were created with military families in mind. Family suites feature a full kitchen with a stove top, microwave oven, garbage disposal, dishwasher, full-size refrigerator and freezer, and dining table with chairs. The kitchen is stocked with pots, pans and dishes for a family of four, and loaner kits are available for larger families.

Extended-stay rooms feature a stove top, microwave oven and small refrigerator, with dish kits available on a sign-out basis. Standard rooms have a microwave and small refrigerator.

All rooms are equipped for wired Internet access. Ten of the rooms are American Disability Act compliant, and 12 are pet friendly. The hotel also has a fitness

area, outdoor playground and open breakfast area.

Nancy Rose and her husband, a DoD civilian, arrived in USAG Stuttgart in early December. "We called [the Panzer Hotel] and checked in. It was a huge relief to get into a nice, warm room where everything was working," she said.

She also appreciated the option to stay in a pet-friendly room with her dog. "It feels great when you can be in a room with your pet and not have to worry about them being someplace else, away from you," she said.

School-age children staying in the hotel can catch the school bus to Patch or Robinson Barracks at the hotel's front entrance.

The hotel saves energy through devices including motion detectors in the room that lower the temperature to a pre-determined setting after an hour of no activity. The tilt-open windows also have detectors that turn heating and cooling off when windows are open. Hallway lights remain off until activated by motion sensors.

Because of these specialized amenities, and since the hotel is new, Roach said guests should be aware that rates are higher than those at older Army Lodging facilities.

Rates start at \$120 per night for a standard room, \$135 for an extended-stay room and \$150 for a family suite. Portions of room rates fund the Army Lodging Extensive Sustainment program, future renovations at the Panzer Hotel, as well as Army Lodging construction worldwide, Roach added.

The price includes laundry access, parking and a grab-and-go continental breakfast.



Photos by Brittany Carlson

Officials cut the ribbon to officially open the Panzer Hotel Dec. 15: (L to R) Dave Roach, Panzer Hotel manager; Juergen Hagner, CFO for Bilfinger Berger construction company; Matthias Marks, Hochbauamt director; Col. Carl D. Bird, garrison commander; Gregory Holzinger, acting deputy to the commander; Frank Kislan, FMWRC project manager for major NAF funding in Europe; Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony M. Bryant, garrison command sergeant major; Matt Ludwig, Army Corps of Engineers, and Joe Stroebel, Kelley Hotel manager.

Maj. Gen. Richard J. Sherlock, U.S. Africa Command chief of staff, enters a Panzer Hotel room during a group tour given by hotel employee Jerrid Geotl (right) Dec. 15.



Rooms in the Panzer Hotel feature energy-saving motion detectors that turn the temperature to a pre-determined setting after an hour of no activity.

Local Cub Scouts complete historic Bastogne walk

By Tanya Fogg Young
Special to The Citizen

Battling the freezing cold, Stuttgart area Cub Scouts trudged through snow and slush during the Dec. 11 Bastogne Historical Walk in Belgium as they commemorated the hardships endured by World War II soldiers.

Panzer Cub Scout Pack 44 members — some as young as 6 years old — braved the wintry elements as they retraced defensive lines held by Allied soldiers during World War II's Battle of the Bulge. The recent perimeter march marked the 34th annual Bastogne Historical Walk since it was founded in 1977 by a Belgian World War II veteran who served under Gen. George Patton during the Battle of the Bulge.

Numbering more than 50 strong, with parents and siblings also taking part in the walk, Pack 44 Cub Scouts completed the march of about seven kilometers in Bastogne, Belgium.

"The walk was pretty cool, and I saw all of these re-enactors along the way who had set up little sites in some

Wolf Scout Christopher Bispels, 7, hefts a World War II weapon while visiting with Belgian re-enactors during the Bastogne Historical Walk on Dec. 11.



Jill Bispels

places," said Pack 44 Cub Scout Ben Schmitt, 9. "I learned a bunch of stuff about Bastogne that I didn't know before, and it makes me really proud that I did the walk and finished it."

Schmitt was among the Cub Scouts who earned the Boy Scouts of America Battle of the Bulge Historic Trail Patch for participating in the walk and learning the history of the battle.

Lasting from Dec. 16, 1944, to Jan.

25, 1945, the Battle of the Bulge was the largest land battle involving American forces in World War II. More than a million Allied troops fought across the Ardennes, including about 500,000 Americans and 55,000 British.

"It was a pivotal battle," said parent Kathryn Schmitt, who was among the walk's participants. "It was moving to see the memorial there, and, as the wife of a service member, it was nice to see that the

soldiers' sacrifices were not forgotten."

In addition to the re-enactors along the trail, other highlights included visiting a recreated command post, shouldering World War II weapons and climbing into fox holes to dig with shovels, according to Jill Bispels, who participated in the walk with her son Christopher, 7, a Pack 44 Cub Scout.

Pack 44 Cubmaster Gerald Egleson said the youngsters were excited to have the opportunity to touch authentic gear and even take part in some portions of the re-enactments. "For me, it was enlightening to see all of the uniforms and to see the vehicles move through the weather conditions," Egleson said. "I hope they walked away with appreciation for what the soldiers went through during that siege."

Son Parker Egleson excitedly shared his favorite moments of the historic Bastogne walk. "I wore an Army hat while I was holding the bazooka and it was kind of like I was standing on a mountain in the snow," the 6-year-old said. "And I saw a gray machine gun and I dug three big pieces of a foxhole."

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Stuttgart Soldiers visit post-WWII Augsburg

Story & photos by Carola Meusel
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Headquarters and Headquarters Company, explored both a historic German city and a special friendship between two nations during a trip to Augsburg Dec. 10.

The Soldiers were guests of the "Amerika in Augsburg Verein" (America in Augsburg society).

"We [America in Augsburg] would like to reflect on the American way of life and its influence on Augsburg, its residents and the post-World War II society," said Georg Feuerer, president of the America in Augsburg society.

American troops invaded the city on April 28, 1945.

Sixty years later to the day, Feuerer founded the society, with support from city administration, in order to educate Augsburg's residents and youth on the American heritage.

At one time, approximately 30,000 Americans called Augsburg home, living and working on three military installations: Flak, Reese and Sheridan Kasernes.

"In the beginning, the Americans came to Augsburg as part of the Allied forces to fight against Nazi Germany and as the occupying force," Feuerer said. "However, due to the constant effort of the American government, the Soldiers received a political mission: the re-education of German society. Therefore, throughout their 50-year tenure, they became partners and friends of the residents in Augsburg."

The society owns historical documents from post-World War II through the late 1990s, a significant era during which the U.S. Forces had a presence in Augsburg.

"Augsburg remembers the Americans in a positive way. Many of our residents still have this nostalgic feeling when they talk about the American era in Augs-



Soldiers from Headquarters, Headquarters Company, USAG Stuttgart, enjoy a Bavarian lunch in Augsburg with Joe Ittner (far left), America in Augsburg society chairman, and Georg Feuerer (third from right), America in Augsburg president, during their tour of the city Dec. 10.

burg," Feuerer said. "The American forces supported our achievements and made us what we are today."

The Stuttgart Soldiers' trip began in the heart of Augsburg's downtown area.

Feuerer took the group on a visual journey of Augsburg's past, including the Renaissance mansion of the Fugger family and the Basilica St. Ulrich and Afra. Afterward, the group enjoyed a hearty Bavarian "Brotzeit" (lunch).

The tour continued with a visit to Augsburg's golden hall, located in city hall. The golden hall is a ceremonial room and one of the most popular landmarks of the late Renaissance era in Germany. The monumental room features rich golden decorations and several murals which illustrate "Sapientia" (wisdom) and portraits of German emperors, artists and master builders of Augsburg's town hall.

In the afternoon, the Soldiers strolled through Augsburg's quaint Christmas Market.

While touring the city, Joe Ittner, chairman of the America in Augsburg society, talked to the Soldiers about Augsburg's post-World War II history and his personal experiences with the U.S. forces.

Back in 1947, Ittner started working for the American forces in Hohenbrunn (Munich district). He was part of the so-called "Industriepolizei" (industrial police), a unit composed of German civilians who were appointed to safeguard and patrol military installations of the U.S. forces in Germany, including officer housing areas, military warehouses and commissaries.

"We received three hot meals a day, and we were treated very well. We had it so much better than millions of other people during this time," Ittner said.

Ittner recalled the German/American fests and warm contacts he had with the Americans.

"The Americans were part of our everyday life here in Augsburg; we talked, laughed and celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas together," he said. "The Americans mean a lot to me; they will always be close to my heart."

Pfc. Savira Hinn, a military policeman assigned to HHC, was surprised to hear Ittner talk about a positive relationship between Germans and Americans immediately following World War II.

"Augsburg was one of the first German cities

I've toured during my assignment overseas. It was interesting to see that there was not one-sided hatred between Germans and Americans after World War II," he said. "A friendship grew between two nations and formed a strong bond."

HHC Commander Cpt. Timothy Mitchell presented Ittner with a certificate of appreciation and a commander's coin to thank him for the outing.

"It was an extraordinary experience to relive the past and explore what post-World War II life was like in Augsburg," Mitchell said. "The America in Augsburg society is compassionate in taking the time to restore and preserve history in order to show the interaction between the U.S. Forces and Augsburg's residents."

Later that day, the group visited Sheridan Kaserne and a former warehouse, which holds the America in Augsburg historical collection, including coins, photos, military vehicles, old post signs, books, furniture, uniforms, military patches and insignias.

"There are so many children and grandchildren of U.S. citizens who have been stationed in Augsburg. Since most of the military installations are closed, we are not able to show them the buildings or barracks where their parents or grandparents used to work. Therefore, we would like to found a museum to display at least some memorabilia," Feuerer said.

Currently, the historical society is working with the city administration to officially open an America in Augsburg museum to showcase the collection.

The HHC Soldiers enjoyed learning how Germans aim to preserve American history.

"This was a really inspiring visit. It's impressive to see all the bonds that were carried over for so long during a historical friendship," said Staff Sgt. Ronald White, who works for the USAG Stuttgart Provost Marshall Office. "Personally, I felt honored and touched."

To reciprocate the society's hospitality, USAG Stuttgart is planning to invite members of the America in Augsburg society to Stuttgart this year.

"These outreach programs with host nation organizations are essential for the garrison. The America in Augsburg society does so much to honor the American history in Germany, and we have to actively support that," Mitchell said.



From left: Georg Feuerer, president of the America in Augsburg historical society, points out features of Augsburg's Basilica St. Ulrich and Afra to Staff Sgt. William Webb, a military policeman assigned to the USAG Stuttgart Headquarters, Headquarters Company and Cpt. Timothy Mitchell, HHC commander, during the HHC's tour of the city with America in Augsburg Dec. 10.

HSEEP: Homeland Security seminar helps to hone garrison emergency response

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

A tornado tears through Fort Leonard Wood and destroys 150 homes. Three U.S. Soldiers are killed when their UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashes northeast of Mannheim. A gunman opens fire at Fort Hood, killing 13 and wounding 32.

In each incident, the affected Army garrisons had to react at a moment's notice.

"You can never predict when a natural disaster or emergency will occur, but you can be prepared," said William Crane, the director of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobility and Security.

"That is why we plan and train for various emergency management scenarios. We — both the garrison staff and our tenant units — must be able to react quickly and correctly when something happens," he said.

Ensuring installation public safety, security and emergency management is one of eight installation readiness goals outlined in the 2010-2017 Installation Management Command Campaign Plan.

According to the campaign plan, or strategy, Army garrisons are tasked to "provide a safe and secure community through preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation programs."

This includes conducting a full scale annual exercise to test a garrison's ability to plan, prepare, respond and recover from natural disasters and/or terrorist attacks.

In order to better prepare for USAG Stuttgart's Stallion Shake force protection exercise to be held in June, 51 garrison staff members and representatives from supporting organizations attended a Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program seminar Dec. 15-16.

The seminar provides the means for garrison commanders to schedule, plan, prepare and report a garrison's training status, lessons learned and

corrective action plans.

"HSEEP is an all hazards approach — weather, natural disasters, accidents [and] terrorists," said Ray Graham, the Installation Force Protection Exercise team leader and former garrison commander.

"We encourage garrisons to look at their most dangerous and most likely threats," he said.

The seminar can not only improve how a garrison conducts a training exercise, but also focuses on group dynamics and cross-staff coordination, Graham added. "It's as much team building as it is crisis management."

Trainers led discussions on command and control, incident command, logistics, finance, medical and administrative responses.

The seminar included a table top exercise, with the students responding to a scenario that involved a helicopter crash in the Panzer Housing Area.

"It's a stressful environment," Graham said of the exercise, "but people were saying the right things."

iWatch: simple observation, single report can save lives

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Army's antiterrorism program, iWATCH, allows community members to report behavior and activities that are unusual or seem out of the ordinary.

The program provides "millions of new eyes and ears in the terrorism prevention effort," according to Los Angeles Police Department officials, who developed the iWatch program in 2009.

Service members, civilians, contractors, and family members can add tremendous value to the garrison's antiterrorism prevention and detection capabilities, said Lt. Col. George Self, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services director.

"The success of any community antiterrorism effort will always be directly proportional to the vigilance and willingness of the members within that community to be engaged in protecting themselves," he said.

Self said one of the best ways for a



Graphic courtesy of U.S. Army

iWatch Army is an antiterrorism program designed to educate military communities about behaviors and activities that may have a connection to terrorism. The program encourages community members to report suspicious behaviors.

community member to engage in self-protection is by reporting suspicious persons, conditions or circumstances.

What should be reported

iWatch encourages people to report:

- People drawing or measuring important buildings
- Strangers who ask questions about security forces or security procedures
- Unattended briefcases, backpacks or packages

- Vehicles left in no parking zones in front of important buildings.

- A person wearing clothes that are too big and bulky and/or too hot for the weather.

- Chemical smells or fumes
- Questions about sensitive information such as building blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules.

Military Police, the Criminal Investigation Division, force protection specialists and host nation partners stand ready to respond to iWATCH

reports, according to Self.

"The more timely the information is provided, the quicker we can confirm or deny intent and, ultimately, make USAG Stuttgart a safer community," he said.

Details to report

He added that the best way to ensure a successful investigation is by reporting observations promptly with as much detail as possible. Details should include:

- Date and time
- Where incident occurred
- What you witnessed
- A description of who was involved (sex, height, build, age, hair and skin color, language spoken)
- Vehicle license plate number

How to report

To report suspicious activity in the Stuttgart military community, call the Military Police at 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262.

You can also go to the iWatch link found on the USAG Stuttgart homepage at www.stuttgart.army.mil and file an online report.

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MLK event set

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will host a special event honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Jan. 20 at 3 p.m. in the Patch Community Club on Patch Barracks. U.S. Africa Command Commander Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward will be the guest speaker. The event will include musical performances by the Community Gospel Choir and a reception following the ceremony.

Holiday closures

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, many Stuttgart military community facilities, such as the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic, will be closed Jan. 17. It is advised to call ahead before visiting.

All three Stuttgart commissaries will be open normal hours Jan. 17.

Soldier Show apps due by Jan. 18

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is still accepting nominations for performers and technicians for the 2011 show. Vocalists, dancers, musicians, specialty acts and lighting, audio, video, costuming and stage technicians can submit packets to Installation Man-

agement Command Europe through Jan. 18.

For information about how to submit a packet, contact Jim Mattingly at jim.mattingly@eur.army.mil.

eXchange facilities closed for inventory

Several AAFES eXchange facilities will close for annual inventory.

- The Panzer Main Store will be closed Jan. 25.

- The Robinson Barracks CX and furniture store will be closed Jan. 26

- The Patch Shoppette will be closed Jan. 27 between the hours of 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. Gas will still be available.

- The Panzer and Kelley Shoppette/Gas station, Panzer Military Clothing Sales Store and Panzer Car Care Center will be closed Jan. 27 until 1 p.m., when they will reopen.

ACAP events

The Army Career and Alumni Program will host a Veterans Affairs benefits brief Jan. 25 from 8 a.m. to noon.

ACAP will also host a Transition Assistance Program workshop Feb. 1-3 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and an Interview Preparation seminar Feb. 11. The seminar is designed

to help those leaving active duty service prepare for the Association of the U.S. Army-sponsored job fair on Feb. 18.

All classes will be held at the ACAP office in Building 2915 on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-2191/2192/civ. 07031-15-2191/2192.

Estate claims

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Terry L. Crawford of Trailboss Enterprises should contact the summary court officer, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeremy Smith, at 421-4218/civ. 0711-729-4218.

High school educational workshop

A U.S. Africa Command-sponsored educational workshop for students in grades seven through 12 will be held Jan. 23 from 3-5 p.m. at Patch High School. The workshop features assistance with financial aid, scholarships, portfolios, and selecting fields of study.

For more information, contact Juanita Harvin at 421-4783/0711-729-4783 or juanita.harvin@africom.mil.

Law Center closed Jan. 26 for training

The Stuttgart Law Center will be closed Jan. 26 due to mandatory training.

Free ice skating

The Stuttgart Community Spouses Club and Stuttgart Military Community Eishockey Club will sponsor a family ice skating night Jan. 22 from 5:15-6:45 p.m. at

Eisstadion Wernau, Stadionweg 12, 73249 Wernau. Admission is free, and skates can be rented for a small fee.

For more information, call civ. 0711-680-7511 or e-mail to smschockey@ymail.com.

Peaceful Warriors

Beginning Feb. 3, a free deep relaxation and yoga class for active duty service members and their spouses will be offered every Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Panzer Chapel. While free child care is provided, donations are recommended.

For more information, call the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Religious Support Office at 431-3079/civ. 07031-15-3079.

Scholarship ball

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Germany Alumnae Chapter will host its annual scholarship ball Feb. 12 at 6 p.m. in Armstrong's Club, located in the Vogelweh Housing Area in Kaiserslautern. Attire is formal. For tickets, contact Sharon Bell at civ. 0173-470-3976.

ERMC call center makes appointments

The new Europe Regional Medical Command Care Call Center is now available to the Stuttgart military community. The call center provides primary care medical appointments over the phone

Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The call center is closed on weekends and federal holidays.

The ERMC Care Call Center can be reached by dialing

toll free civ. 00800-3762-2273; or 430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610; or 371-2622/civ. 06221-17-2622. Select Option #2.

Beneficiaries can also use TRICARE Online to make appointments at any time at www.tricareonline.com.

Community banks

Due to mandatory training on Jan. 26, the Patch Community Bank will be open from 1-4 p.m., while the Kelley and Panzer banks will be open from 1:30-4 p.m. On Feb. 16, all Community Banks in the Stuttgart footprint will be closed for mandatory training.

Scholarship opportunities for students

- Department of Defense Dependents Schools seniors are invited to apply for the Theta Rho International Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity 2011 Col. Charles Young Memorial Scholarship. The application deadline is Jan. 31.

For more information, contact Stan Phillips at stanleyphillips@gmail.com or civ. 0160-9070-3638, or Bertram Williams at bertram.a.williams@us.army.mil or civ. 0162-297-2529.

- Applications for the 2011 Scholarships for Military Children program are available at all three Stuttgart commissaries. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by Feb. 22.

For more information, visit www.militaryscholar.org.

Send community-wide announcements to stuttgart-media@eur.army.mil.

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Or email: docappleinquiries-stuttgart@yahoo.com

Prevent slips, trips and falls

Slips, trips and falls are among the main causes of accidents at work and at home. The winter season increases the risk of an accident, due to snow and ice. Here are some tips to consider:

- Wear appropriate shoes with sturdy, slip-resistant soles.
- Concentrate on where you walk. Don't let yourself be distracted by a conversation or cell phone.
- Keep hallways and stairways unobstructed.
- Clean up spills and dirt on walking surfaces.
- Make sure that walkways, hallways and staircases are properly lit to enable safe use during the early morning or evening. Replace burned-out light bulbs and have defective lights repaired.
- Use the handrail when walking on stairs.

USAG STUTTGART

S F E T Y CORNER

2010 *deconstructed*: Military, civilian heroes contributed to last year's successes

By **Brittany Carlson**

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The year 2010 didn't come with a blueprint for success. There were challenges; however, a look back at the highlights of last year in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart reveals that hard work and perseverance contribute toward making a year remembered for its shining moments.

Organizations and individuals laid the groundwork for attaining goals, evidenced by awards earned in the European and worldwide arena.

New leaders

Col. Carl D. Bird replaced Col. Richard M. Pastore as garrison commander during a change of command ceremony July 19. Special Operations Command Europe also had a change of command in which Maj. Gen. Michael S. Repass assumed command from Maj. Gen. Frank J. Kisner July 26. The Stuttgart Army Health Clinic; 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne); and 52nd Signal Battalion, among other units, also received new commanders.

Volunteerism

During a Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in April, community members were recognized for improving the quality of life on and off post. In 2009, 897 registered volunteers donated 200,000 hours to the garrison, according to Laura Jean Davis, USAG Stuttgart ACS volunteer coordinator.

The volunteers' work "describes and kind of defines what the community is like," she said. "If we didn't have volunteers to do it, it wouldn't happen."

On Oct. 22-23, 2010, more than 400 volunteers gave time and goods to local charities for "Make a Difference Day."

Community members also give financially: a total of \$612,843.38 was donated to the Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas during 2010.

The community's spirit of giving was vividly illustrated in November, after a warehouse fire destroyed the household goods of close to 120 community members Oct. 30. Many orga-

nizations and individuals joined forces to provide support.

"The way volunteers and people totally unrelated have pulled together to try to do something is wonderful," said Spc. Keenan O'Donnell, who lost his household goods in the fire.

Awards, accolades

Several community members and organizations set the standard for excellence by garnering top honors, in both military and civilian sectors.

For the first time, a noncommissioned officer from USAG Stuttgart earned the title of Army NCO of the Year. Staff Sgt. Christopher McDougall, assigned to USAG Stuttgart's Provost Marshall Office, became the Army's "Best Warrior" Oct. 25.

Many service members assigned to garrison tenant units were recognized for their actions during deployments.

In early 2010, Capt. Erhan Bedestani received the 2009 Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award for demonstrating duty and honor during deployments to Afghanistan. In August, Master Sgt. Joe Dickinson, a Green Beret from the 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), became the American recipient of the Frederick Award for his heroism and leadership during deployments.

In July, 129 Soldiers in the 554th Military Police Company received Army Commendation Medals for their actions during a deployment to Afghanistan from June 2009 through May 2010; 14 Soldiers received the Bronze Star for service; four received the Military Service Medal, and one received a Bronze Star and an Army Commendation Medal with a V device.

In December, Sgt. Javier Rodriguez-Torres, a cook assigned to Headquarters Support Company, 1/10th SFG(A), was awarded the Bronze Star for courage under fire while running a military kitchen in Afghanistan.

The 1/10th SFG(A) Dining Facility on Panzer Kaserne was also awarded first place for small garrisons in the Installation Management Command Eu-

rope and U.S. Army Europe 2010 Philip A. Connelly Awards Competition.

In the civilian arena, three community members won honors in the Army-level Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Arts and Crafts Contest. Additionally, three community members placed in the top three in the All Army Photography Contest in 2009 (awarded in 2010).

FMWR also earned several prizes for its theatrical productions. At the 2010 Installation Management Command-Europe Tournament of Plays, Stuttgart Theatre Center's "Rabbit Hole" won three awards. "Patchwork," won seven, including Best Comedy and Best Director (Barb Heidt). At the FMWR Command Festival of Arts Competition, "Man of La Mancha" received 10 awards, including first place for musical director (Alan Buxkemper).

In addition, Dave Roach, formerly the manager of the Kelley Hotel and now the Panzer Hotel manager, was named Lodging Hotel Manager of the Year.

New construction

2010 also realized the completion of several major construction projects.

The new Kelley Shoppette opened in March, offering 2,800 square feet of groceries and four gas pumps.

Kelley Barracks also opened USAG Stuttgart's first Postal Service Center, a combined Army Post Office and community mail room, June 14.

A new, \$5 million Kelley Child Development Center opened Aug. 23. It is the first of four specially funded CDCs to be completed in Europe.

"This facility represents the Army Family Covenant's commitment to ... increasing the availability, quality and affordability of child care," said Col. Carl D. Bird, USAG Stuttgart commander.

The Panzer Hotel officially opened its doors Dec. 15. The hotel has 218 rooms on seven floors.

From the physical bricks and mortar to the framework of military and civilian leadership, the highlights of 2010 will serve as a model for newcomers, and a monument to those who worked to make the community a better place.

“*[Volunteerism] describes and kind of defines what the community is like. If we didn't have volunteers to do it, it wouldn't happen.*”

Laura Jean Davis
ACS Volunteer Coordinator



Remembering 2010

April 22

USAG Stuttgart and German elementary school students gather to learn about natural science at the garrison-sponsored Earth Day Expo.



Susan Huseman

June 4

USAG Stuttgart graduates its first class of students in the new pre-K program, Strong Beginnings.



Susan Huseman

July 17

Hundreds of community members run a half-marathon to honor fallen American soldiers in the third annual Run Remember.



Martin Greeson

Feb. 4



Susan Huseman

Three 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Soldiers receive the Bronze Star Medal for their heroic actions in Afghanistan.

May 30

Following a 12-month deployment in Afghanistan, the 554th Military Police Company "Wardawgs" return home to USAG Stuttgart, where they are welcomed by garrison leaders and family.



Larry Reilly

July 26

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Repass receives command of U.S. Special Operations Command Europe from Maj. Gen. Frank J. Kisner.



Angeline Hoffmann

Jan. 21

Special Operations Command Europe celebrates its 55th year in operation. SOCEUR started out with 14 personnel and now has 250 service members in all service branches.

May 13



Martin Greeson

Miss America 2010, Caressa Cameron, visits USAG Stuttgart. Cameron had lunch with students at several schools, visited Soldiers in the Warrior Transition Unit, and tried her hand at a simulated parachute drop with help from Soldiers in the 1/10th SFG(A).

July 19

Col. Carl Bird III receives the garrison's colors from Diane De... IMCOM-region director and takes command of Army Garrison Stuttgart. Col. Richard Pastore... a ceremony... Panzer K...



Martin Greeson

Feb. 8



Brittany Carlson

Boy Scouts in USAG Stuttgart celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America with a Scout show, demonstrating skills such as Dutch oven cooking, navigation and pioneering, and tent pitching.

July 20

Soldiers in the 554th MP Co. learn to snorkel as part of Warrior Adventure Quest, an FMWR program designed to help Soldiers readjust after deployments.



Brittany Carlson

March 8



Susan Huseman

The new Kelley Shoppette opens.

May 6



Brittany Carlson

German and American students and organizations give multicultural presentations during the first ever garrison-hosted Diversity Day.



A \$5 million grant from Kelley... for children...

0: The year in photos

Oct. 13

The 208th Financial Management Company returns to Stuttgart after a year's deployment to Kuwait.



Birgit Thompson

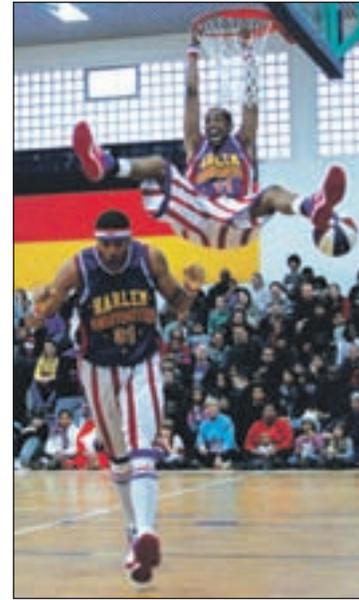
Oct. 22

USAG Stuttgart's Staff Sgt. Christopher McDougall wins the Department of the Army's Best Warrior Competition and becomes the 2010 Army NCO of the Year.



Gertrude Zach

Dec. 5



Brittany Carlson

The Harlem Globetrotters visit USAG Stuttgart during a European tour of U.S. military installations, playing an exhibition game against the Washington Generals. The basketball stars also signed autographs for fans.

Oct. 1



Brittany Carlson

The USAG Stuttgart Religious Support Office's Cancer Awareness Group and Equal Employment Opportunity Office host "Run 4 Life," a cancer awareness relay.

Dec. 6

Panzer Optometry Care opens in the Panzer Mall, adjacent to the newly opened Panzer Optical Center, offering TRICARE Europe patients eye exams, contact lens fittings and urgent care for ocular conditions without needing a referral.

Sept. 18



Brittany Carlson

USAG Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts its version of "Amazing Race" for IMCOM-E's "Get Fit Day."

Oct. 22

The German American Women's Club raises €112,000 at its annual Pfennig Bazaar, setting a new fundraising record. The money was later donated to various German and American programs.

Oct. 30



Photo courtesy of Feuerwehr Schwieberdingen

A fire in a local German warehouse destroys the household goods of more than 120 families in USAG Stuttgart. In the following months, community members and organizations provided support to affected families.

Aug. 23



Susan Huseman

Child Development Center opens Barracks, with 86 full-day care slots for children ages infant-kindergarten.

Sept. 27

Stuttgart service members meet with German and French soldiers during Soldier Wasen.



Carola Meusel

Oct. 22



Carola Meusel

More than 400 volunteers from USAG Stuttgart pick up trash or donate goods to local charitable organizations for "Make a Difference Day."

Nov. 15

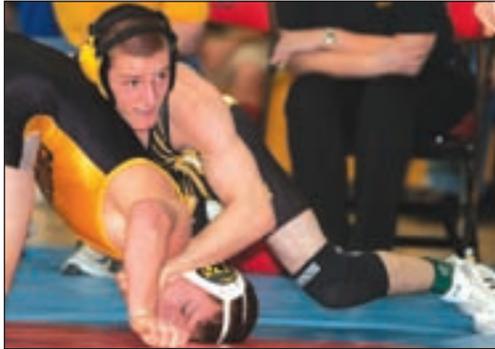
The Panzer Hotel registers its first guests. Several families moved in from the Swabian Inn on Patch Barracks, which was in the process of closing. The Panzer Hotel officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Dec. 15.



Brittany Carlson

Sports in 2010

Feb. 19-20



Tony Seely

The Patch High School wrestling team earns the Division I title during the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe wrestling championships in Wiesbaden.

Feb. 14



Susan Huseman

Stuttgart Piranhas team captain Will Viana, 18, earns second place in the men's 100-meter backstroke — one of seven medals — at the European Forces Swim League Championships held in the Netherlands. He holds 21 individual EFSL records.

March 4

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation basketball team takes the EUCOM J6 team to school, during the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart unit-level basketball championship, winning the game 53-36.



Susan Huseman

April 22

USAG Stuttgart hosts the Armed Forces Bowling Championships at the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center.



Susan Huseman

May 22

More than 80 martial artists from across Germany compete in the USAG Stuttgart-hosted European Military World Championship Qualifier tournament.



Susan Huseman

May 29



Thui Phelps

The PHS baseball team beats Ramstein 10-9 during the DoDDS-Europe Div. I baseball championship, earning the division title after a perfect 22-0 season.

May 14



Brittany Carlson

The Special Operations Command Europe team wins the Commander's Cup Golf Tournament at the Stuttgart Golf Course for the second year running.

May 22



Michael Abrams © 2010 Stars and Stripes

The Patch High School girls' soccer team celebrates winning the DoDDS-Europe Div. I title after defeating Heidelberg 2-1 in Ramstein.

May 28-29



Chrystal Smith

PHS senior Julius Johnson-Rich takes first in the 200-meter dash during the DoDDS-Europe Track and Field Championships — one of three golds.

October

The PHS girls and boys cross country teams become DoDDS-E Div. I champions.



Joseph Mancy



Joseph Mancy

[Left] Morgan Mahlock, PHS sophomore, earned the Div. I girls' title.

Aug. 28

USAG Stuttgart hosts the 2010 Annual European Bodybuilding and Figure Championship.

October



Joseph Mancy

PHS freshman Ajdin Tahirovic becomes boys singles European champ.

July 10



Jeremy Buddemeier

Both the men's and women's Stuttgart Stallions running teams place first in the U.S. Forces Europe Army 10-Miler.

Nov. 13



Anja Kaczmarek

The CYS Stuttgart Cowboys win the IMCOM-E Junior Tackle Football title.

1/10th cooks turn up heat during Army competition

Story & photos by Master Sgt.
Donald Sparks

Special Operations Command Europe
Public Affairs Office

Competition can bring out the best in Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. Whether it is an intramural sport setting to claim the title as the best basketball, softball or flag football team, or at the international level, there are plenty of examples of military personnel coming together as a team, striving to win.

It's no different outside the sports arena.

For two days in December, Army cooks assigned to Headquarters Support Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), competed at the Army level to win the "Super Bowl" of Army food service — the Department of the Army Philip A. Connelly award.

With inspectors from the Department of the Army and the Army Center for Excellence-Subsistence from Fort Lee, Va., watching their every move, the food service specialists hustled throughout the kitchen, slicing vegetables, rolling dough, seasoning meat and placing the finishing touches on dishes to be served to the Stuttgart community at lunchtime.

"This team is dedicated," said Sgt. 1st Class Javier Gonzalez, Panzer Dining Facility manager. "They are giving 120 percent of their dedication and pride in all areas of food service, whether it's ensuring a nice dining environment, placing work orders, completing health inspections, ration ordering and control, or menu planning."

Gonzalez supervises a staff of 11 Army cooks, including four food specialists from the 554th Military Police Company; one German cook and six civilian kitchen attendants. On average, the small dining team serves 150-175 customers five days a week — amounting to more than 700 meals per month, to include unit field feeding.

Competing in the Connelly competition is a big deal to the cooks, as they have never finished in first place at the DA level. In 2008 they came close as runner-up in the Small Garrison category. As a result of winning first place in the Small Garrison category for Europe in 2010, the Panzer DFAC competed against six other small dining facilities throughout the rest of the Army.

Despite the team's best effort, they fell short of their goal of being recognized as the Army's best, remaining a finalist. But Gonzalez is still proud of their accomplishments, and especially the support and praise he gets from his chain of command and the Stuttgart community his cooks feed weekly.

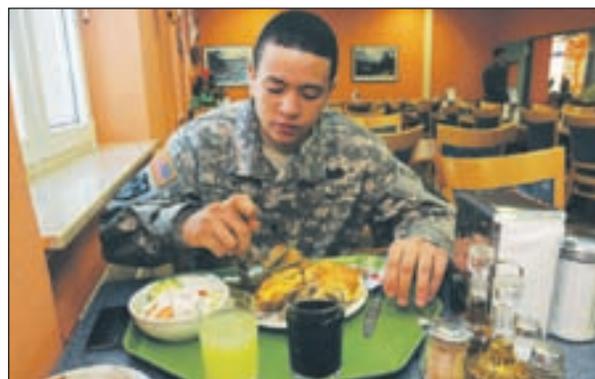
"The impact we have towards our unit and community means a lot to each



Sgt. Gabriel Warwick, a food service specialist from the 554th Military Police Company and assigned to the Headquarters Support Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), prepares stuffed pork chops at the Panzer Dining Facility as Ron Conybeer, corporate executive chef and evaluator for the Philip A. Connelly competition, looks on.



A food service specialist assigned to HSC, 1/10th SFG(A), slices peppers to prepare for a meal at the Panzer DFAC.



Spc. Samuel Denn, military policeman, 554th Military Police Company, enjoys his lunch time meal prepared by the food service specialists assigned to HSC, 1/10th SFG(A), at the Panzer Dining Facility.

“I ate my Thanksgiving meal here and it made not being at home much better.”

Spc. Samuel Denn
MP, Panzer DFAC patron

of us who cook here,” Gonzalez said. “When my guys respond to people asking where they work and what their job is, people say, ‘Oh, I hear that place has some great food!’”

A regular customer who eats at the Panzer Dining Facility, Spc. Samuel Denn, a military policeman assigned to the 554th Military Police Company, gave particular praise for the presentation and quality of the meals.

“I was stationed at another location in Germany before arriving here, and this dining facility is by far the most excellent place I’ve eaten,” Denn said. “The meals are always presented well and the food is great. I ate my Thanksgiving meal here and it made not being at home much better.”

Although the results were not what they wanted, the cooks recognize they are elite in what they do and they must start over again to be ready for next year's Connelly competition. Gonzalez mentioned that the extraordinary support from his command, U.S. Special Operations Command Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart and U.S. Army Europe enhanced the morale of his staff.

With that kind of support, he feels obligated to give back to the community and Soldiers they serve.

“We will be sending our cooks to the culinary arts schools and bringing them up to speed with additional skills

found in the civilian culinary world,” Gonzalez said. “For next year's Connelly competition, we will refurbish and renovate our dining facility with upgraded equipment and provide a better ambiance for diners.”

He added that the renovation will have a Special Operations-centric theme highlighting the unit's heraldry. “Our operators deserve a place to dine that will instill in them the warrior ethos,” Gonzalez said. “With these facility improvements and additional culinary skills, our team is confident we can compete for and win the DA Small Garrison Connelly competition in 2011.”

Philip A. Connelly, past president of the International Food Service Executives Association, was highly regarded as the driving force behind obtaining IFSEA sponsorship for the Department of the Army's recognition of excellence in Army food service.

Magic, illusion unite at Stuttgart Varieté theater

By Carola Meusel

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

At the internationally acclaimed Varieté-Theater (Variety Theater) in downtown Stuttgart, theatergoers can enjoy performances of magic, fantasy and illusion.

"Variété" stands for a impressive program combining artistic and acrobatic performances with dance, music, magic and comedy.

"The purpose of a variety theater is to offer culture and entertainment for everybody's taste," said Dorothee Belser, a spokesperson for the Friedrichsbau Variété in Stuttgart.

In Germany, Variété theaters became popular in the late 19th century and peaked during the 1930s in larger cities throughout the country.

The Friedrichsbau Variété in downtown Stuttgart currently features a show called "Variété Royal," which runs until Feb. 12. Performances are offered Monday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., and Sunday at 6 p.m.

"This is just a wonderful and sparkling white winter show. Fairies and mythical creatures are dancing across the stage in white costumes and there is this special magical atmosphere," Belser said. "The show meets its concept of creating a theatrical vision between innocence and desire."

The "Variété Royal" show features breathtaking acrobatic and artistic acts, to include an artist who juggles with her feet, and live music.

"The winter show led me directly into a dream world," said a spectator at a recent Variété Royal show. "I was fascinated with the multifaceted program and the artistic skills of the performing artists."

One of the artists is Rosiris Garrido, a dancer from Brazil, who performed an aerial dance number called "PapierRock." Garrido's only tool is a hula hoop, and her costume paper skirt is designed to change during her show.

At each of the Variété performances, audience



Faruk Sevinc

International artists perform at the Friedrichsbau Variété in Stuttgart during the "Variété Royal" winter show, which runs through Feb. 12. The Variété features multifaceted acts and live music by performers from around the world.

members can order meals from a special menu.

The "Variété for Tea" program, which features parts of the current show on Thursday afternoon with coffee, tea and cake, is also available.

A highlight of the Variété theater is that the stage extends out into the audience.

"Due to the seating arrangements in a variété, the separation between the stage and the audience is taken away," Belser explained. "Almost everybody has seen a magician or an acrobat on TV before. However, at the variété, visitors will find themselves in front of the artists. They hear them breathe; this creates a special atmosphere."

The Friedrichsbau Variété Stuttgart was founded in 1898 in an art nouveau building and was one of the most popular variety theaters throughout

Germany, featuring international stars such as Josephine Baker.

In 1944, the building was completely destroyed in a bombing, leaving Stuttgart without a Variété until 1994, when the Friedrichsbau Variété opened its doors to the public.

Today, the Stuttgart Variété has regained its reputation as one of the best international Variété theaters in Germany.

The Variété will also feature a "Magic De Luxe" show Feb. 18 through April 9, featuring Kevin James, a magic superstar from the U.S.

For more information, visit www.friedrichsbau.de. Tickets can be purchased by calling 0711-225-7070 or online at tickets@friedrichsbau.de.

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**Find community photos on our flickr site
 at www.flickr.com/photos.usagstuttgart.**

What's happening in FMWR

FMWR is hiring

A variety of regular and flexible positions are available through the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

For more information, stop by the NAF HRO at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center in Building 2948 on Panzer Kaserne or call 431-3119/civ. 07031-15-3119. Visit <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur/employment/naf/index.htm> for vacancy announcements.

Galaxy Bowling offers military special

The Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center is now offering a bowling special for military personnel: Buy a combo meal from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. any weekday and get a coupon for a free game of bowling and shoe rental.

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

Learn to rock climb

A new Rock Climbing Club is now meeting Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. and Thursday from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in the Panzer Fitness Center.

Club climbing is free, and equipment rental is \$5 per person, per session. Participants under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 431-2774/civ. 0711-15-2774.

Watch NFL, win a TV

Spend NFL Sundays at The Backlot Bar in the Patch Community Club and get a chance to win a free TV. Join us at 7 p.m. for free chili dogs and the game. Check AFN for the most up-to-date game schedule at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/ScheduleChart.aspx>.

For more information, call 430-5433/civ. 0711-680-5433.

Join Kindermusik class

Kindermusik classes, designed to teach musical skills to young children with their parents, are offered at the Patch Hub through Child, Youth and School Services. Classes are available for children ages 6 months to 5 years.

For more information, or to register, contact Parent Central Services at 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

For MWR updates, e-mail mwrmarketing@eur.army.mil.



Coming to Patch Theater

Jan. 13 — Skyline (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Jan. 14 — Megamind (PG) 6 p.m., Due Date (R) 9 p.m.

Jan. 15 — Speed Racer (PG) 4 p.m., Megamind (PG) 7 p.m., Due Date (R) 9 p.m.

Jan. 16 — Speed Racer (PG) 2 p.m., Megamind (PG) 4 p.m., Due Date (R) 7 p.m.

Jan. 17 — Due Date (R) 6 p.m.

Jan. 18 — Megamind (PG) 6 p.m.

Jan. 19 — Due Date (R) 6 p.m.

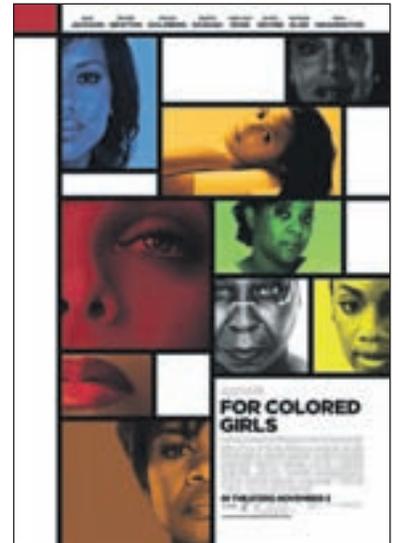
Jan. 20 — Megamind (PG) 6 p.m.

Jan. 21 — The Green Hornet (PG-13) 6 p.m., For Colored Girls (R) 9 p.m.

Jan. 22 — Tooth Fairy (PG) 4 p.m., The Green Hornet (PG-13) 7 p.m., Morning Glory (PG-13) 9 p.m.

Jan. 23 — Tooth Fairy (PG) 2 p.m., The Green Hornet (PG-13) 4 p.m., For Colored Girls (R) 7 p.m.

Jan. 24 — The Green Hornet



Lionsgate

(PG-13) 6 p.m.

Jan. 25 — Morning Glory (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Jan. 26 — For Colored Girls (R) 6 p.m.

For more information, visit www.stuttgart.army.mil and click on "Patch Movies."

Family & MWR Featured Events

www.stuttgartmwr.com



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WIN A FLAT SCREEN TV!

Enjoy Pro Football and a chance to win a flat screen TV.

NFL Play-off Games

Patch Community Club (The Backlot Bar)

For more information call:
DSN 430 5433, CIV 0711 680 5433

CHAMONIX SKI TRIP

Spend your weekend with ODR skiing in the beautiful French Alps.

January 14 - 17

Departure: 2 p.m. Outdoor Recreation on Panzer

For more information call:
DSN 431 2774, CIV 07031 15 2774



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Contact Parent Central Services (CYS Services) at:
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Patch Arts & Crafts Center

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DSN 430 5270, CIV 0711 680 5270



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Wednesday 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

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AFAP CONFERENCE

Make a difference by submitting issues for this year's AFAP Conference at www.stuttgartmwr.com

Submission deadline:
January 25

For more information call:
DSN 431 3362, CIV 07031 15 3362





Maria Moline (in black and yellow) leads a Zumba demonstration during Fitness Day on Jan. 8 in the Panzer Mall.



Instructor Steve Grinavic demonstrates an exercise used in his TRX suspension training class.

Keeping fitness resolutions: USAG Stuttgart Sports and Fitness Program ready to help

Story & photos by Susan Huseman
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

With the holiday shopping season barely over, a mall may be the last place anyone wants to be on a Saturday afternoon.

Yet on Jan. 8, the Panzer Mall was teeming with people who were there not only to shop, but to work out, thanks to a collaborative effort between the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Sports and Fitness program.

"We wanted to tap into the New Year's resolution attitude that everyone has at the beginning of the year," said Ricky Payton, the USAG Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation acting fitness coordinator.

Payton said many people start the new year off resolved to lose weight, get in shape or improve physical training test scores.

"We want to show them some of the things USAG Stuttgart FMWR Sports and Fitness has to offer," he said.

The five-hour event gave community members who might not ordinarily patronize the garrison's fitness centers a chance to meet fitness experts and enthusiasts, and take part in demonstrations and classes.

From yoga to body building, the joint Fitness Day provided something for almost everyone.

Zumba instructor Maria Moline and several of her students danced their way to fitness to upbeat Latin music.

"It's a workout first, but fun second," said Fitness Day participant Rob Powell. Since March of last year, Powell said he has lost 15 to 20 pounds, "just from Zumba."

Spin instructors were on hand to promote the garrison's newest piece of fitness equipment: spin bikes that tilt and lean, mimicking the feel of a road bike.

"These bikes work your core [muscles]. They build your upper and lower body," said Heather Crawford, a personal trainer and group fitness instructor.

Tina Mathison, who is familiar with traditional spin bikes, tried out the new model and was hooked.

"The experience is totally different. You can feel your upper body working ... I love it," she said.

Observers seemed to be a little hesitant to try the TRX suspension training system after watching instructor Steve Grinavic perform a series of intimidating exercises using his body weight and the nylon webbing straps.

"This is a total body workout and it's fun. The thing I love about TRX is that it is infinitely adaptable to a person's fitness level," said Grinavic, who teaches a TRX class twice a week at the Patch Fitness Center.

Meanwhile, as a video of body builders and figure competitors flexing their muscles played on a flat screen TV, members of the Stuttgart Body Building and Figure team fielded questions on workouts and nutrition.

"We're here to promote the team, attract new members and promote health and fitness," said Travis Welborn, the team's president.

A few feet away, runners were able to get advice on selecting the right running shoe for their foot types, as staff members from the Stuttgart Physical Therapy Clinic provided foot and gait screenings.

"The right shoe can prevent injuries," said John Tortorelli, the chief of the physical therapy clinic.

After receiving his analysis, runner Joe Puckett, who'd just come off of a four-month break because of an injury, found out he was doing everything right.

"My form is good, and I'm wearing the right shoes," he said.

Shoes aren't the only way to prevent injuries.

Yoga can help to prevent injuries in other sports, according to yoga instructor Gabriele Evans, who was on hand to promote the ancient physical and mental discipline.

"It promotes flexibility, balance and core strength," she said. "It also improves your range of motion."

The fitness centers also provide massage therapy services.

"Massage helps sore muscles, and it's a big stress reliever," said Oliver Stith, the USAG Stuttgart Sports and Fitness director.

For more information on the USAG Stuttgart Sports and Fitness Program, such as class schedules and fitness center locations and hours of operation, visit www.stuttgartmwr.com.

SPORTS SHORTS

Register for CYS Services spring sports; volunteer coaches, officials also needed

Registration for U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Child, Youth and School Services spring sports season, which includes soccer, baseball and softball, will run through Feb. 28.

All interested participants must have a physical valid through June 7.

Volunteer coaches and officials are also needed to support the CYS Services sports program.

To register or to volunteer, visit Parent Central Services in Building 2347 on Patch Barracks.

For more information, call 430-7483/7480/civ. 0711-680-7483/7480.

Ski with ODR

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation will host several upcoming ski trips.

These include a trip to Lermoos, Austria, on Jan. 29; Oberstdorf/Nebelhorn, Germany, on Feb. 5; and Liechtenstein on Feb. 12.

For more information, or to sign up, call 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

AFRICOM wins 2010 USAG Stuttgart Commander's Cup

Congratulations to U.S. Africa Command for winning the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart 2010 Commander's Cup.

AFRICOM personnel racked up 210 points in a variety of unit sports events throughout the year to take the trophy from U.S. European Command, this year's runner-up with 181 points.

Patch Fitness Center hosts aerobathon, kettlebell class

Fitness enthusiasts are invited to participate in a six-hour aerobathon on Jan. 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Patch Fitness Center.

The aerobathon is sponsored by U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Sports and Fitness program.

Back-to-back workout sessions include spinning, body sculpting, kick boxing, zumba, and yoga. A kettlebell training clinic will also be held from noon to 2 p.m.

For more information, call the Patch Fitness Center at 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

Night of the Stars, shoot-out contest to be held Jan. 21

Night of the Stars, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart unit-level all-star basketball game, will be held Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Patch Fitness Center gymnasium.

During halftime, a three-point shooting contest will be held. The contest is open to all U.S. ID cardholders 18 years of age and older.

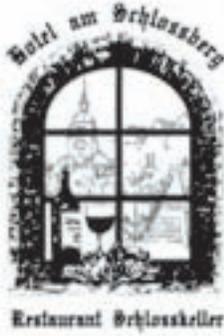
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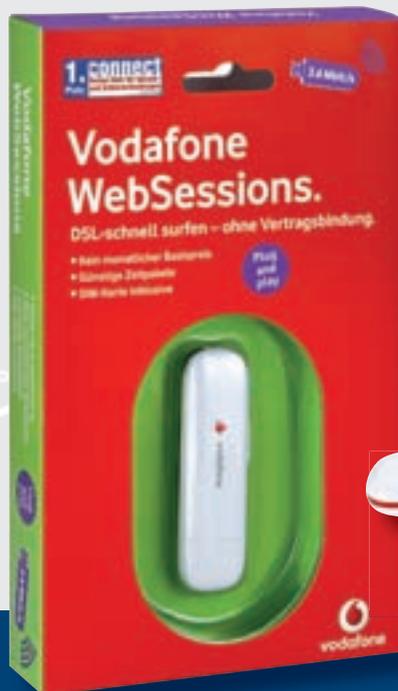
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