

NEWS

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The Citizen

Thursday, June 25, 2015 Sustaining & Supporting the Stuttgart U.S. Military Community Garrison Website: www.stuttgart.army.mil Facebook: facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart

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SOCEUR supports 71st D-Day commemoration



Commemorating the 71st anniversary of the liberation of France, Special Operations Command Europe operators performed military free falls into the U.N.-designated world heritage site in Mont Saint-Michel, France. After a safe landing, the operator takes stock of his new location before picking up his parachute and moving in to greet the watching French crowd. — *Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Will Patterson, SOCEUR Public Affairs*

EUCOM

Military leaders from across Europe and North America met in Reykjavik, Iceland, to discuss security related issues within the Arctic Circle — **PAGE 8.**

AFRICOM

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USAREUR

Military personnel from the Latvian National Armed Forces, U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force performed joint airborne training operations — **PAGE 9.**

VOLUNTEER

A Stuttgart military spouse volunteered for a medical mission in Nepal, assisting with recovery from the recent devastating earthquake there — **PAGE 2.**



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Volunteers Valerie Colgate (left) and Elizabeth Wilson-Zukowski (right) entertain the growing crowd during a clinic set up by singing 'Head Shoulders Knees & Toes' and 'Hokey Pokey.' — Photo by Maricres Valdez Castro

Stuttgart volunteer helps with Nepal recovery effort

By Jan Wesner Childs
Special to the Citizen

Valerie Colgate knew she had to help when she saw the news on TV about the recent earthquake in Nepal.

Colgate, a nursing assistant at the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic, wasn't thinking about a clothing drive or a fundraising effort. She wanted to do something more hands on.

"For many years I have been very passionate about humanitarian aid work," Colgate said in a recent interview. "That's where my heart is, is helping people who

are less privileged."

She turned to Google for ideas, and came upon a project near and dear to her heart: A one-week mission by International Medical Relief to provide healthcare to victims of the April 8 quake.

IMR had a trip going to Nepal May 16-24. Coincidentally, Colgate already had those dates off work.

Six weeks after the disaster, she was on the ground in Nepal assessing victims' medical needs.

"The people there had lots of psychological trauma from the earthquake," Colgate said.

The trip involved a lot of quick planning. Colgate, 37, said she first called her husband, Lt. Col. Shad Colgate who works at U.S. European Command, but was in the U.S. for training.

He enthusiastically signed off on the idea.

International Medical Relief is a non-profit organization that recruits healthcare workers to serve on short missions around the world. Volunteers must pay their own way, including a fee to IMR for visas and other logistical support.

— See NEPAL RECOVERY, Page 7

FMWR & SKIES Unlimited programs provide avenue of job creation opportunity

By Holly DeCarlo-White
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The extracurricular instructional classes offered both on and off post through Family and MWR's Sports and Fitness and SKIES Unlimited programs can provide an avenue for job creation

to arriving U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart community members. SKIES Unlimited stands for School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills with the word "Unlimited" meaning the unlimited possibilities that this program provides children and youth.

Those over the age of 18 have

the opportunity to create new classes that may not currently be offered for adults or children. To date in 2015, SKIES Unlimited has already added two additional class programs including new swim lessons and ballet on Robinson Barracks as a result of community members reaching out with interest to start a class and work part time. Family and MWR has also added a number of adult classes to include tae kwon do, tennis lessons, Pilates and muscle pump.

"We have a really great team of instructors, trainers and therapists who work hard to promote health and fitness throughout the community," said Caitlin Obländer, fitness coordinator for Family and MWR Stuttgart. "Combined, they have countless years of experience and training and can be a wealth of information and a great resource."

The current curriculum is taught by instructors who are approved and available regularly to work with the garrison.



FMWR Sports and Fitness group classes are taught by contract instructors from the USAG community. — Photo courtesy of USAG Stuttgart FMWR

— See FMWR & SKIES, Page 7

SOCEUR operators support D-Day commemoration

By the 352nd Special Operations Wing

In commemoration of the 71st anniversary of D-Day, more than 60 U.S. Special Operations Command Europe operators parachuted onto the historic La Fiere drop zone near Sainte Mere Eglise, Normandy, France, June 7, 2015.

Among those 60 were 26 operators from Special Operations Command Europe including 13 from Stuttgart-based units: Army 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne); Naval Special Warfare Unit Two; and Special Operations Command Africa.

Commemorating the airborne landing on D-day 1944, they performed the military free falls from 67th Special Operations Squadron MC-130J Commando II aircraft out of Royal Air Forces station Mildenhall.

"We're here today to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the jumps that took place over Normandy on D-Day," said U.S. Army Capt. Tyler Espinoza, Joint Special Operations Air Component Europe special operations air planner. "We will be performing the military free fall portion of the jumps."

The day began when SOCEUR operators arrived early to conduct mission planning and briefings.

"This is very similar to what took place 71 years ago — we meet, discuss the objective, brief the weather, terrain and then walk through the plan so we all are on the same page," said a SOCEUR operator.

As the operators were preparing for the jump into Normandy, the aircrew and maintainers readied the aircraft.

"I have been jumping for more than 18 years — this was by far the most memorable jump ever. This is such a unique and special venue and true honor to jump for such a great cause," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jack Kredo, SOCEUR commandant and jump mission commander. "This French association honors and remembers liberty, keeping alive and celebrating the assistance Americans provided in World War II. It is a genuine privilege to commemorate the mission that led to the liberation of France from Nazi control."

The MC-130Js launched just before noon and performed two passes over La Fiere, dropping the SOCEUR operators overhead.



A U.S. service member rides with a French re-enactor in a World War II period vehicle as part of SOCEUR's participation in D-Day commemorative events June 7 in Normandy, France. — Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Will Patterson, SOCEUR Public Affairs

Just off the La Fiere drop zone were bleachers for attendees to watch the commemorative events. For one operator, his feet had barely touched the ground before he was greeted by a World War II veteran.

"I had just landed — when I looked up there was a World War II vet extending his hand to me and thanking me," said a 321st Special Tactics Squadron Air Commando. "He then told me I needed to hurry up and get my chute in — I think he was reliving it all."

For the veterans who were able to attend the D-Day commemorative events, the moment meant something different. For one veteran in particular, revisiting Normandy gave him an opportunity to thank those who continued to serve.

"We were the ones who gave France their freedom. Seeing this — being honored and knowing that those who gave their lives have not been forgotten — that is what's important," said Charles Wilson, 4th Division, Battery C tank driver who was in the first wave of the D-Day landings on Utah Beach, Normandy, France. "Hopefully my being here, we're creating patriotism and loyalty to our country and to those who are serving today. We cannot be allowed

to forget."

The jumps at Mont Saint-Michel began in 2009 through Les Amis du Souvenir et de la Liberté (Friends for Remembrance and Liberty). Though no paratroopers jumped into this exact area during World War II, Saint Michael is the patron saint of paratroopers, thereby creating the association between the two and the coordination for the commemoration with SOCEUR.

"Commemorating the liberation

of France by the allies is very important for the French," said Noel Sarrazin, Les Amis du Souvenir et de la Liberté executive secretary. "Organizing the jumps near the Mont Saint-Michel is a celebration and good occasion to connect our two countries."

Each SOCEUR paratrooper who participated spoke to the beauty and significance of such an opportunity. For one air commando in particular, jumping into one of Normandy's most historic locations held a deep, personal significance because his grandfather is a D-Day veteran. This was his opportunity to remember and honor his family by being part of such remarkable history.

"I am fortunate parachuting is part of my job and it's something I love to do. Few things will ever compare to the opportunity we had today, to jump into France over Mont Saint-Michel to honor the paratroopers who jumped into France during World War II, the ground shaking reception we received from the locals, and the heartfelt appreciation shared by everyone in attendance," said a 321st STS air commando. "I have never experienced anything like this, and am so grateful to be a part of such an honorable event."



U.S. Special Operations Command Europe operators jump off the ramp of an MC-130J Commando II assigned to the 67th Special Operations Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, England, to perform military free fall to the historic La Fiere drop zone near Sainte Mere Eglise, Normandy, France, June 7, 2015, to commemorate the 71st anniversary of D-Day. More than 60 SOCEUR operators performed the MFF jumps which were a small portion of the commemorative events which took place in strategic World War II sites throughout Normandy. U.S. Air Force. — Photo by Tech. Sgt. Stacia Zachary

In the first events commemorating the 71st anniversary of the liberation of France, Special Operations Command Europe operators performed military free falls into the U.N.-designated world heritage site in Mont Saint-Michel May 30. — Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Will Patterson, SOCEUR Public Affairs

Going Green: Reduce emissions to make your summer travels more eco-friendly



By Greg Jones
USAG Stuttgart Public
Affairs Office



Photo by In Green/Shutterstock.com

The start of summer means good weather, and of course, traveling. Living in Europe, there are certainly a lot of great places to travel to over the summer, but how you choose to get there can make a big impact on the environment.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, ozone pollution, which is contributed to primarily from vehicle emissions, generally peaks during the months of April through October, on hot, sunny days with little or no wind and no precipitation.

Luckily, there are a number of steps you can take

to reduce those emissions.

First and foremost, if it's time to buy a new car, make sure you look for a fuel efficient car. Recent advances in automotive technology have made cars more and more efficient so that it is not uncommon for vehicles to get 30 or more miles per gallon. For more information on fuel economy, you can visit www.fueleconomy.gov.

So, if the current family vehicle is going to have to continue serving you, make sure it is tuned up and maintained properly. Also, ensure the tires are inflated to the proper pressure. Over or under inflated tires, or a poorly tuned engine make your vehicle less efficient, which in turn increases the exhaust emissions.

Turn off the engine if the car is going to be stationary for a long period of time when waiting for trains, when picking up passengers and other extended stops. This will not only help save the environment, and your wallet, it's also required by German law.

Also, minimizing the use of air conditioning in vehicles contributes to a further reduction of emissions. Planning your travels for early in the morning, or later in the evening will help reduce the amount of time

you spend traveling during the hottest part of the day. It may also have the added bonus of helping to avoid the worst of those traffic jams created by thousands of other vacation travelers on the Autobahn.

Finally, for a truly green summer vacation, consider foregoing the family car altogether and using public transport instead. Germany's extensive rail and bus network connects cities throughout Germany, most likely providing a connection from your village to whatever your destination may be. There are a number of summer specials offered by both the German national rail service and various regional services. Using public transport can take a little longer, but the journey can be part of the vacation itself. Using the German public transport system does take a little planning, and a basic understanding of how the train lines interact to get you from your hometown to your dream destination this summer.

For more information on how to navigate the German public transport system, check out our in-depth article on www.stuttgartcitizen.com. Just search the site (on the right hand side scroll down a bit) for German Public Transport or German Trains.

Safety Corner: Keep mosquitoes and ticks from bugging you this summer



By the Centers for Disease Control

Summer allows more time for children to play outdoors, but when kids are covered with bug bites after spending time outside, parents may start to worry about disease spread by ticks, such as Lyme disease, or by mosquitoes, such as West Nile virus. Luckily, parents can take simple steps to prevent bites and diseases spread by bugs.

Use an effective insect repellent

Parents may feel overwhelmed by the many bug protection products in the grocery aisle, wondering which ones are best. CDC recommends a variety of effective products. Check the label for one of the following active ingredients:

- DEET
- Picaridin
- IR 3535
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus

Most pediatricians recommend using products with 30 percent or less of these ingredients on kids. Once you've bought an insect repellent, use it whenever you and your children are outdoors.

Put a few bottles or packets of repellent anywhere you might need them – in the car, by the door, in your bag. Make it easy so you'll remember. As hard as it may be to think about, any single bug bite has the potential to bring illness, so it's worth taking a moment for prevention.

Make your backyard a tick-safe zone

While you may think that ticks only live in the woods, ticks can also lurk in backyards. You can take some simple steps to make your backyard more tick-safe. Keep patios, play areas, and playground equipment away from shrubs, bushes, and other vegetation. Also, tick control chemicals are available for use by homeowners, or can be applied by a professional pest control expert.

Check for ticks

After playing outside, don't make ticks an uninvited guest in your home. Ticks can ride in on parents, kids, and even the family pet, so check your gear and pets as soon as you get inside, even if your outdoor adventures were only in the backyard.

Parents should

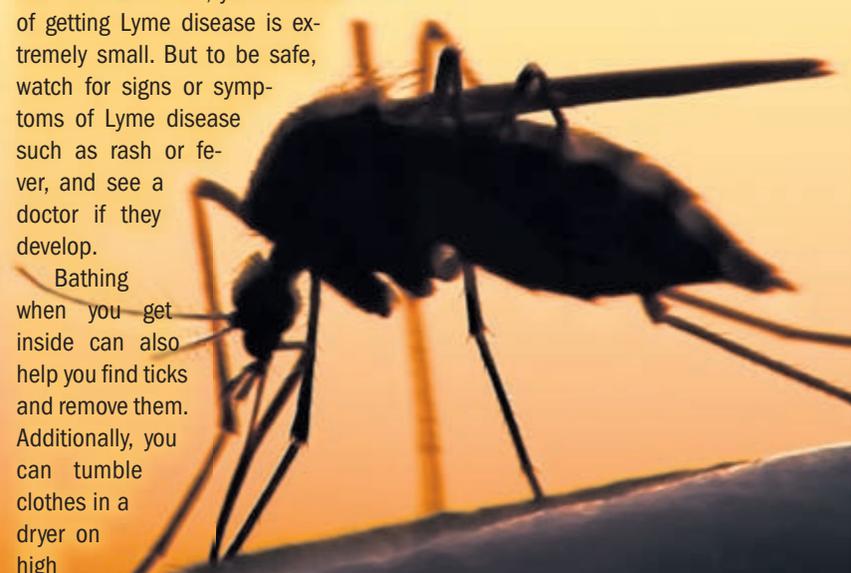
check themselves and their children for ticks under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, behind the knees, between the legs, around the waist and especially in the hair.

If you find a tick, remove it using fine-tipped tweezers as soon as you notice it. If a tick is attached to your skin for less than 24 hours, your chance of getting Lyme disease is extremely small. But to be safe, watch for signs or symptoms of Lyme disease such as rash or fever, and see a doctor if they develop.

Bathing when you get inside can also help you find ticks and remove them. Additionally, you can tumble clothes in a dryer on high

heat for an hour to kill any remaining ticks.

By following simple prevention steps, parents and kids can keep pests away so they can focus on fun outdoor activities like gardening, camping, hiking and just playing outdoors.



For more information, please visit www.cdc.gov/westnile or www.cdc.gov/lyme, or call CDC Info at 1-800-CDC-INFO.

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Audi A7	\$53,900	\$59,200	\$5,300	Lexus GS 350	\$44,550	\$45,750	\$1,200
Ford Mustang GT	\$26,500	\$29,750	\$3,250	Tundra SR5	\$20,500	\$22,775	\$2,275
BMW M3	\$42,900	\$46,025	\$3,125	Cadillac SRX	\$26,900	\$28,225	\$1,325
Audi Q5 Sline	\$36,350	\$38,600	\$2,250	Tundra SR5	\$26,900	\$29,350	\$2,450
BMW 335i sedan	\$41,500	\$44,650	\$3,150	Lexus RX 350	\$27,800	\$29,825	\$2,025
Jeep Liberty	\$23,000	\$24,775	\$1,775	BMW X1	\$36,000	\$37,775	\$1,775
Lexus GS 350	\$42,300	\$44,450	\$2,150	BMW 320	\$27,900	\$30,325	\$2,425
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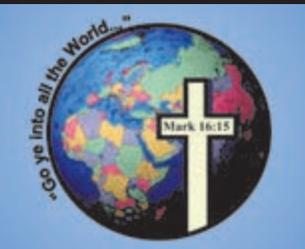
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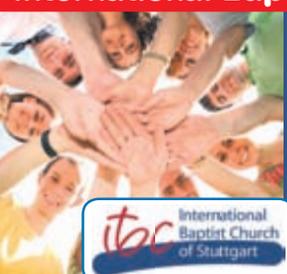
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FEDERAL HOLIDAY JULY 3

In celebration of Independence Day, July 4, the U.S. government is observing a federal holiday July 3. Most USAG Stuttgart services will be closed and many others will be operating on limited holiday hours.

Also, July 6 is a USAREUR training holiday, which is also observed by some other organizations. Those who have to conduct business on base on July 6 are advised to call ahead and make sure the respective office will be open on its normal operating hours.

APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED SCHOOL LUNCHES

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart School Liaison Office is accepting applications for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Families must re-apply each school year in order to remain in the program.

Paper applications are available at Parent Central Services and the School Liaison Office, or applications can be downloaded from the SLO webpage at here.

Completed applications can be dropped off at Parent Central Services or the School Liaison Office on Patch Barracks, Building 2347.

For more information, call 430-7465/civ. 0711-680-7465.

MYSTIC ROOTS TO PERFORM LIVE AT RB

Armed Forces Entertainment presents Mystic Root performing live at the Robinson Barracks Club patio, Building 168, June 28 6-8p.m. Mystic Roots is a five-piece pop-reggae-fusion band from Chico, Calif.

VOLUNTEERS AND VOLKSMARCHERS NEEDED

The Stuttgart German-American Wandering Club will host its 40th Annual International Volksmarch, July 25-26 at the Heinz-Glauner-Halle, Kemnater Str. 50, Stuttgart-Heumaden. The Volksmarch is a German-American event open to all and offers healthy exercise for young and old at each person's own pace. Trails of 6, 12, 21, or 30 km will be available (30km is offered on Sunday only). There will be live music and a German-American food menu at the start point.

Volunteers are needed for Friday set-up, Saturday and Sunday operations, and Sunday evening teardown. Multiple jobs and times are available. Any and all volunteers are welcome.

For more information on volunteering, email: volunteers@sgawc.org. Additional information on the Volksmarch or The SGAWC is available at www.sgawc.org.

EXCHANGE OFFERS CHANCE TO WIN SMART CAR

DALLAS — Military shoppers can beat the heat this summer in a sweet ride as the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, Welch's and Sour Jacks give away two Smart cars.

Beginning June 12, authorized shoppers worldwide can enter the Promotion in Motion Smart Car Giveaway, and two winners will each receive a Smart car valued at \$15,000. Winners located outside of the continental United States will have the option of receiving the cash value of the car instead.

"This giveaway is a great opportunity for the Exchange to give back to military shoppers," said Army Col. Fabian Mendoza, the Exchange Command Engineer. "It doesn't get more exciting than a new car."

The sweepstakes ends Aug. 13. No purchase is necessary to enter, and entrants do not need to be present to win. Prize drawings will occur on or about Aug. 20.

For a chance to win, shoppers can visit shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes.

ESTATE CLAIMS

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Sgt. Noah J. Katz of U.S. European Command J2, should contact the summary court officer, Lt. Col. John Bussolari, at DSN 430-2100.

USAG Stuttgart annual Independence Day celebration July 3

By Holly DeCarlo-White
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Thousands are expected to gather for live music, food and fireworks to celebrate Independence Day July 3 at Patch Barracks. The festivities begin in the morning kicking off with the Firecracker Fun Run 9 a.m. on Husky Field, and culminate with a fireworks display at 11 p.m.

Grills will not be allowed on the field for safety reasons this year, but will be allowed in the designated parking lot for tailgating adjacent to the field. Space available on a first come first serve basis from 2-6 p.m.

Activities run from 4-9

p.m. Various organizations and vendors are set to offer food and games for the whole family.



tunes at 6:30 p.m., Samba drummers Repicando at 7:30 p.m., classic hits from K.D. Riffkyn at 8 p.m., ending the night with a U2 tribute band, L.A. Vation on stage at 9:30 p.m.

All shuttle buses will be scheduled to transport attendees back to Robinson, Panzer and Kelley at 11:30 p.m. leaving from Washington Square on Patch.

Game & Activities

- Dunk Tank
- Airball Arena
- Bungee Trampoline
- Children's FerrisWheel
- Climbing Garden
- Climbing Tower
- Seahorse Swing
- Segways
- Bubble Ball

Live music performances include the U.S. Army Europe Show Band playing contemporary jazz at 5 p.m., Barry Foley Duo playing country western

For more information visit stuttgart.armymwr.com or contact FMWR at DSN: (314)430-2110/ (0)711-680-2110

FMWR & SKIES

Continued from Page 2



FMWR Sports and Fitness offer a wide range of fitness training and group classes taught by contractors within the USAG community. — *Photo courtesy of USAG Stuttgart FMWR*

All certified instructors must complete a background check (SKIES Unlimited has a more rigorous background check process to work with children), German contractor registration, hold CPR certification through the Red Cross, provide proof of liability insurance in Germany, and submit a class lesson plan. Safety trainings for instructors who wish to teach children both on and off military installations are also mandatory, such as the child abuse prevention course provided by Army Community Service. Active duty service members also require additional levels of approval and review to become instructors due to the German contractor requirements and Status of Forces Agreement.

The Family and MWR programs provide an excellent flexible part-time job resource for many spouses and dependants who come to Germany already certified and knowledgeable to train in a certain field or who plan to become certified after arriving in Europe.

For more information on the Family and MWR sports and fitness center, and class schedule visit stuttgart.armymwr.com

For more information on the SKIES Unlimited 0-18 programs, call 430-6281/civ. 0711-680-6281 or visit stuttgart.armymwr.com

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NEPAL RECOVERY

Continued from Page 2

Colgate's trip cost \$3,400, most of which was raised through donations via the IMR website.

Colgate also scrambled to find the gear she needed — a tent, food, iodine tablets and other supplies. Much of it was borrowed from friends and neighbors.

"It was a very extensive packing list in a short amount of time," she said. "It wasn't like you were going to be put up in a hotel for a week.

People were really excited and very supportive of what I wanted to do."

The Nepal trip wasn't Colgate's first stab at aid work. She was hired by a contracting company in 2008 and spent three months in Iraq at

a remote medical camp two hours north of Baghdad. She has also previously worked as an Emergency Medical Technician and firefighter.

In Nepal, Colgate said, the situation and the victims were "desperate." She spent much of her time in camps for those displaced by the disaster. Aftershocks were still being felt everyday. The biggest she experienced was a 4.2 or 4.3 on the Richter scale.

"Everybody screamed and ran," Colgate said.

The April quake, by contrast, measured a 7.3.

"From that I can only imagine what the first earthquake felt like," Colgate said. "People are very, very skittish."

Many people lost their



Volunteer Valerie Colgate delivered much needed medical care and other assistance to victims of the Nepal earthquake. — *Courtesy photo.*

homes and all their livestock, which left them with no means of income to support themselves. Colgate said that through a translator she heard

people tell stories about losing their entire families.

"It was just very hard to wrap your head around that," she said.

Returning stateside? Know what's banned before you go

By Robert Szostek
U.S. European Command Customs
Public Affairs Office

People scheduled to move to the States this summer should start preparing now by separating things that are banned from import and finding new homes for them. It is also a good idea to apply early for import permits on restricted items, customs officials advise.

"Prohibited items include meat and meat products such as sausage, pate and salami,

as well as plants, plant products and all destructive devices," said Mike Dean, director of the U.S. European Command's Customs and Border Clearance Agency. "If you're planning on shipping firearms, ensure you have proof that you owned them in the States or have an import permit," he added.

Dean also explained that other important points to remember are:

- Owners of vehicles not made to U.S. standards have to ship them through commercial

importers registered with the Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency. However, vehicles more than 25 years old are exempt from this rule.

- Most mopeds and motorcycles must also meet U.S. safety and pollution standards and all vehicles must be free of dirt, insects and vegetation.

- Wine collections can only be shipped with advance approval from the transportation office.

- Endangered species items such as ivory and some furs

may only be shipped if owners can prove they were previously owned in the U.S. or are antiques over 100 years old.

- State attorneys general must approve imports of gambling devices. These devices must be registered with the Justice Department in Washington D.C.

Need more details? Stop by the Stuttgart Customs Field Office, Building 2913, Panzer Kaserne, or visit www.eur.army.mil/opm/customs/uscustoms.htm.

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Leaders from 11 nations meet to discuss Arctic Security



Icelandic Coast Guard Rear Admiral Georg Lárússon, U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Randy Kee and Norwegian Army Maj. Gen. Odin Johannessen listen to a presentation during the Arctic Security Forces Roundtable, May 12, 2015 in Reykjavik, Iceland. Kee and Johannessen co-led the conference, while Lárússon led coordination of host nation support. Representatives from 11 nations across Europe and North America met for the ASFR in order to promote regional understanding and enhance multilateral security operations within the Arctic area.

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Mulvihill
United States European Command

Military leaders from across Europe and North America met in Reykjavik, Iceland, to discuss security related issues within the Arctic Circle during the Arctic Security Forces Roundtable May 12-13, 2015.

Held annually since 2011, the ASFR is a multi-day conference designed to promote regional understanding and enhance multilateral security operations within the Arctic area. This year's

forum was hosted by the Icelandic Coast Guard, and focused on events and challenges within the Greenland and Norwegian Seas region.

According to U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Randy Kee, one of the leaders of the ASFR, a big part of the conference is learning about potential issues that could result from increasing human activities in the Arctic, and how defense and civil authorities can work together to respond to them.

"This is an opportunity for us to come together as military professionals

and focus on those issues where we bring the open hand of help," Kee said. "We can learn how we can bring military capabilities to bear that are meaningful in areas such as domain awareness, humanitarian assistance and disaster response."

During the conference, representatives from seven nations with Arctic holdings and four observer nations listened to a variety of presentations from civil and industry leaders in the region. These culminated in a theoretical training exercise where attendees worked

together to plan disaster response for a hypothetical volcanic eruption.

According to Norwegian Army Maj. Gen. Odin Johannessen, who co- led the conference with Kee, the ASFR allows both military and civilian participants to gain a greater understanding of the Arctic and their potential roles in it.

"The different actors (in the Arctic) all have different purposes," Johannessen said. "If all of these actors can work together, it will be a benefit for all of us."

New clinic and school in Togo

By Staff Sgt. Christopher C. Klutts
United States Africa Command

As one project reaches completion, another begins in Togo with funding from the U.S. Africa Command Humanitarian and Civic Assistance Program in cooperation with U.S. Embassy Lomé and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Construction of a regional health center for women began in Amotivé, Togo, following a ribbon cutting ceremony May 26. The center will feature rooms for exams, labor, delivery, recovery and a pharmacy.

"The expansion of access to quality healthcare is one of the main objectives of the United States Embassy in Togo," Ambassador Robert E. Whitehead said during the ceremony.

Two days later in Atomé, embassy

and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel joined community leaders for the opening ceremony of a primary school. The school features four classrooms, two verandas, administration and supply rooms as well as a rainwater collection system.

"The Embassy of the United States of America continues to support the construction of schools throughout Togo for a simple reason. We believe that all children have the right to go to school, with constant support and encouragement from their parents and community leaders," Whitehead said.

Both projects are part of a larger initiative in Togo to build five schools and two medical facilities with funding through the Humanitarian and Civic Assistance Program.



Lt. Col. Lori Renwick, manager of the AFRICOM Humanitarian and Civic Assistance Program, greets community leaders during a ribbon cutting ceremony for a healthcare facility in Lomé, Togo, May 26, 2015. — Photo by Elliott Agbavon, U.S. Embassy Lomé

US, Latvian military conduct airborne training

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Brooks Fletcher
USAREUR Public Affairs Office

Military personnel, from the Latvian national armed forces, U.S. Army and Air Force, performed joint airborne training operations in conjunction with Operation Atlantic Resolve at Lielvarde Air Base, Latvia, June 15.

U.S. service members, who participated in the training, are deployed to Latvia as part of Exercise Saber Strike 2015 and Operation Atlantic Resolve, an ongoing, multinational partnership focused on joint training and security cooperation between the United States and other NATO allies.

“This was a great opportunity to utilize the existing training audience here and further validate what these exercises are all about,” said U.S. Army Special Operations Forces Capt. Zach Castle, 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, or 1-10th SFG, out of Stuttgart, Germany.

The training brought together service members from a gamut of units and organizations.

This included the 1-10th SFG, 86th Airlift Wing, and 435th Contingency Response Group, out of Ramstein, Germany; the Latvian national armed forces, out of Riga, Latvia; the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade, out of Fort Bragg, N.C.; several state-side Air National Guard Air Support Operations Squadrons; and the 5th Quartermaster Detachment, out of Kaiserslautern, Germany.

“This exercise was about integrating with one another so we can better understand one another’s capabilities,” said U.S. Air Force Jump Master Tech Sgt. Cameron Riley, who is with the 435th Contingency Response Group, out of Ramstein, Germany.

The day-long airborne operation consisted of everything from performing equipment inspections, jump procedures and techniques to participants making the 11,000-foot fall into the designated drop-zone.

However, organizing the training did not occur overnight and required extensive cooperation between multiple entities, Riley said. From communicating with units in the area to seeing who was jump qualified to coordinating the use of equipment and other assets, the actual jump became the easiest part of the operation.

“Once you think you have it down, it all changes,” Riley said. “However, while an operation of this size may have its hiccups, the biggest reward is once operations are complete. I can



Military personnel from the Latvian national armed forces, U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force inspect equipment during joint airborne training operations as part of exercise Saber Strike at Lielvarde Air Base, Latvia, June 15, 2015.

look at everyone on the ground, know that they landed safely, and can move out to conduct their mission on the ground.”

In this case, an exercise such as Saber Strike 2015, a long-standing U.S. Army Europe-led cooperative training exercise, this small operation

further facilitates the cooperation amongst the U.S., Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland to improve joint operational capability in a range of missions as well as preparing the participating nations and units to support multinational contingency operations.

“Today’s (training) was not only about maximizing the training value for the individual units, but also the relationships established here in Europe,” Castle said. “That is really the hallmark of all the training we do here. It’s a cooperative and collaborative effort from everyone.”

Health Beat: Summer sunshine brings summer fun, but also health risks

By Giovanna-Reyes-Alexander
Health Promotion Program Assistant Volunteer

As summertime time is finally here, our daily activities may begin to shift to the outdoors with the warmer temperatures and sunny days. Outdoor activities are a great way to get and stay in shape as well as to build stronger relationships with family and friends. During these hotter summer months however it is important that safe practices are used when enjoying the sun.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the sun's ultra violet rays can cause damage to your skin in as little as 15 minutes. There are two types of ultra violet radiation produced by the sun, UVA rays and UVB

rays. These are both responsible for causing skin cancer as well as a weakened immune system. Furthermore, UVA rays lead to skin aging while UVB rays are the cause of sun burns.

The CDC estimates that more than one million Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer every year. Skin cancer and other injuries related to sun over-exposure such as heat stroke, sun burns and heat exhaustion are largely preventable by taking sensible precautions.

It is important to note that everyone is susceptible to the damaging effects of over-exposure to the sun regardless of race or ethnicity. Many in the Stuttgart community are avid travelers, whether here in Germany and Europe, back home to the U.S. to visit our loved ones, or to some other exotic location. There are some areas and activities however which increase one's risk of sun over-exposure. These include destinations near to the equator or at high altitudes and activities such as sailing, surfing and spending time at the beach.

On very sunny days, the reflection of the sun off the water or even the

snow can cause damage. What may be more surprising is that even on cloudy days when it is least expected, UV rays can cause damage as persons are less likely to take precautions because sun exposure is not apparent and uncomfortable.

Protect yourself from overexposure to the sun by following the tips offered by the American Cancer Society at <http://www.cancer.org/healthy/besafeinthesun/index>

While skin cancers are often the most highlighted risk of over-exposure to the sun, it is important to be aware of other serious risks associated with sun exposure such as heat-related illnesses from high temperatures are more common in the summer months. According to the CDC, muscle cramping may be the first sign of heat-related illness and may lead to heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that results from several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids. Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related illness and occurs when the body is unable to control its temperature. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include heavy sweating, weakness, cold, pale clammy skin, fast or weak pulse, nausea/vomiting and fainting. Symptoms of heat stroke include body temperatures of 103 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, hot, red, dry or moist skin, a rapid and strong pulse as

well as possible unconsciousness.

SYMPTOMS OF HEAT INJURIES:

Heat cramps:

- Painful cramps, especially in the legs
- Flushed, moist skin

Heat Exhaustion:

- Muscle cramps
- Pale, moist skin
- Usually has a fever over 100.4° F (or 38° C)
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Weakness
- Anxiety, and faint feeling

Heat Stroke:

- Warm, dry skin
- High fever, usually over 104° F (or 40° C)
- Rapid heart rate
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Confusion
- Agitation
- Lethargy
- Stupor
- Seizures, coma, and death are possible

(Heat stroke is a medical emergency and emergency medical services should be called immediately in cases of heat stroke)



Photo by Sunny studio/Shutterstock.com

On the Blotter:

In the early morning hours of June 8 a service member was stopped by German police in Boeblingen. When the German police approached the driver they detected alcohol with results suggesting the driver was driving under the influence of alcohol. The Military Police were dispatched and he was released to his unit.

In the early morning hours of June 8 a Soldier was stopped by German Police in Stuttgart for exceeding the posted speed limit by approximately 39km/h. As the police approached the vehicle they detected alcohol on the service member's breath and took him into custody. He was later released to his unit. Results indicate that the Soldier was driving under the influence of alcohol.

On May 31, a Civilian employee was stopped by German police around 11 p.m. Police detected alcohol on the individual's breath and administered a breathalyzer with results indicating that the individual was driving under the influence of alcohol.

Individuals who are stopped and have a BAC between .5 and .79 are assessed six points on their license and receive a 90-day license suspension. Additionally, individu-

als who receive 12 or more points on their license in a one-year period will have their licenses suspended for 180 days. Individuals who are caught driving with a BAC of .8 or higher will have their licenses revoked and may only apply for reinstatement after one year. Additionally, service members will automatically receive GOMORs.

Around midnight on June 8 non-service member Americans were detained by Military Police for possibly throwing debris, thought to be rocks and dirt, at drivers. The Military Police responded and after questioning the two individuals released them on their own recognizance. The investigation will be continued by German police.

A service member was cited by customs authorities for the unlawful transfer/possession of a prohibited item through the APO system. Customs agents discovered ammunition in a package mailed to the service member. Shipment of ammunition through the APO system is prohibited.

A dependent suffered severe injuries after being hit by a car while riding his skateboard. The dependent appears to have failed to stop at an intersection and

was hit by a car in the intersection.

For the first-half of June, there were 19 inattentive driving incidents, to include failure to clear the rear, failure to yield the right-of-way, minor traffic accidents, damage to parked vehicles and others.

On May 26, a dependent whose PX access was suspended for shoplifting was cited for trespassing when she entered the PX in violation of her suspension.

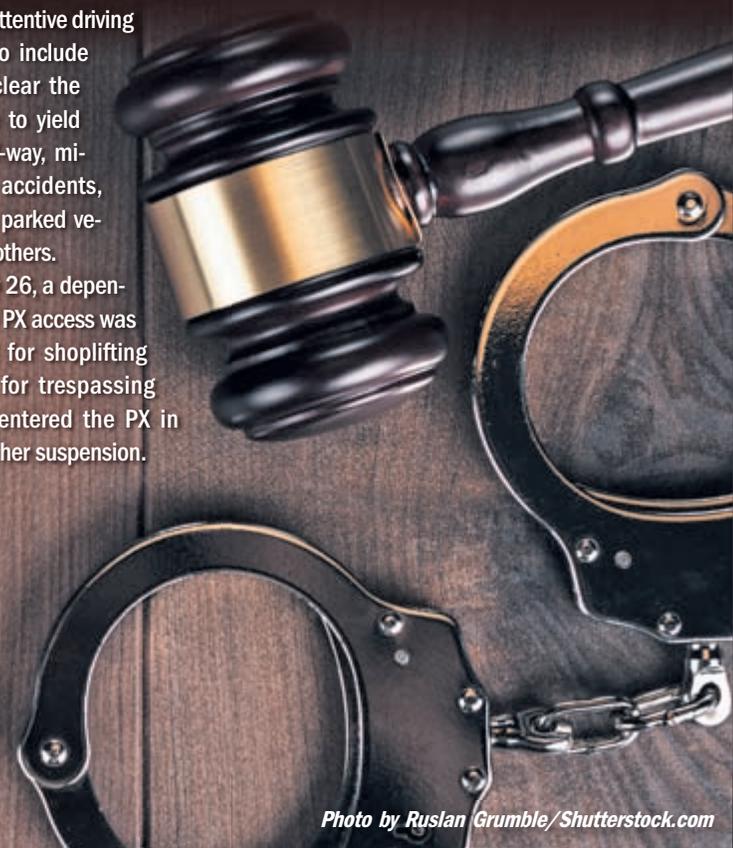


Photo by Ruslan Grumble/Shutterstock.com

What's happening in FMWR

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS WITH OUTDOOR RECREATION

Make your way through rushing waters while white water rafting with ODR on June 27. Price includes transportation, equipment, instructions, 3 rafts and 1 swim down the canal. Trip departs at 8 a.m. For more information, DSN 431-2774/CIV 07031-15-2774.

Have some paintball fun with ODR on July 11, 9:30 a.m. Price includes mask rental, field fee and bag of paint (500 balls). Open to both US ID cardholders and non-ID cardholders. DSN 431-2774/CIV 07031-15-2774.

RUNNING OUT OF STORAGE SPACE?

Looking for a place to store all your extra belongings? The Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim offers storage units that vary in size at low monthly rates! Pay for one year in advance and get one month free. Minimum rental is 3 months. Storage space is located next to the Stuttgart Golf course in a secure area. CIV 07141-879151.

MOVIE NIGHT WITH BOSS

Sit back, relax, grab some popcorn and enjoy free movie night with BOSS

on June 27, 6 p.m. at the Warrior Zone on Patch Barracks. Open to all Service Members and authorized guests 18 and older. For more information, DSN 430-7135/CIV 0711-680-7135.

BE FIT FOR LIFE

Don't miss this annual virtual incentive program running from July 1 to Dec. 31. "Fit for Life" is provided free to the community. By keeping track of your daily fitness activities, you earn miles which can earn you prizes! Register at any time by sending an email to stuttgartfitness@gmail.com or call DSN 430-7136/ CIV 0711-680-7136.

TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT

Try your hand at Texas Hold'em on June 26, 7:30 p.m. First, second and third place winners of the night will win Exchange gift cards. Non ID-card holders can participate in a friendly Texas Hold'em tournament without buy-in or prizes. Snacks and drinks available, you can also swing by Patch Garden for dinner. DSN 430-7135/CIV 0711-680-7135.

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

COMING TO PATCH THEATER

- June 25 — Pitch Perfect 2 (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- June 26 — Max (PG) 6 p.m.,
Ted 2 (R) 9 p.m.
- June 27 — Inside Out (PG) 3 p.m.,
Max (PG) 6 p.m.,
Ted 2 (R) 9 p.m.
- June 28 — Inside Out (PG) 4 p.m.,
Ted 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- June 29 — Closed
- June 30 — Closed
- July 1 — Terminator Genisys in 3D (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- July 2 — Jurassic World (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- July 3 — Terminator Genisys in 3D (PG-13) 6 p.m.,
Magic Mike XXL (R) 9 p.m.
- July 4 — Inside Out in 3D (PG) 3 p.m.,
Terminator Genisys (PG-13) 6 p.m.,
Magic Mike XXL 9 p.m.
- July 5 — Jurassic World in 3D (PG13) 4 p.m.,
Terminator Genisys (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- July 6 — Closed



© 2015 - Universal Pictures

The Pitch Perfect 2 — The Bellas are back, and they are better than ever. After being humiliated in front of none other than the President of the United States of America, the Bellas are taken out of the Aca-Circuit. In order to clear their name and regain their status, the Bellas take on a seemingly impossible task: winning an International competition no American team has ever won. In order to accomplish this monumental task, they need to strengthen the bonds of friendship and sisterhood, and blow away the competition with their amazing aca-magic! With all new friends and old rivals tagging along for the trip, the Bellas can hopefully accomplish their dreams once again.

Family and MWR Advertisement

stuttgart.armymwr.com



ART IN THE PARK

ART IN THE PARK
June 28, 4 p.m.
RB Club, Robinson Barracks

Listen to live music from the Reggae Band "Mystic Roots" and participate in activities such as free pet photos, crafters consignor sale, face painting, balloon art and basket weaving. Bring your lawn chairs and relax with Art in the Park. Sponsored by AFSPA, Bavarian Motor Cars and Stuttgart Marriott Hotel Sindelfingen (no federal endorsement implied).

DSN 430-2110/CIV 0711-680-2110



INDEPENDENCE DAY

INDEPENDENCE DAY
July 3, 4 - 11 p.m.
Husky Field, Patch Barracks

Enjoy delicious food, fun rides, games, a BBQ tailgate area and more. Don't miss U2 tribute band, L.A. Vation and the extended firework show! Sponsored by Bavarian Motor Cars, MAS Mercedes, Service Credit Union, Stuttgart Marriott Hotel Sindelfingen and TKS (no federal endorsement implied).

DSN 430-2110/CIV 0711-680-2110



REMEMBRANCE RUN

RUN TO REMEMBER
July 11, 8:30 a.m.
Panzer Fitness Center, Panzer Kaserne

Remember those who have fallen in battle by being a part of the "Run to Remember". Registration is \$15 for individuals and \$40 per family (until July 5) at Patch & Panzer Fitness Centers (price increases July 6 - 8). Sponsored by Bavarian Motor Cars (no federal endorsement implied).

DSN 430-7136/CIV 0711-680-7136

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



Explore 'near and dear' s

By Teri Weiss

Special to the Citizen

Editor's Note: This is the second and final instalment of a two-part series exploring tourist-worthy destinations along the Neckar River.

Mid, Upper Neckar valley towns from Stuttgart northward

Between Stuttgart and Lauffen, the Neckar River carves out a remarkably scenic valley of meadows and orchards on the shore and vineyards on steep-sided slopes.

Ludwigsburg



Photo by clearlens/shutterstock.com

Ludwigsburg is located about 12 kilometers, or 7.5 miles, north of Stuttgart. With more than 87,000 inhabitants, Ludwigsburg makes for a historic baroque, but yet vibrant and modern city.

Today, Ludwigsburg, which was originally founded in the early 18th century, can be considered a place where past and present unites. Three beautiful palaces, the Baroque residential castle, the former hunting lodge and summer residence "Favorite" and the lakeside castle Monrepos, can be toured and offer special events year round. Romantic parks such as the 75 acres of the flowering Baroque and Fairy Tale Garden, bustling shopping streets and festivals attract visitors.

For more information, visit www.ludwigsburg.de.

Marbach am Neckar

Marbach is known as the birthplace of the classical poet and dramatist Friedrich Schiller, commemorated by the Schiller-Nationalmuseum und Deutsches Literaturarchiv (Schiller National



Photo by PRILL/shutterstock.com

Literature Archive). The town has a picturesque center with several churches, with "Alexanderkirche" dating back to the 16th century and many historic houses, including the one in which Schiller was born.

Leisure activities are available in and around Marbach providing nature between vineyards, the Neckar River and forests perfect for hiking and biking.

For more information, visit www.schillerstadt-marbach.de.

Besigheim

Besigheim is situated 13 kilometers north of Ludwigsburg at the confluence of the Neckar and Enz rivers. It was founded in the 12th century as a well-defended walled city. Besigheim counts many historic buildings and a town hall dating back to 1459. There are two medieval towers, a Gothic church, a cobblestoned market place and more historic sites to discover.

For more information, visit www.besigheim.de.

Hessigheim

Hessigheim am Neckar has a long wine-making tradition on steep slopes dating back centuries and is well known for its highly praised wines. The region around Hessigheim is perfect for rock-climbing, hiking and biking along the Neckar River or through the vineyards.

For more information, visit www.hessigheim.de.

Lauffen am Neckar

Lauffen am Neckar is situated nine kilometers, or six miles, southwest of Heilbronn. The town is famous as the birthplace of the poet Friedrich Hölderlin and for its many apple orchards and quality wines – in particular the "Lauffener Katzenbeißer Schwarzriesling."

For more information, visit www.lauffen.de.

Bad Wimpfen



Photo by Steve Heap/shutterstock.com

Bad Wimpfen is located south of Heilbronn on land once cultivated by the Celts and Romans. The enormous

medieval imperial palace, the largest north of the Alps, with its red and blue towers loom over steep cobblestoned streets of the old town center. A climb of the Blauer Turm's, or blue tower's, 167 steps provides a dazzling view of the Neckertal. Two original Luther Bibles are on display at the Kirchenhistorisches Museum, or Historical Church Museum. Bad Wimpfen has a number of warm and revitalizing saltwater springs and a "Schweinemuseum," or pig museum — in Germany, pigs supposedly bring good luck.

For more information, visit www.badwimpfen.de.

Heilbronn



Photo by Bildagentur Zoonar GmbH/shutterstock.com

Heilbronn is a former free imperial city and is the economic center of the Heilbronn-Franken region that includes most of northeast Baden-Württemberg. Heilbronn is known for its wine industry and is nicknamed "Käthchenstadt," Kathy town, after Heinrich von Kleist's drama "Das Käthchen von Heilbronn."

For more information, visit www.heilbronn-tourist.de. Beginning at Heilbronn, the Neckar carves a valley, the Neckartal, through the forest region of the Odenwald. The origin of the name Odenwald is assumed to come from Odins Wald, or Odin's wood. Odin was worshipped in southern Germany under the name Wotan.

During the Middle Ages, knights and nobles built their castles on the crags above the river valleys and merchants had to pay hefty tolls for passage.

Hornberg Castle

Several old castles can be found along the Neckar Valley in the Odenwald hills including Hornberg Castle, built onto a steep outcrop above the town of Neckarzimmern.

For more information, visit www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hornberg_Castle.

Guttenberg Castle



Photo by Karel Gallas/shutterstock.com

Guttenberg Castle in Hassmersheim is the Neckar Valley's oldest and best preserved castle with a popular falconry center. It has been in the same family since the mid-15th century.

For more information, visit www.burg-guttenberg.de/en/burg/castle.

Mosbach

Mosbach developed around a Benedictine monastery. The "Monasterium Mosabach" was the first written record dating back to the ninth century. Historic sites include the town center with its "Fachwerk," or timber framed buildings, such as the Palm House built in 1610, the Salzhaus, which is the town's oldest timbered house, the town hall, and the former collegiate church, now a parish church shared by two congregations.

For more information, visit www.mosbach.de.

Gundelsheim

Gundelsheim is situated on the right bank of the Neckar River. The town is well known for Castle Horneck, a former residence of the Teutonic order. Also noteworthy are the old town center and the unique vineyards.

For more information, visit www.gundelsheim.de.

Bad Rappenau

Bad Rappenau is the city of water and health. Since 1834, Bad Rappenau has been well-known for its healthy thermal water making it the seventh biggest brine and sauna spa town in Baden.

For more information, visit www.badrappenau-tourismus.de.

Sites along Neckar River

Eberbach Castle



Photo by Volker Rauch/shutterstock.com

Eberbach is about 33 kilometers east of Heidelberg. The former free imperial city was founded in the 13th century. The historic old town has well maintained towers, the Pulverturm, Haspelturm,

Rosenturm and Blauer Hut, many half-timbered houses, some town wall remnants, and worth the climb, the Eberbach Castle ruins above the town on one of the hills in the Odenwald range. There are two museums: the Heimatmuseum der Stadt Eberbach, the museum of local history, and the Kufereimuseum, a cooperage museum, as well as a Zinnfiguren-Kabinett for pewter figures.

In 1977, the town celebrated its 750-year anniversary. Nearby Katzenbuckel hill - 626 meters - is the highest elevation in the Naturpark Neckartal-Odenwald nature preserve.

For more information, visit www.eberbach.de.

Hirschhorn

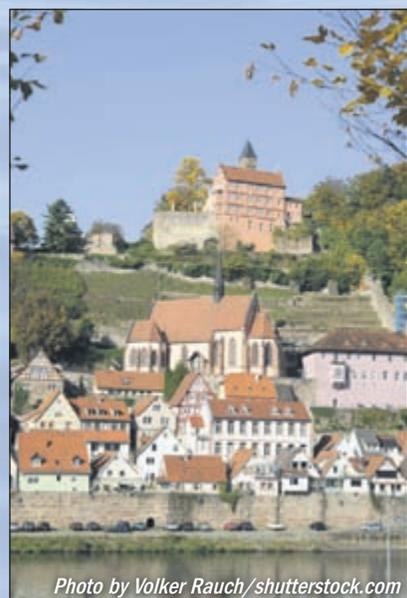


Photo by Volker Rauch/shutterstock.com

Above the Neckar town of Hirschhorn in Hesse, is the 12th century "Ritterschloss," or knight's castle, where the restaurant terrace offers a splendid view of the river and town.

For more information, visit www.hirschhorn.de.

Dilsberg

Dilsberg, located a few kilometers outside the former imperial city of Neckargemünd, is a more than 1,000-year-old fortified hilltop town with a castle ruin overlooking a bend in the valley and the Odenwald Forest.

Dilsberg Fortress was built by the counts of Lauffen and was regarded as unconquerable for many centuries. The citadel now consists mostly of some remnant walls. The town itself is quite small, with well maintained half-timbered buildings and breathtaking views over the Neckar valley.

Neckarsteinach



Photo by Volker Rauch/shutterstock.com

Around another bend of the Neckar near Dilsberg is the spectacular "castle row." About 14 kilometers, or five miles, south of Heidelberg, the Neckar River runs through Neckarsteinach, a small town with four castles including the famous "Schwalbennest," or swallow's nest. While two of the four castles are ruins, the other two have been restored to noble glory. The interiors of both are closed to the public, but the Hinterburg offers a spectacular look at the valley below.

A footpath, the Burgenweg, leads up to all four castles. Once each summer they are "lit up" with an elaborate fireworks spectacle.

For more information, visit www.neckarsteinach.com/tourismus.

Heidelberg

Heidelberg is one of Germany's most romantic and picturesque cities and without doubt, the most famous of all Neckar River castles is the Heidelberg Schloss.

The castle high above the city, the Old Neckar Bridge, Philosophers' Path, the narrow, winding alleys of the old town, market squares, the old university with its historical library and students' detention room, and magnificent churches attract visitors from all over the world. Heidelberg's most famous

monument to Romanticism is the castle complex, which was the former residence of the electors of the Palatinate and the Baroque old town.

In the cellar of the castle is the Grosse Fass, reputedly the world's largest wine barrel, holding 219,000 liters — more than 50,000 gallons — of wine.

Heidelberg is also one of Europe's most important cities for science and learning, its university is world famous for research and teaching.

For more information, visit www.heidelberg.de.

Schwetzingen



Photo by clearlens/shutterstock.com

Schwetzingen, located a few kilometers west of Heidelberg and southeast of Mannheim, is the "Spargel," or white asparagus, capital of the world. The Schwetzingen Castle with its elaborate formal gardens in Baroque, Rococo, and English landscape designs is a delightful landmark.

Schwetzingen boasts six restaurants and a brewery on its castle square and almost 600 more restaurants throughout the town.

For more information, visit www.schwetzingen.de.

Mannheim

Mannheim marks the last city on our journey through Neckar River

towns. The city is located at the confluence of the Rhine and Neckar rivers in the northwest corner of Baden-Württemberg. The city was actually built around the 18th century "Kurfürstliches Residenzschloss," or prince elector's palace. This large Baroque palace now houses the university.



Photo by Manfred Steinbach/shutterstock.com

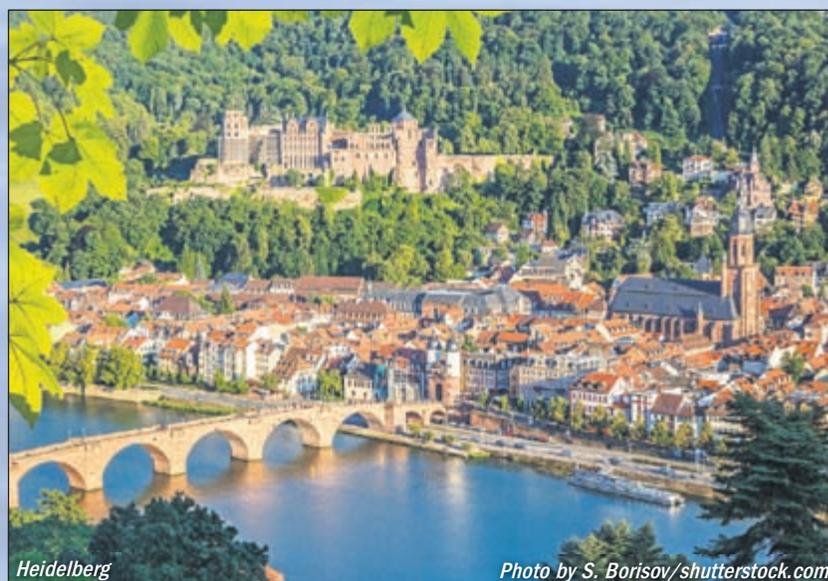
Mannheim is unusual among German cities in that its streets and avenues are laid out in a grid pattern, leading to its nickname "Quadratstadt," meaning city of the squares.

Mannheim's industrial harbour is one of Europe's busiest ports and marks the Neckar Valley's commercial centre.

Other highlights of the city include farmer's markets at Marktplatz, or market square, the Art Nouveau Friedrichsplatz and a 200-foot Wasserturm, or water tower, which is crowned by a figure of Amphitrite, wife of Poseidon — god of the sea. It's one of the most impressive water towers in Germany.

In Mannheim, the Neckar surrenders its remaining wildness, tempered and tamed by its journey through the landscapes and towns it has passed through. Here it flows and disappears quietly into the Rhine.

For more information, visit www.mannheim.de.

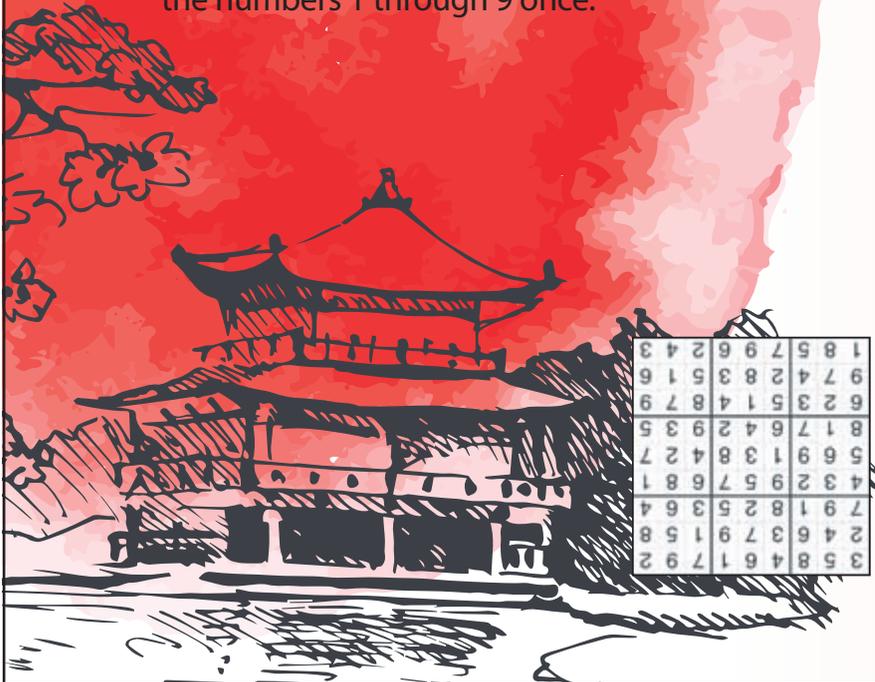


Heidelberg

Photo by S. Borisov/shutterstock.com

Sudoku Puzzle

Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column, and each of the nine 3x3 grids contains each of the numbers 1 through 9 once.



								2
			3		9		5	
	9		8	2		3		
4			9					
5					8		2	
	1	7		4				5
		3		1		8		
		4						6
		5	7					



Make your own raspberry or strawberry vinegar

Ingredients

- ★ good berries - a hearty hand full
- ★ good vinegar - white vinegar (Aceto Balsamico Bianco)
- ★ a bit of sugar
- ★ water
- ★ one bottle

Time Frame

- ★ four weeks of time



Preparation

Take an empty, clean bottle (maybe a nice wine bottle) and put raspberries or strawberries in it (frozen berries are ok too). Then add a bit of sugar. Add water and vinegar to the bottle (50/50) and shake it a bit so the sugar doesn't sit at the bottom of the bottle. Close the bottle and put it in the fridge for four weeks. After two weeks, take a sip of the vinegar to see if the taste is what you desire (add ingredients as desired). You will have delicious homemade vinegar dressing for your summer salads.

Klaus Hartmann focuses his classes on German food for foreigners who want to learn the tricks of the trade.

If you are interested in setting up a cooking class with Klaus, he can be found on facebook at www.facebook.com/CookingWithKlaus or via email at CookingwithKlaus@web.de



Fun Day with the Patch Elementary School Principal



Photos by Jan Kuenning

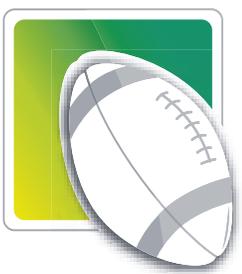
Patch Elementary School principal introduces PES Student Council President Jacob and Vice President Jordan to the Director of DoDEA, Dr. Brady, and Bavaria Superintendent, Dr. Dunham.



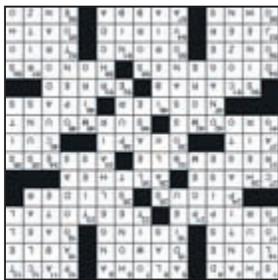
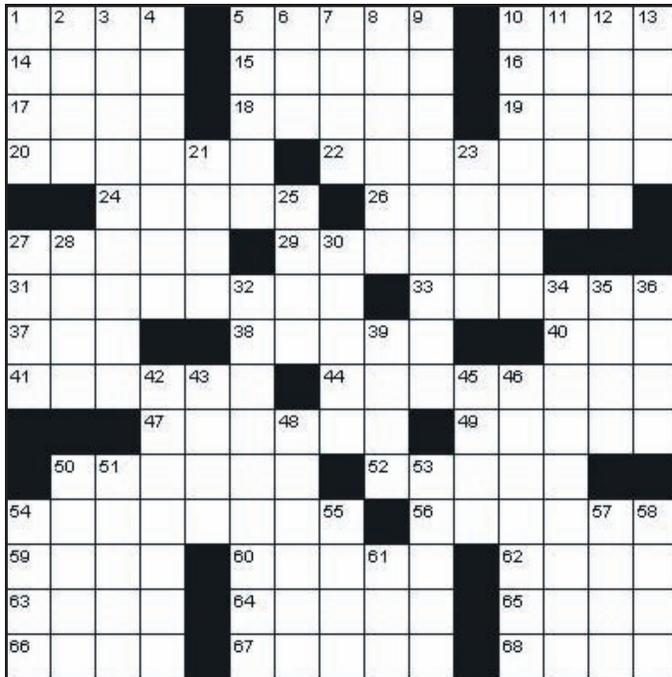
Patch Elementary School's student council members sit down with Dr. Brady, Director of DoDEA, to discuss what is happening at PES.

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

Youth Activities



Crossword Puzzle



This week's solution!
Courtesy of thinks.com

ACROSS

- 1 Food fish
- 5 Hawaii hi
- 10 Treaty
- 14 Isolated
- 15 "Good Will Hunting" star
- 16 Competent
- 17 Escape clauses
- 18 "Of Thee ___" (Gershwin musical)
- 19 Scottish Celt
- 20 Flu, formerly
- 22 On the wagon
- 24 Devout
- 26 Pitcher's pitch
- 27 Pursuit
- 29 Tennis star Gibson
- 31 Be like
- 33 Appraise
- 37 Islet
- 38 Rain forest ruminant
- 40 ___ bono
- 41 Stable workers
- 44 Overcome
- 47 More inquisitive
- 49 Bridge declaration
- 50 Egyptian amulet

DOWN

- 21 Metrical composition
- 23 Bonds
- 25 Polio vaccine discoverer
- 27 Climber's rock
- 28 Successor
- 30 Rental agreement
- 32 Dance style from Brazil
- 34 Peruvian's neighbor
- 35 Stars
- 36 Is in session
- 39 Immaculate
- 42 Wild asses
- 43 Extra
- 45 Dali contemporary
- 46 Shoe style
- 48 European peninsula
- 50 Tendon
- 51 Deceive
- 53 Valerie Harper TV role
- 54 School for martial arts
- 55 Old World fruit tree
- 57 "Puttin' on the ___" (Berlin classic)
- 58 Big Apple neighbor hood
- 61 Pen point

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Image Courtesy of the DoD.

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Have fun with the locals

Medieval market

Fri, Jun 26 – Sun, Jun 28

Waiblingen, Brühlwiesen

Experience the Medieval market in Waiblingen on the weekend from June 26 to 28. Enjoy show fights, fire artists or give your best in archery and axe throwing. Cook shops will provide special medieval dishes while jugglers will be performing. For more information in German see www.staufer-spektakel.de

events

EVENTS

Bläserfestival

Thu, Jun 25 – Sat, Jun 27
Weil am Rhein, city center

Come to the Bläserfestival on June 25 to June 27 in Weil am Rhein. Listen to bag pipes and other medieval musical instruments while you drink fine wine or mead. You can also enjoy a variety of culinary specialties. To get the full program, visit www.blaeserfestival.de

Heusteigviertelfest

Fri, Jun 26 – Sun, Jun 28
Stuttgart, city center

Stuttgart is having a fest from June 26 to 28. This is the 37th time the festival will take place in one of the nicest areas in town. This event is great for people of all ages. Live music will be played on five different stages and there will be entertainment for children as well. Shops will be open on Sunday as well. For more information in German, visit www.stuttgart.de

Haft- und Hokafescht

Sat, Jun 27 – Sun, Jun 28

Kirchheim unter Teck, City center

This year's traditional city festival 'Haft- und Hokafescht' in Kirchheim unter Teck will start on June 27 at 6 p.m. with the tapping of the barrels. Dance interludes, live music and international as well as local specialties will be provided on both days. On Sunday a special flea market for kids and teenagers will take place. For more info, see www.kirchheim-teck.de

Altstadtfest

Fri, Jun 28 – Sun, Jun 30

Waiblingen,

Elsbeth-und-Hermann-Zeller-Platz

Enjoy the Altstadtfest (old town festival) in the beautiful city of Waiblingen from June 28 to 30, starting at 7 p.m. at the Elsbeth-und-Hermann-Zeller-Platz. During the weekend a variety of live bands will play concerts at different locations, local organizations will present their businesses, and church services will be provided. For more info in German and the entire program, see www.astaf.de

Ruhr in Love

Sat, Jun 27

Oberhausen, Olga park

Enjoy a day totally focused on electronic music at the 'Ruhr in Love' festival on June 27, starting at noon at the Olga park in Oberhausen. More than 40,000 people are expected to take part in the open air event hosting more than 400 DJs and live acts. From 10 p.m. more than 20 after parties will begin in well-known clubs of the electro scene all over North Rhine-Westphalia and its neighboring states. For more information in German and tickets, see www.ruhr-in-love.de

Wine summer fest

Sat, Jun 27 – Sun, Jun 28

Vaihingen, Weingut Sonnenhof

The Weingut Sonnenhof Sommerfest (summer festival) will be on June 27 and 28. Live music, wine, various BBQ specialties, Flammkuchen and rides through the vineyards, are offered. Saturday from 4 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. Entrance is free of charge. For further information, please visit www.weingutsonnenhof.de

Körperwelten

Thu, Jul 2

Saarbrücken, Congresshalle

Gunter von Hagen is presenting his exhibition called Körperwelten & Der Zyklus des Lebens (body worlds & the cycle of life) starting July 2 in Saarbrücken. You will be able to see the body from a different view. You will learn more about the anatomy, health and physiology by viewing the body parts. Entrance prices start at €17. For more information, see www.koerperwelten.com

Late night shopping

Fri, Jul 3

Metzingen, Outletcity

For all shopping lovers the Outletcity Metzingen will open its doors on July 3 from 10 a.m. to midnight. Find special offers in more than 60 designer stores, such as Calvin Klein, Burberry and Oakley while the outdoor area will be illuminated by beautiful lights. For more info, see www.outletcity.com

City Festival

Fri, Jul 3 – Sun, Jul 5

Böblingen, city center

Enjoy the atmosphere at Böblingen's city festival from July 3 to 5. Local associations will provide food and drinks, as well as an entertainment program with concerts, sport activities and more. For more information in German, see www.boeblingen.de

CONCERTS

Mumford & Sons

Sat, Jul 18

Berlin, Waldbühne

Mumford & Sons are going on tour this year. See them live in Berlin on July 18

at the Waldbühne. Ticket price is €66.50. The show starts at 6 p.m. For more information about Mumford & Sons, go to www.mumfordandsons.com

Passenger

Sun, Jul 19

München, Tollwood Festival Gelände

See the singer song-writer Passenger as he goes on his Whispers tour this year. You may recognize him by his song "Let her Go." He will perform songs from his new album that will be released later this year. Ticket prices start at €38. For more information and tour dates, see www.passengermusic.com

SPORTS

American Football

Sat, Jun 27

Stuttgart, GAZI-Stadion

Come see the all American favorite sport on June 27 at the GAZI-Stadion in Stuttgart. The Stuttgart Scorpions are playing against the Saarland Hurricanes. Game starts at 6 p.m. For more information, go to www.stuttgart-scorpions.de

Horse Riding Tournament

Fri, Jul 3 – Sun, Jul 5

Tübingen, Tübinger Reitgesellschaft

The 'Großes Reit- und Springturnier' (Big Riding and Jumping Tournament) will take place from July 3 to 5 at the premises of the Tübinger Reitgesellschaft. More than 300 riders and 700 horses will take part in the federal championship which includes disciplines like dressage, show jumping and more. Admission for one day will be €4. For more information in German see www.landeschampionat.de

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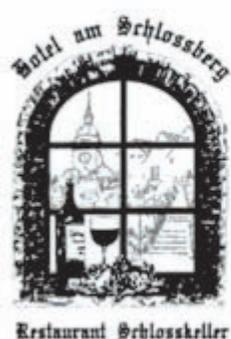
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APT FOR RENT

All ads and pics on class-world.com

67678 Mehlingen, Hauptstrasse
29a, house approx 160sqm, new renov. Modern BIK, 2 bathrms, 2 livrm, (one w/balc, 3 BR, lrg hallway, new heating system (energy saving), 70sqm courtyard(30sqm covered w/built in Grill, €1200+util+1 month rent, Tel 0176-24477042

Apartment in Kaiserslautern, 170 m², 3-4 bedrooms, 2 baths, brand new and exclusive BIK, living-dining room area, balcony, district heat, fireplace, no pets, available 7/1/2015. Rent: 1100 Euro + util. o Finder'S Fee! Call G.I. Bill Pay Service & Real Estate at 0160-1065196 or 06371-465407, E-mail: ramstein@gibillpay.com, view more listings at www.gibillpay.com/realstate

Apt in Steinwenden/Weltersbach new renov 2 km to RAB 110sqm liv/din rm 2BR BIK bathrm 2storage rms basem carport balc heat incl €720 Engl spoken 06375-993129 or 0173-7634881 no dogs

HOUSES FOR RENT

All ads and pics on class-world.com

1a very nice freestd. House, 66885 Altenglan, available 01.07.15, rent 1500p.m., 5 bed rms, 2 bath (both completely new), kitchen build in, fire-place with pellets, big big studio with a nice balcony, big liv + din rm, storage rm, basement + big garage + sepr. heating rm, big yard, padio, 1 small pet allowed, it is possible to rent an additional carport next to the house for 50€ p.m., pls call Eva under 0175-25 26 560. The adress of the house: Am Mühl-rech 1, 66885 Altenglan

Beautiful House in Nieder-moor. Quiet area with a great view.183m², 3 BR, Liv/Din-Area w. fireplace, studio, 2 Baths, 2balc, garden w. terr. a. shed, 1 Carport, Av.now, Rent: 1350€, No finder's Fee!, call 0152 53749212 or 0173 8131067

Comfortable renovated old farm-house, Dorfstr. 16,66424 Homburg/Altbreitenfelderhof near Waldmohr 5min, 7rms BIK liv/dinrm 2bath 2balc terrace basement yard parking. €1200+util 0163-3505337 or MGBernd@schlau.com

Duplex house, 190sqm, 3BD, attic studio, 2Bath, with garden and terrace, avail now, €1350, Tel: 06374-3698

Freest., 262 sqm, 5 bedr., 3 bath, garage, carport, € 1.895, Holleck@yahoo.de, 0170 - 9801507

Hauptstuhl: Freestanding 5 bedr., 2 1/2 bath, living-diningrm., built-in-kit., patio, yard, garage, 2.040 € + util www.agra-immobilien.de 06371-57656

House Altenkirchen 2BR big liv/din BIK 2 baths w/balc gara 123sqm, patio w/outdoor green, pets/children ok, 20min RAB €950 warm 06386-1763 english spoken.

House for rent in Mehlbach.No Finder's Fee!206 sqm living space, BIK, big living/dining-room, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. high standard, tile floors with floor heating, wooden ceilings, electric blinds, low heating costs. garage and parking space, No Pets! 1500,- € + util Call 06374 993311 or 0171 3631531 for more information.

House Gerhardsbrunn 3BR 1.5baths, BIK liv/din rm open floor plan, 1stor+ 1utilrm lrg patio yard garage 158sqm 15min RAB/10min LRM €1100 +util 06375-993129 or 0173-7634881 no dogs

Kindsbach: 3 bedr., 2 bath, built-in-kit., living-diningrm, patio, small yard, garage 1.000,- € + util www.agra-immobilien.de 06371-57656

Landstuhl-Melkerei: 4 bedr., 2 bath, built-in-kit., living-diningrm with open-fire-place, basement, patio, double garage, yard, 1.900,- € + util www.agra-immobilien.de 06371-57656

No Finders Fee modern freest. house, 4BR, bik, Garage, €1280+util., 0173-8042095

Large luxury freestanding home, ramstein school district. 7 bedroom, 2,5 bath, liv.-dining area, bik, fireplace, floor-heating (gas), fireplace, sat, balcony, terrace, double garage, yard €2,200, mbisinger@msn.com

Low-Energy House compl new renov 2007/2008 123sqm, 3BR, BIK, 2baths, livrm, dinrm 2basem rms, parking space in driveway, unobstructed views w/balc, quiet side-street, near forest, great traffic access in Schopp 10min Vogelw. / 20min LRM & RAB-East gate - No pets! €800+util+2m dep Call: 06307-243 (lv msg) or linn.walter@t-online.de

Ramstein - Miesenbach: Free-standing 4 bedr., 4 bath, studio, built-in-kit., living-diningrm, open-fire-place, patio, yard, garage, 2.400 € + util www.agra-immobilien.de 06371-57656

Ramstein: Duplex 2 bedr. 2 bath, livingrm, built-in-kit., patio, yard, garage, 820,-€ + util www.agra-immobilien.de 06371-57656

Small house, nice equipment, 120sqm, bik, hallway, liv/dinrm, 3BR, pantry, garage. Perfect for 1-2 people. €720+util. katja.hammann@allianz.de/06303-983025

Weilerbach new renov house, 6BR, (1BR w/Built in Closet), 3bathrms, 2 guest toilet, 2 BIK, 3livrms, garden w/pond, 2 garagen, wintergarden, quiet area, 3 sep. apts but can be used as one family home. Pets/children welcomed 0163-8448486

HOUSES/APTS FOR SALE

All ads and pics on class-world.com

Wonderful freestanding house in Gries 271 sqm, open view, 4 br, master bedroom, office room, din/liv, built-in kitchen, 2,5 bathr, big balcony/roof terr, washr, 2 car garage, garden (1300 sqm), 300 m to lake ohmbachsee, bus stop to RAB 50 m, high speed internet up to 100 Mbit/s, Sat TV-Afn, 5 min to Miesau, 15 min to RAB, 20 min to KL-Vogelweh, 30 min to Baumholder.Private owner, no finder's fee involved! €380.000, ol5.klein@gmail.com

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2006 MINI Cooper, \$8,695-, US SPEC, Manual, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Heated Seats, Alloy Wheels, Excellent Condition, Very Low Fuel Consumption, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2006 Toyota Avalon Sedan, \$14,995-, US SPEC, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Navigation System, Power Seats, Alloy Wheels, Excellent Condition 1 Owner Vehicle, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2007 Ford CMax \$3200 91000 miles. New clutch and airconditioning. Great car for commuting and roomy for tall people while still able to fit in small parking spots. Located in Sembach. Email finelinefarms@yahoo.com

2011 BMW 328i Sport Sedan, \$22,995-, 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 BMW 335i Coupe, \$28,850-, US SPEC, Manual, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Heated Seats, Alloy Wheels, Excellent Condition, FREE HOME SHIPPING, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2011 Nissan Altima SL, \$15,200, issacturrentine@yahoo.com, Very clean and nicely equipped vehicle. Non-smoker and non-pet owner vehicle. Has only 56,000 miles with brand new all season tires and brakes. A must see in person vehicle!!!

2012 Kia Rio Very clean!, €7200, issacturrentine@yahoo.com/016098788464, One owner vehicle (non-smoker and non pet owner)Vehicle is very fuel efficient with a AU due in January 2017. For asking price incl winter tires&new summers.

2012 VW Passat SEL V6 3.6 Sport Sedan, \$22,495-, US SPEC, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Navigation, Power Seats, Alloy Wheels, Perfect Condition, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2012 VW Tiguan "SE" 2.0T 4 Motion SUV, \$21,495-, US SPEC, Automatic, Cruise Control, Power Seat, Alloy, Heated Seats, Perfect Condition, 1 Owner Vehicle, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2013 BMW X5M SUV for sale. Fast, powerful, dealer maintained. 41,160 Kms. Sale price negotiable. Clear title. Contact patlee62@live.com.

2013 Nissan Altima "S" 2.5 Sport Coupe, \$17,995-, US SPEC, Automatic, Leather, Navigation, Cruise Control, BOSE Sound System, Alloy Wheels, Perfect Condition, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2013 Subaru Forester "Limited" 4x4 Wagon, \$24,795-, US SPEC, Automatic, Leather, Sunroof, Cruise Control, Power Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, Excellent Condition, Call:0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

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BMW 520 I, 24 VAL, 4 Door, 5 Speed, Green MET, ABS, Power Steering, Air cond, Air bags, KMS 190,000, Elec Windows and locks, Radio and We Deliver anywhere with cash. PH 0175-3213199-\$2200, ddundkk@hotmail.de

Lexus RX 330 SUV, \$9800.00, Mrttime@msn.com,

BMW 645ci 2005 Convertible, \$23500 obo, bmw645ci4sale@gmail.com, US Specs, 61k mi, powerful V8, 4.4Ltr, dealer maintained, auto trans, AC, Lea., all pwr, BMW packages:Sports, Weather, Prem Sound, &Nav. FM/AM/CD/DVD & Sirius Radio + Bluetooth

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



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1997 ZX9R Kawasaki Ninja, (\$2500 as is). Has Muzzy Exhaust, K&N Jet Kit with filter stage 3 and body mods. Bike has low mileage of 11,000. Needs battery, tires and services due to long time in storage. jimkramer1947@gmail.com

2004 Confederate F124 Hellcat Motorcycle, \$14,000, Immakep@rocketship.com



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1997 BMW Z3 Roadster, \$9000, Blk metallic w/chrome package & rims, blk lea interior w/walnut trim, new battery, 195000km, excellent running cond., 5spd, elec win, seats, mirrors, & remote key, wind deflector, bmw645ci4sale@gmail.com

1998 BMW 520i Sport Sedan, \$6,795-, US SPEC, Automatic, BMW Sound System, Cruise Control, Alloy Wheels, Xenon Headlights, Perfect Condition, New Service, Call: 0176 2273 0967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: www.europeanmotors.org

2003 SAAB 9-5 Linear Sport Sedan, \$6,995-, 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

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

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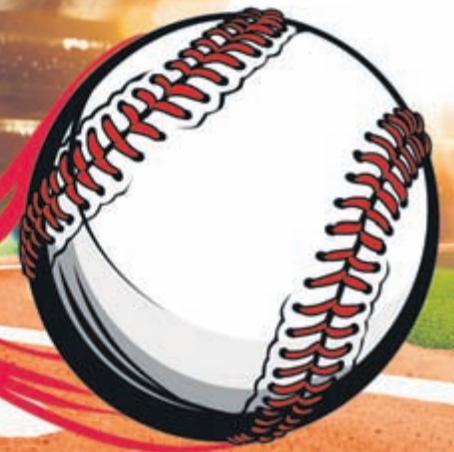
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America's Pastime on July 4th in Germany



Article by Bret Helenius
Photos by Iris Dornby

Many American kids, boys and girls alike have some story of when their dad took them to see their first baseball game. Whether it was beautiful Arlington Stadium in Texas or to a bush league game to see the Class A Lansing Lugnuts (Toronto Blue Jay affiliate), the sounds of the stadium stick forever. The longer you live away from the states, the more you seem to miss things you took for granted.

With the July 4th holiday fast approaching, what is more American than seeing a baseball game on Independence Day? July 4th has been dubbed as "American Day" at DB Ballpark, home of the Stuttgart Reds where American adults get entry for only €3 and kids 18 and under get in free (special pricing for these games only). The Reds take on the Tuebingen Hawks for a double header with game one starting at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are good for both games. The starting pitcher named for game two is Eric Massman (Philadelphia Phillies), so stick around for an exciting second bill.

Stuttgart happens to be home to one of the budding German National Baseball League (The 1. Bundesliga) teams that is on the rise. The Stuttgart Reds, conveniently located across from Robinson Barracks in Bad Cannstatt, are home to great baseball action. The Reds are a story of meteoric rise, only having been in the third league (Regionaliga) just four short years ago with last season ending in the semi-finals of the playoffs.

The Reds roots came from a joint German-American baseball relationship that started on Robinson Barracks over 20

years ago before they had their own stadium to play in. Fast forward to 2015, and DB Ballpark has seating for 300-plus, lights for night games and is poised for an expansion up to 750 seats, clubhouses and a new auxiliary field. Games for the family are very reasonable with ticket prices normally at six euros per person. The concession stand has everything you need for a day at the ballpark including hamburgers, hot dogs, wursts, soda and beer.

The Bundesliga level can be compared to Rookie League/Class A caliber baseball and the league boasts a number of former minor leaguers in its stable. The Reds in particular are home to former Philadelphia Phillies farmhand Eric Massman (pitcher), Thomas de Wolf (New York Mets) and Gavin Ng (Chillicothe Paints, Frontier League). Ng is one of Patch Barracks own. You can find him patrolling rightfield and taking up the coaching duties for the Reds. Additionally, the Reds have Troy Weinart (Australian Professional League) and Xavi Gonzalez (Spanish National Team and Minnesota Twins). German players to watch are Marcel Hering (top 10 league hitter) and Daniel Zeller (German Junior National Team). Ruben Kratky, known as "The Franchise" is the first Reds developed player that played all the way up through the system and debuted in the 1. Bundesliga in 2012.

The Reds are a little more than half-way through their 2015 season and are fighting for a playoff spot. To find all the information on the schedule, location and pricing, go to www.Stuttgart-Reds.de



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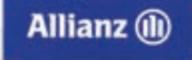
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