

Job fair targets spouses, separating military

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

The Association of the U.S. Army Stuttgart chapter, in cooperation with U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Army Community Service, hosted its fourth annual AUSA Job Fair at the Marriott Hotel in Sindelfingen Feb. 17 and 18.

AUSA is a private, non-profit educational organization with 125 chapters in nine countries.

At this year's job fair, AUSA showcased the recently launched Department of Defense Military Spouse Employment Partnership, a program designed to expand career opportunities for military spouses worldwide.

Lillie Cannon, the MSEP manager, was on hand to explain the program

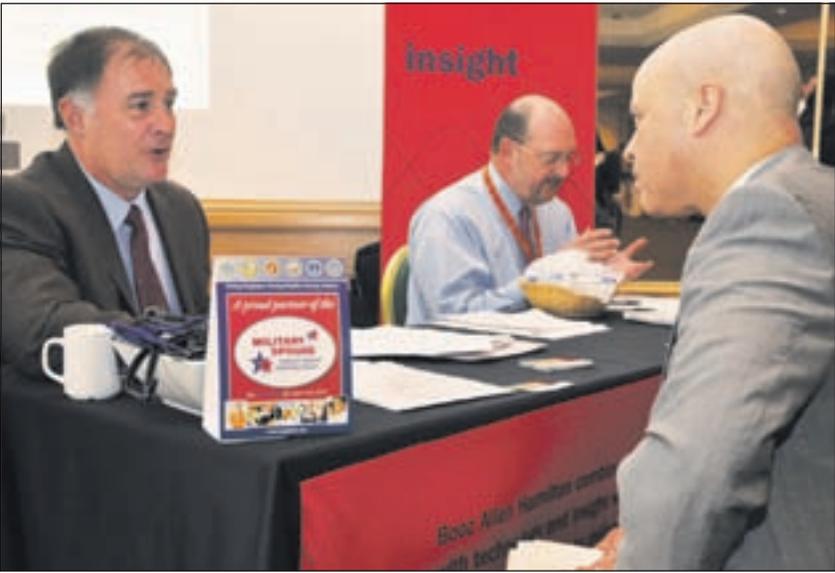
benefits and types of skills companies are looking for.

MSEP recruits companies that need employees with the types of certificates and licenses that military spouses seek through the Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts, according to Cannon.

MyCAA, a component of DOD's Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program, is a career development and employment assistance program that provides up to \$4,000 in tuition assistance to eligible spouses who need professional credentials to meet their career goals.

"Currently we have 95 companies that have signed a statement of support with the Department of Defense, saying they'll make every effort to hire military spouses," Cannon said.

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A representative from Booz Allen Hamilton interviews a job seeker Feb. 17 during the AUSA Stuttgart Job Fair. The job fair showcased DOD's recently launched Military Spouse Employment Partnership.

AER campaign helps Army 'take care of its own'

By Susan Huseman
 USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The local Army Emergency Relief fund kicked off its 2012 fundraising campaign March 7 during U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's monthly tenants meeting.

Army Emergency Relief is a private non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to Soldiers, active and retired, and their families.

The Army conducts the annual AER campaign March 1 through May 15.

Its purpose is two-fold: "to heighten awareness of the organization's programs and services, and give Soldiers an opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers through voluntary contributions," said Faith Barnes, the Army Emergency Relief officer for USAG Stuttgart.

In 2011, Army Emergency Relief provided \$77.5 million in assistance to more than 64,000

Soldiers and their families.

Within the Stuttgart military community, AER assisted in 59 cases, providing more than \$85,000, according to Barnes.

The cases weren't necessarily all Soldiers.

A reciprocal agreement allows Army AER Offices to assist personnel from all branches of service, Barnes said.

AER provides emergency financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans and, in certain circumstances where there is significant financial hardship, grants, according to Barnes.

There is no limit to the amount of assistance, in most cases.

"Assistance is based on need. While no two situations are alike, but we try our best to find a way to say yes" Barnes said.

Under the streamlined Command Referral Program, company commanders and first sergeants have the authority to approve AER loans up to

\$1,500 for their Soldiers.

Financial help is available for food, rent or utilities, emergency transportation and vehicle repair, funeral expenses, medical/dental expenses, and personal needs when pay is delayed or stolen, according to the AER website.

Earlier this year, AER announced several new categories of assistance, to include family member dental care. Eligible care includes diagnosis, fillings, crowns, root canals, extractions, sealants and emergency care to alleviate pain. The limit is \$4,000.

AER also provides scholarships to children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers, as well as financial support to widows and wounded warriors.

To make a donation to Army Emergency Relief, see your unit key person or visit www.aerhq.org.

To speak to the USAG Stuttgart AER Officer, call 431-2085/civ. 07031-15-2085, or stop by Army Community Service, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

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Cat show proves to be 'cat's meow'

The Patch Community Club was crawling with cats as they clawed their way to the top of the competition during Family and MWR's fourth annual Feline Fun Show.



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Piranhas win medals; set, break records

Members of the Piranhas swim team captured 20 gold, 12 silver and nine bronze medals at the EFSL individual championships held Feb. 18-19 in The Netherlands.



Commander's Column

New programs increase recreation opportunities

Commentary by Col. Carl D. Bird
USAG Stuttgart commander



Col. Carl D. Bird

I can hardly believe it when I hear a member of the Stuttgart military community say "I'm bored" or "There isn't anything to do," especially when it comes from service members.

The first thought that crosses my mind is "Are you kidding me?"

By tapping into the many garrison services available, you can make your assignment in Germany one you'll always remember.

Just go to the garrison and MWR websites and Facebook pages ... you'll find a ton of activities on and off-post, many of which are free.

With this being said, I'd like to highlight two programs in particular that are no-cost to some service members: the USAG Stuttgart Warrior

Pride Challenge and our new Warrior Zone.

During the past year, many of you have participated in Stuttgart Warrior Pride Challenge events such as paintball, gaming tournaments and races, but the program continues to expand and offer new activities.

SWPC has partnered with Outdoor Recreation, United Service Organizations and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers to provide free or reduced-cost trips to those in the ranks of E1 through E7, and O1 and O2.

Single and married service members in these ranks can participate in SWPC, and their family members can too (but they must pay the regular price for a trip).

Over the last month, SWPC has offered a Paris city tour, a Nürnberg history trip and a ski trip to Zürs, Austria. Program organizers are planning even more trips during the coming months.

To sign up for trips or keep up with future events, become a fan of

their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/USAGStuttgartWPC.

But if you're unable to travel or prefer to stay in town, there's always something happening in the garrison.

I'm proud to announce the opening of the Stuttgart Warrior Zone at the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

This is a new space designed by service members for service members. I'd like to emphasize, though, that it's not just for their use. Any community member age 18 and older can use the facility, if they are accompanied by a service member.

The Warrior Zone is a place to unwind after work and on weekends, with a computer room where you can surf the web and check e-mail, an entertainment room with a huge TV and sound system, and a room with video game consoles for the gamers in the community.

Stuttgart's Family and Morale and Family, Welfare and Recreation, along with members of our BOSS

program, did a great job in setting up this new facility, and I'm excited to introduce it to the community.

I understand that most people have video games, TVs and computers in their homes or barracks, but the Warrior Zone is meant to be a place where service members can get together, socialize and make new friends in a fun, relaxing environment.

While here in Stuttgart, you also have dozens of ways to better yourself personally and professionally.

You can pick up a new hobby at our award-winning arts and crafts center, audition for an upcoming stage production with the Stuttgart Theatre Center, or take classes at our top-notch education center.

Make the most of your time overseas. Travel and enjoy the food, culture and history that Europe has to offer, whenever you have the opportunity.

Just keep in mind that you have a great community to come home to when you're done.

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil

ON THE STREET

What are you looking forward to this spring?



Cheri Fields (Spouse)

"My sons will be going to Nationals in the States for wrestling."



Maj. Drew Rolph (U.S. Air Force)

"Frühling's Fest. I can't wait for the fun rides and the German beer."



Kris Massey (Civilian)

"The beautiful flowers blooming in the German sunshine."



Sgt. Jason Golden (U.S. Army)

"Getting outside to play basketball and football."



Capt. Jeff Marsteller (U.S. Army)

"One of my daughters is getting married, and the other one is graduating."



Anke Starkey (Spouse)

"Outdoor activities in the warm weather."



Gunnery Sgt. Shawn Delorez (U.S. Marine Corps)

"I will be getting married in Las Vegas."



Capt. Jody Barth (U.S. Army)

"Definitely sunshine and warmer weather."



Martin Greeson

Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Gordon, 1-10th SFG(A), delivers the invocation during a memorial service for Staff Sgt. Wilfredo Egipciaco Jr., held Feb. 23 in the Patch Chapel. Egipciaco, assigned to the 112th Signal Battalion (Airborne) SOCEUR Signal Detachment, passed away Feb. 1 in Vaihingen.

SOCEUR mourns, honors Soldier

By Susan Huseman

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Members of the Special Operations Command Europe community gathered in the Patch Chapel to remember a Soldier who died last month.

Staff Sgt. Wilfredo Egipciaco Jr., 40, passed away Feb. 1 in Vaihingen.

The native of Paterson, N.J., was driving to work after physical training, said he felt ill and asked his companion to drive. After getting out of the car, he collapsed and later died, according to Army Lt. Col. Holly Silkman, SOCEUR public affairs officer.

The cause of his death has not been determined.

Egipciaco was assigned to the 112th Signal Battalion (Airborne) SOCEUR Signal Detachment.

He was a single radio operator and maintainer, having reclassified in 2008 after 13 years as an infantryman.

A paratrooper with deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan under his belt, Egipciaco had been assigned to Stuttgart for three years.

The Patch Chapel, its stained glass windows reflecting the vibrant blue background of Egipciaco's portrait near the altar, was filled with friends and colleagues gathered to share in his memory.

Staff Sgt. "E," as he was affectionately known, was someone to be counted on, said Capt. Matthew Songy, the signal detachment commander, as he gave his tribute. "I relied upon him for his maturity, experience and judgment."

Songy said he was an outstanding technician, an expert trainer and thrived under pressure. "But perhaps his most important trait as a Soldier, and the one that had the greatest impact on the detachment, were his skills as a leader."

Egipciaco lived up to every ideal expressed in the noncommissioned officer creed, Songy said.

Sgt. 1st Class Donnie Gill, the detachment platoon sergeant, was visibly emotional as he delivered the

"... his most important trait as a Soldier, and the one that had the greatest impact on the detachment, were his skills as a leader."

Capt. Matthew Songy
112th Signal Battalion (Airborne)

eulogy, pausing long between sentences to compose himself.

"He could manage and motivate Soldiers like no other in the detachment. Will had a way with Soldiers that was sometimes like a father, a brother, a friend, and if need be, a warden," Gill said.

Fellow Soldier and team sergeant, Staff Sgt. Joseph Gibbs, knew "E" for three years. They met at Fort Gordon, Ga., where Gibbs was an instructor and Egipciaco was reclassifying.

"He was definitely an outstanding NCO. He always put his team first before himself, Gibbs said a few days after the memorial service.

Gill described Egipciaco as dedicated to the military and each unit he was assigned to ... a Soldier's Soldier. "He was doing what he loved to do," Gibbs said.

On a personal note, "He was a great dude to have around — a great listener," he added.

The service included the paratrooper's prayer, a bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace," the firing of volleys and a lone bugler playing taps.

Egipciaco is survived by sons Kephri Egipciaco, 17, of Pompton Lakes, N.J., Kalum Egipciaco, 12, of West Freeport, Fla., and daughter Estelle Mary Jones, 6, of Oceanside, Calif.

He was buried Feb. 13 in Wrightstown, N.J.

News & Notes

Changes to SAPR restricted, unrestricted reporting

A revised directive released from the Department of Defense allows dependents of service members to report sexual assaults under the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program.

Under the SAPR program, a dependent can report a sexual assault one of two ways, restricted and unrestricted. A restricted report allows a sexual assault victim to confidentially seek help and only report to selected individuals without starting an investigation. An unrestricted report follows the same procedures as restricted, however, a full investigation will be launched.

Before the revision, military dependents could not report sexual assaults through military channels using the restricted reporting option.

The stipulation for reporting is that military dependents must be 18 years or older and eligible for health care in the military system.

(This information was provided by U.S. Army Europe)

Clinic to use upgraded electronic health records initiative

Beginning in mid-March, the U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart will phase in the new U.S. Army Medical Command Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application Provider Satisfaction initiative. This program will allow providers to more accurately document illnesses, treatments and medications.

To implement the program, providers will temporarily require longer appointment time slots to ensure proper documentation in patients' electronic medical records. A patient's time with the provider will not change, but the provider will need the extra time to capture the patient's visit in accordance with the new system.

From March 19 through the end of April, the number of available clinic appointments will decrease by approximately 30 percent. During this time, the clinic will strive to maintain the current number of acute appointments.

To book an appointment call the European Regional Medical Command Care Call Center at 430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610.

(This information was provided by U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart)

Miss Universe, Miss USA, Miss Teen USA to visit Stuttgart

Miss Universe, Leila Lopes; Miss USA, Alyssa Campanella; and Miss Teen USA, Danielle Doty; will visit the Stuttgart military community March 12 as part of an United Service Organizations European tour.

The women are scheduled to meet with community members at 5:30 p.m. at the Exchange on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Family and MWR Special Events Office at 430-2110/0711-680-2110.

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 jason.m.mckenna4.mil@mail.mil.

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

Q: What rights are provided by the Servicemember's Civil Relief Act (SCRA)?

A: The SCRA applies primarily to members of the armed forces when they are on active duty (with few exceptions). The SCRA does not apply to civilian employees of the armed services and employees of government contractors. It is applicable to all civil and administrative proceedings, both in the U.S. and territories subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. The act is not applicable in criminal proceedings.

The act permits service members to request a stay (delay) of any civil or administrative proceeding for not less than 90 days if: (1) they are on active duty; and (2) military duty will materially affect their ability to appear. A request to stay proceedings must be accompanied by a letter from the service member's commander stating that military duty prevents appearance at the proceeding and leave is not authorized.

The SCRA also authorizes courts to vacate or stay an attachment or garnishment of a service member's property, toll the statute of limitations during the period of active duty, and reopen a default judgment.

Beyond court proceedings, the SCRA provides rights relevant to termination of residential, automobile and cellular phone contracts. For example, if his/her ability to comply with the contract is materially affected, a service member may terminate or suspend a cell phone contract based on: (1) orders to PCS within the U.S.; or (2) orders to deploy outside the continental U.S. for more than 90 days. The Act also protects against early termination fees.

The act's "6 percent interest cap" reduces the interest rate on debts that existed prior to entry on active duty to 6 percent. The protection remains, at a minimum, for the period the service member is on active duty. Interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year is forgiven, not deferred, and the amount of any periodic payment due must be reduced by the amount of interest forgiven. To take advantage of this provision, the service member must provide to the creditor written notice and a copy of military orders calling him or her to active duty for a period not less than 180 days. Of course, the service member must meet the aforementioned "materially affect" requirement.

The SCRA offers many other valuable benefits. Contact the Legal Assistance Office for more information.

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.

Job Fair

Continued from page 1

To date, these companies have hired over 121,000 military spouses in health care, medicine, education, law, and in technical and administrative jobs, according to Cannon.

There were seven MSEP partners at the Stuttgart job fair, recognized by table top signs that read "I'm a proud partner of the Military Spouse Employment Partnership."

"The great thing about this partnership is that our companies understand how important it is for spouses to have their careers," Cannon said.

"So, as that spouse relocates with his or her service member, the company that they start work with will try to keep them employed where that company has a job opportunity, or pass that spouse's resume to another partner, encouraging them to hire the spouse," she added.

AUSA was happy to support MSEP in their marketing efforts, according to Bill Campbell, the Stuttgart AUSA first vice president and job fair organizer.

"[MSEP is] expanding the things they're doing, and staying here for several weeks in their first major outreach to U.S. Army Europe," Campbell said.

For some, meeting employers in this type of forum for the first time was daunting.

"I was really nervous. I've never done this," said Joel D'Agostino, an unemployed family member who was hoping to land a job working in logistics or multimedia.

Other applicants were very comfortable.

I know quite a few agencies here," said Army Lt.

"The great thing about this partnership is that our companies understand how important it is for spouses to have their careers."

Lillie Cannon
MSEP program manager

Col. Donald S. Walker, assigned to U.S. Africa Command, who is retiring after 28 years of military service. "I brought a stack of resumes ... I'm prepared."

The companies were looking for people with a wide variety of backgrounds, and Stuttgart has a prime pool of skilled candidates separating from the military, said Gary Badertscher, a Stuttgart Chapter of the AUSA board member.

"The AUSA job fair was also held in the Heidelberg and Kaiserslautern military communities.

For more about the Military Spouse Employment Partnership, go to www.msepjob.com. For more on the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program, visit www.militaryonesource.mil.

Home-based businesses subject to U.S. military and German policies

By Robert Szostek

U.S. Army Europe Customs Public Affairs Office

If you're running a home-based business, you must follow German and military home-based business policies.

U.S. registered vehicles, the Army Post Office, the exchange, commissary or tax relief program cannot be used for a business.

Prospective entrepreneurs may also need permission from their garrison commander and German tax office for any commercial venture.

There are several key points to keep in mind.

U.S. Forces-plated vehicles are for personal use only. Using one as part of a business is illegal. "Examples of abuse would be if you used your USAREUR-plated van to deliver goods to customers, transport people for money or carry pottery from Poland for resale over the Internet," said Bill Johnson, director of the U.S. Army Europe Customs Executive Agency.

Business vehicles should be registered in the German system to be legal, he advised.

Packages sent or received as part of a business must go through a commercial shipping company or the German postal service. The APO system is a privilege for personal use only, and using it to send or receive business wares is not allowed.

Goods intended for resale must be declared to German Customs when brought into the country. "If you buy commercial items in other countries, you must stop at the border and tell German customs that

your goods are for resale," Johnson said.

Goods sold at the exchange, AAFES catalog, and commissary are tax-free, so home-based business operators cannot buy anything at these facilities for their businesses. Using VAT forms to support a business is off-limits, as well.

Customs, tax and postal regulations also need to be followed when selling things over the Internet in Germany.

"People who occasionally sell personal property via the Internet are usually good to go," Johnson said.

However in most cases, customs clearance paperwork is needed when selling personal property to residents of Germany who are not U.S. military members, U.S. civilian employees or family members, he added.

U.S. military personnel and civilian employees normally pay no taxes when they bring their personal property into Germany, which is why clearance and the payment of taxes is required.

When selling goods over the Internet on a regular basis to make money, the same rules about using a U.S. registered vehicle, the APO, exchange, commissary or the tax relief program for a business applies.

Those who don't follow the rules risk receiving hefty fines and tax demands from German customs or tax authorities, and possible military administrative or civilian misconduct action.

For more information, call the Stuttgart Law Center at 421-4152.

Due to PCS soon?

The next scheduled permanent change of station/preseparation briefing will be held March 28 at 1 p.m. in Building 2913 on Panzer Kaserne.

All service members and civilians departing within the next four to five months should attend. Information will be provided from agencies such as transportation, customs, health and dental clinic, Tricare, vehicle registration, housing and Army Community Service. Army personnel will also receive a briefing on finance issues.

All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive preseparation information. Advance registration is required.

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

Banks to open late, closures

The Community Banks on Patch and Kelley Barracks and Panzer Kaserne will open late on March 28 due to mandatory training. The banks will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Community Bank on Kelley Barracks will be closed March 23-27 due to renovations. Many of the Stuttgart Community Banks will be closed on April 6-9 in observance of Easter. However, the Panzer Community Bank will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 7.



Carola Meusel

Who says there is no free lunch?

Kerry Smith, United Service Organizations Stuttgart volunteer, serves pasta to Soldiers of the 554th Military Police Company (from left Pfc. Gabriel Torres, Spc. Mickey Padron and Pfc. Fabio Vasquez) during the USO's monthly free community luncheon Feb. 29. The next luncheon will be March 28 and will feature cajun creole cuisine.

RB Club has new hours

Beginning March 7, the RB Club will be closed Sunday through Wednesday.

The club will be open Thursday through Saturday from 6 -11 p.m.

The RB Club is located in Building 168 on Robinson Barracks.

For more information, call 420-6037/civ. 0711-819-6037.

Join the EEO team

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Equal Employment Office seeks volunteers to serve as Special Emphasis Program managers and collateral duty EEO counselors, coordinators or committee members. Those interested must be willing to commit to one to two hours per month or as needed.

For more information, call the Equal Employment Op-

portunity Office at 430-5312/civ. 0711-680-5312.

Earn an MBA

The University of Phoenix offers master of business administration face-to-face classes at the Panzer Education Center.

Potential students are invited to meet the faculty and advisors March 19 from 6-7 p.m. at the Panzer Education Center in Building 2915 on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, e-mail stuttgart@phoenix.edu.

Women's Leadership Forum

The fourth annual Women's Leadership Forum is scheduled for March 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

Workshops will cover leadership skills, professional development, strategic career planning and more.

The forum includes two guest speakers, a question and answer session with senior leaders of the community, as well as a session for teens.

Participants must register by March 23 at http://stuttgart_wlf.eventbrite.com.

Patch outbound traffic lane to close

The outbound vehicle traffic lane at the Patch Barracks Installation Access Control Point will be closed March 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for repair work. All outbound vehicle traffic must exit through the K and K gate.

NAF job openings

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Non-appropriated Fund Human Resources Office is accepting applications for positions within Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Child, Youth and School Services and the Galaxy Bowling Center.

To view online vacancies, visit www.usajobs.gov or stop by the NAF/HRO office, Building 2948, Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-3119/civ. 07031-15-3119.

Gain 'financial peace' with FPU

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Religious Support Office will host a Financial Peace University class on Robinson Barracks.

The 13-week class begins April 18 and will be held every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the RB Chapel Annex in Building 116. Child care will be provided. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, e-mail FPUstuttgart@yahoo.com.

Send community-wide announcements to stuttgartmedia@eur.mil

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Love to shop? Don't miss SCSC Spring Bazaar

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club will host its annual Spring Bazaar March 16-18 on Patch Barracks. The bazaar will be open Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For shoppers, the SCSC Spring Bazaar is all about getting those coveted collectibles from across Europe.

This year, more than 100 vendors will offer antiques, home decor, jewelry, artwork, cheese, wine, ceramics and more in the Patch Community Club and Fitness Center, and across every available inch of the surrounding parking lots.

Several new vendors will add to the mix, bringing organic Italian wines, Bavarian-style painted furniture, traditional German ceramic houses, Himalayan free-trade jewelry and Belgian cookware.

The Stuttgart community benefits directly from the bazaar, as the proceeds are returned in the form of scholarships, donations, and grants to clubs, organizations and schools.

Last year alone, more than \$230,000 in bazaar and thrift shop proceeds were gifted to the community.

But they didn't do it alone.

"Over 600 volunteers are needed to make this event happen. Prior to the bazaar grand opening, there are tents to construct, vendor areas to mark off, and tables and benches to be placed. During the bazaar we need finance runners, credit card machine operators, ID card checkers and hospitality volunteers," said Ann Welton, the SCSC president.



Shoppers at last year's SCSC-sponsored Spring Bazaar have a hard time making a selection. More than 100 vendors will be featured at this year's bazaar, to be held March 16-17 on Patch Barracks. The Bazaar will be open Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Susan Huseman

Volunteers receive early VIP shopping privileges, an invitation to the bazaar grand opening on March 15, and for every shift worked, an opportunity to win exclusive raffle prizes.

A public raffle will include prizes donated by every vendor, and represents the variety of products found at the bazaar.

Before the bazaar officially opens on March 16, raffle tickets may be purchased at SCSC thrifts shops. These tickets include the opportunity to win one of five \$100 bazaar gift certificates.

During the bazaar, raffle tickets can be bought in the Patch Community Club.

The bazaar also features private organizations of-

fering an assortment of cuisine such as catfish, gumbo, barbecue and pancit. In addition, an entire tent is devoted to German favorites served by a local restaurant.

The bazaar is open to all valid military ID card holders, NATO Forces, civilians, and reservists with TDY orders. Shoppers may bring guests, but guests are not allowed to make purchases.

Visa, Mastercard, Star Card, cash and personal checks will be accepted. No pets will be allowed.

To volunteer, log on to www.StuttgartSpousesClub.org and click on Volunteer Spot. For more information, email scscbazaarvolunteer@yahoo.com or scscbazaarhospitality@yahoo.com.



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RB main gate to close March 19-23

The Robinson Barracks Main Installation Access Control Point will be closed March 19-23 due to construction.

The inbound and outbound vehicle traffic will be routed through the access gate at Roter Stich during that time frame.

Estate claims notice

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Army Staff Sgt. Wilfredo J. Egipciao of the Special Operations Europe Signal Detachment, should contact the summary court officer, Lt. Col. Ralph Steen at 430-8250.

Panzer DFAC to close for training

The 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Consolidated Dining Facility will be closed for unit training March 16-19.

For more information, call 431-2734/07031-15-2734.

SAC meeting at BEMS

The Böblingen Elementary/Middle School Advi-

sory Committee will be held March 12 at 3 p.m. in the principal's office, Building 2918, Panzer Kaserne.

The SAC is comprised of parents of students enrolled in the school and full-time educators at the school.

The SAC addresses school issues brought up by parents, teachers and students.

All SAC meetings are open to the local school community.

For more information on other SAC meetings, call the School Liaison Office at 430-7465/civ. 0711-680-7465 or contact the Stuttgart schools directly.

DoDDS new school year registration

Stuttgart Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe will hold registration for the 2012-2013 school year April 24 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and April 25 and 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Panzer Exchange.

Sponsors should bring copies of orders, birth certificate, updated emergency contact information and shot

records to register their children.

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

"Twelfth Night" at Kelley Theatre

The Stuttgart Theatre Center presents William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

Performances at the Kelley Theatre are set for March 30 and 31, and April 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7:30 p.m. Matinee performances will be held April 8 and 15 at 3 p.m.

To make a reservation, visit www.stuttgartmwr.com.

Auditions to be held for "Xanadu"

The Stuttgart Entertainment Branch is seeking five men and five women to audition for "Xanadu," a musical about a Greek muse that descends from the heavens of Mt. Olympus to Venice Beach.

A pre-audition workshop will be held April 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the Kelley Theatre, Building 3320, Kelley Barracks.

Auditions will be held April 2-4 at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 421-3258/civ. 0711-729-3258.

Manage conflict, stress through ACS

The U.S. Army Garrison

Stuttgart's Army Community Service offers free stress management classes every last Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. until noon at the Brewed Awakenings Cafe, Building 168 on Robinson Barracks.

ACS also offers a free conflict management class on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from noon to 2 p.m. at ACS, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

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

Free movies on RB

The RB Theater in the RB Club, Building 168, Robinson Barracks, features free movies at 6:30 p.m.

During March, enjoy the following films:

- March 1-3: Johnny English Reborn
- March 8-10: Happy Feet 2
- March 15-17: Tower Heist
- March 22-24: The Muppets
- March 29-31: Abduction

Citadel muster set

A Citadel muster will be held March 20 from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Swabian Special Events Center, Building 2505 on Patch Barracks.

The muster is open to all Citadel alumni, their spouses

and friends of the Citadel throughout Europe.

To RSVP, e-mail L. Brinson Moorhead at brinson.moorhead@us.army.mil.

American Red Cross offers CPR classes

The American Red Cross Stuttgart, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne, will offer free citizen CPR training for hands-only CPR. This is a non-certified training. Instruction is scheduled for March 14, 21 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A first aid adult and pediatric CPR/AED Spanish language class will be offered March 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call 431-2812/civ. 07031-15-2812.

ASAP training

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Substance Abuse Program will conduct annual civilian training for garrison supervisors March 15 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Two training sessions for employees will also be held from 9-10 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. in the basement of Building 2948 on Panzer Kaserne.

For more information, call 431-2743/civ. 07031-15-2743.

Fun run cancelled

The United Service Organizations Stuttgart's "Until Everyone Runs Home" fun run, originally scheduled for April 21 at 8 a.m. on the Panzer Local Training Area, has been postponed. The new tentative date is set for Sept. 8.

For more information, call 431-3505/civ. 07031-15-3505.

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Photos by Joseph Mancy

Pamela Ward shows off Snoopy, a veteran to cat competitions and a three-time champion, as he belts out the loudest meow to win first place in that category during the fourth annual Feline Fun Show Feb. 25.



Triple winner Harry, weighing 22.4 pounds, took first place in the Fat Cat category. "His Garfield-like" features earned him honors in the Most Similar to a Cartoon Character category, as well as the coveted Judges Choice Award.



Fatty B gets his tail measured by judges Beth Collum and Katherine O'Neal. Fatty B won Fluffiest Tail, Best Costume and took second for Longest Whiskers.

The 'purrfect' pet

A cat makes the perfect pet. Just ask the proud cat owners of the 13 felines that participated in the USAG Stuttgart Family and MWR fourth annual Feline Fun Show held Feb. 25 in the Patch Community Club. The kitties competed for top honors and prizes in 13 categories, including Best Trick, Longest Whiskers, Most Colors, Longest Tail and many more.

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Local uniform policy reduces targets to terrorist threat

By Shay Edwards

USAG Stuttgart Antiterrorism Office

This past December, the USAG Stuttgart Garrison Commander established a policy regarding the wearing of uniforms off-post.

The purpose of the policy is to set one standard and reduce confusion resulting from several recent policies regarding the do's and don'ts of off-post uniform wear.

The policy was formulated with input from a panel of antiterrorism officers from the Stuttgart military community, then staffed and approved.

The policy can be summarized by stating that the wearing of uniforms off-post is only allowed while traveling in vehicles to and from work, during lunch and on ruck marches. Some of the key points follow.

Public transportation

Personnel within the USAG Stuttgart area of responsibility, whether permanent party or on TDY, will wear civilian clothing while using commercial transportation such as aircraft, trains or buses.

This is to limit exposure to potential threats while using public transportation. Large groups of uniformed military personnel on public transportation create lucrative targets.

Military contract transportation

Personnel traveling via military contract transportation, such as the duty buses that run between installations, will wear the duty uniform of the day.

At the airport, train station

Service members picking up personnel from the airport will wear civilian clothes.

Public transportation hubs such as train stations and airports are commonly targeted by terrorist groups. Most arrival areas are in unsecured areas, making them likely targets for active shooters and IEDs.

Service members in uniform are not authorized to wait in off-installation establishments such as hotel lobbies, or wait curbside, while awaiting transportation.

Pedestrians, cyclists

Uniforms will not be worn when traveling by foot or bicycle to and from U.S. installations. Pedestrians



Soldiers dine at a local off-post pizzeria near Panzer Kaserne March 1. At Protection Condition Bravo, uniforms may be worn to off-post restaurants during lunch, according to the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Off-Post Uniform Wear policy, issued last December.

Susan Huseman

and cyclists are easy to identify and easier to target for an intentional traffic accident or kidnapping.

Uniforms, when not worn, will be carried in an inconspicuous manner, out of plain sight.

Unit-sponsored activities

Service members are not authorized to wear miscellaneous uniform items while participating in Family and MWR, USO or unit-sponsored outdoor activities. However, if wearing miscellaneous items while on their own or with their family, it is authorized. The intent is to limit a military signature during these types of activities or trips.

JROTC

Members of the high school Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program will comply with the same uniform standards as service members. The similarity of uniforms could make them a target for someone looking to harm Defense Department personnel.

Lunch at off-post establishments

At Protection Condition Bravo, uniforms may be worn to off-post restaurants during lunch or the shift equivalent, during duty hours.

Foot marches

Generally, physical training uniforms are not

authorized off-post, however, foot marches off-post with military equipment is authorized.

While it is possible to elicit a training response in a different PT uniform, it is not possible to familiarize and condition the body to evoke a training response for specific military equipment, such as body armor and rucksacks without actually wearing the equipment.

These are the guidelines established by the USAG Stuttgart Commander, and they affect all Department of Defense service members in the USAG Stuttgart area of responsibility, regardless of rank, unit, service component or time in the area.

Commanders may establish and enforce more stringent requirements on personnel within their organizations as appropriate to the threat and circumstances, as they deem necessary.

Although at times this policy will be difficult and inconvenient, adhering to it will make the DOD community safer by reducing the target population presented to a terrorist threat.

To review U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Policy #45 "Off-Post Uniform Wear," go to the USAG Stuttgart homepage at www.stuttgart.army.mil, click on the "Garrison" link, then "Command Policies."

Have a comment on garrison services?

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Photos courtesy of "Lift" Stuttgart

*[Photo left]
Visitors to the
2011 Long Night
of the Museums
enjoy art by night
at Stuttgart's
Kunstmuseum.
This year's event
will be held March
17 from 7 p.m. to
2 a.m.*

*[Photo right]
Shuttle buses
will transport
Long Night of
the Museum
participants to
and from more
than 90 event
locations in and
around downtown
Stuttgart. The
buses will run all
night from the
Karlsplatz bus stop.*



Long Night of the Museums: Stuttgart after dark

By Carola Meusel

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

How would you like to go dancing, take a mini cruise, see an art exhibition, attend a concert and watch a theater performance — all for only €16? You can do this and more during Stuttgart's "Long Night of the Museums" on March 17 from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The program features over 90 events located in and around downtown Stuttgart, such as concerts, performance art, boat trips on the Neckar River, theater productions and parties.

Besides exhibitions in Stuttgart's main museums, such as the "Kunstmuseum" (art museum), Landesmuseum (Württemberg State museum), and the State Gallery, many smaller institutions and galleries will offer programs and entertainment during this long night out.

According to Maria Melber, event organizer from "Lift" Stuttgart (Stuttgart's city magazine), many new cultural outlets were added to this year's program. One of them includes the Pressehaus Stuttgart in Möhringen (next to Kelley Barracks).

Tour the Pressehaus

"For the first time ever, the Stuttgarter Zeitung newspaper invites patrons to visit the Pressehaus exclusively during the Long Night of the Museums," Melber said.

During the event, visitors can tour one of Europe's most modern printing facilities and also learn about the Stuttgarter Zeitung's history. Tours of the print shop will run at 8:30, 10 and 11:30 p.m.

The Pressehaus is located at Plieninger Strasse 150 (shuttle bus stop Möhringen Bahnhof).

Another first-time event is the special exhibition, "Automobil und Kunst," or automobile and art, at the Auwärter Omnibus (bus) Museum in Möhringen. The company started out as a car repair shop and is known today as an international bus company.

"This will be an interesting tour since the museum

features a large collection of old-timer buses and cars," Melber said.

Tours will run from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Live music and a disc jockey will also be offered at the museum.

The museum is located at Vaihinger Strasse 151/Lautlinger Weg (U-Bahn stop Vaihinger Strasse, Stuttgart-Möhringen). An old-timer bus will also take visitors going to or coming from the Pressehaus on a historic ride.

For an artful adventure on the Neckar River, visitors should stop by the Stuttgart industrial harbor. According to Melber, the harbor will be festively illuminated and artists have created a "container ballet" performance during which containers will "dance" in the evening skies.

Container ballet performances will be held every 30 minutes from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Boats will run from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. from Mittelkai 5 (shuttle bus stop am Mittelkai, Stuttgart-Wangen).

Party in an underground bunker

Feuerbach offered shelter during war times. The bunker also was the first building that was redesigned during the Cold War in preparation for a possible nuclear threat.

For the Long Night of the Museums, the bunker brings back the swinging 50s with an exhibition called "Cold War and Petticoat," and music performed by the Roadrunners, a German rockabilly band.

"The bunker reflects reality during war times, since some of the original equipment, such as camp beds and blankets, are still displayed. Therefore, it makes a one-of-a-kind event location and provides a unique atmosphere for cultural outings," Melber said.

The exhibition opens from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Roadrunners will play from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The bunker is located at Wiener Platz 5 (U-Bahn stop Feuerbach Bahnhof, Stuttgart-Feuerbach).

The Porsche-Museum in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen will also offer patrons the chance to tour the special exhibition "Identität 911," featuring Porsche's most popular sports car, the 911.

As a special highlight during the Long Night of the Museums, Porsche will open the museum's garage, and display some cars in front of the museum. Mechanics will run the engines for the ultimate "Porsche Sound," according to Melber.

The historic Porsche archives will open exclusively during the event, allowing visitors to learn not only about the sports cars, but also explore the history of the factory and its founder, Ferdinand Porsche.

Tours of the special exhibition will run every 30 minutes from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., engine-sound displays will be held from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. and the archive will be open from 7-11 p.m.

The Porsche-Museum is located at Porscheplatz, Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen (shuttle bus stop Feuerbach Bahnhof).

For those who wish to party the night away, the Mercedes-Benz Museum will feature the SWR3 Dance Night from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m.

The Mercedes-Benz Museum is located at Mercedesstrasse 100 (U-Bahn stop Mercedes-Benz Museum, Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt).

"The Long Night of the Museums offers patrons the chance to experience many different cultural event locations in just one evening" Melber said.

"People can enjoy a different atmosphere during the evening hours than on a normal day out . . . They can simply go with the flow and see what the evening might bring," she added.

Transportation included

The ticket price includes transportation and admission into every venue. Shuttle buses will run all night from the Karlsplatz bus stop.

Beside the buses, underground trains (U6 and U15) will transport patrons to various event locations, allowing for more flexibility. The trains will run from the Schlossplatz and Charlottenplatz stops.

For more information, visit www.lange-nacht.de. To purchase tickets call civ. 0711-6015-444.

What's happening in FMWR

Galaxy Bowling events

The Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center will host a grand reopening to highlight a new video, sound and scoring system on March 15 from 5-7 p.m. Bowl for free, enjoy free snacks and enter to win a \$500 MWR gift card.

The Bowling Center will also celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17 from 11 a.m. to midnight. Patrons wearing green can rent bowling shoes for free. A pizza special will also be offered.

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

Parents' Night Out

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Child, Youth and School Services will host a Parents' Night Out March 16 at the Kelley Child Development/School Age Center from 6:30-11:30 p.m.

A Parent's Day Out will be held at the Patch CDC/SAC on March 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sign up at Parent Central Services by March 14.

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

Dodgeball Challenge

Take the Dodgeball challenge on March 24 at 10 a.m. in the Patch Fitness Center. Participants must be 18 or older.

For more information, call 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7138.

Karaoke night

The Irish Pub will host Karaoke on March 15 and 31 from 8-11 p.m.

The pub is located in the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center, Building 2998, Panzer Kaserne.

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

Play Texas Hold 'Em

Play Texas Hold 'Em on March 9 and 23 at 7 p.m. in the Patch Community Club. Registration opens at 6 p.m. Participants must be 18 or older.

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

For more activities and events, visit www.stuttgartmwr.com.

Coming to Patch Theater



Warner Brothers

The animated adaptation of "Dr. Seuss' The Lorax" will run at the Patch Theater beginning March 9.

March 9 — Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) 4 p.m.; The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (PG) 6 p.m.; Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 9 p.m.

March 10 — Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) 4 p.m.; The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (PG) 7 p.m.; Contraband (R) 9 p.m.

March 11 — Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) 2 p.m.; The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (PG) 4 p.m.; Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 12 — Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) 6 p.m.

March 13 — The Adventures Of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (PG) 6 p.m.

March 14 — Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 6 p.m.

March 15 — Contraband (R) 6 p.m.

March 16 — John Carter (PG-13) 7 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.

March 17 — The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn

(PG) 4 p.m.; John Carter (PG-13) 7 p.m.; War Horse (PG-13) 9 p.m.

March 18 — Rio (PG) 2 p.m.; Big Miracle (PG) 4 p.m.; John Carter (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 19 — Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) 3 p.m.; John Carter (PG-13) 6 p.m.

March 20 — Red Tails (PG-13) 6 p.m.

March 21 — This Means War (PG-13) 6 p.m.

March 22 — Big Miracle (PG) 6 p.m.

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March 16
7 p.m. RB Club

Free event.

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Come to the Galaxy Bowling Center and admire our new lighting, scoring system and video screens. Free bowling and finger foods. Enter for a chance to win \$500 Family and MWR Gift Card! Enjoy green beer in the Irish Pub.

March 15
5 - 7 p.m.
Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center, Panzer

DSN 431 2575 CIV 07031 15 2575

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Get your annual membership, enjoy the grand opening of the new Golfer's Garden restaurant and register to win a free single membership.

March 24 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Stuttgart Golf Course, Kornwestheim

CIV 07141 879 151



Stuttgart employees on 46 years of service

By Carola Meusel

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

This month, U.S. European Command will celebrate 45 years on Patch Barracks. After French President Charles De Gaulle demanded the removal of all U.S. and NATO headquarters and forces from French soil in 1966, 7th Army departed Patch Barracks and moved to Heidelberg, allowing EUCOM headquarters to establish Patch Barracks as its home on March 15, 1967.

Rudi Detlefsen, a U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart local national employee since 1966, saw it all.

Born in Kiel, in northern Germany, he had emigrated to Australia as a young man. Detlefsen returned to Germany for a visit in 1966 and found himself in Stuttgart, where he met his future wife, Irmgard. He decided to stay.

Detlefsen's career with the U.S. Forces began following a conversation with a few American Soldiers while on Nellingen Barracks, an open post at the time.

"After talking to them for a while, they asked me if I would be interested in working for the Americans here in Stuttgart," Detlefsen said.

Only a few weeks later, Detlefsen reported to duty at the Stuttgart Installation Division, known today as Directorate of Public Works, as a dispatcher in the motor pool on Robinson Barracks.

One of Detlefsen's first missions as a local national employee was to support EUCOM's move from France to Patch Barracks.

Over the course of six months, Detlefsen made eight trips to pack, load, transport and unload equipment and furniture.

According to Detlefsen, his instructions were clear: "get everything out of there and leave nothing behind."

In a 2007 article by Dr. James McNaughton, former U.S. European Command historian, EUCOM and its service components planned and executed the movement of numerous units and headquarters,



Susan Huseman

Rudi Detlefsen, a USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works local national employee since 1966, will retire this year with 46 years of service.

that included 70,000 people (including family members) and 813,000 tons of materiel in less than 12 months. The operation was named "FRELOC," short for fast relocation.

From the late 1960s until the early 1990s, the Stuttgart military community was spread out over 15 major military installations, in addition to several smaller facilities in the greater Stuttgart area, according to www.usarmygermany.com, a website designed as a resource center pertaining to the U.S. Army's presence in Germany. During peak times, the community counted between 35,000 and 40,000 Americans, depending on the source.

In the late 1960s, the military community in Stuttgart (U.S. Army Area Command) was part of the North Württemberg District and home to the VII Corps headquarters and the U.S. European Command.

"We had a district commander. However, my division was part of, and reported to, the District

Engineer Command, which was based in Frankfurt," Detlefsen said. "The Installation Division was based in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Schwäbisch Gmünd and Göppingen," he added.

Not only was the community large, the workforce mainly consisted of local nationals making up a significant portion of the civilian labor force.

"The 'Greens' were seen as a step down to privates — and often consisted of local nationals.

Despite the nickname, the local nationals worked hard. There was always a time to play."

Within a few months of his arrival, Detlefsen took over the maintenance branch, including all projects such as road construction, gardening,

He was responsible for the maintenance of Patch, and Robinson Barracks installations in Ludwigsburg, including the Clay House, the residence of the military officer in Stuttgart. Detlefsen had the opportunity to meet every local national at the Clay house during his career.

Back then, some 1,200 local nationals worked at the Installation Division. Today, there are only a few employees.

Detlefsen recalled that the military community of everyday life in the greater Stuttgart area those days. He even remembered the time he drove around downtown Stuttgart to drive around downtown Stuttgart.

Another memory that Detlefsen has is the sheep on Robinson Barracks. Detlefsen hired shepherds to guard the sheep on the installation to save the sheep from being eaten.

"The only problem was that the sheep had dogs that sometimes nipped at them. They escaped all over [Zoo] Stuttgart and had to be caught several times," Detlefsen said.

The sheep were on Robinson Barracks in 2003, when the area was transferred to the local national community.

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Detlefsen said that Sol-
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Detlefsen said.

Robinson Barracks until
fenced in.

of flustered sheep, De-

tlefsen also was a mediator between host nation
officials, neighboring communities and the U.S.
Forces.

“Sometimes the mayors from the neighboring
districts had problems with the American way of
running things,” Detlefsen said. “However, if there
was an issue, both sides sat down and talked to each
other to fix the problem.”

Despite any differences, Detlefsen recalled
German-American relationships as being “very
good.” Many times, the troops were invited to
German homes for the holidays, and most military
installations were open to their German neighbors.

In his 46 years of service to the U.S. military in
Stuttgart, Detlefsen experienced politically mov-
ing times. The Cold War continued to smolder,
the Red Army Faction, a German left-wing terror
group critical towards U.S. politics, was a growing
threat, and the Vietnam War aroused a passionate
anti-American sentiment.

The Stuttgart military community underwent sev-
eral transformations during these tumultuous days.

Detlefsen witnessed one of the most signifi-
cant changes during Operations Desert Shield and
Desert Storm as he supported the deployment of
VII Corps.

“It was short notice, and people here worked
day and night to complete the mission,” Detlefsen
said.

An operation of this magnitude required intense
planning, coordination and procurement.

Since the German market didn’t have all the
materials needed for transporting tanks and other
equipment by rail, cable and supplies had to be
ordered from all over the world, according to
Detlefsen.

Werner Meschenmoser, a colleague of De-
tlefsen, was also involved in supporting the VII
Corps deployment. He recalled the entire military
community being heavily engaged in planning
and executing the corps’ movement and its 35,000
Soldiers in less than two months.

It was not business as usual.

“During that time a person’s word replaced piles
of red tape,” Meschenmoser said.

Shortly after the corps left, it was obvious that
the troops would not return to Stuttgart, according
to Detlefsen.

VII Corps, headquartered in Stuttgart on Kelley
Barracks since 1951, was officially inactivated at
Fort McPherson, Ga., in April 1992. The farewell
ceremony was held March 18, 1992, in downtown
Stuttgart. The event was attended by nearly 400
U.S., German, Canadian and French Soldiers, as
well as local and international dignitaries.

With the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the Cold
War was over, and the mission of the U.S. Forces
changed. However, Germany still was considered
a strategic location to support U.S. interests.

Many installations subsequently closed, and
land was returned to the host nation. The Stuttgart
military community drew down to what it is now.

On Kelley Barracks, a piece of the Berlin Wall,
as well as a Russian tank from Iraq and a Sherman
tank from World War II reflect this history.

Many times, Detlefsen was in the middle of it.

In 1993, he saw the Russian tank being deliv-
ered to Kelley Barracks from Iraq. He also helped
to organize the transportation of the Berlin Wall
piece to Kelley Barracks.

Throughout his career, Detlefsen said that he
had to be flexible and adjust to changes within the
military community. However, he never had the
desire to work for any organization other than the
U.S. Army.

“The Army doesn’t ask you for too much;
they’re just asking you to do your job, which isn’t
impossible,” he said.

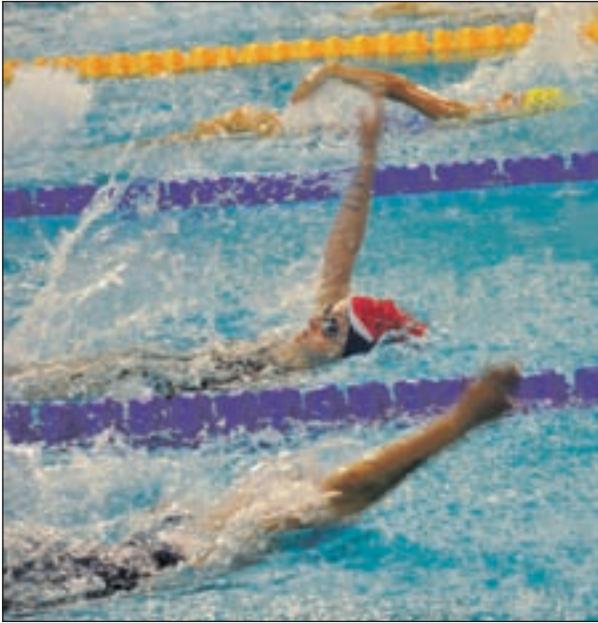
This September, Detlefsen will retire with 46
years of service.

“Rudi Detlefsen is one of our best guys. You
can always depend on him to get the job done,”
said Carl Pritchard, DPW director.

Sources: U.S. Army in Germany website (www.us-armygermany.com). EUCOM archives: “Forty years ago: Stuttgart gets a new headquarters,” March 16, 2007. “Post once home to German air regiment, U.S. Army VII Corps headquarters,” Stuttgart Citizen, July 13, 2004.

Piranha Emily Manning, center, competes against Sigonella's Lara Salazar, top, and Kaiserslautern's Jocelyn Choi in the 9-year-old girls' 50 meter backstroke at Champs, held Feb. 18-19 in Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

Beth Manning



AnnMary Driscoll

Allisan Sojourner marches with the Piranhas during the opening parade at Champs Feb. 18.



AnnMary Driscoll

Isabella McIlvene (from left), Claire Levitt, Michael Jahnke, and Eric Arrington wait in the marshalling area before the mixed 13-14 200 meter medley relay.



AnnMary Driscoll

Piranhas Janae Darby (foreground) and Celine Liptrot check their results during the Champs swim meet.

Piranhas swim team rules Champs, earns 2nd place at Divisionals

By AnnMary Driscoll
Special to The Citizen

While the Stuttgart Piranhas swim team finished the 2011-12 season with a disappointing second-place finish at the divisional team championships, the swimmers regrouped to capture 20 gold, 12 silver and nine bronze medals at the individual championships held a few weeks later.

The Rheinland Divisionals meet was held Jan. 28 at the home pool of the Piranhas' main rival, the Kaiserslautern Kingfish.

The Piranhas were unable to reclaim the divisional trophy they earned in 2011, scoring 870 points to Kaiserslautern's 1035. The Heidelberg Sea Lions earned third place with 367 points, and the Berlin Bear-A-Cudas placed fourth with 272 points.

But for Stuttgart Head Coach Kara Louk, the highlight of the meet was knowing that the team members gave their best efforts.

"We may not have won, but my kids swam like champions," Louk said.

And several swam hard enough to qualify for the individual championships.

During the last team event of the season, McKenzie Gibel, Edward Hale,

Hannah Lugo, Francisca Lynd and Samantha Torgersen earned times to qualify for the European Forces Swim League individual championship meet.

Champs was held in Eindhoven, The Netherlands, on Feb. 18-19.

Nineteen teams from Belgium, England, Germany, Italy, Portugal, and Spain descended on the Nationaal Zwemcentrum de Tongelreep.

Unlike other meets throughout the season, participants had to earn their way into the meet by beating strict time limits for each race in which they participated, or, in some instances, by being called up to fill a heat.

Of the 105 Piranhas, 76 swimmers qualified to compete in at least one event.

"The numbers are phenomenal. My goal at the beginning of the season was to take 50 percent of the team to Champs. This year, 76 percent was allowed to go ... one way or another," Louk said.

Outstanding individual results crowned the meet. Marina Zielinski broke a 1997 league record during the girls 15-16 100-meter breaststroke with a time of 1:20.02.

Sisters Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 12, and Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 9, earned the highest points among swim-

mers in their age groups, with Caroline earning 157 points and Gabriela, 154.

Over the course of the weekend, 21 Piranhas' team individual records fell.

Piranhas set new relay records, as well. On Saturday, Austin Sojourner, Ben Patterson, Paul Zielinski and Lizzie Hodges broke the team record for the mixed 13- and 14-year-old 200-meter medley relay with time of 2:14.83.

The next day, Paul Zielinski, Austin Sojourner, Eric Arrington and Lizzie Hodges broke the team's record for the 200-meter free relay in the same age group, with a time of 1:58.90.

The team will face a major change in the 2012-13 season: Louk will return to the U.S. this spring and retire from team coaching.

"After almost 11 years in this league, this is the best swimming I've ever seen from my swimmers. I feel like I am leaving on a very high note. The Piranhas are a force to be reckoned with," she said.

The Piranhas will return to the water for spring training from March 12 to June 9. A limited number of spaces are still available; see www.stuttgartpiranhas.org for a registration form, or write registrar@stuttgartpiranhas.org for more information.

2012 EFSL Champs results

Girls 9 100 Individual Medley: 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 1:26.56

Girls 12 100 Individual Medley: 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 1:14.00

Girls 13-14 100 Freestyle: 2, Lizzie Hodges, 1:04.59; 3, Austin Sojourner, 1:06.18

Girls 17-19 100 Freestyle: 3, Brenna Cashman, 1:10.11

Boys 17-19 100 Freestyle: 1, Daniel Gum, 56.56

Girls 9 50 Butterfly: 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 38.57

Girls 12 50 Butterfly: 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 32.53; 3, Rebecca King, 36.73

Girls 13-14 100 Butterfly: 3, Lizzie Hodges, 1:18.03

Girls 17-19 100 Butterfly: 2, Brenna Cashman, 1:14.93

Boys 17-19 100 Butterfly: 3, Daniel Gum, 1:06.46

Girls 9 50 Breaststroke: 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 46.92; 3, Katie Nugent, 51.99

Girls 11 50 Breaststroke: 2, Emma Patterson, 43.10

Girls 12 50 Breaststroke: 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 41.25

Girls 15-16 100 Breaststroke: 1, Marina Zielinski, 1:20.02

Girls 9 200 Freestyle: 2, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 2:55.87

Girls 200 Freestyle — 2, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 2:29.24

Girls 13-14 400 Freestyle — 3, Austin Sojourner, 5:15.57

Boys 17-19 400 Freestyle — 2, Daniel Gum, 4:44.91

Mixed 13-14 200 Medley Relay — 1, Stuttgart Relay Team A (Austin Sojourner, Benjamin Patterson, Paul Zielinski, Lizzie Hodges), 2:14.83

Girls 9 200 Individual Medley — 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 3:15.24

Girls 12 200 Individual Medley — 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 2:43.74

Girls 13-14 200 Individual Medley — 2, Lizzie Hodges, 2:47.21

Boys 17-19 200 Individual Medley — 2, Daniel Gum, 2:30.41

Girls 9 50 Freestyle — 2, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 35.14

Girls 12 50 Freestyle — 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 30.26

Girls 13-14 50 Freestyle — 1, Lizzie Hodges, 29.03

Boys 17-19 50 Freestyle — 1, Daniel Gum, 25.86

Girls 9 50 Backstroke: 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 45.53

Girls 12 50 Backstroke: 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 35.60

Boys 12 50 Backstroke: 3, Hayden Kasavicha, 37.24

Girls 13-14 100 Backstroke: 2, Austin Sojourner, 1:15.59

Girls 17-19 100 Backstroke: 2, Brenna Cashman, 1:18.50

Girls 9 100 Freestyle: 1, Gabriela Ousley-Naseman, 1:19.38

Girls 12 100 Freestyle: 1, Caroline Ousley-Naseman, 1:06.83

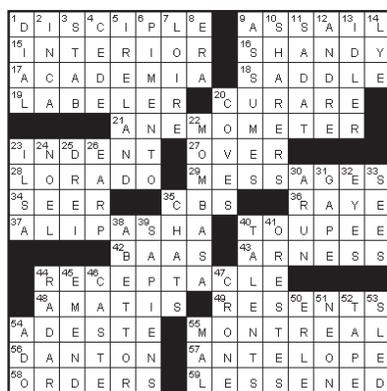
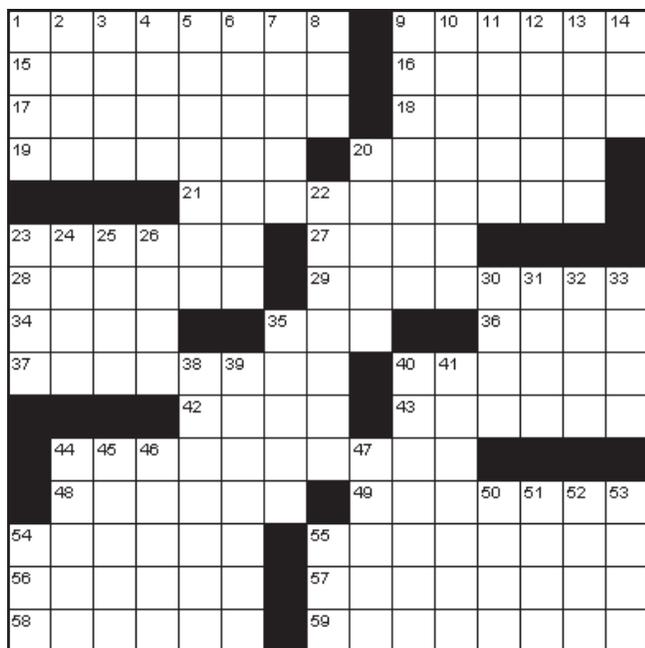
Girls 13-14 200 Freestyle: Lizzie Hodges, 2:25.84

Boys 17-19 200 Freestyle: 1, Daniel Gum, 2:06.29

Mixed 11-12 200 Freestyle Relay: 3, Stuttgart Relay Team A (Caroline Ousley-Naseman, Rebecca King, Paul Finegan, Hayden Kasavicha), 2:15.401

Mixed 13-14 200 Freestyle Relay: 1, Stuttgart Relay Team A (Paul Zielinski, Austin Sojourner, Eric Arrington, Lizzie Hodges), 1:58.90

Crossword Puzzle



This is the solution to the crossword puzzle from Feb. 23!

ACROSS

- 1. Unnaturally high voice
- 9. Up-river swimmer
- 15. Property receivers
- 16. Split asunder
- 17. Anticlimax
- 18. Sounded porcine
- 19. Portion
- 20. Brother, for Brutus
- 21. Desperate measure
- 23. Veteran sailor
- 27. Limerick's location
- 28. Green
- 29. Slaughter
- 34. "In ___ veritas"
- 35. Mar follower
- 36. Way in
- 37. Captivating
- 40. Metamorphic rock
- 42. Court dividers
- 43. Milk curdler
- 44. Jalopy
- 48. Tumult
- 49. Became a contestant
- 54. Consecrate

- 55. With savvy
- 56. Foray
- 57. Art show held every two years
- 58. Aim
- 59. Won over

DOWN

- 1. Aficionados
- 2. Balm ingredient
- 3. Atlantic fish
- 4. Appear
- 5. Wrap
- 6. In the "difficult years"
- 7. Camp sights
- 8. East of Berlin
- 9. Tally keepers
- 10. Smith and Jones, perhaps
- 11. Slowly, on a score
- 12. Creator
- 13. Manifest
- 14. Homer Simpson's neighbor
- 20. Mendicant monk
- 22. Violent storm
- 23. Fiji's capital
- 24. Writer Bagnold
- 25. Ponte Vecchio river
- 26. Christian of fashion
- 30. South Yemen port
- 31. Nickel or copper?
- 32. Floral gift
- 33. At one time, at one time
- 35. Modify
- 38. Composer Dvorak
- 39. Delayed
- 40. Given
- 41. Sea god
- 44. Talk and talk
- 45. Nautical direction
- 46. Hackneyed
- 47. Varnish ingredient
- 50. Sicilian hot spot
- 51. Tail end
- 52. Fashion magazine
- 53. Changed hue
- 54. "Take Me ___ Am"
- 55. Log cabin President

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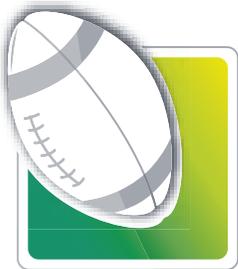


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Youth Activities

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



Photo by Jan Kuenning

Hippie Day

Students at Patch Elementary School show their spirit on Hippie Day sponsored by the student council. Pictured from left to right are Ms. Gradeck's fourth-graders Katelyn Darnell, Cameron Hatley, Meagan Vickery, and Rebecca Williams.



Photo by Jan Kuenning

Scrambled Eggs

Science Club students, Preston Lerner and John Manning Eddie Ca-zier, at Robinson Barracks Elementary School, had fun designing cap-sules for an Egg Drop Contest. It was a fun activity to test the forces of motion.



Photo by Mr. Thornburg

Computer programming

Computer programming often requires team work. Here Janey Greenberg is helping Kyle Perez debug his program. Both Janey and Kyle are in Mr. Thornburg's BEMS MS programming class.



Photo by Teresa Senna

Dr. Seuss' birthday

Böblingen Elementry Middle School kindergartner Gavin Hunt makes green eggs and ham to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday.



Picture by Jan Kuenning

Weathergrams

Mini Troopers Club members, Natalia Shea (K), Jonathan Cassidy (1st) and Samy Megahead (K) hang Weathergrams on a tree to let the wind carry messages to their deployed parents.

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

Youth Activities



Photo by Dale Leifson

Vertebrate or Invertebrate?

Sixth graders at Robinson Barracks Elementary School dissect crayfish. It was an exciting way to end their unit on invertebrates and explore the external and internal anatomy. Pictured are Dante Lapitan and Emberleigh Rivera.



Photo by Ed Thornburg

Distance learning

Marina Fortun, Evan Sullivan and Josephine Ratcliff (left to right) take part in distance learning at Böblingen Elementry Middle School which provides students the opportunity to take courses that cannot be offered on site due to small student enrollment.

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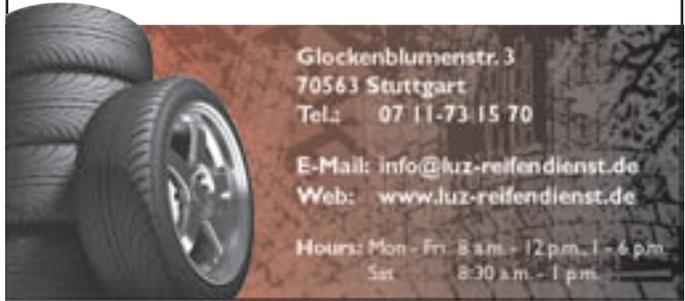
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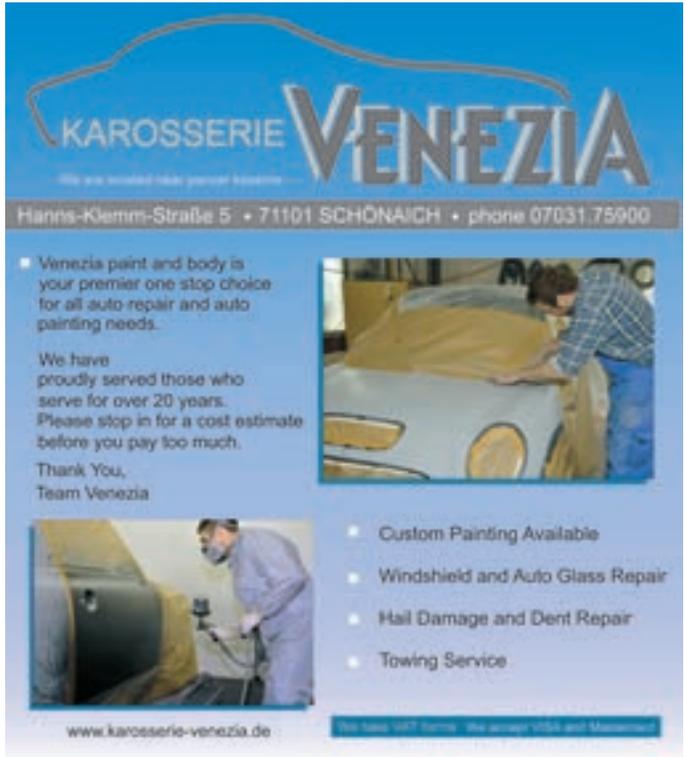
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