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Thursday, October 1, 2015 Sustaining & Supporting the Stuttgart U.S. Military Community Garrison Website: www.stuttgart.army.mil Facebook: facebook.com/USAGarrisonStuttgart

stuttgartcitizen.com

Pumpkins “Take Flight”



Photo by Lauren Jelle

Pumpkins as far as the eye can see, celebrating Ludwigsburg “Kürbisausstellung,” the world’s largest pumpkin festival. — **Pages 12-13**

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October is domestic violence awareness month

END THE SILENCE • STOP THE VIOLENCE



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Army Materiel Commanding General visits Panzer Kaserne

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The Logistics Readiness Center Stuttgart welcomed Army Materiel Command senior leadership to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Panzer Kaserne in Böblingen, Germany Sept. 16 as part of a week-long tour through Europe. The Logistics Readiness Center Stuttgart provides logistical support to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart community members, such as property processing, accountability and shuttle bus services, just to name a few.

The AMC Commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General, Lisha Adams, and Command Sgt. Maj. James K. Sims and members of his staff attended the visit joined by the 405th Army Field Support Brigade Commander Col. Todd Bertulis, and Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley Richards.

This visit gave the LRC the opportunity to inform senior leadership face-to-face on how they support customers and contribute to the senior commands' mission and the military.

The tour began at the LRC headquarters for a brief introduction to employees and an overview of the community services that the LRC provides. The group continued on to view a few of the service facilities on Panzer Kaserne, namely the Vehicle Inspection Point and the Central Issue Facility.

The Vehicle Inspection Point has incurred some positive changes over the past quarter. USAG Stuttgart is the first to implement an online POV inspection appointment system in Europe which stemmed from problems with long lines and waiting lists during high in and out processing times. While in transition to the online system, the 405th AFSB also began a telephone hotline service for service members to make appointments until the online system common access card appointment system hosted through SharePoint was in full swing.

A \$1.6 million renovation project is also in place to, most importantly for Stuttgart military community members, add a third vehicle inspection bay, and update the vehicle registration space. The U.S. Army Sustainment Command contributed \$1.2 million to the garrison to aid in funding the project's



The Army Materiel Command Commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via and senior leaders visited U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Logistics Readiness Center on Panzer Kaserne, Sept. 16 during a week-long tour through Europe. — U.S. Army Photo



During the Army Materiel Command Commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via's visit Sept. 16, he met with personnel to discuss the services provided to the Stuttgart military community, and tour the facilities on Panzer Kaserne. — U.S. Army Photo



The Army Materiel Command Commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via visited the Central Issue Facility on Panzer Kaserne Sept. 16, viewing the efficient, space-saving storage system. — U.S. Army Photo

See ARMY MATERIEL on Page 3



Make your vote count

By USAG Stuttgart Installation Voting Assistance Office

In support of the Army Voting Assistance Program, the Army is designating the week of Sept. 29 to Oct. 6 as Armed Forces Absentee Voters Week. During this week, leaders will remind Soldiers and eligible family members about the requirements of voting and provide the necessary information regarding voting resources. State primary deadlines for the 2016 elections are fast approaching.

Absentee Voters Week is the ideal opportunity for voters to contact local election officials and set plans in motion to register and participate in State primaries which begin in March 2016. Unit Voting Assistance Officers will assist voters in filling out the Federal Post Card Application.

Voting is a privilege and a responsibility that we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. Leader involvement remains essential to ensure Soldiers and family members are familiar with their right to vote

and that they have the opportunity to exercise that right.

If you have not yet registered or requested your absentee ballot and would like to do so, take a minute visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.gov.

It only takes a few quick steps to make sure your vote is counted no matter where you are in the world. You may register and request an absentee ballot with a single form: the Federal Post Card Application.

This application form is accepted by all states and territories and is postage-paid in the U.S. mail, including the Military Postal System and State Department Pouch mail. Hard copies of the form can be obtained from the installation's Voting Assistance Officer or requested directly from the Federal Voting Assistance Program. An online version of the FPCA is also available. The online version of the form must be mailed in an envelope with proper postage, or mailed using the prepaid return envelope. Your request form must be completed, printed, signed, dated and mailed directly to your local election official.

If you haven't received your ballot:

- Go to www.fvap.gov and see what online ballot delivery tools are available for your state.

- Use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot assistant available at www.fvap.gov to complete a backup ballot and submit it to your local election official. If you cannot access www.fvap.gov, you can obtain a hard-copy of the form from your unit's Voting Assistance Officer.

- Contact your local election official to determine the status of your ballot. Contact information is available at www.fvap.gov.

- When you receive your regular absentee ballot, complete it and return it regardless of when you receive it. Your local election official will ensure that only one of the ballots is counted.

Make your vote count. Get your absentee vote in time to have your voice heard!

For more information, visit www.fvap.gov/info/about-absentee-voting or contact the Voting Assistance Office located on Panzer Kaserne, Building 2913 Room 114 at DSN: 431-2865/civ. 07031-15-2865.

Voting Officers are visiting the following locations:

Thu. Oct. 1

Kelley Barracks, Broadway Cafe, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Robinson Barracks, Post Office, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 2

Panzer Kaserne, Exchange, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Patch Barracks, Post Office, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 5

Kelley Barracks, Commissary, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Panzer Kaserne, Exchange, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Patch Barracks, Commissary, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tue. Oct. 6

Panzer Kaserne, Exchange, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Patch Barracks, Post Office, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Army Materiel

Continued from Page 2

completion, which is currently in the design phase. The renovation is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2016. The Central Issue Facility was the next stop, where the LRC Supplies and Services Division supports active duty military personnel with equipment for training and deployments. The CIF Stuttgart is unique in operation to other U.S.

Army military bases because it services a joint military community, and also co-stores equipment with U.S. Marine Forces. In the last two years, the CIF installed a more efficient, space-saving system eliminating the need for two additional storage warehouses that can now be used for other storage needs.

During the visit, Gen. Via

recognized several LRC Stuttgart personnel for their dedicated service with coins and pins including Birgit Thompson, Darryl Frazier, T. C. James, D.J. Jackson, Bruce Brown, Chantay Dengel, Chan Lee, Tewolde Ygzaw and Karl-Heinz Mueller, Director of Logistics Readiness Center Stuttgart.

Departing Panzer Kaserne, the

tour continued at the U.S. Africa Command headquarters at USAG Stuttgart's Kelley Barracks meeting with senior leadership to conclude the day.

To view the photo album of AMC Commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via's visit to USAG Stuttgart visit Flickr.com, search for USAG Stuttgart.

Going Green: "Green Zone" driving stickers in Germany



By Megan Brown
Special to The Citizen

From the unknown signs to the all too familiar status, driving in Germany can leave many people feeling overwhelmed to say the least. However, Germany is taking strides to improve driving conditions in a more environmentally friendly way to protect the health of its citizens.

Many cities in Germany have started issuing environmental stickers (Umweltplakette) to authorize driving within certain areas marked as "green zones", as a result of an anti-air-pollution law passed in 2006. The law was passed after the country failed to meet European Union pollution standards.

Along with Stuttgart, many other German cities have joined in the pollution

fight, including Frankfurt, Heidelberg, and Ludwigsburg. Many other countries in the EU have also initiated the program or programs similar.

There are three issued sticker colors that determine how environmental friendly your car is. Green signifies the highest rank of standard environment safety, going down to yellow, which symbolizes a less green vehicle, and finally red, the lowest standard. Eventually, red and yellow sticker will go away and only green issued vehicle stickers will be the acceptable form for entering "green zones."

The sticker must be placed on your car's windshield, or owners could be fined 40 Euros.

You can purchase an Umweltplakette environmental sticker from a TÜV station or

online at www.tuev-sued.de or www.tuev-nord.de. The cost is for 6 Euros for a Germany registered car, and 12.50 for a foreign car. Both prices include VAT.

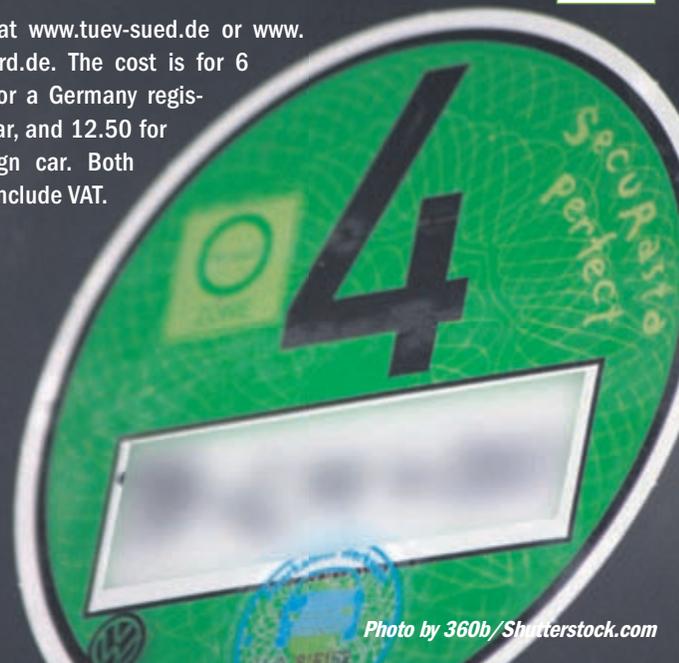


Photo by 360b/Shutterstock.com

Ask a JAG: Passing buses on and off post

By CPT Keenan Daniels and
German Attorney Anna-Maria Pfeffer
Stuttgart Law Center

The new school year is upon us, with both German Schools and Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools in session. This being the case, there are many more buses on the road and many more opportunities for drivers to make a mistake. The rules for when and how to pass a stopped bus can be a little unclear, this article will explain how to legally pass a bus that has stopped to let passengers on or off.

First, it is always prohibited to pass any vehicle when the lane is marked with a solid white line. Further it is illegal to pass a bus that has stopped on a U.S. installation. Put more simply, if you are on

post and a bus stops in front of you, then you must wait until that bus continues to move before you can do the same.

Contrarily, when driving off post it is legal to pass a bus that has stopped to let passengers on or off. However, buses may only be passed with care. Caution is expected not only when the bus is in front of you, but also when it is stopped in the oncoming lane. These prohibitions apply to regularly scheduled public buses and marked school buses which stop at bus stops, especially but not only with the warning blinking lights switched on. Stopped buses may only be passed at walking pace and only at such a distance that passengers are not endangered. Walking pace also applies to oncoming traffic on the same roadway. These prohibitions are intended to protect inattentive pedestrians that may run across the street

to catch the waiting bus. Do not impede upon the right of way of passengers getting on or off of the buses. If necessary, the driver of the vehicle must wait. Also, scheduled buses and school buses shall be given the opportunity to depart from marked stops. If necessary, other vehicles must wait.

These rules can be found in AE Pam 190-34 section 20 paragraph b and AE Pam 550-19-AppE section 20 of the German Road Traffic Ordinance.

Drive safely!



Photo by Ai825/Shutterstock.com

LICHT'15 TEST

"Licht schafft Sicht!" = Light provides sight!



FREE Vehicle Lighting Inspections the month of October!

Participating locations include:

- AAFES Car Care Centers
- U. S. Forces Vehicle Inspection Stations
- All auto repair shops on the local German economy

www.licht-test.de



Stuttgart high school senior one of 40 to attend Joint Science and Technology Institute



2015 Joint Science and Technology Institute student participants attended a two-week program in Maryland highlighting scientific research opportunities through hands-on projects. Stuttgart High School Senior Taj Ford was one of 40 students nationwide selected to attend. — Photo courtesy of ORAU

By Pam Bonee

Oak Ridge Associated University

Stuttgart High School Senior Taj Ford was one of 40 students chosen nationwide to attend an all-expenses paid, two week Joint Science and Technology Institute program in Edgewood, Maryland over the summer.

While many students and teachers were enjoying the last of their summer break before the start of school, 40 exceptional high school students and four teachers from across the United States and eight countries chose to spend two weeks at the end of their summer vacation participating in hands-on research focused on science, technology,

engineering, and math.

ORAU, along with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, hosted the Joint Science and Technology Institute from July 18-July 31. During the program, students and teachers worked on cutting-edge science projects with mentors and participated in a variety of area tours and activities.

The program was created to expose students and teachers to scientific research through projects, to enable them to work with real-world scientists, and to increase awareness of career opportunities in related fields. Teachers gained valuable knowledge of today's research to take back to their classrooms.

Students worked in teams and were assigned research projects that included environmental water quality, microbe resistance surfaces, math modeling, 3D printing, robotics, Raspberry Pi, and computer programming & engineering. Teachers' projects included quantum mechanical stimulations, respiratory system models, microbiological assays, and 3D printing. Both team and individual projects were led by scientific mentors.

The institute kicked off with a trip to the High Points Low Ropes Course and zipling. Participants also enjoyed an evening at an IronBirds baseball game at Ripken Stadium, a visit to the Smithsonian Air & Space and Natural

History Museums and the Lincoln Memorial.

The finale of the Joint Science and Technology Institute was a Recognition Ceremony in which students and teachers presented the results of their research experiences. Opening remarks were provided by Col. Timothy Greenhaw, Deputy Director, CBTD-DTRA, and Andy Page, President and CEO of ORAU. The keynote address was provided by William King V, Senior Engineer, Quentus Technologies, Inc. In attendance were military and laboratory officials, mentors, families and friends.

Additional information on JSTI can be found at: www.orau.org

Exchange clarifies difference of information on gas receipts from Esso stations

By Office of the Chief of Public Affairs
Exchange OCONUS Region-Europe/SW Asia

U.S. military, dependents, civilians and authorized persons, may have been wondering about whether or not they were charged the correct tax free price, from the local ESSO Station, due to the remaining ration and pre-paid balance information missing on the bottom of their receipt.

"We want to clarify the receipt printing capabilities of the local ESSO Stations, versus what expectations are for the receipts," said Lt. Col. Thomas Davison, Deputy Commander of the Exchange

Europe and Southwest Asia. "ESSO currently operates two models of gas stations, such as ESSO operated stations versus independent franchised stations, with different information printing capabilities."

The Exchange understood and accepted those differences.

During the inception of the Exchange Gas Card ESSO program, we considered how to deal with the receipt printing difference. The least likely option was to only allow the ESSO Stations with remaining ration and pre-paid balance printing capabilities to accept the card and exclude the others. This would have eliminated allowing

our customers to utilize some very prominently located ESSO Stations (on Autobahn A7, A1 and A61).

On the other hand, accepting that some ESSO stations could not print the information but will still accept the cards gives our customers access to more than 99% of ESSO stations. It is still possible for our customers to know they were charged the taxed free price because in the body of the receipt they will find a reference to the AAFES Card.

"We accept that there are stations that are not able to print the ration and pre-paid balance receipt messages, and that will allow

us to keep all ESSO stations available to our service members and their families across Germany," said Davison.



MISS THE RB TOWN HALL?

A top questions and answer recap from the Robinson Barracks Community Town Hall, held Sept. 17 is posted to www.stuttgartcitizen.com. Have more questions or concerns? Contact the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Public Affairs office via email, located on www.stuttgart.army.mil, or message the garrison through Facebook, search for "USAGarrison Stuttgart."

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS ADDED

As of Sept. 17, the Department of Defense Dependents Schools transportation office confirmed the addition of an Activity Bus available for students attending school-sanctioned activities (sports, clubs, etc.) leaving at 6 p.m. directly from Stuttgart High School making stops at Patch Barracks and Kelley Barracks. For more information, contact School Liaison Office at DSN: 430-7465/civ.0711-680-7465.

ASPEN CONSULTING PHASE-OUT

The ASPEN Consulting housing contract expired Sept. 21, a new vendor, Military Homefinders of Stuttgart is in process of assuming the contract. Until all contract issues are resolved, ASPEN Consulting's contract has been extended to up to 30 additional days.

The Housing Services Office contract provides assistance to authorized Military and Department of Defense civilian personnel in locating off post permanent accommodations when adequate government quarters are unavailable.

Once the phase out begins, newly arriving personnel that are required to live off post may experience some interruptions in receiving appropriate off post housing services. The Housing Office will keep the community informed of progress announcements through www.stuttgartcitizen.com and the garrison Facebook page. Housing office contact: DSN: 431-2230/civ. 07031-15-2230.

USAREUR GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR LEADERSHIP AWARD

The U.S. Army Europe seeks nominees for the 2015 General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award. USAREUR will select two company grade officers and a junior warrant officer to compete for the award at the Army level. USAREUR Brigade-level or higher commands submit nomination packets to USAREUR G1 Awards and Actions

Branch by Nov. For more information call DSN: 537-1147/1148/1141 or visit, www.armygl.army.mil/macarthur.

USE FLEP TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL

Are you an active duty commissioned officer and interested in law? The Funded Legal Education Program can help. The FLEP provides 25 active duty lieutenants or captains the opportunity obtain a legal education at government expense. Officers with two to six years of total active federal service at the time legal training begins are eligible. Details regarding FLEP eligibility, the application process and service obligation are outlined in Army Regulation 27-1, Chapter 14 (AR 27-1). The eligibility requirements in AR 27-1 are statutory and cannot be waived. The U.S. Army Europe Office of the Judge Advocate can help interested lieutenants and captains learn more and apply for the program. The application deadline is Nov. 1 and interested applicants are encouraged to visit the program website.

RECRUITING ASSISTANT CAMPUS DIRECTOR

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is now recruiting for a Stuttgart-based assistant campus director position. The ACD performs general academic, and administrative management tasks of the within the scope of the Stuttgart Education Center office and participates in public relations and marketing efforts to provide the base population with relevant information regarding University programs. This is a part-time (20 hours/week) position and will require weekly visits to installations in the Stuttgart area. For more information, call DSN: 431-3130, CIV: 07031-15-3130.

CID WANTS YOU

Army Criminal Investigation Command is currently accepting applications for CID Special Agents. Do you have a passion and desire to be a sworn federal law enforcement agent? If so, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command needs YOU! As a CID Special Agent you will be on the cutting edge of criminal investigative tactics and techniques and receive some of the best training in modern law enforcement. For more information, go to www.cid.army.mil and click on JOIN CID to see if you qualify.

240TH NAVY BALL

The Stuttgart Zumwalt Ball Committee is cordially inviting all

service members, Department of Defense personnel, contractors, family members and friends to the 240th Navy Birthday Ball on Oct. 24 at the Boblingen Kongresshalle. Cocktail hour begins 5 p.m., program begins at 6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at www.eventbee.com/v/2015stuttgartnavyball.

USAREUR CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS BRIEFING

The U.S. Army Europe G6 Cybersecurity Awareness briefing is Oct. 20 at the Stuttgart Reel Time Theater, Patch Barracks Building 2339 with two sessions; 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. The briefing is open to all military community members, Department of Defense personnel, contractors, family members and friends. For more information, contact DSN: 537-6423/6039/6043 or civ. 0611-143-537-6422/6039/6043.

USAG STUTTGART RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart will hold its eighth annual Retiree Appreciation Day Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks. Retirees of all military branches are invited to attend the benefits and health fair, designed to help keep retirees and their families up-to-date on retiree issues. The Stuttgart Army Health Clinic will be on site to offer flu vaccines, vision screenings, wellness and blood pressure checks. A Tricare representative will be available to answer any questions related to Tricare.

Col. Glenn Dickerson, the garrison commander, opens the event at 9 a.m.

The Federal Benefits Unit from the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt will provide Social Security information. Representatives from the Stuttgart law Office and the garrison Passport Office will also be available. The Installation Management Command Europe retiree services officer will assist retirees and annuitants with pay problems and in updating their records. Retirees will also be able to speak with representatives from the United Service Organizations, Red Cross, U.S. Customs, Survivor Outreach Services, Defense Commissary Agency, Exchange, Army Substance Abuse Program, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Retirees who need assistance with passports are advised to download the appropriate passport checklists from the garrison website at www.stuttgart.army.mil. For more information about U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Retiree Appreciation Day, contact DSN: 431-2010/civ. 07031-15-2010.

ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN ISSUE COLLECTION

Since 1984 there have been 126 Legislative changes, 177 Department of Defense or Army Policy changes and 197 Program and Services improvements as a result of Army Family Action Plan issues. Policy changes that resulted from. Service members of all branches, civilian employees, retirees, and their respective family members are invited to participate and encourage those in your units, friends and colleagues to submit a quality of life issue for the 2015 AFAP Conference. All issues must be submitted no later than Oct. 9. Check in with your Family Readiness Group leader or stop by Army Community Service on Panzer Kaserne, Building 2915 2nd Floor, DSN: 431-2268/civ. 07031-15-2268/3362.

USPS ONLINE CUSTOMS FORMS NOW REQUIRED

Starting Oct. 1, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Army Post Office customers wishing to mail packages must complete a customs form online before they bring the item to an APO for mailing. The United States Post Office and Military Postal Service Agency announced new Global Trade Compliance requirements that will impact all packages mailed at overseas military locations. Postal customers can complete their customs forms online at www.usps.com under the "International" tab when they click the link titled "Complete Customs Forms." Online customs forms are also available under the Click-N-Ship option.

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN – OVERSEAS

The 2015 Combined Federal Campaign Overseas is Sept. 21 through Nov. 20. The CFC is an annual workplace giving campaign for the five overseas unified combatant commands. This year's theme, "Give because you care!" encourages participants to contribute to their favorite charities. Distinctive to the CFC-O is, up to 6% of campaign gross, from undesignated contributions, is returned to the overseas installations Family Support & Youth Programs which is then used to invest in better quality of life programs for service members, their families, and federal employees; No administrative fees are withheld from the CFC-O, so all donations go directly into the community to which the money is pledged. For more information, contact the Community Area Project Officer at DSN: 421-3673, visit www.cfcoverseas.org.

SKIES DANCE PRODUCTION STUDIO SIGN-UP OPEN

Dance Production Studio launched for its third consecutive year with registration now open to new students through March 2016. The production this year will be the story of Alice in Wonderland, show date to be determined.

After two years of choreographing and performing Peter Pan and the Pirates, and The Wicked Wizard of OZ, and in celebration of Lewis Carroll's 150th Anniversary, Alice in Wonderland is coming to our community. DPS prides itself on providing dancers with an enriching learning environment offering them the opportunity to learn various choreographies, as well as a chance to experience the creative process that goes into staging a production. The class format places emphasis on learning and enjoying rather than anxiety-producing tryouts and exhaustive rehearsals.

All will participate throughout the development of the production and have the possibility to provide creative input making it a one-of-a-kind experience.

Classes are held at the Patch Forum on Wednesdays and are open to children from beginner to more advance, ages 2-17, and to children possessing a variety of dance training and experience. Participants can join in at any time, but must be enrolled in Child, Youth and School Services. Register with CYS Parent Central Services Building 2347, Patch Barracks, contact DSN: 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

INFO ON CHILDCARE AND SCHOOLS

Child, Youth and School Services will have an information booth at the Panzer Main Exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 6 & 20, Nov. 3 & 17, Dec. 1 & 15. Become a Family Child Care provider; free training, job mobility, continuing education credits and professional resources are available. For more information, call DSN: 430-4047/4100 or civ. 0711-680-4047/4100.

School Liaison Office will have an information booth at the Panzer Main Exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 6 & 20, Nov. 3 & 17, Dec. 1 & 15. Find out about their roles in the community and about educational opportunities. This is a great opportunity for in-processing families with questions about schools. For more information, please call DSN: 430-7465/civ. 0711-680-7465.

WINTER SPORT REGISTRATION, COACHES NEEDED

Register your children ages 3-15 for Child, Youth and School Services Winter Sports including Basketball, Cheerleading, and Wrestling from Sept.

28 to Oct. 30 at Parent Central Services, Patch Barracks. Sports are a great way to keep your children active and teach good sportsmanship. Season runs from Jan. 1 - March 15. Physical must be valid through March 15. For more information and to volunteer to become a coach, call DSN: 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-2616.

COMEDY TOUR COMES TO RB

The Department of Defense's Armed Forces Entertainment presents World Class Comedy Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. at the Robinson Barracks Club featuring comedians; Johnny Cardinale, Jill Bryan, Rachael O'Brien, Nic Nowicki, Mark Serritella. For mature audiences only. Open to ID cardholders and authorized guests. For more information, contact DSN: 430-2110/civ.0711-680-2110.

HISPANIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic American Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. The Equal Opportunity office hosts Hispanic American Heritage observance Oct. 14 at the Patch Fitness Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come out, celebrate and enjoy with us!!

For additional information or to participate in the event, DSN: 431-7945/civ: 0711-6807945.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS 

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

In Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will host a variety of free awareness events throughout the month of October:

Oct. 14 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Cupcakes 4 Change at the USO Lounge

Oct. 16 3-5 p.m.
Couples Bubble Soccer at Panzer Soccer Field

Oct. 23 11 to noon
"Pup"kin Love costume contest at Panzer Dog Run-Housing

To sign up, contact DSN: 431-3518/civ. 0703-115-3518.

The countdown to Halloween begins!



Photo by Igor Kovachuk/Shutterstock.com

Oct. 17 - Europa Park Fright Fest with Outdoor Recreation.

Get ready for Halloween at the Europe Park Fright Fest. Price includes transportation, guide, and entrance ticket to Europa Park. Registration deadline is October 2. Trip departs ODR at 7 a.m. Contact for pricing and information, call DSN: 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

Oct. 23 - Horror Movie Trivia Night with BOSS

Do you like scary movies? Do you think you would know a scary movie if you heard a sound bite? If so the Warrior Zone on Patch Barracks has a game for you. Come partake in the Horror Movie Trivia Night at 7 p.m. and test your spooky skills. For information, contact DSN: 430-7135/civ. 0711-680-7135.

Oct. 24 - Create Halloween Snacks and Drinks Class with BOSS

What's a truly scary situation? A Halloween party without any creepy drinks or snacks. Learn how to make some of these weird concoctions at 7 p.m. at the Warrior Zone on Patch Barracks, and your next gathering will be one spooky success. For pricing and information, contact DSN: 430-7135/civ. 0711-680-7135.

Oct. 24 - Burg Frankenstein (mature audience only) with Outdoor Recreation

Don't miss the Burg Frankenstein haunted castle for an unforgettable night of horror. Trip departs Outdoor Recreation on Panzer Kaserne at 4 p.m. Price includes transportation, entrance to castle grounds, buffet dinner in VIP area and guide. Register by Oct. 16. For pricing and information, contact DSN: 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

Oct. 25 - Burg Frankenstein (family friendly) with Outdoor Recreation

Don't miss the Burg Frankenstein haunted castle for an unforgettable night of horror scary enough for the entire family. Trip departs Outdoor Recreation on Panzer Kaserne at 10 a.m. Price includes transportation, entrance to castle grounds, buffet dinner in VIP area and guide. Register by Oct. 16. For pricing and information, contact DSN: 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

Oct. 30 - Halloween Costume Party with live band at Patch Community Club

This is the perfect time to wear your coolest or creepiest Halloween costume and participate in the costume contest at the Halloween Costume Party from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. at Patch Community Club. Enjoy great live music and free bar snacks. Contest winners receive \$25 Exchange gift cards. Backlot Bar will be open to purchase food and beverages. Reserve your seat by Oct 23 and get a complimentary prosecco. For pricing and information, contact DSN: 430-5433/civ.0711-680-5433.

Be sure to pick up the next Citizen newspaper coming out Oct. 15 for everything you need to know about events and trick-or-treating on Halloween!

Service members in Germany urged to take overseas living pattern survey

By U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

U.S. Army Europe Soldiers stationed in Germany will soon be asked, via e-mail, to participate in the 2015 Cost of Living Allowance Living Pattern Survey.

The survey will be open Oct. 1-31 and is used to track the shopping patterns of uniformed service members and their family members stationed overseas. The data collected will assist in the determination of COLA paid to members in their country of assignment.

The survey is only for service members stationed in Ansbach, Garmisch, Geilenkirchen, Vilseck/Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Kalkar, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Wiesbaden, Pfullendorf and Kaiserslautern/Ramstein.

The survey asks military members and their families to identify local economy outlets where they normally shop for food items, clothing and other goods and services, such as restaurant meals, hair care products/services, auto repair, etc. It also asks how much of their shopping is done on the local economy, and

how much is done at the Commissary, Exchange, or on the internet.

“The more participation we get means a more accurate picture of how members are using the local economy,” said Randall Ries, Germany country allowance coordinator.

Every three years this survey is conducted to determine the local economy outlets where military families shop. Then, during the follow-on annual Retail Price Schedule, which is to begin Nov. 1, the prices of 120 goods and services are collected from outlets identified by service members during the Living Pattern Survey. The Defense Travel Management Office compare the prices in Germany to those in the U.S. and then calculates the Cost of Living Index, which established the country’s COLA per rate location.

For more information on the survey, service members and their family members are encouraged to contact their personnel office. The link to the survey is available at: www.eur.army.mil/news/2012/09252012_COLA_survey.html



Service members living in Germany are encouraged to take the 2015 Living Pattern Survey beginning Oct. 1. The survey is used to track the shopping patterns of uniformed service members and their family members stationed overseas, and can influence cost of living allowance, or COLA, rates. — Photo courtesy of army.mil

Cybersecurity awareness month highlights need for collective responsibility



Photo by jmozakim/Shutterstock.com

By Sgt. Daniel Cole
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

U.S. Army Europe Cybersecurity officials want to remind members of the U.S. forces community in Europe that October marks the 12th annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and that it’s everyone’s duty to protect Army information and communications

“October’s ‘awareness month’ highlights this year’s critical cybersecurity challenges and the importance of recognizing our shared cybersecurity responsibilities,” explains Daniel Hingtgen, chief of Cybersecurity, Policy, Programs and Training for the USAREUR office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications (G6). “This responsibility extends from the most basic computer user, to our most seasoned technical experts, and our most senior

USAREUR leadership.

Cybersecurity experts explain that in today’s world internet usage is a near must, but while people routinely use the internet at work, home, for enjoyment and to connect with friends and family, being constantly connected brings increased risk of theft, fraud and abuse

“Our reliance on critical infrastructure and the digital technology that operates it makes cybersecurity one of the U.S.’s most important national security priorities, and one in which every American has a role to play,” said Hingtgen. “The slogan ‘cybersecurity is a team effort’ underscores that shared responsibility.”

During October, USAREUR cybersecurity officials say they plan to engage the Army in Europe community through events and initiatives designed to raise awareness, educate people about

cybersecurity, and increase the resiliency of cyber infrastructure to prevent or respond to cyber incidents.

Cybersecurity courses will be offered in communities across USAREUR, officials added, to provide social networking systems awareness and training to Soldiers, DoD civilians, contractors and family members in the Army in Europe community.

Two sessions will be offered in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Oct. 20, 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Reel Time Theater, Patch Barracks Building 2339.

USAREUR’s cybersecurity experts also recommended some basic, year-round cyber security tips:

- Set strong passwords and don’t share them with anyone.
- Keep operating systems, browsers, and other critical software optimized by installing updates.

- Maintain an open dialogue with family, friends and community about Internet safety.
- Limit the amount of personal information you post online and use privacy settings to avoid over-sharing.
- Be cautious about what you receive or read online — if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

For more cybersecurity tips, news, and resources highlighting NCSAM, or to post your own links and tips on social media sites, visit www.staysafeonline.org.

Service members who need to complete their annually required cybersecurity training can visit <https://ia.signal.army.mil/login.asp>.

For more information on the USAG Stuttgart cybersecurity briefing sessions, contact DSN: 537-6423/6039/6043 or civ. 0611-143-537-6422/6039/6043.

AFRICOM hosts Medical Professionals in Stuttgart

By SSG Christopher C. Klutts
United States Africa Command

The command surgeon's office at U.S. Africa Command held a conference at Kelley Barracks, Sept. 9-11, to synchronize the medical efforts of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine and Special Operations component commands with interagency and military partners in Africa.

Briefers discussed how their organization's medical operations support the command's strategic objectives. They covered topics like the direct care and medical readiness of U.S. forces, building the capacity of partner nation militaries to care for their own troops, and the training U.S. medical professionals can receive by participating in multinational exercises.

Also, for the second year in a row, medical officers from France, the Netherlands and Germany discussed their medical operations in Africa.

U.S. Air Force Col. Jeff Gillen, deputy command surgeon for AFRICOM, said the conference comes as AFRICOM is finalizing a new theater campaign plan in support of the 2015 National Defense Strategy.

Gillen said that because the practice of medicine impacts survival, medical operations are tied to the stability and prosperity of any region.



U.S. Navy Vice Adm. Michael T. Franken, the deputy commander for military operations with U.S. Africa Command, speaks during the 2015 AFRICOM Command Surgeon's Conference at Kelley Barracks, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Germany, Sept. 10, 2015. The conference was a forum for medical providers and officers from U.S. component commands and partner nations to discuss how their medical operations collectively support AFRICOM's theater campaign plan. — *Photo courtesy of U.S. AFRICOM*

"Medical support is a basic need of a stable community, just like water, food and shelter," said Gillen.

While the conference was a location for representatives from different organizations to present, it was also a venue for seasoned veterans and those newer to the field to share their views

on modern medical operations.

"You have these experienced professionals who are saying 'We can't do things the old way.' I find that professionally invigorating," said U.S. Navy Lt. Raymond Posey, a medical planner and the command surgeon for U.S. Marine Forces Europe and Africa. He

was surprised by how much emphasis the senior medical providers and operations officers placed on finding new solutions to familiar issues.

"Everybody is already working toward the goal, now we can look at how we can all work toward the same goals together," he said.

Soldiers must complete school before promotion

By Todd C. Lopez
Army News Service

Soldiers will no longer be promoted without first having successfully completed related professional military education, or PME, courses, according to recently-signed Army Directive. Soldiers will need to complete their schooling before they are allowed their new stripes.

"By linking structured self-development and the NCO Education System to subsequent promotion, we better prepare NCOs [noncommissioned officers] for the complexities of today's operational environment while reinforcing the benefits of a deliberate, continuous, sequential and progressive professional development strategy," wrote Army Secretary John M. McHugh in Army Directive 2015-31, which was released Aug. 13.

Beginning with the January 2016 promotion month, pinning on the sergeant will require that Soldiers have first completed the "Basic Leader Course," which was formally known as the

"Warrior Leader Course." For Soldiers who want to pin on staff sergeant rank, they must first have completed the Advanced Leader Course.

"Soldiers on the recommended list who are not graduates of the respective course will not be considered fully qualified for promotion pin-on regardless of their accumulated promotion points," the directive reads. "These Soldiers will remain on the recommended list in a promotable status, but they will not be selected for promotion pin-on until they become fully qualified by completing the required course and a promotion requirement exists."

Soldiers expecting to pin on sergeant first class as a result of a fiscal year 2016 selection board must first complete the Senior Leader Course before pinning on their new rank.

"Conditions are set so we can enforce a standard for Soldiers to complete professional military education – that is the NCOES platform – before promotion to the grade in which it was designed to support," said Gerald J. Purcell, personnel policy integrator within the Army G-1.

Purcell said that a Soldier, who is otherwise qualified to be promoted from corporal or specialist to sergeant, will be on the promotion list. But when that Soldier's name is next to fill an Army promotion requirement, if that Soldier is found to have not completed PME – for a specialist seeking sergeant, this means Basic Leader Course – then the Soldier will be passed up for that promotion.

"There will be a filter in place that takes their name off the list of fully-qualified names," Purcell said. "They will get skipped. Even if they have more promotion points, they will not be considered fully-qualified to pin the grade of sergeant on."

The Soldier who is skipped for promotion due to a lack of PME still stays on the promotion list. But once that Soldier gets the PME, he or she doesn't automatically get stripes. Instead, the Soldier will have to wait for a future requirement.

Since the 1980s, Purcell said, the Army has allowed "conditional promotions," where Soldiers could get

their stripes without having had the corresponding professional military education.

"We had NCOs walking around who weren't school-trained, with a follow-on requirement they complete the training or they were going to be reduced," he said. "Today, the leadership believes there is a capability to provide Soldiers an opportunity to go to training, complete the training, and consequently, have all of the fundamental training in place before they are asked to perform at the next higher grade."

With the new PME requirement, a Soldier's stripes will not just be an indicator of rank or pay – it will be an indicator that the Soldier has been trained as a leader, Purcell said.

"When you see a Soldier wearing a sergeant rank, you know that Soldier is going to have been trained formally through an education system to prepare him or her and give them tools to succeed at that grade," Purcell said. "So the Soldier is going to have all the tools in their kit bag to fully succeed at their grade."

Safety Corner: Tips for driving in fog

By USAG Stuttgart Safety Office

Take particular care when driving in fog, especially at night. Fog can be patchy, going from a light mist to a thick blanket in an instant. Obviously, the faster you drive in these conditions, the less time you will have to avoid danger.

As you enter fog, check your mirrors and slow down. If the vision is 50 m and below, the speed must be reduced to 50 km/h or even more depending on the fog density. This applies also on the Autobahn.

- Use your windscreen wipers and demisters.

- Use your foot brake lightly so that your lights warn following drivers.

- Drive with low beam, high beams reflect back off the fog and actually impair visibility even more. Also use fog lights if visibility is reduced so you can be seen. Just remember, it's an offense to use high-intensity rear fog lights if visibility is greater than 50 meters. The 50 m distance can be measured by the distance between two guide posts along the roadside on roads outside built-up areas.

- Don't follow tail lights. Use the right edge of the road or painted road markings as a guide and enlarge the safety distance to the vehicle ahead. Quick braking and accelerating should be avoided.

- Listen for traffic you cannot see. Turn off the radio and open the window a little.

- If you park your car on a road, try and get your vehicle completely off the road and move away from the vehicle to avoid injury. You could be rear-ended!



Photo by Olaf Naami/Shutterstock.com

Health Beat: Stay healthy this influenza season: Get immunized



Photo by Bildagentur Zoomar GmbH/Shutterstock.com

By Tamiris Centeno, Public Health Nurse
U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart

Everyone from the age of six months and older should get an annual flu vaccine as soon as vaccines are available, with very few exceptions. Vaccination is especially important for those considered to be at a higher risk of illness, to decrease the likelihood of getting sick, or possibly developing a more serious illness.

Those considered to be "high risk" of serious flu complications include:

- Asthma patients
- Diabetics
- Heart disease patients and those who have had a stroke

- Adults 65 and older
- Pregnant women
- HIV or AIDS patients
- Cancer patients
- Children younger than five, but especially children younger than two years old.

Influenza, commonly called the "flu," is a contagious viral infection that affects the respiratory system — your nose, throat and lungs. Symptoms of the flu can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people may also experience vomiting and diarrhea. Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization, and sometimes even death.

Prevent the spread of germs

There are steps that you can take to help slow the spread of germs that cause respiratory illness, like the flu. These preventive actions are not a substitute for vaccination.

Follow these personal and community actions to help slow the spread of germs:

- Try to avoid close contact with others who are sick.

- If you or your child gets sick with a respiratory illness, like the flu, limit contact with others as much as possible to help prevent spreading the illness. Stay home (or keep your child home) for at

least 24 hours after fever is gone except to seek medical care or for other necessities. Fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. This will block the spread of droplets from your mouth or nose that could contain germs.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Reminder for Parents:

Some children six months through eight years of age need two doses of influenza vaccine. Children in this age group who are getting vaccinated for the first time, as well as some who have been vaccinated previously, will need two doses separated by at least four weeks. Your child's doctor or other health care professional can tell you whether your child needs two doses of flu vaccine.

U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart offers influenza vaccinations at schools and in U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart community locations starting in October at the following dates and times:

For more information, visit the www.cdc.gov or call the Stuttgart Health Clinic at DSN: 590-2900/civ. 06371-9464-2900.

School Schedule

- Oct. 19, 8 a.m. to noon**
at Robinson Barracks Elementary
- Oct. 26, 8 a.m. to noon**
at Robinson Barracks Elementary
- Oct. 27-28, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
at Patch Elementary
- Nov. 2-3, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
at Stuttgart Elementary (Panzer Kaserne)
- Nov. 4-5, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
at Stuttgart Middle (Panzer Kaserne)
- Nov. 17-19, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
at Stuttgart High (Panzer Kaserne)

Community Schedule

- Nov. 9, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
at Kelley Gym
- Nov. 16, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
at Panzer Exchange
- Nov. 23, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
at Patch Fitness Center
- Nov. 24, 9 a.m. to noon**
at Robinson Barracks Brewed Awakenings
- Nov. 30, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
at Panzer Exchange

What's happening in FMWR

BUILD AN ECO-FRIENDLY CAR

Kids learn how cars work, how they are made and how to build a car of the future from Oct. 6 – March 4 (Tues. & Thurs. 3:30-5:30 p.m.) at the Robinson Barracks Youth Center. Are you in grades 6 – 12 and interested in building a cool car? Sign up for “RB on Wheels: Building an Eco-Friendly Car” and be a part of a team that will engineer an eco-friendly car that will be on display. Register by Oct. 5. For more information, call DSN: 420-7189/civ. 0711-819-7189.

BIKE BERLIN AND VISIT A TROPICAL ISLAND

Enjoy two exciting trips wrapped in one with Outdoor Recreation located on Panzer Kaserne from Oct. 9 – 12. Trip includes round trip train transportation, three nights lodging, city bike tour, entrance to Tropical Island, breakfast buffet and guide. Trip departs at 8:15. Register by October 5. For more information, call 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

CUPCAKES 4 CHANGE

In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Family Advocacy Program are hosting a cupcake decorating contest on Oct. 14 at Army Community Service, Panzer Kaserne. The cupcake drop-off is from 10 – 11 a.m. Judging will

take place 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Cupcakes must be decorated by parents and children together to qualify for prizes. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Call to register at DSN: 431-3518/civ. 07031-15-3518.

“AND THEN THERE WERE NONE”

Get your tickets for the superlative mystery comedy on Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 25, Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. at the Stuttgart Theater Center, Kelley Barracks. Tickets \$15 for adults, \$13 for children. Minimum age to attend any performance is 5 years. Call and reserve tickets at DSN: 421-3055/civ. 0711-729-3055.

FALL FESTIVAL

Child Youth Services is helping the community enjoy the beauty of the fall on Oct. 17 from 4 – 8 p.m. at the Kelley School Age Center. Families are encouraged to dress up in their fall gear and enjoy a night with CYS Services. Enjoy face painting, a haunted walk through the woods, fun fall games and prizes! Food will be provided by private organizations for a fee. For more information, call 421-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

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

COMING TO PATCH THEATER

- Thu Oct 1 – Everest in 3D (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- Fri Oct 2 – Everest (PG-13) 6 p.m.
The Martian (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- Sat Oct 3 – Hotel Transylvania in 3D (PG) 3 p.m.
The Martian (PG-13) 6 p.m.
Everest in 3D (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- Sun Oct 4 – Hotel Transylvania (PG) 4 p.m.
The Martian (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Mon Oct 5 – Closed
- Tue Oct 6 – Closed
- Wed Oct 7 – Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- Thu Oct 8 – Everest in 3D (PG-13) 6 p.m.
- Fri Oct 9 – Pan in 3D (PG) 6 p.m.
We Are Your Friends (R) 9 p.m.
- Sat Oct 10 – Pan in 3D (PG) 3 p.m.
Southpaw (R) 6 p.m.
Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials (PG-13) 9 p.m.
- Sun Oct 11 – Pan (PG) 4 p.m.
Pan in 3D (PG) 7 p.m.
- Mon Oct 12 – Closed
- Tue Oct 13 – Closed
- Wed Oct 14 – We Are Your Friends (R) 6 p.m.

Editor's note: The movies listing was the most current at the time of publication. Dates are subject to change. Please check with your local theater for the most up-to-date schedule.



© 2015 - 20th Century Fox / Photo courtesy of Movieweb.com

“The Martian” is based on a best-selling novel, and helmed by master director Ridley Scott. During a manned mission to Mars, Astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) is presumed dead after a fierce storm and left behind by his crew. But Watney has survived and finds himself stranded and alone on the hostile planet. With only meager supplies, he must draw upon his ingenuity, wit and spirit to subsist and find a way to signal to Earth that he is alive.

Family and MWR Advertisement

stuttgart.armymwr.com



FAMILY GOLF

FAMILY GOLF SPECIAL
Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2 - 5 p.m.
Stuttgart Golf Course, Kornwestheim

Introduce the game of golf to your family with a quick lesson. Program includes green fees for 9-holes, clubs, balls, and 15-30 minutes of instruction by a PGA professional. Program designed for two adults and two dependents (one adult and three dependents possible, if dependent has a driver's license). \$20 per adult, \$5 per child (under 17).

CIV 07141-879151



BOWLING TOURNAMENT

MATCH PLAY SCRATCH TOURNAMENT
Oct. 10, 12:30 p.m.
Galaxy Bowling Center, Panzer Kaserne

Come join us for an exciting bowling competition! Both men and women may compete. Ladies receive a 8 pin handicap. Must be 18 years or older to participate. \$500 in Exchange gift certificates will be awarded to winners. Sign-up the day of the tournament starting at 11:30 a.m. Registration fee is \$75 per person.

DSN 431-2575/CIV 07031-15-2575



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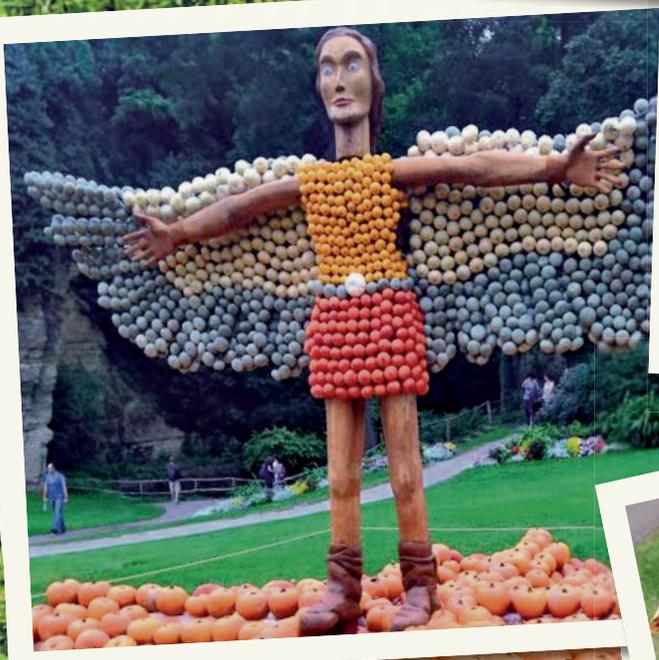
Register your child (ages 2 - 17) to learn how to dance, sing and perform in front of a live audience. Students will dance and sing in the creative magical performance of “Alice in Wonderland” in June. Classes are held on Patch Barracks and Panzer Kaserne. Participants must register with Parent Central Services.

DSN 430-7480/CIV 0711-680-7480

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



Pumpkins “



By Carola Meusel
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office
Photos by Dorothy Armstrong

Most Americans are familiar with the “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown,” a TV classic based on the comic strip “Peanuts” by Charles Schulz. Every year, the character Linus faithfully sits in the pumpkin patch waiting for the Great Pumpkin to appear. Every year, he’s let down.

If you’re like Linus and have a

passion for pumpkins, you won’t be disappointed at the “Kürbisausstellung,” or pumpkin festival in Ludwigsburg, where some of the biggest pumpkins in Europe are on display.

With different themes every year, visitors can experience something new whenever they visit the pumpkin festival, according to Miriam Schreier, spokeswoman of the Kürbisausstellung Ludwigsburg.

“Besides the ever-changing themes, we also aim to have new pumpkin

varieties on display and present visitors with unique pumpkin meals, such as pumpkin “Flammkuchen.” There’s always a reason to come back,” Schreier said.

This year, the exhibition’s motto is “Pumpkins Taking Flight!” The festival runs through Nov. 8 at the Blühende Barock (garden area at the Ludwigsburg Castle) in Ludwigsburg and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

More than 150 tons of pumpkins and over 500 different varieties from all over

the world, ranging from edible to decorative, are featured throughout the event.

Besides pumpkin displays of all sizes, colors and forms, the festival offers patrons the chance to indulge in various pumpkin-inspired foods and drinks ranging from pumpkin soup, risotto and pasta to pumpkin “Maultaschen” (Swabian stuffed noodles), burgers, strudel, candy and sparkling wine, punch and refreshing “Kürbisschorle,” consisting of pumpkin juice and sparkling water. Visitors can also find pumpkin

Take Flight”



Stuttgart military community member Dorothy Armstrong with her daughters Adelyn and August, enjoyed a day of pumpkin-themed fun at the 2015 Ludwigsburg Pumpkin Festival.

seeds, oil, jam, liquor, chutney and herbs, as well as interior decorations at many “Kürbisshops” (pumpkin stores) throughout the fest grounds.
“During the pumpkin festival, visitors can experience statues made of pumpkins, but can also be creative and participate in various hands-on activities or be inspired on how to decorate their homes with pumpkins,” Schreier said.
Special events coming up at the festival include the European championship for the heaviest pumpkin, held Oct.

11 at 1:30 p.m. Later in the month, a Halloween pumpkin carving session is scheduled Oct. 24 at 10 a.m.
The popular U.S. pumpkin carver, Ray Villafane, along with his team, sculpted pumpkin carvings, which are currently on display, of the “Hubbard Family/ Hubbard World Part II” (Hubbard pumpkins are one of the many varieties on exhibit at the fest). With the various pumpkin sculptures, Villafane aimed to visualize the history of the Hubbard squash.

“Overall, the festival offers something for everybody’s taste,” Schreier said.
The Blühende Barock/Ludwigsburg Castle is located at Mömpelgardstrasse 28, 71640 Ludwigsburg.
Tickets cost €8.50 for adults and €4.20 for children 15 years old and younger. Family tickets (two adults and two children 15 years old and younger) will cost €23.
The pumpkin exhibition is not illuminated, so visiting after dark is not recommended. Dogs are generally

allowed – please read the specific park regulations on the Blühendes Barock website.
For those wishing to visit the castle, there is an English-guided tour Monday through Friday at 1:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, and on German holidays, at 1:15 p.m. For details and ticket cost, call civ. 07141-1820-04.
For more information about the pumpkin festival and the program, visit www.kuerbisausstellung-ludwigsburg.de.

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Have fun with the locals



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Haller Herbst Fri, Oct 9 – Sun, Oct 11 Schwäbisch Hall, city center

Enjoy the annual fall festival "Haller Herbst" in Schwäbisch Hall's city center starting at 5 p.m. on October 9 with the opening of the traditional wine village in the Hospitalhof. Numerous activities such as live music, activities for children and a huge variety of culinary delights offered by local restaurants will attract all visitors. The festival will end with a shopping day on Sunday. For more info visit www.schwaebischhall.de

EVENTS

Kastanienbeutelfest

**Sat, Oct 3 – Sun, Oct 4
Ludwigsburg, city center**

The city of Ludwigsburg invites you to join the Kastanienbeutelfest (chestnut bag festival) on October 3 and 4. At 11 a.m., the city center will turn into a car-free zone with various stands presenting arts and seasonal specialties. You can discover the latest fashion trends for the coming winter in all shops located in the city center. Of course all restaurants guarantee a great range of local food served in a cozy atmosphere and if that still doesn't satisfy you why not head over to the shops as they will be open on Sunday.

For more info visit www.ludwigsburg.de

Wine festival

**Now – Sun, Oct 4
Göppingen, Marktplatz**

Join the Wein Festival (wine festival) in Goeppingen at the Marktplatz, now until October 4. There will be a great selection of wine from almost all European countries. A very diverse selection of food, from Maultaschen topped with grilled pork or onion tart to a classic cheese platter will be offered. Those who enjoy Swabian specialties as well as Italian cuisine won't be disappointed.

For more info see www.goepfinger-city.de

Marzipan and chocolate tour

**Tue, Oct 6
Bad Liebenzell**

Calling all chocolate and marzipan lovers.

Come to Bad Liebenzell on October 6 and enjoy a tour through the museum and get to know the process of transforming the raw material into cool marzipan figures. Taste various bits. Price per person is €2.50 and starts at 1:30 p.m. The tour is about 30 – 60 min long.

For more information visit www.liebenzeller-msm.de

Waiblingen aglow

**Fri, Oct 9
Waiblingen, city center**

Enjoy different light shows from 7 p.m. till 11 p.m. in the city center of Waiblingen on October 9. This cultural event brings a lot of diversity. Well-known artists, dancers and musicians from all over Germany will be performing and the shops will also be open until 11 p.m.

For more information see www.waiblingen.de

Pumpkin night

**Sat, Oct 10
Waldenbuch, city center**

Visit the specially illuminated city center of Waldenbuch at the "Lange Kürbisnacht" (long pumpkin night) on October 10, starting at 3 p.m. with a children's program. During the event a carving competition, a flea market and a lantern parade will take place.

For more info see www.ghv-waldenbuch.de

Segway tour through the vineyards

**Sat, Oct 10
Stuttgart, city center**

What better way to see the vineyards

than riding on a Segway. Glide up through Stuttgart's most beautiful scenic look-outs. At the end of the tour you will get to do a bit of wine tasting. The whole tour will include a drink, admission for the Stuttgart Museum of Viniculture and wine tasting. The tour will start at 13:30 and will go until 15:00. Price is €75.

For more information go to www.stuttgart-tourist.de

Street Food Festival

**Sat, Oct 10 – Sun, Oct 11
Karlsruhe, city center**

Food! Just the word food alone can make one happy. The Street Food Festival in Karlsruhe offers just that from October 10 to 11. The best part of it all is that you can try out all different types of food from different cultures that are made while you wait. This event is for young and old. Enjoy live music and the atmosphere around you with other food lovers just like you. Come anywhere between noon and 10 p.m. to enjoy this event and to find out more check out www.street-food-festival.de

CONCERTS

Diana Krall

**Wed, Oct 7
Stuttgart, Kultur und Kongresszentrum Liederhalle**

Diana Krall is the single most successful jazz singer in the world and October 7 is your chance to hear her wonderful voice live. After more than 30 years in the business and nine gold, three platinum and sev-

en multiplatinum albums, she will present her newest piece of art as well as covers of timeless classics at the Kultur und Kongresszentrum in Stuttgart from 8 p.m. Visit www.stuttgart.de for more info and order your ticket from €47.55.

Mötley Crue & Alice Cooper

**Sun, Nov 8
Stuttgart, Hanns-Martin-Scheyer Halle**
Mötley Crue is an American glam-metal band that was formed in Los Angeles in 1980. Alice Cooper is also an American rock musician. See these two rock / metal performers join together on November 8 in Stuttgart. Get your tickets fast as these metal heads know how to rock a party and tickets sell fast. Event starts at 7 p.m. Ticket price starts at €85.48.

For more ticket information go to www.eventim.de

SPORTS

24-hour swimming

**Sat, Oct 24
Waldenbuch, Hallenbad**
The DLRG (German Life Saving Association) Waldenbuch-Steinenbronn is organizing the 8th 24-hour swimming event at the Hallenbad (indoor swimming pool) in Waldenbuch on October 24 starting at 11 a.m. The swimmers will be divided into five different competing groups. The groups will be divided by age, and male/female groups. Participation fees are between €5 and €8.

For more info and registration see www.waldenbuch.dlrg.de

More events on: www.MilitaryInGermany.com

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Ford Scorpio, 1998, 4 door automatic, \$ 1300., ddundkk@hotmail.de, elec locks, windows, KMS 130,000, power steering, ABS, air bags, air cond

Ford Focus SE Sedan, 2012, US Spec. Dealer Maintained. Extended warranties included. 2.0 Lt 4 cylinder Engine. Automatic 6 Speed Powershift. CD Player/MP3/AUX Audio input jack. My Ford & Sync Package/Sync Voice Activated. Power window. A/C. Comes with 4 winter tires. More photos upon request. 53,000 Miles. \$11,500 or negotiable. Mobile 0163 142 8997 or 0163 304 4113.

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2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee "Laredo" 4X4 SUV, \$23,995, US Spec, Automatic, Leather, Cruise Control, Power Seats, Alloy, All Wheel Drive, Perfect Condition, Call: 0176 22730967, Email: info@europeanmotors.org, Web: <http://www.europeanmotors.org>

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2014 Ford Explorer Sport 4WD, \$38,700, 017680420465, dcsrchester@yahoo.com, 16,750 miles, Manufacturer Warranty, No smoking or pets, Fully Loaded, Leather Interior, Navigation, Dual Moonroof, Rear Camera & Sensor, Remote Start, Heat & Cool Seats & more

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Honda 2001, silver met, ABS, 5 speed, and we deliver anywhere and my ph is 0175-3213199, \$1500, ddundkk@hotmail.de

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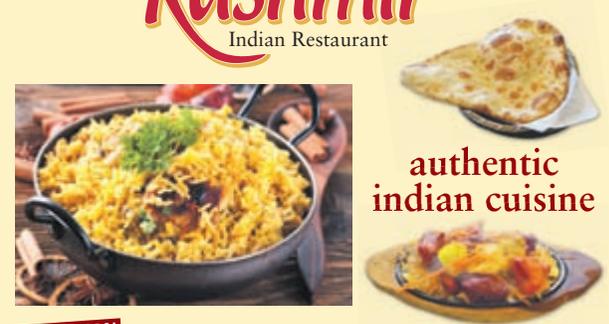
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Handbag "Esprit brand": Small bad, black leather, ideal if you only need to carry few things around with you like purse, cell phone etc., €5, pics on class-world.com, copongracz@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

New Set of 4 Tires, \$700/OBO, kgspang@hotmail.com, Michelin LTX M/S P255/65R17 108T, Purchased/Shipped the Wrong Size Tires so looking to sell locally vice shipping back. Valued over \$900 for the set, not counting shipping costs.

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

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

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

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

Small grey felt shoulder bag with mushroom design, perfect gift, €20 jenniferwilking@hotmail.com

Striped hand-made felt shoulder bag, large, trend colors, perfect gift, €30, for pics see class-world.com jenniferwilking@hotmail.com

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

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

Wedding dress, €150 OBO, worn once, still happy, email me for more info: jennifer_tubler@yahoo.com

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

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

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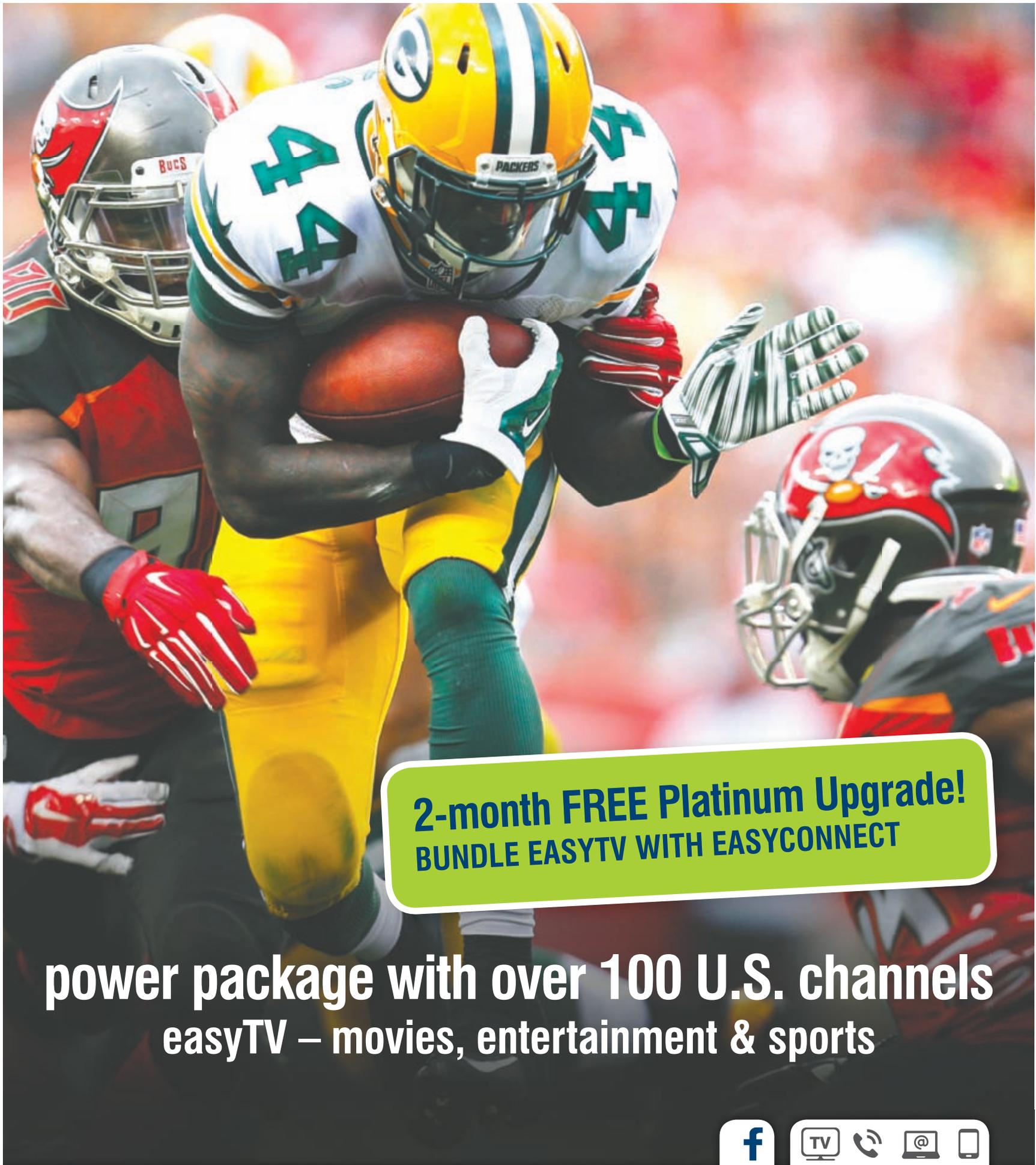
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