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HeraldPOST

Serving the communities in U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg

HP THURSDAY July 21, 2011

Internet, telephone bill get tax break Aug. 1

IMCOM-E Public Affairs

Installation Management Command Europe officials announced Monday that eligible U.S. Forces Telepost Kabel-Service customers will be able to use Value Added Tax forms for their landline telephone and Internet service beginning Aug. 1.

All U.S. DoD personnel or ID card holders that normally qualify for German VAT exemption will now also be able to save 19 percent on their monthly TKS bills.

The authorization to use VAT forms applies only to existing and new TKS services that run on a month-to-month basis. Contracts with a minimum duration of one or two years do not qualify.

"Using VAT forms for subscription types of services such as utilities and telephone service has not been possible in the past, at least in part because VAT forms are not authorized in

see **VAT** page 12

Elizabeth Casebeer

Sgt. Jaret Smith, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers president, strains against an 800-kilogram hay wagon during Eppelheim's City Fest Saturday. Smith and four BOSS volunteers represented the garrison throughout the 800-meter course.

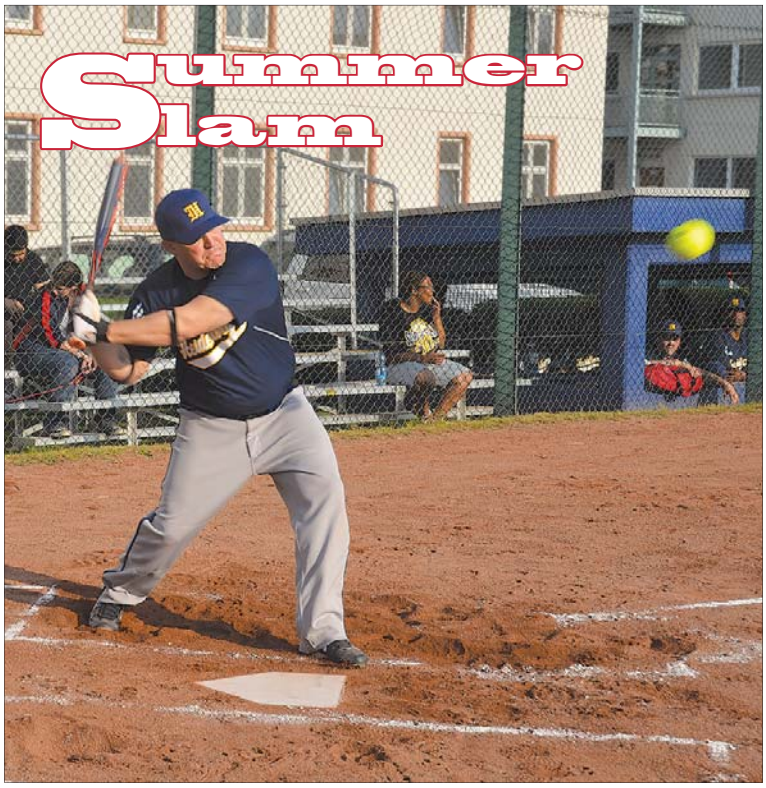
BOSS Soldiers push hay wagon in local contest

Elizabeth Casebeer
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Volunteers from U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers tested their brute strength by pushing and pulling an 800-kilogram hay wagon at the Eppelheim City Fest Saturday.

Hundreds of area residents, garrison commander Col. Bryan DeCoster, Command Sgt. Maj. Annette Weber and family members cheered as Spc. Justin Francis, Heidelberg Medical Department Activity, Spc. Brodrick Mungo, Europe Region Medical Command, Spc. Rodney Bicknell,

see **HAY** page 12



Dijon Rolle

Heidelberg men's softball player Rodger Brown takes a healthy swing at a pitch during a game against Kaiserslautern on Patton Barracks during the 20th annual Summer Slam sport's event in Heidelberg. Kaiserslautern defeated the team 13-12 in the opening game Friday. Summer Slam results are on page 17.

Competition fierce in annual Heidelberg sports event

By Dijon Rolle
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sports teams and spectators from just about every corner of Europe came to try their hand at a little healthy competition courtesy of the 20th annual Summer Slam event in Heidelberg. The annual three-day event featured some of Europe's best athletes vying for victory in the basketball, volleyball, racquetball and softball arenas.

The event organized by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation kicked off Friday evening at the Patton Barrack's fitness center where U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg commander, Col. Bryan

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Speed Read

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CASUALTY ASSISTANCE
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BICYCLING IN GERMANY
An increasing number of accidents and complaints have prompted Heidelberg police to announce a crackdown on reckless bicycle riders. 8

BAGPIPING SOLDIER

A bagpiper for 18 years, a 24th Military Intelligence Battalion Soldier readies for competition in Glasgow, Scotland Aug. 13. 11

STUDENT PRINCE

The Student Prince will be performed for the last time 8:30 p.m. tomorrow, July 30 and 31 in the Heidelberg Castle courtyard. 13

Defense Details

ISAF COMMANDER
Marine Corps Gen. John R. Allen assumed command of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force and U.S. forces in Afghanistan in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday. Allen succeeds Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, who will retire from the Army this summer and will then serve as CIA director.

EXERCISE MEDFLAG 11
MEDFLAG 11, a bilateral exercise sponsored by U.S. Army Africa, finished the first of two stages in Accra, Ghana, Friday. The first five-day portion strengthened the relationship between the U.S. and Ghana through sharing medical expertise to improve medical treatment in their home countries. The second half of the exercise includes hands-on application of skills learned in the classroom.

www.defense.gov

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COMMENTARY

New commander puts people, communication first

By Col. Bryan DeCoster
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG COMMANDER

On July 10, I was watching the United States women's soccer team pull off a stunning defeat over the Brazilian team despite being down 2-1 very late in the second overtime period.

As I watched the game unfold, it became apparent that the German crowd was rooting for the U.S. team.

I believe the host nation's support for our women helped them clinch the victory.

Just like this outpouring of support for the U.S. women's soccer team, my experience during seven years in Germany and again at the change of command ceremony is one of staunch support from our host nation communities.

I feel very fortunate and humbled to be serving once again in U.S. Army Europe where there is such a positive bond between the U.S. military and its host nation communities.

As these are my first weeks in command, I want to take the opportunity to introduce myself and my family and to provide some initial thoughts.

I am a graduate of West Point and a die-hard fan of the Army team regardless of the sport or event. I've served nearly my entire 24-year career in military intelligence positions and commanded MI units at the platoon, company and battalion level.

Seven years of my career have been in Germany serving in Munich, Darmstadt, and Wiesbaden.

Cathy and I have been married for 21 years and have three wonderful children. Cathy is a school teacher, stellar mom and a big fan of wine festivals and Polish pottery excursions.

My oldest son Kevin will be starting his freshman year at George Mason University this fall but is very much looking forward to coming back to Germany for Christmas markets and summer traveling.

My daughter Jamie will be in sixth grade, loves playing basketball and is excited at the opportunity to make new friends and hit the water slides at Miramar.

My youngest son Matthew will be in second grade and wants to see the Krankenhaus in Darmstadt where he was born during our second tour to Germany.

We also have a 12-year old chocolate Labrador retriever whose mind is much more willing to Volksmarch than her body.

I began my military career as a platoon leader in Munich in 1988. Cathy and I developed a love of Bavaria and hated to leave as Munich transformed and began closure actions in 1991.

During this first assignment, I learned many key lessons from some great leaders. I would like to share two of these lessons with you as I believe they are relevant to the Baden-Württemberg community.

> I believe it's extremely important during these times to transform in an expeditious but orderly manner while also being good stewards of our nation's resources.

First, the Army continuously transforms often resulting in the deactivation, movement or closure of units and communities that we have grown to love. I believe it's extremely important during these times to transform in an expeditious but orderly manner while also being good stewards of our nation's resources.

I will do my best to communicate in many forums like the Herald Post, BWnow and town hall meetings to provide as much predictability and consistency to our communities as possible.

Second, people are the most important component of the Army.

Soldiers, civilians and families in the Army are truly selfless and continuously impress me with what they accomplish both on and off duty.

In my first week here, I am already impressed with the people of the Heidelberg, Mannheim and Kaiserslautern Army communities.

I want to encourage you to provide feedback to me and my garrison staff both positive and negative.

It is just as important to know what we are doing well as what we need to improve so we can capture best practices for our communities.

I am dedicated to listening and responding to your feedback in order to provide community services in a fair and consistent manner during this time of diminishing resources.

As I close, I would like to thank the outgoing commander, Col. Bill Butcher and his wife Sandra for their leadership, professionalism and caring that is clearly reflected throughout this community. I know I speak for all of you in wishing them the very best in the future. I look forward to continuing their spirit of selfless service and support to the members of our exceptional communities.

While there will be challenges ahead, you can be assured that we will effectively balance the demands of transformation with the needs of our Soldiers, civilians and families in Heidelberg, Mannheim and Kaiserslautern. My family and I look forward to making this my and your "home away from home."

DISCUSSION BOARD

Find out what your garrison commanders and members of your community are saying in the BWnow virtual community

www.facebook.com/BWnow
http://myBWnow.ning.com

"We are new here just moved from Texas we have three daughters two of which play competitive soccer. We are trying to find a German club for our girls to play on. Base club is an option but we heard more competitive play is in german clubs. Any suggestions or point of contacts thanks so much!"
–Amanda Ebner, BWnow Facebook fan

"Hi Amanda, here is a link to the U.S. Youth Soccer Association Region I Europe: *http://usysa.goalline.ca/index.php.*"
–BWnow Facebook Administrator

"... We live on post on BFV still and the playground outside our housing between 694 and 695 is atrocious. Children have been pulling items from the bulk pick up onto the playground and from basement storage and leaving it on the playground ... Who do we contact to get this issue resolved ..."
–Mandy Boyles, BWnow Facebook fan

"Mandy, have you contacted your building coordinator or housing mayor yet to discuss the issue ... If you still don't have any luck, try contacting Base Operations at civ. 0621-730-1510. Bldg. 245 on Sullivan."
–BWnow Facebook Administrator

HP

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Submissions are welcome, including letters to the editor, but we reserve the right to edit for style, space, libel, clarity, security and good taste. To be considered for publication in a particular issue, they must be in our hands by noon the preceding Thursday.

Soldiers prepare to make final act for fallen comrades

By Dijon Rolle
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

There wasn't much chatter amongst the group of Soldiers who gathered together in an upstairs classroom in Heidelberg's Community Support Center July 13.

In fact it was eerily quiet minus the soft hum of a nearby air conditioning unit.

In the rear of the room Alex Torres, Casualty and Memorial Affairs Specialist, scanned the rows of chairs full of the latest crop of senior non-commissioned, commissioned and warrant officers all here to learn how to successfully perform a difficult yet highly delicate mission.

During the casualty notification and assistance class, students are trained on how to give official notifications to the family members of Soldiers killed downrange or within the garrison.

Through videos, interactive discussions and study materials, they also learn how to help families navigate through the sometimes overwhelming maze of military benefits, entitlements and funeral arrangements after the death of their loved ones.

"I think that a lot of people get the wrong idea about the program," Torres said. "Nobody wants to be the bearer of bad news but I always tell the Soldiers that come in hesitant about it, 'It could be you and what kind of person would you want assisting your family?"

For some students, like Chief Warrant Officer 2 Dickens Precil, 212th Combat Support Hospital, the training made an impact early on.

Dijon Rolle

Capt. Samuel Ochinang watches a segment from a training video during the Casualty Notification and Assistance class on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg July 13.The class is designed to train senior noncommissioned and commissioned officers on how to notify and assist the families of Soldiers killed in combat and within the garrison.

"It actually ... opened your eyes about the casualties that we have out there and unless you know someone close to you who has been affected, you don't really think about it. When it's coming close to you, it kind of gives you a pause," Precil said.

This is Precil's first time ever taking the class, while others like Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Hedges, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Emergency Operations Center NCOIC, are back for a bit of refresher training.

"This is important so that we can continue to support the family even if the servicemember is no longer with us. We as the Army still owe that to the family members for the service that their loved ones provided," Hedges said.

"To me I think it's an honor to do it, because I think the family of the servicemembers deserve that and when that happens to me in the future I would want the same for my family," he said.

The class also trains students on how to handle the emotional toll their mission can take on their own lives. Since he became certified, Hedges said, he provided casualty assistance, but not notification, to the wife of a retiree who passed away here.

> "The feelings you get when you are there ... you still get these feelings almost like butterflies in your stomach realizing that this person just lost their loved one. It's getting over that initial part when you knock on the door."
>
> –Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Hedges, USAG Baden-Württemberg Emergency Operations Center

"The feelings you get when you are there ... you still get these feelings almost like butterflies in your stomach realizing that this person just lost their loved one. It's getting over that initial part when you knock on the door," Hedges said.

After the initial notification, a casualty assistance officer or noncommissioned officer will assist the family before, during and after the funeral and remain with them as long as needed.

"We do not want them to think that once the Soldier is killed, that's it. We want them to know that they are still a part of the Army family, until they decide not to be," Torres said.

"It's important for Soldiers to take care of their own. Whether you knew them or not it's important to take care of that family, to help give them some sort of peace because there are a million things that go on behind the scenes. So we put that Soldier there to give them some sort of comfort and to help them through the process," Torres said.

And the process appears to be a personal one for Torres, who served four years in the Marines before transitioning to civilian service.

"The main reason why I love this job is because when my Marines, my brothers, were killed, I couldn't really do anything. But now you know what you can do and it's kind of a way to pay back. I love this job and it's because of that that I do this now," Torres said.

Once certified, the students are trained to assist active-duty Soldiers, retirees and Department of the Army civilians.

The classes are usually taught once a quarter and slots are open to enlisted servicemembers in the pay grade of E-7 and above, commissioned officers captain and above, chief warrant officers 2 and above, Department of the Army civilians GS-9 and above and nonappropriated fund employees of any rank.

For information on becoming a casualty assistance officer or noncommissioned officer call DSN 370-8392, civ. 0162-2969201 or visit *www.hrc.army.mil* and click on programs and the link for the Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center.

Courtesy photo

For the BOSS

German Soldier and artist David Sohl, right, presents Heidelberg BOSS President Sgt.Jaret Smith with a painting he created to give to the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg last month. Sohl, actively engaged with the BOSS program, is a Heidelberg native who has had several exhibitions showcasing his art. He currently has an exhibition running through Aug. 26 at Universitäts-Frauenklinik in Heidelberg. He is scheduled to be the first German national to have an exhibition at the Arts and Cultural Center on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg. The opening is scheduled for Nov. 5.

In Memoriam
Horst Rinke

Horst Rinke, a longtime employee of U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern, passed away the afternoon of July 7 at a hospital in Rockenhausen. Rinke, 63, known as "Shorty" to friends and colleagues, began working with the Army in 1966 as a wrecker operator. He later drove buses, tractor trailers, forklifts and other vehicles in support of garrison missions. He is survived by his wife Christel, a son and a daughter and a grandchild. A funeral service is planned for 2:30 p.m. Saturday, July 23 at the cemetery in Imsweiler.

In Memoriam
Robert T. Steese Jr.

Retired Master Sgt. Robert T. Steese Jr., 84, passed away July 13 in Neckarsulm. Steese was born May 19, 1927, in Philadelphia. He was a loving husband, a good hearted father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and father-in-law. He is survived by his wife Else Steese, son Peter (Cheryl) Steese, niece Jessica Steese (Michael Mayer), niece Angela Trui (Markus) and grandchildren Cameron, Julia, Georgia and Isabella. The funeral service was held Tuesday at the Bad Wimpfen/Berg cemetery.

transformation UPDATE

Frequently Asked Questions

Have a transformation-related question you'd like answered?
E-mail *usaghd.post@eur.army.mil*. We'll find the answer for you and share it in the Herald Post and on the garrison's transformation Web page at *www.bw.eur.army.mil/transformation*.

We have a question and hopefully it can be answered. I read about the base starting to close between 2011-2015. Why did we get orders to go there if they are just going to move us?
Yes, our community is indeed undergoing transformation and is scheduled to close between 2011-2015. That is a fact and that could very possibly mean another move for you and your family, depending on your unit and where exactly you will be stationed. We recommend you contact your unit sponsor or first sergeant to find out the unit transformation plans and how that impacts you and your family. The transformation is being conducted in phases and each case may be different. However, the command is committed to doing its best to take care of people during the transformation while simultaneously proceeding expeditiously to accomplish the mission.

When are Patrick Henry Village and the PHV Shoppette closing? I've heard 2012, 2013 and 2015. Which date is actual?
The plan is for PHV and PHV Shoppette to close in late 2014. However, residents are asked to keep in mind that while this is the plan, a lot can change in the three years which could affect the closure date.

Some say that all those reasons for the (Heidelberg to Wiesbaden) move that were there in 2003 are no longer valid. Why has it not been reversed?
As we move forward with the requirements of Round 56 announced in July 2010, many people question the reasoning behind them. Whatever the "going explanation," it is left to the garrison to execute the mission with integrity and professionalism. The response to why the move is happening is that consolidating the headquarters in Wiesbaden will optimize command and control, intelligence and signal capabilities; provide a more responsive organizational structure; offer better force protection options than at the current location in Heidelberg; and provide access to a nearby Army airfield. In terms of cost savings, the Department of Defense's planning for consolidation of U.S. Army Europe headquarters with its military intelligence and signal assets at Wiesbaden goes back to 2003-04. DOD's review in summer 2009 made a valid operational and business case to continue consolidation in Wiesbaden with estimated net annual recurring savings of $112 million. Savings will be achieved by about 2016. The 2009 review also found that initial savings estimates were high, but using DOD Base Realignment and Closure rules including adding the cost of moving 1AD headquarters to Fort Bliss, results indicate a lower, but still positive, net savings. The review concluded that closing three communities and consolidating onto one site will mean major savings resulting from fewer gates, more efficient schools, lower operating costs and decreased support personnel.

I keep hearing different dates for when Tompkins Barracks is scheduled to close – 2015 was put out last year when base closures were announced, but now I have heard 2012. Can you shed some light on this for me?
Tompkins Barracks will close no later than November 2012. Prior to that time, closures of facilities will take place. Nearby Kilbourne Barracks is scheduled to be vacated by December.

Facilities Operations Changes

New – Spinelli Auto Skills – Effective Aug. 1, Spinelli Auto Skills will have new hours of operation. It will be closed Mondays, Sundays and U.S. holidays and open 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and training holidays. DSN 373-5196, civ. 06221-17-5196.

Security Office – The Security office for USAG-Baden Württemberg has moved to Bldg. 110, Room 104, on Patton Barracks.

Mannheim Middle School – Mannheim seventh and eighth grade students will attend Heidelberg Middle School on Patrick Henry Village next school year which begins Aug. 29. Sixth grade students either will attend school in Mannheim at the elementary building in a self-contained fifth/sixth grade classroom or go to Heidelberg Middle School. DODDS-E has been watching enrollments and noted a steady decline in registered students and it became clear the best possible educational program for these students would be at Heidelberg Middle School. The middle school is a 25-minute bus ride from Mannheim. A separate bus will take high school students to Mark Twain Village to attend Heidelberg High School.

Video Blog

See Heidelberg District Superintendent Frank Roehl discuss the Mannheim Middle School change on the BWnow command video blog at *www.youtube.com/BWnow.*

Mannheim TMP – Due to customer demand the Mannheim Transportation Motor Pool is now open 8 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Customers can also use the Heidelberg Transportation Motor Pool, open 7:30 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Both offices are closed on American and German holidays. Mannheim TMP is located in Bldg. 1563 on Spinelli Barracks in Mannheim. DSN 384-6353, civ. 0621-730-6353. Heidelberg TMP is located in Bldg. 157 on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. DSN 373-8350, civ. 06221-17-8350.

Patrick Henry Village Commissary Gate – The gate near the commissary on Patrick Henry Village has reduced hours due to a reduction in the number of guards. New hours are 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Heidelberg Barber Shops – Hours of operation at Tompkins and Patton Barracks Barber Shops have changed. Services are now offered at the Patton Barber Shop in Heidelberg 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The Tompkins shop in Schwetzingen serves customers 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Army Emergency Relief – The Army Emergency Relief office in Mannheim now processes requests for emergency travel only. All other AER requests are processed at Army Community Service in Heidelberg on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, Room 250. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6975. American Red Cross after hours service for emergency travel in Heidelberg: DSN 370-1760, civ. 06221-57-1760 and civ. 001-877-272-7337.

Mannheim Red Cross – The Red Cross office in Mannheim is now closed and all services have transferred to the Heidelberg station, Bldg. 3850, on the Shopping Center. In cases of a family emergency when a communication message is needed, the Heidelberg number will reach an emergency caseworker. The Heidelberg Station is open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 370-1760, civ. 06221-57-1760.

Vehicle Registration and Inspection – Heidelberg's vehicle registration office is closed. Heidelberg offers a satellite vehicle registration office at the Military Police station on Patrick Henry Village, Bldg. 4511. This office is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. to provide limited services. Civ. 06221-678-2586. The Mannheim vehicle registration office on Spinelli Barracks, in Bldg. 1567 directly next to vehicle inspection, has extended its hours to serve customers 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. in issuing license plates and registrations for the Mannheim and Heidelberg communities. Please bring checks or money orders for transactions at vehicle registration. Cost is $30 per year per transaction. A consolidated vehicle inspection station for the Heidelberg and Mannheim communities is available on Spinelli Barracks in Mannheim. Telephone numbers are: vehicle registration manager DSN 384-6100, civ. 0621-730-6100; support DSN 384-6911, civ. 0621-17-6911; fax for vehicle registration DSN 384-6127, civ. 0621-730-6127; vehicle inspection DSN 384-6120, civ. 0621-730-6120. GPS: Am Aubuckel, 68259 Feudenheim.

Video Blog

See Director of Emergency Services Melvin Jones discuss vehicle registration on the BWnow command video blog at *www.youtube.com/BWnow.*

Mannheim Base Operations – With the deactivation of Mannheim there are two names for community members to keep in mind – Ralph Santaliz, Base Operations Manager, and Master Sgt. Romeo Satsatin, Base Operations NCOIC. They are located in Bldg. 245 on Sullivan Barracks and are ready to assist the Mannheim community. DSN 385-1500, civ. 0621-730-1510, *rafael.santaliz@eur.army.mil*, *romeo.satsatin@eur.army.mil.*

Mannheim DEERS, ID Cards, Passports – The DEERS, ID cards and passports offices have relocated to Bldg. 246, room 101 on Benjamin Franklin Village.

Mannheim Personal Property Processing - The Mannheim Personal Property Processing office, also known as the transportation office, is closed. Mannheim customers now use the Heidelberg Personal Property Processing Office on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, Room 267. The hours for the Heidelberg PPPO have changed to 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Thursday. The office is closed daily 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. daily and on American holidays.

Subway – The Subway restaurant on Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim has closed and reopened on the Shopping Center in Heidelberg.

Burger King – Burger King on the Shopping Center in Heidelberg has closed.

Popeyes and Taco Bell – Popeyes on Benjamin Franklin Village South in Mannheim is now closed Mondays. Taco Bell will remain open on Mondays until further notice.

Spinelli furniture – The furniture store on Spinelli Barracks in Mannheim is now closed.

Mannheim Customs Field Office – The Customs office in Mannheim is now located in Bldg. 256 (the Military Police station).

Mannheim Army Community Service – Army Community Services and the ACS Lending Closet have moved to Bldg. 246.

Mannheim Drivers Testing – Mannheim's Drivers' Testing Station located on Sullivan Barracks, Bldg. 253, has closed. All drivers' testing services are offered in Heidelberg on the Shopping Center, Bldg. 3850, Room 136, with operating hours 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. DSN 370-7889, civ. 06221 57-6681.

www.bw.eur.army.mil/news/transformation

ADS

Faces of the community: Military Police

Dijon Rolle

Sgt. Nicola Mascia and Staff Sergeant Lance Brantner, both of Headquarters Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg, patrol Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg on police bikes. Used during the spring and summer months, bicycle patrols are a part of the community-oriented policing program because they allow a police to have a presence that gets them closer to the community. The bikes provide access to areas cars cannot get to, save gas and help build a positive relationship with community members.

Virginia holds special election

Virginia will hold its primaries for local and general assembly offices Aug. 23.

Registered voters in Virginia or those who believe they may be eligible to vote in Virginia and who are active duty members of the uniformed service, Merchant Marines, Virginia residents currently residing overseas or a spouse of one of the above, may be eligible to vote.

District lines have been redrawn and recent changes might have changed local, state Senate or House of Delegates districts.

To determine if you have been affected by redistricting visit *www.sbe.virginia.gov* from the State Board of Elections website.

Voters may also be eligible to register for an absentee ballot for the primary and future elections. Applications for absentee ballots and the federal post card applications continue to be accepted for the primary election.

Also, if you are a Virginia resident and eligible for voter registration, you may be eligible to register to vote and request an absentee ballot simultaneously for any of the Aug. 23 primary races.

Finally, Uniformed Overseas Citizens Absentee Voter Act voters who have applied to receive an absentee ballot automatically for races in which they are an eligible should have received absentee ballots by July 8 for their eligible primary races (including political party primaries). Voters will receive ballots by e-mail or mail, depending on the option originally selected for the ongoing absentee ballot. Those who are unsure about their status as ongoing absentee voters should e-mail *info@sbe.virginia.gov* and a staff member will assist. Again, please note that absentee ballots were available July 8 and all eligible ongoing absentee voter ballots were sent on that date or before.

Contact the Virginia State Board of Elections toll free at civ. 1-800-552-9745.

For more information, see the Virginia State Board of Elections' release for absentee voting for military personnel, their families and overseas voters at *www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Absentee_Voting/Military_Overseas_Citizens/Index.html.*

SOURCE: Federal Voting Assistance Program

COMMENTARY

Employment readiness counselors make dreams come true, one at a time

By Naida P. Raugh
EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM MANAGER

"How exactly can I help you?" I asked Laeh Jones, a military spouse who had just arrived in Heidelberg with her husband.

She smiled meekly.

"What a sweet lady," I thought. I liked her a lot already.

"I need a part-time job – any job – where I can choose the work hours. You see, I really want to pursue my passion in singing," she said.

She talked animatedly of her passion, about how she was a former member of a band, Witness, and how she had traveled all over the United States performing for more than 12 years.

"I need a job that would allow me time to sing." She sounded almost apologetic.

She proudly told me how she had acted in stage plays including, "What's Love Got to Do with It," "Which Way Do I Turn," "Revenge of a Woman" and many more.

She has shared the limelight with the Winans, the Clark Sisters, Yolanda Adams and others.

"I am afraid we won't find a job where you can dictate your hours," I replied, almost whispering. I did not want to hurt her feelings.

I could feel her sincerity.

Then, I remembered the German weekend festivals my husband is very fond of. We love these festivals especially when there are live bands.

"Then, let's find you a singing job!" I almost screamed my excitement imagining her to be the lead singer of a band.

I told her about my vision, and how she could make it happen. We searched for some German bands online. There were a number of them.

When she left my office, she knew exactly what she needed to do – research more live bands in the area and in neighboring cities and get in contact with them.

She was excited.

"I feel so relieved. At every other employment office I went, when I told them what I would like to be able to do, they laughed at me. They made me feel I was a joke. Thank you for giving me hope that it is possible to pursue what I love to do."

She hugged me goodbye, with tears rolling down her face.

Less than a month later, I got an e-mail from Laeh. "Thank you so much for your support and your help. I really appreciate you, and I thank God for you. Thank you for believing in my dreams. I have been performing with Klaus Gaussman and The Sweet Soul Finger Band in Germany. Once again, thank you."

Laeh is booked to perform for the next two years.

Courtesy photo

Laeh Jones performs in Germany after finding singing jobs in the country with the help of the ACS Family Readiness Employment Manger.

Sweet Soul Finger

Saturday in Gerlachsheim
July 30 at the Jazz Festival in Rome
Aug. 4 in Valle Maggia in Switzerland
Aug. 13 in Rimbach
Sept. 2 at Schloss Reinach
Nov. 18 in Frankfurt/Main
Nov. 25 in Gaggenau

ADS

Heidelberg police to crack down on reckless cyclists

Heidelberg Police Public Affairs

Riding a bicycle is earth-friendly and good for your health. An increasing number of accidents and complaints, however, have prompted local police to announce a crackdown on reckless riders.

The most frequent violations of traffic rules include riding on the sidewalk (which is only allowed for children 10 and younger), ignoring red lights, using a bike path in the wrong direction and inadequate speed.

Another common violation jeopardizing the cyclist's own safety is the lack of proper – and functioning – head and tail lights and a generator, which are mandatory in Germany.

Heidelberg police have registered a steep increase in accidents involving cyclists over the first five months of this year with a corresponding increase in injured persons.

In about half of the cases (63 out of 124), the cyclist was at fault and caused the accident.

Simultaneously, complaints are on the rise about cyclists endangering elderly people, parents with baby strollers, children and other pedestrians on the sidewalk or even in pedestrian zones like the Hauptstrasse.

Police have identified typical trouble spots and will intensify patrols and checkpoints in the remaining summer months.

Among the city districts with the highest accident rates are Weststadt, Südstadt/Rohrbach and Kirchheim.

Since these areas in southern Heidelberg are also the location of most of the garrison's facilities and housing areas, cyclists should be prepared to see more German police officers enforcing rules of the bike path in the local area.

TRANSLATION: Thomas Heiss

Safe Biking in Germany

- Bicyclists must obey all traffic laws including prohibition of right turn on reds.
- Riding side by side is illegal on streets but OK on bike paths.
- If riding on a farm access road or Feldwege, farm equipment has the right of way and the bicyclists must make room for the farm equipment to pass even if it means removing the bike from the path all together.
- Hand signals are different in Germany in that the rider is to extend the left arm out when turning left and the right arm out when turning right. Slow and stop is the same as in the United States (bent at the elbow and down).
- Yield just as you would if you were driving a car.
- Pedestrians always have the right of way. Bike paths are indicated with red and pedestrian paths are grey or not painted at all.
- Cyclists must ride on the street if there is no bike path and must use the bike path if available.
- Children under 10 may never ride on the street. Sidewalks are mandatory. Children 10 and older must ride on the street or on bike paths. (An exception may be made for children with disabilities.)
- Adults may accompany children under age 10 on the sidewalks, but that is the only time an adult may ride on a sidewalk.
- Bicycles may never be ridden on the autobahn.
- Bicycle speed limits are same as cars for built up areas (50 kph) or outside of town (100 kph). When in an intersection the bicycle speed limit is 10 kph.
- It is possible to be cited for operating a bicycle under the influence of alcohol with fines ranging from €800 to €5,900 depending on the level of intoxication.
- Equipment: Helmets are required for persons who fall under the Status of Forces Agreement, under USAREUR 190-1, both on and off base.
- White light in front is required.
- A red light in back is required.
- A white reflector in front is required.
- A red reflector in back is required.
- Two yellow reflectors on each wheel are required.
- Brakes are required.
- A bell is required.
- Riding with one hand or no hands is illegal.
- On public transportation, bikes may require a special ticket and baby strollers and wheel chairs always have priority.

SOURCE: USAG BW Safety Office

Soldiers race on mountain bike trail

By Jay Proctor
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN

Jay Proctor

Men's Masters division winner Jim Sharp navigates the technical downhill slalom during the Installation Management Command Europe Mountain Bike Race Series held July 9 in Schopp.

SCHOPP, Germany – On a recent sunny Saturday, dozens of American mountain bikers raced through the Pfalz forest striving to find out who had legs of steel.

The local race of the U.S. Forces Europe Mountain Bike Race Series was held July 9 on trails winding through picturesque forests and meadows, roughly 10 miles southeast of Kaiserslautern.

More than 30 racers traveled from U.S. Army garrisons across Germany, to include Illesheim, Katterbach and Hohenfels to test their skills at Mountain Bike Park.

The 3-kilometer course winds through woods and fields, then climbs a knoll known as "Heart Attack Hill."

Racers then slalom down a steep and demanding hill back into Sportclub Schopp.

It's the third year that Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation, part of USAG Kaiserslautern's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program, held the race in Schopp, said director Steve Selvey.

"What makes this race unique is its location," Selvey said. "Not only do we have the choice of many different routes through the woods, but we also have the support of the sport club and all its facilities."

Previously, races were held in Grafenwöhr and Aviano, Italy. Upcoming races will be held in Bamberg and Spangdahlem.

Choose the right brain bucket now

By Elizabeth Casebeer
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It's made of plastic, foam and nylon, weighs in most cases less than a half-dozen eggs, and it can save your life. You wouldn't dream of cruising the autobahn without your seatbelt, so why would you not wear a helmet when cycling?

Anyone here under the Status of Forces Agreement must wear a helmet while cycling, no matter if they're going to the store for milk or whiling away the afternoon in the countryside.

From a strictly legal standpoint, Germans are not required to wear one while cycling, and many Americans find this disconcerting, because it seems, well, unfair. Shouldn't we also be able to ride around with our hair whipping in the breeze like a shampoo commercial, swallowing bugs as we coast down a hill? Joking aside, there is a reason the government cramps your style: that little bit of synthetic materials can save your life.

No matter your cycling ability, you can count on crashing at least one point in your life. Maybe you have 22-year-old scars on your knees or maybe you just got a little scratched up. The point is, much like automobile accidents, you never know when one will occur.

Bicycle helmets are intended to take the impact and protect your noggin, and depending on the type of collision, are designed to separate down the middle like the hemispheres of your brain. If this makes you squeamish, imagine what could happen to you or your loved one if you don't wear one, even that one time.

That means they also need to be worn correctly, which about 90 percent of children under 18 do not do. Simply put, if the helmet is uncomfortable or has to be pushed out of the eyes, it does not fit. Just grabbing the first helmet you see off the shelf and patting yourself on the back is not good enough. Fortunately, finding the right helmet is not rocket science.

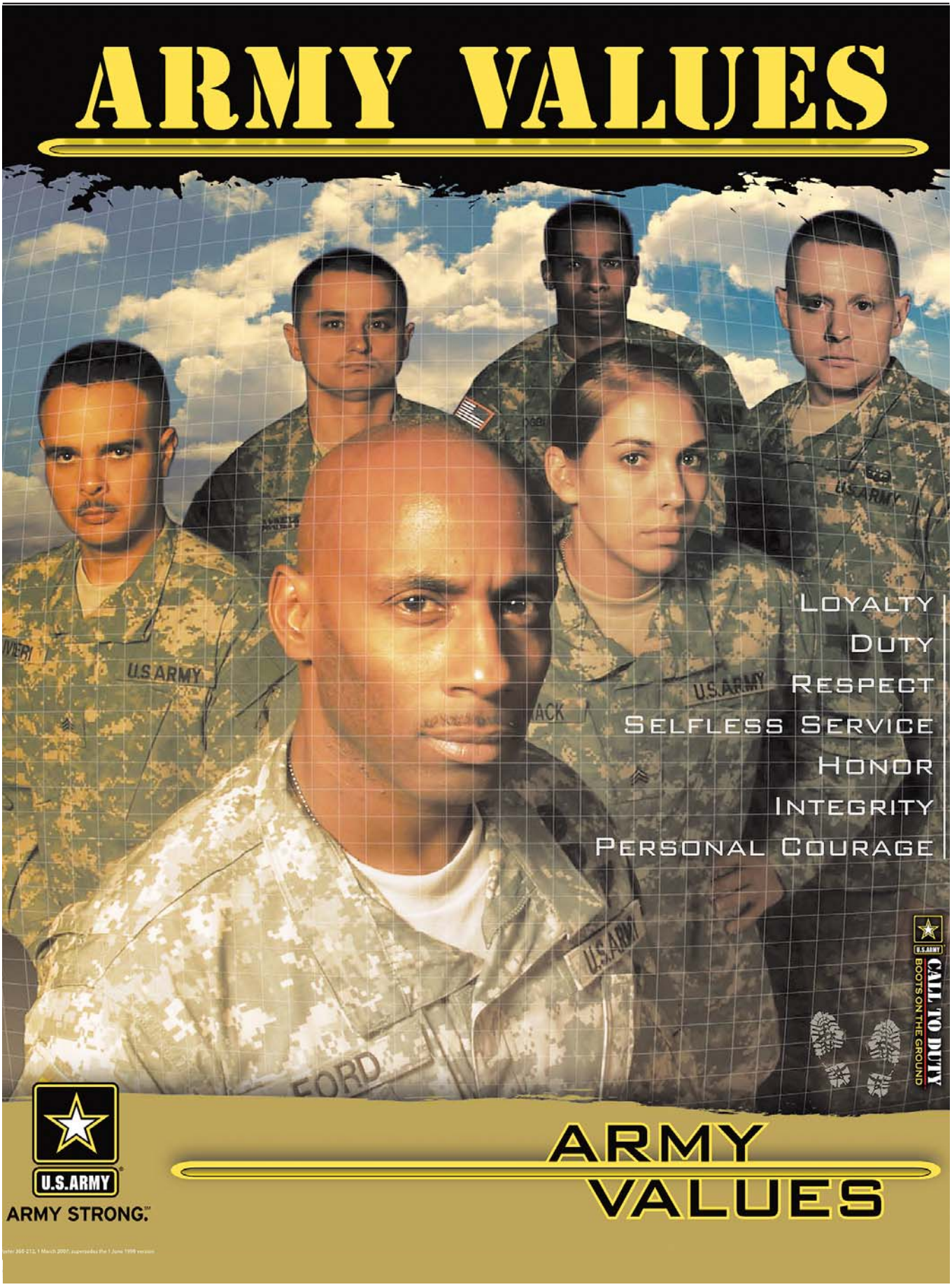
Depending on the brand and style, helmets range in price from about $30 to a couple hundred. For commuters, road and mountain bikers, skateboarders and inline skaters, sport helmets are probably sufficient and are the least pricy. Generally, the lighter the helmet, the more it costs.

For the size, wrap a tape measure around the biggest part of the head. Most helmets are either universally sized or come in extra small (under 20 inches), small (20 inches), medium (21.75 inches), large (23.25 inches) and extra large (24.75), but always double check with the manufacturer. Those between sizes should choose the smaller.

Almost all helmets have one size fits all rings and adjustable straps, and some kids' helmets include spare pads to help with fit. A well-fitting helmet should be snug but never tight and should sit level on your head with the front edge no more than an inch above the eyebrows (probably where you measured) so the forehead is also protected.

Once on, push the helmet from all directions, shake your head, do a little dance. If it shifts, adjust the sizing ring or pads and tighten and close the chinstraps. Yawn, yell and move your jaw around, maybe sing a tune. If the chin strap moves away, try again.

Now you're ready to take off. See you on the road.


ARMY VALUES
LOYALTY
DUTY
RESPECT
SELFLESS SERVICE
HONOR
INTEGRITY
PERSONAL COURAGE
U.S.ARMY
CALL TO DUTY
BOOTS ON THE GROUND
U.S.ARMY
ARMY STRONG.
ARMY VALUES

U.S. Army

Sgt. 1st Class Robert Russell, Provincial Reconstruction Team Zabul, crosses the Tarnek River in Qalat City, Afghanistan July 9. The PRT works with the government of Afghanistan to improve governance, stability and development throughout the province.

Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Ewer

Pfc. Aaron Karjala, 850th Horizontal Engineer Company, Minnesota National Guard, hooks sandbags onto a crane bucket at a washed out levee in Minot, N.D. Using heavy equipment provided by the North Dakota National Guard, the 682nd helped prevent further destruction of the road, which also served as a neighborhood access point July 11-12.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ryan Crane

Maj. Andrew Dejesse, district stability team leader for Laghman Provincial Reconstruction Team, carries a box of school supplies donated to Afghan children in Alingar District by a class from New Jersey July 13.

Staff Sgt. Joe Armas

U.S. Army

Above, Staff Sgt. Travis Brown, a flight medic assigned to Company C, Task Force Lobos, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, and a German extrication team Soldier, descend to the ground with an aircraft hoist while latched onto a jungle penetrator during rescue hoist training July 16.
Left, Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, conducted Cadet Basic Training at West Point to familiarize cadets with the Field Artillery Corps June 22 through July 14.

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Local Soldier pipes his way to band championships

Iben Merrild
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Second Lt. Pascal Reber, Executive Officer of Company B, 24th Millitary Intelligence Battalion located on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg is set to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland, Aug. 13.

Reber, who is originally from Switzerland, moved to the Unites States in 1991 as part of a student exchange program where he lived in Leoti, Kansas.

He remained in Kansas to attend college and in 1993, he took up bagpiping.

"It was a childhood dream but growing up in Switzerland at the time, finding a teacher was close to impossible, so one of the first things I did when I went to the states 20 years ago was try to find a bagpipe teacher, and I actually ended up in a town that had a pipe band," Reber said.

He joined the U.S. Army after becoming an American citizen two years ago. "I always wanted to serve in the United States armed forces," he said.

"There is a tremendous history of association between the pipes and the military," Reber explained.

"Pretty much every single tune in the bagpipe repertoire has been composed for a famous battle or a famous person usually related to the military," he said.

Prior to joining the Army, Reber played a lot of gigs for the Army, the Marine Corps and the Air Force.

"The response was usually very, very positive. I think it is because the pipes are such a marshal instrument. It has that connection with the military," Reber said.

Reber has also performed at weddings, funerals, church services, patriotic events, parades, birthdays and other events regularly.

Bagpiping takes a serious commitment and Reber practices one hour every day, usually during lunchtime. "It is actually an instrument that requires lots of maintenance and requires lots of playing," he said, calling it "a very jealous instrument."

It can easily take 15 minutes to tune it in order to get the sound right.

Reber, who mainly plays the Great Highland pipe, is currently a grade two piper according to the U.S. Piping Association, explained that all bagpipers start out as grade five and gradually progress to grade one as they win different contests.

Not only is it a time consuming hobby, it is also expensive.

"The pipes range from about $800 all the way to $8,000 for a full set and on top of that you have the kilt," he said.

> "The response was usually very, very positive. I think it is because the pipes are such a marshal instrument. It has that connection with the military,"
>
> –2nd Lt. Pascal Reber, bagpiper

Reber, who has more or less every outfit there is to have, said "you probably spend about $30,000."

For Reber, who joined U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg in November 2010, bagpiping plays a very important part in his life. "My wife is a piper, too. That is how we met.

"We joined the same pipe band within three weeks of each other," he said.

Reber has even spent time widening his knowledge on the subject, by spending a year in Aberdeen, Scotland, doing research on the Gordon Highlanders.

The world championship in Glasgow, which includes 230 bands from 12 nations, will be Reber's first, however, he is not new to bagpipe competitions having won many awards especially in solo piping.

Elizabeth Casebeer

Second Lt. Pascal Reber, Executive Officer of Company B, 24th Millitary Intelligence Battalion located on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg adjusts the pipes before playing his bagpipe during his break. Reber will head to Glasgow, Scotland, in August to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships.

"I haven't competed in competitions since joining the army, as far as solo competitions are concerned, which is one thing I really miss," he said.

At the upcoming competition, however, he along with approximately 50 other bagpipers and drummers across different grades, will represent the local Heidelberg District Pipes and Drums, all in proper attire wearing red, green and yellow McFie kilts.

For more information visit *www.bydandpiper.com.*

Soldiers vie for top warrior title during competition

Pvt. Kevin Alex

Sgt. Timothy Dingle, a chemical operations specialist with the 12th Chemical Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment. Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, fires his rifle during the qualification range portion of the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition on Warner Barracks, in Bamberg June 28. Dingle won the title of Warrior Leader of the Quarter and will go on to compete in the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior of the Year competition sometime next year.

Pvt. Kevin Alex
16TH SUST. BDE. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BAMBERG, Germany - Soldiers from each battalion of the 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, sent their best noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted Soldiers to compete in the Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition.

The brigade held competitions at its headquarters on Warner Barracks June 28-30.

The competition consisted of seven events in three days that challenged each Soldier's mental and physical abilities including an Army Physical Fitness Test, rifle qualification range, weapons disassembly and assembly, a day and night land navigation course, road march and a formal board.

The competitors were considered the best of each of their respective battalions as they showcased their Army skills and knowledge in an attempt to take home the prestigious title of Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter.

"The most challenging event was definitely the road march," said Spc. Steven Palmer, a motor transport operator with the 66th Transportation Company, 39th Transportation Battalion, 16th Sust. Bde., and WOQ winner.

"It takes a lot of heart to not just race against your opponent but also yourself and finish with a good time," Palmer said.

Over the last year the competition has evolved to maximize the challenge while maintaining a safe and rewarding event as Soldiers endured a series of physical and mental challenges.

"The range was the hardest part for me," said Sgt. Timothy Dingle, a chemical operations specialist with the 12th Chemical Co., 18th Combat Sust. Support Bn., 16th Sust. Bde., and WLOQ winner.

"I had to put on the big combat goggles over my prescription glasses. I usually shoot (expert) but I ended up shooting (sharpshooter) because I couldn't put my cheek on the (rifle's) stock or my nose on the charging handle," Dingle said.

For some Soldiers, the competition was more than just hard work and dedication, it was also fun.

"The best part was the land navigation," Dingle said. "I've always done really well at land navigation so I knew I had day and night (land navigation) in the bag."

"My favorite part was the board," Palmer added. "It's always exciting to go in there and get tested on what you know."

For the winners, the next step will be the Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Year competition next year.

HAY

continued from page 1

24th Military Intelligence Battalion, Sgt. Jaret Smith, BOSS president and Spc. James Tesh, HMEDDAC, pushed and pulled the wagon, which weighed about the same as a small American bison for 800 meters.

The group started off strong through the first sand obstacle but by the time they hit the turnaround and the second obstacle, they were beginning to lose a little steam.

With determined looks on their faces, the Soldiers finished in four minutes, 32 seconds.

"This was a lot of fun and was a good, new experience, but I didn't expect it to be this hard. I mean, it is about 1,000 pounds," Francis laughed.

BOSS was invited to participate in the annual hay wagon haul this year by Eppelheim mayor Dieter Mörlein, who brought the event from partner city Montebelluna, about 67 kilometers from Venice, in 2001.

The event in Italy is arguably more strenuous, with each section of the city competing against each other along a 3-kilometer course, two of which are uphill.

In Eppelheim, the contest was more about teamwork within the groups and partnership with Hungary, France, Italy and the American presence in Baden Württemberg.

"The mayor invited us to participate, and we jumped right in. We definitely finished strong, but it was more about the camaraderie than anything else," Smith said.

The Hungarian team had only three participants, so Francis volunteered to stand in for their missing buddy, and the rest of the BOSS team brought the team to the finish, to wild cheers from the crowd.

After the event, the Soldiers gathered for traditional German fare like steak with pommes and fresh fruit while children who participated in a smaller-scale version of the hay pull earlier received prizes and students from a local dance school performed a ballet scene and a Spanish dance.

The Soldiers received certificates and were invited to participate again next year.

"We are definitely in next year, but we'll find some way to practice first. We definitely have this next year," Mungo said.

Photos by Elizabeth Casebeer

Above, volunteers from the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers push an 800-kilogram hay wagon at Eppelheim's City Fest Saturday. The team finished the 800-meter race in four minutes and 32:25 seconds. Left, members of the Hungarian team talk with USAG Baden Württemberg BOSS president Sgt. Jaret Smith and BOSS member Spc. Brodrick Mungo, prior to the competition. BOSS Soldiers volunteered to assist the Hungarians, who were two men short, so they could still compete.

VAT

continued from page 1

conjunction with long-term contracts," said Rafael Wunsch with Installation Management Command Europe.

"Utilities and telephones are generally supplied based on such one or two-year contracts," Wunsch said.

The basic premise is that TKS adjusted their product offering so that the landline phone service can now be put on a month-to-month subscription rather than a one or two year contract.

"The way the program works is that U.S. Forces members provide TKS with a regular VAT form every month before the first of the month and TKS will then deduct the taxes from the bill at the end of that month," said Wunsch.

"Members can also provide TKS with multiple forms, but IMCOM Europe officials recommend providing not more than three forms in advance for this purpose," Wunsch said.

For every month that a servicemember provides a VAT form before the first day of the month, the value-added tax will be deducted. For every month that a service member does not provide a form (or sends it in late) the VAT will be added to the bill.

Members are responsible for tracking, processing and turning in used VAT forms. White and pink copies of the VAT forms turned in to TKS for processing tax-free landline phone service will be mailed back to the customer.

For information, call your local VAT office, TKS outlet or IMCOM Europe program management at DSN 370-7503, civ. 06221-57-7503.

SLAM

continued from page 1

DeCoster provided opening remarks to the players, families and garrison staff members gathered inside the gymnasium. DeCoster urged everyone to enjoy themselves while making the most of the event and practicing healthy competition and good sportsmanship. The Heidelberg men tipped off against Ansbach in one of the first basketball games of the night, winning 55-41.

Nearly 20 teams came out to play and cheer on fellow competitors from across Europe. Matches took place at Patton, Campbell and Tompkins Barracks and participants and spectators snacked on hamburgers, ice-cold sodas, hotdogs and more. Colorful pop-up tents and RVs also dotted the landscape of local installations as campers set up shop to properly enjoy the sport's action.

"What we tried to do this year is to maximize the amount of teams, the amount of coverage and the overall experience including the food. Just everything involved with this event. We try to enhance it every year," said Michael Criswell, chief of sports and fitness for USAG Baden-Württemberg."It's a weekend get together that people look forward to and the best competition comes out to play each other."

One major change at this year's Summer Slam was the absence of the Mannheim Mustangs men's and women's basketball teams. Both are now merged under the Heidelberg banner due to Mannheim's deactivation in May. Heidelberg Lady Generals Head Coach and Heidelberg High School graduate Patricia Jameson said she is pleased with the transition.

"I think it works out really well and we're happy to have Mannheim with us and we're a big family. I remember back in the day when it was always a big battle between Mannheim and Heidelberg playing in the championship. There was some heat but there was always love among the players when the game was over. As long as everyone gets to play ball that's what it's all about. "

Jameson was born and raised here and has participated in many of the annual Summer Slam events over the years. As transformation looms closer for the community here, Jameson said the effects of the drawdown are hard to ignore.

"My home's leaving. My dad's former military. He retired here. I went to school here. These are my roots and it feels strange. It's starting to hit me now that I see places I used to hang out are starting to close. It feels strange and it's sad but I know it has to happen. It's evitable … it was just a matter of time and now it's happening."

Jameson's team went on to defeat Ramstein 52-34 during the women's championship game.

Summer Slam is open to all ID-Card holders 18 years of age or older for information visit *www.mwrgermany.com.*

Last chance to see beloved Heidelberg operetta

Staff Report

Sigmund Romberg's successful operetta "The Student Prince," which premiered at Jolson Theatre on Broadway in 1925, is being performed for the last time 8:30 p.m. tomorrow, July 30 and 31 at the Schlossfestspiele in the Heidelberg Castle courtyard.

The Heidelberg operetta is set in the romantic courtyard of the castle ruins and has proven to be a great attraction to countless visitors over the years.

However, this summer will be the last chance to catch the performance of the beloved piece.

The operetta garnered much success while on Broadway leading to its German premiere in Berlin in 1936.

Since then it has only been performed in Heidelberg, resulting in its becoming as much a part of Heidelberg as the old university and the castle ruins.

The tale takes place in Heidelberg and follows the life of Karl Franz, the Crown Prince of Saxon Karlsberg, as he experiences life incognito at the University of Heidelberg.

With his tutor Dr. Engel, the young prince escapes the oppressive grayness of daily life at his grandfather's residence and receives a taste of freedom without courtly obligations in the romantic university town by the Neckar River.

When Franz then loses his heart to Kathie, an innkeeper's resolute Viennese niece, the whole world becomes immersed in the magic of spring.

However, the couple's happiness is short-lived as the King of Karlsberg dies and Franz is forced to return and assume his royal duties.

Driven by an inner longing, he revisits Heidelberg years later as the King of Karlsberg, seeking his earlier happiness.

This, however, only leads to an ultimate farewell as his fellow students can only see Karl Franz as their sovereign king and he will never be able to marry Kathie.

The magical sounds of the operetta are sung in English and fill the castle grounds with melodies of "Heidelberg Fair," "Deep in My Heart" and the "Come Boys."

All the songs come alive in the glamorous production of Heinz Kreidl and its original setting in the Heidelberg Castle courtyard, in front of the atmospheric scenery of the Ottheinrich building.

For information or to purchase tickets to the final shows, visit *www.theater.heidelberg.de.*

Above, actor Maraile Lichdi, center, who plays Kathie, sings with the choir as they enjoy the pub atmosphere where Kathie works in the Heidelberg operetta, "The Student Prince."
Left, Kevin Tarte as Prince Karl Franz and Ronald Ulen as Doktor Engel, the prince's trusted tutor, share a scene during a performance of "The Student Prince," in Heidelberg.

Kevin Tarte plays Karl Franz, the Crown Prince of Saxon Karlsberg, who must return to his home after his grandfather dies to become king and marry Princess Margaret played by Claudia Schumacher in this photo. Carolyn Frank plays Princess Margaret in the 2011 performances.

German Cuisine

Restaurant Review
Suppa at Supan's

Where to find it
Supan's Thai Restaurant
N3, 18
68161 Mannheim
Civ. 06211 56 7723

Hours of Operation
Lunch – 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday
Dinner – 5-10:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday

Price Range
€7 - €37

Review
Dinner and a movie can be so cliché, I know. Nonetheless, consider going to the Mannheim Cineplex for one of their two English showings then to Supan's Thai Restaurant pre or post-theater for dinner.

Only three blocks from the downtown Cineplex, Supan's offers lunch and dinner, serving nightly until 10:30 p.m. Lotus flowers, bamboo plants and Buddhas embellish the restaurant.

Thai servers wear beautifully embroidered and gilded garments, which paired with the menu, give it a true Thai dining experience.

The spicy fish cakes, served with a sweet chili sauce and cucumber peanut salsa are ideal for sharing. The seafood, lemongrass and coconut milk soup is fantastic and a great way to begin the meal. It arrives at the table in a covered bowl that, when opened, emanates an aroma to arouse the senses. There are several salad options, including a seared duck salad with green papaya that looked tantalizing.

There are a wide variety of meat, seafood and vegetarian entrées from which to choose. From mild to spicy, there is something to tempt everyone's palate. Each dish is "chili" rated, so you will know how spicy the dish is you are ordering.

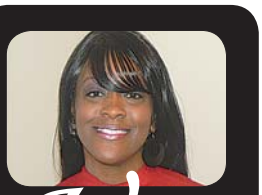
The top vote for the evening was the fried fish in a red curry coconut sauce. The sauce is sensational and not to be missed. Whole fried fish served with a soy, ginger and scallion sauce is as delicious as it is beautiful.

The duck with mixed vegetables in a spicy basil sauce was good but not great, which was disappointing. I really did enjoy all of the other dishes I tried, like the beef in green curry sauce.

Beef simmered in a mildly spicy green curry sauce until tender served with bamboo shoots, red bell pepper and green beans was a great surprise. The fried pork served in a spicy caramel sauce was unique and will definitely be ordered again. All of the entrées are served with rice, which will make it nearly impossible to leave hungry.

Overall Impression
There were so many other dishes we wanted to try and we cannot wait to return for round two. Supan's offers a full bar with reasonable cocktail, beer and wine prices. The rosé we ordered paired perfectly with the spiciness of all of our dishes and did not break the bank. In Thai fashion, courses are served quickly, so if you are looking for an excellent meal that is fast, this place is for you.

SOURCE: *Angelee Aurillo*



Dear Ms. Vicki

Vicki Johnson is a military spouse and clinical social worker with more than 12 years experience working with families in crisis. To contact Ms. Vicki, e-mail her at *dearmsvicki@yahoo.com*.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

It's been a year since I got married and moved to Colorado with my husband who is in the Army.

I became very close with the wife of my husband's best friend at the time and it got to the point where we were doing everything together.

Everything was going wonderfully. I was in school, I had a best friend and I had a wonderful husband. Then I spoke with a mutual friend who informed me that three weeks prior, my husband and best friend had gone hiking alone without telling me. They also went hiking another time but my husband went regardless of my feelings.

I confronted my husband about what happened and he swore up and down that not telling me was unintentional and that he was sorry, but when I talked to my best friend, she told me my husband didn't "want to deal with me."

After that I became more suspicious about what was going on between them.

When I would ask him if he had spoken with her, he would lie, then when I confronted him he would own up to talking to her or come up with a stupid excuse as to why he didn't tell the truth in the first place.

On more than one occasion I expressed to my best friend that I was highly bothered and she would say that she never wanted to hurt me, but instead of ending the inappropriate friendship, they continued it behind my back.

This went on for about three months until I saw a few Facebook messages about how much she misses him. I confronted my husband about the messages and made him sever all contact with her. I have no idea what went on between them.

I am still so heart broken that I constantly find myself replaying the situation in my head, day by day, trying to figure out where I went wrong or what exactly happened.

I am very unnerved at the fact that my husband has had no problem lying to my face on more than one occasion, but I don't know how to tell him I feel this way.

Every time I have bring it up to him he makes me feel guilty by saying things like, "I'm a terrible person," and, "It makes me feel bad for even feeling the way I do."

I don't know what to do. My gut says that something went on. This situation is the second time that he maintained an inappropriate relationship with another female.

He did it a third time even after all of this. I am starting to feel like he will never stop. We've had the talks four times already. I'm so lost as to what to do. I don't want to leave my husband, but I don't feel like I can trust him anymore. Sincerely, Broken-Hearted

Dear Broken-Hearted,

Your husband doesn't get it. He's being very narcissistic and self entitled. He makes you feel like you're the bad person or that you are the crazy one for feeling like you do. He is good at placing the blame on you.

But you haven't done anything wrong.

You know exactly what has been happening between your husband and this friend of yours. Let's stop calling her a best friend. She is not friend. She's wrong, and your husband is, too.

You are only asking for monogamy, honesty and trust. These are the basic needs to make a marriage work. You are not asking for anything out of the ordinary.

Where is this woman's husband in all of this? Does he know his wife is hanging out with your husband? This is too much and so blatant, too. It's like you don't even exist.

Leave this chick alone, OK? She is not your friend. It's too stressful and you deserve better. You deserve to surround yourself with people who sincerely have your best interests at heart and who genuinely care about you.

You see, this is the most accessible kind of affair to have. Who else do you talk to about everything from A-Z about your man with? Your best friends, that's who.

Now that you know you need to leave her alone. You also need to tell your husband to leave her alone.

I hope marriage counseling will help in this situation. It could give your husband some insight about the mistake he is making.

Otherwise, his behavior could continue, especially since you report this is not the first time he has behaved inappropriately with a female.

With this in mind, you cannot keep turning a blind eye to this. You are sending him the wrong message. He has no consequences for his behavior.

Check on base for counseling services. If none are available then call Military OneSource at civ. 800-342-9647. They will connect you with a counselor in your local area. The services are free.

Even if your husband refuses to seek counseling, you should speak to someone individually.

I wish you well and thank you so much for writing to me.

Dear Ms. Vicki,

My husband and I have been together for five years, two of which we have been married. My family adores him. I get along great with his dad's side of the family and his mom and sister, but one of his aunts has never liked me.

Since day one, she has looked at me like I am a piece of trash, and I don't understand why. I am petite and nicely built, but I always dress very modestly.

About a year ago, she conjured up this lie that I was cheating on my husband with his cousin. Mind you, this cousin is about four years younger (we are 21). Not once have I ever been around him without my husband, so I don't know where she got this from.

This whole ordeal has caused problems. My husband doesn't believe her. He knows I am fully committed to him and that I love him with all my being. But I find myself getting so ticked off if he does so much as speak to her.

Is this wrong of me? I just feel that he shouldn't want to have a relationship with someone who is going to disrespect his wife, and in my eyes, it is disrespectful to him as well. I would just like some advice or guidance of some sort on this issue.

Dear Dissed,

My quick advice is for you to stay away from this aunt. She is trouble.

She is disrespectful and obviously likes to keep family drama going. However, you don't have to let it be at you and your husband's expense.

Your husband can continue to speak to his aunt, but he should let her know he will not stand and listen to her berate and tell lies.

Furthermore, he can let her know that if this behavior continues he will refuse future contact.

If this is too harsh, he should simply tell his aunt, "I'd appreciate it if you would show respect towards her. If you love me you will do this."

Either way, she is getting the point.

You and your husband started out young. According to statistics you have many obstacles ahead. Because of this you should only be with people who support you and your husband and go out of their way to help you have a successful marriage.

This is important. His aunt does not sound like she is this type of person. Keep in touch and I wish you all the best.

GET OUT!
area events
More events online at http://myBWnow.ning.com

July 21

Heidelberg Schlossfest – Be sure your plans include a visit to the summer festival at the Heidelberg Castle to catch some of the concerts, operas, dramas, reading, all in an open air setting before it ends Aug. 1. For details of each Heidelberger Schloss-festspiele event and ticket information, visit *www.theaterheidelberg.de.* The web page also offers a complete program of this year's castle festival as a PDF download.

July 22

Standup Comedian – The USO presents standup comedian Bengt Washburn 8:30 p.m. at the Warrior Zone on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg. Washburn has appeared on Comedy Central, The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson and the Bob and Tom show. Open to servicemembers and their guests over 18. DSN 373-5190, civ. 06221-17-5190, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

Farmer's Market – Sample and shop for farm fresh vegetables, cheese, eggs and meat at the Kaiserslautern farmer's market. The market is held 7 a.m. -1 p.m. at the Stiftsplatz located in the center of Kaiserslautern.

July 23

Shop 'til You Drop – Fellbach hosts a long night of shopping combining shopping with cultural events in the area around the Rathaus. Stores will be open until midnight.

Arena of Mobility – Baden-Württemberg celebrates a Summer of Cars. The Karlsruhe Center for Art and Media will showcase approximately 50 works of art, all themed around automobiles and the love of cars. The Medienmuseum is located at Lorenzstrasse 19, 76135 in Karlsruhe. Civ. 0721-35-2360, *www.buzzoffbase.com.*

U.S. Car Show – This U.S. car show takes place in the second largest beer garden in the Stuttgart area at the Schwabengarten in Leinfelden-Echterdingen. More than 300 cars and motorcycles will be on display.

July 24

Not from Around Here – Neigschmeckt is the Swabian term for "not from around here," but this market in Reutlingen features local and regional Swabian foods, wines and more at the Stadtgarten and the Planie starting at 10 a.m.

July 28

Sommerfest – One of Munich's most anticipated public festivals, the Sommerfest includes tons of free concerts, tasty food, cold beer, an absolutely enormous Ferris wheel, other carnival rides and spectacular fireworks. The festival lasts for nearly a month, providing plenty of opportunities to immerse yourself in German culture and kick up your heels, Bavarian-style. Festival runs through Aug. 21 at Olympiapark, Spiridon-Louis-Ring 21, 80809 Munich. *www.buzzoffbase.com.*

July 29

Extreme Whitewater Rafting – Experience a weekend of thrills by taking an extreme whitewafter rafting trip while in Austria July 29-Aug. 1 with Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

July 30

Lichterfest Schwetzingen – The U.S. Army Band and Chorus Pop and Rock ensemble, USAREUR Groove, will perform 8 p.m. at Schwetzingen's Festival of Lights celebration which takes place 5-11 p.m. in Schwetzingen. *www.schloss-schwetzingen.de/de/schloss-schwetzingen/Lichterfest/396047.html.*

International Beer Festival – Düsseldorf's Bierboerse is part of a beer festival that is held annually in nine cities across Germany. Visitors can sample up to 1,000 different types of beer from over 75 countries. Food, wine and entertainment also provided. Free entry but fest goers must pay for beer. Catch the festival at Fussgangerzone, Erich-Muller-Str. 2, 40597 in Düsseldorf. *www.buzzoffbase.com.*

Crystal and More – Don't miss the great bargains in the Czech Republic. Sign up now for a shopping trip in Cheb and Karlovy Vary with Outdoor Rec on Patrick Henry Village in Heidelberg. DSN 388-9282, civ. 06221-338-9282, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

July 31

Tongeren Flea Market – Join Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation for an excursion to the Tongeren Flea Market in Belgium. DSN 493-4117, civ. 0631-3406-4117.

August 2

Evita – The musical production by Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, which follows the life of Argentine political leader Eva Perón, will be performed in English by the stars of the London West End theatre company at the National Theatre in Mannheim Aug. 2-7. Civ. 0621-168-0150, *www.nationaltheater-mannheim.de.*

August 5

Backfischfest – A fish fest with live music, fireworks and rides is open daily at 3 p.m. Aug. 5-14 (except Aug. 4 at 6 p.m. and Aug. 10 at 2 p.m.) in Ketsch. GPS: Festgelände im Bruch, 68775 Ketsch.

Summer Nights – Visit this traditional Sommernachtsfest on the lake in Murrhardt-Fornsbach. The night festival runs through Aug. 8 at the Waldsee and also features amusements.

August 13

Bratkartoffelfest – The U.S. Army Europe Chorus will perform at 9 p.m. in the Sommerfesthalle in Otterstadt (near Speyer).

Burgspiele Landstuhl – The Nanstein Castle Play, or Burgspiele, is held annually now through August at the castle in Landstuhl. A troupe of performers act out comedy sketches in the old, local dialect. Enjoy music and lots of food and drinks. This year's play is The Count, based on the novella The Clothes Make the Man by Gottfried Keller. Admission is €8 for adults and reduced rates are available for students and children. For dates and times check *www.burgspiele-landstuhl.de.*

August 14

Backfischfest – The U.S. Army Europe Chorus will perform at 4 p.m. in the fest tent in Ketsch.

Rothenburg ob der Tauber – Spinelli Outdoor Recreation offers a trip to the famous medieval German town. The Middle Ages come alive when costumed townspeople participate in pageants and colorful markets. Visit the Master Builder's House, Meat and Dance House and the Old Forge. Bus departs 8 a.m. from the Mannheim Schuh Theater. DSN 384-6300, civ. 0621-730-6300, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

August 21

Army Fest Band – The U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus' Fest Band will perform at 8 p.m. in the fest tent in Markgröningen (greater Stuttgart area).

August 27

Open Air Music Fest – Lots of music will be played 4-10 p.m. in an open air concert at the Warrior Zone on Coleman Barracks in Mannheim. Money Head and Dizzle Don Johnson will feature hip hop and Kojak for fest goers who like alternative rock. DSN 382-4410, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

September 9

Wurstmarkt Wine Festival – Even though it's called a Wurstmarkt (sausage market), Bad Dürkheim claims to host the biggest wine festival in the world through Sept. 13 on the fest grounds. GPS: Auf den Brühlwiesen, 67098 Bad Dürkheim.

coming to THEATERS

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2

(Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson) The end begins as Harry, Ron and Hermione go back to Hogwarts to find and destroy Voldemort's final horcruxes, but when Voldemort finds out about their mission, the biggest battle begins and life as they know it will never be the same again. (Rated PG-13 for some sequences of intense action, violence and frightening images). 118 minutes.

PLAYING THIS WEEK

Heidelberg, Patrick Henry Village

July 21 - HORRIBLE BOSSES (R) 7 p.m.
July 22- HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.; HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10 p.m.
July 23 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 4 p.m.; HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 10 p.m.
July 24 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 1 p.m.; HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 4 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 25 - PRIEST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 26 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 27 - JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 28 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 7p.m.

Vogelweh, Galaxy

July 22 - HORRIBLE BOSSES (R) 7 p.m.
July 23 - JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 4 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 24 - JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Ramstein, Gateway Movieplex

July 21 - HORRIBLE BOSSES (R) 11 a.m.,1:45 p.m., 16:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; WATER FOR ELEPHANTS (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; SOMETHING BORROWED (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5 p.m.; 7:30 p.m.
July 22 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 4 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 p.m.
July 23 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 11 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 a.m.
July 24 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 a.m.
July 25 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 8:15 p.m.; TANGLED (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
July 26 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6 p.m., 8:15 p.m.; TANGLED (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
July 27 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13)11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6 p.m., 8:15 p.m.; TANGLED (PG) noon, 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
July 28 - HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.; JUMPING THE BROOM (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.; PRIEST (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 8:15 p.m.

THEATER INFORMATION
Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg , 06221-27-238
Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 0631-50017
Gateway Cineplex, Ramstein, 06371-47-5550
Visit *www.aafes.com* for updated listings and more movie descriptions
Mannheim, CinemaxX, P4 13, 68161 Mannheim, civ. 01805-62-5466, *www.cineplex.de*

Mannheim, CinemaxX - English Language movies

July 21-27 – HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (PG-13) 4:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 11 p.m
July 27 - TREE OF LIFE (PG-13) 8 p.m.

community
HIGHLIGHTS

HMEDDAC Soldier Medicine Team
The Heidelberg Health Center on Nachrichten Kaserne has opened a Soldier Team Clinic for all active duty military, located on the second floor of Bldg. 3617, co-located with the physical exams clinic, a floor above the current family practice area. Hours are 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Friday and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday. Appointments can be booked through the ERMC Care Call Center at DSN 371-2622, civ. 06221-17-2622 or through *www.Tricareonline.com*.

Technology Expo
The 43rd Signal Battalion will host a free technology exposition at Campbell Barracks fitness center in Heidelberg 10 a.m.-2 p.m. July 29. The Expo will have more than 50 exhibitors demonstrating the latest in emerging technologies, and there will be refreshments and giveaways while supplies last. To pre-register visit *www.FederalEvents.com*, click on the Campbell Barracks link and select the pre-register button.

European Adjutant Generals Ball
Members of the Human Resources/Adjutant General community, as well as active duty, retired personnel and guests are invited to the European Adjutant General's Regimental Ball 6 p.m.-midnight Aug. 20 at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg . DSN 370-8057, civ. 06221-57-8057.

Equal Employment Opportunity
All civilian employees, military members or local nationals who supervise civilian employees are required to attend biennual classroom Equal Employment Opportunity training. Next sessions will be held 1-2 p.m. Aug. 17 and Sept. 14 on Patton Barracks, Bldg. 128, Room 208. Seating is limited. DSN 373-5494, civ. 06221-17-5215.

16 Cents A Gallon
A July 25-27 promotion will save Military Star Card or Rewards MasterCard holders 16 cents a gallon. In 1895, the War Department issued General Order 46 directing commanders to establish an Exchange at every post. Exactly 116 years later, the Exchange is marking the occasion by offering the discount which is above and beyond the everyday five-cent a gallon savings Military Star® cardholders get when filling up at the Exchange.

Acute Care Clinic
The Heidelberg Health Center's Acute Care Clinic is now closed on all Sundays and all federal holidays. If you are in need of urgent or emergent care on those days, please go to the nearest host nation emergency room. Maps and driving directions are available at the HMEDDAC staff duty desk in the pharmacy area on Nachrichten Kaserne.

local
EMPLOYMENT

Central Texas College
Central Texas College is seeking adjunct faculty are sought for face to face classes in early childhood professions, automotive technology and emergency medical technology. Classes are taught evenings and weekends. Requirements include at least an associate's degree and several years' work experience in the field. DSN 382-5560, civ 0621-779-5560, *www.europe.ctcd.edu*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KAISERSLAUTERN

Community

◆**Independent and Foreign Films** – This month's free movie, "Alamar," directed and written by Pedro Gonzalez-Rubio, is in Spanish with English subtitles and will be shown 6 p.m July 21 at the Landstuhl Library. DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-7322.

◆**Missoula Children's Theater** – Local children will perform King Arthur's Quest at Kaiserslautern Military Community Onstage 5:30 p.m. July 23 on Kleber Kaserne, Bldg. 3232. DSN 483-662, civ. 0631-411-6626.

◆**Old School Night** – Sing rock, pop, country or soul 9 p.m.-2 a.m. July 23 at Armstrong's Irish Pub, Bldg. 1036 on Vogelweh Housing. Civ. 0631-354-9986.

◆**Gabe the Gorilla** – Children can pose with Gabe the Gorilla and receive special treats at the Kids' Zone on Pulaski Barracks, Bldg. 2895, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. July 23-24. DSN 493-4125, civ. 0631-3406-4125.

◆**Youth Fishing** – Youth can learn fishing skills while being outdoors 4-6 p.m. July 27. Open to children in grades 1-12 enrolled in Child, Youth and School Services. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-4122.

◆**Salsa Night** – Learn to salsa with an hour of free salsa lessons, margarita bar and live disc jockey 9 p.m.-2 a.m. July 30 at Armstrong's Club, Bldg. 1036, on Vogelweh Housing. Civ. 0631-354-9986.

◆**Vacation Bible School** – Registration for Pandamania: Where God is Wild About You vacation Bible school is open. Pandamania will be held 9 a.m.-noon July 25-29 at Landstuhl Elementary and Middle School and also 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 3-4 at the Daenner Chapel. DSN 493-4660, civ. 0631-3406-4660.

◆**Military Officers Association** – The first European chapter of the Military Officers Association of America invites active duty, guard, reserve, former and retired commissioned and warrant officers to a picnic at the Kaiserslautern Pulaski Park lower pavilion (next to the running track) 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Aug. 6.

◆**Summer Adventure** – Registration is open for the youth Summer Adventure program. Weekly activities continue through Aug. 26. DSN 486-8656, civ. 06371-86-8658.

◆**Miesau Library Closed** – The Miesau Branch library is closed through Aug. 31. Patrons can visit the Kaiserslautern Main Library, Landstuhl Post, Bldg. 3810. DSN 486-7322, civ. 06371-86-7322.

◆**Quilt Club** – Rheinland Pfalz Quilt Guild will have combined meetings the fourth Thursday in July and August starting at 6 p.m. in the Kaiserslautern Landstuhl Spouses Association building on Pulaski Barracks.

◆**Library Tour** - Join the Kleber Branch library to discover all the ways to use your Army Europe library card. The library offers free tours 11-11:30 a.m., 2-2:30 p.m. and 4:30-5 p.m. every last Wednesday of the month. No sign-up required.

◆**SKIES Unlimited** – SKIES Unlimited is offering ABC Music and Me. The ongoing class focuses on early language and literacy development through music and story time. Program open for children enrolled in a child care or pre-K program. DSN 493-4516, civ. 0631-3406-4516.

HEIDELBERG

Education

◆**ACS Classes** – Applying for a Federal Job, 9-11 a.m. July 25-26; Culture College, 5-9 p.m. July 25-28 and field trip, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 30; Smart Banking, 9-11:30 a.m. July 27; Volunteer Management Information System, 10-11 a.m. July 27; Life in Balance, 2-4 p.m. July 28, Nachrichten Kaserne, Bldg. 3622, Company B conference room.

◆**UMUC Europe Registration** – Upcoming field study courses include the Cultural History of London II July 30-Aug. 6 in England and Picasso in Paris Aug. 6-13 in France. *www.ed.umuc.edu/fieldstudy.*

Community

◆**Commissary Gate** – Access hours for the gate near the commissary on Patrick Henry Village are now 6 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

◆**Shooter's Bar and Grill** – Shooter's Bar and Grill has new hours: 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, 6-10 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Civ. 06202-927-9315.

◆**Security Office** – The security has relocated to Bldg. 110, Room 104 on Patton Barracks.

◆**ACS Outing** - Army Community Service will host a group outing to Mannheim's Luisenpark 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 23. Group will meet at ACS and take public transportation to the park. DSN 370-6883.

◆**Arts And Cultural Center** – The center is closed for inventory July 23-31. DSN 388-9418, civ. 06221-338-9418.

◆**Swimming at Aquadrome** – Permission slips are due July 24 for the Lion's Den trip to the Aquadrome 11 a.m.-5 p.m. July 28.

◆**Geocaching** – Army Community Service will set up caches and post the coordinates on the ACS Facebook Page at *www.facebook.com/BWACS*. Participants can also enter into the ACS birthday drawing for a chance to win a pair of Holiday Park tickets. Winners will be announced July 25. *www. mwrgermany.com*.

◆**Catapult Contest** – A closing party and egg catapult contest wraps up the library's teen summer reading program, A Midsummer Knight's Read, 2 p.m. July 26 at the Patrick Henry Village library. DSN 370-1740, civ. 06221-57-1740.

◆**Family Readiness Group Forum** – Join the Army Community Service FRG Forum 9-11 a.m. July 27 in the Yellow Ribbon Room on Patrick Henry Village, Bldg. 4531. The event features Europe Region Medical Command Jeannine Smith, attorney-advisor. DSN 370-6883, *www.mwrgermany.com*.

◆**Midsummer Read** – Registration is ongoing for A Midsummer Knight's Read, a summer reading program for preschoolers and kindergartners 11 a.m. Wednesdays, for first-fifth graders 11:30 a.m. Thursdays and for sixth-12th graders 2 p.m. Tuesdays through July 28 at the Patrick Henry Village Library. DSN 370-1740, civ. 06221-57-1740.

◆**White Water Rafting** – BOSS goes rafting and canyoning in Austria July 29-31. DSN 388-9282, civ. 06221-338-9282.

◆**Sports Physicals** – By appointment only, school sports physicals will be conducted at the Heidelberg Health Center in Bldg. 3617 for dependents ages 6-18 years old July 30. Pre-participation questionnaires are required prior to scheduling. DSN 371-2622, civ 06221-17-2622.

◆**Vacation Bible School** – Register now for Kingdom of the Son, A Prayer Safari vacation Bible school 9 a.m.-noon Aug. 1-5 at Patrick Henry Elementary School.

◆**Parents Night Out** – Child, Youth and School Services offer parents night out 7 p.m.-midnight and parents day out 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 5-6, and 19-20, Sept. 16-17, Oct. 21-22, Nov. 4-5, 18-19, Dec. 2-3, 16-17. Parent Central Services: DSN 388-9241, civ. 06221-338-9240.

◆**EFMP Camp** – The Exceptional Family Member Program will host a summer camp Aug. 8-12 for enrolled members in grades one through eight. Camp includes field trips and space is limited. DSN 370-6883, civ. 06221-57-6883.

◆**All You Can Eat Pizza** – Take the family for all the pizza and bowling they want at the Patrick Henry Village Bowling Center 6-8 p.m. Mondays through Aug. 29. DSN 388-9040, civ. 06221-338-9040, *www. mwrgermany.com*.

◆**Volksmarch Volunteers** – Volunteers of various skills and commitment levels are needed for the 37th annual Volksmarch held Sept. 24-25 at the International Gesamtschule in Heidelberg-Hasenleiser. Free T-shirt and food and drink coupons. Civ. 06227-841226, *www.hiwc.de.*

◆**Military History** – The Military History Round Table, an informal group of Germans and Americans interested in World War II is open to anyone who has an interest in military equipment, uniforms, patches and memorabilia. The club meets 7 p.m. at the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club monthly on third Thursdays. DSN 370-8686, civ. 06221-57-8686.

MANNHEIM

Education

◆**ACS Classes** – Volunteer Management Information System, 1:30-2:30 p.m. July 27.

Community

◆ **Warrior Zone** – The Warrior Zone on Coleman Barracks has new hours: closed Mondays, Tuesdays and U.S. holidays, 5-10 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 4-10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 4-9 p.m. Sundays. DSN 382-4410, civ. 0621-779-4410.

◆ **Karaoke Night** – Sing with the best of them at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village 8-11 p.m. July 23. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370, *www. mwrgermany.com.*

◆**Vacation Bible School** – Students and volunteers should register now-July 24 for the God is Good vacation Bible school 10 a.m.-noon Aug. 8-12 at the Benjamin Franklin Village Chapel. DSN 380-9448, civ. 0621-730-9448.

◆**Board Game Night** – Test your skills in chess, UNO, Pictionary and other board games 4:30-10 p.m. July 25, Aug. 1 and every Monday at the Warrior Zone on Coleman Barracks. DSN 382-4410.

◆**Self Service Supply Center** – The SSSC is closed for annual inventory. It will reopen for customer service July 25. DSN 373-5368.

◆**Country and Western Night** – Enjoy music and videos hosted by DJ Cadillac Country 8 p.m.-1 a.m. July 28 at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370, *www. mwrgermany.com*.

◆**EFMP Camp** – The Exceptional Family Member Program will host a summer camp Aug. 8-12 for enrolled members in grades one through eight. See Heidelberg listing. DSN 3385-3101, civ. 0621-730-3101.

◆**Salsa Lessons** – Learn to salsa 6-7 p.m. for level one and 7-8 p.m. for level two on Wednesdays at the Top Hat Club on Benjamin Franklin Village. DSN 380-9370, civ. 0621-730-9370, *www. mwrgermany.com.*

◆**Summer Specials** – Spinelli Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 1570, offers monthly summer discounts now through September. DSN 384-6300, civ. 0621-730-6232, *www. mwrgermany.com.*

◆**Free Bowling** – Kids play free Thursdays in July when accompanied by an adult bowler at the Benjamin Franklin Village Bowling Center. DSN 380-9528, civ. 0621-730-9528.

◆**Youth of the Chapel** – Youth of the Chapel meet 3:30 p.m. (junior high) and 6 p.m. (high school) Wednesdays at the Sullivan Barracks Chapel across from the gym. Groups meet 6 p.m. Sundays.

20th Annual Summer Slam Results
July 15-17 in Heidelberg and Schwetzingen

Women's Softball
Bamberg defeated Kaiserslautern (11-9); Spangdahlem def. Grafenwoehr (10-8); Heidelberg def. Kaiserslautern (14-10); Ramstein def. Spangdahlem (14-11); Heidelberg def. Bamberg (31-2); Ramstein def. Grafenwöhr (14-10); Heidelberg def. Spangdahlem (7-6); Ramstein def. Bamberg (24-0)
Championship – Ramstein def. Heidelberg (26-15); Third Place – (Spangdahlem – Bamberg)
Most Valuable Player – Erika Calogero, Ramstein
Base Hit Champion – Patty Hall, Grafenwöhr

Men's Softball
Kaiserslautern def Heidelberg (13-12); Ramstein def. Ansbach (30-12); Morning Wood def. Bamberg (15-9); Spangdahlem def. Grafenwoehr (23-13); Morning Wood def. Heidelberg (18-9); Bamberg def. Kaiserslautern (12-8); Ramstein def. Grafenwoehr (29-50); Spangdahlem def. Ansbach (16-15); MorningWood def. Kaiserslautern (12-2); Bamberg def. Heidelberg (9-7); Grafenwöhr def. Ansbach (20-8); Spangdahlem def. Ramstein (18-16)
Championship – Ramstein def. Spangdahlem (30-6); Third Place – (Bamberg – Morningwood)
MVP – Shane Byrd, Ramstein
Home Run Champion - Shane Byrd, Ramstein

Men's Basketball
Heidelberg def. Ansbach (55-41); Schweinfurt def. Stuttgart (78-58); Ramstein def. Bamberg (74-37); Kaiserslautern def. Camp Darby (64-34); Schweinfurt def. Bamberg (61-50); Ramstein def. Stuttgart (66-60); Heidelberg def. Camp Darby (63-40); Kaiserslautern def. Ansbach (53-46); Bamberg def. Stuttgart (74-66); Ramstein def. Schweinfurt (70-63); Kaiserslautern def. Heidelberg (52-47); Camp Darby def. Ansbach (55-48)
Championship – Ramstein Def. Kaiserslautern (54-48 Ot)
Third Place – Schweinfurt def. Heidelberg (56-50)
MVP – Desmond Martin (Ramstein)
Three-Point Champions – Kela Peterson -Women (Heidelberg) Men- Cedric Thomas (Ramstein)
Slam Dunk Champion - McKinley Bethea (Ramstein)

Women's Basketball Final Results
(Best of three games) Heidelberg def. Ramstein (46-38)
Championship – Heidelberg def. Ramstein (52 -34)
MVP – Evelyn Edwards, Heidelberg

Beach Volleyball
Two-Person Championship – Baden-Württemberg (Mitchell Leonguerrero – Chavez Jonathan) def. Wiesbaden (Frances Cruz – Roxanna Porter)
Four-Person Championship – Baden-Württemberg (Malia Taifi, Mitchell Leon, Timothy Bombard, Karin Tungplan) def. Wiesbaden (Frances Cruz, Roxanne Porter, Michelle Awiro, Peggy Keeley)

Racquetball Champions
Men's A – Jan Lysakowski, Hamburg; runner up: Todd Elias, Kaiserslautern
Men's B – Maxime Bizeau, Paris, France; runner up: Michael McCormick, Wiesbaden
Men's C – Mike Sigona, Munich; runner up: Justin Humphrey, Mannheim
Men's Novice – Clayton Lynch, Mannheim; runner up: Rosi Wahl (Female), Heidelberg
Men's 50+ – James Johnson, Heidelberg; runner up: Walter Sauer, Heidelberg
Men's 19+ – Jan Lysakowski, Hamburg; runner up: Maxime Bizeau, Paris, France
Men's Open – Jan Lysakowski, Hamburg; runner up: James Johnson, Heidelberg
Men's 35+ – Todd Elias, Kaiserslautern; runner up: Bobbie Breese, Wiesbaden

Slam Dunk

Dijon Rolle

Heidelberg's Dejay Jenkins battles it out under the net during a faceoff with Ansbach at one of the opening basketball games of U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg's 20th annual Summer Slam competition on Patton Barracks in Heidelberg Friday. The Heidelberg Generals went on to capture a 55-41 victory over Ansbach. Summer Slam took place Friday through Sunday on Patton, Campbell and Tompkins Barracks and featured sports competitions in men's and women's basketball, men's and women's softball, beach volleyball and racquetball. Competitions were also held to find the best base hitter, home run and slam dunk champions. A change this year was the absence of the Mannheim Mustangs men's and women's basketball teams. Both are now merged under the Heidelberg banner due to Mannheim's deactivation in May.

U.S. Forces Europe Tennis Championships Results
July 15-16 in Heidelberg

Men's Open
Quarter Finals – Andrew Gile (Hohenfels) vs. Brett Freedman (Landstuhl) – Default for Brett Freedman; Brian Kelley (Ramstein) def. Tim Goss (Heidelberg) 7/6 - 6/1
Semi-Finals – Phillip Ramil (Kaiserslautern) def. Brett Freedman(Landstuhl) 6/1 - 6/2; Brian Kelley (Ramstein) def. Samuel Siegel (Mannheim) 7/5 - 6/0
Finals – Phillip Ramil (Kaiserslautern) def. Brian Kelley (Ramstein) for first place 7/6 - 5/7 - 6/2; Brett Freedman (Landstuhl) def. Samuel Siegel (Mannheim) for third place 6/1 - 6/0

Men's Master
Quarter Finals – Fel Santos (Vilseck) def. Jerry Swedlund (Mannheim) 6/4 - 6/4; Nathaniel Strong (Graffenwöhr) def. Scott Diaz (Stuttgart) 6/0 - 6/0
Semi-Finals – Jonathan Etterbeek (Schinnen) def. Fel Santos (Vilseck) 6/1 - 6/0; Jim Moss (Kaiserslautern) def. Nathaniel Strong (Graffenwöhr) 6/1 - 6/4
Finals – Jonathan Etterbeek (Schinnen) def. Jim Moss (Kaiserslautern) for first place 6/2 – 6/0; Nathaniel Strong (Graffenwöhr) def. Fel Santos (Vilseck) for third place 6/1 - 6/2

Men's Doubles
Semi-Finals – Jim Moss (Kaiserslautern)/Jerry Swedlund (Mannheim) def. Samuel Siegel (Mannheim)/Scott Diaz (Stuttgart) 6/0 - 6/4
Finals – Phillip Ramil (Kaiserslautern)/Brian Kelley (Ramstein) def. Jim Moss (Kaiserslautern)/Jerry Swedlund (Mannheim) 6/3-6/3
Third Place – Samuel Siegel (Mannheim)/Scott Diaz (Stuttgart)

Women's Open
Quarter-Finals – Kelly Omohundro (Kaiserslautern) def. Mayumi Choi (Ramstein) 6/2 - 6/1;
Semi-Finals – Maya Pardee (Spangdahlem) def. Kelly Omohundro (Kaiserslautern) 6/1 – 6/0; Chery Riise (Spangdahlem) def. Sally Cotter (Heidelberg) 6/1 -6/0
Finals – Maya Pardee (Spangdahlem) def. Chery Riise (Spengdahlem) for first place 6/1 – 7/6; Kelly Omohundro (Kaiserslautern) def. Sally Cotter (Heidelberg) for third place 6/0 - 6/2

Mixed Doubles
Quarter-Finals – Brett Freedman (Landstuhl)/Chery Riise (Spangdahlem) def. Nathaniel Strong (Graffenwöhr)/Sally Cotter (Heidelberg) 6/1 - 6/1
Semi-Finals – Kelly Omohundro (Kaiserslautern)/Jonathan Etterbeek (Schinnen) def. Fel Santos (Vilseck)/Mayumi Choi (Ramstein) 6/2 - 6/0; Brett Freedman (Landstuhl)/Chery Riise (Spangdahlem) 6/1- 4/1 Retired def. Maya Pardee (Spangdahlem)/ Mark Pardee (Spangdahlem)
Finals – Brett Freedman (Landstuhl)/Chery Riise (Spangdahlem) def. Kelly Omohundro (Kaiserslautern)/Jonathan Etterbeek (Schinnen) 6/2-6/4
Third Place – Maya Pardee / Mark Pardee (Spangdahlem) def. Fel Santos (Vilseck) / Mayumi Choi (Ramstein) 6/4-6/1

staying ACTIVE

Heidelberg Men's Softball
Championship Tournament –The unit level softball championship tournament will be held July 25-Aug. 1 on the Patton Barracks sports field.

Rod and Gun Club
The Rod and Gun Club in Oftersheim will host an American skeet competition 10 a.m. Aug. 6, a hunter's meeting 7 p.m. Aug. 10, bluegrass night 7 p.m. Aug. 11, handgun safety course 5 p.m. Aug. 12, trap course 1 p.m. Aug. 13, a needle shoot 9 a.m. Aug. 20 that requires a hunting license, fun shoot 10 a.m. Aug. 21, shotgun safety course 5 p.m. Aug. 26, skeet course 1 p.m. Aug. 27 and fishermen's meeting 7 p.m. Aug. 31. Civ. 06202-51-193.

Flag Football Official Tournament
A flag football officials' clinic and tournament will be held Aug. 9-13. Official's classroom instructions will be 6-9 p.m. Aug. 9-12 at the Heidelberg Sports Office on Patton Barracks and the tournament is Aug. 13. Free entry for the first four unit-level teams that register. DSN 373-8032, civ. 06221-17-8032.

Sports Physicals
Landstuhl – The Department of Pediatrics at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center will offer increased availability in July and August for sports physicals for all children 5-18 enrolled with the LRMC Pediatric Clinic. The primary care manager-booked appointment is to fulfill the school requirement for a sports physical. The appointment will not include medication refills, acute appointments, sick child visits, lab work or immunizations. Appointments: DSN 486-5762, civ. 06371-86-5762.
Heidelberg – School sports physicals will be conducted by appointment only at the Heidelberg Health Center in Bldg. 3617 for dependents ages 6-18 years old July 30. Pre-participation questionnaires are required prior to scheduling. DSN 371-2622, civ 06221-17-2622.

Off-ice Hockey Officials
Die Players Liga is the largest non-official hockey league in Germany. DPL's inline hockey season is currently underway and the league is searching for off-ice officials. No prior knowledge is required, just an interest in hockey and the desire to be part of the team. English is the main language spoken and five military hockey teams play in the league. All games are played weekends at the Friedrichspark (previous home to the Mannheim Adler) next to the Mannheim University Schloss in Mannheim. Contact: civ. 0172-6263642, *info@dpliga.com*.

Bowlopolis
Children under 17 can bowl June 16-Aug. 29 with a Bowlopolis card good for $1 games and $1 shoe rental before 5 p.m. daily at the Patrick Henry Village Bowling Center in Heidelberg. DSN 388-9040, civ. 06221-338-9040, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

20-20-20
Landstuhl Fitness offers a three-part class: 20 minutes cardio, 20 minutes body sculpt with Yoga and Pilates moves and 20 minutes resistance training 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, on Landstuhl Post, Bldg. 3720, in Kaiserslautern. DSN 486-7172, civ. 06371-86-7172.

Cosmic Bowling or Kids Free
The Bowling Center on Benjamin Franklin Village offers Cosmic Bowling 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturdays. Kids bowl free every Thursday in July. DSN 380-9528, civ. 0621-730-9528, *www.mwrgermany.com.*

Prenatal Fitness Classes
Prenatal fitness classes include cardio, resistance training and gentle stretching for expectant and new mothers, 11 a.m.-noon Tuesdays and Thursdays, Landstuhl Fitness Center, Bldg. 3720. DSN 486-7172, civ. 06371-86-7172.

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