

# Bavarian News

Vol 3. Nr. 11

U.S. Army Garrisons Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Ansbach, Bamberg, and Schweinfurt

May 30, 2007

## Garrison, German officials addressing mold, moisture issues in Kaltenbrunn

by ADRIANE FOSS  
Editor

Garrison Grafenwoehr, German federal, and IMCOM-Europe real estate officials are working to identify and treat cases of indoor mold after several Kaltenbrunn residents complained about the fungus in their homes during an April 25 town hall meeting at the Grafenwoehr Middle School.

During the meeting, several residents of the build-to-lease housing area located between Grafenwoehr and Vilseck said they had discovered what they thought was mold in their homes.

The following day, Garrison Housing Manager Bob Arbios, along with health and DPW officials, began a door-to-door inspection of

For more information on mold, visit the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Web site at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold>

Kaltenbrunn's 80 housing units for mold and moisture problems.

At the time of publication, 64 of the homes had been inspected and according to Arbios, 45 of the 64 homes showed evidence of past or present moisture problems. The team found what they believe are superficial cases of mold in some of those 45 units, meaning that the mold can be treated by simply washing the area with water and detergent or bleach.

In four of the homes, however, significant

mold problems may exist, said Arbios.

Since the inspections were made and mold issues were identified, he has called in the Grafenwoehr Suboffice of IMCOM-Europe's Real Estate Office to work with Germany's Institute for Federal Real Estate, the Kaltenbrunn homeowners association, and the Bavarian State Construction Office officials to correct mold and moisture problems in the units.

During a May 22 interview with the Bavarian News, Claudia Queen from the IMCOM-E Real

Estate Office, confirmed that several of the contacted agencies are working closely with the lessor, or owner of the Kaltenbrunn properties, to determine what needs to be repaired and how repairs will take place.

"Our Grafenwoehr office has conducted an inspection with the Bavarian State Construction office and the lessor's representative of the housing units," said Queen.

"The state construction office will prepare an official report with their findings regarding the cause of the moisture and mold problem as well as recommendations on appropriate repair measures," she said.

"A meeting is scheduled for 25 May with representatives of our Grafenwoehr office, the

See **MOLD** Page 29

## Graf saving energy, one long-lasting bulb at a time

by ADRIANE FOSS  
Editor

In 1992 Dieter Bauernschmitt, with little fanfare, unscrewed a blown light bulb on his living room ceiling and replaced it with a brand new bulb.

After nearly a decade and a half—just last year—and after having been switched on and off every day for several hours, the bulb finally gave out.

Again, he replaced the bulb with an energy-saving, long life compact fluorescent light bulb—one he hopes will last him another 15 years.

"It was a minor experiment I did at home myself," he said with a smile.

Bauernschmitt is a U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr's Pollution Prevention manager and



works to reduce pollution and resource consumption throughout the garrison.

"I was a chemist at the time and very interested in saving raw materials, energy," he said.

See **SAVE**  
Page 29

Story and photos by ADRIANE FOSS  
Editor

Representatives from 32 nations visited U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr May 23 to view firsthand the capabilities of the Stryker vehicle, considered the centerpiece of U.S. Army Europe's transformation efforts.

The nation reps were members of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, a pan-European security body whose 56 participating States span the geographic area from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

The OSCE is an instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation in its area.

The 32 nation reps that visited Grafenwoehr travelled to Range 118, where they witnessed firsthand a 2d Stryker Cavalry Regiment platoon conduct a live fire operation.

"Our American friends fulfilled the requirement of the Vienna Document (which requires member countries) to present new equipment (to all members)," said Col. Ekkehard Hetzke, the German army's OSCE representative.

"There are no misunderstandings between our countries," said Hetzke during an interview following the demonstration. "All of our questions were answered. We saw U.S. Soldiers demonstrate pride, belief, and trust in their equipment."

The members visited Grafenwoehr May 22-24 and also attended briefings, static displays, and a mayor's reception.

## FIREPOWER

### Grafenwoehr hosts 32 nations as reps visit, view Stryker capabilities, satisfy Vienna Document



Representatives from OSCE member nations viewed the live fire exercise conducted by the 2d Stryker Cavalry Regiment Soldiers at Range 118 March 23. The visit fulfilled the Vienna Document requirement that members show one another new weapons systems.



## Drill team cadets nab top honors

Story and photo by KATIE COWART  
Assistant editor

Three members of Vilseck High School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp Drill Team took top honors in individual awards during the USAREUR DoDDS drill team finals May 19.

The top drill teams from throughout Europe converged on Ansbach earlier this month, where cadets faced off to determine the best of the best in armed drill performances, including regulation and exhibition drills.

Regulation drill showcases standard military movements, while exhibition drill highlights precision movements in routines with spinning rifles. Cadets use demilitarized rifles (that can not fire) in all competitions.

While VHS did not win the overall title, three cadets were recognized as outstanding competitors in the individual awards.

Cadet Cpl. Jordan Goree, a junior, won first place in the individual exhibition armed drill category.

"It was a nail-biter to go up there and see them put your name on the first place slide," he said.

Brothers Cadet 1st Sgt. Levi Griffin, a senior, and Cadet Master Sgt. Ivan Griffin, a junior, competed and won the dual exhibition armed drill category.

"We were the first team to go," Levi said, "so we had to go right away to the inspection pad and then perform."

The competition started at 9 a.m. in the helicopter hanger with approximately 100 parents, teachers,



Cadet Jordan Goree

See **GRIFFIN** Page 29

## \$20K bonus offered for eligible Army captains

by Sgt. MATTHIS CHIROUX  
USAREUR Public Affairs

The word is out. Captains are in high demand, and the Army's doling out unprecedented retention bonuses to keep them.

If you're an O-3 who's completed your initial active-duty service obligation - ADSO in Army-speak - and have less than eight years of active federal service, you may be eligible to receive a \$20,000 bonus for extending your service obligation an additional three years.

According to a memorandum from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense: "Effective immediately, the following Army company-grade

commissioned officer basic branches (are designated) as critical: Air Defense Artillery; Adjutant General; Armor; Chemical; Engineer; Field Artillery; Finance;

Infantry; Military Intelligence; Military Police; Ordnance; Quartermaster; Signal; Transportation; Medical Service Corps; and Army Nurse. Officers (of specified branches can) execute a written agreement that provides for a three-year service obligation in exchange for a lump sum payment of \$20,000."

"This will most likely be offered to most basic branch captains with a date

See **CAPTAINS** Page 6

# Q&A

What is the most important thing *you* learned during your *senior* year?



**Simona Womack**  
"After school, I'll be attending Maryland in Vilsack. I've learned that anything is possible if you put your mind to it."

**Devon Douglas**  
"I've learned what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, whatever it is. I'm going to Eastern Michigan University."



**Courtney Baer**  
"I've learned that success is only achieved through hard work and dedication. I'm going to UNC Chapel Hill to major in biology to become a dentist."

**Ricky McCarthy**  
"I'm going to college over here at University of Maryland. I learned that if you have a question, ask it, because you never know who has the answer."



**Alexandra Touzinsky**  
"There's a lot more to life than high school. I will be a music major at James Madison University in Virginia."

**Trey White**  
"I'm signing a letter of intent to play football at Campbellsville University. You never know if you've failed at something unless you've tried."



**Stefanie Kastner**  
"I'm going to an international university in Holland. I've learned the value of friendship."

**Angela Odom**  
"I'm going to the University of Memphis to study nursing. I learned that any problem you have can be solved by laughing with your friends."



## Command Message

# Summertime brings longer days, special entertainment

Even after commanding for two years, you learn something new every day.

### New Outdoor Recreation Hours

Outdoor Recreation hours will again begin a long-standing practice of being open on the weekends.

As most of you know, ODR in Graf is one program with two offices. During the summer months we keep the Vilsack facility open on the weekends to cater to boat and other summer outdoor activities.

During ski season we do the same for the Grafenwoehr facility. Full details are below.

Phones are transferred to the "hot" office during its opening times to catch all calls, so come out and enjoy ODR resources on weekends, too.

■ Rose Barracks Bldg. 2236, most of the year:

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Memorial Day through Labor Day:



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

U.S. holidays, Saturday, and Sunday: noon-5 p.m.

■ Grafenwoehr Bldg. 600, most of the year: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

First week in November through the last week in March:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays open 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

### Special Entertainment

Congratulations to Hohenfels for obtaining the Lt. Dan Band for the community. Although we tried to get them here, it was just impossible.

We continue to work special entertainment for the community and the following acts are set for Grafenwoehr.

Please come out and enjoy the shows.

■ The X-PATS *Rock - Blues* (Adult) playing at Zone Sports Bar in Vilsack, June 9 at 9 p.m.

■ Naturally 7 *R&B* (Family) playing at the Vilsack Theater on July 17 at 7 p.m.

■ Bomshel *Country* (Family) playing at the Grafenwoehr Volksfest, Aug. 5 at 9 p.m.

### Camp Army Challenge

We still have a few slots left for both the A.R.M.Y. Challenge Adventure (youth grades 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) and for the Tall Ship Adventure for older youths (July 27 - Aug. 1).

We extended applications until all slots have been filled. The application form for Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge is online at [www.mwr-europe.com](http://www.mwr-europe.com)

With hot temperatures and recent rain, the grass is growing and I appreciate all the neighbors out mowing their lawns.

I'd remind all that powered yard work is frowned on by the local communities on Sunday.

If living off post, you can and will get fined by the Polizei and on post, we need to just be good neighbors and not cut, power weed, or power vacuum on Sunday.

With daylight until almost 10 p.m., use the work week to cut, and thanks for helping me keep our community neat and making this the best place to live and serve in Europe.

*Col. Brian T. Boyle  
Commander, U.S. Army  
Garrison Grafenwoehr*

# Just coming home will be good enough for most spouses, families



**JACEY ECKHART**  
*On the Homefront*

The lady from Fleet and Family Support Center was scaring people. She wasn't doing it on purpose.

She was only telling an illustrative story about how she and her husband pulled up into the driveway right after their homecoming.

She remembered how proud she felt about how she had taken care of everything, how green the grass was.

Then her husband said, "Didn't I teach you how to use the edger before I left?"

"Oh, God," said the gal next to me. "Is that the way it's going to be?"

"Pretty much," I whispered back. "Shoot, I'll just be glad to see Brad's head on the pillow. If I go to bed that night and he's there - even if he is there in a coma - I'll be happy."

The chick didn't look like she felt any better. I couldn't blame her.

Homecoming is supposed to mean the same thing as Honeymoon. Sometimes it does. Sometimes it doesn't.

This time I just don't care. I've had 19 months of seeing Brad about once a month while he has been with the ship in New Orleans. I'm not looking for a honeymoon.

What I want now is pretty much whittled down to what I will settle for. "Just come home," I tell him on the phone every night. "Come home."

I mean it. I'm not expecting him to paint anything or clean anything or worship at the

altar of my lawn carability. I just want him to show up.

After all these months I want to cook dinner for someone who will eat red meat.

I want my house to smell like coffee on weekends. I want to see a few beers in my fridge and sports on my TV.

Most of all I just want to see his head on the pillow. Really, that's all I need.

I want him to groan with delight when he crawls in next to me, bury his head in the pillow and murmur how good I smell just before he falls asleep.

No wonder my pal at the Return and Reunion brief thinks that's pathetic. She's thinking that is just the physical stuff - a mere partner in the business of life. It isn't even sexy. In fact, it's what normal couples get used to and sick of first.

It certainly isn't what my generation sets out to get when they marry.

In a 2001 Gallup poll commissioned by the National Marriage Project out of Rutgers University, researchers found that 94 percent of singles in their 20s who had never been married said they wanted nothing less than a soul mate.

They wanted someone to fill their emotional needs, share their aspirations, fit

into their life in a spiritual way.

I like that stuff too, and I have had all that over the last 19 months.

Acceptance and comfort and love and humor and tax instructions can be reliably delivered by cell phone or e-mail.

All that's missing is the one thing that marriage has provided couples for centuries - companionship - simple companionship.

"Do you think that's stupid?" I asked Brad after telling him about the meat eating and the beer drinking and the falling asleep before his head hit the pillow.

"Isn't that what you want, too?"

"Yeah, but my version has us with our shirts off," he said.

"Mine does too," I said quickly.

He laughed. "I bet it does."

We were both quiet for a beat. "Just come home," I said. "Please, come home."

*A 19-year military spouse, Jacey Eckhart is a nationally syndicated columnist with CinCHouse.com and the host of "The Jacey Eckhart Show for Military Families" ([www.cinchouse.com/jacey](http://www.cinchouse.com/jacey)).*



**Cartoon by Emerlyn Rivera  
Grade 5, Age 11**

## Bavarian News

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Ansbach, Bamberg, and Schweinfurt

Producer: MILCOM Advertising Agency

Roswitha Lehner

Zeilaeckerstr. 35 · 92637 Weiden · Telefax 0961-67050-32

Internet: [www.milcom.de](http://www.milcom.de)

Bavarian News is an unofficial biweekly publication authorized by AR 360-1. Editorial views are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. The paper is an offset publication prepared and edited by the U.S. Army Garrison-Grafenwoehr Public Affairs Office. Bavarian News is printed by Werbeagentur und Verlag Roswitha Lehner and distributed every other Wednesday. Circulation is 12,000 copies. Submissions are welcome. Send letters to the editor and commentaries to PAO, Unit 28130, Attn: Bavarian News, APO AE 09114, or e-mail them to [usagnews@graf.eur.army.mil](mailto:usagnews@graf.eur.army.mil). Telephone the Bavarian News at 475-7113 or fax to 475-7935 with story ideas and events.

**USAG G Commander**  
Col. Brian Boyle

**USAG G Acting Public Affairs Officer**  
Nick D'Amario (475-6417)

**Bavarian News Editor**  
Adriane Foss (475-7113)

**Assistant Editor**  
Katie Cowart (475-8103)

**Grafenwoehr Correspondent**  
Bilyana Atova (475-1600)

**Hohenfels Correspondent**  
Garry Barrows (466-4860)

**Food & Culture Columnist**  
Martina Bias (475-1600)

**Bamberg Correspondents**  
(469-2000)  
Amy Bugala

**Schweinfurt Correspondents**  
(354-1600)

Mark Heeter, CI Chief  
Kimberly Gearhart  
Sandra Wilson

**Ansbach Correspondents**  
(467-1600)

Jim Hughes, CI Chief  
Ronald Toland

# 3rd Quarter Honor Roll

## Grafenwoehr Elementary School

### 4th Grade

Chanelle Garcia  
Edgar Guardarrama III  
Hannah Bartolotto  
Hana Owens  
Ciara Centamore  
Molly Maine  
Sydney Moore  
Enrique Blunt  
Jonathan Bennett  
Sean Boyle  
Shawnee Gresham  
Bryan Battaglia  
Ciaran McCabe  
Michaela Todd  
Sofia Dinges  
Robert Root  
Roy Butler  
Ian Seitz  
Andrew Toohey  
Breanna Hogan  
Zane Najdawi  
Sydney Moore  
Nicholas Serrano  
Samantha Bidingier  
Nia Cohen  
Bhryen Villalon  
Bryce Centamore  
Michaela Lechwar  
Joseph Bonar  
Kierra Roby  
Austin Holmstrom-Conn  
Camille Williams  
Ingrid Langhammer-Kenan  
Michela Caffrey

### 5th Grade

Patrick Depuy  
Caitlin Rabuck  
Gabriella Sullenger  
Jesse Hall  
Haylie Steffe  
Michaela Gibson  
Emily Manzo  
Katherine Mason  
Mariel Colon-Leyva  
Devin Florendo  
Vanessa Banister  
Karen Grier  
Aspen Moore  
Taylor Watson  
Malik Harris  
Manuel Rivera  
Noah Kraemer  
Darron Martinez  
Hannah Collins  
Michael Stratton  
Nicholas Lawrence  
Felix Garcia  
Nadia Almomory  
Hahkieo Buchanan-Johanningmeier  
Astrid Gonzalez  
Adrian Martinez  
Emerlyn Rivera  
Jaiden Pharris  
Darius Hickman  
Spencer Kirkham

## Grafenwoehr Middle School

### 6th Grade B Honor Roll

Arnold, Michael D  
Barnett, Sakinah T  
Bartow, Nathaniel A  
Baskerville, Alexcia P  
Baumann, Lindsay  
Bruce, Christina N  
Calavera, Leiani K  
Camacho, Pedriene M  
Campbell, Carlton A  
Carr, Trevor A  
Castleberry, Rachel K  
Chavez-Wertz, Monique N  
Dallas, Corey J  
Destine Cesar, Lynnsey  
Florance, Kyle M  
Hunt, Chandler L  
Hurt, Justin L  
Keys, Kristofer A  
Leming, Thomas F  
Levasseur, Christopher R  
Luuga, Manusamoa J  
Moody, Shakeima I  
Morrison, Jay B  
Olson, James E  
Russell, Tylor J  
Streets, Anthony X

Taylor, Meagan R  
Trevino, Cathleen M  
Watts, Brandi C  
Webster, Ruby B  
Williams, Brandon L  
Windsor, Lekeiya Q

### 6th Grade A Honor Roll

Alston, Logan N  
Bias, Alexander P  
Blaylock, Joseph C  
Brunson, Kelsi  
Burbelo, Elsa E  
Callaghan McCann, Michaela V  
Cardona Tejera, Heidi  
Castro-O'Conner, Nian N  
Coleman, Chiara D  
Core, Carlie R  
Cormier, Christopher M  
Cormier, Mark A  
Dahlberg, Cheyenne C  
Davis, Jeffrey G  
Delapaz, Angela D  
Dixon, James C  
Edwards, Quinton C  
Farnham, Nicholas T  
Gallardo, Gabriel R  
Gutierrez, Alicia L  
Hicks, Diana G  
Holland, Danielle D  
Howard, Shralondra A  
Kirkham, Stuart J  
Knight, Caleb W  
Koslosky, Chris L  
Lagow, Johnathan J  
Marchese, Chelsey L  
Martin, Jazzmin A  
McIntire, Ashlea G  
Morris, Melissa H  
O'Neal, Aysha B  
Ragay, Michelle C  
Ramos, Victor J  
Robinson, Taylor D  
Rodriguez, Elizabeth M  
Royal, Chasity E  
Schaffer, Sarah E  
Serrano, Austen A  
Singh, Deepika A  
Smith, Nancy V  
Smith, Sharon A  
Speelman, Alicia M  
Thornbrugh, Sage M  
Tilzey, Stephen D  
Todd, Connor M  
Vertz, Kiana S  
Villalon, Benjamin D  
White, Katelyn R  
Wills, Courtney C

### 7th Grade B Honor Roll

Bartolotto, Emily E  
Blaser, Scarlett P  
Canale, Chad E  
Castro, Georgianna A  
Cohen, Chanelle R  
Edwards, Remington  
Eldredge, Dakota F  
Fassett, Jacquelyn M  
Gamboa, Krystianna M  
Henderson, Amanda L  
Kamara, Salimata H  
Kirk, Tyler A  
Lavallais Hocker, Ashley R  
Lee, Uriel E  
Lomonaco, Derrick  
Luuga, Sarahfina V  
McClinton, Deraj' T  
Murry, Jamila J  
Najdawi, Mariah C  
Odum, Andria L  
Ozuna, Edward L  
Powers, Stefanie U  
Pressley, Bria J  
Rael, Ariana M  
Ramer, Collins L  
Ramirez, Natalia M  
Selders, Xavier B  
Toomey, Lisa M  
Walker, Dmitri D  
Watson, Leah K  
Whitney, Patrick A

### 7th Grade A Honor Roll

Albright, Sharon N  
Argueta, Lauren K  
Barta, Gabor K  
Borrero, David  
Brown, Shelby J  
Cass, Emilie E  
Castillo, Elizabeth V  
Chroman, Connor G

Cooper, Katharine E  
Crusing, Timothy S  
Davidson, Alisha N  
Dinges, Luke A  
Fong, Krystal Y  
Hargis, Shania N  
Hickman, Calvin J  
Hoover, Maxwell L  
Hutchison, Keith L  
Imber, Dwayne C  
Kellas, Phillip M  
Kyle, Lindsay J  
Leming, Christian D  
Lyde, Darre'Auna  
Maitner, Amy C  
Moore, Megan N  
Naterlin, Michael R  
Pinkney, India C  
Prater, Rebekah K  
Ramella, Sharon M  
Roberts, Lisa-Marie N  
Rockwell, Stephenie E  
RodriguezArgueta, Marcella K  
Russell, Jared P  
Spiritty, Belinda G  
Tilton, Scott A  
Vance, Bianca M  
Watson, Damon L  
Wood, John C

### 8th Grade B Honor Roll

Alston, Jarrod L  
Caffrey, Elisa B  
Conley, Brittany N  
Cormier, Jacqueline M  
Degoh, Hillman T  
Dunn, Althea M  
Gray, Dane M  
Griggs, Leah K  
Imber, Lisa M  
Johnson, India S  
Jones, Danielle K  
Kiechler, Colleen M  
Lee, Christian H  
Miranda, Roberto F  
Muzzy, Anna K  
Orta, Gabriela E  
Pressley, Jasmine L  
Stratton, Emily  
Taylor, Chelsea D  
Tilton, Stephanie D  
White, Megan E

### 8th Grade A Honor Roll

Beckenhauer, Michelle K  
Bias, Patrick R  
Carriker, Sara B  
Elliott, Lindsey M  
Farnham, Oriana M  
Green, Michelle M  
Hendricks, Ashlia J  
Jordan, Ericka E  
Nelson, Christopher  
Nguyen, Jimmy K  
Rivera, Sheila V  
Rodriguez, Christine A  
Rye, Katherine E  
Schobin, Danica J  
Todd, Cole A  
Toohey, Erin C

Touzinsky, Karina V  
Trevino, Theresa M  
Villalon, Maxianne D

## Vilseck High School

### 9th Grade

Massie, Alyssa R  
Montanez, Ivelisse M  
Colon-Leyva, Christian

Lee, John Y  
Perez, Angelita B  
Smith, Dominique G  
Thompson, Dillon H  
Wood, David Y  
Young, Garratt D  
Andrews, Emma L  
Core, Amber K  
Davidson, Joshua  
Edwards, Colt S  
Floyd, Lindsey P  
Grier, Khyle S  
Holzhauser, Tabitha J  
Baer, Sophie M  
Rodriguez, Leonard F  
Zumwalt, Amanda  
Bryan, Mindy  
Johnston, Samantha J  
McCabe, Carianne M  
Salas, Benicia  
Untiet, Sean A  
Waters, Kevin R  
Anderson, Angelo F  
Cooper, Maurice A  
Hendricks, Amber N  
Jordan, Britteny L  
Mitchell, Genea K  
RisCassi, Ryan W  
Tanner, Virgilia S  
VanPatten, Calvin J

### 10th Grade

Corder, Courtney A  
Prater, Angela C  
Calder, Shane D  
Blevins, Angela R  
Coleman, Shamyra S  
DeJesus, Michelle L  
Holland, Christine P  
Taylor, Kevin M  
Hollis, Tamaria A  
McLeod, Tierra S  
Bidingier, Erik M  
Aviles, Jill-Annette O  
Welch, Gabriel D  
Barry, Benjamin A  
Gioia, Britney K  
Holloway, Rebecca  
Williams, Kimberly J  
Barnett, Allyson R  
Cass, Richard M  
Frenette, Angelina C  
Hood, Stephanie  
Morris, Kimberly M  
Reader, Shane W

### 11th Grade

Schaffer, Katherine  
Snoddy, Estelle L  
Lee, Lemuel J  
Leon, Rosa M

Lonowski, Daniel  
Lynn, Kelsey T  
Stark, Nolan K  
Perkins, Chad M  
Rye, Steven A  
Bergweiler, Jennifer  
Harmon, Shaquana R  
Ray, Timothy R  
Chavez, Larisa C  
Nixon, Jasmine M  
Morris, Michelle K  
Hickman, Chantel E  
Bultron, Carmen M  
Carriker, Anna M  
RisCassi, Nicholas C  
Calder, Jeri L  
Griffin, Ivan M  
Avery, Felicia  
Letourneau, Raymond C  
Anderson, Sean T  
Jordan, Robert R  
Odom, April W  
Agosto, Juan R  
Lewis, Nicole E  
McGaffin, Lea R  
Newbauer, Stephen R  
Ramirez, Ramon L  
Ursu, Victor S

### 12th Grade

Waters, Daniel C  
Skerrit, Corbin  
Baer, Courtney L  
Meredith, Jennifer E  
Brena, Nicloe N  
Daniels, Charlotte  
Odom, Angela M  
Griffith, Tiffany L  
Lee, Joshua S  
Johnston, Mary E  
Touzinsky, Alexandra K  
Wischniewski, Rebecca A  
DeLaRosa, Catherine M  
Bidingier, Jonathan W  
Florendo, Alexandria C  
Gentile, Jacqueline E  
Grier, Kevin S  
Kastner, Stefanie S  
Womack, Simona L  
Cruz, Brittany M  
Linka, Rebecca S  
Land, Caroline T  
Stewart, Shaquita V  
Yates, Sean E  
Turner, Ronnie D  
Selvage, Nicholas C  
White, Jacob  
Jordan, Kevin C  
McLaughlin, James M  
Grove, Jamie L  
Merritt, Christina L  
Spoon, Amanda N  
Douglas, Devon J  
Leon, Jose D  
Maine, Jasmine N  
Coleman, Erin N  
Ferrer, David P  
Perry, Anthony A  
Sierra, Eddie M  
Walters, Zachary T

## Spotlight on Education



**Name:**  
Susan Starr Whitney

**What grade/subject do you teach?**  
Spanish I and 6th Grade Language Arts

**Hometown:** Crown Point, Ind.

**How long have you been a teacher?** 39 years

**What do you like best about teaching?** I enjoy the variety my students bring to each new day. I am never bored because they are so talented, inquisitive, and eager to learn.

**What advice can you give students to help them succeed in school?** Work as hard as you can, complete every assignment as best as you possibly can on a daily basis, and apply for every college scholarship you can. My parents were unable financially to send me to college, but I applied for many scholarships and won enough to pay for my four years in college.

# Survey gives community a voice

Each year we conduct a survey to measure the well-being of the force and to determine whether or not you are satisfied with the programs, facilities, services, and other aspects of working and living in Europe.



Last year more than 6,000 Soldiers, civilian employees, retirees, and

family members took part in the survey. Thank you for your valuable input!

We need your support again. The 2007 Well-Being Survey will be conducted from May 14 through June 15.

This year we want to significantly increase the number of participants.

In particular, we would like to have more family members take part in the survey.

The survey takes about 30 minutes to complete. Surveys and answer sheets are located at convenient places throughout the community, such as Army Community Service centers, fitness centers, and libraries.

Answer sheets must be returned to these facilities or to the administering unit for collection and forwarding.

The USAREUR Modular Survey System Web site at <http://www.per.hqusareur.army.mil/umss/wbs.htm>

provides more information. As with last year's survey, you will be asked to rate the services and programs in the following areas:

- Childcare and Youth Programs
- Recreation
- Family Readiness
- Relocation
- Financial Readiness
- Schools and Education
- Healthcare

■ Spouse Employment  
I strongly encourage you to participate in the survey and to ask your neighbors, friends, and retirees who may not have heard about it to do the same.

This is your opportunity to indicate your level of satisfaction with the communities in which you live and to rate the overall effectiveness of the services they provide.

*Gen. David McKiernan  
Commander,  
U.S. Army Europe*



# HEALTHY EMPOWERMENT

BY DEMETRIUS WILLIS

**Do you recommend "to supplement" or "not to supplement"?**

*"Multivitamins on the Mind"*  
Kathy

Dear Kathy,  
Only you know if you need a multivitamin or MVI, but when you use "I believe" and "I try", I would say you probably need to consider taking a multivitamin daily.

You pose a really good question

because obviously pregnant women, vegetarians, and overall poor eaters would greatly benefit from a MVI but what about the rest of us?

Studies show that most people do not consume an optimal amount of vitamins and minerals through diet.

Check with your doctor to see if there are any vitamins you specifically need in your diet according to your lab and test results.

Then think about yesterday and how many fruits, vegetables, milk, and high fiber sources you consumed.

Now think about how "balanced" you ate this past weekend.

When choosing a multivitamin, look at the label and make sure it offers at least 100 percent of the daily value for the vitamins B1, B2, B3, B12, B6, C, D, E, and folic acid. Remember that more doesn't necessarily mean better, so avoid products with more than 100 percent of vitamins A and D.

Look up "USP" on the label. The U.S. Pharmacopeia is the official public standard setting authority for all prescription and over-the-counter

medicines. Check [usp.org](http://usp.org) for a list of verified supplements.

Finally, when you choose your MVI, purchase a small bottle to make sure you do not have a reaction to the pill. And, of course, follow the directions on the bottle.

*Demetrius*

Send your nutrition and fitness questions to [usagnews@EUR.army.mil](mailto:usagnews@EUR.army.mil). Willis is a registered dietician and a certified personal trainer.

Dear Demetrius,  
**What is your advice on multivitamins?**  
**Does everybody need them?**  
**I believe my diet is balanced overall. I try to watch my diet because I would like to receive the nutrition naturally.**

# Vilseck bars staying open longer

by **SETH ROBSON**  
*Stars & Stripes, European Edition*

Bars here are allowed to stay open later Friday and Saturday nights in a move that local authorities say is a response to months of good off-post behavior by U.S. Soldiers.

In October, the city of Vilseck introduced a 1 a.m. closing time for local bars after a series of fights involving newly arrived 2nd Cavalry (Stryker) Regiment Soldiers and

complaints from residents about the noise from patrons leaving bars early in the morning.

Vilseck Mayor Hans-Martin Schertl said May 15 that since last month, local bars have been allowed to open until 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The change was made because there have not been problems with Soldiers in Vilseck for months, he said.

"We had a few incidents in the first

couple of months but since that time we don't have any more problems," he said.

Meetings between the city and military leadership found solutions to the problems, he said, adding that 2SCR's leadership talked to Soldiers from the unit to sort things out.

The 2nd Cav Soldiers know their surroundings in Germany now and are spreading out, he said.

"Not as many Soldiers at one time are coming into our community. They

know the area and they are also going to other communities. That helped out a lot," he said.

Many 2SCR Soldiers now have cars, meaning fewer are walking into Vilseck on weekends, Schertl added.

Maj. Jon Pendell, 2SCR spokesman, said courtesy patrols, instituted by the unit in response to the off-post problems involving soldiers, ended in March due to the lack of recent incidents.

# Retiring Soldiers commended for more than 200 years of service

by **KATIE COWART**  
*Assistant Editor*

Nine Army retirees were honored at the U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr quarterly retirement ceremony May 16 at the Grafenwoehr Field House.

Each retiree was presented with the Army retirement pin, a certificate of appreciation signed by President George W. Bush, the Meritorious Service Medal, and an American flag.

These awards were presented by the Garrison Grafenwoehr Commander Col. Brian Boyle and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. John Burns. The wife of each retiree was also presented with a certificate of appreciation by Boyle and a red rose by Boyle's wife, Jean.

The retirees combined service to the U.S. military totaled approximately 200 years, a fact that Boyle commended the employees for during the closing remarks.

He said that this group of men saw major turning points in the military and in the world as a whole.

In addition to being on active duty during the tragedy of Sept. 11, all of the men were serving when the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, an historic event that changed how the U.S. Army operated in Europe.

"Thank you for your extraordinary service," said Boyle. "We wish you good luck in your next phase in life."

The retirees were:  
**Lt. Col. Robert Shoemaker with 28 years of service**

His military awards include: the Joint Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (three oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal (one oak leaf cluster), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the NATO Medal. *Shoemaker and his family reside near Amberg.*

**Capt. Charles Perryman with 21 years of service**

His military awards include: the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Award (three oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (three oak leaf clusters), Joint Unit Meritorious Accommodation, Superior Unit Award, Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary Medals, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral two), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral three), Humanitarian Service Medal, and Parachutist Badge. *Perryman and his family will live in Hohenfels.*

**Master Sgt. Timothy Hoffer with 25 years of service**

His awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (five oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (four oak leaf

clusters), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal (eighth award), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Korea Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Course (with numeral three), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral three), United Nations Medal (Somalia), Master Crewmember Aviation Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Driver/Mechanic Badge. *Hoffer and his family will live in Hohenfels.*

**Master Sgt. Jerry Hutchins with 21 years of service**

His awards include: Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal (sixth award), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Arrowhead Device), Southwest Asia Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral three), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral four), NATO Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), and Driver's Badge. *Hutchins and his family will live in Velburg, Germany.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Bertram Denson with 21 years of service**

He first enlisted in the Army Reserve and a year later enlisted as active duty. His awards include: Armor Order of St. George, Valorous Unit Award, Army Service Unit Award (two awards), Army Commendation Medal (three awards), Army Achievement Awards (12 awards), National Defense Service Medal (two awards), Southwest Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Good Conduct Medal (five awards), Army Service Ribbon, Driver's Badge, German Schuetzenschnur Badge (Bronze Award), and the Excellence in Armor Award. *Denson and his family will retire to Birmingham, Alabama.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Hatch with 20 years of service**

His awards include: Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (seven oak leaf clusters), Joint Meritorious Unit Award (second award), Valorous Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal (sixth award), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal,

Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral three), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, United Nations Macedonia Medal, NATO Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Basic Parachute Badge, Driver/Mechanic Badge, 1st ID Combat Patch, and the National Infantry Association's Order of St. Maurice and the U.S. Armor Association's Noble Patron of Armor Awards. *Hatch and his family will live in Glendale, Arizona.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Bruce Grazier with 23 years of service**

His awards include: Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Good Conduct Medal (seventh award), National Defense Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral three), Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral three), Bronze Star, Iraq Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, and British Airborne Wings. *Grazier and his family will retire to Bartlesville, Oklahoma.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Jacob White Jr. with four years in the Air Force prior to serving 20 years in the Army**

His awards include: Army Commendation Medal, Air Force

Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Air Force Service Ribbon for Short Tour, Air Force Training Ribbon, NATO Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Gold Army Recruiter Badge, Driver's Badge, and Gold German Marksmanship Award. *White and his family will live in Ludowici, Georgia.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Edward Bogawitch with 20 years of service**

His awards include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (second oak leaf cluster), Army Achievement Medal (tenth oak leaf cluster), Army Good Conduct Medal (six knots), National Defense Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, Southwest Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral three), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral two), United Nations Medal, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal. *Bogawitch and his family will live in Vilseck.*



**Cheyenne Dahlberg read her award-winning essay during Grafenwoehr Middle School's first D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony May 23.**

## Grafenwoehr Middle School celebrates its first D.A.R.E. graduates

by **KATIE COWART**  
*Assistant Editor*

May 23 marked the first Drug Awareness Resistance Education program graduation at Grafenwoehr Middle School.

This sixth grade class was also D.A.R.E. officer Sgt. Jacob Brewster's first completed course in teaching the D.A.R.E. curriculum.

The ceremony opened with Boy Scout Troop 261 leading the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief history of the program.

The guest speaker was Elizabeth Hill, the substance abuse counselor for the Grafenwoehr area.

Essay winners from the sixth grade class read their essays. Each student was required to write an essay for the class, and the winners were selected by Brewster.

Each participant was then awarded a certificate of completion and a free meal at Burger King or Anthony's Pizza.

The main purpose of the D.A.R.E. program is to teach elementary and middle school children the effects of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

"It's teaching them to make decisions," said Brewster.

During the class, the students participated in a variety of projects to help them absorb all of the information. One of the projects included making warning labels for cigarette packets.

Brewster, who volunteered as this year's D.A.R.E. officer, was enthusiastic about the change he began seeing in his students toward the end of the program.

"I heard one student, who had started off slowly in the class not doing his workbook, say to his friends at lunch one day, 'I can make a smarter decision than that,'" Brewster said.

Brewster enjoyed spending time with the students and imparting knowledge that would allow them to make right choices in their future.

"I wanted to do something more active in the community," he said. "It's the best thing that's happened in my military career."

Brewster also stressed that the success of the program can not be left up to D.A.R.E. officers alone, but takes the support of everyone in the community to make it work.

"I want to thank everyone who helped me make it what it is. D.A.R.E. isn't something the D.A.R.E. officer can do on his own," Brewster said.

## Family Camp



**Two Cub Scouts from Grafenwoehr Pack 261 took advantage of some quiet time during the group's May 18-20 Family Camp at Dickhauter Lake. In addition to fishing, the Scouts, their leaders, and families participated in soccer, dining alfresco, go-carting, geology, and astronomy activities. The weekend culminated in a celebration and award ceremony with the each of the Cub Scouts advancing to their next level.**

*photo by Sue Bluhm*

# Sign up by Sunday for area's annual Family Fitness Day, half-marathon

by GERALD MORGENSTERN  
Special to the Bavarian News

County Commissioner Simon Wittmann and U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr Commander Colonel Brian Boyle will kick off the sixth annual large family fitness day and half-marathon June 10 in the Four-City-Triangle (Grafenwoehr, Pressath, Eschenbach, and Kirchenthumbach).

The local sports clubs from Eschenbach, Pressath, Grafenwoehr, and Kirchenthumbach offer competitions including biking, Nordic walking, skating, and running. Apart from the traditional half-marathon, a 10K run will be part of the program for the first time.

The start and ending points of the joint sports and fitness event will be the parking lot of the Pressath shopping center (OBI-PEZ).

Events start at 1 p.m. when the skaters begin to roll in the direction of Eschenbach. The turning point is

Eschenbach's industrial area. At 1.15 p.m. the bikers go on the circular bike route between Pressath, Grafenwoehr, and Eschenbach.

Families can join the bikers along the route. Around 1.20 p.m. the Nordic walkers will begin their 6 or 12 kilometer tours in the Moos-Bärnwinkl area. At 1.30 p.m.

Wittmann and Boyle will start the half-marathon. The mayors of Pressath, Grafenwoehr, Eschenbach, and Kirchenthumbach will join them at the starting line. The approximate 21.1 kilometer long running portion of the half-marathon goes along dirt and asphalt bike trails in the Four-City-Triangle.

At 1.45 p.m. the 10K will begin. Runners will follow the bike track to Grafenwoehr. The turning point will be at the little chapel, right after passing Grafenwoehr's Ochsenhut housing area.

Signs will be posted along all routes and are secured by volunteers

and local firemen. The Bavarian Red Cross will be present as well. Water supply stations for the runners and walkers will be located along the routes.

Food and drinks are available for participants and guests at the start and ending points at the PEZ-parking lot in Pressath. The Play-Mobile of the Bavarian State Sports Association will entertain the children.

The event is sponsored by the Four-City-Triangle Regional Management Office, the four cities, the county commissioner's office, and the "Sport Point" store in Pressath. The event is geared to showcase the extensive sports and leisure opportunities offered in the region as well as the excellent network of bike trails between the communities.

A special invitation goes to American Soldiers and their families. The main intent of the event is not to honor athletic records but to promote fitness and fun. All children who

participate in the sporting events will receive a free T-shirt with the Four-City-Triangle logo.

Starting fees are charged only for the half-marathon and the 10K run. The cost for the half-marathon is 12 Euro and for 10 Euro for the 10K. All runners will receive a "finisher" T-shirt and a coupon for cake and beverages.

Participants must register by Sunday with the Pressath Sports Club. The POC is Mr. Ralph Neubauer at CIV 09644-917785 or [kontakt@halbmarathon.info](mailto:kontakt@halbmarathon.info)

Registration forms can be downloaded at [www.halbmarathon.info](http://www.halbmarathon.info) or picked up at the "Sport Point" sports store in the PEZ in Pressath or at the Graf Physical Fitness Center. Participants who wish to register on the day of the event must do so by 12.30 p.m. and are subject to a 3 EURO late fee (half-marathon: 15 Euro; 10K run: 13 Euro).

## Captains in demand, eligible for \$20K bonus

Continued From Page 1

of rank between Aug. 1, 2005, and Jan. 1, 2007," said Col. David Ellis, U.S. Army, Europe's deputy G-1, or chief of personnel. "These officers will be reaching the end of their ADSO and the bonus is one of the incentives that may be offered to get them to stay in."

The Army has already offered other retention inducements to some junior officers, Ellis said, including expanded graduate and military school opportunities, choice of branch and choice of initial post of assignment.

The bonus announcement comes at a time when many worry that continued deployments may be hurting officer retention. But, as Ellis pointed out, attrition among captains has been lower since 9/11 than it was in the 1990s.

He suggests the new bonuses may have roots in transformation and preparing the force for future requirements.

"The transformed Army has many more officer authorizations than what we began 2006 with," Ellis said. "Most of the growth is in captain and major slots, and the Army is expecting to be short more than 1,500 majors against new authorizations in 2009. Naturally, it takes many years to 'grow' a major, so the more captains we keep; the more we can close the gap."

Aviation and Special Forces officers are not eligible for this bonus, but according to an Army news release an incentive program for those officers will be developed later this year.

This bonus may again be offered to captains during fiscal years 2008 and 2009, subject to congressional reauthorization of the program.

According to Ellis, "this is all part of a very reasonable, well thought-out and researched strategy to maintain the outstanding quality officer corps our Army depends on today."

Place your free classified ad in the Bavarian News!

Call DSN 475-7113 or CIV 09641-83-7113 for information.

## Make sure summer fun is safe with sunscreen tips

by TRACY SVALINA  
Garrison Health Promotion Coordinator

Finally summer is here and we can enjoy bike riding, camping, scuba diving, swimming, grilling, and just plain having fun.

But let's not forget about safety, and let's not turn those wonderful summer activities into painful memories.

With each outdoor activity we must remember no matter how good the sun feels on our skin, it can cause serious damage. We have all heard it time and time again, how the sun's rays are bad for you, yet we forget to slap on the sunscreen.

Even when the sun is behind the clouds those rays can still burn. With the right precautions, kids and adults can safely play in the sun. Here are some tips:

### Avoid the Strongest Rays of the Day!

Avoid being in the sun for prolonged times when it's highest overhead and therefore the strongest (normally from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Northern Hemisphere).

If you are in the sun between these hours be sure to apply protective sunscreen, even if you are just playing in the backyard.

Most sun damage occurs as a result of incidental exposure during day-to-day activities, not at the beach. Even on cloudy, cool, or overcast days, UV rays travel through the clouds and reflect off sand, water, and even concrete.

Clouds and pollution don't filter out UV rays, and they can give a false

sense of protection.

This "invisible sun" can cause unexpected sunburn and skin damage. Often, we are unaware that they're developing a sunburn on cooler or windy days because the temperature or breeze keeps skin feeling cool on the surface.

### Cover Up!

One of the best ways to protect your family from the sun is to cover up and shield skin from UV rays. Ensure that clothes will screen out harmful UV rays by placing your hand inside the garments and making sure you can't see your hand through them.

Because infants have thinner skin and underdeveloped melanin, their skin burns more easily than that of older kids. But sunscreen should not be applied to babies under 6 months of age, so they absolutely must be kept out of the sun whenever possible.

If your infant must be in the sun, dress him or her in clothing that covers the body, including hats with wide brims to shadow the face. Use an umbrella to create shade.

Even older kids need to escape the sun. Long exposure can make them feel tired and irritable. For all-day outdoor affairs, bring along a wide umbrella or a pop-up tent to play in. If it's not too hot outside and won't

make your child even more uncomfortable, you can have him or her wear a light long-sleeved shirt and/or long pants.

### Use Sunscreen Consistently!

There are lots of good sunscreens available for kids, including formulations for sensitive skin, brands with fun scents like watermelon, long-lasting waterproof and sweat-proof versions, and easy-application varieties in spray bottles.

What matters most in a sunscreen is the degree of protection from UV rays it provides. When faced with the overwhelming sea of sunscreen

choices concentrate on the SPF, or Sun Protection Factor, numbers on the labels.

The SPF number tells you how much longer you can stay in the sun without burning if you apply the sunscreen, which acts as a "block" to the sun's rays. For example, if your child would burn after 20 minutes of sun exposure, applying a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 gives him or her 15 times the protection.

For kids age 6 months and older, select an SPF of 15 or higher to prevent both sunburn and tanning. To avoid possible skin allergy, avoid sunscreens with PABA, and if your child has sensitive skin, look for a

product with the active ingredient titanium dioxide (a chemical-free block).

For sunscreen to do its job, it must be applied correctly. Be sure to:

- Use sunscreen whenever your child will be in the sun.

- Apply sunscreen about 30 minutes before going outside so that a good layer of protection can form.

- Don't forget about lips, hands, ears, feet, shoulders, and behind the neck. Lift up bathing suit straps and apply sunscreen underneath them (in case the straps shift as your child moves).

- Don't try to stretch out a bottle of sunscreen; as a guide, apply the sunscreen generously.

- Reapply sunscreen often, approximately every 2 to 3 hours, as recommended by the American Academy of Dermatology.

- Reapply after your child is sweating or swimming.

- Apply a waterproof sunscreen if your child will be around water or will go swimming. Water reflects and intensifies the sun's rays, so kids need protection that lasts. Waterproof sunscreens may last up to 80 minutes in the water, and some are also sweat- and rub-proof.

Keep in mind that every child needs extra sun protection. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends that all children - regardless of their skin tone - wear sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Use the tips above and enjoy to beautiful weather.

Source: [www.kidshealth.org](http://www.kidshealth.org)

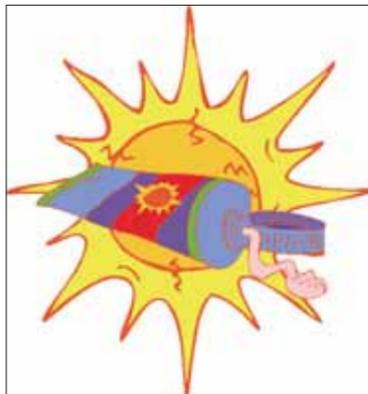


Photo by Shannon Hill

### Miniature fun

Riding the miniature train was only one of the fun activities for children at Vilseck's annual German-American Volksfest, May 11-13.

## AAFES

### SAFETY RECALL

TOY CENTURY - SOLDIER BEAR BRAND-INVINCIBLE TRANSPORT CONVERTERS  
STYLE# 88931 (UPC# 6 98567 88931 4)

The surface paints on the toy action figures have a high lead content.

Immediately take the toy away from children and return it to your local PX/BX for a full refund.



For more information, call (800)-866-3605 or visit <http://www.aafes.com>  
Recall done in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

# Snapshots of *IMCOM* garrisons



Photos by Amy L. Bugala

**Culture comes to life** The Wiesbaden Island Dancers performed traditional dances from various Asian-Pacific island regions during a luau outside the Warner Club in Bamberg May 19. Island music, dance, food, and culture were on display during the event attended by over 200 people. Samples of Hawaiian, Phillipino, Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Guamanian foods was also available.

## In loving memory of Lt. John Banks, a U.S. pilot shot down near the end of World War II



Friends and members of the VFW, Czech officials, and clergy gather at the memorial stone of Lt. John Banks, a U.S. pilot shot down near the end of WWII, following a May 12 ceremony in the town of Lom, Czech Republic. The annual tribute was initiated by Hal Hedges (far right), a three-war veteran. Guest of honor was Lt. Col. Bryan Denny, Vilseck's 2d Stryker Cavalry Regiment executive officer (in uniform, just right of the memorial stone). The ceremony was followed by a Czech-American friendship celebration, where hundreds of hamburgers barbecued by VFW member Thadeus Jones (second from right) were given to Lom citizens.

Photo by Nick D'amarico

## Middle school celebrates diversity

Story and photo by SANDRA WILSON  
Bavarian News

May 11, visitors to Schweinfurt Middle School were adorned with colorful leis and ushered into the gym to watch the forthcoming celebration of Asian Pacific American heritage.

"Our goal is to promote awareness, appreciation, and understanding and to foster positive growth in developing (our Asian) identity," said Lily Bagtas, SMS nurse and coordinator of the event.

After the advanced band introduced the show with Chinese and Japanese ensembles, a number of students performed dances reflecting the history and culture from various Asian Pacific traditions.

The Chinese Slipper Dance was performed by the youngest group of the entire celebration with dancers as young as 6 years old.

Three Philippine dances tested the agility of each performer as some danced on a six-inch wide bench, others danced with lit candles in each hand and one on top of their head, and others jumped in and out of snapping bamboo poles as a reenactment of animals hopping through farmer traps.

A karate exhibition gave Tae Kwon Do students an opportunity to show off their moves as well as break through solid wood boards with their hands or feet.

Three middle school students artfully moved their arms and hips in two dances from Guam and Tahiti. A



**Timothy Ybay snaps bamboo poles together as Janica Ecleo and Zane Kennedy jump in and out to the rhythm of lively music in the Philippine Tinikling Dance during Schweinfurt Middle School's Asian heritage celebration May 11.**

mother and daughter performed a Hawaiian dance.

Other performances included a colorful Korean Fan dance, a Korean duet played on the piano, and as a grand finale, the Chinese Dragon Dance.

Throughout the celebration, each group displayed specific regions through dress and dance. The bright colors illuminated the room and made

for a fine finishing touch to the heritage festivity.

"What I like especially this year is the team effort," said Dr. Eldrenna Durham, SMS principal. "It took a lot of hard work and effort to pull off this show."

The celebration was followed by an exhibition of Asian Pacific artifacts as well as a taste-testing of various ethnic foods.



Photo by Ronald H. Toland Jr.

**Never forget** Spc. Derrick Fontenot and Spc. Amy Page of USAG Ansbach's Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment hand over a wreath to Veterans of Foreign Wars representatives Jonathon E. Henry and Dale Nagan during the garrison's Memorial Day ceremony May 23 on Barton Barracks.

VFW Post 9342 from Ansbach hosted the ceremony along with the garrison to honor those who gave their lives in service to their country.

The Ansbach Post and Post 10708 from Zirndorf donated a wreath at the ceremony, as did the garrison.

# Controversy strikes ICE at all-star break

For those new to the Hohenfels community, we have made a competitive customer service league out of the Army's on-line Interactive Customer Evaluation Web site.

Every time a comment is entered into the ICE Web site regarding a Hohenfels service, the agency responsible for that service receives a "win" or a "loss" in the ICE league depending upon whether the comment was an "atta boy" or a criticism.

The league runs on a fiscal year basis. A champion is crowned each

Sept. 30 and receives a trophy for providing the best customer service in Hohenfels.

Monthly throughout the year, a rotating pennant signifying the current ICE league standings leader is presented, in a farcical ceremony, to the agency that is in first place at the end of each month and the ICE league standings are published quarterly in this newspaper.

That was all well and good until controversy rocked the league last week.

The current first place service provider as of the end of April was declared to be the Turnbull Library.

Since the library had never been in first place before, the entire team rushed the field in jubilant celebration just as the manager of the Sunrise Inn stormed the field from her dug out in the Sunrise Inn lobby loudly protesting a judgment

call by ICE league umpire and Garrison Commander, yours truly.

Apparently, with the stroke of a pen, I had dropped the Inn from 1st place to 14th place in the tightly contested league. I may have even been bumped in the ensuing mayhem.

The crux of the Sunrise Lodge manager's argument settles around a March 8 anonymous ICE comment submitted regarding the new breakfast program at the Sunrise Lodge.

In the "customer satisfied" block, the customer checked "yes"; however, the comment the customer wrote reads, "Breakfast is not satisfactory/not in same room."

In my judgment, the words "not satisfactory" constitute a loss, the only loss for the Lodge this season, and words should override a block check.

This was not good enough for the manager of the inn who I had to eject from the game when she kicked dirt onto home plate. The interim manager then continued the game under a formal protest. Playing under a protest creates a quandary since we have no ICE league commissioner's office and no formal protest system.

Much like major league baseball in the wake of the 1919 Black Sox scandal, we need to create the office of the ICE league commissioner.

The 1919, major league baseball owners turned to Federal Judge John "Kennesaw Mountain" Landis as their first commissioner of baseball and he promptly banned several Chicago White Sox players (including "Shoeless Joe" Jackson) from baseball for life.

We are going to turn to our JMRC Senior Mission Commander,

Col. Vandal as the first ever ICE league commissioner.

What will Col. Vandal decide? Will anyone be banned for life from the ICE league? Where does a nickname like "Shoeless Joe" come from? Will the pennant be taken from the circulation desk at the Library? How will this whole incident affect the play of the teams involved after the all-star break?

This is better than reality TV.

Tune in to the Bavarian News to find these answers and to see who will be crowned the 2007 Hohenfels ICE league customer service champion.

*Lt. Col. James Matheson  
Commander, U. S. Army  
Garrison Hohenfels*

## 'Have S'more Fun' camping out with Girl Scouts

by BRIDY GODWIN

Special to the Bavarian News

The Hohenfels Girl Scouts "Have S'mores Fun" theme was a great way to kick off a fun 24-hour camp-out.

Seven troops from Brownies up to cadettes gathered together on the evening of May 18 behind the Hohenfels Boy Scout hut to experience the great outdoors.

"The majority of the Girl Scouts in Hohenfels have never camped out, and the idea was to introduce them to the eight basic camping skills," explained Mary Fitter, the overseas committee chair for Hohenfels.

The eight basic camping skills are:

- outdoor courtesy
- basic fire building
- knot-tying
- jack-knife safety
- camping first aid
- outdoor cooking
- dressing for outdoor weather
- protecting the environment

The organizers, Mary Fitter and Sara Mader-Nauman, accomplished that goal and a lot more.

The campout started at 5 p.m. on Friday when the girls learned the first basic skill of outdoor courtesy. The

leaders assigned patrol kapers (another name for chores) to each troop for the duration of the camp-out.

After that, each troop had to find their assigned camping spot and learned how to pitch a tent, which they successfully accomplished with adult supervision. The girls laid out their sleeping bags and other necessary outdoor weather items in their assigned tents.

The next task was to learn basic fire building skills which was critical in learning another skill, outdoor cooking. The girls cooked their own meals over the fire and participated in a group clean-up before they made banana boats, which are bananas stuffed with marshmallows and chocolate chips then wrapped in tinfoil and cooked over the fire.

All excellent camp-outs must have a sing-a-long and this was no exception. Both the girls and adults sang songs under the stars before everyone headed to their tents and a good night's rest.

The next morning the girls cooked "pigs in a blanket" over the fire for breakfast before starting the all-day activities. The morning flag ceremony was conducted by the Brownie troop,

and the girls were separated into three groups for the remainder of the day.

In the morning, the girls learned camping first aid from Tami Durr and Andrea Neill, GORP making from Gina Reeves and Bridy Godwin, fire building skills with Corrine Howell, and participated in scavenger hunts with troop leaders.

The girls made their own "banana box oven" for lunch and cooked pizzas in them, followed by s'more cooking fun.

For the afternoon session the girls learned jackknife safety from Mary Fitter, knot-tying skills from Sonya and Steve Vass, and a nature scavenger hunt from Minnie DeLanarter-Lefebvre.

Finally, it was time to break down the camp site and do the final patrol kapers in keeping with the Girl Scout Motto, "leave a place better than you found it."

The final closing ceremony was completed and it was time to go home.

Genny Elmore said her favorite part of the camp out was "I made new friends!" After all, isn't that the point of Girl Scout camping, make new friends, learn new skills and develop a deeper appreciate for the outdoors.



The Brownie troop conducted the flag ceremony early in the morning during their camping trip May 18-19.

Photo by Erain Garcia

## Town hall lists upcoming activities, recaps recent events

by GARRY BARROWS

Staff writer

The quarterly Hohenfels Town Hall meeting, a summary of upcoming events for the various departments and divisions on post, was held at the Community Activities Center May 16.

The meeting was called to order by Hohenfels Commander Lt. Col. James V. Matheson with a welcome of new personnel, awards for individuals and units, and his update highlighting a very successful

German American Festival last month bringing in \$127,900 in revenue.

An AAFES council report, recommendations to AAFES to review services to the community, primarily expansion of services in many forms, was presented with a notice that AAFES would provide specific response to the report on Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the CAC.

In addition, AAFES will present a three-day furniture expo with over \$100,000 in first quality home

furnishing and décor items on display in the CAC tomorrow through Saturday, starting at 10 a.m. each day.

The following are highlights of upcoming events as presented:

■ DPW is resurfacing the post gym floor and renovating the SAS playground

■ The library, DSN 466-1740, announced a number of special activities including the addition of a coffee bar for patrons and a continuation of Sunday hours.

■ USAG Hohenfels entertainment reported on a very successful visit of Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band and announced Naturally7, an a cappella singing group will appear on July 18.

■ The Zone provided a rundown of special music programs and a poker tournament for the summer.

■ The Mahlzeit Biergarten is open for the summer beginning at 5 p.m. with the same hours as the Lane 17 Bowling Center. Call DSN 466-4611 for more information.

■ SAS and CY5 provided school age, youth, and middle school sport summer camp and field trip information as well as teen activities and services.

They can be reached at DSN 466-2822.

■ ACS invited all Hohenfels new arrivals to attend Hallo Hohenfels presented monthly as well as a special August Kids and Teens Newcomers.

Contact ACS at DSN 466-4860 for more information.

## ACS, USAG Hohenfels team up to honor outstanding community during March 23 volunteer recognition ceremony

by LARA CLAGETT

Special to the Bavarian News

The Hohenfels Community Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony for 2007 was held March 23 at the Landgasthof Schnaus in Oberpfraundorf with approximately 200 people in attendance.

The yearly event, hosted by USAG Hohenfels and Army Community Service, is to honor the many volunteers who serve the community with outstanding effort and tireless contributions.

Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator Lara Clagett presided as master of ceremonies and presented awards to recognize every volunteer as well as several special awards for

outstanding service.

"I love my job," Clagett said.

"I'm given both the honor and the privilege to thank so many hard working and dedicated individuals in our community for their efforts that really make Hohenfels a better place to live and work."

Five volunteers were recognized for donating over 1,000 hours: Eunice Garcia, Angelika Heberer, Paulina Mack, Suzanne Ruehs, and Melissa Wojtkun.

The Youth Volunteer Award went to Logan Allen.

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy E. Gilbert received the Active Duty Volunteer of the Year Award.

Darin Mesch received the DA

Civilian Volunteer of the Year Award.

The Volunteer Family of the Year was presented to the Redden family; Dan, Laura, Shaun, Jeffrey, and Erin.

All volunteers in attendance were recognized individually and presented with their award by Col. Thomas S. Vandal and Lt. Col. James V. Matheson who stood by to shake hands and congratulate each recipient.

"This is one of the most organized events I have attended," said volunteer Therese Enghusen.

"I really appreciate how much the community recognizes our work and does their best to show how much volunteers are appreciated."

As a symbolic representation of

all the money saved by the post through volunteer effort, Glen Pietras, the Director of Morale, Welfare and Recreation presented Col. Vandal with a check for \$820,000.

This amount equates to 86 full time positions and represents the support provided by our wonderful a dedicated community volunteers.

**Logan Allen received the youth volunteer Commander's Award from Lt. Col. James Matheson at the volunteer recognition ceremony March 23, hosted by ACS and USAG Hohenfels.**

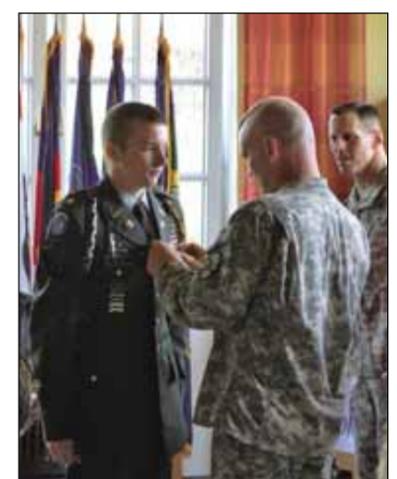


Photo by Chance Clagett

# Delta Company commander receives prestigious SemperComm Award

by GARRY BARROWS  
Staff writer

On May, 10, newly installed 1-4 Delta Company Commander Capt. Wayne R. Keeler was presented with the prestigious SemperComm Award for his outstanding efforts to boost the quality of life and morale of his Second Battalion, Third Brigade, First National Police Division Transition Team during his deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom ending in February 2007.

Keeler, originally from Kalamazoo, Mich., was taught from childhood by his father to be handy with his hands because "you have to be able to fix stuff."

Working in a furniture shop during his college years, he was able to enhance and refine his abilities that

became so beneficial to his NPTT teammates at Forward Operation Base Union III located in Bagdad's International Zone.

The philosophy that led Keeler to make so many improvements to the FOB was the Army fundamental: "In a battle position, you're always trying to improve your battle position."

In many respects, Keeler saw the FOB as a position to be strengthened and improved since "our Soldiers are fabulous Soldiers who needed a better quality of life when they weren't working."

Keeler was the deputy team chief and resource manager that, given his carpentry skills, put him in an excellent position to acquire materials, then design and construct many necessary and useful items for the E-

6 and higher ranking Soldiers that worked on the NPTT Team.

Soon after, partitions, to offer the some measure of privacy in the room, began to appear in rooms, as well as lofts, computer desks, and other creature comforts for the residents.

Immediately upon arrival at the FOB building, Keeler saw a need for a large common room that would allow the men to meet, gather, talk, and whenever possible, be entertained.

Located inside the building, but open to the elements, was a large 10-foot by 40-foot courtyard that seemed somewhat out of place. What if there was a roof on this courtyard?

That was the beginning of the "The Dark Lounge" named for the commanding officer of the group, Maj. Keith Dunkle, whose last name is very similar to the German word "dunkles," which means dark.

In short order, Keeler constructed a roof. At the far end of the lounge was a plaster wall that was painted white to act as a movie screen.

A Proxima projector was acquired next and a three tier seating platform was then constructed near the opposite end and three sofas were placed on the tiers to offer comfort as the lounge continued to take shape. In a small alcove near one end, a refrigerator, cook top, and countertop was constructed to offer some refreshment during the evening's entertainment.

Not keeping his construction expertise strictly reserved for the U.S. Army, Keeler designed and with help from many in his group, lead construction of a 360-degree shoot house inside a massive concrete Quonset hut that allowed Iraqi



Photo courtesy of SemperComm Foundation

Karri Turner, the actress who played Harriet Sims on the TV show JAG, accepted Keeler's award in his place from (Ret.) Rear Adm. Jay Foley at the SemperComm Gala May 10, in Arlington, Va.

National Police personnel to train in a live fire location.

The versatile 1,800-square-foot building allowed Iraqi soldiers to be training and drilled in room-to-room searches and urban combat as well as numerous other scenarios.

To complete his construction activities, he directed the transition of an outdoor smoking area into a tiled covered patio area with a customized

sealed steel 55-gallon grill bartered from a fabrication maintenance battalion.

Dunkle submitted a report of Keeler's special efforts and the related increase in morale to the SemperComm Foundation that resulted in the award presented to Keeler, in absentia, since it was the exact day he was taking command of Delta Company, May 10.



Courtesy photo

Iraqi soldiers train in the shoot house built by Keeler.

## Club Beyond offers kids Italian summer beach trip

by GARRY BARROWS  
Staff writer

Less than a month from now, high school and middle school teens have the opportunity to go to Camp Darby, Italy, at an unbelievably low cost.

And while there, cliff dive, snorkel, visit a water park, swim in the pool or the ocean, visit the exciting resort town of Cinqua Terra as well as the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and have nearly an entire week without having to worry about where they left their iPod or any kind of electronic multi-media device.

Military Community Youth Ministry's Club Beyond "Beach Break", an Army tradition for more than 12 years, is back and available to high schoolers June 15-21 and to middle schoolers June 24-30.

"The best part of the trip is that the kids always have a 'group' time," explained Club Beyond Community Director Chris Howard.

Anywhere from 10-20 teens from



Courtesy photos

Students have the opportunity to play beach volleyball against other military youth during the Club Beyond beach trip.

Hohenfels will go to Camp Darby for each of the two sessions.

Being together for most of the seven days creates a closeness that allows for all sorts of possibilities stimulated by a live band and a special speaker, both "imported" from the States, that will entertain and challenge the group during their beach break.

"Asked by one of the adults to 'ponder' a deep question, like 'What is your greatest fear?' and, from that, it works out to be a great discussion that leads the youth on a self discovery process. We're all on a journey, and the question to be answered is do they want to actively participate or just let life happen to them," Howard, a Johnson City, Tenn. native, continued.

"Club Beyond serves as the spiritual component of the journey as the kids examine their own spirituality and how it fits into their lives."

Sleeping six to a tent in a 10-

person tent, in sleeping bags with showers and rest rooms located just down the trail from the tent, adds just the right amount of nature, socialization and fun to the mix.

The teens will enjoy great camp style cooking provided by volunteers from the States, many of whom are spending their vacations providing these services receiving no income and paying their own way.

Each day has one of the special events noted above as its focus, yet the teens will still have free personal time to socialize, swim, or do other things around the camp.

If this sounds like a lot of fun, there is still time to take advantage of Beach Break. The total cost is \$350, which includes nearly everything but souvenirs and lunch on the bus. For more information, contact Chris Howard at DSN: 466-4793 or by e-mail at [christopher.s.howard@us.army.mil](mailto:christopher.s.howard@us.army.mil).

## German, American kids experience Earth Day

Special to the Bavarian News

When people think of Earth Day, they think about planting trees and flowers, but for a very lucky group of American and German students, this year's event was so much more.

With over 340 students in attendance, this was the largest group that has ever participated in a Hohenfels Earth Day. All students began their day at gate five where they were met by Forest Meisters and their dogs to set out on their one hour hike through the training area. They visited several stations along the way that were set up by the Federal Forestry Office.

After the hike, the next two stations offered live wildlife displays to include snakes, tadpoles, and a very

friendly four-month-old wild boar named Borstel. Another favorite stop for the students was with Norbert Wittl, friend and owner to a seven-year-old Harris Hawk named Whisky. Whisky is a veteran of Earth Day and is happy to show off for the eager students.

There were games and hand-carved pens available for the students to enjoy as well as several bonfires to roast marshmallows. When the day was over, excited students took home a better understanding of the environment and memories of the beautiful Bavarian forest.

A special thanks to Christoph Lichtenegger, Environmental Management Office, who sponsors this event every year.



Photo by Angie McGee

Three hundred forty German and American students went for a hike for Earth Day and had the chance to meet a Forest Meister and received hand-carved pens. The end of the expedition culminated with a bonfire.



Take advantage of the opportunity to see the Leaning Tower of Pisa this summer.

# What's Happening

## Grafenwoehr/ Vilseck Briefs

### Red Cross courses offered

The following community training courses are available:

#### ■ Adult/Infant Child CPR:

Grafenwoehr office, Saturday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., \$30.00

■ Volunteer Orientation: Vilseck office, June 6, 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

■ First Aid: Vilseck office, June 9, 8 a.m.–noon, \$25

Pre-payment is required for all training classes. Stop by either the Grafenwoehr or Vilseck office to make payment (exact cash, check, or money order).

Call the Red Cross offices at DSN 476-1760, CIV 09662-83-1760 or DSN 475-1760, CIV 09641-83-1760.

### Garrison School Update

**Today:** GMS Memorial Day Speakers at 2:30 p.m. and GMS Volunteer Tea 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

**Friday:** GES D.A.R.E. graduation

**June 6:** 11:30 a.m.- 1pm. SNUG; Special Needs at USAG Grafenwoehr (AUTISM) Support Group at V-ACS. Spouses & Soldiers are encouraged to attend. Lunch will be provided. DSN 476-2650.

**June 8:** GES Space Day

**June 14:** Last day of school. Early release about noon all schools.

Student Registration continues at all schools. Register now so that staffing for next school year can be accurate. Check school newsletters and website for details, including school supplies required for next school year. Even if you are not sure where you will be for start of school on Aug. 27, register now. It is easier to withdraw students in August than adding students after teacher staffing has been finalized.

#### School Contact Numbers:

VES 476-2812  
GES 475-7133  
GMS 475-9500  
VHS 476-2554  
School Transportation 475-9525

### Parent to Parent workshops

■ Today– Smooth Moves! Planning for a Successful Transition: Noon in the Vilseck CYS conference room, Bldg. 224. Research shows that the more involved the parent is in the child's education the more academic success the child experiences. Learn ways to become involved in your child's life in the classroom as well as in the community.

For more information, contact us at CIV 0175-648-2777 or [GrafVilseckParent2Parent@yahoo.com](mailto:GrafVilseckParent2Parent@yahoo.com).

### Register now for summer reading program

**June 20– July 25:** Join us every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and "Get a clue at your library" where kids from 5-12 can have fun with games, crafts and reading. **Register before Friday** at the Vilseck Library. POC is Karen Beck; DSN 476-1740.

### SKIES Unlimited classes

**Beginning in June:** Children of all ages can sign-up for the following classes: ballet camp, Karate, kinder ballet, Tae Kwon Do, kinder gym/ kinder yoga, self defense, and dance awareness.

For more information, contact Central Registration at Vilseck DSN 476-2760, CIV 09662-83-2760 or Grafenwoehr DSN 475-6656, CIV 09641-83-6656 or e-mail: [cysinfo@eur.army.mil](mailto:cysinfo@eur.army.mil).

### UMUC-Europe Term 5 registration ends Friday

UMUC-Europe announces Term 5 registration, ending Friday.

Students may visit UMUC-Europe online at [www.ed.umuc.edu](http://www.ed.umuc.edu) for a listing of Term 5 undergraduate and graduate courses leading to a certificate or associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree in a broad selection of disciplines.

On-site classes begin Monday and end July 28, and online distance education courses begin Monday and end Aug. 19.

All students should complete a new Free Application for Federal Student Aid and a UMUC-Europe scholarship packet for the 2007-2008 academic school year.

### AFFES/Commissary Council meeting scheduled

**June 6:** The AFFES/Commissary Council quarterly meeting for unit

representatives will be held in Grafenwoehr at Bldg. 301, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room from 1:30-2:30 p.m. AFFES/Commissary issues and concerns should be forwarded to each individual's unit council representative for discussion by the council.

Unit reps should forward issues to be placed on the agenda to the Directorate of Logistics at DSN 475-1340 by Friday.

### Free entrepreneur workshop offered in Grafenwoehr

Graf's Business Development Agency offers an Entrepreneur's Workshop Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Workshop helps you develop business ideas and concentrates on topics to include: development of a business concept, personality of the entrepreneur, Structure of a business / marketing plan, types of private enterprises, legal requirements, competitor analysis, marketing and marketing mix, and sources of industry-specific statistics. The workshop can be supplemented with additional sessions to work on individual areas of interest. To register contact Ms. Gabriele Murry [g.w.murry@t-online.de](mailto:g.w.murry@t-online.de)

### Vilseck and Graf Property Book Office Closed

**Monday-June 15:** Due to conversion from DPAS (Defense Property Accountability System) to PBUSE (Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced) the Property Book Office Grafenwoehr (DSN 475-7178) and Vilseck (DSN 476-2546) will not process any transactions from May 28-June 1.

### Civilian/military training opportunities offered

The Civilian Human Resource Agency Europe, Human Resource Development Division offers professional development and training opportunities at various locations in Europe.

The courses are open to DA Civilians, LN's, and military. The tuition is free for these courses.

To check out more about the kind of training offered, course descriptions and schedule, go to our Web site <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur/index.htm> click on "Training & Development" then click on "HRDD Courses in Europe. The course schedule lists current courses in Europe. The course description lists potential courses for Europe.

To enroll in a course, click on the enroll button to the left of the course date and title.

Your first step is to complete a Civilian Human Resources Training Administration System profile. You must create a student profile first before you register for any course.

For those who have completed a profile, check your e-mail address in CHRTAS. Due to the server migration, many e-mail addresses have changed!

Next upcoming course in the Vilseck area is Tuesday and Wednesday, Customer Service – DTF, in Vilseck.

Seats at the Digital Training Facility is limited to 16 people. Military members are encouraged to attend.

### Open air concert slated

30 years Dagesteiner Band - Open Air Concert with the bands "Keine Ahnung" and "Intermezzo" at the Castle Dagestein in Vilseck Friday at 7 p.m. <http://www.musikverein-vilseck.de/> <http://www.musikverein-vilseck.de/dagesteiner/index.htm>

### Vilseck pool hosts party

Beach Party at the Vilseck Outdoor Pool June 15, 7 p.m.

### Bavarian exhibition open

Bavarian State Exhibition 2007 – Bavaria-Bohemia-1500 years Neighborhood "Golden Road" a d Althars Exhibition at the Vilseck Castle Dagestein through Oct. 20. Open on Sunday and German holidays, 1 – 6 p.m. <http://www.vilseck.de/index1.htm>

### Dragoon Inn closed

Dragoon Inn, Bldg. 612, will be closed until June 17. The Stryker Inn will remain open, serving breakfast from 6:30-8:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and dinner 4:30-6 p.m. Monday through Friday. On Saturday and Sunday, brunch will be from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and supper will be 4-5:30 p.m.

### Looking for a place to conduct training?

Why not contact your local Joint

Multinational Training Command Digital Training Facility? Every facility has several air-conditioned classrooms with 16 multi-media computer workstations with internet access and video teletraining capability. These classrooms are also ideal for individuals seeking a quiet place to work on-line on self-development courses. For more information, contact your local DTF manager at the following numbers:

■ Grafenwoehr DTF – DSN 474-2381 – CIV 09641-454-2381 – Location: Bldg. 3144, Camp Normandy  
■ Vilseck DTF – DSN 476-3758 – CIV 09662-83-3758 – Location: Bldg. 355, Rose Barracks

### AAFES seeks employees for new PX opening in Sept.

As many of you know or might not know, our new Grafenwoehr shopping complex will be opening in late September.

Our Human Resources Office is now taking applications for the new PX. We will have 25 positions open for help setting up the store. Here is a great opportunity in getting involved in the set up of your new store and being paid to do it. Stop by the Grafenwoehr HR office in Bldg. 533. They are open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. HRO DSN 475-7707; CIV 09641-3392.

Besides the new PX job offers, we have a wide range of opening going on now from food to retail at Hohenfels, Vilseck, and Grafenwoehr. Go to <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/default.asp>, click on entry-level, click on Europe, and then click on Grafenwoehr. You will see all the current openings for the three Exchanges.

### Polynesian dance group to perform today in Vilseck

The Polynesian dance group will perform native and cultural dances in authentic dress and costumes.

A Mongolian style barbecue will also be available. The event is at the Rose Recreation Center, Bldg. 227. The barbecue begins at 5 p.m. and is pay-as-you-go. The show starts at 7 p.m. and is free to all.

For more information, call Neville Paschall at DSN 475-6519 or e-mail [neville.paschall@us.army.mil](mailto:neville.paschall@us.army.mil).

### PPPO advices contact as soon as orders are received

The following notice applies to the shipment of household goods, unaccompanied baggage, and personally owned vehicles. In preparation for the summer shipping season; we advise all Soldiers, civilians, and family members to contact the personal property processing office immediately upon receipt of orders.

The PPPO is located in Vilseck, Bldg. 700, and can be reached at DSN 476-2668 (inbound) and DSN 476-2860 (outbound). POC is Hans Hoesl, DSN 476-2529.

### OCS board dates announced

The 7th US Army Joint Multinational Training Command Officer Candidate School Board will be conducted on July 10 at 9 a.m. in Bldg. 109, 2nd floor conference room.

Soldier's packets are due to the G1 not later than June 22. Ensure that all packets are thoroughly reviewed prior to submission.

The point of contact is Sgt. Felix Aviles, at DSN 475-7095.

### CTC offers vocational-technical courses for term 5

Central Texas College Vilseck/ Grafenwoehr is offering the following three vocational-technical courses in the upcoming term 5: Suspension & Steering (4 credit hours); CDEC 1354 – Child Growth & Development (3 credit hours); and CJSA 1359 – Police Systems & Practices (3 credit hours).

All three classes are classroom-based and lead to an Associate in Applied Science degree. All classes this term will be held in Vilseck at the Army Education Center or the CTC Auto Shop for the AUMT class. Term 5 late registration is allowed through Friday.

The class dates are Monday – July 27 for the AUMT & CJSA classes. Class dates for the CDEC class are Saturday, June 9, 23, and July 21.

Contact CTC field representative Chuck Sligh at the Vilseck Education Center for more information on these and other available programs at DSN 476-2362, CIV 09662-83-2362, or by e-mail at [vilseck@europe.ctcd.edu](mailto:vilseck@europe.ctcd.edu).

## Hohenfels Briefs

### Military Clothing Sales expands selection

We have now expanded the Class A uniform and add more Dress Blue uniforms and accessories.

Special order available for sizes.

### Health clinic announces hours for sports physicals

The health clinic will be holding Saturday clinic hours from 8-11 a.m. on July 14 and Aug. 25 for CYS and high school sports physicals. Note that these days are specifically for sports physicals and not for yearly school or CDC physicals or for well-baby/children appointments. Call the clinic at DSN 466-1750 to schedule your appointment.

### Speed limit reduced

Due to multiple dangerous incidents regarding failure to slow down when passing troop formations on Academy Road, the speed limit has been reduced to 30 KPH.

### AAFES furniture sale set

The first AAFES Furniture Sale for this year will be tomorrow through Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Come out and join us as we transform the Hohenfels Community Activities Center into a first class AAFES Furniture store for these three days.

When you enter the store you will find over \$100,000 in AAFES furniture arranged into sections including: living room and upholstery; dining room; bedroom; rugs; appliances; baby furnishings; and ready-to-assemble furniture. In addition to all the AAFES furniture, there will be four private vendors selling rugs, German handmade crafts, and two antique dealers. AAFES will also set up a catalogue sales area and a food vendor.

Home delivery is available for all purchases and mileage fees will be charged from Hohenfels main post.

### Sure Start Program at HES

Hohenfels Elementary School is now accepting applications for the 2007-2008 school year. If you have a child who is four or will be four by October 31, 2007 and you are an E4 or lower in rank come by the Elementary School and fill out an application.

At this time all we need is your LES and the application. Priority will be given to E-1 to E-4 or GS-1 to GS-4. Those with the greatest need using a criteria list will be considered. E-5/GS-5 to E-9/GS-9 and above may apply and be given consideration by the selection committee only if space is available. For more information call DSN 466- 2729 or CIV 09472 83 2729.

### Register now for Embry-Riddle university courses

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Registration is now in progress at the Hohenfels Education Center. Term five onsite classes include MATH 111 College Math for Aviation I.

Call DSN 466-3353 for more information.

### Summer Sporting Camps

Youth Sports Camps will begin June 18. Camps will be offered to youth that have just completed first-eighth grade.

For school age children (first-sixth grade) camps are: June 18-29 - track and field, July 2-13 - flag football, July 16-27 - soccer, July 30-Aug. 10 - basketball/cheerleading, and Aug. 13-25 - bowling.

Cost for camps (first-sixth grade): \$20.00 middle school (seventh and eighth grade) camps are: June 18-29 - wrestling/tennis, July 2-13 - flag football/volleyball, July 16-27 - soccer, July 30-Aug. 10 - basketball/cheerleading, and Aug. 13-25 - baseball/softball. Cost for camps (seventh and eighth grade): \$10.00

Register your youth at CLEOS, Bldg. 96. For more information on camps, call DSN: 466-2488/2558.

Pre-registration open from Monday - June 15 for families that wish to register their children before summer vacation .

### USAREUR Well Being survey now available

Here is your chance to provide

command leadership with your opinion of the well being of the Army Family in Europe. All of your data will be compiled by an independent organization. To present accurate information, you are invited to take the survey at the Yellow Ribbon Room, Bldg. 40 or at ACS, Bldg. 317.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. It must be taken on-site and may not be taken home. It is valuable information and you are encouraged to set aside the time to benefit all of the USAREUR family. The deadline is June 15. For more information contact ACS at DSN 466-4860.

### Parking lot closed, alternate parking available

The parking lot adjacent to Bldgs. 88 and 15 will be closed for one more week.

Additional parking is available at the bowling center and Bldg. 100. Pedestrian access to Bldg. 15 will be available. The POC is M. Schmidt at DSN 466-2515.

### Red Cross Closure

The Hohenfels Red Cross office will be closed until June 22. You may contact a Red Cross representative by calling DSN 466-1760 or CIV 09472-83-1760.

Your call will be forwarded to the Vilseck Red Cross office.

If you wish to enroll in the June 27 Babysitting Course at Hohenfels, you may pay after June 22. The cost for the course is \$35.00. For more information contact the Hohenfels Red Cross office at DSN 446-1760 or CIV 09472-83-1760.

### TMP dispatch requires online training for long trips

USAREUR requires ASMIS-2 online Driver Risk Assessment to be completed by the government vehicle driver and supervisor before dispatch of a government vehicle for trips over 150 miles.

TMP will not dispatch a government vehicle for these longer trips without a copy of this form. POC: Garrison Safety, DSN 466-4626/1670.

### Thrift Shop needs volunteers

Our Thrift Store is in need of volunteers. If you can spare any time to help volunteer call the Thrift Shop at CIV 09472-83-2798. All help is appreciated.

Remember that you can volunteer with your child/children ages 12-15. Teens 16 and older can volunteer without a parent. We now pay childcare (up to 20-25 hours/month)!

### Club Beyond offers Italian summer beach trips

Club Beyond Hohenfels will be taking high school youth to Camp Darby, Italy, June 14-21.

The next week (June 23-30) is middle school week for youth in seventh and eighth grade.

If you are interested in attending alongside other high and middle school youth from military installations across Europe, then contact Chris Howard as soon as possible to reserve a spot. The cost of the trip is \$375.

If you have any questions, contact Chris at DSN 466-4793 or CIV 0151-1494-3311 or e-mail him at [christopher.s.howard@us.army.mil](mailto:christopher.s.howard@us.army.mil).

### Chaplain Happenings

■ **H20 Discipleship Group** for teens in junior high or high school meets Thursday evenings at 5 p.m. The current theme is relationships. POC is Chris Howard, Club Beyond representative, at DSN 466-4793 or CIV 09472-834793.

■ **Catholic Women of the Chapel** meet for Bible study Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Hilltop Chapel Center. For more information, call the Catholic Office at DSN 466-2226 or CIV 09472-83-2226.

■ **Christ's Commandos (C2)** is church just for kids. We meet in the Post Theater on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month, 10:45 a.m.- noon. We have skits, puppets, music, and games.

■ **Young adults** who have already graduated from high school and are working in the community are invited to Bible study, a relaxed atmosphere, and a home cooked meal each Tuesday evening at Bldg. 743, across from the Commissary.

Call Chaplain Bradford Baumann at DSN 466-1570 or CIV 09472-831570 for more information.

# What's Happening

## Ansbach Briefs

### Competitions postponed

While IMCOM-Europe understands the important role that community events such as Battle of Bands and Stars of Tomorrow have on the morale of Soldiers and Family members, several factors outside of the command's control have forced postponement of this year's competitions.

These factors include the cancellation of the Department of the Army level competition for this fiscal year as well as time demands of on-going deployments and realignments, resulting in an insufficient number of bands and soloists expressing an interest in taking part in a Europe region event at this time.

IMCOM-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation, in close partnership with Army Entertainment Division will continue to do everything possible to provide top-quality entertainment outlets for Soldiers, civilians and Family members throughout the region.

The postponement of the two contests will allow both organizations to explore cost-effective ways to partner in conducting these two heretofore popular Soldier programs in the future.

### AER listed as a success

Sarah Tipple, the community's Army Emergency Relief officer, said the 2007 donation campaign was "pretty amazing."

And the results back her up. Tipple said the community pitched in \$58,309, surpassing USAG Ansbach's goal of \$30,000 for the campaign. The previous record for the community was \$36,378 in 2005.

For more on AER, call Tipple at DSN 467-2064 or CIV 09802-83-2064.

### Kindergarten orientation dates announced

Ansbach and Rainbow elementary schools host kindergarten orientations this week. Information will be provided about the kindergarten curriculum, lunch program, routines, daily schedules and information on how to get children ready for school.

Ansbach's orientation is today from 2:45-3:15 p.m. in the media room. For more, call DSN 467-2628 or CIV 09802-7657.

Rainbow's is tomorrow from 2:45-3:15 p.m. For more, call DSN 468-7808 or CIV 0981-15984.

### Crafty open house Saturday

Cobbled Corner Crafts on Barton Barracks hosts an open house Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to showcase its many services and offerings to the community, including a new portrait studio.

The open house will feature free barbecue, drinks, portrait sittings for the first 25 visitors, 10 percent off for all new orders at the frame shop and the best projects made at the center will be on display, too.

For more, call DSN 468-7627 or CIV 0981-183-627.

### Re-apply for free, reduced school lunche program

The Department of Defense Education Activity encourages families of children attending overseas schools to reapply for free and reduced price school lunches.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently approved a DODEA request for an increase in the reimbursement rate and more families may now qualify for the program.

For more information and instructions on how to apply for the program, call your child's school.

### Help for new parents

USAG Ansbach Army Community Service offers a New Parent Support Program to help community members cope with stress, manage the demands of parenting—including single parenting—build a support network and find services in the community that can help them.

The free program is open to all parents with children age three or younger, even if there are older children in the home. NPSP is staffed by a licensed clinical social worker and provides one-on-one support for new parents.

The services include home visits, labor and delivery classes, parenting

classes, playgroups, referrals to other resources and counseling.

For more, call DSN 467-2516 or CIV 09802-83-2516 in Katterbach, or DSN 467-4752 or CIV 09841-83-4752 in Illesheim.

### Portrait studio now open

Cobbled Corner Crafts includes a portrait studio that specializes in family and baby portraits. The studio is open Thursdays 3-8 p.m., Fridays noon-5 p.m., the first Saturday of each month 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and the third Sunday of each month 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more, call DSN 468-7627 or CIV 0981-183-627.

### ACS programs help new parents manage demands

USAG Ansbach Army Community Service offers a New Parent Support Program to help community members cope with stress, manage the demands of parenting—including single parenting—build a support network and find services in the community that can help them.

The free program is open to all parents with children three or younger, even if there are older children in the home. NPSP is staffed by a licensed clinical social worker and provides one-on-one support for new parents.

The services include home visits, labor and delivery classes, parenting classes, playgroups, referrals to other resources and counseling.

For more, call DSN 467-2516 or CIV 09802-83-2516 in Katterbach, or DSN 467-4752 or CIV 09841-83-4752 in Illesheim.

### Social Work Services programmed to help

USAG Ansbach Social Work Services has numerous programs to help Soldiers and their families deal with deployment and general life stressors.

SWS offers a stress management group Thursdays 1-2:30 p.m. and an anger management group Wednesdays 1-2:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5817 on the second floor.

SWS also has several programs that deal especially with deployment, like Beat the "Bye Bye" Blues—learn how to thrive, not just survive, the challenges of deployment—and a Warriors Group for Soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder or combat-related stress. SWS also conducts family readiness group briefings to meet the needs of unit FRGs.

For more information on these or other programs offered through SWS, call DSN 467-2850 or CIV 09802-83-2850.

### FCC experts provide training in child care

USAG Ansbach Family Child Care offers community members the opportunity to make money by providing child care services in their home. FCC experts offer the necessary training and certification to become a FCC professional. Also, FCC recruits for trained and certified professionals to care for infants and toddlers.

FCC professionals participating in the Infant Food Program will receive \$75 each month. Reimbursement for children four weeks to 17 months is \$250 a month and the monthly reimbursement for children 18 to 36 months is \$150. A lending library for this age specific group is available from FCC free of charge.

For more information on operating an infant or toddler child care home or on becoming an FCC professional, call Stacey Middleton at DSN 467-2536 or CIV 09802-832-536.

### Local OCS board dates set

USAG Ansbach is hosting an Officer Candidate School board July 10 and 17 at 9 a.m. in the security conference room in garrison headquarters, Bldg. 5253, on Barton Barracks.

The board will select local Soldiers to go on to compete at the Army-level board in September.

Applications are due to USAG Ansbach Directorate of Human Resources no later than June 8. Application guidance is posted on the Army Human Resource Command website at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/index2.asp>.

For more information, call Mohamad Alkadri at DSN 468-7730 or CIV 0981-183-730 or e-mail [mohamad.alkadri@eur.army.mil](mailto:mohamad.alkadri@eur.army.mil).

### Early intervention aids child development, EDIS says

Educational and developmental intervention services offers community parents early intervention services designed to support families who have

concerns or questions about their infant's or toddler's development.

EDIS officials said early intervention providers can help families identify if their child has a delay through an evaluation of the child's current abilities. If your child has a delay, your family may be eligible for early intervention services.

The goal of early intervention is to make sure that all children are ready to learn when they reach school age, said EDIS officials.

If you are concerned with some aspect of your child's development or have questions about child development, stop by the EDIS office in Bleidorn Housing, Bldg. 5083 (next to the library) or call DSN 468-7811 or CIV 0981-183-811 to schedule an appointment.

### Free training offered for respite care providers

The USAG Ansbach Exceptional Family Member Program seeks respite care providers to give families with members with special needs a break from their daily routines and stresses. Respite care providers earn extra income while helping family members with special needs. Training is provided and background checks are conducted.

Also, families enrolled with EFMP who meet eligibility guidelines can sign up to receive respite care.

For more, call EFMP at DSN 467-2516 or CIV 09802-832-516.

## Schweinfurt Briefs

### 'I can do it' success series

Beginning Tuesday, the USAG Schweinfurt Morale, Welfare & Recreation division will present a series of instructional events to help spouses of deployed Soldiers cope with stress and build confidence.

Events are free, and include necessary materials and expert instruction. The first class is in basic auto repair Tuesday and Aug. 21, 1 p.m. at the Conn Auto Skills center. Learn to check your fluids, tire pressure, and learn basic shop safety.

A picture framing class will be offered June 12, 1 p.m. at the Wood 'N' Frame shop on Ledward barracks. To register, call DSN 354-6933 or CIV 09721-96-6933.

### MWR hosts Street Party

Join the your friends and neighbors for an Askren Manor street party Sunday from noon to 8 p.m.

This Morale, Welfare & Recreation-sponsored event will feature live music from the Donny Vox Band from 6-8 p.m., and jugglers, clowns, food, and fun all day.

Admission is free.

### Ledward Street Fest set

The USAG Schweinfurt community will kick off summer with a Street Festival June 9 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in front of Café Rohr on Ledward Barracks. Enjoy a BBQ, flea market, and music.

### Go fish with MWR June 9

Go fish! Join MWR for a fishing trip to Gersfeld June 9 and catch come Rainbow or Brown Trout.

The trip leaves at 8:30 a.m. and returns by 5 p.m. Cost is 3 euro for a one-day permit plus 7 euro per kilo of fish caught. Rods are available for rent, and bait is available on site.

For more information, call DSN 353-8476 or CIV 09721-96-8476.

### Family friendly trips offered

Enjoy free transportation for you and your family to see the "Wild West" town in Eging am See Sunday.

Dress like a cowboy, listen to Indian stories, or line dance. . . it's up to you. Trip will depart from Schweinfurt and Wuerzburg. Bring Euro for entrance fees and food. Call DSN 350-6305 or CIV 0931-889-6305 for more information.

### Best Ball golf tournament set

The USAG Schweinfurt will hold a Best Ball golf tournament June 16 at the Loeffelsterz Golf Course in Schweinfurt. Registration runs from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m., and tee-off is at 8:30 a.m.

Tournament is open to all U.S. ID card holders 18 and older. Participation is limited to 18 four-person teams.

Entry fee must be paid on the day of the event, in euro. For more info, call

DSN 353-8234 or CIV 09721-96-8234.

### Parents' Day Out respite care sign-ups start Monday

Sign-ups are ongoing for Child & Youth Services' Parents' Day Out June 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to give yourself a break, do some shopping, or just relax at home. Children will be cared for at no cost to families. Open to children ages six weeks to fifth grade.

Children must be registered with CYS and reservations in person must be made in advance. Registration begins Monday. Call DSN 354-6414 or CIV 09721-96-6414.

### SNAPS class begins June 11

Are you new to Schweinfurt? Sign up for the Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program for Spouses (SNAPS) at the Ledward Army Community Service Center June 11-15 beginning at 9 a.m. each day.

This program is designed to connect family members, Soldiers, and civilians to the community resources and services. The program includes an introduction to the military and German communities of Schweinfurt and wraps up with a train trip to Wuerzburg. Child care is provided to CYS registered children. Call DSN 354-6933 or CIV 09721-96-6751.

### Kitchen Passport series set

Join the Ledward ACS for the first classes that will explore world cuisines June 6, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This first installment focuses on Asian foods. Everything will be provided. Call DSN 354-6933 or CIV 09721-96-6933.

### Leighton seeks employee, offers self-help workshop

Leighton Thrift Shop is seeking a part-time employee. Contact Peggy at CIV 0931-700-104 for information.

7 Habits of Highly Effective Army Families Based on the book by Stephen Covey June 5-7, 8:30 a.m.-noon, in Leighton CAC. Call ACS to sign up!

Leighton: CIV 0931-889-7103  
Ledward: CIV 09721-96-6933

## Bamberg Briefs

### Join the AAFES team

The Bamberg AAFES facilities are looking for energetic, customer service oriented people to fill entry level retail and food service positions.

If this describes you, then apply online today at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).

### Well-Being Survey now available at ACS

All Soldiers, civilians, retirees, and family members are encouraged to stop by ACS Bldg. 7029 and take the USAREUR Well-Being survey now through June 15.

Your opinion counts so stop by today.

### Heating lines replaced in Flynn Housing area

Beginning end of May through mid August, heating lines will be replaced at various locations along Maple, Beech and Elm St. Work will be at or near Bldgs. 7659 through 7666, and 7645, 7656, 7658. No service interruptions expected.

### Health Clinic services limited on two days

The Bamberg Health Clinic will be open for sick call only from 7-9 a.m. tomorrow and June 11. Urgent care patients will be seen.

### Weekly Golf Scramble set for every Thursday

Join the weekly Thursday Night Scramble Golf Tournament at 5 p.m. at Bamberg's Whispering Pines Golf Course.

Entry fee is only \$5 per person. Please register by 4:30 p.m. Tournament starts at 5 p.m. Contact the Golf Pro-Shop at DSN 469-8953 for more information.

### Commissary parking lot lights to be replaced

Throughout the month of June, the Commissary parking lot lighting will be replaced. Parking will be affected

intermittently during the work. However, traffic patterns and pedestrian access will not be changed.

### Adult volunteers needed for scouting programs

The Bamberg Boy Scouts is in need of adult volunteers immediately. Help support a fun-filled, worthwhile program that teaches values.

For more information on how to become a BSA volunteer or troop leader contact Carlos Lopez at CIV 0151-111-85141 or Erik Verhoef at CIV 0170-668-7458.

### Join Boy Scout Troop 40

Boys ages 11 through 17 are invited to join Bamberg Boy Scout Troop 40. The troop meets on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the scout hut located in Bldg. 7480.

For information or to join Troop 40, contact Carlos Lopez at CIV 0151-111-85141 or Erik Verhoef at CIV 0170-668-7458.

### Bamberg Education Center registration for Term V begins Monday

Registration for Term V (Monday through July 28) is open. Contact the Bamberg Education Center to sign up for college courses with the University of Maryland College or Central Texas College.

Classes are offered during lunch, evenings and weekends. Education: Your future, our profession – let a counselor help you today. Call DSN 469-7715.

### Take next FAST class

Preparing to take the GED or just need to polish up on your math skills? Sign up to take the next FAST Class Friday - July 3. Class runs Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon.

Soldiers must take the TABE 7D prior to enrollment. Stop the Education center to pick up a memo for your commander to sign. Family members may attend on a space available basis.

Contact the Bamberg Education Center for more information at DSN 469-7715.

### Contact Health Clinic via e-mail for comments

Bamberg Health Clinic patients can contact the Health Clinic by e-mail to cancel an appointment or submit a comment / complaint. Executive Officer Lt. Benko will personally read the e-mails every morning. When cancelling an appointment via e-mail please include your name, last four digits of the sponsor's social security number, and date of appointment / incident and a return phone number.

The e-mail address is: [BBGhealthcare@amedd.army.mil](mailto:BBGhealthcare@amedd.army.mil).

### Correct use of CMR address required to receive mail

You must use a proper four-line military address to receive items at your CMR or mail items at your APO, regardless of where your unit or CMR is currently located.

As of March 1, new box numbers were issued. If you have been assigned a new CMR address and box number, start using it now.

If you have not been assigned a new box number, inquire at your unit mailroom immediately. A cut-off date will be put into effect and improperly addressed mail will be returned to sender.

#### Example:

Rank and name: Sgt. Johns Customer Unit Designation: HHD, 5th Eng. Bn CMR & Box : CMR 459, Box 01234 APO plus 4: APO, AE 09139-1234

The plus-4 digits following the APO number are the last four in your box number.

### Battlemind II briefings offered once a month

Bamberg Social Work Service conducts Battlemind II briefings the first Wednesday of every month at 9 a.m.

The briefings are for Soldiers that have been re-deployed for 90 days or more and need their Post Deployment Health Readiness Assessment. Once Soldiers complete the briefing, they are sent to the health clinic to be cleared from MED-PROS. Additional Battlemind II briefing dates: June 6, July 11, Aug. 1, Sept. 5.

For more information, contact Candice Keith at DSN 469-7793/9016.

# Historic *Schweinfurt* blends age-old tradition with progress

by MARK HEETER  
Bavarian News

**S**chweinfurt is a city of 50,000 that is host to about 10,000 Soldiers, civilians, and family members.

Located in the heart of Franconia, which is famous for its wines, Schweinfurt is an industrial center. It also has picturesque buildings, beautiful parks and shopping areas.

The history of Schweinfurt can be traced back to before 714 when it was little more than a country town of farmers, boatmen, and fishermen. A reference to the city's past is found in records at the Weissenburg Monastery in Alsace, France.

In the second half of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, the new urban community of Schweinfurt arose about half a mile west of the original settlement.

**I**n 1212 Schweinfurt was a free imperial town. Forty-two years later war broke out between the prince bishops in Wuerzburg and the counts of Henneburg.

Schweinfurt was caught in the middle, and by the time hostilities ended in 1259, the city was destroyed. It was rebuilt by 1282 when King Rudolf von Habsburg presented Schweinfurt with its own crest.

From earliest times local citizens have shown an enthusiastic spirit and pride in their city. In 1309 Emperor Henry VII of Luxembourg was short of money and pawned the town to the counts of Henneburg.

However, the citizens of Schweinfurt raised the means to redeem their town themselves and at the same time succeeded in warding off the aggressions of the bishops of Wuerzburg. The debt amounted to thousands of guilders, which took the townspeople centuries to repay.

**D**uring the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s, the city was a Protestant stronghold in a Catholic area. In 1532 it was the site of a meeting of princes and bishops who considered Martin Luther's proposed reforms. Today, the city has approximately the same number of Catholics as Protestants.

Schweinfurt was almost completely destroyed during the war of the margraves in 1554, which brought disastrous results to all of Franconia. When the town was little more than a smoking heap of debris, the citizens started rebuilding their city. Within 60 years, a new city stood on the spot. Many of the famous buildings that can now be seen in Schweinfurt were built during this period.

Unfortunately, most of the walls which surrounded the city were torn down during the last century to



Located in the heart of Lower Franconia, downtown Schweinfurt rests on the banks of the Main River.

Courtesy photos

accommodate the demands of the modern age. A part of the wall still stands, extending from the Holy Ghost Church to the Messeplatz.

The city was occupied by Swedish soldiers during the Thirty Years' War, first in 1625 and again in 1631. The city's long history as an independent entity ended in 1802 when it became part of the electorate of the Palatinate formed by Napoleon. A bit later, Schweinfurt and all of Franconia became part of Bavaria.

**L**ocal industries include the manufacture of ball bearings, machinery, beer, and wine. Also located here are a number of printing firms and iron and steel plants.

Several outstanding sports fields and athletic facilities are located in the city, including the Ernst Sachs

Stadium with ice rink. Schweinfurt also has an outdoor ice-skating rink, which opens in October for the winter season and is located within walking distance of Ledward Kaserne and the Askren Manor housing area.

**T**he Tiergehege, or animal park, offers a great variety of sports facilities and play areas for people of every age, as well as the small zoo set in natural surroundings. Hiking trails, miniature golf, a wading pool, a giant chess board, and table tennis are all available at the park, and all are free of charge.

For more information, visit the Schweinfurt home page at [www.schweinfurt.de](http://www.schweinfurt.de).

Click on the "Tourismus" link for tourism information, which can be displayed in English.



In the Tierpark, the duck pond is one of the relaxing highlights in the animal park and petting zoo, inside the city limits.



For a taste of fine art and culture, the George Schaefer museum offers one of the world's largest collections of 19th century German art. The nearby St. Johannis Church, one of the most important buildings of the German Renaissance, is also home to a museum and gallery.



The city market square hosts fresh food markets regularly, as well as the annual Christmas market.

# BOSS maintains Army crown, captures third straight win during May 5 forum

Story and photo by JIM HUGHES  
Bavarian News

USAG Ansbach's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program earned three awards at the Army BOSS Forum May 5 at Landsdowne, Va.

The program earned first place for best event for a medium-sized installation for its trip to Austria; second place for overall program at a medium-sized installation; and also took home the President's Gold Award for its 6,000-plus volunteer hours to the community.

This year's hardware marks the third straight year the program has taken home awards, despite numerous deployments by units in the community footprint during that timeframe, said Kitty Brown, the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation BOSS and special events coordinator.

"BOSS is alive and well at Ansbach," she said. "Our goal is to give single Soldiers programs that entice them to come together here as opposed to going downtown and partying too hard."

BOSS operates centers on Bismarck Kaserne and Storck Barracks, and offers parties, trips, and community involvement through volunteer programs throughout USAG Ansbach and in the local areas.

Despite the awards and recognition as one of the Army's best programs, BOSS President Sgt. Joshua Furlong of 3-159<sup>th</sup> Aviation, said he's still not satisfied.

"I knew about BOSS beforehand, but I thought it was mandated Army fun until I got tasked with it last year and I kind of fell in love with the program," said Furlong, who's been president since November. "The program is what people make of it. My goal is to give people good, clean fun where they're not getting in



Lt. Col. Tammy McKenna, USAG Ansbach commander, holds up two of the Army-level trophies the local BOSS program won at the conclusion of the Lt. Dan Band performance on Katterbach May 9. McKenna and BOSS president Sgt. Joshua Furlong then gave away free trips to Spain to several BOSS Soldiers.

trouble. We still go out and party and everyone has a good time."

Furlong said to improve the program even more, BOSS needs more command support and involvement from Soldiers.

"Soldiers are a hard market—it's hit and miss with them," he said. "But once I get them in the door and to one of our events, they come back. It's mainly an issue of changing the 'mandated

Army fun' image many have of the program."

Furlong said that Army leaders can help by educating their Soldiers on the program and appointing top-notch Soldiers to serve as unit representatives to attend meetings, pass on information, and advocate the program to their fellow service members.

"BOSS has evolved a lot in the past 10 years," Furlong said. "The Army realizes that

Soldiers involved with BOSS don't get into trouble and they don't get charged with drunken driving, and they are good at their jobs and they re-enlist."

With many local units facing deployment to Iraq this summer, Furlong is putting a plan in place to ensure Soldiers downrange get BOSS support, while keeping the program alive within USAG Ansbach.

"I was in Afghanistan, so I know what it's like," said Furlong. "We can send them stuff like decks of cards for tournaments and other things to give them something to do there. We'll do whatever we can to help them, and we'll also be sending care packages to single Soldiers."

Furlong feels the reason the local program is successful is because of the Soldiers that get involved.

"We give Soldiers an opportunity to get out and have good clean fun, but we also give them ownership in the things we do," he said. "Younger Soldiers sometimes get frustrated at work because they're very smart and ready to be in leadership positions. But you can only have so many chiefs—you have to have Indians, too."

"At BOSS, we give them an opportunity to step up, take a leadership position and join our family," he added. "They get the opportunity to learn some new experiences and skills—developing them and building better people."

BOSS needs help during the deployment timeframe and seeks the support of Soldiers who are not deploying in keeping the program running strong.

The program also rents out its BOSS center to the community for use for parties and get-togethers, and uses the rental fee as a way to raise money for its programs.

For more information on BOSS or to rent the center, call Brown or Furlong at DSN 467-2921 or CIV 09802-832-921.

# Cougar JROTC drill team earns hardware—first in 17 years

Story and photo by JIM HUGHES  
Bavarian News

The Ansbach High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps drill team earned second place in the color guard competition at the USAREUR JROTC European Drill Championships May 19 on Katterbach Kaserne.

The color guard team initially tied for second with Hohenfels, but then won a run-off that earned Cougar JROTC its first trophy since 1990, said Randy Dolph, the school's Army instructor.

"I'm very proud of the kids," said Dolph. "They performed well, they succeeded and they pulled off the trophy. Patch Barracks just beat us for first place, 97.33 to 97.0."

The competition featured five scored events—squad, platoon, individual first and second order, and color guard. Teams' scores were then compiled and an overall winner named—Patch Barracks this year.

The event also featured one- and two-person exhibitions that saw lots of fancy movements, and twirling and flying rifles.

Color guard was the only scored event Ansbach competed in based on

results from the regular-season drill meets, said Mike Lyons, the Army instructor at Ansbach.

Lyons added that the second place trophy proudly displayed in the classroom gives the Cougar cadets motivation for next year and shows it's a program on the rise.

"This gives them a taste of success, and they will be even better next year and work hard to win more," he said. "There are big things in store for JROTC at Ansbach. We have some motivated cadets."

The second best color guard unit in Europe includes Steven Crane, Lindsey Griffith, Alex Martinez-Banuelos, and Alex Marshall. All were thrilled with their award-winning performances.

"We practiced really hard every day from 3:15-5:15 p.m.," Marshall, a first sergeant, said. "There is pressure (during the competition), but if you know what you're doing it isn't that bad."

Ansbach also had success in the not-scored knockout competition, in which seven cadet squads from seven schools followed judges' drill commands and when a cadet made a mistake, they left the formation.

Cadet T.J. Ruth finished fifth and fellow Cougar cadet 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Jose



Ansbach Cougar JROTC Color Guard members Alex Martinez-Banuelos, Steven Crane, Alex Marshall, and Lindsay Griffith—compete during the USAREUR JROTC European Drill Championships May 19 at Katterbach Kaserne.

The foursome earned second place in the color guard competition to earn Cougar JROTC a trophy for the first time in 17 years.

Arredondo finished sixth.

Arredondo was a fill-in on the color guard team during the regular season, and his clutch substitute performance a few weeks ago ensured Ansbach's place in the competition.

He also was a major player, along with many other Cougar cadets, in making Ansbach's hosting of the event a success.

He said he enjoys being in JROTC because it makes him a better person.

"It motivates me and changes me," he said. "I like the responsibility of my position and to teach people how to do things. I want to be a leader, not a follower. JROTC will help me in the future with jobs, college, scholarships, and entry into the military."

The competition marked the second time in a row that Ansbach hosted the USAREUR event, and that sits well with the Cougar cadets, along with Lyons and Dolph.

"I think everyone likes having it at Ansbach—where else do you have the big hangars that can fit everything in?" said Dolph.

He said outstanding support from the garrison, especially from USAG Ansbach Command Sgt. Maj. James Esters, operations NCO Staff Sgt. Thomas Dignan, and the 12<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade, ensures Ansbach forerunner status each year for selection as the site of the event.

# Officials hope Katterbach fitness center renovations spur patronage



Ken Weindl, a recreation technician at the Katterbach Fitness Center, shows off the facility's new state-of-the-art cardio room.

Story and photo by RONALD H. TOLAND JR.  
Bavarian News

The newly-renovated Katterbach Fitness Center opened to rave reviews May 16 as garrison officials showed off what hard work—\$500,000 in renovations and about \$850,000 worth of free equipment—can bring to the community's fitness needs.

The four-month renovation resulted in an improved look, more fitness equipment and exercise programs, and an overall higher quality facility, said Morale, Welfare and Recreations' Casey Malloy.

"The biggest improvement was the ventilation system in the shower room, along with the floors, three new water fountains, lockers, new saunas, seven blinds on the south west

windows in the gym and court area, walls, lighting, fire escape and now its handicap accessible," said Malloy.

Wolfgang Schmidt, facility manager, added that it had been 16 years since the last major renovation and that most costs were for floors, walls, a new dropped ceiling, painting the hallway, new hallway, and cardio room flooring and painting.

"The majority of the project was to replace the floors in the locker rooms, new showerheads and fixtures, sinks and toilets," said Schmidt. "Both men's and women's saunas were replaced, the public bathrooms were re-modeled and the laundry room expanded. The stairwell received a new coat of paint and the stairs were renovated and covered with linoleum."

Schmidt said the facility now offers a variety of fitness courses at any time of the day without interfering with other programs on the basketball court.

"From the start of the renovation up to now, we have raised the number of exercise classes from zero to eleven," he said.

The center also features a cardio room with updated equipment and two large-screen TVs, said Ken Weindl, the facility recreation technician who undertook the project to get the new equipment from closing installations.

"The previous equipment in this center was old and antiquated, and the facility in general was in desperate need of an upgrade," said Weindl. "The machines (from the closing

# Spouses offer miles of support for deployment

Story and photo by  
**AMY L. BUGALA**  
Bavarian News

Residents of the U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg community are being asked to lace up their shoes and get ready to put in the miles by participating in Operation Walk 4 Freedom.

Over 50 spouses, many with children in tow, gathered last week at the Bamberg Freedom Fitness Facility track to show their support for a community-wide health initiative beginning in June.

"The objective of the program is to accumulate enough miles in one year to equal the distance to Afghanistan, or Iraq or wherever your loved ones or friends may be deployed, through walking, running or other activities," explained Angela Hunter, the Bamberg Health Promotion coordinator.

From Bamberg, that's approximately 3,245 miles one way to Afghanistan and 2,000 to Iraq.

When asked how far she would walk to see her Soldier downrange Lauren Kemp, 173<sup>rd</sup> Special Troops Battalion spouse said, "Forever, ... screaming kids and all, even to see him for only one minute."

Speaking from experience, Kemp said this is their fourth deployment, and a program like this motivates her to keep going, physically and mentally.

The spouses overwhelmingly agree that the program is a motivator for getting active and staying active during a stressful year.

"There are so many excuses you can use for not working out, and this program gets you up, out and going," said spouse Valerie Wells.

"It's definitely a stress reliever for me" said Susy Roe, a 4<sup>th</sup> Bn., 319<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regt. spouse, who plans to log most of her miles with her Family Readiness Group by walking, biking, and rollerblading.

Roe and Wells said they are confident they will complete the miles and are ready for the challenge.

Hunter explained the health benefits of participation as seen in the results from the 2004 program.

"Past participants showed increased energy levels, mental awareness, and an increased ability to cope and manage stress", she said.

The distance can seem daunting at first but with the use of a pedometer, walkers can accumulate miles all day while going about their regular routine



Spouses of deployed Soldiers walk, run, bike, or rollerblade in support of troops in Iraq or Afghanistan, and encourage the entire Bamberg community to join them. (Photo by Amy L. Bugala)

of walking the dog, chasing after the kids or running errands she explained to the group. Quarterly Walk 4 Freedom community sponsored events will be offered to give participants an opportunity to earn double miles.

All participants who register for the program during the Operation Walk 4 Freedom assessments will receive a free pedometer, log book, and assistance with goal setting,

fitness, and exercise plans.

Assessments will be conducted at the Freedom Fitness Facility June 12 from 9 a.m. to noon, and June 13 from noon to 3 p.m. and 4:30 to 7 p.m. The last day for screenings will be June 14 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The assessment includes a weight, blood pressure, and heart rate check, a body fat assessment, and a flexibility and cardiovascular step test. Registering also includes a six month

mid-term assessment and post assessment in June 2008.

Anyone can participate and log miles beginning June 1 as an individual, family, FRG, or other type of team.

Hunter expects participation levels this year to be close to 700 people.

For more information, call DSN 469-7043 or e-mail [Bamberg-Health-Promotion@cmty@mail.98.usg.army.mil](mailto:Bamberg-Health-Promotion@cmty@mail.98.usg.army.mil).

## BRIEFS

### ACAP Resume writing labs offered Monday afternoon

Resumes can open doors or eliminate you from the running. Get the instruction you need to begin writing your resume at the next ACAP resume writing lab Monday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Preston Hall, Bldg. 7080.

Attendees should have already completed a DOL/TAP workshop prior to the lab. Contact Olivia Whittier for more information at DSN 469-8925.

This lab is offered twice a month. Additional dates are June 18, July 2 and 16.

### Chapel has contract opportunities available

The Bamberg Chapel has non-personal service contracts available for a Protestant religious education coordinator, Catholic religious education coordinator and a Catholic musician.

For more information, contact AJ Douglas at the Chapel at DSN 469-8879 or call the Bamberg Regional Contracting office to obtain a solicitation packet at DSN 469-9383.

### Don't miss the June 6 Battlemind II briefing

Bamberg Social Work Service will conduct a Battlemind II briefing June 6 at 9 a.m. The briefing is for Soldiers who have been re-deployed for 90 days or more and need their Post Deployment Health Readiness Assessment (PDHRA).

Once Soldiers complete the briefing they are sent to the health clinic to be cleared from MED-PROS. Additional Battlemind II briefing dates are July 11, Aug. 1, and Sept. 5.

For more information, contact Candice Keith at 469-7793 / 9016.

### "Once Upon a Mattress" showing this weekend

The Junior Players Group "Class Act!" presents "Once Upon a Mattress" at the Stable Theater this weekend. The musical comedy is based on the fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea". Show times are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets can be reserved by calling the Stable Theater at DSN 469-8647. Leave your name, number of tickets, phone number, or e-mail.

Reservations must be received at least 48 hours in advance of the show.

### Keep it legal with home-based business reminders

A home-based business can be many things. But whatever your trade, you must follow the home-based business rules.

The main thing to remember is that you cannot use your U.S. registered vehicle, the APO, the PX/BX, commissary or the tax relief program for a home-based business. Not surprisingly, using a VAT form to support the business is off-limits as well.

For more information, download the pertinent directive, Army in Europe Regulation 210-70 or USAFE Instruction 211-16 (On-Post Commercial Solicitation), or contact the USAG Bamberg Customs office at DSN 469-7460.

Additional briefs are listed in the Bamberg section of *What's Happening*, Page 15.

## Community 'stars' honored for service

by AMY L. BUGALA  
Bavarian News

The "stars" of the Bamberg community were honored during the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and dinner held at the Warner Club May 22.

Guest speaker Brig. Gen. James C. Boozer, the assistant division commander, Maneuver, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, spoke about the qualities of a volunteer using the same attributes that are used to describe a U.S. Soldier.

"Commitment, selfless service, honor, a call to duty - these attributes describe a volunteer," he said. "You are Soldiers in your own right, and having a Soldier stand before you and thank you for what you do, means a lot," he said.

Boozer challenged the community to name an organization that has a volunteer corps as strong as the Army's.

"I am in awe of what our volunteers do for this community," he told the crowd. "Volunteers give us the motivation and inspiration to serve and defend our great nation."

U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Commander Lt. Col Mark Gatto, Boozer and his wife Nancy presented awards of recognition to approximately 30 of the garrison's 345 active volunteers and the top five contributing community organizations.

"Our volunteers are truly the stars of our community" said Volunteer Corps Coordinator Kimberly Millner. "We are so lucky to have such a talented group of individuals in the Bamberg garrison that make it possible for youth to have

coaches, scouts to have leaders, entertainment by the actors and actresses of the Stable Theater, and family members holding the Family Readiness Groups together."

The five outstanding organizations honored this year for their contributions to the community were the Stable Theater, Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness Program, the Aqua Barons Swim Team, the American Red Cross, and the 173<sup>rd</sup> Special Troops Battalion Family Readiness Group.

Volunteer of the Year awards were to given to individual community members from six different categories. Dianne Hodges (Civilian), Kim Garcia (FRG), Shanice Willis (Youth), Dee King-Shepard (Outstanding Agency), 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt.

Milton Roberts (Active Duty), and Stephanie Leeds (Family Member).

Active duty volunteer of the year, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Milton Roberts, volunteers his time in the Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness programs. When asked how he finds the time he said, "I make the time."

Roberts has coached and assisted for a variety of youth sports including basketball, baseball, and football and says he is happy he has the opportunity.

At the end of the evening a check was presented by Millner to the garrison and Lt. Col. Gatto in the amount of \$1,012,575, symbolizing the amount of money the 51,037 volunteer hours have contributed to the community.



Volunteer Coach 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Milton Roberts hands out medals to the Bamberg Cardinals youth baseball team. Roberts was one of several volunteers who have devoted a combined total of 51,037 hours to the community.

Photo by Maj. Doug Krawczak

## German American Friendship Week kicks off with Soldier tour



Pfc. Xochitl Stansbury takes aim (and a full back swing) in order to ensure a good clean tap during the May 10 Friendship Week tour.

by AMY L. BUGALA  
Bavarian News

To celebrate the 53rd German-American Friendship Week, troops from Bamberg's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program were invited to take part in a special event May 10.

By invitation of the second mayor of Bamberg, Werner Hipelius, 45 Soldiers enjoyed a two-hour walking tour as a guide explained the history of this unique city and UNESCO World Heritage site.

The tour was followed by a traditional Franconian dinner of Bratwurst, beer, and music in the Ritterhall at the Altenburg castle. In the Hall of Knights, Mayor Werner Hipelius welcomed the young Soldiers as "fellow American citizens here in Bamberg."

The keg tapping honors this year went to the youngest Soldier in the group, Pfc. Xochitl Stansbury, 19, from the Bamberg Dental Clinic.

Having never seen a keg tapping, she said she was skeptical but put on the apron and gave the tap a whack as directed.

Inserting the tap properly is difficult to master and often leads to the guest of honor being showered with beer, but Stansbury had no trouble and very little beer was wasted.

"In front of all these people, I was just hoping to do this right," she said.

German-American Friendship Week is celebrated every year to support and emphasize the positive long-term relationship between German citizens of Bamberg and U.S. Soldiers, families, and civilians living at Warner Barracks.



Photo by Kimberly Gearhart

**Hard to say goodbye...** Family members line the motor pool fence to get a final look as their Afghanistan-bound Soldiers board buses after a May 12 departure ceremony. Sky Soldiers from 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 91<sup>st</sup> Cavalry said their goodbyes and marched out of Finney Fitness Center May 12 and 13 to board buses for the first leg of a trip that will take them more than 3,100 miles away from home and family to fight in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. The Army's only Airborne Cavalry, 1-91 will serve as part of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne, bringing safety and security to the people of Afghanistan. Lt. Col. Christopher Kolenda reminded families that although their Soldiers will be thousands of miles away, the families left behind will always "be in our hearts."

# Middle school principal retires after 24 years



Dr. Eldrenna Durham, principal of Schweinfurt Middle School, dances to Aretha Franklin's hit song "R-E-S-P-E-C-T" at her retirement celebration May 12.

Story and photo by SANDRA WILSON  
Bavarian News

After 24 years of service to military dependents in Department of Defense schools, including eight years as principal at Schweinfurt Middle School, Dr. Eldrenna Durham is saying goodbye.

Family, friends, and colleagues, some traveling thousands of miles, gathered for a celebration of Durham's accomplishments and retirement May 12 at the Conn Club in Schweinfurt.

The evening began with socializing and dinner while a slideshow of Durham's life played.

Emcee Nancy Dauber, a teacher at the middle school, conducted the program with a historical timeline of Durham's life.

Performers donned the clothes and mannerisms of Elvis Presley, The Supremes, and Toni Braxton as they sang and danced to the time periods' popular songs.

As a tribute to Durham's younger years, her sister, Mildred Durham Howard, shared childhood stories that generated laughter in the room.

"She's always had dreams, and they didn't

just involve her; they involved the whole family," said Howard, describing how Durham encouraged her to go to college.

Durham herself stood for a brief moment and described her passion for education and how it first began when she was a child.

Linda Harrill Rudisill, one of Durham's middle school teachers, was a great inspiration and Durham's mentor for 40 years.

"Really, she gives me too much credit... Dr. Durham has overcome obstacles which, to a majority of others, would be insurmountable," Rudisill said.

"(As a student) she was forthright and absolutely unrelenting in achieving her goals," said Rudisill. "She defied the odds because she believed in her heart that she could."

The floor opened for all in attendance to give tributes to Durham and many went to the microphone to express their appreciation.

Some letters and e-mails from those who were unable to attend the celebration were read aloud and farewell gifts were presented.

Durham plans to return to Charlotte, N.C., this summer where she will begin her new job as director of school administration and support services in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools.

## Spouses compete for She-IB

by MARK HEETER  
Bavarian News

Angela Lesina recommends that the Army come up with a bigger Man Purse. Well, Soldiers call it a bandolier.

Trying her hand at deploying a Claymore mine, Lesina was one of several dozen Task Force Vanguard spouses vying for a "She-IB," the spouses' version of the Combat Infantryman, Medical and Action Badges.

"I appreciate more what my husband does now, Lesina said, echoing the sentiments of several of the spouses who underwent three days of training and two days of testing in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment's battalion area on Conn Barracks last week.

"They go through the same procedures, we time them, and we're putting them through the same things as their husbands, like paying attention to details," said Capt. Rickey Torres, Company D, 1-18 Inf. commander.

"I respect these guys so much more," said Mary Pope, after successfully assembling an M-16A2

and performing a function test on the weapon. But there was something else.

"I am so sore," she said with a smile.

In addition to the M-16 station, the spouses had to perform first aid, clear a gas mask, identify terrain features, throw hand grenades, find a six-digit grid, and negotiate a land navigation course.

While the spouses gained a better understanding of some of the things their husbands do for a living, Torres and the other planners had something else in mind as well.

"Since we've been going through such a difficult time lately, we've been trying to make sure their back here staying busy," Torres said, noting that the battalion has lost 11 Soldiers since it deployed last fall.

"We want to show that taking care of families is challenging, but rewarding," he said. "War has different faces, and this is one of them."

Twenty-eight spouses were awarded their version of the Combat Infantryman Badge, while nine spouses earned a spouse's Combat Action Badge.

**“War has different faces, and this is one of them.”**

Capt. Rickey Torres  
D, 1-18 Inf.

# Memorial service highlights relationship of 'great team'

Story and photo by MARK HEETER  
Bavarian News

Spc. John Derek Flores loved Spam and rice.

"To him, there could not be a better meal," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Colleary, who read the remarks that Spc. Aaron Patterson gave at a Baghdad, Iraq, service honoring Flores and Staff Sgt. Felix Giovanni Gonzalez-Iraheta.

Gonzalez-Iraheta and Flores, teammates in the maintenance section of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, died May 3 from injuries suffered in a mortar attack.

A memorial service was held in their honor in the Ledward Chapel May 14.

"When the mortar hit, this team died just as they had lived—together," said Chaplain (Col.) James Brown, Task Force Guardian chaplain.

"Staff Sgt. Gonzalez and Spc. Flores were a great team," Brown said, noting that their relationship was "fueled by mentoring and competition."

Sometimes that competition spilled into their shared love of Spam, a can of which Flores once sneaked

**"(Gonzalez and Flores) were a great team, fueled by mentoring and competition."**

away from his team leader and enjoyed in the motor pool.

"He was a competitive person by his nature," Patterson said, who also recalled that Flores loved to play his guitar. "Flores was a well-respected Soldier and friend," who respected both his peers and his noncommissioned officers. He was happy and wanted everyone around him to be happy with him," he said.

Gonzalez-Iraheta, a native of El Salvador who attained his longstanding dream of becoming an American citizen in April 2006, was on his second deployment to Iraq with the Vandards.

"Sergeant Gonzalez was honest, loyal and funny," said Staff Sgt. Donald McHattie, as he relayed the

comments Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Dino Ceballos gave at the Baghdad service.

"Gonzo, as we called him, became a box of knowledge," who "could read any kind of schematic he came across," Ceballos said. "I trusted him with my life."

Gonzalez-Iraheta, who has been nominated for the Bronze Star with valor device, saved his little brother when they were young, said Lt. Col. Robert Whittle, Task Force Guardian commander. "He was a hero long before he was a Soldier," Whittle said.

Gonzalez-Iraheta is survived by his wife, Janet, daughters, Celina and Annabel.

Flores is survived by his wife, Charlene, daughter, Chloe, mother Christine Werts, and mother-in-law, Cindy Gonzales.



Flores

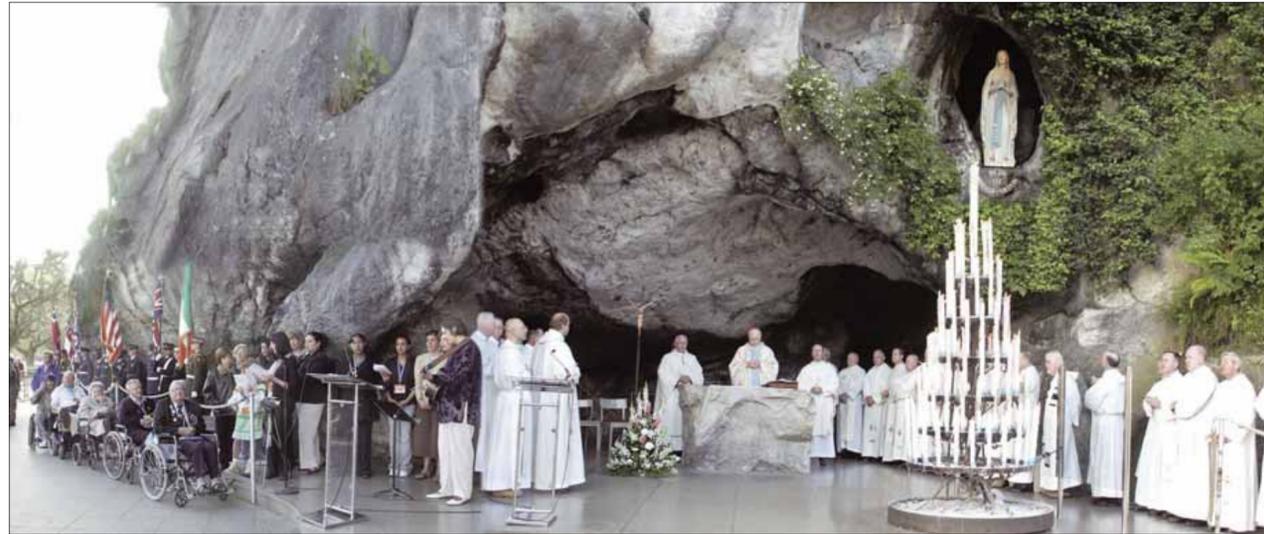


Gonzalez-Iraheta

# Soldiers of Faith



Cpl. Daniel Romero, U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels Protocol, drinks the holy water and prays that God will be with him during an upcoming surgery.



Mass in the grotto for English-speaking pilgrims allowed Vilseck, Grafenwoehr, and Hohenfels community membs a chance to participate in the ceremony. Grafenwoehr and Vilseck formed a choir led by guitarist and Department of Defense teacher Beth VanSlyke. The mass was led by Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, archdiocese for the U.S. military services, during the 49th International Military Pilgrimage, Lourdes, France, May 11-13.

## Military members make holy pilgrimage in search of own personal miracle

Story and photos by Paula J. Guzman

If it's a miracle they were looking for, they just may have found it. "They" are thousands of Soldiers, sailors, and airmen from all over the world who gathered at Lourdes, France, for the International Military Pilgrimage May 11-13.

Some were in search of their own personal miracle, others were there to simply be in the peaceful presence of a massive gathering of those of like faith.

Lourdes has been the site of spiritual pilgrimages since 1858, when Bernadette Soubirous, a 14-year-old peasant girl, is said to have seen the Virgin Mary. Seventeen more visions followed, and Lourdes eventually became known for the miracle healings that have said to occur there.

Soubirous later became a nun and was declared a saint in 1933.

The military pilgrimage was the brainchild of two priests, one from France and the other from Germany. Both had experienced World War II and became close friends.

Their dream, as described in the Lourdes magazine, was, "if all the military of our countries could meet in Lourdes. If only they could show that fraternity sweeps away hate."

Their dream became a reality in 1958, with the first IMP. This year marked the 49<sup>th</sup> such journey to Lourdes. For many of the service members, it was a return to what they believe a blessed site.

Sgt. David Carreon made the pilgrimage several years ago.

"I hoped to get an awakening," said Carreon in 2001. "I wanted to reaffirm and learn more about my faith. Before coming on this trip, I wasn't doing too well in my life. I was having trouble dealing with stress and life events in general.

"This pilgrimage has given me an experience that has made me feel that now I can handle anything that comes my way without the stress problems I felt before," he said.

Carreon said he had received just what he had come for. "What a great feeling to meet and shake the hands of other (service members)," said Carreon. "I want others to experience what I have. I searched, I found peace, and I feel renewed."

For Cpl. Daniel Romero, of the U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels Protocol Office, it was truly a quest for a miracle.

"I'm going to have back surgery, and I'm worried and at the same time scared," said Romero. "I believe that by coming to Lourdes I am being guided and by drinking the healing holy water that has healed so many, that through God and Bernadette's will, I too may be healed. I want to become one with the spirit of healing and one with the Lord."

"I understand that if I don't receive a miracle, then I ask for the strength

I will need to heal fast and come through the surgery without complications," he said.

Paulette Padua made the trip to Lourdes six years ago. "I will never forget the sense of camaraderie I felt there," she said at the time. "I saw military (members) who may have been at war (against one another) at some time come together to give praise and worship to the same Lord and our Mother Mary under the same roof. I felt hope for our world."

Attendees had several services to choose from, depending on their personal spiritual needs. They included mass, stations of the cross, a reconciliation service, blessings of the sick, and a ceremony at the war memorial.

**Background:** The Virgin Mary is said to have identified herself to the young Bernadette Soubirous with the title "I am the Immaculate Conception." She showed herself to Bernadette and asked Bernadette to be her messenger to the world.

The Virgin called for penance and prayer for the conversion of sinners. Bernadette described the Virgin as having the "appearance of a young girl of 16 or 17. She is dressed in a white robe, girdled at the waist with a blue ribbon, which flows down all along her robe. She wears upon her head a veil, which is also white; this veil gives just a glimpse of her hair then falls down at the back

below her waist. Her feet are bare but covered by the last folds of her robe except at the point where a yellow rose shines upon each of them. She holds on her right arm a rosary of white beads with a chain of gold shining like the two roses on her feet."

In 1859, Professor Vergez of the Faculty of Medicine at Montpellier was appointed to examine the cures. Seven cures were recorded before 1862 promoting the argument for the recognition of the apparitions by Bishop Laurence. Over 5,000 cures have been documented at the waters of Lourdes. The Catholic Church has vigorously investigated and validated a mere 65 of them.

After a four-year investigation commission, the bishop of the Diocese of Tarbes declared on Jan. 18, 1962: "We judge that Mary Immaculate, Mother of God, really appeared to Bernadette Soubirous on Feb. 11, 1858, and on subsequent days, 18 times in all. The faithful are justified in believing this to be certain."



While Staff Sgt. Jose M. Arias, S6 for the 1-2d Styker Cavalry Regiment of Vilseck, searches through his bag of military patches, medals, and ribbons, Gladys Rodriguez, wife of Sgt. Oscar Rodriguez, Command Group Driver, 69th Air Defense Artillery, Grafenwoehr, gave newfound foreign friends U.S. flags and received a hat in exchange.

## United in faith



The U.S. Army's 59th Military Police color guard out of Heidelberg leads U.S. troops present, in paying homage to the U.S.



"I wish that this be a place of pilgrimage," the Immaculate Virgin said to Bernadette. The torchlight procession is one of faith and light.



An African Soldier celebrates with his comrades in music, song, and dance while in front of the basilica in Lourdes, France.

## Faithful Calm

Marina Miller, wife of 2SCR's Sgt. Richard Miller, and daughter Cierra wait for the next song to begin while singing in the choir inside of the grotto.



# German doctors enjoy evening of partnership

Story and photo by MARK HEETER  
Bavarian News

While there might be a few differences between the German and American health care systems, one thing remains the same across the cultural divide.

Both countries' doctors and medical staff love to bowl.

Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker, Schweinfurt Health Clinic commander, and his staff invited several local doctors to a tour of the clinic, followed by an evening of bowling at the Kessler Bowling Center Friday.

"I want to applaud them for their support of us," said Duecker, who noted that the health clinic has made nearly 700 referrals to local care providers in the first quarter of this year.

The doctors began the evening with a guided tour of the hospital, to see how the military cares for its patients, Duecker said. His

clinic staff refers Soldiers, family members, and civilians to roughly 60 local doctors, he said.

"These are the guys and gals that I go out and visit in their offices," he said.

Duecker and his chief nurse, Lt. Col. Kirsten Bautista, led the tour and explained everything from physical therapy and record keeping to the currently improving pharmacy.

"It works very good. What's good is how the clinic works," said Dr. Stefan Feiler, a local orthopedic surgeon, who was particularly interested in the x-ray capabilities.

Duecker wanted to thank the doctors for the somewhat special treatment that they give to the military community.

"A lot of people don't know that a lot of German doctors will block time for same-day appointments for Americans," Duecker said.

Following the clinic tour, a bus carried the group to the bowling alley for an evening of relaxation.



Kirsten Bautista, chief nurse at the Schweinfurt Health Clinic, explains documentation procedures to German doctors during a recent partnership event.

# Wuerzburg clinic remains open until Leighton Barracks closes

Europe Regional Medical Command

U.S. Army Europe's April 20 transformation announcement listed the Wuerzburg Health Clinic and Wuerzburg Hospital Kaserne as closing in the near future.

The U.S. Army Medical Department Activity - Bavaria (BMEDDAC) commands eight health clinics in Bavaria, including the Wuerzburg Health Clinic.

The command and control elements of BMEDDAC, currently at the Wuerzburg Hospital Kaserne, will move to Vilseck next spring or summer. Its departure will not affect healthcare in Wuerzburg since it performs only command and control and administrative and logistical functions.

The Wuerzburg Health Clinic, one of BMEDDAC's eight clinics, may move to Leighton Barracks from its current location on the Wurzburg Hospital Kaserne.

The Wuerzburg community will have access to health care until the closure of Leighton Barracks.

Until the announcement of closure, the clinic will continue to provide primary care, pharmacy, and basic laboratory and radiology services.

After June 15, the clinic will not have optometry, audiology, or mental health services; patients will be referred to the Schweinfurt Health Clinic or our host nation provider partners for these services. The clinic will maintain physical therapy services on an "as needed" basis as long as the clinic stays within the Wuerzburg Hospital Kaserne.

Our military and retiree patients' access to compassionate, high-quality healthcare does not change with transformation. Once the Wuerzburg Health Clinic closes, retirees may choose to seek space available care at the Schweinfurt Health Clinic.

# Fitness center upgrade complete

Continued From Page 19

installations) were either new or in impeccable shape and had been well maintained."

Weindl's work getting the flooring and equipment resulted in a cost savings of about \$850,000 and helped earn him MWR employee of the quarter honors.

Customer reviews on the first day were positive, including those by Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Edward McCoy, a bodybuilder and Soldier with

Headquarters and Headquarters Company's 12<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade.

"I can come in and perform my routine with good, functional, serviceable and stable equipment similar to what I am used to back in the States," he said. "And the aesthetics are nice and pleasing too."

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, garrison leadership and staff said they hope the renovations will increase patronage.

# OPEN HOUSE

Sat. 2 JUNE

from 1000-1800

Introducing the Portrait Studio

COBBLED CORNER

CRAFTS

For more information call  
0981-183-627 or 4687-627

- FREE BBQ
- FREE Drinks
- FREE Portrait Sitting for the first 25 visitors.
- Featuring the BEST projects from our BEST Crafters.
- At Boyd's Framing, 10% off all new orders taken that day!

## Leighton School Age Services

### Presents SUMMER JAM 07

June 18, 2007 to August 24, 2007

Monday through Friday 0800-1600

Summer Jam 2007, the SAS Summer Camp is designed for 1st through 5th grades.

Before care (0530-0800) and after care (1600-1800) will still be provided.

Variety of camp activities, family events and field trips offered.

Activities Include:

- Swimming
- Sports Clinics
- Amusement Parks

- Movies
- Zoos
- Museums

For more information about Summer Jam 07, please call DSN 350-7148/6175 or 0931-889-7148 or come by Bldg. 185, Leighton CDC/SAS, on Leighton Barracks.

Don't forget to tell them you read it in the Bavarian News!!!

How are we doing?

<http://ice.disa.mil>
ICE - it's easy

- Do you have a compliment or complaint?
- Want to make a suggestion?

Customer evaluations are part of USAG Grafenwoehr's report card.

We need your feedback!

INTERACTIVE CUSTOMER EVALUATION I.C.E. WEBSITE

# Unlike U.S. *military* families, many Germans choose to stick close to *HOME*

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

The PCS season is upon us and even for our family that means packing up again and moving to another location this year.

For many military families this is a normal way of life. During my 17-year marriage to my Soldier-husband, this is our tenth move. I am glad that it is our last move and that we will now settle permanently as my husband is retiring from the Army this summer.

Germans are not so accustomed to moving. The only time many women in my family have moved was when they moved out of their parent's home into their husband's home. My own father and brother have never moved out of the home they grew up in.

My mother used to call my constant moving "the gypsy lifestyle." She couldn't even start to comprehend how I could stand to live that way.

No wonder. My mother panics when my father attempts to re-do a room in my childhood home. She always complains about "all that chaos" it creates in her life, as she has to pack up the entire contents of a room.

I am glad she will never experience an overseas move like we have so many times before.

When Germans move, they often don't relocate far from their previous address. In fact, many of them don't need a moving company. Friends and family chip in to help move and rewarded with an invite to a housewarming party, complete with food and drinks.

There is a German saying that goes:

"Dreimal umgezogen ist so gut wie einmal abgebrannt", (moving three times is equal to burning down once).

Considering that wisdom, it is no wonder my furnishings look so beaten up!

Even Soldiers in the German army don't move around very much. If they do relocate, it is usually a few hours drive to another assignment in Germany.

We met a German military family when my husband attended a military school in Alabama. The wife told me that they didn't bring many of their belongings (not a single piece of furniture), since they were only staying one year and they didn't think it would be worth it.

When I think of how many short tours my family has lived through and if I had left my household goods behind, I suspect my furniture would look almost new because they would have spent most of the time in storage.

Germans rarely used to move away from home. When I started my apprenticeship in hotel and restaurant management after school and moved to Auerbach (one and a half hours drive from my parent's home), I was the lone exception.

All of my classmates found opportunities for employment within a 20-kilometer radius.

However, times are changing. Yes, even in Germany. The first wave of moves began after the Berlin Wall came down and former East Germans sought a new life in the West.

Presently, a tough economy is the cause for many German employees who are choosing to re-settle.

The unemployment rate in my former hometown has reached nearly 25 percent of the work-age population.



Photo by Nichole Riley

Many Germans do not hire a moving truck when they move, as most will only move a short distance from their original house.

My cousin began work as an engineer for Siemens after he received his college degree, but now his job is being cut. His employer told him that he could stay with the company, but he would have to relocate to Poland or Texas!

This is my third time leaving Germany. Each previous time I thought it was for good. This time I know it is.

I enjoyed writing this column immensely

and I thank all the readers who wrote me or told me personally how much they enjoyed reading it.

I hope it has brought Germany and the Germans a little closer to you and you that you now have a better understanding of "those strange German ways."

Gottes Segen (God's Blessings) und "Auf Wiedersehen" (till we meet again).

## Easy Broetchen recipe keeps missed food close to home

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

In this, my last recipe column, I wanted to feature the one food item that I will be missing the most when I return to the States in a few days: German Broetchen.

The recipe below is for the basic and plain variety, but you can sprinkle salt, caraway seeds, sesame seeds, etc. on them before baking, if you desire.

I also enjoy Laugenbroetchen (the kind that has the salty taste of a German Pretzel), but when I searched for a recipe and realized that I need to dip them in a sodium bicarbonate solution before baking, I decided that I didn't want to prepare them that badly.

While this recipe is not as easy as popping in some pre-baked Broetchen from the store and does not taste exactly like the ones you buy at the bakery, this is the closest I could come to enjoying the original away from my home country.

**Extra hints:**

If you prefer fresh Broetchen for breakfast, prepare dough the night before but use cold water and immediately shape without letting the dough rise.

To ensure that the Broetchen will be moist inside, fill a fireproof bowl with water and place unto bottom of your oven!

*Guten Appetit!*

**Broetchen**

- 3 cups flour
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 pkg. active dry yeast



Broetchen serves a variety of purposes on the German dinner table. It is eaten plain, as a sandwich, with any meal, with marmelade for breakfast or chocolate spread for a snack.

Courtesy photo

- 1 Tbs. oil
- 1 cup warm water
- 1 egg white

Pour 2 1/2 cups flour into large bowl and make a well. Pour yeast, sugar, and 2 Tbsp. warm water into well.

Do not mix with the flour at this

time.

Cover the bowl with a cloth and set it in a warm place for 15 minutes, add the remaining water and oil and beat until mixed.

Turn out on counter top. Knead until smooth. Add the remaining 1/2 cup flour as needed.

Put dough in bowl, cover and let

rise until double in size (about 45 minutes – one hour).

Punch down and divide the dough into 12 parts.

Shape into oval or round rolls and place three inches apart on a greased and floured cookie sheet.

Cut star pattern or long slit into the top with a sharp knife. Cover

and let rise until double in size (another 30 – 45 minutes).

Beat egg white and 1 tsp. water with a fork until frothy. Brush on rolls.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

*Yield: 12 Broetchen*

Visit the Bavarian News online! [www.milcom.de](http://www.milcom.de)

# Lady Falcons win Division II



Members of the Vilseck High School Lady Falcon soccer team were overcome with emotion after winning the Division 2 championship May 19, playing the final game against Black Forest Academy. The final score was 2-0.

The first point was scored by Tamaría Hollis on a penalty kick. Tamaría also scored the second goal just minutes later. Goalie Becky Linka had over seven saves during the game.

All tournament awards went to Rosa Leon, Cathy DelaRosa, Shamyra Coleman, and Tamaría Hollis.

Photo by Becky Connolly

## Sports Briefs

### Mountain biking club offered at ODR

Join and receive free rides on Mondays now through September; free maintenance classes; and discounts on mountain bike trips. Call ODR Graf at DSN 475-7402 or Vilseck at DSN 476-2563.

### B.O.S.S. sponsors discounted bowling

Every Wednesday, both bowling centers offer \$1.00 bowling from 5 -10 p.m. You pay for your shoes plus \$1 per game. B.O.S.S. meets every other Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Contact John Maki DSN 475-6116, or [john.c.maki@eur.army.mil](mailto:john.c.maki@eur.army.mil).

### Sign up for men's, women's softball

Community level softball league, going on now through August in Grafenwoehr.

For more information, contact Mike Bradfish in Graf at DSN 475-9024/9007, Carl Boothe in Vilseck at DSN 476-2214/2998, or Tony Lee in Graf at DSN 475-7576.

# Weiden police host volleyball tourney at Graf gym

Story and photo by KATIE COWART  
Assistant Editor

In a show of camaraderie, the Weiden Police Directorate hosted the German-American volleyball tournament May 16 at the Grafenwoehr Physical Fitness Center.

The tournament, which opened with welcoming remarks made by Grafenwoehr Garrison Commander Col. Brian Boyle, consisted of 10 games played on two courts.

Five teams were in the tournament, each team with the opportunity to play every other team. The winner of each match was awarded a point to help determine the overall tournament winner.

While the games were termed "friendly" games, there was no lack of competitive spirit. Each team played with the determination to win the tournament, utilizing strategy and trying to find and exploit the weaknesses of their opponents.

"Even though we went into the

tourney with a winning spirit, we knew that it was going to be a tough day," Sgt. 1st Class Rusty Lane, the coach for the Military Police team, said.

The Grafenwoehr 615<sup>th</sup> MP Company made up the only American team in the tournament. The other teams were from the Weiden Police Directorate, the German Army NCO Academy in Weiden, German Federal Police of Schwandorf, and Police Directorate Tachov (Czech Republic police).

The Weiden police organized the tournament, sending out the information and invitations to each of the participants.

The tournament ended with an awards ceremony held in Weiden where the Weiden Police Directorate team was named the overall winner.

The Czech team took second place, followed by the German Federal Police of Schwandorf, then the German Army NCO Academy of Weiden, and the MP team in last place.

Weiden Police Director Josef

Wittmann said that the tournament was a perfect tool to cement already great partnerships and working relations in a very relaxed atmosphere. He also said that he wanted to keep this 21-year tradition going.

"I remember when I was a private and stationed here before, the unit looked forward to this tournament because it was a friendly MP versus Polizei thing," Lane said.

Lane said that this year it was good to get back into the tournament after all of the recent deployments.

"We wanted to reestablish our relationship with our German Police and Army counterparts here in the local area, and this tournament gave us that opportunity," he said. "We were not surprised with the level of competition that showed up that day."

Lane also echoed Wittmann's sentiments.

"We finished in last place, but we took away new friendships and hopefully re-sparked an old tradition."



The Weiden Police Directorate served as the hosts for the volleyball tournament at Graf Gym May 16. They were also the tournament champions.

# Graf places second in IMCOM-E boxing tourney

Story and photo by BRANDON BEACH  
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

An hour before his welterweight championship bout, Cedric Benson skipped rope on the track just outside the Patch Barracks Fitness Center.

"I'm a little nervous," he said. "It's exciting though; it's just you and the other man out there."

A Soldier from Wiesbaden, Germany, Benson was one of several boxers making their ring debut in this year's U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championship in Stuttgart, which was hosted by Installation Management Command-Europe.

After arriving for weigh-in, boxers began

competing in matches scheduled during two days in a round-robin format. After a rest day, eight championship bouts were then held, consisting of three two-minute rounds.

Jacob Hasbrouck, from Giessen, Germany, entered the finals of the lightweight category with a 2-0 record. An avid martial arts enthusiast, Hasbrouck said he joined his unit's boxing team to improve his hand speed and soon became "hooked" on the sport.

Hooked is an understatement, though. For the last six months, Hasbrouck trained twice daily, seven days weekly – beginning with a 5 a.m. five-mile jog. At the end of his duty day, he works on the speed bag, spars in the ring, lifts weights and climbs stairs.

"He's eager to learn," said his coach, Sgt. First Class Mark Preston. "He can go far. It's hard to find that kind of dedication."

His extra conditioning paid off on Sunday when he caught Jessie Palamino of Grafenwoehr, Germany, square on the face in the first round, opening up a nasty nose bleed. The bell saved Palamino, but not for long. The referee stopped the contest 45 seconds into round two, despite a bloody Palamino pleading, "Come on, man. I'm still having fun."

Hasbrouck won the bout and was voted the tournament's most outstanding male boxer.

As with most of the boxers on Sunday, Hasbrouck's story was not uncommon. Edward Garcia said there isn't a moment that boxing isn't on his mind. He spends most of his free time at the Panzer Kaserne Fitness Center, where, since September 2006, he trains with several other unit boxers.

"It's a nerve-racking experience to step in that ring," said Garcia, one of four Stuttgart boxers who made it to a championship bout. "But I love the chance to knock someone out in front of a lot of people."

In the final light heavyweight match, Garcia locked horns with Grafenwoehr's Carlos Lebron in a bout that went the distance. The two boxers dodged jabs and exchanged body shots for three rounds, before judges awarded Garcia a 4-1 decision and the crown.

"I was timing him pretty good," said Garcia. "But I also missed a lot. I got just enough to win."

Stuttgart's Christian Meyers landed just the right punch to win his championship bout against Anthony Watson from Heidelberg,

Germany. The two heavyweights threw a barrage of punches at each other midway through round two. An exhausted Watson dropped his head and backed against the ropes when Meyers stepped in for the finish.

"I think it was a right that wobbled him," said Meyers, who at 34 was the oldest competitor of the tournament. "He was going down, so I just threw a couple more punches, hoping for the best."

In the welterweight championship, Benson kept his nerves in check but lost to Roberto Figueroa from Kaiserslautern, Germany, in three rounds with a 5-0 decision.

On the women's side, Britney Teasley of Stuttgart had just enough pace to outlast Rosalee Gordon of Kaiserslautern in three rounds to win the middleweight title. She was voted the tournament's most valuable female boxer.

With 31 points, Stuttgart boxers took home top team honors edging out squads from Grafenwoehr (22) and Wiesbaden (19). Boxers from six different U.S. Army garrisons competed.

"It takes a lot of courage to step in that ring," said Ernest Epps. "I've been a huge boxing fan all my life, and I think the fighters put on a great show."

Amanda Krogh of Wiesbaden, Germany; Rex Apaghy of Giessen; Daemont Johnson of Kaiserslautern; and Botiv Slavov of Stuttgart went uncontested in their respective weight classes.

The U.S. Forces Europe boxing schedule resumes June 23 with the Battle of the Titans in Stuttgart. For details on this one-day tournament call the Patch Fitness Center at DSN 430-7136 or CIV 0711-680-7136.

Grafenwoehr's Temali Mercado tries to avoid a punch from Wiesbaden's Tabitha Cornejo. Mercado went on to win the middleweight championship with a 4-1 decision.



# Mold, moisture problems being eyed by U.S. German officials

Continued From Page 1

Institute for Federal Real Estate, the state construction office and the lessor's representative to discuss further course of action in getting the necessary repairs," she said.

*(The May 25 meeting took place after the newspaper's print schedule, but the results of the meeting will be published in the June 13 issue and other garrison media outlets.)*

Queen did note that "since we have raised the issue with the lessor's representative, he has been responsive and cooperative."

Arbios said it is not uncommon to discover an occasional case of mold in any home anywhere in the world, "but what is interesting here," he said, "is the apparent concentration in this particular housing area."

Personnel and family members are briefed upon initial arrival that they should ventilate their homes by leaving their windows open a few minutes each day and by not placing furniture directly against walls. But in Kaltenbrunn, residents do not appear to be at fault.

"We're concerned because this is an issue where it appears to not be

**We're concerned because this is an issue where it appears to not be anything the resident did or did not do... We want people to be comfortable living in their homes**

Robert Arbios - Housing Director

anything the resident did or did not do," explained Arbios.

And although many of the homes appear to only have superficial cases of mold, Arbios said garrison officials do not take the issue lightly.

"We are very concerned," said Arbios. "We want people to be comfortable living in their homes... We absolutely agree that this is an unacceptable situation which must be corrected."

Arbios said he is also keenly aware of residents' health concerns.

Anyone who suspects they are experiencing health problems due to indoor mold should notify the Housing Office of the mold and visit the Health Clinic for a check-up.

According to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine, only about 10 percent of the general population, and 40 percent of people with asthma, have fungal allergies.

Capt. Matthew Perry, the environmental science officer chief, USAMEDDAC, Bavaria, explained that molds are always present in the environment, and "for most people they do not pose a health risk.

Molds are a type of fungus. They grow by creating microscopic spores that float through the air. Mold spores are common both indoors and outdoors.

Because of their incredibly small size, it is impossible to completely rid your home or work environment of them. Perry said molds are capable of feeding on a wide range of material and require a water or moisture source for survival.

"For people sensitive to mold, the most common reaction will be characteristic of hay fever-like symptoms—red, itchy eyes, runny nose, headache, and/or fever," said Perry.

"For people with asthma, exposure

to molds can make their asthma worse, but there is no evidence that mold exposures cause asthma in people," he said. "Those with weakened immune systems or chronic lung diseases are also at an increased risk of developing fungal infections in their lungs.

Whether or not residents experience health problems, "we will make sure the mold problem is addressed appropriately."

If the clinic determines that mold in the home is the cause of the health problems, Arbios said "the family may be moved to other quarters, depending on what would be needed to correct those conditions and how long this would take. Arbios said the garrison commander is the approval authority for such moves.

Arbios said he remains hopeful that whatever repairs are necessary to restore the affected units will be made

in a timely manner.

"The Kaltenbrunn units have wonderful amenities," he said, noting that many of the amenities surpass other housing areas here and abroad. "These units have garages and storage sheds, their own yards, and larger living rooms than most units on post.

"And it's a great (central) location for anyone who works or goes to school at Grafenwoehr or Vilseck," said Arbios.

He said he is continuing to keep Kaltenbrunn residents informed by delivering fliers to their homes with updates on the progress.

Arbios noted that residents in general seem pleased with the actions the garrison has taken to correct the situation.

He also said that at this time there is not plan to conduct a canvass inspection of all of the government-leased housing because this appears to be an isolated incident.

Arbios said the Housing Office may conduct canvass inspections in the future, not mold-specific inspections, but general inspections to ensure housing standards are up to par.

## Griffin brothers, Goree named best

Continued From Page 1

and coaches watching. With seven teams in each of the six categories, competition was steep and the judges did not let a single mistake go unnoticed.

"Competition was tough," said (Ret.) Maj. Michael Farley, VHS's JROTC instructor. "The other teams were well trained and motivated. Our exhibition teams are very good, worked hard and while we hoped to win, it wasn't a sure thing."

The drill team created their own routines, in which elements are constantly being added or subtracted to make the best possible routine. Farley said this allows for "a very free-flowing, fast-paced routine," which they mastered in after-school practices of two hours a day, and any extra practice time they put in at home.

"The biggest difference between our exhibition routines and the other schools was speed and strength," said Farley. "Our cadets are fast-paced and have the strength to make moves that very few can accomplish."

The cadets seemingly performed their routines with skill and ease. The major moves included single, double and triple spins, over the head spins, forward and backward throws, and a variety of side and back spins.

"The mark of a great exhibition rifleman is making the difficult look easy," Farley said. "The moves are complex and can be dangerous if you don't have the strength or skill you need.

"For example, the amount of coordination and balance needed to grab a spinning rifle from under your right knee while balancing on your left leg is tremendous. It takes hours of practice to master this one move."

All three cadets began the high-precision rifle training during their freshman year at other schools, and each of them have made trips to nationals. They agreed, however, that those trips don't quite compare to placing at the European championship.

"It's really pretty cool and exhilarating," Ivan said.

Farley said he was very proud of the boys' accomplishments.

"I think it's fantastic, they worked really hard," he said. "They're willing to work very hard to achieve, and for them, work is play."

"We don't spin for competition," said Levi. "We spin because it's a hobby."

"Our teams won because they really love rifle drill and spinning. They practice after school with rifles and at home with poles or anything they can spin," Farley said.

The cadets gave much of the credit for their performance to their coach, Pfc. Joe Mark of the 2d Stryker Cavalry Regiment. They said he helped inspire them, and they hope to follow in his footsteps by becoming members of the King's Guard, a professional drill team in Hawaii.

Next year, Ivan will serve as the JROTC commander, and Goree will act as the co-commander. Both said they hope to bring a stronger drill team back to the European championships.

Levi plans to return to New Mexico to join the Army after graduation.



Griffin



Griffin

## Save energy, money with CFLBs

Continued From Page 1

Bauernschmitt said the idea was to find out if the CFLB would actually save the amount of energy and money that its proponents had claimed. He said he purchased his first CFLB in 1992 for 30 German marks (approximately 15 Euro today), an extremely high price for one light bulb, but it has saved him hundreds of Euros in energy savings over the last decade.

Grafenwoehr is also working to save the Army money by replacing its standard incandescent light bulbs with CFLBs. So far, Bauernschmitt and his team have replaced about 1,000 of the 3,000 outdoor bulbs in the Vilseck housing areas.

And in a very short period of time—since May 2006—it is already beginning to pay off, to the tune of about \$40,000 per year, said Bauernschmitt.

"And this is a very conservative estimate," he said. Bauernschmitt said that as additional funding becomes available, the garrison's Environmental Division will be able to continue to replace the incandescent bulbs throughout Grafenwoehr and Vilseck and net even greater savings.

The annual \$40,000 savings is a significant dent in the garrison's electric bills, which total \$13 million at Grafenwoehr and \$12 million in Vilseck.

Bauernschmitt said he and his colleagues are encouraging residents to replace their old incandescent bulbs with CFLBs.

Military ID cardholders who live on post or in government-leased housing off post can pick up the CFLBs for free at the Self Help store.

Residents who live off post in non-government leased housing will have to purchase their own bulbs, which can be found on the economy or in the post Commissary and Shoppettes. While the upfront cost for CFLBs is more expensive, ranging in price from \$8-\$12 a piece, Bauernschmitt said the

lifetime savings are in money and energy are striking and worthwhile.

For example, by replacing one incandescent bulb in your home with a CFLB, residents can save about \$61.35 over the lifetime of the bulb.

And in addition to the fact that one CFLB is expected to burn for 15,000 hours (incandescent bulbs lasts for about 1,000 hours) and uses significantly lower amounts of energy, Bauernschmitt said users may also notice a decrease in their cooling bills.

"A normal incandescent bulb is an oven," he said. "It has a thread inside ... which is heated up by the electricity. It glows, like a heater in winter time."

Ninety-five percent of the energy consumed by a regular incandescent light bulb produces heat, not light, making it an inefficient light source. Only 5 percent of this heating device is emitting light, he said.

CFLBs, however, are "designed to produce light, not heat."

Bauernschmitt explained that the attempt at energy savings is not exclusive to Grafenwoehr. It is an Army-wide program that is likely to have an effect on all service members wherever they find themselves stationed.

In the U.S., military families who live in Residential Communities Initiative housing may have to pay their own electric costs when usages go over a predetermined amount.

Families are allotted an amount of money in the service member's pay for their utilities costs. In hopes of getting military members to become more

energy conscious, when the usage is higher than the reasonable predetermined amount, residents will foot the remainder of the bill.

According to an RCI Web site, RCI will conduct mock billing for up to one year at each installation, during which time they will provide residents information regarding their consumption and costs as compared to the allowance appropriate for their home. During mock billing, residents will not be responsible for paying any

**“ The Earth has only a limited amount of natural resources... We have children, and we want them to live on this planet for the next 50 or 100 years. ”**

Dieter Bauernschmitt  
Pollution Prevention Manager

overages or receive payments for savings.

After mock billing, actual billing will start. Residents who conserve at certain levels may have the opportunity to receive a payment or credit; those who do not conserve will be required to pay for their excess consumption. The utilities consumption base line will be adjusted each year and usage will also be compared to similar housing off post in the surrounding community to make any necessary adjustments or enhancements to the program, according to the Web site.

While U.S. Army Europe is not participating in the RCI program, Army officials are hoping residents will choose to curb energy usage on their own.

Bauernschmitt said using CFLB is a smart and easy way to start.

"The Earth only has a limited amount of natural resources. To produce electricity, you have to burn a lot of crude oil. We have children," he said, "and we want them to live on this planet for the next 50 or 100 years."



Look for AFN online at [www.afneurope.net/bavaria](http://www.afneurope.net/bavaria), or on the radio!

| AFN Bavaria Radio Frequencies |      |      | Grafenwoehr | 1107 | 101.4 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|-------------|------|-------|
| Town                          | AM   | FM   | Hohenfels   | 1485 | 89.4  |
| Amberg                        | 1107 | 90.0 | Nuremberg   |      | 107.4 |
| Chiemsee                      |      | 90.3 | Katterbach  |      | 107.4 |
| Garmisch                      | 1485 | 90.3 | Vilseck     | 1107 | 107.6 |