KAISERSLAUTERN AMERICAN
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JANUARY 16, 2009 HAVE YOU READ YOUR KA TODAY? VOLUME 33, NUMBER 2

17th AF engineers first African operation

by Master Sgt. Jim Fisher
17th Air Force Public Affairs

Air Force C-17s will soon begin airlifting special equipment for Rwandan peacekeepers in the Darfur region of Sudan, marking the kickoff of the first major operation engineered by U.S. Africa Command's air component, 17th Air Force, also known as U.S. Air Forces Africa.

The numbered Air Force is responsible for planning and implementing air operations on the African continent.

Members of 17th AF took a moment Tuesday to look over various news stories announcing the U.S. government's support to the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur.

As national and international media covered the official announcement, planners at 17th hearkened back to the operation's inception,

See DARFUR, Page 10

Photo by Staff Sgt. Samuel Bendet

Airmen with the 722nd EABS, 17th Air Force, U.S. Africa Command and Rwanda Defence Force Soldiers inspect supplies and heavy equipment in support of United Nations African Mission in Darfur, Sudan, Jan. 7.

Kaiserslautern first to host 'I. A.M. Strong' in Europe

Story and photo by Christine June
USAG Kaiserslautern

Intervene, Act and Motivate stand for more than just the acronym in the Army's I. A.M. Strong campaign to combat sexual assaults and sexual harassment.

"What these words mean is for all Soldiers – commanders to junior enlisted – to do just that – intervene, act and be motivated to prevent sexual assaults from happening," said Megan Roberts, U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's sexual assault response coordinator.

Launched in November, the I. A.M. Strong campaign encourages communities to hold briefings to educate Soldiers on how they can intervene, act and be motivated to stop this crime.

More than 800 Soldiers attended briefings held by the garrison Jan. 6 and 8 at the Galaxy Theater on Vogelweh.

"This (I. A.M. Strong campaign) is exactly what the Army needs," said Capt. John Evans, the garrison's Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment commander, who attended the Jan. 8 briefing. "It gets to the root of the problem and asks Soldiers to help make a difference and take a stand at their level where it counts the most."

Mrs. Roberts said Kaiserslautern is the first community in Europe to hold these briefings.

"(Leadership) strongly support this initiative to re-emphasize to our

See STRONG, Page 5

Close to 800 Soldiers in the KMC attend U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's sponsored I. A.M. Strong conferences held Jan. 6 and 8 at the Galaxy Theater on Vogelweh.

AADD sponsors
Battle of the Bands
at 6 p.m. today in Ramstein's Hangar 1.

NEWS
Tax time: easy as 1 - 2 - 3, Page 7

FEATURES
86th Airlift Wing rides the Wild West, Page 9

SPORTS
Future cheerleaders to shine at games, Page 21

Commentary

Ownership is the key to leadership

by Senior Master Sgt. Brandon Broughman
37th Airlift Squadron

In the sixth year of my 21-year Air Force career, I became seriously disgruntled. I asked my unit first sergeant if he had some time to meet with me and talk it over.

Our first sergeant was rumored to have crossed over from the Marines. He was very coarse and frank, but I always found his feedback honest and candid. I knew he wouldn't steer me wrong.

In the shirt's office, I got right to the point. I told him I felt surrounded by (expletive) – weak and incompetent people. I got a little carried away and told him I had begun to perceive the Air Force in general as a lot of the same. I had decided I didn't want any part of it. I told him what I saw in the Marine Corps was a team built on honor, pride, professionalism and grit. That's what I wanted to be part of and I hoped he would somehow sponsor me in.

He listened to every word, and I felt he was right there with me on the subject. I just knew he understood my point of view and was surely about to offer me his total and unyielding support toward a future in the Marine Corps. After allowing me to finish, he looked right through me, and when he leaned out over his desk and rested on his elbows, I noticed for the first time that he had a little vein bulging out on his forehead.

He spoke rather quietly at first. He said, "Do you know what I think? I think you're the (expletive). I think you lack the required confidence in yourself, or perhaps you're just too lazy to try to make a difference here. You want to take the easy road. You want to go where someone else has had to do the paving."

He continued, "If you don't like what you see, then you need to change it by making a difference any way you can. Start with No. 1. Set the example every day, and others will follow. You make a difference in the leadership you provide to your subordinates, and you will make a difference for years to come."

I re-enlisted in the Air Force a few months later, and I have tried to put the advice he provided to use in my career every day. I determined that ownership is what stands to make the biggest impact in a unit.

I am now convinced that when you actually buy-in to an organization, it becomes part of you. You will go the extra mile to make your organization a success, because your organization and its successes, or failures, are your own.

My first sergeant sponsored me indeed, but he sponsored me into the Air Force. He walked me to the mirror and showed me what I had not seen. He challenged me to not only make a difference, but to be the difference. In short, he introduced me to ownership, and since that day I have been an American Airman.

4 tips *to safe nighttime driving in the KMC*

by Maj. John Kim
Ramstein Optometry Services

While driving around the KMC, do you find it difficult to see the road ahead? Have you wondered why night blindness seems worse since you PCSd to Germany? Do you find it difficult to navigate your way home in the morning or after work? If so, you are not alone. Here are a few mitigating factors that can cause poor night vision:

First, we no longer have the many street lamps and lane reflectors that we are normally accustomed to stateside.

As a result, the reduced lighting diminishes your ability to see highway lane width and depth and can lead to poor anticipation of road conditions and turns.

Second, our eyes naturally adapt to a darker environment. Dark adaptation is both an advantage and disadvantage. The advantage we gain is after a brief period of adaptation (absent of bright light) the human eye senses greater shades of gray and black, perfect for low light level conditions.

The disadvantage is dark adapted eyes are extremely sensitive to light and any advantages are promptly eliminated when any brief flash of light (headlights) bleaches visual photoreceptors and temporarily "blinds" vision.

Third, you may have blurred vision. For those currently wearing glasses, a small amount of uncorrected vision may further degrade vision at night.

Your local eye care professional may give you a prescription that will help you see better at night.

We recommend eye exams every two years for spectacle wearers and annual exams for contact lens wearers or earlier if you notice changes in your vision.

Despite these factors, here are a few things we can do to improve night vision:

1 Eat healthy. Poor night vision can be attributed to a deficiency of vitamin A. Foods rich in vitamin A include spinach, carrots, cantaloupes, apricots, dairy products, egg yolks, fish liver oil (omega 3 fatty acids) and liver.

Note: Pregnant women should consult a physician before taking vitamin A supplements because of the link between this vitamin and birth defects.

2 Quit smoking. Studies have shown smoking contributes to poorer night vision. One study found temporary abstinence from smoking could sharply improve the night vision of smokers. Several studies found smokers were more likely to have automobile accidents than nonsmokers. Among people who had automobile accidents, another study reported smokers were more than two times as likely to have their accidents at night.

3 Use your high beams when safe. High beams will help you see the road farther ahead and can effectively increase how well you see. Use them with caution and remember to turn off high beams when approaching opposing traffic.

4 Maximize car safety. Utilize driver safety tips already promoted by your local safety office. Make sure visibility is clear around your vehicle windows before driving, replace old wiper blades, drive defensively and in a speed consistent with road and lighting conditions, check your tires for proper pressure and tread life and check brakes. Keep your windshield and headlights clean as this will improve your view to the outside.

To make an eye appointment in the KMC, call 486-LRMC (5762).

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•Sports articles and photos — noon Monday for that same week's edition

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Icy runways set winter ops into motion

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class
Kenny Holston
435th Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

As frigid winter weather ices down everything in its path, flightline operations on Ramstein must continue.

The 86th Operations Support Squadron and the 435th Civil Engineer Squadron work hand-in-hand to ensure mission success during the winter months.

Upon the first signs of winter weather, airfield management alerts the supporting units and prepares for winter operations.

"We're a 24/7 operation," said Staff Sgt. Lee Grundmann, 86th OSS Airfield Management. "Winter ops on the flightline start with us. Our job is to recognize the situation and get it solved quickly so aircraft can continue to take off and land."

While some winter conditions are more visible than others, airfield management crews must know exactly what's going on with the airfield at all times so they won't pass along false information.

"Our shop is equipped with several different types of equipment which aid us in calculating the condition of the airfield," Sergeant Grundmann said.

A small machine that produces a runway condition reading is used to give airfield management crews an accurate number assigned to the condition capabilities of the pavement. A 19 or above indicates a wet runway while a nine or below means there are some aircraft unable to take off.

As weather conditions fluctuate, it is important for airfield management crews to keep an accurate log of their readings during every airfield check.

"We generally operate with a checklist each time we go out to investigate the status of the airfield," Sergeant Grundmann said. "Everything on our list must be checked off before returning to the shop to relay our findings."

Accuracy and judgment play a major role in the job of the airfield management crews, who are the first to assess the airfield.

"We make a lot of judgment calls. If we're not accurate in our convictions, it could result in a mishap leading to non-mission success," Sergeant Grundmann said.

While winter ops starts with airfield management, the icy task doesn't stop there. The 435th CES plays a critical role as well. Snow control crews and sweeper shop personnel operate heavy equipment, such as snow plows and brush trucks to clear snow and ice off of runways, priority roads and aircraft parking ramps.

Members of Ramstein Air Field Management use a snow removal truck to clear ramp one before the day's mission Jan. 6.

"We're fully responsible for ensuring both runways, all seven ramps and nine taxiways are clear and ready for use during the winter months," said Senior Airman Steven Harrod, 435th CES pavement and equipment journeymen. "When snow falls we usually work 12-hour shifts ensuring we have manning around the clock."

The 86th OSS and 435th CES work together to ensure airfield conditions are what they should be for flightline operations to continue

"We work very closely with the 86th OSS," Airman Harrod said. "After they make the first assessment of the airfield, that information is passed to us and we act upon it accordingly. When we've completed our end of the task, we contact the 86th OSS to let them know what action we took to counter the weather conditions."

It's this kind of teamwork during winter operations that keep flightline operations moving, and ensures Ramstein Airmen can continue taking the fight to the enemy.

WSA in Sanem, Luxembourg, celebrates 30th anniversary

Story and photo by
Senior Airman Nathan Lipscomb
435th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The Warehouses Service Agency celebrated its 30th Anniversary Jan. 8 in Sanem, Luxembourg. The event included speeches from U.S. Ambassador Ann Wagner, Luxembourg Defense Minister Jean-Louis Schiltz and a tour of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Central Region Storage Facility.

"The importance of Sanem as a logistics hub has been recognized for many years by the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Defense," Ambassador Wagner said. "The superb reputation of WSA and its highly skilled workers is widely appreciated."

The facility is home to 85 percent of USAFE's War Reserve Materiel, which includes vehicles, aerospace ground equipment, aircraft tanks, tacks, adaptors, pylons, basic expeditionary airfield resources and other airfield support equipment items valued at more than $350 million, said Maj. Adrian Crowley, 435th Materiel Maintenance Squadron commander. WSA maintains, reconstitutes and stores WRM in a posture to rapidly deploy worldwide within 24 hours for any contingency.

The WSA was established and designated by the government of Luxembourg to perform all the services set forth in a memorandum of understanding between Luxembourg and the United States dating back to December 1978.

The U.S. Air Force established the CRSF in 1994 and oversees WSA site operations.

"The success of this operation is a testament to the enduring strategic partnership between the United States and Luxembourg," Major Crowley said.

Maj. Adrian Crowley, 435th Materiel Maintenance Squadron commander, right, discusses the importance of the Warehouse Services Agency in Sanem with Defense Minister Jean-Louis Schiltz, left, and U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg Ann Wagner, center, during the 30th Anniversary of the WSA in Sanem, Luxembourg, Jan. 8. About 600 vehicles and thousands of individual aircraft operation support components are stored in the facility.

KMC BLOTTER

Compiled by the 569th USFPS

Jan. 6

7:28 a.m.: An Army NCO reported his vehicle had been damaged and his wallet with various amounts of currency had been stolen in Ramstein-Miesenbach.

2:38 p.m.: An Air Force NCO reported her vehicle had been damaged and her navigation system and iPod had been stolen in Ramstein-Miesenbach.

Jan. 7

7:46 a.m.: An Army warrant officer reported a rental vehicle had been damaged and numerous clothing articles and pieces of electronic equipment had been stolen in Kaiserslautern.

9:17 a.m.: An Air Force SNCO reported damage to a building on Kapaun.

5:30 p.m.: An Air Force juvenile reported he had been struck by a vehicle on Vogelweh and the driver left without rendering aid. The driver was located at the Vogelweh Main Exchange and apprehended.

Jan. 8

7:13 a.m.: An Air Force spouse reported her vehicle had been damaged and her navigation system and purse with various amounts of currency had been stolen from her vehicle in Kottweiler-Schwanden.

9:54 a.m.: An Air Force spouse reported her vehicle had been damaged on Vogelweh.

10:52 a.m.: An Army civilian reported four lights had been stolen from a government vehicle on Rhine Ordnance Barracks.

5 p.m.: An AAFES civilian reported two juveniles had been detained for shoplifting at the Vogelweh Main Exchange.

Jan. 9

5 a.m.: An Air Force spouse reported her vehicle had been damaged in Bann.

Jan. 11

2:54 a.m.: A Soldier was arrested for drunken driving in Einsiedlerhof.

5 a.m.: An Army NCO was arrested by Polizei for drunken driving in Kaiserslautern.

3:15 p.m.: An Army warrant officer was arrested by Polizei for drunken driving in Kaiserslautern.

Jan. 12

6:33 a.m.: An Air Force NCO reported his vehicle had been damaged in Weilerbach.

7:25 a.m.: An Air Force NCO reported his vehicle had been broken into and numerous uniform items and electronic items were stolen from his vehicle in Siegelbach.

7:33 a.m.: An Air Force spouse reported her vehicle had been broken into and her purse containing her wallet, various amounts of currency and numerous electronic items were stolen in Siegelbach.

8:17 a.m.: An Air Force civilian reported his vehicle had been broken into and his navigation system was stolen in Siegelbach.

11:37 a.m.: A Soldier reported that while in Frankfurt, the left side mirror of his rental vehicle had been shattered.

6:45 p.m.: An Airman reported his navigation system and a backpack had been stolen from his vehicle in Kaiserslautern.

AADD stats

Jan. 10 – 18 volunteers, 8 calls, 22 lives saved

Jan. 11 – 27 volunteers, 9 calls, 17 lives saved

Take Note

Town hall meeting

The Army's senior mission commander in the KMC and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's commander hosts a town hall meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Kaiserslautern Community Activities Center on Daenner Kaserne. For details, call Emma Vinson at 493-4241.

Education assessment survey

The U.S. Army Garrison Baden Württemberg's Army Education Centers in Heidelberg, Kaiserslautern and Mannheim military communities are conducting a needs assessment survey until Feb. 13. The survey can only be accessed from a dot-mil computer or at a local education center. The Web site is https://secureweb.hqda.pentagon.mil/HQDASurveys/Surveys/TakeSurvey.aspx?s=cc678b96df04446b8c3668187d51daf8. For more information, call Ramona Kausch at 493-2592 or 0631-3406-2592.

OCS Board

U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern is hosting the next Officer Candidate School Board March 3 to 6 at the garrison's conference room in Bldg. 2933 on Pulaski Barracks. Enrollment packets must be turned in on an appointment basis only by Feb. 15 to the garrison's directorate of human resources, Room 102 in Bldg. 2933 on Pulaski Barracks. For more information, visit www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/opdistacc/ocs/ocs_appl.htm or e-mail Spc. Vincent Holtzman at micah.holtzman@eur.army.mil.

Closures

• All Service Credit Union branch offices will be closed Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. All offices will resume normal business hours on Tuesday.

•The 435th Munitions Squadron will be closed March 2 to 31 to conduct the semiannual, 100 percent inventory. Issue and turn-in requests must be submitted to Munitions Operations no later than Feb. 15 to meet scheduling requirements. After Feb. 15, only emergency requests will be honored. Only custodians may pick up emergency issues. Normal hours of operation will resume April 1. Contact Munitions Accountability at 480-5715/5725 with any concerns.

Vaccination clinic

The Kaiserslautern Veterinary Treatment Facility is having a Saturday vaccination clinic from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 7. Call 06313-3406-4444 or 493-4473 for an appointment.

Red Cross job opportunity

The American Red Cross is looking for someone to fill the temporary position of field office coordinator. The coordinator assists in the delivery of Red Cross services to the military and their families assigned at Ramstein, may act in the absence of the station manager and provides services to customers and clients consistent with Red Cross standards, among other duties. Applicants must have a high school diploma, a minimum of three years related experience, and experience with Red Cross programs and services is desired. Interested candidates should apply online at www.redcross.org. The job code is 7540BR. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Feb. 20.

Participate in this year's Fasching parade

Ramstein's Carnival Association Bruchkatze is looking for American bands, walking groups and dancers who would like to participate in this year's Fasching parade at 2 p.m. Feb. 24. Also, individuals who dress up in unique costumes are able to take part in the two-hour long parade. For details and to register, contact the 86th Airlift Wing Host Nation Office at 480-2094.

Customs office assisting MPs

The Kaiserslautern Customs Office staff is now assisting the Kaiserslautern Military Police Station with issuing AE 550-175L (POL Authorization for Rental Vehicles and POVs Registered Outside of Germany) forms during normal operating hours. The office is open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and is located on Kleber Kaserne, Bldg. 3245, room 209.

VAT forms can be ordered online

A new pilot program is now in place at USAMMCE for Value Added Tax relief. This program allows authorized users to order VAT forms (for purchases under €2,500) electronically and receive them at their APO address. Because of the sensitive information required to fill the request, orders must be placed from a government computer using a Common Access Card and dot-mil e-mail address. For more information on this program and the eligibility requirements, contact the VAT office at 483-1780 or 0631-411-1780.

Landstuhl Community Club has new hours

The Landstuhl Community Club has adjusted their hours. The club is now open from 5 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 5 p.m. to 12 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 5 to 9 p.m. Sundays. For more information, call 486-7244 or 06371-86-7244.

General court-martial

On Dec. 17 in the Ramstein Air Base Courtroom, Senior Airman Gabriell Lopez, a member of the 435th Munitions Squadron, was convicted in a general court-martial by a military judge and found guilty of wrongful sexual contact, in violation of Article 120, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The court-martial was for an assault that took place in December 2007 in Airman Lopez's home.

The victim, who is also a male Airman, fell asleep at Airman Lopez's home after they had gone out drinking with a group of friends.

The victim woke up to find Airman Lopez fondling his genitals and performing oral sex on him. The victim immediately contacted the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and reported the assault.

At his trial, Airman Lopez admitted only to the fondling, but he was found guilty of the entire allegation after the military judge heard all of the evidence, including the victim's testimony.

Airman Lopez was sentenced to a reduction in grade to E-2, confinement for seven months, forfeiture of $1,500 pay per month for seven months and a bad conduct discharge. He also received a federal criminal conviction on his record and he will be required to register as a sex offender.

After sentencing, Airman Lopez was taken directly from the courtroom to jail.

Aside from the sentence imposed by the military judge, Airman Lopez's criminal assault on a fellow Airman will also bring additional lifelong consequences, including the loss of nearly all veteran's benefits otherwise earned during his four years of service, including the G.I. Bill.

(Compiled by the 435th Air Base Wing/JA Military Justice Section)

German law: 'zero limit' on alcohol for drivers under 21

by Robert Szostek
U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal

Courtesy photo

Recently enacted German law now prohibits drivers under 21 years old from having any alcohol in their blood system while driving in Germany.

The laws include American drivers, either on or off U.S. military installations.

"These drivers will be subject to a fine if caught by German police and will have two points assessed on their licenses," said Lt. Col. Lon Walker, chief of law enforcement operations at the U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal.

The former €125 fine has doubled to €250, he said.

In addition to the fine, USAREUR will suspend the driving privileges of any Soldier, civilian employee or family member under 21 caught by German police operating a vehicle with alcohol in their bloodstream, PMO officials said. The suspension will be 30 days for a first offense, 60 days for a second offense and 90 days for a third offense.

If military police officers catch anyone under 21 driving on a U.S. installation in Germany with alcohol in their blood, the license suspensions will be the only punishment, PMO officials said. But drivers may also be subject to drunken driving penalties.

Colonel Walker said a lack of experience makes younger drivers more likely to have accidents than older drivers. Adding alcohol into the mix compounds the problem, with one small glass of wine raising the odds of a crash sixfold. He said "zero limits" for 17- to 20-year-olds are already in place in more than a dozen European countries, as well as in parts of the U.S., Canada and Australia.

Many other fines for driving offenses in Germany have been increased – some doubling – this year.

More information on German driving penalties and fines can be found at the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs Web site at www.bmvbs.de/en/Transport/Roads-,2120/Schedule-of-fines.htm.

STRONG, from Page 1

community members that sexual assault will not be tolerated in the Kaiserslautern garrison," said Lt. Col. Mechelle Hale, the garrison's commander.

Reports of sexual assaults in the KMC dropped by seven in fiscal year 2008 from fiscal year 2007, which had 19 reported cases, Mrs. Roberts said.

There have been five cases reported so far this fiscal year.

"One is too many," said Colonel Hale, Captain Evans and Mrs. Roberts in agreement.

Although a big first step, these community-wide briefings are just the beginning of the I. A.M. Strong campaign here, said Mrs. Roberts, who has been the garrison's sexual assault response coordinator for about two years.

"In the past, we have been working on creating a good response system so that when a sexual assault does occur in the community we can react and go through the proper channels," Mrs. Roberts said. "Now, we're moving into stopping assaults from even happening and teaching people about the risks factors and how to intervene when they do see trouble."

The garrison holds sexual assault review boards every month as part of its Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program. Mrs. Roberts said that every major contributor to the community, such as the Provost Marshal's Office, Chaplain's Office, mental health professionals and command leadership, attend these meetings to discuss prevention and response procedures in the KMC.

The Sexual Assault Hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 0162-296-7320. To get involved with the campaign, contact Mrs. Roberts at 493-4148 or 0631-3406-4148.

To find out more about the Army's I. A.M. Strong campaign, visit their Web site at www.sexualassault.army.mil.

Ramstein captain receives Sijan leadership award

by Airman 1st Class Scott Saldukas
435th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Moving 95 soldiers and 20 tons of equipment on the ground in a deployed environment within 48 hours of tasking is just one of many reasons a Ramstein Airman recently received the prestigious Lance P. Sijan Air Force Leadership Award.

Capt. Michael Rellick, 86th Air Mobility Squadron Aerial Port Flight commander, received the award from Gen. Roger A. Brady, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, Dec. 17 at the NATO headquarters building on Ramstein.

The award, named after the first U.S. Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Medal of Honor, recognizes Airmen who have displayed selfless service and excellent leadership skills while assigned to an organization at the wing level and below.

"It is an outstanding achievement, and there's no bigger or more prestigious award given to honor someone's leadership," General Brady said.

While Captain Rellick was honored to receive the award at the NATO level, he said it came as a shock since so many other Airmen are continually doing great things.

"I was completely surprised when they told me I won the award," Captain Rellick said.

He noted one contributing factor that helped him become competitive for the award was the unique mission he was in charge of downrange. During that time he took part in aircraft drops in the Kandahar, Afghanistan, area for the first time ever using a joint staff.

He also facilitated an airlift for six Afghan National Army graduations and orchestrated 43 missions, including transporting 3,000 new Soldiers.

Even on his extra time, the captain displays his leadership and dedication as the officer in charge of the base honor guard. He also coordinated 18 of NATOs highest level events.

Captain Rellick said he could not have won the award without his co-workers making work fun and easy for him.

"I wouldn't have been able to have won the award without the leadership of my senior leaders and mentors," he said. "Also, I thank the superstars that work underneath me and help make me shine."

Captain Rellick made the decision to become a commissioned officer in the Air Force while in college.

"In my junior year of college I wanted job stability and a career that embraced the warrior ethos," said the captain from Latrobe, Pa.

After graduating the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program from West Virginia University, he was assigned to Hurlburt Field Air Force Base, Fla. His career path also took him to Osan Air Base, Korea, before coming to NATO and becoming the operations support branch deputy chief, and then the assistant executive officer to the commander of the Component Command Air Headquarters.

The Lance P. Sijan award was first given in 1981. It was named in honor of the first U.S. Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Medal of Honor. Captain Sijan was shot down over Vietnam Nov. 9, 1967, and evaded capture for 45 days despite severe injuries. He later died while in a Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp and was presented the Medal of Honor posthumously for his heroism.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Caleb Pierce

Gen. Rodger Brady, commander, Allied Air Component Command HQ and U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, presents the Air Force Element NATO Allied Command Operations SIJAN award to Capt. Michael Rellick during a ceremony on Ramstein Dec 17. Captain Rellick earned the award for outstanding leadership demonstrated at NATO and while deployed to Afghanistan.

Future of Army on display in Kaiserslautern Jan. 26 and 27

PEO Soldier highlights next generation Army gear, advanced weaponry

by Angelika Lantz
21st TSC Public Affairs

If you're ready to see the future of the Army, then visit the Program Executive Officer Soldier Display from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 26 and 27 at the Special Events Building, Bldg. 237 on Rhine Ordnance Barrack.

The next generation of Army gear, including the most technologically advanced weapons systems, cutting-edge communication technology, innovative clothing and ground-breaking equipment, will be on display.

PEO Soldier is the Army organization responsible for every item of clothing and piece of equipment Soldiers wear or carry.

Some of the display highlights will include: Interceptor Body Armor with Improved Outer Tactical Vest and associated plates, Advanced Combat Helmet with ballistic protective nape pad and helmet sensors, Electronic Data Manager, Generation III Extended Cold Weather Clothing System and Thermal Weapon Sights, among others.

In the past, Soldiers were outfitted with one piece of equipment at a time. Little or no regard was given to how the individual pieces worked together.

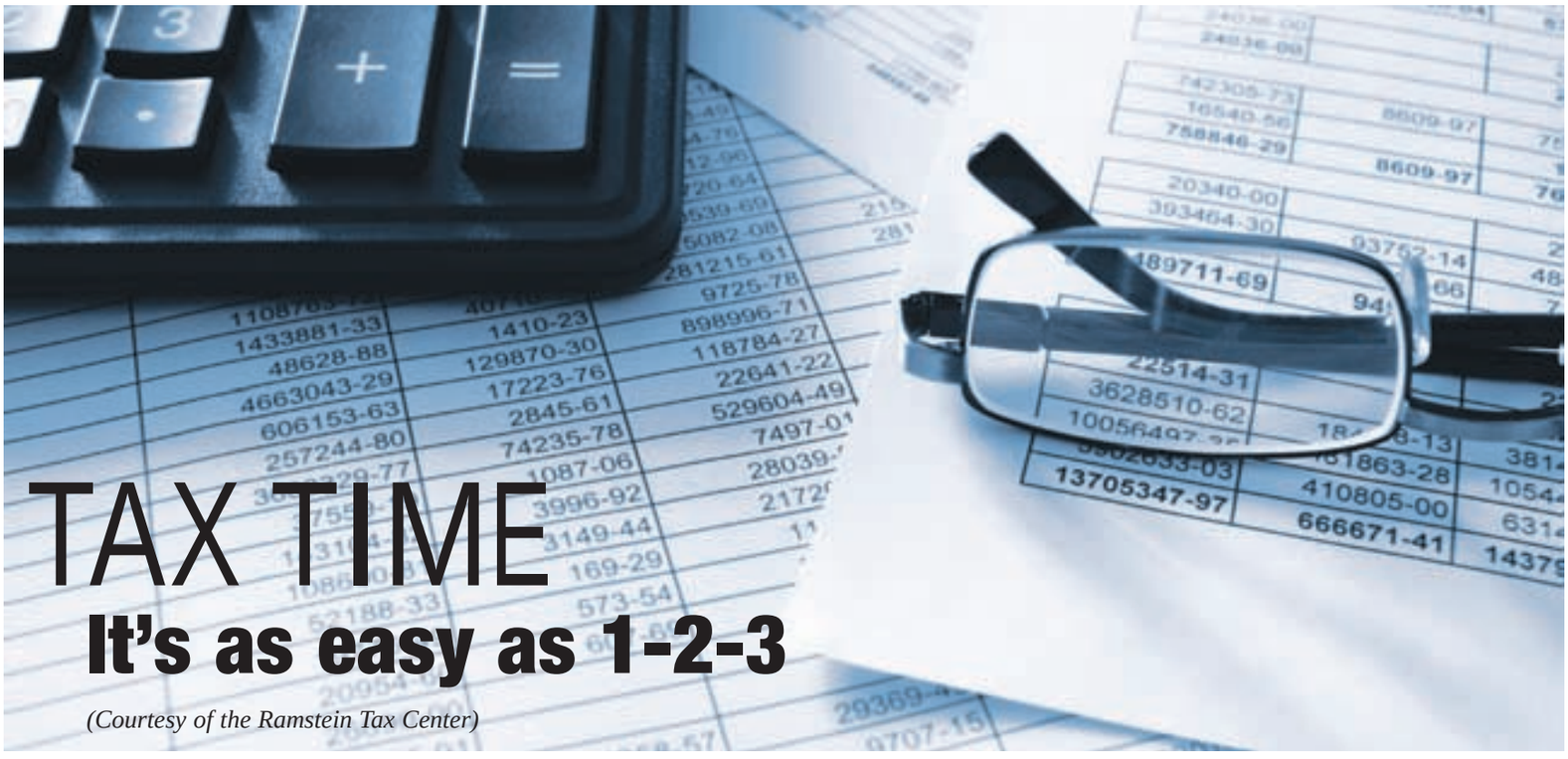
But PEO Soldier looks at Soldiers as systems.

This concept evaluates how each piece of equipment works together. As a result, Soldiers are now better equipped and protected, redundancies in equipment have been eliminated and levels of effectiveness and comfort have been increased, according to the PEO Soldier Web site.

At the Kaiserslautern display, you can also preview the new Army Service Uniform, which simplifies the current uniform while preserving tradition and providing quality, fit and convenience.

The new uniform is to be available in military clothing stores by summer 2010, and Soldiers will be required to have it by the end of fiscal 2014, according to the PEO Soldier Web site.

Visit the PEO Soldier display and see it and the future of the Army.



TAX TIME

It's as easy as 1-2-3

(Courtesy of the Ramstein Tax Center)

Tax season is quickly approaching, and being stationed overseas does not exempt you from filing a tax return.

Active-duty W-2s come out Jan. 23, and the Ramstein Tax Center will open Jan. 26 to assist you in filing your return. The center will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays.

While you are anxiously awaiting the arrival of your W-2, there are several things you can do to prepare to file your return:

1 Start gathering the necessary documents and information you will need to file your taxe returns:

- The social security cards for you, your spouse and children
- All W-2s
- Any Forms 1099 you have received
- Any Forms 1098 you have received
- Any Schedules K-1 (income from an estate or trust)
- Records of any income from gambling, awards, prizes or jury duty
- Records of any alimony received or paid
- Records of any rent or royalty property income
- Records of educational expenses
- IRA contribution information
- Dependent child care expenses (including name, address and EIN/SSN of provider)
- Your bank account number and routing number for direct deposit
- A copy of last year's federal and state returns

2 Get an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number for your spouse.

If your spouse is not an American citizen, you can still file a joint return if your spouse has an ITIN. Your spouse can apply for an ITIN by filing a Form W-7, available with instructions on the IRS Web site at, www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw7.pdf.

3 Be on the lookout for scams.

The IRS has put out a warning about phony e-mails purporting to be from the IRS that are being sent to U.S. citizens in Germany. The IRS does not send unsolicited e-mails to taxpayers, nor does it ask for PIN numbers or passwords to credit card or bank accounts. If you have any questions about a letter or e-mail you have received from the IRS before the opening of the Tax Center, do not hesitate to bring it to the Ramstein Legal Office during our normal legal assistance hours.

Keep reading the Kaiserslautern American for more tax updates and tax tips from the Ramstein Tax Center. The tax center is located at the Ramstein Law Center, Bldg. 2137.

Just the facts: The Ramstein Tax Center

Helping to file your tax returns

From Jan. 26 up until Tax Day, April 15, the Ramstein tax center is ready to help you file your income tax returns.

The tax center offers customers the opportunity to use the center's software, which is located on the Web site MilitaryOneSource.com, to input their own tax data or to work with a volunteer.

Customers can access the MilitaryOneSource Web site 24 hours a day.

Customers can also bring documents into the tax center and a trained volunteer will help file them.

Computers are available at the tax center to any active-duty member, reservist, Department of Defense civilian or dependent who wants to file taxes, even if no assistance is required.

Retirees who work as DOD civilians can either access the tax software by logging on to MilitaryOneSource.com or they can visit the tax center for assistance. Retirees who are not DOD civilians can call the Ramstein Legal Office at 06371-47-5911 for information about filing taxes.

The Ramstein Tax Center hosts a Tax Saturday event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 31 at the legal office.

A 1040EZ Tax Saturday will also be held Jan. 31 when all military and DOD civilians are invited to come and file their 1040EZ tax returns.

An EZ filer is someone who is single or without dependents or married, filing jointly, without dependents.

Customers who still need to file returns from previous years should check back after April 15.

The Ramstein Tax Center

Hours:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays

Tax assistance is on a walk-in basis only. No appointments will be given.

Note:

Remember to bring any documents necessary to file your taxes with you. Space at a computer in the tax center will not be held for you while you leave to retrieve information.

The tax center is located at the Ramstein Law Center, Bldg. 2137. For more information, call the legal office at 480-5911/12.

Major leads sergeant onto education's path

Master Sgt. Matthew Ulichney, 835th Civil Engineer Squadron, steals study breaks in the emergency operations center between the end of the duty day and his evening classes.

Story and photo by Capt. John Ross
86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

When Master Sgt. Matthew Ulichney of the 835th Civil Engineer Squadron walks across the stage to receive his Community College of the Air Force diploma, one seat in the house will be conspicuously empty.

Maj. Rodolfo Rodriguez, who was killed in a terrorist bombing in Pakistan Sept. 20, will not be in attendance – but Sergeant Ulichney will be feeling his presence when he moves the tassel from right to left on his graduation cap.

"He wanted me to have that," Sergeant Ulichney said. "I can still see him, in the back of my mind, saying 'Get that done.'"

In September 2007, Sergeant Ulichney went into his new supervisor's office, then-Captain Rodriguez, for a standard initial feedback – unaware that his life would be headed in a new direction before the session was done.

After first going over the usual feedback form, the captain set the paper aside and said he had a different topic to discuss.

"He said, 'Sergeant U., I appreciate all the hard work you're doing, but you've got to go back to school,'" recounted Sergeant Ulichney. "He said, 'Don't worry as far as work. If it's overwhelming, I'll take it on. I want to see you taking classes this semester coming up.' I said, 'Yes sir, I will.'"

Sergeant Ulichney enrolled in a class beginning the following month but found himself nervous about going back to school. He decided to take Spanish because he knew he'd have plenty of help between his wife and Captain Rodriguez, both of whom were native speakers.

"After high school, I had no desire to go back to school," he said. "But after that first class I thought, 'This is not that hard.' That got the wheels turning."

Through the rest of their time working together, Captain-turned-Major Rodriguez regularly checked in with Sergeant Ulichney to discuss his progress. The master sergeant had found his academic stride by the time Major Rodriguez left the squadron to migrate over to the 86th Construction and Training Squadron.

"I think he cared about what would happen once I finished with the Air Force," Sergeant Ulichney said. "It's just the way the world operates. If you don't have a degree, forget it, you know what I mean?"

The life of Major Rodriguez was also shaped largely by education.

His mother, pregnant with him at only 16 years old, crossed the border illegally from Mexico just to give birth to him in America – giving him citizenship, and a chance at a better life.

"(His mother) didn't speak English, but she wanted him to go to school," said Caryn Rodriguez, his wife of eight years. "He was so quiet that he failed kindergarten."

Coming from a household that spoke only Spanish, little Rodolfo had no understanding of the language spoken in his new class. His teacher, noticing that he never spoke and completely ignored everything she said, mistook him for a troublemaker and did not allow him to go on to first grade.

"Later, in college, he wrote a paper about that being one of his biggest failures, that he had to repeat kindergarten," Mrs. Rodriguez said.

Rodolfo quickly overcame the language barrier by learning English from his classmates. By the time he graduated high school in 1992, he had a 4.0 grade point average, letters in academics, track and football and also played in the band.

Most importantly, he had a congressional recommendation to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Through his 34 years, Major Rodriguez never forgot the pivotal role education played in his life.

He strongly encouraged family members, friends and co-workers to improve their future by continuing with school.

Now, when Sergeant Ulichney speaks to his own troops, he finds imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

"Even today, I finished off with 'Your CCAF,'" he said. "I told them, no matter how long you're in the military, there's no reason why you shouldn't get at least your CCAF. I mean, the military's going to pay for it."

On Christmas Eve 2008, Sergeant Ulichney learned he had graduated from CCAF with two majors: construction technology and emergency management.

He'll continue in a bachelor's program starting in January and plans to finish a master's degree before he's done.

"In April, when I walk across that stage, I'll try to get a hold of Mrs. Rodriguez. I hope she can be there," Sergeant Ulichney said. "And I can just picture him there, clapping and smiling. I think I'll always have a vision of him, just saying, 'Keep going. Don't stop, take more.'"

The Rodriguez Family Trust Fund was established to help two younger brothers and several cousins of Major Rodriguez go on to higher education.

Those interested in donating can contact Service Credit Union and ask about the Rodriguez Family Trust Fund.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Kenny Holston

OPERATIONAL READINESS EXERCISE

Airman 1st Class Kelly Long (left) and Airman 1st Class Steven Rust, both of the 435th Vehicle Readiness Squadron, make their way across the Joint Mobility Processing Center yard after securing cargo in support of an Operational Readiness Exercise Jan. 1 on Ramstein. The exercise prepares Airmen stationed at Ramstein for real world missions and events.

86th Airlift Wing rides the Wild West

Story and photo by
Capt. Michael Trimble
37th Airlift Squadron

Maj. Robert May and Capt. Justine Perlberg turn a 37th Airlift Squadron C-130 onto final approach course, just a mile from touchdown.

They hold the nose up over a rocky hill just before reaching the landing zone, then reduce power to set the 55-ton plane down on a 3,000-foot strip of dirt.

They throw the propellers into reverse momentarily and apply brakes, bringing the plane to a halt just 2,000 feet after touching down.

It might sound like an operation in Afghanistan, Iraq or the Horn of Africa, but this was actually a training mission on the Fort Carson Range in Colorado.

Major May and Captain Perlberg were part of a three-week off-station training designed to prepare 37th AS aircrew for missions to austere locations across the globe.

"The training missions we were able to fly there provided unique opportunities for our crews to squeeze several months of training into just a few weeks," said Major May, mission commander. "When you're on an off-station trainer, you can really focus on improving your flying instead of the many other tasks we're all responsible for at home."

First Lt. Sean McKee, 37th Airlift Squadron, checks his ground speed and timing to the next turn point during the Mobility Air Forces Exercise at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Nov. 19. Lieutenant McKee and his crew flew in a 16-ship airdrop formation during the semiannual exercise planned by the U.S. Air Force Mobility Weapons School.

> "The training missions we were able to fly there provided unique opportunities for our crews to squeeze several months of training into just a few weeks ..."
>
> *— Maj. Robert May*

The first week of the trip, the 37th AS aircrew and personnel from the 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron supported the Military Freefall School and the Air Mobility Command Test and Evaluation Squadron at Laguna Army Airfield in Yuma, Ariz.

The 86th Airlift Wing crews provided 12 high-altitude low-opening airdrops per day, certifying two 86th crews for space shuttle support capability along the way.

The following week, the two C-130s staged training missions with the 731st Airlift Squadron out of Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Members of the Reservist unit trained the 37th AS pilots on dirt-airstrip landings, a vital qualification for U.S. Air Forces in Europe crews operating in expeditionary locations throughout Africa and Afghanistan.

The two units also joined forces for night "interfly" missions, flying together in formation.

"If we as a C-130 community ever have to provide a large invasion force, this is how it will be," said Maj. Rich Pantusa, 731st AS mission commander. "It will require plenty of flexibility, and everyone will have to adapt quickly. Each unit is accustomed to its own way of doing things, and it is good to see other units' techniques firsthand so we're prepared to work together in a real-world operation."

The grand finale of the off-station trainer took place in the Nevada desert, just north of Nellis Air Force Base, where the 37th AS took part in a semiannual exercise planned by students of the U.S. Air Force Mobility Weapons School.

Near the end of their five-month school, the students put their new training to the test, integrating more than 10 cargo and fighter aircraft types into the Mobility Air Forces Exercise.

When the crew arrived, one of the students was a familiar face.

Capt. Justin Brumley, a fellow 37th AS member, was attending the C-130 Weapons Instructor Course Class when the crew arrived.

The MAFEX was one of his final hurdles before achieving weapons officer status.

"Learning to communicate what we needed to the fighter escorts and to the command and control aircraft was like learning another language – each community has such a different mission and different knowledge base," Captain Brumley said. "We also got to teach those folks how we operate, and all the techniques that go into a successful formation airdrop."

Though flying in Europe presents many of its own challenges, Captain Brumley's peers from Ramstein agreed that the complexity of the MAFEX provided a higher level of training than they see at home station.

"Everyone involved learned something from participating in the MAFEX," said Capt. Justin Dahman, an evaluator pilot at the 37th AS. "You can't get this level of realism training in your own backyard."

Less than 24 hours after the successful MAFEX, the 37th AS and 86th MXS crews were airborne again.

This time, the goal was a little simpler: get everyone home in plenty of time for the holidays.

Two days and another ocean-crossing later, that too was a mission accomplished.

The Nevada desert appears in the rear view of a 37th Airlift Squadron C-130 while it participates in the Mobility Air Forces Exercise Nov. 19.

DARFUR, from Page 1

which began several months ago as a "very general" roundtable discussion.

"The initial scope was extremely large," said Maj. Andy Venne, a member of the planning team in 17th's operations directorate. "We started off with a big mission set."

The major said that while the final version of the U.S. Africa Command operation will culminate as a week-long expedition to move outsized equipment, the original parameters involved the potential movement of thousands of troops and a larger amount of cargo.

The process began when the United Nations asked for airlift assistance, which the U.S. has repeatedly provided over the course of Africa Union peacekeeping activities in Darfur, beginning in 2004. Past operations have been conducted by the U.S. European Command and Third Air Force. But with 53 African nations now under the purview of U.S. Africa Command, the task to develop airlift options for this movement fell to the newly-formed air component headquartered at Ramstein.

"Africa Command received a request from the U.N. to move people and equipment to support the peacekeeping mission in Darfur. Our operational planners formed a team that developed several viable courses of action that were then reviewed by leadership at U.S. Africa Command to determine how to best fulfill the requirements," Major Venne said.

The planning process involved every possible area of expertise, said Capt. Ron Johnson, who conducts implementation operations for the 17th.

From logistics to finance, communications to medical, "we had every directorate, every area of special staff – the entire team was involved," Captain Johnson said. "Every member of the team brings a different piece of the puzzle."

The staff began planning for the U.N. operation soon after the unit officially declared initial operational capability Oct. 1.

While all of the assembled staff are experts in their respective Air Force functions and specialties, the newly-formed team faced challenges, said Maj. Greg Lococo, chief of the operational plans division who directed the planning effort while training other members of the team in the joint planning process.

"It was challenging because Africa presents a unique set of variables. It's a huge continent, almost three times the size of the continental U.S.," Major Lococo said. "Then there are several challenges of in-place support, lodging and logistics from one airfield to the next. We had to tackle all these issues and consider several different scenarios. We provided U.S. Africa Command with thoroughly-developed and analyzed courses of action, and it was a great experience for our team."

From the options presented, decision makers chose a combination of contract and military airlift. Once this decision was made, 17th planners had to then put the pieces together in terms of people and aircraft to execute the military airlift portion of the mission, Captain Johnson said. Because the 17th is a staff headquarters with no forces assigned, they had to request forces, aircraft and support from the joint staff in coordination with Africa Command.

"Because we don't have the assets assigned that were needed for this mission, there is another level of involvement. We had to make contact and conduct extensive coordination with many different agencies. And because we had just declared initial operational capability, we are still ironing out the kinks on how to formally request forces for tasked operations," Captain Johnson said.

Once C-17s were identified as the aircraft for the job and forces were sourced from Air Mobility Command to conduct the ground mission, there was the question of the equipment to be moved, said Master Sgt. Rich Rizzo, a logistician with 17th.

He and other members of the 17th traveled to Kigali, Rwanda, to inspect and certify the equipment for airworthiness.

"We had to gather information and work with Air Mobility and Air Force Materiel Commands to get it certified to move, ensuring it could be transported safely and effectively," Sergeant Rizzo said.

With the team in Africa and airlift about to begin, the staff at Ramstein is pleased to see the culmination of several months work about to bear fruit, said their Commander Maj. Gen. Ronald R. Ladnier.

"This is the product of a true team effort, and we can be proud of the way our people have tenaciously planned this mission. They diligently went about gathering information and formulating the best plan, teaming with Air Mobility Command members for ground support and airlift and overcoming the challenges they encountered along the way to make it all happen," the general said. "We've now started implementation of the plan and will ensure our nation can do it's part to support the U.N. and African Union in alleviating the suffering of so many in the Darfur region."

Enlisted Heritage Hall encourages Airmen take walk down memory lane

by Airman 1st Class Scott Saldukas
435th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe Enlisted Heritage Hall offers visitors a glimpse of what the enlisted corps has done and how it has evolved while offering a sense of pride.

The Sam E. Parish Enlisted Heritage Hall, named after the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, opened Aug. 26, 2006, for all Airmen to experience the past of the enlisted force and to embrace the heritage that the hall has captured.

"The USAFE Enlisted Heritage Hall engenders pride and respect with a sense of perspective by giving Airmen, as individuals or as a part of a greater whole, a place to remember our shared history and honor the legacy of those who came before us," said USAFE Command Chief Master Sgt. Pamela A. Derrow.

Chief Derrow also sees the hall a tangible way to communicate Airmen's heritage to other visitors.

"As the senior enlisted member in USAFE, one of my areas of expertise is acknowledging and cultivating our enlisted Air Force heritage," Chief Derrow said. "Our heritage gives us perspective and perspective leads to our understanding."

She also thinks Airmen should be motivated by a sense of purpose with and appreciation for the accomplishments of previous generations of Airmen.

"We should all know that our role in history will continue on after we've passed the torch to the generations after us," the chief said.

Tech. Sgt. Veronica Haskin, executive assistant to the USAFE Command Chief, agrees with Chief Derrow in that the hall is significant to anyone who wants to experience a little part of history.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Kenny Holston

Air Force members take a tour of the Ramstein Air Base Enlisted Heritage Hall Jan. 6. The hall displays an array of different Air Force enlisted artifacts.

"We invite all of our military community – enlisted, officers and civilian personnel – to walk through the Parish Enlisted Hall," said Sergeant Haskin. "This is a place where past enlisted Airmen who were once stationed in Europe can have a place dedicated to the telling of their story. We hope present Airmen who stroll through the room come out with a better appreciation of their history and the progress made by the service."

Anyone interested in touring the Enlisted Heritage Hall should contact the USAFE command chief's office at 480-7581.

Those with regular access to the USAFE headquarters building can simply stop in for a self-guided tour.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Grovert Fuentes-Contreras

Marshaller

Staff Sgt. Jason Kennedy, 721st Air Mobility Squadron, marshalls a C-17 Globemaster III preparing to take off from Ramstein Dec. 24.

Battle ready

Air Force members receive instructions on their next exercise Dec. 18 in Einsiedlerhof. Airmen participated in a two-day Combat Skills Training course in preparation for deployment.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Grovert Fuentes-Contreras

Photo by Senior Airman Amber Bressler

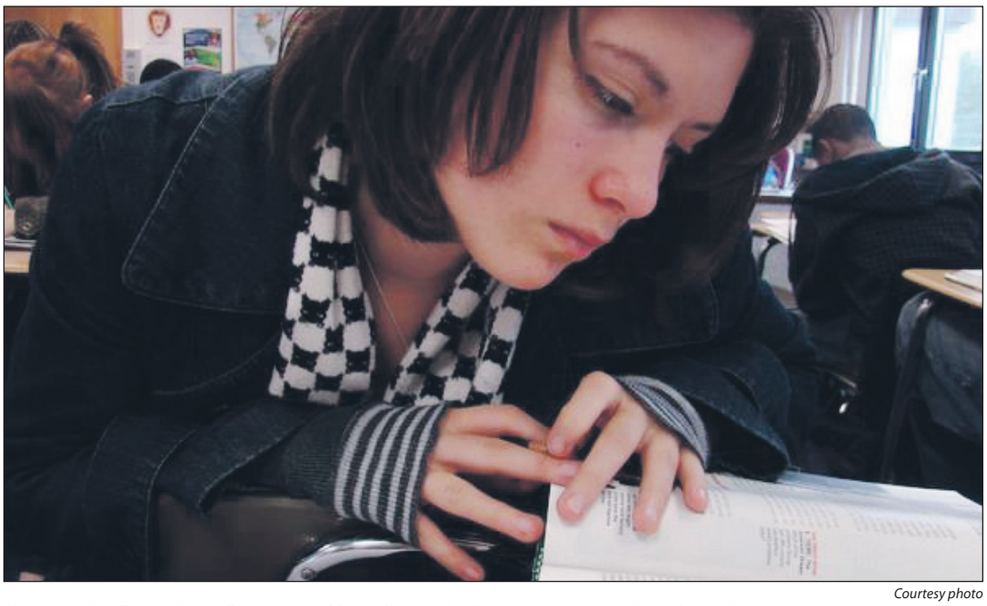
Lab stays busy

(Right) Staff Sgt. Robert Boles, 435th Medical Support Squadron medical laboratory journeyman, takes a blood sample from Airman 1st Class Derick Lyell, 435th Civil Engineer Squadron, Jan. 6. The laboratory keeps a blood sample on file for service-members deploying out of Ramstein.

Photo by Senior Airman Kelly LeGuillon

Filling prescriptions

Airman 1st Class Crystal Willis (front) and Tech. Sgt. Chris Calo, 435th Medical Operations Squadron pharmacy technicians, fill prescriptions on Ramstein Jan. 6. The Ramstein pharmacy fills an average of 115,000 prescriptions a year and is the second busiest pharmacy in U.S. Air Forces in Europe.



Courtesy photo

Samantha Breeding, Ramstein High School 11th-grader, studies for a history exam.

The way to an "A"

by Suzanne Smith
Ramstein High School student intern

Teenagers at Ramstein High School are memorizing their formulas, flipping through their flashcards and poring over their textbooks in anticipation of the semester exams today and next week. Every student hopes to earn a good grade on the big test, but many go about preparation the wrong way.

"The biggest mistake, of course, is not consistently focusing on their classes throughout the course of the year," said Yolanda McCrimmon, who teaches high school Advancement Via Individual Determination, a class that instructs students in effective study strategies. "They miss important information and miss out on certain parts that may be on the semester exam."

Contrary to popular belief, this unsteady concentration on lessons cannot be cured in the last few days before the test.

"There is no such thing as cramming," Ms. McCrimmon said. "The studying has to be consistently good. If you're not studying and keeping up with your assignments the entire year, you can't realistically expect to do well."

Ms. McCrimmon said a daily regimen of study is the best way to combat poor grades.

"To be in AVID, students have to commit to studying one and a half to two hours per night, every night. They are also encouraged to take advantage of tutorials and address any areas of weakness. Students who do this are A and B students."

The answer is clear: only honest and regular work can guarantee success — but with a bit of effort, you can pass your test with flying colors.

Order of Daedalians sponsors two $1,000 scholarships

The local chapter of the 19th "Billy" Mitchell Flight Order of Daedalians is sponsoring two $1,000 scholarships for deserving high school seniors who intend to pursue a career in military aviation. Applicants need to complete the application found at www.daedalians.org/foundation/scholarships.htm and mail it to Maj. Matt Bowers, PSC 2 Box 14665, APO AE 09012, no later than March 31. The national Daedalian Foundation may match the scholarship to double the award. Junior ROTC advisers at both Kaiserslautern High School and Ramstein High School have scholarship information. The Order of Daedalians honors its founder members, all World War I aviators who were commissioned as officers and rated as military pilots no later than the Armistice on Nov. 11, 1918.

The awards and scholarship programs of the order encourage patriotism, integrity and good character in our nation's youth, military careers as commissioned pilots and excellence in the performance of military duties. The Daedalian Foundation's scholarship program also promotes study in aerospace disciplines.

he Foundation provides scholarships through a variety of means. The largest is the Matching Scholarship Program, wherein the foundation matches amounts given by flights or chapters of the Order of Daedalians to deserving college and university students who are pursuing a career as a military aviator.

School notebook

Commissioning Briefing

The monthly Commissioning Briefing will be held at 3 p.m. Jan. 27 in Bldg. 2120, Room 415 on Ramstein. If interested in applying for the Air Force Academy, LEAD, SOAR, ROTC, AECP or OTS, this is the briefing to find out about eligibility criteria and application procedures. No appointment is necessary. For more information, call the Ramstein Education Center at 480-2032.

Family Wellness Night

Landstuhl Elementary/Middle School hosts a Family Wellness Night from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Jan. 29. Doors open at 4:20 p.m. Students and families from the LEMS community are invited to participate in an evening of physical activities (including Wii, circuit training, yoga, Irish dancing and ping pong), games and educational sessions about healthy living and improved lifestyles. There will also be door prizes. Community support from LEMS PTSA, LRMC Dieticians, CHPPM-EUR Health Promotion & Wellness, USAG – K Landstuhl Teen Center, USAG – K Landstuhl Youth Sports and Army Wellness Center will make the evening one that will be beneficial to all who attend.

Now registering

University of Phoenix is now registering students for their Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Education programs. Face-to-face classes for these two degree programs will start Jan. 26. To enroll or find out more information, stop by Bldg. 2120, Room 404 on Ramstein or call 480-8993.

Registration ends today

Term III undergraduate registration for Central Texas College, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and the University of Maryland ends today. Embry Riddle and University of Maryland also have graduate registration at the same time. Classes will start Tuesday; there will be no classes on Monday for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. For more information, contact the Ramstein Education Center at 480-2032 or the Rhine Ordinance Barracks Education Center at 493-2588.

Scholarship available

The 2009 ROSC scholarship applications are now available. The scholarship is open to all command-sponsored Kaiserslautern Military and Department of Defense dependents. Deadline for submission is Feb. 20. To pick up an application, see your high school guidance counselor, the education center or visit www.ramsteinosc.org/scholarships.htm.

School closures

All KMC schools will be closed Monday for a federal holiday and Jan. 23 for a teacher work day.

Spring grad deadline nears

The deadline to graduate in the Spring for CCAF is Feb. 27. CCAF must receive all documentation for degree candidate submissions on or before this date to be considered for the April 2009 class. The Spring 2009 graduation will take place at the Ramstein Officers' Club on April 24. For more information, contact the Ramstein Education Center at 480-2032.

Simulator teaches teens in Europe to drive

Story and photo by
Christie Vanover
USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Justin Wainright, 18, nearly slips off a mountain pass while driving in a U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, Belgium, simulator. Ten driving simulators were installed throughout Europe to enhance Driver's Education programs for teenagers of servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians.

MONS, Belgium — Teenagers are learning to drive in the rain, in the fog, even on narrow mountain roads at night. They're driving while their friends talk and laugh behind them and even while their cell phones ring. But because of new technology, their lives are in no way at risk.

They are the first students to use one of Installation Management Command-Europe's new driving simulators. Ten simulators, including one at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, were installed throughout the region to enhance Driver's Education programs for teenagers of servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians.

At first glance, students are pumped by the multi-panel monitors, which include a rearview mirror, side mirrors and a lifelike perception of peripheral vision. Once they get behind the wheel, however, they're faced with all the complexities of an automobile.

Gavin Wainwright, father of three teenagers, was glad to hear that U.S. Army Garrison Benelux was getting one of the simulators.

"I thought it was one of the best things they brought to the community in a long time," he said. "I know it's a lot better than what I went through.

Mr. Wainwright's sons, Gavin Jr. and Justin, were among the first graduates of the Driver's Education course. About midway through the course, Justin hopped in the simulator, buckled up and asked the teacher to challenge him on the winding mountain pass.

He chose to use the simulator in manual mode, forcing him to shift as he went up and down hills. While he completed the two-minute exercise with no faults, toward the end of the lesson, he was startled by a sudden curve with no guard rails. Had he been going too fast, he would have slid down the side of the mountain.

"I think (the simulator) makes them more aware of some of the challenges of driving," his dad said. "They're learning how to be defensive as well as offensive and how to balance that behind the wheel."

Kregg Kappenmon agreed. He has taught Driver's Ed for eight years and said this simulator adds a realism that he's never been able to teach before.

He can add weather elements, which require drivers to use their wipers and adjust their speed so they don't hydroplane. He can change the drive from small towns to freeways, forcing them to merge into traffic. He can even add elements of surprise like deer and kids running into the street.

"The first time they see it out there, it won't be the first time," he said. "It's very, very, very realistic. It gets them to feel the car."

Caleb Crotts, another graduate of the class, happened to ace the test on the reading that day, but when he got in the simulator, he faced an element of surprise. As he was driving, someone on the side of the road opened their car door unexpectedly.

"Weather is usually the big hazard talked about in the book," he said, admitting that he didn't know how to respond to the situation. He veered to the left and passed the car safely with an acceptable reaction time, but after finishing the drive, he immediately asked Mr. Kappenmon if he was supposed to swerve or stop.

It's that immediate lesson that Mr. Kappenmon said is invaluable. Additionally, everything the students do in the trainer is recorded, so Mr. Kappenmon can evaluate their driving patterns, reactions and habits to help them progress throug the course.

Because of that feedback, Mr. Kappenmon said students learn early that this isn't a video game.

"I get results," he said, and from those results, combined with 18 tests based on the lecture and videos, students either pass or fail.

"My philosophy is, they must have 80 percent or better," he said. "I don't want anyone out there with my family if they scored less. Do you?"

The next Driver's Education course scheduled for the spring is completely filled up.

Mr. Kappenmon is working with Child and Youth Services on SHAPE to schedule summer classes and to coordinate programs for teens at USAG Schinnen and USAG Brussels.

Photo by Shannon Pfahler

Serving up a feast

Cecilia Williams, Jack Horn, Drake Williams and Patrick Pfahler, Boy Scout Troop 69, serve servicemembers a feast on Christmas Day at the Rhine Ordnance Barracks dining facility.

Photo by Liz Davis

Pajama Party

Megan Barrickman, Landstuhl Girl Scouts Troop 700, and Dayna Berry, Troop 175, stop to pose for a picture at the Girl Scout Founder's Day Pajama Party in October.

January 2009

Mark your calendar

Take part in the **2009 Superbowl Tailgate** from noon to 4 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Ramstein Commissary. The tailgate, sponsored by Frito Lay, ConAgra and Webco, will have free food and drinks, music and fun.

Ramstein Air Base, in partnership with the Joint & Coalition Team, is holding a **Technology Expo** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 26 in the Ramstein Officers' Club. The expo will host more than 30 exhibitors, demonstrating the latest in biometrics, cyber security, information assurance and fiber optics, among others. The event is free to all personnel. To pre-register, visit www.federalevents.com, click on "Ramstein Air Base" and choose the "Government/Military" link.

Armed Forces Against Drunk Driving sponsors Battle of the Bands at 6 p.m. today in Ramstein's Hangar 1. Bands are still needed to participate. The winning band receives €100 and their photo will be published in an upcoming edition of the KA. There will be a laptop raffle, snacks and drinks. To sign up, e-mail kmc.aadd@ramstein.af.mil. Hair cuts are offered for $5 to raise funds for the organization. AADD is looking for volunteers who know how to cut hair.

The annual **Global Village** event will be held Monday at the University of Kaiserslautern. The event will have exhibits with information, music, culture, food and drinks from numerous countries. Organizers of the event are looking for American volunteers to help put together an American exhibit. In addition, this year the Global Village will be part of the larger International Cultural Week, with America being featured Tuesday. For this day, organizers need American entertainment, such as singing and music groups, sports players and businesses. To get involved with either the Global Village or the International Culture Week, contact Michael Koch at globalvillage.kl@aiesec.de.

The **Missionshaus St. Wendel has an exhibit** with more than 450 nativity sets from all over the world. The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 6 p.m. daily until Feb. 2. The exhibit is also open on weekends. Entrance to the exhibit costs €2 for adults and €1 for students. On display are many crèches designed by noted artist Karl Heindl as well as ones brought back to St. Wendel by the Steyler missionaries. For more information, visit The Missionshaus' Web site at www.steyler-missionare.de/svd/dcms/sites/svd/deutschland/niederlassungen/sankt_wendel/index.html. The site is in German but includes a picture of the facility and a phone number.

A Company Grade Officers' crosstalk with Gen. Roger Brady, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, is scheduled to take place from 2 to 3 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Ramstein Officers' Club. There will be an open forum with a question and answer session. For reservations by Jan. 30, e-mail kmc.cgoc@ramstein.af.mil.

The **Ramstein Girl Scouts are hosting a pool party** from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Ramstein Aquatic Center for all registered Girl Scouts and for anyone interested in learning more about Girl Scouts. Families are welcome. Pool rules apply. Cost is normal pool entrance fee or free with pool pass. For more information, visit www.ramsteingirlscouts.org.

Trivia Night is held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Java Café on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. For more information, call 493-2623 or 0631-3406-2623.

K-Town Coverall Bingo is now being played Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at the Kazabra Club. Prizes include a 2009 Ford Focus Sedan and jackpots of $1,000, $2,000 and $5,000. For more information, call 489-7261 or 0631-536-7261.

A 9-ball pool tournament is held from 7 to 11 p.m. Tuesdays at Armstrong's Irish Pub, Bldg. 1036 on Vogelweh Housing. Call 0631-354-9986 for more information.

An 8-ball pool tournament is held from 7 to 11 p.m. Thursdays at Armstrong's Irish Pub, Bldg. 1036 on Vogelweh Housing. Call 0631-354-9986 for more information.

Friday Night Texas Hold 'em registration begins at 6 p.m. and the first deal begins at 7 p.m. at the Landstuhl Club, Bldg. 3780. Call 486-7244 or 0631-15873 for more information.

Super Saturday Texas Hold 'em registration begins at 6 p.m. Saturdays and first deal begins at 7 p.m. at the Landstuhl Community Club, Bldg. 3780 on Landstuhl Post. For more information, call 486-7244 or 06371-86-7244.

Meetings

The **Kaiserslautern American German Business Club** will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Hotel Gasthof Am Rathaus, Burgherrenstrasse 99, in Kaiserslautern-Hohenecken. The topic of this month's event will be the "Law of Numbers in the Stock Market." David Miod will be the guest speaker. For a schedule of events, directions or to RSVP, e-mail kaiserslautern@agbc.de.

The **KMC Adoption Support Group** will hold its first scheduled playtime for adoptive families at 11 a.m. Monday. The group is for adopted children of all ages. Parents are also invited. Visit www.usadopteurope.com or contact Shari Dietzel at sharidietzel@t-online.de for more information.

U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's **Better Opportunities for Single Service members** will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday in Bldg. 2929 on Pulaski Barracks. Founded in 1989, BOSS is a three-pillared organization that helps single and unaccompanied military members with recreation and leisure, community service and well-being issues. For details, call Spc. Joshua Crawford at 493-4344.

The **Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10614** hosts a post meeting at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 10 in Bldg. 368 on Rhine Ordnance Barracks. For more information, call Stephen Ward at 486-7516 or wardtrans@yahoo.com. Visit the Post 10614 Web site at www.ktownvfw.org.

KMC Mom2Mom, peer breastfeeding support, meets 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday and Feb 18 at the Ramstein North Chapel conference room. The meeting aims to educate on breastfeeding and answer questions. For details, call Melissa Cho at 06301-71-8337 or e-mail help@kmcmom2mom.org.

The **Rheinland-Pfalz quilt guild** will return to regular scheduled meetings this month. The day meeting is held at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Northside Chapel. The night meetings are held at 6 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month at the Kaiserslautern Landstuhl Spouses Association building on Pulaski Barracks.

The **435th Medical Group hosts a quarterly Healthcare Consumer Advisory Function** at 3 p.m. Jan. 28 in Bldg. 2116 (435th Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility) on Harmon Ave, in Bay C. The entrance is at the end of the building near the ambulance bay. This meeting is open to the public and provides an opportunity to obtain information and share concerns regarding healthcare with the 435th Medical Group leadership. For details, call Tech. Sgt. Julie Morris at 479-2026 or e-mail julie.morris@ramstein.af.mil.

The Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the first Monday of each month at the Kapaun Chapel Annex. For more information, call 486-5119.

Photo by Sgt. Frank Sanchez

Free phone cards

Sedrick Robinson, Kaiserslautern United Service Organizations deployment operations support manager, hands out a free phone card to Spc. Walter Riley, accounting specialist with the 106th Financial Management Company. Specialist Riley and his unit returned to Germany Dec. 9, arriving at Ramstein after serving 15 months in Iraq. While in Iraq, the 106th Financial Management Company was responsible for supporting the 10th Mountain Division with all its financial matters.

Send us your VACATION photos

Your submission must include the name of the photographer, the date of the photo, first and last names of those in the photo and location. Write "Destinations" in the e-mail subject line. E-mail to editor@kaiserslauternamerican.com.

Courtesy photo

Katelyn, Tom and Nhung Hamilton visit Timanfaya National Park on Lanzarote Island on Thanksgiving. Timanfaya National Park is an active volcano park in the Canary Islands.

Photo by Jamie Lopez

Sofia Rodriguez, 1st Sgt. Eusebio Rodriguez and Alex J. Rodriguez vacation in Santorini, Greece, in October.

Courtesy photo

Miko Henson and Cassie Wemple visit Sölden, Austria, during the Christmas holiday.

Photo by Raoul White

Danyel and Serenity Smith take on the cold while visiting Linderhof Palace in southwestern Bavaria, Germany, Dec. 13.

AAFES and Pentagon Channel launch monthly benefit show

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service and the Pentagon Channel have teamed up to bring original, exchange-focused programming to more than 3 million viewers around the world.

The Pentagon Channel began broadcasting the monthly 30-minute show Jan. 7, focused on what makes AAFES special compared to other retailers.

Dubbed "EXchange On Air," the new show airs at 5 a.m. Mondays, 1:30 a.m. Tuesdays, 11 p.m. Wednesdays, 3:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Fridays and 11:30 p.m. Sundays. All times are Eastern Standard Time.

"Partnering with the Pentagon Channel is a tremendous opportunity for AAFES to inform and educate our customer base on the value and services AAFES brings to troops and their families," said AAFES' Commander Maj. Gen. Keith Thurgood. "Although 30 minutes a month isn't enough time to capture everything AAFES does, military shoppers will still walk away with a better understanding of their exchange benefit."

Upcoming shows include a focus on the AAFES motto "We Go Where You Go," the overall value of the exchange benefit, how AAFES welcomes troops home, mobile field exchange support in the aftermath of a natural disaster, shopping secrets, overseas Department of Defense school lunch programs and operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Regular segments of the show will include celebrity spotlights, questions for the AAFES commander, earth-friendly advice, product testing, AAFES and the military Community Connection as well as "My Exchange, My Benefit."

"It's very important that the military community gets a true understanding of what AAFES is and how it's a big part of their life," said AAFES' Chief Marketing Officer Mat Dromey. "AAFES is more than just the base/post exchange on an installation; it's a lifestyle and benefit, something that our customers will see and understand through these Pentagon Channel shows."

(Courtesy of AAFES)

Speyer Cathedral

Photo by Paulette Williams

During Christmas break, members of U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg's combined parishes gathered to learn about the Speyer Cathedral. Religious Education Coordinator Frank Doerr taught parishioners from the Heidelberg, Daenner and Landstuhl Catholic communities about the world's largest Romanesque cathedral. Mr. Doerr explained that Speyer is particularly special because of the arched support transepts on the ceiling. Some say this is the first cathedral to use those transepts.

Classes and training

Get the tools to end fights with your significant other and get back to enjoying each others' company from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, continuing every Thursday for four weeks. The class will be held in Bldg. 2121 in the first floor conference room. Feel free to bring dinner with you. Class is open to any ID holder in the KMC. For more information or to sign up, call 479-2370 or 06371-46-2370.

U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern is hosting the next **Officer Candidate School board** March 3 to 6 at the garrison's conference room in Bldg. 2933 on Pulaski Barracks. Enrollment packets must be turned in on an appointment basis only by Feb. 15 to the garrison's Directorate of Human Resources, Room 102 in Bldg. 2933 on Pulaski Barracks. For more information, visit www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/opdistacc/ocs/ocs_appl.htm or e-mail Spc. Vicent Holtzman at micah.holtzman@eur.army.mil.

SKIES Unlimited brings you an all new opportunity for children and teens ages 4 to 18. Lessons are offered in classic riding, dressage and vaulting. Money back guarantee if not satisfied. The stables are located just 15 minutes from Landstuhl. For more information, conact central enrollment at 493-4516/4122 or 0631-3406-4516/4122.

The **Kaiserslautern Transition Center** hosts a briefing on Career Status Bonus Wednesday in Bldg. 3245 on Kleber Kaserne. This class is for Soldiers who reach the 15-year mark and are eligible for a $30,000 bonus. To register, call 483-7071 or 0631-411-7071.

The Kaiserslautern Transition Center periodically holds **Pre-Separation briefings and quarterly Pre-Retirement briefings**. These briefings are held at the Transition Center located on Kleber Kaserne, Bldg. 3245, Room 6. The Pre-Separation briefings are held the first Tuesday of the month and should be attended between 60 and 90 days out from separation date. Any Soldier considering retiring should attend the Pre-Retirement briefing. Reservations are not necessary for the Pre-Separation briefing. For those wishing to attended the Pre-Retirement briefing or for more information, call 483-7071/7380 or 0631411-7071/7380.

The **26-and-under Intermediate Driving classes** are given at 1 p.m. Thursdays at the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's In-processing Training Center, Bldg. 3109 on Daenner Kaserne. Family members are welcome to attend. For more information, call 483-8805/6509.

The Training Support Center Kaiserslautern's photo studio can provide unit Isolated Personnel Report photos for all Army deploying units in the KMC. For details, call Elisabeth Paque at 483-7578 or 483-8751.

The **7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command's Training Support Center-Kaiserslautern** has training resources and Department of Army photo capabilities and is located in Bldg. 3266 on Kleber Kaserne. Opening hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. For details, call 483-7311 or 0631-411-7490.

Chapel news

The chapel will offer a **13-week financial class** at 6 p.m. once a week. The class, Financial Peace University, will be held at the Health an d Wellness Center on Ramstein and will cover all areas of personal finance from creating a budget, to paying off debt, to saving money for emergencies and retirement. The class costs $50 ($25 for E1 to E4) and includes a membership kit, 13 audio sessions, FPU envelope system, budgeting forms and debit card holders. Class registration will take place Sunday before and after the 10:30 a.m. worship service at the North Chapel and before and after the 10:45 a.m. worship service at the South Chapel.

The U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern Chaplain's Office hosts the **2009 National Prayer Breakfast** from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Feb. 5 at Kaiserslautern Community Activities Center, Bldg. 3109 on Daenner Kaserne. Tickets can be purchased from the garrison Chaplain's Office, Bldg. 2919 on Pulaski Barracks. For more information, call the Chaplain's Office at 493-4098 or 0631-3406-4098.

The **KMC Catholic Service** is accepting bids for the contract position of Ramstein Catholic Religious Education Coordinator. The Ramstein Chapel is accepting bids until Jan. 31. The Statement of Work can be picked up at the North Chapel Monday through Friday. For details, call 480-5753.

The 2009 Ramstein Air Base National Prayer Luncheon will be held Jan. 29 at the Ramstein Officers' Club with Chaplain Maj. Gen. Cecil Richardson, U.S. Air Force chief of chaplains, as the guest speaker. Tickets cost $7. General ticket sales begin Thursday.

fasching season

The crazy season is upon us again

by Petra Lessoing
435th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Photo by Airman 1st Class Ruth Holcomb

Even little members of local Fasching associations dress up in their uniforms and take part in special Fasching events and parades.

The next five and a half weeks is the best time for those who like to party, disguise themselves as somebody else and play a different role than in normal day life.

In Germany, this time of year is known as the "fifth season." Depending on the area, this "crazy season" has different names: in the Pfalz it's called "Fassenacht" or "Fastnacht," in Bavaria it's "Fasching" and in the Cologne area it's "Karneval."

Fasching officially begins 11:11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month and ends Ash Wednesday, which this year is Feb. 25.

Every weekend in January and February, special Fasching events are taking place. Signs and posters hanging up in the KMC announce "Maskenball" (masquerade ball), "Faschingstanz" (Fasching dance) or "Prunksitzung" (pomp session). There are parties, dances, funny speeches and parades.

It's a time for being crazy and wild, cheering up, having fun and, the most important factor, the time to disguise. Visitors of Fasching activities are encouraged to dress up in costumes. If they are not in disguise, they have to pay a higher admission fee when entering community halls, culture centers, sports gyms and other event locations. The best costumes are awarded prizes at some events.

During Fasching, women do not need a male escort when going to a dance. It's even up to the females to ask the men for a dance.

A typical Fasching event is the "Prunksitzung," which literally translated means "pomp session."

Traditionally, carnival associations sponsor and organize this event. Amateur comedians hold, in their local dialect, humorous speeches spiced with sarcasm about local happenings, people or politics in general.

In between speeches, carnival club members sing and present dances. A committee consisting of a president and 11 counselors watch the session from their seats in the back of the stage. After each performance, committee members present medals to the performers.

Carnival clubs are represented by a Fastnacht princess or prince. Every year, a new princess or prince is elected and usually gets crowned the night of New Year's Eve. Usually, the mayor hands them the keys to the city and thus the executive power. Fastnacht has its origin in ancient times, when people realized that with the start of a new year, spring would soon be on its way.

To make it possible for spring to arrive, the demons of winter had to be chased away. Therefore, people dressed in evil-looking costumes and masks. They danced in the streets looking like devils, demons and witches and used noise-making devices, bells and drums to scare away the winter ghosts.

Through the centuries, the season developed into a Christian ritual. The literal translation of the word "Fastnacht" means "night of fasting."

Today, it's the time of merriment and laughter preceding Lent, the 40-day period before Easter.

The word "Karneval" also refers to the fasting period. The Latin expression "carne vale" means "farewell, meat" and describes the time of celebrations before Lent, when people have to renounce meat, opulent meals and festivities.

The main days of the fifth season are Altweiberfasching (Old Women's Fasching) on Feb. 19, Rose Monday on Feb. 23 and Fat Tuesday on Feb. 24.

Rose Monday is known for colorful parades with floats, musicians, dancers and walking groups in creative costumes going through towns.

The biggest parade in the Westpfalz area is in Ramstein-Miesenbach Feb. 24.

The local carnival association Bruchkatze, which sponsors the parade, is still looking for American participants.

Walking groups, bands and individuals dressed in funny costumes can take part.

To register and for more information, call the 86th Airlift Wing Host Nation Office at 480-2094.

Courtesy photo

Fasching is a time for parties, parades and, most importantly, costumes.

Was ist Los?

KMC cultural highlights

Compiled by Petra Lessoing
435th Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

The following is a list of performances and events happening in the KMC and nearby. Dates are subject to change.

Performing arts:

Kammgarn Kaiserslautern:

• The band Duke Spirit from London presents post grunge rock 'n' roll psychedelic, 8:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets cost 15.

• Jazz vocalist Caroline Henderson & Band from Denmark perform 8:30 p.m. Thursday. Tickets cost €15.

• Black Night pay tribute to Deep Purple, the renowned hard rock and metal band of the 1970s and 1980s , 8:30 p.m. Jan. 23. Tickets cost €10.

• Luxuslärm on "1,000 km to the Ocean-Tour," with rock pop nu metal crossover, 8:30 p.m. Jan. 24. Tickets cost €9.

• Jazz ToDay 2009, Part 1 with Anke Helfrich Trio and French percussionist Manu Katché and his band, 8 p.m. Jan. 29. Tickets cost €25.

• Wagner Love presents 1960s to 1980s disco R&B and dance pop, 8:30 p.m. Jan. 30. Tickets cost €11. For more information, visit www. kammgarn.de or call 0631-365-2548.

• Midnight Mover and special guests, 9:30 p.m. Monday. Visit www.midnightmover.de.

Pfalztheater Kaiserslautern:

• "Hair," a musical by Galt McDermot, in German, 7:30 p.m. Saturday

• "Briefe des Van Gogh," Van Gogh's letters, a chamber opera by Grigori Frid, 8 p.m. Saturday in Jean-Schoen-Halle on garden fair area

• Piano night with works by F. Chopin, I. Albéniz, M. de Falla, F. Liszt and L. van Beethoven, 6 p.m. Sunday

• "Rumpelstilzchen," a ballet by Stefano Gianetti, 4 p.m. Jan. 25

• "Die Lustigen Nibelungen," a funny opera by Oscar Straus, in German, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31

For more information, call 0631-3675-209 or visit www.pfalztheater.de.

Fruchthalle Kaiserslautern:

• "Musical Fever" features 20 years of musical, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

• Chamber concert: Nordic dialogue presented by the ensembles Trio Medieval and Tord Gustavsen, 8 p.m. Thursday. For details, call the office of arts at 0631-365-1410 or stop at the Kaiserslautern Tourist Office, Fruchthallstrasse14.

Jugend- und Programm-zentrum (JUZ), Steinstrasse 47, Kaiserslautern:

• The party band Transonic performs international pop and rock songs mixed with blues, funk and soul titles, 8 p.m. today. Tickets cost €6.50. For advance tickets, call 0631-4145452.

Erfenbach, Kreuzsteinhalle:

• The band Brass Machine presents a new year's concert, "The Next Generation," 8 p.m. Saturday. For details, visit www.brassmachine.de.

Weilerbach, Bürgerkeller:

• The duo Sink Twice present music in the range of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, 8 p.m. Saturday. For tickets, call 06374-70305 or visit www.dreschflegel.de.

Haus des Bürgers, Ramstein-Miesenbach:

• The Mainz Chamber Orchestra presents a "Dance of Violins and Flutes," with works by Gioacchino Rossini, Domenico Cimarosa, Johann Strauss, Jean Sibelius and Camille Saint-Saëns, 5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets cost €12.

For reservations, call 06371-592-220 or e-mail HdB@ramstein-miesenbach.de.

Stadthalle, Landstuhl:

• Dance show, "Havana Rumba," 8 p.m. Tuesday. Tickets cost €19 to €23. For tickets, call 06371-923-444 or visit www.stadthalle-landstuhl.de.

Staatstheater, Saarbrücken, Schillerplatz 1:

• The Nutcracker," a ballet by Marguerite Donlon, with music by Peter Tschaikowsky, 11 a.m. Monday. For tickets, call 0681-3093-486 or visit www.theater-saarbruecken.de.

Zweibrücken, Festhalle, Saarlandstrasse 9:

• Musical: "Johnny Cash," a musical portrait to honor the Nashville country star, 6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets cost from €20.50 to €28.50. For details, visit www.zweibruecken.de. or call tourist office at 06332-871-451.

Miscellaneous:

• Kaiserslautern, mobile ice-skating rink (next to Karstadt), hours are 9 a.m. to noon; 1 to 3 p.m.; 4 to 6 p.m.; 7 to 9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays open until 10 p.m., through Jan. 25. Tickets cost €3 for adults and €2 for children. Skates to rent are €3.

• Kaiserslautern, near Volkspark (Entwersweiler/Donnersbergstasse), Christmas Circus with artists, acrobats, clowns, elephants, was extended through Sunday. Performances are 3 and 7 p.m. today and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit www.kaiserslauterer-weihnachtscircus.de.

Flea markets:

• Alsenborn, Alsenzhalle, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

• Ramstein, flea market hall, Flurstrasse, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday

• Bad Dürkheim, An der Saline (near saltworks), Saturday

• Kirchheimbolanden, Festplatz, Saturday

• Grünstadt, Globus market, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

Antique markets:

• Saarbrücken, Saarmesse fair hall, Sunday

• Prüm (on B51, north of Bitburg), Mehrzweckhalle and fairgrounds, Saturday and Sunday

• Werl (between Dortmund and Soest), Stadthalle, antique and collectors' market, Sunday

• Sindelfingen (travel south to Karlsruhe, Pforzheim, Leonberg, then exit to Sindelfingen), Euro-Antik, today, Saturday and Sunday

For more information, visit. www. troedlerundsammeln.de.

Courtesy photo

JazzToDay 2009

The Kammgarn Kaiserslautern presents the JazzToDay 2009 series at 8 p.m. Jan. 29. Part 1 features the Anke Helfrich Trio and the French percussionist Manu Katché. Ms. Helfrich (her nickname is "the blond monk") is known as an extraordinary pianist who combines American tradition with European liberty. Mr. Katché and his quintet present classical percussion techniques and jazz improvisations. Tickets cost €25. For more information and reservations, call the Kammgarn at 0631-365-2548 or visit www.kammgarn.de.

Advertisement

USAG Kaiserslautern HAPPENINGS

ACTIVITIES IN THE KMC

JAVA CAFÉ
TRIVIA NIGHT

Wednesdays, 6-8 pm

Get those teams together! Whether you're a history buff, a pop culture wiz, or a sports fanatic, it's that time of the week to show everyone what you know. With weekly prize give aways, your bound to have some trivia fun at the Java Café every Wednesday night, from 6 - 8 p.m. Call the Java Café at 493-2623, 0631-3406-2623, or just stop off and have a cup of coffee and find out more about Trivia Night. They are located on Rhine Ordnance Barracks, Bldg. 273.

KAISERSLAUTERN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER (KCAC)
Room Rental Service

Looking for a spacious place to meet? Come to the KCAC to party or brief. KCAC is available for unit functions, such as promotions, change of command receptions, wedding receptions, private parties, birthday gatherings, and anniversaries, for up to 250 people, just to name a few of the possibilities. For details about booking your next party call 483-6500 or 0631-411-6500. The Kaiserslautern Activities Center has a great Bistro that is open Monday thru Friday for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is served from 6:30 -10 a.m., lunch is from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m, with daily lunch specials being served.

KAZABRA CLUB
MIDNIGHT BINGO

January 18, 9pm -midnight

Enjoy this late night version of bingo, with special games, special prizes and free food and soft drinks all night long! Doors open at 7 p.m. The Kazabra Club is located on Vogelweh, bldg. 2057.

LANDSTUHL FITNESS CENTER
TABLE TENNIS INVITATIONAL

January 24, 10am

Register now for the 2009 Table Tennis Invitational hosted by the Landstuhl Fitness Center. This event is open to all ID card holders ages 15 and older. Awards for 1st and 2nd place in youth and adult division will be given. Call 486-7122 or 06371-86-7172 for more information.

ARMSTRONG'S CLUB
SALSA NIGHT

January 24, 8pm

Grab all your friends and come to the Irish Pub to enjoy a hot night of Salsa dancing. Featuring a live D.J., margarita bar and free chips and dip. Armstrong's Club is located on Vogelweh housing, Bldg. 1036. For more information call 0631-354-9986.

Outdoor Recreation
Fun and adventure

Garmisch Ski Weekend
January 23-25

Spend an adventurous weekend skiing and boarding in Garmisch, Germany, with Army Outdoor Recreation! Boasting some of the best skiing areas in Germany, it has tremendous variety suitable for beginners to experts. Skiers can explore the array of on-piste or off-piste runs while boarders can have fun on the Zugspitze plateau where they can find a good-sized fun-park and Germany's first "super-pipe." If you are not interested in skiing or boarding , the area also offers many winter hiking trails, sledding, snowshoeing, and the Olympic Ice Sports Center. With the optimal location of the hotel, you can also hop on the train and head to Innsbruck, Austria to do some crystal shopping, or tour the Neuschwanstein Castle. Trip includes transportation, 2 overnights in a hotel with breakfast; snowboard or ski package rental are available for an additional $20. Call 493-4117 or 0631-3406-4117.

For questions regarding MWR events and programs listed on this page, call Marketing at 493-4128 or 0631-3406-4128.

Visit us at MWRGERMANY.COM

Recycling key to saving money

by Ronald Toland
USAG Ansbach Public Affairs

Some people are throwing U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach money away, significantly impacting installation programs and improvements that could be made with those dollars.

The garrison spent more than $2.1 million in waste disposal for fiscal year 2008, said Jutta Seefried, separate or recycle trash coordinator for the USAG Ansbach Environmental Management Division.

The garrison generated more than 5,000 tons of solid waste from all areas – family housing, administrative buildings as well as community facilities – and spent this cost on disposal alone.

"While the total waste amount varies with the number of residents at a time, the numbers still show a low recycling rate at the garrison," Ms. Seefried said.

A typical German household recycles about 75 percent of its generated waste – plastic, metal, glass and paper – that by law must be separated from household trash.

In contrast, a typical American household here only recycles about 46 percent, not exactly in line with the rules here, Ms. Seefried said.

"Everybody has to follow the German waste law, including Americans on and off post," she said. "Some people even bring their trash on post, which is prohibited and which adds to the garrison's costs for waste disposal."

And too many recyclables end up in the residual waste instead of being disposed in the correct containers. It was revealed in a recent survey that increased trash traffic is a concern.

It shows "almost every second customer at the recycling centers comes from off post to dispose of trash on post," Ms. Seefried said. "The cost for solid waste is included in off-post housing. So if residents bring their waste on post, the garrison pays twice."

Although Ms. Seefried expects an increase in generated recyclables this year because of more Soldiers being home, she would like to see it kept to a minimum, as "every newcomer receives a SORT package from the housing division that explains how to dispose of waste for off-post and on-post residents properly."

And the solution is not that hard, said Christian Loos, core compliance manager for the garrison.

"Pre-sorting at home is the key," Mr. Loos said. "If residents set up small recycling bins in their kitchens to help separate recyclables, this would simplify the process. And if everyone put recyclables in the correct containers, it would save the garrison a significant amount of dollars each year."

Courtesy photo

All Soldiers required to take language skills assessment

U.S. Army officials have announced that all Soldiers have until March 15 to complete a brief one-time self-assessment of their foreign language skills.

The survey is mandatory for active and reserve component Soldiers, according to the Army's Human Resources Command. Army civilian employees are being encouraged, but are not required, to complete the assessment as well.

The mandatory survey complies with a Department of Defense initiative to improve foreign language expertise and have an accurate assessment of its personnel's language capabilities, Army officials said.

The Army will use the results of the survey "to close the data gap between traditional means of recording language capabilities and expertise acquired by other than formal Army/Department of Defense training or testing."

Traditionally, Soldiers' foreign-language capabilities have been assessed by having them complete the Defense Language Proficiency Test, said Lt. Col. Kate Crusan of the U.S. Army Europe personnel directorate.

Colonel Crusan said the purpose of the survey is to identify Soldiers and civilian employees who have language capabilities that may not have been identified by the DLPT that could be put to use on short notice as needed for national defense.

The colonel stressed that there is no intent to create additional deployments for any Soldier or civilian employee whose survey results indicate that they are fluent in a foreign language.

Soldiers who meet speaking, reading and writing requirements for specific languages may also be eligible for bonus payments, even if they are not filling positions for which that language is required, Colonel Crusan said.

A portion of the survey allows participants who speak only English to submit that information, according to information on the HRC Web site. Soldiers can access the self-assessment survey via the HRC site at https://perscomnd04.army.mil/langsurv.nsf/langsurvcentopen?openform. Civilian employees can access the survey via MyBiz on the Army's Civilian Personnel Online Web site at www.cpol.army.mil.

For more information, contact HRC in Alexandria, Va., at 703-695-7697 or 312-225-7697.

(Courtesy of the U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office)

Cold spell illustrates need for clothes donations

According to climate researchers, Germany is experiencing the coldest winter in 22 years.

Even in Kaiserslautern, recent temperatures were below freezing for several days.

A cold spell can be dangerous for homeless people, who don't have a place to stay.

"That's why the City of Kaiserslautern is running a place called Glockestubb, where these people can get warm clothes and warm meals," said Joachim Färber, chief of the Kaiserslautern social department. "Scarves, gloves, clean, warm underwear, blankets and sleeping bags are the most needed items."

Anybody able to donate clothes can drop them off from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays at the Glockestubb, Pariser Strasse 23, or in a special container put up in the foyer of the Rathaus, or city hall. Kaiserslautern's hostel for homeless, St. Christopherusheim, Logenstrasse 4, also accepts donations from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

"It is important that donations won't get thrown out," said Jürgen Hoffmann-Biondo from the social department. "Everything the Glockestubb has no use for will be given to charity organizations."

(Courtesy of the City of Kaiserslautern)

Courtesy photo

Future cheerleaders to shine at KHS games

Story and photo by Christine June
U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern

More than 80 future cheerleaders will perform a half-time show Jan. 23 during basketball games at the Kaiserslautern High School Gymnasium.

These cheerleaders are graduates of the 2009 KHS Mini Cheer Camp held Saturday at the school's gym. Their performance will be between the junior varsity and varsity basketball games against the Bitburg Barons.

"I like cheerleading, and this camp is really fun," said Lexie Berrett, 10, a Kaiserslautern Elementary School fifth grader, on why she wanted to attend the camp again.

During the six-hour camp, students, ages 5 to 13, learned cheerleading fundamentals such as cheers, chants, dance and team spirit.

"You can look on the campers' faces – even though they're tired – they're enjoying themselves," said Debra Hipes, KHS head cheer coach, who said that the number of children participating this year is the largest they've had.

At the camp, the future cheerleaders were separated by age into five base groups where they learned a basic routine. Adding to the routine, students rotated through six stations. Here, the KHS varsity and JV cheerleaders taught their admirers jumps and movements, cheer and chant, dance, stunts and gymnastics.

"The girls play games, have fun and learn what we hope is going to be a nice routine for a half-time show," Ms. Hipes said.

Once the rotation was complete, campers went back to their base groups to review the routines and add the "bells and whistles" that they learned during the stations. Parents were able to see the half-time routines at the end of the camp. Jacob and Dailonna Dozier hung around while their 5-year-old daughter, Kristen, rotated through the stations.

"It's just so exciting to watch her doing this – jumping and cheering," Mr. Dozier said. "This is my first opportunity to watch her participating in something like this, and it's a lot of fun for me."

A former high school cheerleader, Mrs. Dozier said she is OK with her daughter following in her footsteps, except for one thing.

"The teamwork and camaraderie is great, but the (short) skirts – didn't bother me when I was cheerleading, but now that I'm older and thinking about my daughter as a cheerleader, I would like to see them go to sweat pants," she said, laughing at the irony of what she's saying.

Michael Sileo also stayed behind all morning taking pictures of his future cheerleader, Valeria, 5.

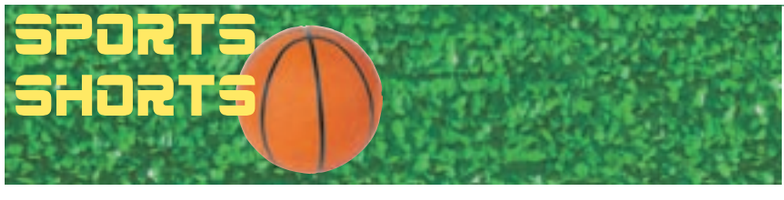
"It's a lot of fun for her – interacting with the other children and the cheerleaders," he said. "It's so much fun for me to watch her, and the fact she's learning a few things too – that's always good even at 5 years old – an opportunity I don't think we had when we were younger."

What these parents are saying is one of the reasons that the school has organized this camp every year since 1994.

"It's an opportunity for the Kaiserslautern cheerleaders to give back to the comunity," said Ms. Hipes, who said the camp price has been constant every year.

Another reason for the camp is to raise money for uniforms and equipment for the cheerleading squads, Ms. Hipes said.

Trinity Pettaway, 5, performs a Thigh-Stand Liberty with a little help from junior varsity cheerleader Janice Awayala, 16, at the Kaiserslautern High School Mini Cheer Camp held Saturday at the school's gym. The cheerleading camp is a annual fundraising event to buy uniforms and equipment for the KHS varsity and junior varsity cheerleading squads. To show what they learned, the campers will perform their routines between games Jan. 23 at the KHS gym. The Kaiserslautern Raiders will be playing the Bitburg Barons.



Looking for youth sports coaches

CYSS Youth Sports is seeking coaches for basketball, cheerleading and wrestling. Share your experience with children, enjoy discounts for your own children and participate in training opportunities.

For more information, contact central enrollment at 493-4112 or 0631-3406-4112.

Gymnastics classes

SKIES Unlimited offers gymnastics classes for toddlers and children. For class offerings, times and prices, contact central enrollment and registration at 493-4156 or 0631-3406-4516.

Taekwondo classes

Taekwondo classes are offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Landstuhl Fitness Center, Bldg. 3722. Classes take place from 5 to 6 p.m. for beginners and 6 to 7 p.m. for Yellow Belts and up. Parents are welcome to join. For more information, contact central enrollment and registration at 493-4156 or 0631-3406-4516.

Super Bowl party

Gather your bowl buddies and watch the big game at the Kazabra Club Feb. 1. Doors open at 9 p.m. and kick-off is at midnight. Advance tickets cost $7.50 or $10 at the door.

Tickets can be purchased at the Kazabra Club or by calling Spc. Crawford at 493-4344 or 0631-3406-4344. Visit www.mwrgermany.com for more information or contact the Kazabra Club at 489-7261 or 0631-536-7261.

Table tennis invitatioinal

The Landstuhl Fitness Center hosts the 2009 Table Tennis Invitational at 10 a.m. Jan. 24. This event is open to ID card holders 15 years and older. Youth and adult divisions will be awarded for placing in first or second and online registration is available at www.mwrgermany.com/kl/sports_fitness/sports_fitness.htm. For more information, visit www.mwrgermany.com or call 486-7172 or 06371-86-7172.

Family day on the slopes

Join Army Outdoor Recreation Sunday in Feldberg, Germany. Save up to $69 when you use the online coupon for one free child's admission and half off the second child with two paying adults. Visit www.mwrgermany.com/kl/odr/odr.htm to print a coupon. For more information, call 493-4117 or 0631-3406-4117.

NOW SHOWING

G= Galaxy Theater, Vogelweh, 0631-50017
N= Nightingale Theater, Ramstein, 06371-47-6147
H= Hercules Theater, Ramstein, 06371-47-5550

(Editor's note: Schedules and synopses are provided by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Movie times and dates are subject to change by the individual theaters. Please check with the theater to ensure accuracy.)

Today

"Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa"
(PG) 3:30 p.m. **(G)**

"Gran Torino"
(R) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"Notorious"
(R) 10:30 p.m. **(G)**

"Quantum of Solace"
(PG-13) 7 **(H)** 10:30 p.m. **(N)**

"High School Musical 3"
(G) 3:30 p.m. **(N)**

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(N)**

Saturday

"Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa"
(PG) 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. **(G)**
7 p.m. **(H)**

"Gran Torino"
(R) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"Notorious"
(R) 10:30 p.m. **(G)**

"High School Musical 3"
(G) 3 p.m. **(N)**

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
(PG-13) 7 and 10:30 p.m. **(N)**

Sunday

"Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa"
(PG) 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. **(G)**

"Gran Torino"
(R) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"Soul Men"
(R) 7 p.m. **(H)**

"High School Musical 3"
(G) 3 p.m. **(N)**

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(N)**

Monday

"Soul Men"
(R) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"Quantum of Solace"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(N)**

Tuesday

"Quantum of Solace"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(N)**

Wednesday

"Notorious"
(R) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"Quantum of Solace"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(N)**

Thursday

"Quantum of Solace"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(G)**

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
(PG-13) 7 p.m. **(H)**

"Soul Men"
(R 0) 7 p.m. **(N)**

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Bedtime Stories (PG)- Fri 15:45,Sat 13:30, 15:30 Sun 13:30, Mon 15:45

Gran Torino (R)- Fri & Sat 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30, Sun 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, Mon 15:45, 18:00, 20:30, Tue 18:00, 20:30, Wed 20:30

Inkheart (PG13)- Sat & Sun 13:30

007: Quantum Of Solace (PG13)- Fri 22:30

Marley & Me (PG)- Fri 15:45, 18:00, Sat 13:30, 15:45, 18:00, Sun 13:30, 18:00, Mon 15:45, 18:00, Tue & Wed 17:45

Revolutionary Road (R)- Fri 15:45, 20:15, Sat & Sun 13:30, 20:15, Mon 15:45, 20:30, Tue 20:30, Wed 18:00

Seven Pounds (PG13)- Fri 15:45, 18:00 Sat 18:00, 22:30, Sun 15:15, Mon 15:45, 18:00, Tue & Wed 17:45

The Curious Cage Of Benjamin Button (PG13)- Fri 17:30, Sat & Sun 17:15, Mon - Wed 17:30

Valkyrie (PG 13)- Premiere: Wed 20:30

Yes Man (PG13)- Fri & Sat 22:30

For Showtimes of THUR JAN 22, call 06371-937 037 or see www.broadwaykino.com/kmc

Visit www.kaiserslauternamerican.com/movies.php for details

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) – "I was born under unusual circumstances." And so begins "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," adapted from the 1920s story by F. Scott Fitzgerald about a man who is born in his 80s and ages backwards: a man, like any of us, who is unable to stop time.

We follow his story, set in New Orleans from the end of World War I in 1918, into the 21st century, following his journey that is as unusual as any man's life can be.

Starring Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Julia Ormond

Quantum of Solace (PG-13) – On a mission that leads him to Austria, Italy and South America, Bond discovers that Greene, conspiring to take total control of one of the worlds most important natural resources, is forging a deal with the exiled General Medrano.

Using his associates in the organization, and manipulating his powerful contacts within the CIA and the British government, Greene promises to overthrow the existing regime in a Latin American country, giving the general control of the country in exchange for a seemingly barren piece of land. In a minefield of treachery, murder and deceit, Bond allies with old friends in a battle to uncover the truth.

Starring Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Olga Kurylenko

Paige's Picks

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"Paige's Picks" is a new feature to the KA detailing freelancer Paige Norris-Miller's opinion on everything from books to restaurants to movies…

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I chose a caramel macchiato and was pleased with the quick service, as well as the quality and taste.

Courtesy photos

My husband had an espresso, hot and rich.

Before long, I was served two pieces of perfect French toast with a side of creamy butter and rich syrup.

One friend received an exquisitely-arranged salad with red peppers and golden corn dancing on the plate. My husband had a pepper-studded omelet accompanied by sausage and potatoes. We could barely keep up our conversation between bites of our yummy food.

The front sliding door was kept busy as customers came in and out, buying baked goods from the front case to take home and enjoy, stopping for coffee and eating with friends.

It was a completely enjoyable morning that could have easily lasted into the afternoon. Sander's Cafe is a hard place to leave.

Sander's Café is open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Visit their Web site at www.sanders-cafe.de.

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1946	3	2	1500	Kindsbach GA, G, P	1000,-
				Sembach School	
1931	4	2	2000	Otterbach GA, G, P	1250,-
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1938	2	1,5	1400	Otterberg lux. APT	850,-
1944	5	2,5	2400	Otterberg GA, G, P	1250,-
				Ramstein School	
1886	2	1	1200	Ramstein APT	700,-
1943	5	3	2600	Miesenbach GA, G, P	1740,-
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Available with GP Residences: brandnew freestanding Mackenbach house, 5 BR, 2baths, liv/din rm, nice bik, balconies, patio, garage, yard, €335,000. Nice new Niedermohr House, great investment opportunity, 4 BR, 2 baths, nice bik, liv/din rm; yard, garage, €225,000. No fee on all houses. Call 0631-22328 or 0177-5522-328 or 0162 4131 878.

By Owner, Miesenbach, 8bed, 3ba, cust fplc, gas heat, carport, det shed, crnr lot, big ktch, 5mins to RAB, lg lndscpd yard, nice nbrhood, €260,000 Tel. 06371-465445

Duplex houses for sale, 1 in Otterbach (near Kaiserslautern) 157sqm and 1 in Hütschenhausen (near Ramstein) 182sqm. 4 bedrooms, big living- and dining room, built-in-kitchen, carport, terrace. Free at February 2009. Call 06382-92210 or Mobile phone: 0171-7732593

Duplex nice location in new built area Erzenhausen for sale by owner - Low-Ernergy House w/ warm water pump highly equipped 177sqm living space + 50sqm developable attic. Ready to move in! Price negotiable 06374-4194

Exclusivefreestandinghouse, in RAB school, 306sqm., living-space, 1200sqm proberty, 5 bedrms., open-fireplace, 3 baths., garage, basement, floor-heating, swimming-pool, garage Price 380 000 €uro Anne S. Neumann Immobilien4you Tel: 06372-803641

For Sale in Landstuhl (LRMC area) new renovated Bungalow 160sqm 6bed rm liv rm bik & din area combined 2.5bath sauna 2terrace 717sqm property double garage wooden floors €295.000 Tel.: 0172-6764139

Freestanding house, 6bedr., 2,5 bath, fireplace, approx. 1.236 sqm property, € 259.000.-I.B. u. Immobilienservice Thomas Sourißeaux 06374-995694 Thomas.SX@t-online.de

Freestanding House/ bavarian style/ between Landstuhl&Pirmasens/ A62& B270/ No direct Neighbours/ garden/second building for garage, workshop etc/5 bedrooms 2 bathrooms/ unique&comfortable/ for sale from owner €189.000

Hütschenhausen: Heinstr. 26, Open house 18.01.09,2-3 PM, One or two family Home,Ground floor 3BR/ 1BA,large kitchen,Terrasse. Up stairs 3BR/1BA,balcony. Great garden(leased property) double garage 280000€ call Sonja at RE/MAX Real Estate Center 0631/41408880 o. 0160/3807277

Historical house in a very nice quiet area, completely renovated in 2006, est. 300 sqm, nice big fenced in yard,Price: 290.000 Euros or best offer!For more info please call 0171-2038270

Air Force and Army Chapel Schedule

Protestant Services

• ***Daenner Chapel***
POC USAG-K Chaplains Office 493-4098, Civ. 0631-3406-4098, BLDG 3150 (Follow the signs toward the back of Daenner Kaserne)

Saturday Seventh-day Adventist,
Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.
Worship service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Collective Protestant, 10:00 a.m.

• ***Landstuhl Chapel***
Protestant, 11 a.m. Sunday
POC USAG-K Chaplains Office 493-4098, Civ 0631-3406-4098

• ***Miesau Chapel*** WOW, Worship on Wednesday 7 p.m. POC Ch. Ricky Way, 481-3961 or 06372-842-3961

• ***Ramstein North Chapel*** (480-6148)
Contemporary Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

• ***Ramstein South Chapel*** (480-5753)
Liturgical (Lutheran rite) 9 a.m. Sunday
Traditional Service, 10:45 a.m. Sunday

• ***Vogelweh Chapel*** (489-6859)
Gospel Service, 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Protestant Education Classes are available for all ages at Vogelweh, Ramstein, Landstuhl and Daenner, For more information, call 480-2499 or 489-6743.

Jewish Religious Services

• ***South Chapel Synagogue*** (480-5753),
Shabbat Evening Service,
Nov-Mar, Fridays, 6 p.m.
Apr-Oct, Fridays, 7 p.m.
Adult Religious Education,
7 p.m. Mondays

Catholic Services

• ***Ramstein North Chapel*** (480-6148)
Sunday Mass, 8:45 a.m., 12:30 and 5 p.m.
Confessions, 4 to 4:45 p.m. Sunday
Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Mon through Fri

• ***Vogelweh Chapel*** (489-6859)
Confessions, 4 to 4:45 p.m. Saturday mass, 5 p.m. Saturday

• ***Daenner Chapel***
Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Bldg 3150
Confessions, 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Mass, 11:30 a.m. Sunday
POC USAG-K Chaplains Office
493-4098, Civ 0631-3406-4098

• ***Landstuhl Chapel***
Sunday Mass, 9 a.m. Daily Mass, noon
For more information on Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, or for Rite of Christian Initiation for adults contact
USAG-K Chaplains Office 493-4098, Civ 0631-3406-4098

Islamic Services

• ***South Chapel Mosque*** (480-5753),
Jumu'ah Prayer, 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
For Religious Education and Daily Prayers check Prayer Schedule

Orthodox Christian Services

• ***Kapaun Chapel***
Diving Liturgy, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
Vespers, 1st Saturday, 5 p.m.
1st Saturday Confessions, 6 p.m.
For more information, call 480-6148

Kaiserslautern Evangelical
Lutheran Church
9:00 am Worship on 1st Sunday of the month
11:30 am Worship & Eucharist all other Sundays
Children's Church available
Meeting in Ev.-Luth. St. Michaelis Church, Karpfenstr. 7, 67655 Kaiserslautern
E-mail: kaiserslautern@selk.de or call 0631-64327 for directions.
Scott Morrison, Pastor **www.KELC.eu**

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Kirchenstrasse 2a, 66849 Landstuhl
Pastor: Brent Sadler – Tel.06371-618138/06371-57311

BETHEL UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
A WORSHIP CENTER
Pastor: Larry Gregg
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 pm
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
06371-18536
22 Saarbrueker Str., Landstuhl

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Landstuhler Straße 22 • Ramstein Village
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www.ramst-churchofchrist.com

The Episcopal Church
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St. Albans Community - Kapaun Chapel
For more information please
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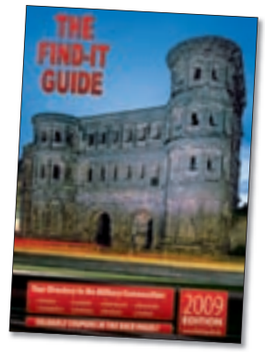

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Investment Opportunity 15min to RAB freest house 200sqm liv space 600sqm lot 6BR liv/din w/open firepl BIK 2.75baths 2garages park spot garden w/ pond €195,000 currently rented to Americans Tel.0172-9251637

Kaiserslautern: Freest., newer House, 190 sqm, 4BR/2,5BA, balcony, terrace, partly with floor heat, 2 garages, property 630sqm, 275.000€ www.GermaWild-Immobilien.de 06371/943311 - 16

Katzenbach: Freest. House in a quiet area, 194sqm, 4BR/2BA, balcony, terrace, yard, open-fireplace, sunroom, 2 garages, 490sqm property, 269.000€ www.GermaWild-Immobilien.de Please call: 06371/943311 - 16

Large house w/3 floors & basement;6 BR, 4 ba, 2 kitchens, 3 living areas; Separate Apt, great TLF; garage; detached bldg with 2nd garage, workshop, storage; extra large lot, fruit trees; great place to live; 8 mi to Ramstein AB, 12 mi to Vogelweh; appraised 295,000 euro; make offer; call 06304-992-097 or 0175-526-7390

RAB school 4 bedrms., 600sqm property, 200sqm living-space, b.i.k., garage, 195 000 €uro Anne S. Neumann Immobilien4you Telephone: 06372-803641

Ramstein and surrounding areas, dream houses at: 06371-613947 www.weberimmoservice.de

Spaceous and stylish Duplex in Kottweiler (210sqm) with a mediteranean touch! 4BR 2.5Bath bik, liv w/din rm fireplace wooden floors ca 800sqm property storage rm outside € 229.000 Call to see: 0171-4354479

Waldmohr freestanding house built 03, 5-6rms bik excl bath rm garage ca 200sqm no fee €330.000 Call 06841-9937456 MR-Bauträger GmbH:

ACC. FOR RENT - APARTMENTS

= see photo @ www.kaiserslauternamerican.com

!!!!! A Modern and Comfortable Living in 2bdr. / bik. / liv.din. / lbath / sep. guest toil. / balcony / cable / DSL 16.000 / 588,--€ + util. Call 06307/1717 or 0176-43077040, www.private-rental.de Best distances K´town, Pirmasens, Hospital, RAB

!!166sqm 4BR Apt Herschweiler-Pettersheim, Am Buchrech 15a, w/garden exit, liv/dinrm (34sqm), BIK bath, WC, stor/laundry, SAT, 2cpks, garden use (660sqm) 100m Kinderg, 15-20min RAM €1004 incl heat 06384-8375 or 0151-23274412

! 1-2BDR - furnished or not, short-long terms, rental contract possible, pets welcome, neg. price!! pls call 06374-6823 or 0179-6601752

! Oberstaufenbach 2BR Apt BIK terrace quiet area nice view carport no pets 15min to RAB €680 +utls Tel. 06385-6392 or DSN 480-9221

!!3BR Apt Baalborn new modern 5 min to Sembach AB, SAT+DSL, floorheat, Terrace, 1.5 Bath, BIK, liv+din Rm, €760+Util call 0179-2326563

!!Bruchmühlbach-Miesau. 10 min. from RAB. modern apt. 108sqm, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, BIK, balkony. new renovated, 810 Euro+util. 0176-24779775

->Haschbach kit/liv room, larder, liv room, 3br, office, 1,5 bath, terrace, 140sqm 790€; 06381/7448 (after 3pm)

20min ro RAB 98sqm 2BR livrm BIK 1.5baths closet rm garage balc av 01Feb09 Tel. 06333-65616

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Gary Craft, Pastor
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Services are in the Vogelweh AFB Chapel
WORSHIP HOURS:
Sunday 3 p.m. / Tuesday 7 p.m.
Pastor Ed & Faith Ferguson
Phone: 06371-468933
Cell: 0173-6716105
Fax: 06371-468934
Meeting at Vogelweh Chapel and Annex

Faith Baptist Church
Worship Services & Bible Studies
Sundays 9:30, 11:00
Faith Academy 17:30
AWANA
Wednesdays 18:30
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Faith Baptist School(K-5th)
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"Eternally impacting our community and world, with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ!"
Located halfway on the main road between Ramstein and Vogelweh
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Bahnstrasse 124a
Landstuhl
Gib Wood, Pastor
Phone: 06371-16148 (Ofc.) • 06383-5597 (Home)
Schedule of Services
Sunday School 9:45am, Morning Worship 11:00am
Evening Worship 6:00pm, Wednesday Service 7:00pm
(Nursery & Children's Church available)
to Kindsbach
Traffic Circle
B 40
to Landstuhl
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www.ktowncoc.com • Muhlstrasse 34 • Kaiserslautern
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Wed Bible Study 7:00pm (Classes for all ages)
Minister: Greg Larson 0631-950221
POC's: Mario Manfre 06841-8090954
John Price 06371-612011

Sri Lanka... Rebuilding Ecologically

Foto: Thomas Lohnes

Ways to revive fertile land

Not only houses had been destroyed by the tsunami. In Sri Lanka, seawater made the soil infertile in many areas. With the support of Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World), the quality of the soil will be revived again by applying ecological methods, like planting shrubs and using fertilizer. Seedlings slowly will grow into a large system of living fences which will protect the land against future natural disasters. A freshly planted garden will help provide a highly nutritious diet for their families.

For as little as 3 Euro you can help make a change. This will provide families with the means to purchase seeds and seedlings for their own gardens.

Send your donations to: (Bread for the World)
Brot für die Welt
www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de
Postbank Köln
Konto 500 500 500
BLZ 370 100 50
Kennwort / Keyword: Gerechtigkeit

2BR. Apt. huge living rm bik Bath Patio, in a new House. Close to VOG, RAB & Sembach €540 +util Tel:06301-719500

2x Nice Apt Landstuhl 55sqm & 65sqm renov next to RAB price neg. Tel. 06371-15783

3bm apartmt in Queidersbach, bik, €650, Immobilien T. 017665881298

3BR Apartment in Landstuhl, Kaiserstrasse. 3 min walk to train station. 90 sqm €570 inc. water, garbage & secure parking. 06371/9020

5BR living rm 2bathrooms kitchen with electric appliances attic 180sqm in Schwedelbach 3miles to airbase €960+utl Please call 06304-9191

80sqm APT RAM 2BR newly renov 1bath garage av 1Feb €500 +util Angie 06371-15832 after 4pm

A Top-full furnished Apt 110sqm. Stay as long as you like. Also a dream apt 130sqm is ready to move in. Location: 66978 Merzalben, Höhstr. 12 (direction Pirmasens) Call Roland Frick: 06395-6206 or 0171-7735892

American Owned 95 sqm New Renov & partial Furnished Apt, 10-20 min all bases, 2BR (1furn), BIK, livrm furn, bath, big balcony, storage, wood floors and ceilings. KL/Erlenbach, E660 + util. No pets, Tel: 06301-37461 or 01577-2904338.

Apartment in Schwedelbach, 140sqm, 3 bedrooms, BIK, extra toilet, individual gerage, 750EUR+util. Call Mr. Junkermann 01636802899

Apt Hauptstuhl in 2Fam HS (american renters) 97sqm 2BR BIK w/din area 1bath jacuzzi & shwr livrm wooden ceilings & tiled flrs roughcoat walls basem +storrm balc garage driveway garden +optional 35sqm office (xtra charge) €700 +util av 1Feb 06374-2470 or 0171-4195236

Apt in Hirschhorn for rent 120sqm 1BR 1 kids rm BIK open plan living big bathrm 50sqm patio sep laundry rm storage rm nice quiet area 15min to RAB av now €780 incl heating Tel. 0173-6514988

Apt in landstuhl, 107sqm, 3br, bik, liv/din, 2bath, storage in basement €930 incl. util 0162-2679106

Apt in Pörrbach right by Schwedelbach 10min to RAB 125sqm 3bed rm 1.5bath liv/din rm bik storage rm 3balcony 2park-spot attic €630+util 1month deposit Landlord doesn t speak english Call: 0631-3674154 or 06374-4250

Apt in Queidersbach 100sqm 2BR big liv/din rm 1.5bathrm balcony lg attic laundry no pets sat tv afn 06371-13411 or 0160-1255446

Apt Miesau 130sqm 5rms lrg BIK bath open firepl park-spot ISDN/DSL Av now €650+utl Tel. 06372-6964

Apt Queidersbach from private: 3BR, liv/dinrm BIK, bath w/shower, guest WC, 110sqm, cable TV / SAT, DSL connect. €780 incl heat (+util) 06371-63720

Apt RAM 61sqm BR liv/din BIK bath w/tub tiled floor floorheat stor laundry basem prkng garden €350 +util 0179-1349100

Bann 4Rm Attic Apt, BIK, 2stor rms, bath, loggia 100sqm garage €650 +util Call: 06371-917251

Bann beautiful, new renovated Apt, very cozy because of wooden floors & ceilings, 2bed rm bik bath liv rm w/din area office stor rm carport Tel. 06371-16954

Bann, close to hospital, 2.5Bm apartment €660+utl, no pets, Immobilien T. 017665881298

Beautiful Apt in Contwig, 205sqm, 3BR, 1 studio w/fire-pl, BIK, 1bath, 2guest WC, 3balc, 2 parking spots, 1000 € +util Immobilien Müller 06332-76078, immobilien@ifb24.de

Beautiful studio 110sqm 3BR BIK 25sqm bath, storage rm basement €550+utl 67678 Mehlingen, Hauptstr. 29 Tel 0176 24477042

Breunigweiler, 118sqm, 3BR, LR w/oven, 2bath, DR, Kit, patio, balc, 750Euro+util+sec. dep., avail: 1Feb, Please call: 0174-3136617

complete furnished 60sqm aptmt in Hoheneckenm, possible for temporary aptmt for 2-4 persons,€ 900 all included, ImmobilienT 017665881298

Erfenbach nice apt. 84sqm 1bedr livrm kitchen bath furn balcony E500+util 2mon dep tel. 0174-5451848 nemec79@yahoo.de

Exclusive apt 20min to RAB 136sqm 2bed rm 1bath w/ shower & tub liv rm bik w/din area garage attic terrace €770 + €210 utl & €1100deposit Avail 1March Call:0175-5665569

Great 2 BR apt in Schwedelbach 5 min to RAB 110sqm compl sep entr lg storage in bsmnt new bath bik walk in closet patio sm yard off st-park gas central heat TV-SAT €600 +utl Avail now Eng spk Tel.:0173-0639318

Hauptstuhl, APP. 10 Min to RAB & LRMC, nice 115 sqm, 2 br, full kitch, 2 carport. € 900 incl. u., sep. entrance. KKA Immobilien Tel. 0172/ 6642692

KL-Erzhütte luxury Apt 80sqm fully furn granite fire-pl €890 +util http://mitglied.lycos.de/stritzinger/ or call: 0177-345-8975

Landstuhl City, APP. Fully furnished: 105 sqm, 2 bedrms, 1 ½ baths. Rates daily € 45 or monthly € 1300, all u. included. KKA Immobilien Tel. 0172/ 6642692

Landstuhl in Hörchenweg 4a, 66849 Atzel, complete new renovated Apt 90 sqm 2BR BIK no pets €500+utl+500

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Am Köhlwäldchen 16 • D- 66877 Ramstein
www.HotelRosenhof.com
Email: HotelRosenhof@aol.com
Telephone: 06371- 80010
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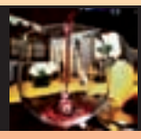
NEW AT THE ROSENHOF
AMERICAN BRUNCH
Every 3rd Sunday of the month
Beginning January 18th 2009 at 10 am



Brunch Buffet:
Coffee, Tea, Orange juice, Omelet, Pancakes, Fresh Bircher muesli, French Toast, Waffles, Deli plates and Cheese plates, Salad Variations
Warm Lunch Buffet
Dessert Buffet
For more Information please see our website at "this week": www.HotelRosenhof.com

Every 1st Sunday of the month we serve our usual
Sunday Lunch Buffet

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Hours:
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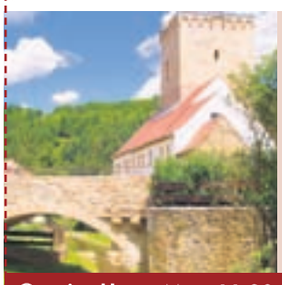

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Landstuhl-Melkerei, APP, nice 95 sqm, 2 br, full kitch, € 850 incl. u KKA Immobilien Tel. 0172/ 6642692

Luxury bright apt near Weilerbach (3km) 10min to RAB & K-Town. 105sqm +20sqm terrace +2parking spots. Wonderful view, pure nature, horse stables nearby. 3rms lrg liv/dinrm 2baths laundry SAT-TV floor heat new bik. Avail. now €741+util 0173-9035895

Mackenbach, Triftstr. 1, 2bdr. apt (104sqm) newly renovated, dining room, living room, built-in kitchen, bathroom, guest toilet, storage room, office, balcony, underground parking lot, Rent €550 + util. Call 0172-8395874

MIESAU! 10 min from RAB. stylish aptm. 5 rooms, 2 shower-bath, modern BIK, Off-Street Parking Quiet Location, 108 sqm, 680 Eu+util. Call: 0176-24779775

Modern apt in Mehlingen 124sqm €620+util Call 06303-6691 or 0179-6610594

New Apt for rent in Bruchmühlbach, 5BR, livrm, kitch, 2.5baths, balcony €1100 Tel.: 06372-1282

Nice apt in Fockenber-Límbach, 110 sqm, 2 bedrooms, est. 590,- Euros, free, 11KM to RAB, for more info please call Tel. 06385-993870 or 0171-2038270 - we are no realtor!

Nice apt in Ramstein, 118 sqm, 2 bedrooms, est. 600,- Euros, free, for more info please call Tel. 06385-993870 or 0171-2038270 - we are no realtor!

Nice Furn 2RM Apt livrm BIK ca 60sqm furnished w/ antique furniture quiet area €480 all incl (elec extra) Hohenecken Av Jan. 15 Tel. 0631-57182

Queidersbach nice taken care of apt in quiet area. 121.5sqm floor heating isolated glass ca. 10min to KL Vogelweh or LRMC, ca 16min to RAB 3 BR complete bik very large liv/din area w/ open fireplace small office rm 1bath w/ shower bath tub and WC, seperate 0.5bath 2 balcony Cable+TV +Interenet connection storage in basement, shared laundry rm, 2 own park spot at the entrance, shared yard to BBQ €785+util Tel.: 06371-6329 or 0173-3229224

Queidersbach:Apt. 3 bedr. liv/dinrm, bik, storage rm, 1.5 baths, bsmnt, washrm,2 balconies, garage, floor heating, 110 sqm, € 690,00 + util.No Finders Fee!! Call 06371/912591

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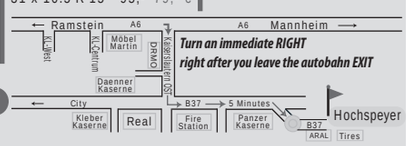

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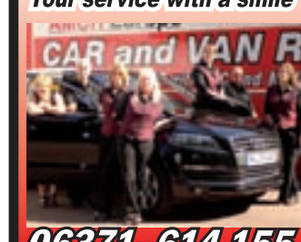

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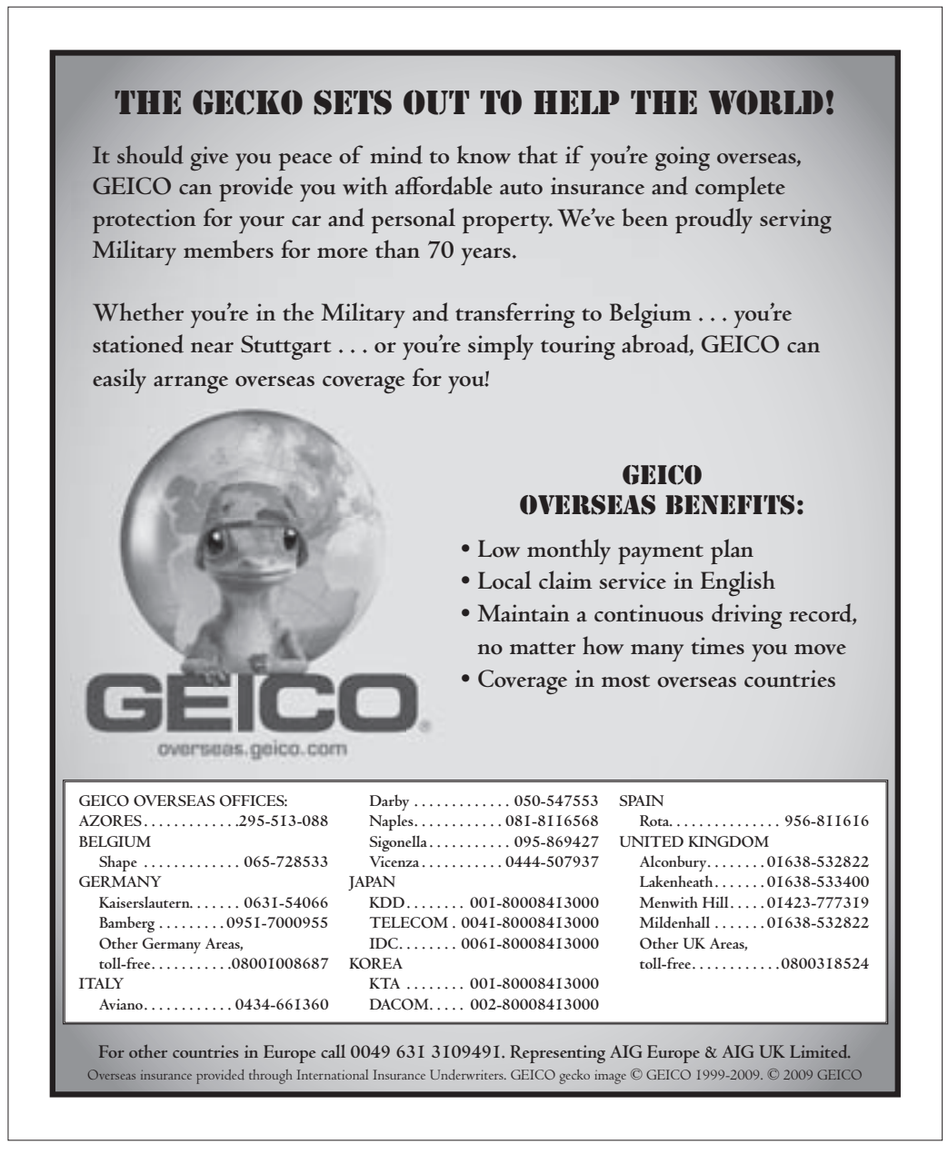

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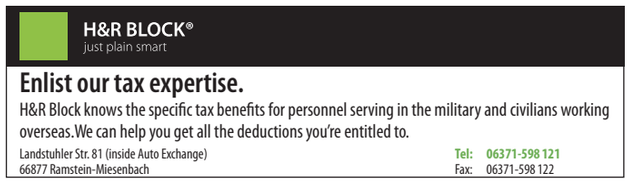

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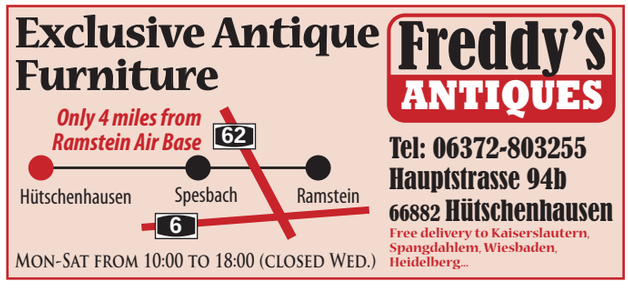

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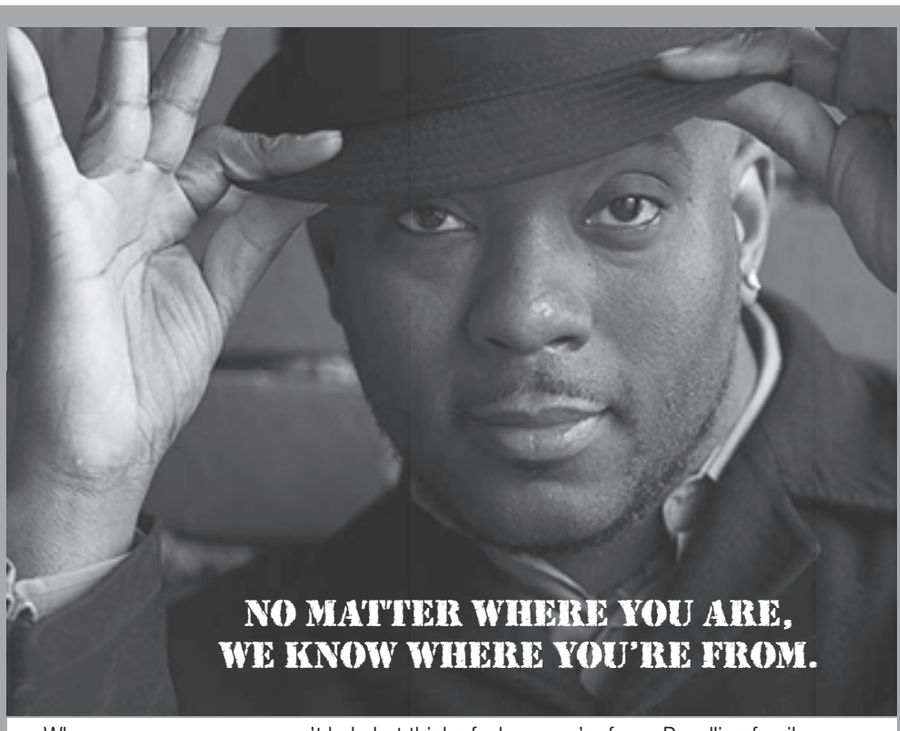

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