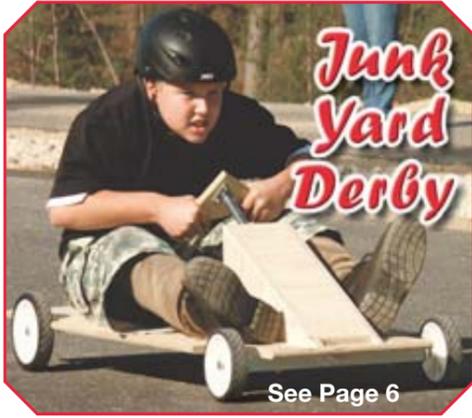


# TRAINING TIMES

Vol. 1 Nr. 21

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

October 26, 2005



See Page 6



Photo by Franz Zeilmann, USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs

On Oct. 13 at the redesignation ceremony held at Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg, Col. Brian T. Boyle, USAG Grafenwoehr Commander, right, and Command Sgt. Maj. John M. Burns, left, march with our newly unfurled garrison colors.

## News in brief

### SAEDA class mandatory

Nov. 18 - Grafenwoehr and Vilseck communities will be conducting the first Subversion and Espionage Directed against the Army (SAEDA) class for fiscal year 2006. This class is a mandatory annual requirement for all DOD personnel including military, AF/NAF (both US and LN). Class schedules are as follows:

GRAFENWOEHR: 9-10:30 a.m. for U.S. personnel, 10:30 a.m.-noon for LN personnel. Location: Tower Theater.

VILSECK: 1-2:30 p.m. for U.S. personnel, 2:30-4 p.m. for LN personnel. Location: Post Theater.

### Fall clean up

USAG Grafenwoehr has set community clean-up week for Nov. 7 to 10. Units, agencies, and residents are encouraged to do a little extra cleaning and clearing in and around their buildings before winter weather sets in. Area and building coordinators should be providing information about resources as fall clean-up week approaches.

### Flu vaccine available

The Vilseck Health Clinic would like to give you the flu shot if you meet the following criteria:

- All children age 6 to 23 months
- All persons over age of 65
- All persons with chronic disease
- All pregnant women and those that intend to become pregnant
- All deploying or redeploying Soldiers
- Household members/care-givers of those < 6 months old
- For questions please call a registered nurse at 476-2014

### Area AWAG conference

The American Women's Activities, Germany, will host the Oberfalz Area Conference Nov. 19, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Tower View, Grafenwoehr. "Proud of Our Past, Focused on Our Future - 50 Years of AWAG Conferences" is the theme. Cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Registration deadline is Nov. 11. Call 09662-701146 to register or to learn more.

### AFTB training

Army Family Team Building offers more than 40 continuing education courses organized on three levels. Call 09662-83-2650, or stop by Building 221, Room 207, Rose Barracks to register for the upcoming classes:

Level I is Nov. 3-4, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

### Officer candidate board convenes

The 7th Army Training Command officer candidate board will meet Nov. 30, 8 a.m., in the command conference room, Bldg. 621. Soldiers interested in becoming officers have until Nov. 16 to submit packets to the G1. Contact the unit S1 for assistance or call 475-6952 for more information.

## Town Hall tackles tough topics

by Shannon Hill  
Training Times

The soft soprano of sixth-grader Shadai Valentine, singing the Star-Spangled Banner, set in motion the vocal atmosphere that characterized the Oct. 19 Grafenwoehr and Vilseck Community Quarterly Town Hall meeting held at the Grafenwoehr Elementary School.

More than 100 people attended the quarterly meeting, which according to Tom Hays, Chief of Engineering Services, serves as a "good forum for raising issues and helping the staff and commanders be aware of events in the communities."

Curtis L. Clark, USAG Grafenwoehr Deputy Commander, opened the Town Hall and monitored issues and concerns during the evening, ensuring equitable opportunity was afforded all participants to raise questions and obtain answers on community matters.

The first portion of the meeting presented briefing updates and pertinent information on community events and programs, and was briefed by representatives of various key community organizations, such as MWR, AAFES, and the health clinic.

Following the briefings, various prizes, including movie passes and fruit baskets, were raffled off to the expectant crowd by Command Sgt. Maj. John M. Burns.

The second portion of the meeting opened the floor to questions, and community members were able to voice concerns regarding everyday life in their community.

One main topic was reduced hours and operational capabilities of facilities on post, which included the child care centers, commissary, PX, and gym.

Matt Mennona, AAFES General Manager, and Audre Binder, MWR Director, explained the

numerous challenges facing their organizations, and assured community members that they take the welfare of the community seriously; that they are committed to resolving issues wherever resources permit.

When the Town Hall concluded, numerous community members stayed behind to discuss issues with the program directors, or formed into groups to pursue healthy discussions on topics covered.

Angela Cooley, one of the raffle winners, said the Town Hall "basically answered everything I wanted to hear about."

Hays expressed his appreciation of the issues surfaced, because "when we know about it, we can fix it."

The next Town Hall Meeting will be held on January 18 at Vilseck. Watch for the time and place in the Training Times, on the command channel, and in the weekly newsletter.

## Johnson urges team building as he departs IMA

by Ned Christensen  
IMA Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12—The Installation Management Agency said farewell in an Oct. 6 ceremony to outgoing director Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson as he leaves IMA to take over as deputy chief of engineers and deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Johnson, who thought of himself as the IMA quarterback, "passed the football" to IMA principal deputy director Philip E. Sakowitz in an Arlington, Va., ceremony hosted by Lt. Gen. David W. Barno, assistant chief of staff for installation management. Sakowitz will serve as acting director until incoming director Maj. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle assumes the post in late October.

Johnson assumed the directorship of IMA Aug. 9, 2004, and leaves following a year that saw dramatic growth and promise for the future in IMA, despite being filled with the turbulence of changing times and sustaining an Army at war.

"Ron Johnson probably had the toughest 2-

star job in our Army during his 14 months here in IMA," said Barno. "If you look at what we've



Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson receives the IMA Stalwart Award from principal deputy and acting director Philip E. Sakowitz. The Stalwart Award recognizes the highest level of commitment to the IMA mission.

asked him to do, leading 78,000 people across 110-plus installations, scattered literally across the globe, with increasing missions and decreasing people - that's about as tough a sledging as you can get and he has done that magnificently well."

"We've got more folks under this organization than we have in just about any corps-level fighting force in the Army. That's remarkable and the breadth and scope of your responsibilities is immense," Barno continued.

The Army's Principal deputy assistant secretary for installations and environment, Geoffrey D. Prosch, talked about the short, but eventful, history of transforming installation management, the many responsibilities installations have, and enumerated the many IMA accomplishments of Johnson's tenure.

"There's no way we could have mobed and demobed 300,000 Soldiers in the last two or three years without IMA," Prosch commented. "There's no way we could have cross-leveled all these critical parts through the CIS.

See *Outgoing ...*, page 3

# Q&A

## Do you think cultural observances are important?



**Kelli Robinson**

"Yes. It helps people that don't understand or know about a culture learn more."

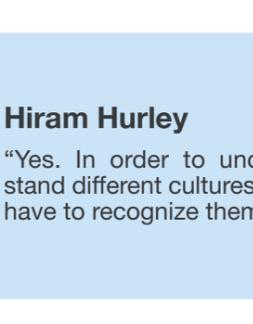
**Sgt. Crystal DeLaRosa**

"Yes. It makes people realize that we are all a big group with differences that we can share and can be enjoyed by everybody."



**Elke Britton**

"Yes. People are sometimes not very knowledgeable and I really think the children should know about diversity. It would make our world much better."



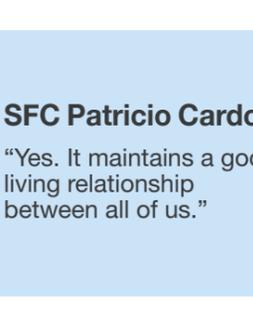
**Hiram Hurley**

"Yes. In order to understand different cultures we have to recognize them."



**Gabbie Arguello**

"Yes. That is a way to show our children and our friends over here how we appreciate each others' differences."



**SFC Patricio Cardona**

"Yes. It maintains a good living relationship between all of us."



**Susie Russell**

"Yes. The United States is a melting pot and none of us come from one exact culture. In order to be better educated about ourselves and where we come from we need to observe other cultures."

Interviews and photos by Kathy Jordan

# Vets have much to celebrate Czech trip promises memories

## USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs

Whether you're a veteran of not, Nov. 11 is Veteran's Day and a celebration all Americans can, and should, participate in. It's a day for veterans and non-veterans alike to honor and observe.

Locally, at the Grafenwoehr library on Nov. 1 at 6 p.m., James V. Di Crocco, of JMTC, will present an historical perspective on Third Army General George S. Patton.

As will be covered later in this article, Patton was instrumental in liberating the former Czechoslovakia in May 1945.

Later, on Nov. 11, MWR's Outdoor Recreation is organizing a trip to the Czech Republic which includes a visit to the Patton Memorial Museum in Pilsen, and a stop at Pilsen's Urquell brewery, and the nearby spa town of Marienbad. Passports are required for the Nov. 11 trip, and more information can be obtained by calling Graf ODR at 475-7402 or Vilseck ODR at 476-2563.

American Legion Post 45 is organizing a Nov. 11-13 celebration open to all U.S. veterans in the town of Rokycany, just outside of Pilsen.

Hal Helges, a member of ALP 45 and a retired Master Sgt. with 27 years of service and three combat infantry badges under his belt, is available for more information on the Veteran's Day weekend celebrations which have been conducted annually in Rokycany since 1991. He can be reached at 09662-9468.

The original statue of Patton, unveiled on July 5, of which a miniature is on display in the Pilsen museum, is to be found near the center of Dysina, 10 kilometers northeast of Rokycany. Helges welcomes anyone who has an interest in visiting Patton's statue at Dysina to also contact him.

Di Crocco, who is well-versed in Patton historia, offers this comprehensive account of why, even today, Patton is held in high esteem by the Czech people:

"I think that the main reason for General Patton's lasting popularity with the Czech people has to do with the fact that it was his Army that liberated the western part of what was then Czechoslovakia in the last days of World War II in May 1945.

When the war ended, Patton's U.S. Third Army liberated both Cheb and Pilsen. The Third Army was the last U.S. Army still conducting offensive operations in Europe at that time.

In the last days of the war, General Patton advocated continuing his Army's advance further east towards Prague where Czech patriots were liberating their city from Nazi occupiers, but was constrained by his orders from doing so.

Patton can be seen as the most prominent symbol to the Czech people of the American Soldiers under his command who liberated western Czechoslovakia from over six years of Nazi occupation, however briefly, before the country was taken over by a communist regime until 1989."



General George S. Patton

# Daytime driving with headlights May become permanent law in Germany

## USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs

Federal Transportation Minister, Dr. Manfred Stolpe, is requesting that as of Oct. 1 all drivers operate vehicles with their headlights on, even during the day. Just like in the neighboring countries of France and Austria where this is currently being tested, the Minister announced Germany should also institute a voluntary period of time to follow this rule that would eventually become a permanent law.

"Driving with lights on during the day carries with it the ability to save lives. The environmental concerns (higher fuel consumption and increased emissions) will be alleviated by using modern lighting technology," said Stolpe. "Driving with lights on during the day should begin especially now that the time of the year when nights are getting longer is here."

The Minister also pointed out that there is already a requirement for driving with headlights on at night and the onset of dawn, dusk, and periods of limited visibility. "Unfortunately, this existing law is often ignored," he said.

The Minister also wants to start a European initiative to improve the standard outfitting of private cars. Stolpe wants all new cars to be outfitted with so-called "Day Time" driving lights. The most important change for car drivers:

When the motor is started the lights will automatically come on. The "Day Time" lights should, according to the Minister, be connected with an automatic light sensor that will switch them to normal headlights when it detects that the surrounding light is reduced. Stolpe will also ask the European Commission to make this combination of "Day Time" lights and auto-

matic sensors obligatory as standard equipment on all newly built cars.

*"Driving with lights on during the day should begin especially now that the time of the year when nights are getting longer is here."*

# Hill joins newspaper staff

Shannon Hill is the newest addition to the Training Times newspaper staff, and is the reporter for the Grafenwoehr community as of Oct. 1.

A native of Lander, Wyoming, Hill has been around the Army and Air Force all her life, and has lived in numerous locations, to include Japan and Belgium.

A sophomore with the University of Maryland, her hobbies include bicycling, camping and the outdoors, and she has her sights set on a career in public affairs.

Hill's debut with the Training Times was the Blessing of Animals celebration coverage on page three of the Oct. 12 issue. In this issue, Hill has the front

page article on the Oct. 19 Town Hall, and coverage of the Graf cross-country and Red Ribbon Week event on page 16.

Other Training Times reporters include Kathy Jordan for Vilseck community, and Alice Adler for the Hohenfels community, two seasoned reporters who regularly contribute news, features, sports and entertainment coverage for Times readers.

If you have a program, event or activity that you want considered for coverage in the Training Times, e-mail usaggnews@graf.eur.army.mil or call DSN 475-NEWS (6397) or civilian 09641-83-6397.



Shannon Hill

# TRAINING TIMES

Grafenwoehr • Hohenfels • Vilseck

Producer: **MILCOM Advertising Agency**  
Roswitha Lehner  
Zeilaeckerstrasse 35 · 92637 Weiden · Telefax 0961-67050-32  
Internet: **www.milcom.de**

Training Times is an unofficial biweekly publication authorized by AR 360-1. Editorial views are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. The paper is an offset publication prepared and edited by the U.S. Army Garrison-Grafenwoehr Public Affairs Office. Training Times is printed by Werbebegeagentur und Verlag Roswitha Lehner and distributed every other Wednesday. Circulation is 6,000 copies. Submissions are welcome. Send letters to the editor and commentaries to PAO, Unit 28130, Attn: Training Times, APO AE 09114, or e-mail them to usaggnews@graf.eur.army.mil. Telephone the Training Times at 475-7113 or fax to 475-7935 with story ideas and events.



**USAG-G Commander**  
Col. Brian Boyle

**USAG-G Public Affairs Officer**  
Kathleen Gibbs (475-8103)

**Command Information Chief**  
Nick D'Amario (475-6417)

**Grafenwoehr Correspondent**  
Shannon Hill (475-1600)

**Hohenfels**  
Alice Adler (466-2479)

**Vilseck**  
Kathy Jordan (476-1600)

## In brief

### GSA training

Oct. 28 – The U.S. General Services Administration will be presenting the following CEU accredited training on-site in Hohenfels at the DOL Conference Room 8-11 a.m. and in Grafenwoehr in the 7ATC HQ Conference room 1-4 p.m.

Training topics include:

GSA Advantage – Come see how easy it is to shop with us.

GSA e-Buy – Come See what e-Buy can do for you.

For info on any GSA-related issue, contact Eric Hooper to set-up an appointment at 0171-5584868.

### Speed zone enforcement

Speed limits have changed at three Graf locations: On Gettysburg Avenue, between Wilbur Road and the Army Post Office, 30 kilometers (18 mph); from Wilbur Road to headquarters on Lexington Avenue, 40 kph (24 mph); the tank trail outside Gate 9, approaching the intersection with Chancellorville, 30 kph (18 mph). Military Police are ticketing violators.

### Graf bank observes holiday

The Community Bank will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 1 in observance of All Saints Day. On Wednesday, Nov. 9 the banking hours will be 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. due to staff training. POC is Mrs. E. Jones, 475-6140.

### AWAG conference

Nov. 19 Oberpfalz Area Conference

At the Graf Tower View Restaurant from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tower View Restaurant. For more information or to register, contact Michelle McLaughlin, Oberpfalz Area Rep.

09662-701146 or email: michelle.mclaughlin@us.army.mil

### Hohenfels wine tasting

The Hohenfels Community and Spouses' Club invites you to a Wine Tasting 7 p.m. on Nov. 9 at the Zone. A variety of different wines will be available for tasting and light snacks will be served. The cost is \$10 for members of the HCSC and their spouses and \$15 for non-members. To reserve your spot call Tammy Bagdasarian at 09472-911787.

### CFC-O ongoing

Through 2 December: The Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O) is part of the largest workplace-giving campaign in the world. It is our intent that everybody is informed about this great campaign. Support the CFC-O. U.S. military and federal employees make a world of difference. If you have any questions, or if you need pledge cards, please contact Ms. Christine Nunez, Community Area Project Officer, DSN 475-8432 or CIV 09641-83-8432, located in Grafenwoehr Bldg. 244, 2nd floor, Room 239.

### AFAP conference

For the Vilseck, Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels communities, Oct. 31 – Nov. 2. The USAG Grafenwoehr Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference for FY 2006 (at Amberg's Congress Zentrum) is designed to voice issues that affect quality of life within the community and to recommend viable solutions to those issues. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer with AFAP, please contact the USAG Grafenwoehr Program Manager, Michelle McLaughlin, at DSN 476-3273/2650 or civilian 09662-83-3273/2650.

### AFN transmitter outage

There will be a scheduled transmitter outage Nov. 2 for the following signals due to antenna maintenance. Grafenwoehr antenna maintenance will start at 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Therefore the XMTR (1107 kHz) will be off the air during that time.

Hohenfels antenna maintenance will be from 2-5 p.m. Therefore the XMTR (1485 kHz) will be off the air during that time.

### VCSC Thrift Shop Fashion Show

"You don't have to spend a bundle to look like a million bucks," is the theme of this Nov. 16 fashion show at Yesterday's Club in Vilseck. Starts 6 p.m., and entry fee is \$5. RSVP by Nov. 11 to Kirsten Botsford, civilian 09662-420836.

# Hohenfels chapels offer financial peace

by Alice Adler  
Training Times

Financial debt is a heavy burden to bear for many Americans, and many members of the military. But in Hohenfels, they are working to do something about it.

The Hohenfels Chapels are holding a 13 week course entitled Financial Peace University. The program, the brainchild of financial guru Dave Ramsey, is "a Biblical values-based approach to better money management," according to Chaplain (Maj.) Timothy Mallard who, along with his wife Sharon, facilitates Financial Peace University.

The program is designed for either singles or couples and focuses on three main approaches. First, participants are urged to build up an emergency cash reserve. Next, they learn how they can pay off all of their debt, credit cards, cars and even mortgages, through what Ramsey calls a "snowball approach" to tackling money problems. Finally, once participants are debt-free, they learn to begin building their wealth and using their money to help themselves and others.

"They learn to maximize debt-paying potential in the shortest time possible," said Mallard. As an example, Mallard mentions that some class members are paying off as much as \$36,000 in personal debt in only 12 months.

The program aims to turn Americans away from the prevailing notion in American culture that debt is an ever-present problem. "The idea that debt will always be there so you have to learn to manage it," said Mallard. Part consumer education and part "financial behavior modification," Mallard notes that they do not tell people what to choose, only how to make smart decisions about their money.

Not only people in debt can benefit from what the program teaches.

Many people who are already debt-free participate to learn how to prepare for retirement and save for a home or their children's college education. Various investment options such as money markets and mutual funds are covered in the classes.

Ramsey is well known in financial circles for amassing a \$4 million fortune by the age of 26, then losing it all just as quickly. This financial roller coaster puts a great amount of stress on himself, his marriage and his family, and through the program he aims to help others avoid the same pitfalls.

It was only after his fortune disappeared that Ramsey, a lifelong Christian, began to view his money with faith in mind. "All money is a gift from God," said Mallard. "What kind of steward are you of the resources God has given you?"

The program teaches that learning responsibility for your money, and passing that knowledge along to your children, is essential to achieving financial peace for yourself and for future generations. In addition, once debt is erased, participants learn how to use their money not only to benefit themselves and their families, but also to help others in their communities.

Every week in Hohenfels, a group of 22 singles and couples meet in the Hilltop Chapel Center to work together on their debt. Participants watch a video, then break into smaller groups to go over questions that the video has brought up. "There are even extra questions provided made just for a military audience," said Mallard.

Mallard had been looking for a way to help out families in Hohenfels, but the unique composition of the Hohenfels community made many of the typical programs unnecessary. "At JMRC we have families in a different life-cycle," said Mallard, noting that many of the Soldiers in Hohenfels have been married for many years and have established families.

The Financial Peace University program was sent to him by the Garrison Grafenwoehr chaplain's office, and Mallard saw it as the perfect opportunity to affect Soldier readiness by "helping Soldiers and their families where they live."

All course materials are provided free of charge, including CDs, books and workbooks. Child care has also been worked out, making the course free for most people. In exchange, they ask participants to commit to seeing the program through, attending a minimum of 12 of the 13 weeks of class.

Participants in the class are very enthusiastic about what they have learned in the first few weeks. "It doesn't sugar coat anything," said April Kroenke. "It's wonderful." Kroenke's husband, Scott, is deployed to Iraq with the 94th Engineer Battalion and they have been working on the program together weekly, using phone calls and instant messaging to discuss the week's lesson. "He re-enlisted down range," said Kroenke,

"and I was praying about what to do with the money." Shortly afterwards the program was announced during a Sunday chapel service.

"It is an eye-opening experience," said Brandilyn Edwards, "realizing exactly how your money is being spent." She cites the program's "envelope system" as a particularly helpful tool in understanding how much to budget for monthly expenses. She and her husband, Sam, had been talking about saving for retirement when they heard about the program. "We thought we'd let a professional tell us the ins and outs," said Sam Edwards.

The Mallards are assisted in facilitating the class by Andi and Alan Deogracias, a couple who are a Financial Peace University success story. "I'm debt-free because I took this program three years ago in Fort Leavenworth," said Andi Deogracias. "Once we became debt-free we started building our wealth."

Participant Frank Campos noted that he has taken other financial classes before and finds that Financial Peace University is presented in a way that is "easy to understand, easy to implement."

The participants started the program by adding up the total class debt, which came to a staggering \$1,569,597.55. A couple of short weeks later they had managed to pay down that debt by a huge \$36,095.92.

Another course is planned for the spring. If you are interested in participating contact Mallard at: timothy.s.mallard@cmtc.7atc.army.mil.

"I would for sure recommend this course to other people," said Brandilyn Edwards.



Photo by Alice Adler

Capt. Charles Perryman adds his credit cards to a jar of cut of credit cards held by Chaplain (Maj.) Timothy Mallard at a Financial Peace University Class.

## More families may be eligible for Free and Reduced School Lunch Program

### IMA-E Public Affairs

Due to a change in the eligibility guidelines for the Free and Reduced Lunch program, more families may now be eligible.

U.S. Department of Agriculture has now authorized the exclusion of the Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance as income when

determining eligibility for participation in the Free and Reduced Lunch program. The change is effective immediately and will continue through the end of fiscal year 2006.

Public Law 108-375 has been amended by the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act stating any FSSA that a household receives must

not be treated as income in determining eligibility for the program.

Anyone receiving Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance should contact their School Liaison Officer or the installation agency determining Free and Reduced Lunch Program eligibility for review based on the new guidance.

## Outgoing Installation Management Agency director

Continued from page 1

"The 101st Air Assault Division deployed to Iraq with the body armor of the 25th Infantry Division. In the old days we never would have had visibility of that," Prosch observed

Prosch also attributed to IMA the promise of 90 percent funding for installations, the development of common standards for installation services, and the creation of the Installation Management Board of Directors, which brings the Army senior leadership together twice a year to discuss installation issues.

Johnson was a tireless advocate for IMA's mission of improving Soldiers' wellbeing by standardizing the services on installations. He often cited the examples of corporate giants Home Depot and McDonald's, who meet customer expectations by offering the same predictable look and products everywhere in the world they are located, while still accounting for the variations made necessary by demographics or geography.

He was particularly passionate about Common Levels of Support, which for the first time quantifies the cost of running installations and shows what happens when funding lags. He credited CLS with providing the solid data to sell the Army leadership on funding installations to 90 percent of required funding levels. At the same time, he decided to hold implementation back a year to make sure it was right when fully deployed. And he actively pushed business process redesign and the Lean Six Sigma model to find efficiencies and improve processes.

Johnson compared the February 2005 decision to fund installations at 90 percent of base operations and 90 percent of facility maintenance and sustainment requirements to the Army College Fund in terms of significance to sustaining Army recruiting and retention.

"The well-being and quality of life that you [the IMA workforce] deliver in enhancing the facilities where our Soldiers live, work and play will be the edge that sustains this world-class, all-volunteer Army. It is your work alone that

will cause other Americans to answer their call to duty," Johnson said, echoing the theme of the Association of the United States Army convention that concluded the day before the departure ceremony.

"90-90 [funding for installations] is a huge decision and I encourage each and every one of you to use the very best judgment and professionalism in figuring out how to deliver to our people the very best without wasting a single dime," Johnson said. "I'm encouraged by what we've done and I'm even more inspired by what you have yet to do."

"This is not really about Ron Johnson, this ceremony here today. It is indeed about the great service of a wonderful organization," Johnson said. "It is my belief that at sometime in the future—someone in the very near future as we look back at what we've done here with IMA, someone will say that this was the single most important decision that the Army made—to stand up this organization."

# Army Community Service

## Something for everyone

by Leslie Hazzlerigg  
Vilseck ACS Marketing Director

When driving down Constabulary Street on Rose Barracks, you can't help but spot Bldg. 322.

Pumpkins and hay bales surround the building, with each pumpkin representing a program or service that is offered at Army Community Service. Follow the pumpkins into Bldg. 322 and you'll discover ACS and its vast selection of programs and services, like Relocation Readiness, the Lending Closet, Financial Readiness, Employment Readiness, Army Emergency Relief, Army Family Action Plan, Army Family Team Building, Exceptional Family Member Program, Deployment Readiness, Information and Referral, Volunteer Core, Family Advocacy and New Parent Support – all conveniently located within one facility.

A wealth of helpful and interesting classes are offered regularly, and for dates and times you can call one of the program managers between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at DSN 476-2650. Program managers are here to help Soldiers and their families with any and everything, and, best of all, these programs, services and classes are free. Plus, if attending a class, child care is also free.

So what exactly does ACS do for the community?

Many Soldiers and family members have been a part of the Army for years and have never heard about ACS.

Cindy Holmes, an Army spouse, said, "when I first came to Germany I was clueless about where to go and what to do until a friend told me to go to ACS. They helped me find a job, taught me about military life, showed me around the community with the Welcome to Bavaria class

and taught me what to expect with living overseas."

When a Soldier moves to Germany, their first stop should be ACS. At the front desk, ACS has information about almost every city in Europe, complete with driving directions, best hotel recommendations, and activities available in the city. Before the travel begins, however, most Soldiers and families like to attend the Relocation Readiness Welcome to Bavaria Class, a 5-day course that teaches German traditions and customs, and key words and phrases needed to survive the German language.

ACS also has services like internet access.

Tonia Richmond, an ACS customer from Hanau, said, "I used ACS a lot when we first got here for the computer lab."

The Lending Closet program is also very helpful for families who are just arriving or who are waiting to move. During a move, as most Army families know, there is a period of time when you get here and as you're preparing to leave when the household goods are being shipped. During this time, household goods such as kitchen accessories, cooking supplies, strollers and baby gates can be borrowed from the Lending Closet.

The Financial Readiness program offers the same services as financial advisors on the economy, but the difference is the services at ACS are free. Financial advisors offer classes like Investing 101, home buying, preparing for a baby, and also offer one-on-one consultation to help Soldiers and their families consolidate debt and plan a budget.

Army Emergency Relief also resides within ACS and is an amazing program involved in helping Soldiers and their families get the money they need in an emergency. Staff Sgt.

Robert Copeland and his wife, Barbara, used the services offered by AER when they needed help fixing their van. "We were trying to avoid it, but when the van hit the dust, we went to AER and it took us about three hours to get a €2,000 check. They were real fast and didn't hassle me about it either," Copeland said. No-hassle help is one thing ACS prides itself in being able to provide.

Employment Readiness is also a widely used program at ACS. Susan Roberts, the Employment Manager, teaches resumé and interview skills classes and works one-on-one with clients to help them get the job they want. Roberts works closely with Vicky Cunningham, the manager of the Volunteer Corps.

Volunteering is a great stepping stone to gaining experience in a specific job field, and is also a great way to help the community and do something constructive with your time.

Army Family Team Building is a program run solely by volunteers. AFTB offers classes like Army 101, which teaches family members useful things about military life; like reading acronyms, military courtesies and how to read an LES.

The Army Family Action Plan is yet another program at ACS that involves many volunteers. AFAP is an annual conference held specifically to address the communities' issues.

The Family Advocacy Program offers services such as victim advocacy and sexual assault response and prevention. FAP also offers useful and informational classes on subjects like parenting, stress and anger management, assertiveness and couples communication. FAP works closely with the New Parent Support Program in preparing a couple or family for the new addition and the stress that comes with raising a child.

All in all, ACS is here to serve you. Holmes speaks for the organization when she says, "If ACS doesn't have a program to help, they'll know where to send you."



Photos by Leslie Hazzlerigg

**Free ACS resumix classes greatly improve your chances at landing employment.**



**Free ACS child care is provided during a recent Welcome to Bavaria class.**

# Fire prevention update

## With hot tips for a safe Halloween

by Matt Spreitzer  
USAG Grafenwoehr Fire Chief

Another Fire Prevention Week has come and gone. This year's theme was "Use Candles with Care."



Photo by Robert Beiler

Chief Rodler, right, talking about fire safety to one of the classes at the Elementary School.

Your local fire departments spent the week promoting proper use of candles along with some other more well-known slogans, like the children's favorite, "Stop, Drop and Roll."

I'd like to thank everyone involved in making Fire Prevention Week a success and there were many. The AFN staff was a great help by allowing us to use their expertise in radio and television to get our message out to the community. PAO for taking the time to present information on the Command Channel as well as the Training Times. The teachers and school staff for doing what they do everyday. Last by not least the firefighters who put in a lot of extra time trying to come up with new and interesting ways to help make fire safety fun and interesting for our target audience, the kids.

Before we know it, our pride and joys will be out in the dark dressed to scare the heck out of us and of each other. Whether or not you have kids, take a moment to think about safety this Halloween. Below are some simple safety ideas for both young and old.

- Know the route your kids will be taking if you aren't going with them.
- The best bet is to make sure that an adult is going with them. If you can't take them, see if another parent or a teen aged sibling can go along.

- Know what other activities a child may be attending such as parties or school functions.

- Make sure you set a time that they should be home by. Make sure they know how important it is for them to be home on time.

- Write your phone number and address on a card or paper and place it in their pocket in case they get separated from you or their group. If they get separated from you or their group tell them to ask for help from an MP who will be on duty during Trick or Treating hours.

- Explain to children the difference between tricks and vandalism. Throwing eggs at a house may seem like fun but they need to know the other side of the coin as well; clean up and damages can ruin Halloween. If they are caught vandalizing, make them clean up the mess they've made.

- Make sure your child carries a flashlight, glow stick or has reflective tape on their costume to make them more visible to cars.

- If you have a Jack-O-Lantern consider using a battery-powered light source or light sticks to light them instead of candles. If you do use a candle to light your Jack-O-Lantern, place the candle in a glass jar so it won't blow out or tip over easily.

Fire Prevention Week for firefighters also marks the beginning of Holiday Seasonal Safety Campaigns. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years all present an increase in the potential for fires to occur in and around your home. In the coming months we will be providing easy fire prevention tips you and your family can use to help make your holiday seasons joyous and memorable. Stay tuned, but first enjoy the upcoming Halloween and Fall Harvest celebrations.

# G-A band proves R&B sensation

## Gearing up for local Nov. 5 performance

USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs

It all started in May 2005 when Katherine Di Crocco's voice coach, Catherine Winter, gave her a challenge to perform live at least once after her husband returned from Iraq. And thus Di Crocco asked two friends, Danny Parker and Andreas Trautner, to accompany her on guitar and drums. One thing led to another and before she knew it, she had a blues band, Second Hand Mojo.

"It's been a great experience, pulling German and American musicians together to jam to some classic American music; a little blues, soul, R & B, and definitely a little rock and roll," said Di Crocco.

Four band members are U.S.-affiliated; two Soldiers, Capt. Wayne Keeler and Sgt. Scot Macaulay, one spouse, Katherine Di Crocco, and one DA civilian, Danny Parker. The other three band members are local nationals: Andreas Trautner, a drummer from Kirchenthumbach, Norbert Scholz, keyboard player from Pottenstein, and Norbert's brother, Reinhold, is a

stand-in bass guitarist from Nuernberg.



Photo by Renate Gradl of Der Neue Tag

**Danny Parker, Scot Macaulay, Katherine Di Crocco, Andreas Trautner, and Wayne Keeler practice for an upcoming gig.**

Danny Parker, lead guitarist and a Bronx native, played with 38 Special and George Thorogood before coming to Germany.

Di Crocco is the lead singer and the spouse of Jim Di Crocco of JMTC, and Macaulay plays bass guitar and is assigned to USAG Grafenwoehr headquarters, and is currently attending the Warrant Officer Course in the States.

So far, the band played in Kirchenthumbach in August and Oberbibrach in September, as well as a private party in Trabititz in September. Already, their following is expanding among both German and American audiences and they've started an email list to notify fans of upcoming performances.

The band's next performance will be held 10 miles from Grafenwoehr at the Schloss in Kaibitz on Nov. 5 at 8 pm.

To get to Kaibitz from Grafenwoehr, follow Route 299, direction Pressath/Kemnath, and stay on the road past Pressath, past Trabititz and past Kastl. After Kastl, turn left at Santana's Restaurant and you'll see Schloss/Gasthof Kaibitz on the right. The proprietors are offering a generous exchange rate in honor of their American friends, so the entry charge will be 5 Euros or \$5. For more information about the band or to be notified of upcoming gigs, email dicrocco@t-online.de or call 09647-929785.

# SNAP participation at all-time high

by Denise Anderson

The Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program, or SNAP, is USAREUR's version of the neighborhood watch program, and has been active in the Grafenwoehr, Vilseck and Hohenfels communities for more than three years.

To date, the USAG Grafenwoehr SNAP has certified over 450 people, the highest number USAREUR-wide, and that number continues to grow each month.

"The SNAP in USAG-Grafenwoehr is a productive, positive program which has great interaction with Military and German Police. This is a direct result of the hard work by the program coordinator and all SNAP volunteers," said Sgt. 1st. Class Deron G. Smith, USAG Grafenwoehr Provost Sergeant.

SNAP's primary purpose is to offer residents an opportunity to officially become the eyes and ears of the community. SNAP works because people want to assume a more active role in making their neighborhoods safe.

No one knows the neighborhood better than the people who live there, and this knowledge helps volunteers to be the first to spot suspicious activity, an unsafe act, or recognize a strange person or car. While SNAP does not replace the force protection measures already in place, it certainly augments them.

SNAP, however, is not a new concept.

Visit the First German Tower Waits Museum in Vilseck, and you will see the Vogelturm, the home of an earlier German night watchman dating to the 14th Century.

In the U.S., the notion that citizens should voluntarily help prevent crime by watching the streets as well as the homes and busi-

nesses of their neighbors extends back to colonial Philadelphia. The passage of the "Safe Streets" bill on July 1, 1700, marked the beginning of Town Watch in Philadelphia, PA. Under this bill, the Council of Philadelphia appointed a watchman who patrolled the streets at night, ringing his bell to warn citizens and constables of disorders and dangers. An expanded version of the original Watch was instituted in 1705, and continued for forty-six years until a paid police force was established.

In 1972 the National Sheriff's Association took crime prevention a step further by making it a national initiative in creating the National Neighborhood Watch Association. Since then, the concept has taken on many different names and forms, such as SNAP, Neighborhood Watch, Crime Watch, Block Watch, Citizen's on Patrol, etc.

Throughout the years, the traditional Neighborhood Watch program has grown from an extra eyes-and-ears approach to crime preven-

tion, and thus a more proactive, community-oriented endeavor.

Neighborhood Watch groups now incorporate activities that not only address crime prevention issues, but also restore pride and unity to a neighborhood. Neighborhood Watch groups now participate in neighborhood clean-ups and other activities that impact the quality of life for community residents. For example, the Kaltenbrunn neighborhood had several SNAP volunteers conduct clean-up of an adjacent wood-line area causing residents concern for the safety of their children. With support and assistance from installation coordinators, the Kaltenbrunn volunteers joined ranks and made their neighborhood a safer place for families.

Heidi Campbell, a SNAP volunteer for nearly one year, wanted to be a part of SNAP "because it's important to me to contribute to the safety of my neighborhood, I want to know what's going on around me and be able to take an active part in keeping my family safe."

SNAPs throughout USAREUR fall under the Provost Marshal's Office or military police stations, which is fitting since one of its primary objectives is to promote police and community partnership.

Our SNAP volunteers receive training which includes a 45-minute class on what duties are expected, safety, what to look for, how to respond and whom to notify. The class is short and easy to understand, and can be given in the comfort of ones home or office.

One of the most valuable lessons a SNAP volunteer is taught is to follow gut instincts. Intuitive feelings that something observed might be relevant to a crime, past or future, can be important information for a law-enforcement officer - they will welcome your input.

SNAP is for all U.S. citizens and their families who are here working for or in support of the U.S. military in the Grafenwoehr, Vilseck and Hohenfels communities.

To become a certified SNAP volunteer, you must attend a 45-minute SNAP class. Once completed, you'll receive a SNAP certificate of training signed by the Provost Marshal. Volunteering is at the leisure of the volunteer.

Those interested in becoming a SNAP volunteer in the Grafenwoehr or Vilseck areas should contact Denise Anderson at the Vilseck MP Station, DSN 476-4312 or 09662-83-4312, or email denise.a.anderson@graf.eur.army.mil. Hohenfels residents should contact Josh Rocha at the Hohenfels MP Station, DSN 466-4925 or 09472-83-4925, or email Joshua.Rocha@cmtc.7atc.army.mil. Call today to make a positive difference in your neighborhood.



Photo by Denise Anderson

**The SNAP Neighborhood Knight and Clifford Lowe, USAG Grafenwoehr Installation Coordinator, give a big thumbs-up to SNAP volunteers.**



**Expressions tell the tale of victor and vanquished in this one-on-one heat during the Oct. 14-16 Junk Yard Derby.**

Photo by Werner Ohla

The Edelweiss District of the Transatlantic Council of the Boy Scouts of America held a Junk Yard Derby Oct. 14-16 at Camp Heritage in the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

The derby was conducted at the base of the new Netzaberg Hill where nine Troops and Crews from the Edelweiss District competed for Champion-of-the-Hill in their unit-designed and built racers.

Approximately 100 Scouts from Wuerzburg,

Kitzingen, Munich, Vilseck, Hohenfels, Hanau, Berlin, Prague, Ansbach and Grafenwoehr spent the day competing as well as working on fishing, canoeing and rock climbing merit badges, courtesy of the USAG Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation Branch.

Overall, the Berlin Troop took the speed trophy, while the Troop from Munich took the most original design.



Photo by Kathy Jordan, Training Times

## Thrift store grand opening

Vilseck community spouse's club thrift store manager Amy Armstead, left, hands cashier Hyun Lawson the first official apron for the grand opening of the store. The new facility is located in building 221 in the same parking lot as Yesterday's. The new layout of the store is more spacious and there are many more items on display for patrons to view or purchase.

## Red Cross appreciates donations

The Vilseck/Grafenwoehr Station of the American Red Cross would like to thank the following organizations and units who donated money to the Disaster Relief Fund.

- 561st Medical (Dental Services)
- Grafenwoehr Elementary School
- Vilseck Elementary School

Also, we would like to thank those community members who have made individual

donations to support the Disaster Relief Fund.

As of Oct. 14, the Red Cross has provided the following services to victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita:

Shelters Opened	1,083
Overnight stays in Shelters	3,314,646
Meals	24,438,700
Snacks	15,672,751
Comfort Kits	244,553

## GES spearheads \$1,500 drive

### Donations for Hurricane Victims in The States

by Barbara K. Davis

The Senators and Class Speakers at Grafenwoehr American Elementary School spearheaded a drive to help our fellow Americans who were victims of the recent hurricane. Students were asked to give their own money to help Americans in need. Parents and staff members also contributed generously to the drive.

There is many an empty piggy bank around Grafenwoehr Community these days. During our four-day drive for donations our students,

staff, and parents contributed \$1,500. Our dedicated and hard-working PTSA counted the pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, dollars, euros, and checks, and wrote a check to The American Red Cross. Thank you, especially, to Mrs. Stratton, PTSA Treasurer, for her time and energy in making sure this task was completed.

We are proud of our students for caring and sharing with our folks back home and for the generosity of all who participated. Grafenwoehr Grizzlies, you make us proud.



Photo by Kathy Jordan, Training Times

## Father and daughter provide musical treat

On Oct. 5 at the Vilseck Library, families enjoyed a special musical treat. Violinist Sarah Briggs Cornelius and her father, William Briggs, stopped by to put words and music together for an animated account of the story of Ferdinand, a bull who did not want to fight.



Photo by Maureen Platt

Students contribute to Hurricane Katrina victims Oct. 12. Pictured are Madison Vega, Aizalyn Garcia, and their counselor, Barbara Davis.

# Kaiserschmarrn is no “nonsense”

by **Martina Bias**

Special to the Training Times

Kaiserschmarrn (literally: emperor's nonsense) is one of the most common dishes you will encounter in Bavaria and some of the other regions in the central Alps. This dish with the odd name is basically a torn pancake with rum-soaked raisins, powdered sugar, and a compote of sorts. Almonds or other nuts might be added for extra texture, and you will most likely find it served as a delicious dessert. Because of its heartiness, it is also served as a main dish on occasion.

There are many legends about the name and inventor of this dish that originated in Austria. One story tells us about a hunting excursion of the Emperor Franz Joseph I (1830 – 1916), that led him to seek shelter in a farmhouse. The surprised farmer's wife was not prepared for such a distinguished visitor, but being an inventive woman, she served the emperor a Holzfällerschmarrn (wood-cutter's nonsense), a humble meal made from flour and animal fat, and refined with eggs, milk and fruit. That day the ordinary peasant's dish was transformed into the noble Kaiserschmarrn we all love today.

Another theory suggests that the dish was created in Emperor Franz Josef I's kitchen by a cook who made an inferior pancake. Since the meal did not turn out the way it should have, the clever cook added raisins and cherries to the torn pancake, served it with heaps of powdered sugar and made the emperor believe that it was a whole new culinary creation.

This, of course, is total nonsense or Schmarrn as a Bavarian or Austrian would say. Therefore the new dish came to be called Kaiserschmarrn throughout the lands.

Whatever its origin, Kaiserschmarrn is a delicious meal any time of the day that can be made easily at home with a few sim-

ple ingredients. So why don't you try it out and surprise your family and friends with some royal fare soon?

Guten Appetit!

## Kaiserschmarrn

½ cup raisins  
2 Tbs. rum  
Pinch of salt  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
1 Tbs. granulated sugar  
6 eggs, separated  
2 cups flour  
2 cups milk  
2 Tbs. butter or margarine  
½ cup slivered or sliced almonds  
2 Tbs. sugar  
Powdered sugar  
sauce or compote made from apples or plums. Soak raisins in rum for about 30 minutes.

Beat the salt, vanilla, sugar, and egg yolks until mixture is light yellow in color and creamy in consistency. Add milk and stir in flour, a little at a time. Stir in raisins.

Separately, whip the egg whites in a bowl until peaks form.

Gently fold the egg whites into the batter.

Melt butter or margarine in a large, oven-safe pan and add almonds.

Pour in the batter to form a large pancake. Over low heat, fry on one side until the batter thickens on the surface. Now, either



flip it over and fry the top side until golden brown, or stick it underneath the broiler at high heat. Test with a toothpick to make sure the batter is cooked through. With two forks, tear (do not cut) the pancake into bite-size pieces. Sprinkle with granulated sugar and keep frying until the sugar turns into a glaze (has caramelized slightly).

Sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve immediately with apple or plum sauce or compote.

Extra tip: if you have trouble preparing one big pancake, you might want to consider baking the batter into two separate smaller pancakes and then proceed as above.

Yield: 4 main course servings

Do you have a favorite German dish you would like to recreate at home?

You can email me at [martina.bias@us.army.mil](mailto:martina.bias@us.army.mil), and I might be able to feature your requested recipe in one of the future issues.

# Germans & Death; and their November holidays

by **Martina Bias**

Special to the Training Times

Ask any American child what day the Oct. 31 is and they will not hesitate to tell you that it is Halloween. Much to the dismay of the local Lutheran churches in Germany, you would increasingly get the same answer from German kids.

This fairly recent trend towards Halloween parties and trick-or-treating has church leaders lamenting that the religious meaning of that German holiday (Oct. 31 is Reformation Day in honor of Martin Luther, German Protestant Reformer) is taking a back seat to all the witches and goblins and other “ghostly traditions coming from America.”

Nevertheless, the holiday that Halloween originated from as “Hallowed Eve” (the night before All Saint's Day) is celebrated in Germany today as Allerheiligen on Nov. 1. Along with Allerseelen (All Souls' Day) on Nov. 2, these are the two holy days in the German religious calendar that are devoted to all the saints (known and unknown) and to all of the “faithful departed.” Germans of Catholic faith will go to the cemetery and place candles known as Seelenlichter (Soul lights) on the graves of their loved ones.

But these are not the only holidays in November that prompt Germans to remember their deceased. As a matter of fact, November is often called the “month of death” because of its many commemorations and the matching dreary, cold and wet weather.

After Allerheiligen and Allerseelen, the next day of remembrance is Nov. 9, also known as Kristallnacht or Reichskristallnacht (Crystal Night). This date reminds us of the night from Nov. 9-10, 1938 when 190 synagogues in Germany were burned to the ground, 8000 businesses were destroyed and about 100 people murdered under order of the Nazi regime.

Appropriately, Buss-und Bettag (literally: Repentance and Prayer Day) which falls on Nov. 22 this year, follows.

Even the Sundays in November are marked by death. The third Sunday in November is Volkstrauertag (National Day of Mourning), in memory of Nazi victims and the dead of both world wars. This observance is very similar to the American Veteran's Day or Memorial Day. The month of remembrance comes to a close on the last Sunday before Advent with Totensonntag, also called Ewigkeitssonntag, which translates

to “Death Sunday” or “Eternity Sunday.” This Mourning Sunday is the Protestant's version of the Catholic All Soul's Day.

German traditions concerning death and mourning do differ in some regards from the way Americans handle these sad occasions. Especially out in the villages in the country, old rituals and ways of dealing with the passing of a loved one are still very much observed, even as the folks in the city do away with them in increasing fashion. If a person in Germany dies at home or at the hospital, the pastor is summoned to give die Aussegnung, an approximately 15-minute long last blessing and prayer over the departed. Most villages still have a so called Totenglocke (death bell) that is rung to inform the population that one of theirs has just passed away. Word-of-mouth will then pass the news of who has departed and people will flock to the home to be present at the last blessing. A close relative of the deceased will stay with the body during the Totenwache (death watch) until the pastor and other witnesses arrive. The body will then be transported to the morgue or directly to the cemetery where it will remain in the Leichenhalle (hall of corpses) until the funeral.

Viewing of the body and visitations are customary in America, but not something Germans opt for. Often, only close relatives visit the open casket about an hour before the funeral. In the case of a burial in a casket, the funeral has to take place within 96 hours of the time of death. The other alternative of burial is cremation. German law does not permit keeping a loved one's ashes at home or some other place. The crematorium needs a written confirmation of the burial site before it is permitted to release the ashes to a morgue employee.

You are not allowed to bury the deceased on your own property either. German law states that the only legal burial place is a cemetery. Most families have a family grave at the local cemetery and its upkeep with fresh flowers, seasonal shrubbery and other decorations is an issue of pride that keeps German cemeteries looking neat and well-kept.

If you establish a new grave, you have to buy the plot for the Grundlaufzeit (basic duration) of about six to 12 years (varies locally). After that you will receive a bill every five to six years, asking you to extend the contract or give up the grave. Should there be no more living relatives or anyone else who is willing to pay and tend to the grave, it will be dissolved after a minimum of about 25 years, which is considered to be the

minimum time frame in which total decomposition takes place.

German funerals are usually well attended. The basic understanding is that a representative of each family (of the village) is present. A German saying even states that “we don't see each other often, but we are all reunited at the grave site”). Germans wear dark colors when they attend a funeral. Black, gray, dark blue or green are the norm. Anyone wearing light or bright colors at a grave site would be considered extremely rude or distasteful.

Flowers are often brought in the form of a wreath or bouquet, with carnations being the most popular choice. This gave the carnation the title of “flower of death” in Germany. Needless to say, it would often be considered poor taste or plain rudeness if you present a bouquet of carnations to a living person (for example a date or a hostess).

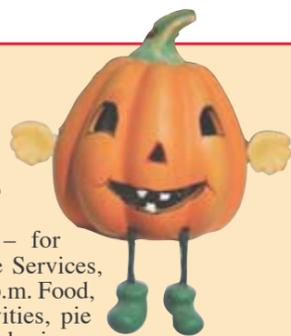
After the funeral, the family of the deceased invites the mourners to the local Gasthaus for either a Leichentrunk (corpse drink) or Leichenschmauss (corpse feast). Coffee and cake or a

light meal that typically consists of sausages and sauerkraut are served to all who attend, such as friends, co-workers, relatives, neighbors and acquaintances, as well as the local fire department or other clubs the deceased might have belonged to during his or her life.

A period of mourning is still observed by many families. In the case of the death of a parent, spouse or child, women usually wear black clothes for one year. Men might wear black ties or a black ribbon attached to their clothes during this time of mourning. It is also expected that grieving family members abstain from any type of “public amusement” like feasts, dances, etc. For other relatives, such as in-laws or cousins, the mourning time-period shortens to about six weeks or however long the local custom dictates. This public display of mourning might seem a little too much for Americans, but it is seen as helpful and comforting during the mourning process as well as a reminder to the others of the community to support and care for the person who lost someone so dear to their heart.

## In brief

### Fall fests, Halloween hauntings



#### Oct. 26

Spooky stories – Vilseck Library presents Halloween-themed story time at 10 a.m.

#### Oct. 28

##### Grafenwoehr

Grafenwoehr Community Fun Run – Open to everyone on Grafenwoehr – family members, Soldiers and DA civilians. Be there by 7 a.m. at the Graf Tower Theater parking lot. There will be a formation run with unit guidons. Wear appropriate costume, civilian running clothes or APFU; Halloween costumes are authorized. Refreshments will be provided after the run.

##### Hohenfels

Terrifying tales – Hohenfels Library scares up stories and costume contests, 3:30-5 p.m.

Parent Teacher Student Association Fall Carnival. For families, 4:40-7:30 p.m. at Hohenfels High School. The fair will feature a chili cook-off and games.

#### Oct. 29

##### Grafenwoehr

Trick or Treat Costume Party – Graf Bowling and Entertainment Center will host a Trick or Treat Costume Party from 8 p.m. to midnight. This event is open to the public.

Haunted Forest – The Grafenwoehr Health Clinic will be hosting a “Haunted Forest” from 6 – 8 p.m. at the North side of the Grafenwoehr Health Clinic. The event will consist of a haunted trail, a Halloween fair for children five and under, and a booth with cookies, treats and warm drinks. Participants may park in the Clinic parking lot for the event.

Fall Festival – for Graf School Age Services, Bldg. 508, 1 – 6 p.m. Food, games, fun activities, pie baking contest and prizes.

##### Vilseck

Chapel Fall Fest – At the Vilseck Chapel, put on by the General Protestant Congregation, from 6-8 p.m. Enjoy hayrides and hot-dogs, crafts and chili. Family-friendly costumes welcome.

USAG Grafenwoehr MONSTER MASH – Theme Party at Vilseck's Yesterdays Club, from 6 p.m. to midnight. This is a family event open to USAG Grafenwoehr staff and community partners. Costumes are highly encouraged. \$10 per person/\$5 per child under 12 (not recommended for very young children). There will be a pay-as-you-go bar. Party favors for children. Ticket info at 475-1350, or civilian 09641-83-1350. Please purchase your tickets ahead.

#### Oct. 31

Authorized trick-or-treating hours 5-7 p.m. on-and off-post housing in all communities.

##### Grafenwoehr

Harvest Fest – at the Grafenwoehr Elementary School multi-purpose-room from 6-8 p.m. Food, games and more.

##### Hohenfels

Harvest Fest – Protestant congregation offers trick-or-treating alternative, 5-7 p.m., at the Hilltop. Children and adults are encouraged to dress in their favorite fun costume and enjoy chili dogs, a costume contest, games and crafts.

## Profile on Martina Bias

Martina Bias is a regular contributor to Training Times, with her first column and recipe published in the Aug. 17, 2004, issue.

Bias hails from Coburg (app. 90 miles from Graf), became an American citizen in 2003, is the spouse of Steven Bias who works for USAG Grafenwoehr; and they have three wonderful children together.

Martina Bias is a substitute teacher at Vilseck Middle/High School, a member of the Parish Council (Protestant Service – Grafenwoehr), in-

involved with the Protestant Women of the Chapel, and a Girl Scout Brownie Troop leader in Grafenwoehr.

Bias loves to cook and bake, especially when trying out new recipes. With her columns and recipes, Bias enjoys bringing the German way-of-life a little closer to her American friends, contributing to a better understanding of the culture, and making for a more pleasant experience in her home country.

# HS students gain real work experience

## Program helps students choose careers

by Daniel Mateo

Career Practicum, formerly known as Cooperative Work Experience, is a Department of Defense Dependents Schools program concerned with the growth and development of each student in the real-life workforce. It is considered a culminating experience, based on the skills and knowledge learned from the student's chosen strand of courses in a particular career cluster.

CP is designed to offer the opportunity to explore different careers, acquire school-to-career experience through a work practicum, and prepare the student for two-year and four-year colleges, and, ultimately, the workplace. It also offers students opportunities to build confidence, self-esteem, reliability, responsibility and accountability.

So what is expected of a CP student?

Students are expected to make decisions, accept responsibility, show initiative, and develop and practice interpersonal relationships in the world of work. With these responsibilities, each CP student can further their career while "paying back" their supervisor in many ways.

Here at Hohenfels expectations are high for the CP students.

Mr. Bob DeLonge, CP program coordinator at the local high school, sets standards for all his CP students. He joined the HHS staff as the CP coordinator one year ago, after being in charge of the CP program at Bad Aibling American High School.

DeLonge and Michele Wolff, the school liaison, make certain that each CP student has a job that can benefit both themselves and their supervisors. They also ensure that each CP student has

a job in a profession they are considering pursuing after high school graduation. For example, one CP student currently works at the veterinary clinic, a career this student is considering after she is done with college. DeLonge and Wolff both work during school hours, as well as after school hours, to make sure that all CP students can benefit from the program.

Local employers are more than welcome to contact DeLonge at 466-3162 or Wolff at 466-2783 if they are interested in the CP program.

Local employers can help students gain the work experience that is essential in the real labor force and can help students decide which career field is the best for them. Presently, students are employed at the commissary, veterinary clinic, dental clinic, education center, fitness center, post gym, adult services, youth services, child development centers, Raytheon, elementary school, library, airfield, USAG Hohenfels, and the teen center.



Photo by: Alice Adler

CP student Dawn Claggett assists a veterinary officer in removing a blood clot from a military police working dog. The surgery was performed in a field tent to practice surgery during deployments.

## GES students Volksmarch

by Luke Dinges

The Grafenwoehr Volksmarch has been the Graf Elementary School tradition since the Host Nation teacher, Frau Kean, has been teaching here. This year, first through sixth graders had to walk 10 kilometers. The students in kindergarten and multi-age kindergarten-first grade had it easy and only walked 5 km.



This tradition gives families and the students at GES a chance to walk together and enjoy and learn about nature. For the many moms and dads who participated, they got to meet their child's best friends and meet new people in the community.

On Oct. 12, the day of the Volksmarch, it was partly cloudy half the time, but the sun came out as the day went on. Students and parents walked through the woods, next

to fields and through several towns. Students received trophies for participating.

## VES shines on Shadow Day

by Jennifer Zabel

October is the Month of the Young Adolescent, an annual national collaborative effort of education, health, and youth-oriented organizations. In observance of MOYA, the 5th grade students at Vilseck Elementary School, along with their parents, took part in Shadow Day.

Parents were afforded the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a fifth grader and take part in all activities and lessons. Working together, parents, teachers, and students can highlight the need for strong educational partnerships so that every 10-15 year old will have the opportunity to become all he or she can and should become.



Photo by Alice Adler, Training Times

## Hohenfels College Night

Hohenfels High School was again the host for this year's College Night on Oct. 12 from 6-8 p.m. Over 50 schools and 150 students, plus parents, were in attendance. While college was the main focus, the Hohenfels Community and Spouses' Club and the Education Center made sure that students were

aware of scholarships and other financial opportunities. Pictured are Michael Hoss and Jennifer Remoy talking to Sherri Dixon of the Hohenfels Community and Spouses' Club about the club's college scholarships.

## VES workshop provides insight on bullying and harassment issues

by Kathy Jordan

Training Times

Vilseck Elementary School conducted a workshop Oct. 1 designed to provide assistance to educators confronted with bullying and harassment of students in local school systems. The workshop was presented by Dennis Brown, Safe Culture Project consultant, and Michael Krumm, superintendent of Ballard Community Schools, Iowa.

"Bullying is harmful to victims – that's evident – but it's also not good for the kids who develop a habit of bullying. I don't call them bullies – that's not helpful – I call them kids," said Brown. "But some kids do develop a habit of bullying. It's natural, I think, to want to dominate and to want to assert oneself socially. We just need to teach kids that bullying is not the way to do it," he said.

One of the goals of the seminar, provided by the Association for Supervisory and Curriculum Development-Germany, was to empower children by making them part of the solution in de-

veloping a safe learning environment in the schools.

"Bullying is something we all can address and eliminate. There are techniques and ways of teaching children to be assertive and not be just a bystander and let bullying go on," said Sue Kerns, ASCD-Germany president.

The methods and techniques learned in the workshop have long-lasting effects according to Krumm.

"We've been pretty successful in our school district in terms of working with the prevention of bullying programs. There is a lot of interest nationally. We have worked with different schools that have asked us to come in and work with them on different techniques. Every school is different, so you have to use a different mix of things to be successful," said Krumm.

Educators from different parts of Germany have been putting the lessons learned from this type of seminar to use in the local school systems. Participants that attend these sessions become more aware of the problems facing children in school.

"When we started our program in Ramstein, called 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand' to deal with the bullying last year, we saw an increase in reports and awareness of kids being bullied. We saw an increase in teachers reporting on kids being bullied. We saw initiative in kids and teachers that wanted to do something," said Ricardo Buitrago, Ramstein middle school psychologist.

There are many different types of harassment taking place in schools. The two most common types are verbal bullying which causes about 70 percent of the problems between students in the school environment and physical bullying which affects about one-third of the student population.

"There is a lot of bullying that takes place under the radar of adults. There are so many different types: the big kid shoving the little one is what most people think about when you say bullying. Most of the bullying that takes place in middle and high school levels deal with relational bullying, the way kids treat each other. This includes whispering, gossiping, rumors and

those types of things that can be very damaging," said Buitrago.

Looking back on her life as an adolescent growing up and her personal experiences in school, Ramstein seventh grade English teacher Stacie DeLeon did not think bullying had changed much, but the awareness of the problem had improved.

"I do not think bullying has changed. I think now we have a culture that perhaps is more aware and knows that something needs to be done. When we were in school they would just say things like – That kid is a bully. Just get over it – it's a fact of life. That's how it's going to be or that's just the way it is," recalled DeLeon. "Just because something is a certain way doesn't mean you can't try to change it."

"Seeing kids hurt is painful," said Buitrago. "First you have to realize there is a problem. Once you realize there are kids that get bullied on a day-to-day basis or kids who see other kids get bullied you become passionate about doing something to change that."

# Coming Nov. 9 – Regensburg, city of many delights

## Regensburg

by Angela Pietzsch

*Editors note: Special guest writer Angela Pietzsch will thrill Training Times readers with insight to one of Germany's most historically and culturally delightful cities. Here's a glimpse of what's in store:*

Where people already settled along the Danube during the Stone Age, now stands Bavaria's fourth biggest city, Regensburg. The Romans had finally founded Castra Regina in 179 A.D. The city prospered during the Middle

Ages, and the architectural remains still shape the looks of the 150,000-population city which is the capital of the district of Oberpfalz.

Regensburg was home to many famous people, and today it is home to Pope Benedikt XVI, who used to live in the district of Pentling.

Many very old architectural sights attract tourists, most of all Germany's oldest stone bridge, the Steinerne Bruecke, the gothic Cathedral St. Peter (built from 1260 to 1520) and the castle St. Emmeram of the Thurn und Taxis family. The old building is actually bigger than Buckingham Palace.



Photo by Rupert Schlecht

Regensburg

The modern city of Regensburg hosts two shopping malls and many shops in the old part of town as well as three Christmas markets during December, one of them in the castle.

*Pietzsch also contributes travel and culture shorts such as the pieces on the Hoam Zua Bergwacht and Leipzig appearing on this page.*



Photo by Angela Pietzsch

## Hoam Zua

If Bavarians talk about the king, they naturally talk about King Ludwig II. He was the one who built the castle of Neuschwanstein, and he was the king of fairytales. For over a century, not only Bavarians but also tourists from all over the world had been fascinated by him. For Bavarians, he still is a symbol for their traditions. In order to cultivate these, King Ludwig Clubs were founded. One of these clubs is in Koetzting, a village in the Bavarian Forest. Every first weekend of October, the members of the King Ludwig Club celebrate an Oktoberfest of their own. And once in a while, they also celebrate real Bavarian music: The next "Hoam zua"

(Coming home) will take place Nov. 6 (open to the public, small entrance fee). Go and find out, what Bavarian traditions are really about.

## Leipzig

The city where writer Friedrich von Schiller and the musicians Johann-Sebastian Bach and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy used to live and work, and where the peaceful German Revolution started at the end of the 80's. Today, the city of Leipzig is one of the most thriving cities in former Eastern Germany. Old monuments are still visible where progress is not about to stop. If you would like to see one of the most ambitious cities in Germany touting architecture, industry and history, stop by Leipzig next time you go to Berlin.



Angela Pietzsch

# Wax those skis! Vilseck guided tour

Snow is on the way, so start planning your upcoming ski trip with Outdoor Recreation. Some of the upcoming trips include:

- Nov. 11-13 Stubaital, Austria
- Nov. 24-27 Soelden, Austria
- Dec. 10 Zillertal, Austria
- Dec. 17 Arber Mountain, Bavarian Forest
- Dec. 17-24 Val Thorens, France

For more information call Vilseck Outdoor Recreation at 476-2563.

If you're interested in local history, ancient buildings and tall tales, then here's an opportunity to experience all of that in a guided tour of Vilseck, Nov. 5.

The local night watchman, Mr. Tschung, will accompany you in his historical outfit, and participants can elect to carry a lit torch for a one Euro fee.

Meet at the Vilseck city hall 6 p.m. Cost for the tour is four Euro; group rates also available. For more information contact Christa Zeilmann at 09662-40212 or ACS at 476-1650. Please reserve by no later than Nov. 3.



Mr. Tschung, Vilseck night watchman



Photo by Alice Adler

## Hohenfels Kontakt Club has their day in the sun

Oct. 16 – The Hohenfels Kontakt Club enjoyed a day in the sun. Meeting in the town of Raitenbuch, the Club hiked through the woods to the Kuhstallcafe. There everyone enjoyed ice cream and cake for their efforts before returning to Raitenbuch.

The Kontakt Club has many exciting events planned for this fall, including a Halloween Party Oct. 29 and a Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 19. For information on the Kontakt Club or any of its event please contact Christina Wilson at christina.n.wilson@us.army.mil



# Halloween safety tips

Keeping it safe and fun

by American Red Cross

With witches, goblins, and super-heroes descending on neighborhoods around USAG Grafenwoehr on- and off-post housing, the American Red Cross offers parents some safety tips to help prepare their children for a safe and enjoyable trick-or-treat holiday. Halloween should be filled with surprise and enjoyment, and following some common sense practices can keep events safer and more fun.

1. Walk, slither, and sneak on sidewalks, not in the street.
2. Look both ways before crossing the

street to check for cars, trucks, and low-flying brooms.

3. Cross the street only at corners.
4. Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars.
5. Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing so you are more visible. (And remember to put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards, and brooms, too!)
6. Plan your route and share it with your family. If possible, have an adult go with you.
7. Carry a flashlight to light your way.
8. Keep away from open fires and

candles. (Costumes can be extremely flammable.)

9. Visit homes that have the porch light on.
10. Accept your treats at the door and never go into a stranger's house.
11. Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover your eyes.
12. Be cautious of animals and strangers.
13. Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating. And don't eat candy if the package is already opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.

# Hohenfels clinches title Ends Ansbach winning streak

by Kathy Jordan  
Training Times

Division III- The Hohenfels Tigers defeated the Ansbach Cougars 25-24 in Hohenfels Oct. 14. The Tigers record at the end of the regular season was 5-0, giving the team the title of Division III Conference Champions. The win by the Tigers broke the Cougars long-standing 28-game winning streak.

The game was played in front of the homecoming crowd and fans will not quickly forget all the excitement that this match-up had to offer. The Tigers delivered for their fans with last minute defensive and offensive maneuvers that kept the Cougars caged.

In the first quarter, after a touchdown run by Cougars quarterback John Willis-Morris and a two-point conversion, the Cougars led 8-0. The Tigers quickly answered the Cougars with a 28-yard touchdown run by Stephen Washington, the two-point conversion attempt was unsuccessful. The Cougars led the Tigers by 8-6.

The second quarter was tilted slightly in favor of the Cougars. Cougars quarterback John Willis-Morris connected with Xavier Sheppard on a 10-yard pass taking the Cougars lead to 14-6. The Cougars followed with a pass for two more points making the score 16-6. The Tigers again answered the challenge with a 78-yard kick-off return by Washington and a two yard run into the end zone by Sung Byon, and a two-point conversion attempt failed. The score going into halftime was Cougars 18, Tigers 12.

As the third quarter began, Cougars' Willis-Morris scored on a 2-yard touchdown and with the two-point conversion, the score for the Cougars increased to 24-12.

The Tigers came out roaring in the fourth quarter, determined to challenge the Cougars on

every down. With the support of the crowd in the stands, the Tigers scored against the Cougars when Washington's 8-yard run scored a touchdown and the Tigers extra point kick by Anthony Marshall was good. The Tigers continued to pound away at the defense and offense of the Cougars. The hard work of the Tigers paid off when with less than four minutes remaining, Tigers Raymond Odum forced a fumble and B. J. Denson made the fumble recovery.

The Tigers' Washington made another touchdown late in the quarter giving the Tigers a slight edge over the Cougars and making the score 25-24 in favor of the Tigers. The Cougars had another opportunity to make something happen on the field with 2:30 seconds left in the game, but the Tigers would not be denied this victory. The Tigers clinched the game with a score of 25-24.

Hohenfels stats for offense were: Stephen Washington 13 carries for 100-yards, three touchdowns and two kick off returns for 115 yards, Brandon Merriweather eight carries for 63 yards and B. J. Denson two carries for 85 yards, quarterback Jason Parks was three for seven passing with 108-yards. Hohenfels defensive lead tacklers were: Tyler Arnett with eight tackles, Pat Smith had seven tackles and two sacks, and Sung Byon had six tackles.

Vilseck ends the football season with a game against Hanau

Division II - Vilseck Falcons lost to the Hanau Panthers on Oct. 15 by a score of 39-0. The Panthers ended the regular season with a 5-0 record. The Falcons record at the end of the season was 0-5. Lead tacklers for the Falcons were: Tre White nine tackles, Chris Jones had seven, Robert Wright had six, and Justin Ingram blocked an extra point.

# Vilseck Falcons take on Bitburg Barons

by Kathy Jordan  
Training Times

## Football

The Vilseck Falcons traveled to Bitburg October 8, to play in the Barons school's homecoming game. The Falcons lost to the Barons 47-8. The Falcons have a record of 0-4.

The Barons scored early in the first quarter and led the game 6-0. Vilseck's Falcons player Eric Ruzicka blocked the extra point. The Barons scored again with less than two minutes remaining and had a successful two-point conversion making the score 14-0 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter Bitburg scored within the first two minutes of the quarter and the extra point was again blocked by Eric Ruzicka making the score 20-0. The Barons scored again with less than three minutes left on the clock, and the score by halftime was 26-0.

In the second half, the Barons scored in the first three minutes of the quarter and the extra point was good, the Barons led the Falcons 33-0. Vilseck's Robert Wright had a fumble recovery and ran the ball back to the Barons end zone for 80 yards, but because of a penalty against the Falcons, the team only received 42 yards on the play. The Barons scored late in the third quarter and led the game 39-0.

In the fourth quarter the Barons scored within the first five minutes and made a two-point conversion; the score was now 47-0. The Falcons got on the scoreboard with less than two minutes remaining when quarterback Kollin Jordan connected with Dextra Johnson on a 32-yard pass deep in the Barons' end zone. Falcons Ricky Dunbar ran for a two point conversion and the Falcons scored 8 points. The score at the end of the game was Barons 47, Falcons 8. Stats for Vilseck were: Lead tacklers were Robert Wright with nine, Eric Ruzicka had seven, and Tre White and 'Bear' Hood had five each.

Division II- Hohenfels beat Bamberg 29-6 October 8, putting another game in the win column. The team is now 4-0. No stats were available for the game.

## Tennis

On Oct. 15, the girls defeated Bamberg 5-2 and the Vilseck boys lost to Bamberg 6-1 on Vilseck's home court.

The Vilseck girls are undefeated and have a 5-0 record. Vilseck's Jeannette Cortez defeated Bamberg's Timaree Engel 7-5, 6-0; Vilseck's Sarah Klein defeated Sophia Engel 8-6; Vilseck's Jennifer Clark defeated Ashlee Kozel 8-3; Vilseck's Katherine Schaffer defeated Britany Liptak 8-1; Vilseck's Shereka Holback defeated America Kelly 8-6.

In girls doubles play Bamberg's Engel and Engel defeated Vilseck's Cortez and Clark 6-2, 7-6 (8-6); Bamberg's Kozel and Liptak defeated Vilseck's Klein and Schaffer 9-8 (7-5).

The Vilseck boys team has a record of 2-2-1. In the boys matches Bamberg's Paul Martiz defeated Vilseck's Byron Schaffer 6-1, 6-0; Vilseck's Chad Perkins defeated Dillon Baker 8-4; Bamberg's Farih Abdul-Shakoor defeated Kris Mena 8-4; In doubles Bamberg's Baker and Martiz defeated Schaffer and Perkins 6-2, 4-6 and 6-3

## Cross Country

On Oct. 15, the Vilseck girls team finished in second place in Aviano hexagonal competition. Vilseck had two runners in the top 10: Simona Womack was seventh with a time of 22:17, teammate Shamyra Coleman took eighth with a time of 22:21. The boys team finished in fourth place overall with one runner placing in the top 10. Dennis Lyska finished in fifth place with a time of 18:11.

## Volleyball

The girls volleyball team traveled to Italy and lost to Naples and Aviano on Oct. 15. The team lost three out of five games to Naples. The scores were 17-25, 28-26, 23-25, 25-14, and 11-15. Vilseck's Alaina McKinnis served and aced 17 points on the Naples team during the competition. Vilseck's next opponent was Aviano and the Falcons lost three straight matches 25-9, 25-23 and 25-22.

# Cross-country run partners with Red Ribbon Week

by Shannon Hill  
Training Times

Turnout for the Oct. 8 third annual Grafenwoehr Cross-Country Run numbered 24 enthusiastic participants eager to take on the Schutzenheim course.

Co-sponsored by the USAG Grafenwoehr Sports Office and the Army Substance Abuse Program, in recognition of Red Ribbon Week, participants from Grafenwoehr and Vilseck communities gathered to test their mettle in 5, 10, and 15-kilometer races. In the early morning hours, runners were transported via vans supplied by Grafenwoehr's Outdoor Recreation from the Grafenwoehr Sports and Fitness Center to the course's off-post location.

Participants included a variety of people, including families with infants and small children, to couples and individuals. Many of the contestants run regularly, and a few participated to help prepare for the upcoming marathon season. Jet-

lag from a previous day's travel to Germany didn't seem to affect visiting Harold Ingram, who finished a close second in the 5-kilometer men's masters.

Bananas, coke, and water were the refreshments awaiting the athletes, and every one received a T-shirt and water bottle promoting Red Ribbon Week.



Photo by Shannon Hill

Kent Galvin crosses the finish line with "baby on board." After winning a close race in the 5K Men's Masters, Galvin retraced his steps to his family, who competed in the 5K Family Walk, and completed the course a second time.

Medals and trophies were awarded to the winners, who were as follows: Kimberly Ellis in the 5K open, Nicholas and Salar Tiberio in the 10K open, and Douglas Holt and Jessica Gardner in the 15K open. In the Master's category, Kent Galvin and Theresa Martinez won gold in the 5K, George Blackwell and Amy Parke in the 10K, and Richard Smith won in the 15K. Family participants included the Galvin and Beelmita families.

For those interested in future runs, keep checking out your local community information sources.



Photo by Dawn Elkins

# Hohenfels homecoming bonfire

The Hohenfels high school cheerleaders lead the crowd at the Homecoming weekend kickoff bonfire Oct. 6th at the festplatz on post here. During homecoming week the middle/high school had Spirit Week, which included such events as Wear Your Favorite Sports Team, Crazy Hat Day, and a Bonfire. The Hohenfels Tigers football team played the Bamberg Barons and won for the first time in three years, with a score of 29-6. On Saturday night the school hosted a Homecoming Dance. (Contributed by Meghan Greene)

# Congratulations Team USA Defeats Team Germany in G-A Match Play

by Alice Adler  
Training Times

Team USA defeated a tenacious Team Germany 19-18 points in friendly match play competition; repeating its dramatic victory from the inaugural championship of 2004. At the end of the day on Oct. 8, Team Germany led Team USA by a score of 5.5 to 4.5 points, as the Germans excelled in the Better Ball and Alternating Shot Team matches.

On the morning of Oct. 9, 20 American golfers competed against 20 German golfers in Singles Match Play (head-to-head) competition.

It was a tension-filled day characterized by exceptional golf on both sides, as the lead changed several times when individual matches were completed. In the end, Team USA prevailed and was victorious.

The day's competition was followed by a wonderful evening of fellowship over meals, drinks, speeches and gift exchanges. Spouses, spectators and children joined-in to celebrate lasting German-American friendships and the game of golf at the Jura Am Habsberg Golfplatz Clubhouse near Velberg.

The Most Valuable Golfers for Team USA were Barry Dickerson and Patrick Horstmann, who were winners in two team and one individual competition, accounting for 6 points between them.

Team USA wishes to thank fans, family, the Association of The United States Army and Edwin Watts Golf Stores for their support. POC: Keith Cromartie, Captain, "Team USA", 466-4810 or Email: kmcromartie@yahoo.com



Photo by Keith Cromartie

Earl Goins studies his putt during the Oct. 8 competition. Goins is the 2005 USAREUR Senior Division Golf Champ.