

Bavarian News

Vol 2. Nr. 10

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

May 17, 2006

3rd BCT cases colors for return to U.S.

by Spc. JOE ALGER
1st ID Public Affairs

A ceremony was held at Rose Barracks in Vilseck May 3 to honor the 1st Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team, which after 10 years of service in Germany, cased its colors for a future reactivation at Fort Knox, Ky.

"Today marks a very special day for this combat formation," said Maj. Gen. Kenneth W. Hunzeker, the 1st ID commanding general. "We gather to honor nearly a century of dedicated

service to our nation and case these brigade colors for their return to the continental United States and recognize a job well done."

Since being assigned to Viseck in March of 1996, the 3rd BCT deployed to Macedonia for Task Force Able Sentry, and twice to Kosovo, in 1999 and 2002.

In 2003 part of the Brigade was deployed to northern Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I, and in February 2004 the rest of the brigade was deployed to Baqubah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

Shortly after returning from Iraq last year, the 3rd BCT Soldiers began drawdown and preparation to receive the incoming unit, the 2nd Cavalry (Stryker) Regiment, in Vilseck.

"The enormous amount of work that this Brigade Combat Team has accomplished since last July is simply amazing," Hunzeker said. "The Duke Brigade has turned in nearly 30,000 pieces of equipment and assisted more than 2,500 Soldiers and their family members through the reassignment process. This brigade has been the vanguard for the rest of the Army in

regards to drawing down and accepting a change of mission."

During his remarks in the ceremony, Lt. Col. Michael A. Todd, the 3rd BCT commander, thanked the Soldiers for their hard work during their transition period and the German people for their partnership during the brigade's stay in Germany.

"We shared our time here with the best partners anywhere in Germany, and I would argue in the world," Todd said.

Two of the 3rd BCT units, the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment

"Ramrods" and the 201st Forward Support Battalion, will be reactivating at Fort Knox, while the 2nd Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment is casing its colors until further notice.

The 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment will eventually re-join the 1st ID at Fort Riley, Kansas, as part of the 1st Brigade Combat Team.

"This Brigade has a bright future ahead of it, and many of you will get a chance to serve with the Duke Brigade some time in the future," Hunzeker said.

EFMP policy changes affects families overseas

by Staff Sgt. KELLY BRIDGWATER
Europe Regional Medical Command

The policy that recommends family travel to overseas assignments based on health care availability in military medical treatment facilities in Europe was recently revised to include care at host nation medical facilities.

Brig. Gen. Carla Hawley-Bowland, Commander of the Europe Regional Medical Command (ERMC), said the revision of the medical policy for the Exceptional Family Member Program in Europe comes at a time when the number of military forces and supporting installations is being reduced.

"The loss of staff and medical facilities limits the number of

exceptional family members who can be treated. This policy revision expands the resources that will be available to exceptional family members," said Hawley-Bowland.

The general explained that the revision was necessary so that

recommendations for assignments based on EFMP considerations could be expanded. The change reduces lost duty time and decreases the number of inappropriate assignments because medical services are not available to exceptional family members.

An exceptional family member is a person (child or adult) with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual disability that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling. The purpose of EFMP is to identify their special

"The loss of staff and facilities limits the number ... who can be treated."

BG Carla Hawley-Bowland
Commander, ERMC

See EFMP Page 6

Don't Mess with Texas!



Staff photo by Shannon Hill

Grafenwoehr Elementary fourth grader Taylor Watson displays state pride and her knowledge of the Lone Star State during the school's State Fair May 10. Watson was one of many students who researched the geography, history, and other facts about states of their choice during the fourth annual event.

Wuerzburg Hospital converting to outpatient clinic June 30

Reduction Timeline

- June 19 - July 16** Emergency Room converts to Urgent Care Clinic.
- June 23** Hospital's Family Care Clinic, Labor and Delivery ward, will accept last mother in labor.
- July 17** Urgent Care Clinic will close. Family Practice Clinic will operate extended hours beginning July 18.
- June 30** Operation Room, Medical Surgical Inpatient ward will close. Orthopedics, Podiatry, General Surgery, OBGYN and Ear, Nose, and Throat clinics will close. DFAC will close. Kitzingen and Giebelstadt Health Clinic will close.
Tours to three local facilities are being conducted every Thursday at 2 p.m. Call 0931-804-3666 to register.

U.S. Army Medical Department Activity-Wuerzburg

Wuerzburg Commander Col. Dallas Homas announced May 3 that Wuerzburg Hospital will convert to an Outpatient Health Clinic and no longer offer inpatient services to U.S. military health care beneficiaries effective June 30.

The Health and Dental clinics at Kitzingen and Giebelstadt will also close effective June 30. The hospital will begin reducing services June 19 (see sidebar reduction timeline).

The impact of the conversion and closure on U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr personnel and family members, however, will be minimal.

"By virtue of the distance from Wuerzburg, only a very small percentage of our population will be affected," said Maj. Timothy Caffrey, the Grafenwoehr Health Clinic commander.

"We've developed very close ties with the local German healthcare system, and the bulk of

our referrals go there," he said.

Garrison Grafenwoehr has a well-established preferred provider network of off-post hospitals and clinics, Tricare representatives who schedule visits, and local national liaisons to assist patients at the facilities, explained Caffrey.

While little will change for USAG Grafenwoehr personnel, a total of 63 U.S. civilian and 33 local national civilian positions in the Wuerzburg area are affected by this action.

"It is in our best interest to retain those loyal and capable employees and every effort will be made to place U.S. and local national employees into continuing positions," said Homas.

The planned transition is part of right sizing medical and dental support to match the community. The necessary decision is based on the departure of the 1st Infantry Division, as well as several other units from the Wuerzburg Hospital's health care management area.

Inpatient services includes any medical problem that requires admission to a hospital, major or minor surgical procedures, delivery services and obstetrical care for mothers, and pediatric care for newborns, and any procedure that requires anesthesia.

Homas said the hospital will continue to provide primary care services such as a Family Practice Clinic, optometry, pediatrics, internal medicine, outpatient appointments for health promotion, disease prevention, health maintenance, patient education, and diagnosis of acute and chronic illnesses.

Lt. Col. Robert Goodman, the hospital chief of staff and deputy commander for administration, said beneficiaries remaining in the Wuerzburg area will be referred to local German health care providers and continue to receive the same excellent health care that was provided in the past.

7th JMTC welcomes CSM Gioia

7th U.S. Army JMTC Public Affairs

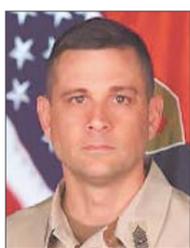
Soldiers, civilians and families of the 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command will come together Tuesday at 2 p.m. to honor the outgoing 7th U.S. Army JMTC Command Sergeant Major and welcome his replacement.

Command Sgt. Maj. John S. Gioia will take the reins of the Army's premiere training command from Command Sgt. Maj. William L. Ellenburg under the watchful eyes of the assembled command and 7th U.S.

Army JMTC commander Brig. Gen. David G. Perkins.

The change of responsibility ceremony will take place at the 7th U.S. Army JMTC Parade Field, located at 621 Gettysburg Avenue, Grafenwoehr, Germany.

For more information, contact the 7th U.S. Army JMTC Public Affairs Office at 475-7776.



Gioia

Savusa sworn in as USAREUR CSM

Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army

The new U.S. Army, Europe and Seventh Army command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Tului Savusa, officially assumed his duties during a ceremony at Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg, May 5.

Savusa's new position was last held by Command Sgt. Maj. Michael L. Gravens, whose Army career concluded with a farewell ceremony at Campbell Barracks in March.

A native of American Samoa, Savusa entered the Army in 1975. He has served on tours around the world from the demilitarized zone in Korea to the Sinai desert in Egypt, forts Bliss, Campbell, and Polk in the United

States, and his previous assignment as command sergeant major of the Southern European Task Force (Airborne), Vicenza, Italy. He has deployed to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan.

USAREUR commanding general, Gen. David D. McKiernan, welcomed Savusa and his family in a speech during the ceremony.

"Today is a very important day for the United States Army, Europe and Seventh Army. We welcome a truly great trooper,



Savusa

See MCKIERNAN Page 3

Q&A

How do you plan to enjoy the warm weather?



Mary Fobell
"I like to bicycle, walk the dog, and go hiking in the woods with my husband."



Sgt. 1st Class Gary Elias
"...sit back and relax and enjoy the short summer."



Sarah Bailey
"I like to take my kids to the park. We enjoy the outside, and we like to go rollerblading and riding our scooters."



Sgt. Jovar Adams
"What I like to do is go fishing, biking, and go to the pools around here."



Sonia Alvea
"... invite friends over and hang out on the week-ends, or sometimes we go shopping."



Spc. Heide Jungers
"I like to water ski, which I've done for about two years. I usually do it with my family."



Charity Holland
"I like to go outside to the park, and I like going over to people's houses. I like the swimming pool we have outside in our yard."



Nick Theis
"I love to go fishing in Germany."

COMMAND MESSAGE

Lean 6 Sigma feedback sought, youth football being considered

Thanks to all who supported the recent visit of all the garrison commanders and Installation Management Agency Europe staff to Grafenwoehr.

I think they now understand why we like it here and appreciate what it means to double, then triple, in size.

As promised in the last edition, I will address some of the issues raised in the recent town hall meeting.

Youth Football. As I said in the town hall meeting, we have in the past and are continuing to review the entire youth sports program.

One program that frankly has taken on a life of its own is the youth football program. Having grown up playing the game, I understand why there are so many people in favor of it.

At the same time, statistics show it is dangerous and expensive, and the number of personnel who participate in it may not justify the cost of hosting the sport.

This is the first notice that we will have another town meeting soon concerning football. This meeting will be similar to the one we hosted regarding the new middle school. The "where and when" are still to be sorted out, but the community will be informed well in advance so that anyone who is interested can attend.

During the meeting, I will describe the evolution of the sport in our communities, the

cost issues, and the requirements that I will place on our volunteer coaches in order to run the program.

All adults interested in the program need to attend. I will work with Jim Matheson to set up meetings in Hohenfels to discuss this same issue.

Lean 6 Sigma. Also discussed in the recent town hall meeting was the Army's new Lean 6 Sigma program.

Let us be frank: I cannot see a time in the future when we will be fully resourced to run this organization.

I suspect the same challenges are being felt across the Army, and this program is designed to find and eliminate inefficiencies and save resources.

Rather than get into a full discussion about Lean 6 Sigma, this is the first notice in which I am actively seeking customer feedback.

Specifically, I am looking to the community to describe to me what they really want from the organizations that I control.

While I have a host of customers, to include my workforce, the taxpayer who provides me resources, and my higher headquarters, arguably the most important customer is the community who 'grades me daily' on how well we perform.

In any event, we will start a campaign soon to gather your feedback. I expect this will be a relatively long-term program as I want to ensure that I capture the desires of the large incoming population.

More will follow on how we will do this, but please start to think of how you as a customer can be satisfied. This is the first step in determining how we can improve services.

AER. In 2005, this community obtained approximately \$40,000 from the Army Emergency Relief program.

We also granted \$240,000 in loans and grants. I know most of you have seen the signs all over post. I'd ask each of you to consider giving to this worthy cause.

It is one way we - the community - can give back to our own who are in need.

The 2nd Cavalry Regiment torch party has arrived, and we are hip deep in the arrival of the advance party.

Most of you have probably noticed the personnel increase at our camps. If you see someone who looks confused, reach out and help them, or better yet, volunteer to help with greeting or taking them and their children to get registered in school or for any of the various activities they will need to complete.

Help me continue to work to make this area the best place to live and work in Germany.

“ I am looking to the community to describe to me what they want... ”

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

PCS Tips

Proper arrangements ease pet moves

Headquarters, IMA-Europe

The Installation Management Agency - Europe is gearing up for the high volume of Soldiers and families leaving Europe this summer.

In addition to your family members and household goods, making the proper arrangements for your pets is key to a successful move.

Following these tips will assure an easier move for your pets:

Plan Ahead.

Ensure your pet's vaccinations and health records are up to date. All pets require a health certificate that is less than 10-days old at the time of flight as well as a current rabies vaccination that is at least 30-days old, but not older than one year.

For animals not old enough to be immunized for rabies prior to travel, you should obtain a memorandum from the veterinarian waiving this requirement.

It is very important to have at least two copies of your orders - it will help speed your pet through customs - as well as a complete contact address and phone number in the U.S.

It is also important to ask your sponsor or point of contact at your next duty station if any additional local or national pet restrictions apply.

Make Reservations.

Contact your local commercial travel office (SatoTravel) to make travel reservations for your pet and all members of your household after you receive Permanent Change Station orders and have a confirmed household goods

pick-up date. U.S. air carrier Web sites provide information on rules, policies and procedures for pet travel on the aircraft. The information is general and subject to changes.

Be prepared.

Shipping a pet can be expensive. All costs associated with shipping pets are the responsibility of the pet owner. Ensure shipping kennels or cages meet standards for size, ventilation, strength and design.

Animals must have enough room to stand up and turn around and each species must have its own kennel with the exception of compatible cats and dogs of similar size.

When in doubt, use a larger kennel. Dogs and cats must be at least eight weeks old and must be weaned before traveling by air.

See PET Page 16

(Dog) Gone... But Not Forgotten!

by McKinsey

In 1789, residents of Bourbon County, Virginia began making whiskey aged in charred oak barrels. This new liquor, logically marketed under the name bourbon, was a big hit. Ironically, it's no longer made in Bourbon County.

In 1915, the clinical observations of physician R. Abbe, which linked the use of tobacco to cancer of the oral cavity, served as a major stimulus for experiments with different tobacco products on animals.

In 1927, Boots Randolph, the man known as Mr. Saxophone, was born in Paducah, Kentucky.

Oh yeses. We appreciate the support your Highness has given us. Yes we do. Honest (Guil) Yeses...



In 1558, Queen Mary, daughter of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon died. She was most notable for restoring Catholicism as the official state religion in England - and for the gruesome executions of those who opposed it. That's what earned her the nickname "Bloody Mary."

Shipping a second vehicle?

Plan ahead for PCS back to States

Headquarters, IMA-Europe

Like their stateside counterparts, many Americans living in Germany are two-car families.

Those planning to ship both vehicles during the summer permanent change of station (PCS) season should begin planning now to ensure smooth transport of their cars and motorcycles.

While most Soldiers or DOD civilians with PCS orders can ship one vehicle at government expense from their overseas duty location, shipping a second vehicle is an out of pocket expense. So, the first step is

determining shipment cost and whether that expense fits the family budget.

Due to the high volume of summer moves, you should begin researching vehicle shipment costs and options as soon as you receive your PCS orders.

Like buying a car, your first step is finding the best price. That part's free.

There are several commercial shipping companies to choose from. Get a free rate quotation from more than one company. The quoted price normally covers inland transport to the port,

See POV Page 16

Bavarian News

Grafenwoehr • Hohenfels • Vilseck

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Bavarian News Health Corner

IMMUNIZATION: KEY TO PREVENTION

A dollar spent is worth \$27 earned



Disease prevention is the key to protecting public health.

It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat it.

Vaccines prevent disease in the people who receive them and protect those who come into contact with unvaccinated individuals.

They also help prevent infectious diseases and save lives. Vaccines are responsible for the control of many infectious diseases that were once common in this country, including polio, measles, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), rubella (German measles), mumps, tetanus, and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib). Infection with a vaccine preventable disease results in work-loss, death, and disability.

For example, for every dollar invested in the Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP) vaccine, the United States saves \$27 in costs such as work-loss, death, and disability.

Parents are constantly concerned about the health and safety of their children and take many steps to protect them.

These steps range from child-proof door latches to child safety seats.

In the same way, vaccines work to protect infants, children, and adults from illnesses and death caused by infectious diseases.

While the United States currently has near record low cases of vaccine-preventable diseases, the viruses and bacteria that cause them still exist.

Even diseases that have been eliminated in the U.S., such as polio, are only a plane ride away. Polio, and other infectious diseases, can be passed on to people who are not protected by vaccines.

Vaccine-preventable diseases have a costly impact, resulting in doctor's visits, hospitalizations, and premature deaths. Sick children can also cause parents to lose time from work.

Childhood Vaccinations?

■ It's true that newborn babies are immune to many diseases because they have antibodies they receive from their mothers. However, the duration of this immunity may last only a month to about a year. Further,

young children do not have maternal immunity against some vaccine-preventable diseases, such as whooping cough.

■ If a child is not vaccinated and is exposed to a disease germ, the child's body may not be strong enough to fight the disease. Before vaccines, many children died from diseases that vaccines now prevent, such as whooping cough, measles, and polio. Those same germs exist today, but babies are now protected by vaccines so we do not see these diseases as often.

■ Immunizing children also helps to protect the health of our community, especially those people who are not immunized. People who are not immunized include those who are too young to be vaccinated (e.g., children less than a year old cannot receive the measles vaccine but can be infected by the measles virus), those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons (e.g., children with leukemia), and those who cannot make an adequate response to vaccination. Also protected, therefore, are people who received a vaccine, but who have not developed immunity. In addition, people who are sick will be less likely to be exposed to disease germs that can be passed around by unvaccinated children. Immunization also slows down or stops disease outbreaks.

Vaccines Work!

Let's take a quick look at how the use of vaccines cut down on the disability and death associated with vaccine preventable disease.

Measles

■ 1958-1962: Over a half a million cases of measles are reported each year. 432 measles-related deaths occur on average each year.

■ Measles vaccine is licensed.

■ By 2000, only 81 cases are reported in all of the U.S.!

Polio

■ Polio, caused by a virus, was once America's most feared disease, causing death or paralysis. Its most famous victim was President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

■ 1951-1954: Paralytic polio strikes nearly 20,000 Americans every year, killing nearly 1,900.

■ 1955: First polio vaccine is licensed.

■ Today there are no reports of polio in the United States, but the disease still exists in some parts of the world.

Why Continue?

Whooping cough, chickenpox, and other diseases still exist in the United States, causing serious illness and even death. When children aren't immunized, diseases can return.

In Great Britain, people stopped immunizing for pertussis (whooping cough) in the early 70s. Within just a

few years, a pertussis epidemic occurred - 100,000 cases with 36 deaths. In Japan similar events occurred: a decline in childhood pertussis vaccinations during the 70s, was followed by a pertussis epidemic - 13,000 cases, 41 deaths in 1979.

More Than An Illness

Sick children are kept out of school.

A child with chickenpox, for example, can miss one or more weeks of school. A child with a vaccine-preventable disease can experience physical pain, discomfort, trauma, long-term disabilities, or even death from an illness that could have been prevented with a vaccine. A sick child can also infect parents, sisters, brothers, other family members, friends, and classmates too!

A sick child with a prolonged illness can impact a family's financial resources. Parents must be there to care for a child, meaning loss of pay or use of vacation time. Sickness drains other financial resources. For example, for every dollar invested in the DTaP vaccine, the United States saves \$27 in costs such as work-loss, death, and disability.

Key Facts

• Measles, Hib and polio are diseases that used to kill or handicap many young children. All have been controlled with vaccination. • But when vaccination rates fall, epidemics can occur, because disease-causing viruses and bacteria still exist in nature.

• Immunizing protects the health of children and the emotional and financial well-being of their families and communities.

• Immunizing also protects the health of children who cannot be vaccinated, such as children with immune deficiencies or weakened immune systems due to medical treatments like chemotherapy.

If you are unsure of your child's immunization status or missed a well child visit, call your local health clinic to schedule an appointment or speak with a health care provider.

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov>

ERMC UNIFIED PEDIATRIC IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE	
January 2006	
AGE	IMMUNIZATIONS
Birth	Hep B for all high risk infants ^a
2 months	Pediarix ^b #1, Hib #1, PCV #1
4 months	Pediarix #2, Hib #2, PCV #2
6 months	Pediarix #3, PCV #3
12 months	MMR #1, Hib #3, PCV #4 TB & Lead questionnaires ^g
18 months	VZV ^c , DTaP #4
2 years	Hep A ^f (optional)
4-6 years	DTaP #5, IPV #4, MMR #2 TB questionnaire ^g
11-12 years	Hep B series ^d , VZV ^c MCV4 ^h TB questionnaire ^g , Tdap ^e

McKiernan: Savusa's career reflects unsurpassed leadership

Continued From Page 1
his lady, and fine Army family," he said.

McKiernan said Savusa's career, including deployments to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan, "reflects unsurpassed leadership in combat and peacetime."

During Savusa's most recent assignment as SETAF's command sergeant major, McKiernan said, "he created an atmosphere that valued drive, teamwork and balance. He brought out the best in leaders and Soldiers, living by his personal motto of 'pride and professionalism.' His inspirational and enthusiastic leadership were crucial in the planning and training effort prior to the deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom. And his inspirational leadership in combat was simply invaluable to the command throughout the deployment."

McKiernan also praised Savusa's wife, Mareta, whom he called a 'first round draft pick' for her work at SETAF in Army Family Team Building, the Family Readiness Group, church

and youth activities and in coaching the high school volleyball team.

"We've eagerly anticipated your arrival, Mareta," he said.

The commanding general concluded, "Command Sergeant Major Savusa, my new battle buddy, welcome to you and your family.

It is my honor to be at your side."

After the general's remarks, Savusa took the microphone. He spoke briefly in the Samoan language, delivering what he described as thanks to his elders, a Samoan tradition for important occasions.

Savusa then switched to English, and said, "I will start by thanking my wife Mareta, and our four wonderful children ... I wouldn't be here today without you."

He also thanked his parents, who were unable to attend the ceremony.

"Long before I signed the dotted line, they instilled in me ... values like courage, integrity, service before self," he said. "They are proud Samoans, and I hope they are proud of my career

in the Army and that I honor them with that. Because wherever you are from, honoring your family is job one."

Savusa continued, "General McKiernan, I express my sincere appreciation for the confidence you have in me. As your senior enlisted leader and advisor, I consider this job one of the most important jobs in the Army, and it is an honor for me to assume it. I am eager to take the challenge."

Savusa then discussed the Soldiers of U.S. Army, Europe.

"They are here because of the promise America made to Europe, to uphold freedom, democracy and the rule of law ... because of the sacrifice of ordinary Soldiers, America has kept its commitment. Today, Soldiers in Europe ... are also committed in other areas of the world, fighting the war on terror," he said.

"I have had the privilege and honor to serve side-by-side with these Soldiers ... in both Afghanistan and Iraq," Savusa said.

"But while our commitment has not wavered here in Europe, we certainly recognize that the nature of our mission has changed. We are part of the greatest force transformation in the history of our service," he said. "We are transforming an army. This transformation requires rebasing, repositioning, reassignment.

But this also requires great leadership on the part of every leader at every level. And during my tenure here in Europe, noncommissioned officers are going to hear a lot about this.

"I will remind noncommissioned officers that they are leading volunteers, and our Soldiers are all Soldiers of democracy, who joined of their own free will. Who stay by their own choice. That is a special kind of Soldier, and it takes a special kind of noncommissioned officer to lead them and inspire them."

He concluded, "Now, it is time to go back to work. God bless America, God bless our Army that serves her, God bless our Soldiers in harm's way, God bless each and every one of you. Any mission, anywhere."

Guests must register to drive vehicle

USAREUR News Release

One big plus of being in Germany is that friends and relatives can visit and get that real European travel experience.

But, if you want to let your visitors drive your USAREUR-registered vehicle in Germany, you must get approval from customs first if your guests want to operate your car on their own.

"Just go to your local military customs office and fill out an application form," said Bill Johnson, chief of customs services at the USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal. "You will need your visitors' passport numbers, so get them early."

Also, if your relatives or friends are not present to fill out the forms with you, you must have clear fax copies of the passport and a stateside or international driver's license valid for Germany.

Another provision for applying is that your guests cannot be ordinarily resident in Germany. Visit www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/custom3.htm for the full procedures and addresses of Army and Air Force customs office locations in Germany.

Once approved, your guests can use this exception to policy to drive a USAREUR-registered POV in Germany for up to 90 days after arrival in Europe.

The authority document must be in the car when your guests use your vehicle independently, along with their passports, the vehicle registration, proof of insurance and their international driver's license or an official translation of their stateside license.

The authorization is only valid inside Germany, so if they intend to drive elsewhere, they should additionally have written permission from you authorizing the use of your vehicle; this permission should be made out in the languages of the countries visited.

"Driving in Germany is tax and duty-free for U.S. Forces personnel and their dependents," Johnson explained. Your guests are not normally allowed this exemption, which is why the customs authorization is necessary.

However, he advised that it does not allow them to use your gas coupons or buy tax-free gasoline at AAFES or commercial gas stations with your fuel coupons.

Call any military customs office or the Customs Hot Line (DSN 381-7610/CIV 0621-7307610) to find out more.

“ ... because of the sacrifice of ordinary Soldiers, America has kept its commitment.”

“ I will remind non-commissioned officers that they are leading volunteers ... ”

Hohenfels Club Beyond serving abroad

Special to the Bavarian News

While most high school students stationed with their parents in Europe spent their Spring Break vacationing, traveling, or simply hanging around the house, approximately 500 students 19 installations, spent the week serving the people of Slovakia during the Club Beyond Service Project 2006.

Seven teens and four volunteer leaders from Hohenfels boarded a bus headed for the mountain region of Slovakia April 7. They were joined by 11 teens and five volunteer leaders from Grafenwoehr and Vilseck and 20 other teens and leaders from Bamberg.

After making the 14-hour trip, the students were divided into 12 teams, each heading to a different site. The group from Hohenfels combined with the group from Ansbach to serve the small community of Vazec.

The youth spent six days building a playground for the local elementary school, conducting a Vacation Bible School program, assisting with English as a Second Language and DSL programs at the school, and running "Club" for the middle and high school students in the community. "Club" combines games, music, skits, and a time of sharing about Jesus to help build relationships and bridge the communication barrier.

Each site had a medical volunteer, a team of interpreters, a construction coordinator, and a VBS coordinator to assist the youth in their



Club Beyond Member Tristan Artman paints the swing set of a newly built playground for the children of Vasec, Slovakia.

*Photo by
Chris Howard*

service. The Vazec team ate lunch prepared by the local Slovaks on site.

By the end of the week, the team had built a see-saw, balance beam, step climb, and gazebo, while refurbishing and repainting the swing set, and the jungle gym set.

Over 60 Slovakian elementary students participated each day in the VBS program and over 40 Slovakian teens participated in "Club" each day.

The evenings were spent at the local civic

center where the youth were led in music each night by Justin McRoberts and listened to a seminar series by Byron Russell. Afterwards, the teens ended the evening in their cabins with small group sessions geared to allow the youth to reflect upon the day and the talk they had just heard and process through exactly what they were feeling and learning.

Chris Howard, the Club Beyond Community Director, stated that he hopes to have over 20 teens next year.

"I am so excited about being here in the

Hohenfels community," said Howard, who arrived the first week in February. "My family and I have felt so welcomed and embraced. We look forward to serving the youth here for years to come."

"While the program is still in its early stages here on post, I am very excited about where we are heading," he said. "We have a lot of great programs that are about to begin and I hope the entire community will be supportive of these events."

The 2006 Service Project team from Hohenfels consisted of Kirsten Arnold, Tristan Artman, Christopher Fisher, Meghan Greene, Lane Headrick, Chris Howard, Corsaire Lacy, Alex Mateo, Emily Mittag, Michael Mittag, and Hannah Porter.

Upcoming Events and Programs:

Italy Beach Break, June 16-23, HS Camp Darby, Italy

Italy Beach Break, June 23-30, MS Camp Darby, Italy

European Catholic Youth Conference, Aug. 25-27, Cologne, Germany

Middle School Service Project, Sept. 1-4, Poland

H2O, beginning in fall semester, Thursday nights, 5:30 p.m. FLAYC

The Mug Coffeehouse, (same), Wednesday nights 5 p.m. FLAYC

DoD announces adjustment to Iraq deployment

DoD News Release

The Department of Defense announced today that the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, based in Schweinfurt, Germany, will not begin its deployment to Iraq in early May as scheduled.

Additional information about this unit, to include its revised deployment date in the rotation plan, will be announced as decisions are made.

The adjustment to the unit's deployment was made as commanders assess the security situation on the ground in Iraq. Decisions about troop levels are conditions-based. In consultation with the Iraqi Government, commanders continue to assess the situation to ensure sufficient force levels to best support the Iraqi government.

This decision affects approximately 3,500 U.S. active duty soldiers and their families, but in the near-term will not affect the current number of U.S. troops in Iraq, which is numbering approximately 133,000.

The Coalition remains committed to assisting the Iraqi people while their democratically elected leaders establish a national government and create conditions for greater security. Iraqi Security Forces continue to develop capability and assume responsibility for security in Iraq. To date, there are more than 254,000 trained and equipped Iraqi Security Forces.

Foreign Language Pay increases effective June 1

DoD News Release

The Department of Defense announced today an increase in Foreign Language Proficiency Pay for military personnel who qualify effective June 1.

The Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization Act authorizes the Secretary of Defense to increase FLPP pay from a maximum of \$300 per month to a maximum of \$1,000 per month for qualified active duty members and offer a \$6,000 per year bonus for qualified Guard and reserve members.

Enhancing the department's FLPP program is a critical facet of the overall Defense Language Transformation initiative. The purpose of the program is to:

Encourage people with a language capability to self-identify in order to employ the language skills existing in the force.

Encourage more people to study a language. The Defense Language Program must stimulate the acquisition of language skills and be able to maintain language skills of strategic importance to the department.

Encourage people to increase their language proficiency to create a cadre of language professionals operating at an advanced level of proficiency.

Increase the capability in languages of strategic need to the department.



Russell B. Hall, Regional Director, IMA-E, presents the Lodging of the Year Award to Tower Inn Manager Andrea Mueller and housekeeping team during the Garrison Commanders Conference Europe at Grafenwoehr April 28.

Photo by Nick D'Amario

AFN Bavaria, 1st ID Soldier win TJ awards

DoD News Release

The Department of Defense has announced the 2005 winners of the Thomas Jefferson Awards for journalism excellence.

The Thomas Jefferson awards program is an annual competition for military and civilian print and broadcast journalists working in DoD.

This year's winners include seven from the European theater, representing U.S. Army, Europe; Installation Management Agency-Europe; and American Forces Network Europe headquarters and affiliates.

In the print competition, IMA-EURO's U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart claimed first prize for tabloid-format newspaper for The Citizen.

In broadcast media, Spc. Jesse Granger of 1st Infantry Division public affairs received first-place honors in the television news report category for "Urban Combat Training."

AFN Europe's Michelle Michaels earned two top prizes, one for her radio news report "Tsunami Relief" and another in the radio newscast category for the "Morning Newswatch."

AFN Bavaria also received two awards: command information garnered television spot production honors for "Taxes on the Brain," and the news department topped the local television newscast category with "The Bavarian Report."

Finally, AFN Kaiserslautern earned first place in the television newsbreak category for KMC Update, Kaiserslautern Military Community News.

For more information, see the Defense Information School Web site at www.dinfos.osd.mil

Hohenfels FBLA conference all about 'Leader Ship'

Special to the Bavarian News

"All Aboard the Leader Ship" was this year's FBLA Spring Leadership Conference theme in Garmisch, Germany.

Five members of Future Business Leaders of America, Mrs. DeLaughter, and almost 300 other FBLA members advisors, represented Hohenfels Middle/High School.

Awards went to:

Victoria Nelson, 1st Place Middle School Business Math; Natalie McKiernan, 1st Place

Middle School Spelling and 2nd Place in Middle School Business English;

Rebecca Matheson, 2nd Place in Middle School Office Decision Making and 3rd Place in Middle School English; and

Jessica Feltz, 3rd Place in Middle School Office Decision Making.

Arielle Holguin, accepted the 3rd Place Poster Contest on behalf of the Hohenfels Middle/High School Chapter.

Co-historian Rebecca Matheson represented the president, Christopher Tsesmelis, who was unable to attend the conference, and gave the president's report.

The students competed in different skills; attended workshops and meetings; and met fellow business students from throughout DoDDS Europe.

Participants came from the Azores, Bahrain, Italy, Spain, Belgium, England, and Germany.

1st Infantry Division honors 19 Big Red One retirees May 5

by Spc. JOE ALGER

1st ID Public Affairs

A ceremony was held May 5 at Victory Park on Leighton Barracks to honor 19 Big Red One Soldiers who are retiring from active Army service.

The retirees were:

SSG Daniel Welcing
SSG Daniel Roehl
SSG Darryl Robinson
SFC Michael Tussey
SFC Harry Trudrung
SFC Craig Shields

SFC Frank McKoy
SFC William McGrew
SFC Stacey Kittell
SFC Jose Cuyar
SFC Daniel Canepa
SFC Emilio Andujar
MSG Michael Walton

MSG Monty Peaytt
MSG Gregory M. Gaines
MSG Charles Franklin
MSG George Bassham
SGM Todd Vandertie
CW3 Shirlene Bee

a day in the *Life*

of a combat medic ... on and off the battlefield

Story and photo by SHANNON HILL
Staff writer

There's an old joke in the Army describing the three people you least want to make angry: cooks, finance personnel, and medics.

The Army medic, also known by its military occupation specialty name — 91 Whiskey health care specialist, has always played a critical role on and off the battlefield.

Despite the intense training and the stress of knowing that your patient's life depends on your quick competent decisions, it is a favored occupation for many Soldiers.

"The Army's 91 Whiskey program is an excellent medical training program," said Spc. Stephen Nieto, a combat medic with Vilseck's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion 63rd Armor. "It covers such a wide variety of situations and skills."

Nieto began his three-year military career with initial entry training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician Basic. The EMTB is a required national qualification regulated by the National Registry.

The medics take special care when preparing for combat.

They must remain alert at all times, ready at a moment's notice to address emergencies that can range from allergic reactions and dehydration to

gunshot and improvised explosive devices wounds.

Army medics place a high priority on being prepared for any circumstance. They carry approximately 50-pound aid bags with sorted medical necessities into combat.

"It contains everything I might need," explained Nieto. "I carry all my drugs, all my IV fluids, and all my airway treatment and blood loss control equipment."

The medics are trained and prepared to handle situations involving the injury of individual Soldiers or a mass casualty situation.

The first step is to determine the priority of harmed individuals. "Life, limb, or eyesight is the process," said Nieto. The patients are then categorized according to their need for medical treatment. One category is called "expecting," in which the likelihood that a Soldier will die is high.

"It's a tough call trying to categorize who gets what first," said Nieto.

Medical priority is not always what it seems. Nieto explained that under the Geneva Convention, if a U.S. Army medic finds himself in a combat situation and his battle buddy and an insurgent were both injured, "you are legally and morally bound to help the insurgent if he's still alive. And if his injury is more treatable than your buddy's, the Geneva Convention Laws state that he's priority."



Spc. Stephen Nieto, a combat medic with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn. 63rd Armor, displays life-saving techniques that can be used on or off the battlefield.

Part of Nieto's peacetime mission is to train other Soldiers in his unit to become combat life savers. "That way, they have a basic knowledge and in the event that a medic can't make it or isn't on site, they can stabilize a patient until a medic does arrive," Nieto said.

"Basically," said Nieto, "my responsibility in a garrison/field environment is to maintain the medical readiness of everybody."

While working at the garrison, Nieto and his unit's physician assistant operate sick call daily and process

Soldiers who are on pre-deployment or post-deployment status.

"We do everything from blood draws for people who are getting physicals to assessing different injuries, like knee and back problems, to giving vaccinations," said Nieto.

Nieto is confident that despite the "job being high risk, we try to take preventative measures."

"But things are still going to happen, and when they do," he said, "I'm confident that I've received the proper training to take care of it."

EFMP expands to host nation facilities

Continued From Page 1

medical and educational needs and determine the availability of services when military and civilian DoD employees are considering future assignments.

"EFMP assists in the assignment coordination process," said Becky Tucker, ERMCEMFP coordinator, "to ensure that service members and DoD civilians are assigned to locations where the necessary medical services are available and that sponsors are aware of the availability of these services at their future assignment location."

Tucker said that EFMP is a mandatory enrollment/screening program that works with military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, housing, community support, and personnel services to families with special needs.

"Before the EFMP policy change, assignment recommendations of medical care for EFMP family members was based on care provided by the military treatment facility," said Tucker.

"This new policy incorporates host-nation hospitals and providers within the TRICARE network and increases the availability of an overseas assignment for personnel with exceptional family members."

The majority of assignment recommendations made to personnel agencies are to locations where family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, physical therapy, adult psychiatry, or child psychiatry are available, based on the needs of the family member.

"When a sponsor with exceptional family members receives an overseas assignment they will have to carefully weigh their options," said Tucker. "We want families to continue to seek overseas assignments but also want them to make informed decisions about assignment options based on the information provided through their personnel offices."

"The impact of the policy revision is that service members and their families have a wider range of overseas duty location options because of a broader range of medical treatment sources," said Tucker. Families already enrolled in EFMP will not see changes to their care.

However, the policy change does not mean that everyone enrolled in EFMP is eligible for an overseas tour. "Not all families will be allowed to accompany their sponsor on an overseas tour," said Tucker. "Each case is still reviewed on an individual basis. Sponsors who have exceptional family members must complete all the required forms before an overseas assignment."

"If a service member's EFMP case is not approved for an overseas tour there are still options," said Tucker. "Soldiers may request a deletion of orders, a deferment of orders, or they may accept an 'all others' tour, meaning the service member completes an overseas tour without family members."

The details

The policy change does not mean that everyone enrolled in EFMP is eligible for an overseas tour.

Soldiers may request a deletion of orders, a deferment of orders, or they may accept an "all others" tour.

GES students learn life lessons during EW06

by SUSANNE BARTSCH
Contributing writer

Johnny Appleseed, storks, and a large variety of bees were some of the stars of the U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr Earth Week events.

For Grafenwoehr Elementary first graders, it began with the story of Johnny Appleseed and a visit to the fruit orchard next to the post library.

There, Caecilia Meier from the Garrison Environmental Office, explained the lifecycle of an apple tree to the students and introduced them to some of the tree's natural friends like lady bugs and earwigs.

Afterwards the kids stuffed flowerpots with straw and hay to make earwig homes, which were hung in the nearby apple and pear trees.

Later in the week, 50 second graders from GES learned about storks during a visit to the (Max) Hammer Farm in Etzenricht.

Meier, along with the Environmental Office's Elisabeth Prem and Max Hammer answered the children's questions about the unique birds.

A baby stork that hatched the day before the children's visit prompted many questions. The students learned that it takes about six weeks for a young bird to learn how to fly; that

are about one meter tall when fully grown; and their wingspan can be as long as two meters.

The kids also showed interest in the stork's family life. They learned that storks like to come back to the same nest every year but may have to fight off other storks for the best location.

They also learned that storks are attracted to fire. Over the years, the long-legged birds have learned that where there is fire, there is usually food.

Bees took center stage when 18 sixth graders and teachers from GES visited the Nine Lagoons-area, where they learned firsthand that all bees do not live in beehives.

Among the 500 species of bees in Germany, there is a variety of bees and wasps that prefer living alone and build their homes in old tree trunks and holes. The students constructed nesting places for the fuzzy insects out of lime, reed, and tree trunks in a wooden structure that DPW workers built and placed near the lagoons.

The event was prepared by Albert Amberger from the Environmental Office, who also took the kids on a trip to the banks of a local creek where they learned about the natural habits of various plants and animals.

"Our goal is to show kids that environmental protection is fun and not just some serious business for adults," said Meier. "We hope that



Grafenwoehr Elementary first graders stuff flower pots with straw and hay to create earwig homes during garrison Earth Day activities.

Courtesy photo

what we teach them will make a positive impression on them and will have an effect on their future behavior."

Earth Day is celebrated every year on April 22 to raise worldwide awareness of the need to protect our environment. Earth Day was born in 1970 by students in the United States and is observed in more than 150 countries.

Each year the Garrison Grafenwoehr

Environmental and Public Works offices together with Elfriede Kean from the Grafenwoehr Elementary School coordinate a week full of events for children and adults.

The events are intended to familiarize participants with the local flora and fauna and show them how to help preserve the environment through methods such as recycling.

Don't forget to tell them that you read it in the Bavarian News!

What's Happening

Garrison Community

USAG Graf spouses invited to welcome reception

The spouses of the 7th U.S. Army JMTIC and the Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, and Vilseck communities request the pleasure of your company at a welcome reception in honor of Mrs. John Gioia, wife of the incoming JMTIC command sergeant major, Sunday, June 4, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Tower View Restaurant in Grafenwoehr.

The event is informal and costs \$14 in advance, checks payable to Sandy Frey.

RSVP with donation by Monday to sandy.frey@us.army.mil, 09641-931675, CMR 415 Box 3087 APO AE 09114.

Summer afghan sale

Afghans with representation of Grafenwoehr, Vilseck, and Hohenfels landmarks can be purchased at your local Red Cross Office through May 31.

Cost: 1 to 3 afghans, \$40; 3 or more afghans, \$35.

Size - 4' x 6' in burgundy, navy blue, or hunter green.

Single Soldiers' Retreat To Garmish this weekend

The Grafenwoehr Chaplain Family Life Center will sponsor a retreat **May 19-21** for all single soldiers in Hohenfels, Graf, and Vilseck.

We will have fun and interactive sessions on "How To Not Marry A Jerk or Jerkette" based on the P.I.C.K. a Partner materials (Premarital Interpersonal Choices & Knowledge).

The retreat offers plenty of free time. Retreat includes two nights stay, breakfast and suppers (and possibly bus transportation).

Clear attendance with your command, invite your friends, and call the Grafenwoehr Family Life Center today at 476-3276 to sign up. Slots are limited.

Grafenwoehr/Vilseck Briefs

Lexington Ave. temporarily closed due to construction

Lexington Avenue will be closed May 2 to June 19 between the Tower Theater (Bldg. 620) and post headquarters (Bldg 621).

Motorists in Bldg. 621 must drive to their parking lot by driving up Gettysburg Road, turning left after the old Shoppette, and making another left at Lexington Avenue.

Pharmacy temporarily closed for renovation

The Vilseck Pharmacy will be closed from Monday to June 3 due to renovation.

If you have any medication refills, have them refilled as soon as possible. Dispense of routine medication will be minimal during the renovation, so have your prescription refilled over the next three weeks.

The Grafenwoehr Health clinic will be open during the renovation.

Book appointments online at Vilseck Health Clinic

Did you know you can book medical appointments at the Vilseck Health Clinic without ever using the phone? Appointments can be booked online at <http://www.tricareonline.com>.

For information on how to set up a user account, e-mail Capt. Emily Stehr at Emily.stehr@us.army.mil.

Place your free ad in the Bavarian News online

All valid ID cardholders can place free ads in the Bavarian News. Fill out the form at <http://www.rlehner.de/trainingtimes/freeclass.htm>.

Be sure to include a contact phone number.

Local Flea Market Listing

Flea markets are held every Saturday in Wurzburg, BayWa Baumarkt, Nurnbergerstrasse - near the US Post / BMW dealership

Metz, France (Exhibition Centre, Metz East) Saturdays from 6 a.m. - noon, Sunday from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Visit <http://tourisme.mairie-metz.fr> for more information.

Bridge distance to loved ones with Video Messenger

MWR is introducing the new Video Messenger, portable recording studios, available for children, families, and Soldiers to record themselves prior to deployment.

It is also an ideal means for children and family members to communicate with deployed Soldiers. The program is available by appointment only to eliminate unnecessary waits.

For more information, visit or call the Grafenwoehr library at DSN 475-1740.

Red Cross seeking full-time field office coordinator

Position: Field Office Coordinator, full-time - temporary for up to six-months.

Location: Red Cross Vilseck Station
Responsibilities: Provide emergency communications and casework services. Assist in the planning and administration of the delivery of health and safety services training. Assist with human resource functions affecting volunteers including recruitment, placement, and utilization. Administer and/or assist in the management of designated volunteer programs on the military installation.

Vilseck UoFP seeks field rep

The University of Phoenix, Vilseck Campus, is looking for a part-time field representative. Ideal candidates will have a bachelors degree, strong customer-service skills, attention to detail, and knowledge of the military and educational environments. Send resumes to rachel.burling@phoenix.edu

Part-time teaching positions available with Central Texas

Central Texas College, Vilseck Campus, is looking for part-time instructors for Vilseck in the Automotive/Mechanic program and the Early Childhood Development program.

Applicants must have either an Associates degree or higher and a minimum of five years of work experience in the program's field or a bachelor's degree and a minimum of three years work experience in the program's field.

For further information, contact Chuck Sligh at DSN 476-2362; CIV 09662-83-2362 or e-mail Vilseck@europa.ctcd.edu.

Office, aide, teacher positions available

If you are interested in an office, aide, or substitute teacher position, please stop by the Grafenwoehr Elementary front office and pick up an application form. The elementary and middle schools will be hiring for these positions for school year 2006/2007.

Want to learn more about the area? Visit these sites

Want more information about your area? Click on the following links

<http://www.vilseck.de/>
<http://www.bavarian-american.com/>
<http://www.amberg-sulzbach.de/tourismus/>
http://www.flohmarkt-terminen.net/Veranstaltungen_im_November_2005.html
http://www.neustadt.de/pld1.asp?artikel_id=1279&liste=&tmpl_typ=Detail
<http://www.regierung.oberpfalz.bayern.de/english/index.htm>
<http://www.ostbayern-tourismus.de/cms/upload/pdf/engl.pdf>
<http://www.bayern.by/portal/frontend.php?lang=de&lang=en>
<http://www.bayern.by/portal/frontend.php?lang=en&artid={82a8582e-0d05-1ce0-c5fd-7f306cd3043d}>
http://www.bayern.de/English/News_and_Links/
http://www.bayerninfo.de/radler/h_radler_e.html
<http://www.amberg.de/english/index.htm>
<http://www.sulzbach-rosenberg.de/herzogstadt/english.pdf>

On most of the Web sites, you can click on the English icon to translate the page to English. For those who do not have

an English translation option, visit <http://babelfish.altavista.com/tr>, where you can copy and paste a non-English Web site address for translation.

Vilseck Thrift Shop may close without volunteer staff

The Vilseck Thrift Shop needs your help. Positions include: manager, cashier and consignment clerk - at least through the summer - or they will have to close.

Currently, the hours are Tuesday to Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., but they can adjust the hours to accommodate worker schedules and to prevent a complete closure. E-mail michael_corinna@hotmail.com if you or someone you know is interested.

Call DSN 475-7402 or CIV 09641-83-7402 for more information.

Grafenwoehr Thrift Shop seeking volunteers

The Graf Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to work Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-2:30.

Limited child care is available for volunteers.

Visit the Thrift Shop in Bldg. 533, behind the Graf Laundromat or call CIV 09641-83-6181.

Stodl (Barn) Rock & Pop Festival in Vilseck Saturday

The Volunteer Fire Department from Sorghof (next to Rose Barracks) will host a Stodl (Barn) Rock and Pop Festival in Vilseck/Sorghof Saturday.

Music by the Band "Radspitz." Bavarian food and drink, including roasted pork. Entrance fee is 5 Euro per person. The event will be held in Heringnohe - drive through Sorghof in the direction of the air field, opposite the soccer club house in Sorghof -- and will begin at 8:30 p.m.

Visit www.radspitz.de or www.sorghof.de for more info.

Female soccer players needed for local team

The female soccer team from Schlicht (near Vilseck) is looking for female soccer players 17 years and older.

If you are interested in playing on a German soccer team, or for more information, call CIV 0174-9772679 or e-mail feschlicht-damen@gmx.de.

General officer assignments

The Chief of Staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:

■ Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally III, commander, Defense Distribution Center, Defense Logistics Agency, New Cumberland, Pa. to commanding general, 3rd Corps Support Command, Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany.

■ Brigadier General Michael S. Tucker, Assistant Division Commander (Support), 1st Armored Division, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany to Deputy Commanding General/Assistant Commandant, United States Army Armor Center and School, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Hail & Farewell set June 9

U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr will hold its next Hail and Farewell June 9 at 6 p.m. at Der Lohbachwinkel Hotel/Restaurant/Gasthof.

To RSVP, call Bob Ray or Ron Mund at DSN 476-3191 or 476-4171. The dinner must be paid for (15 Euro) in advance - no later than the staff breakfast on June 6.

Bavarian Buffet

Various salads with dressing
Roast of pork with dark beer sauce and potato dumplings
Grilled little sausages with sauerkraut
Gulasch of venison with spätzle and red cabbage
Pieces of turkey in creamy mushroom sauce with vegetable rice
Local catfish in vegetable-butter sauce with potatoes
Applestrudel with vanilla ice cream (served)

Catholic service update

The Catholic Community, Our lady of the Woods and Wilderness Church: May 25, The Ascension of the Lord, is a Holy Day. As Father Gross will be in Bosnia this day the solemnity of Ascension of the Lord is transferred to the following *Sunday, May 28*.

There will be normal mass times at 9

a.m. in Grafenwoehr and 11 a.m. in Vilseck.

May 25 will be observed as an Easter weekday in our diocese.

Late school registration

If you have not registered your child for the 2006-2007 school year, please contact your child's school to complete the registration.

Middle school students must register at Grafenwoehr Elementary School.

Celebrate Asian Pacific Month at Vilseck luau

The annual Asian Pacific Heritage Month celebration will be held at noon on Saturday at Vilseck Army Airfield.

Each year, thousands of people have turned out to experience the diversity Asian and Pacific Islanders offer.

Through music, song, dance and traditional foods, the local area is transformed into a tropical paradise.

Come and show your support to the Asian Pacific Islander culture.

Entertainment includes: Filipino Dancers-Bayreuth, dancers from our local community

Food Sampling: Filipino, Korean, Hawaiian, "Kalua Pig," Guamanian

Call Mr. Cablay at 09641838825, Sgt. 1st Class Ward at 09641-83-7215, or Sgt. 1st Class Porter at: 09641-83-8038 for more information.

Join Catholic WOC for prayer, discussion, study

The CWOC meets to pray, discuss, and study every second Wednesday in Grafenwoehr, Bldg. 555, and every fourth Wednesday at the Vilseck Chapel 6:30 - 8 p.m. We have just begun "A Catholic Guide to the Bible by Father Lukefahr."

Call DSN 476-3696 for more information.

Community Bank Closure

The Grafenwoehr Community Bank will be closed May 25 (Ascension Day).

Hohenfels Briefs

KONTAKT Club hosting miniature golf Saturday

The KONTAKT Club invites you to a day of fun at the Breitenbrunn miniature golf area on Saturday.

Come out and join this event with your family. The free bus will leave at the Schiesstaettkapelle in Hohenfels at 2 p.m.

For more information or for a reservation, contact the Public Affairs Office (Christina Wilson) at DSN: 466-4294, CIV: 09472-83-4294 no later than tomorrow.

Hours increase at CDC Annex June 5

Starting June 5, the CDC Annex will be open from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday -Friday.

Part Day slots will also be available in the Infant/Toddler room.

The Part Day slots are from noon-3 p.m. in each room for either two day or three day part day care. Be advised that these slots in the Infant/Toddler are limited.

Call 466-2078 or visit the CLEOS office for information.

Summer boat ride party

Don't miss the biggest part of the year! Get your tickets now before there sold out for the summer Jam boat ride party.

For tickets and further information, call Kevin McMullen at 09626929485 or 01605024880. E-mail McMullenk2000@yahoo.com.

TDS closed May 23, May 26

TDS will be closed May 23 and May 26 due to an Article 32 hearing in Hohenfels and a scheduled USAREUR training holiday.

Martial arts instructor offers adult Taekwo-Do

Join Taekwon-Do classes for adults every Tuesday from 1 - 2:30 p.m. at the Hohenfels Post Gym. Instructor Georg Kampitas is an internationally qualified martial arts instructor and the founder of

the International Black Belt Association. He has been teaching Taekwon-Do classes for over 40 years.

Call to sign up at DSN 466-2883 or CIV 09472-83-2883.

Education Center Computer Lab limited service dates

The Hohenfels Education Center will have limited computer lab service through Friday.

Tax Filing Extension

The IRS grants an automatic extension for U.S. citizens overseas. This year's deadline is June 15.

The Hohenfels Tax Assistance Office will remain open through June to help community members complete and e-file their taxes.

Call 466-2401 for assistance.

Town hall meeting set today

The quarterly USAG Hohenfels Town Hall Meeting will be held today at 9 a.m. in the Community Activities Center, Bldg 40.

A broad range of information about activities and events that impact life in Hohenfels will be provided by key community resource staff.

This is your opportunity to hear about firsthand, what is planned between now and August, in order to share that information with the members of your FRG or spouses' support group, co-workers, neighbors, and friends.

It is also your opportunity to have your questions answered about policies, procedures, and happenings in our community.

Reserved seating has been arranged for a representative from each of the following groups.

The entire community is invited to attend.

The **Bavarian News** is seeking **volunteer and paid** (non-personal service contracts) part-time journalists for the **Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, and Vilseck** communities.

Volunteer positions could lead to paid positions. Journalists will be required to provide news coverage of an assigned area.

Coverage includes conducting interviews, taking photographs, and writing articles. Writing and photography experience is preferred, but not required.

This is an opportunity to write/work from home, give back to the Army community, and become part of an exciting and rewarding mission - keeping our military public informed and entertained.

Anyone interested in these positions should send a resumé, three writing samples, and contact information to adriane.foss@us.army.mil For more information, call DSN 475-7113 or Civ. 09641-83-7113.

Working German mothers in the spotlight

by MARTINA BIAS

Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

The second Sunday of May is the day on which mothers all over the world are pampered and appreciated.

Germans celebrate Mother's Day very much like their American counterparts – with presents and a day of rest for the family's primary caretaker.

This year, however, the growing debate over women's changing roles has placed our German mothers in a new spotlight.

Much of this attention was cast last year after Germany elected its first female chancellor and appointed its new minister of Foreign Affairs, who is the mother of seven children.

The debate

These two women present two sides of the debate.

Chancellor Angela Merkel is a physicist and career politician who has no children. This is typical for a professional German woman of her generation where most people feel that a woman should choose between having children or a career.

Minister Ursula Von der Leyen, on the other hand, has chosen to pursue her career as a physician while continuing to enlarge her family.

To the more conservative Germans, she is what is commonly described as a "Rabemutter" (raven mother) - a woman who leaves her children to pursue a career, much like a raven that leaves its young in the empty nest and flies away.

Von der Leyen is trying to pass policies that will make it easier for women to be mothers and pursue their careers. One of her

motivations for this is the country's recently published birth rates.

The number of children born in Germany in 2005 was the lowest it has been in a single year since 1945.

German women give birth to an average of 1.2 children. A major German newspaper warned that at this rate Germans will die out within 12 generations.

This trend would result in a 17 percent

decline in the German population by 2050, straining an already aching economy and struggling social system.

Several groups in Germany oppose Von der Leyen proposals.

The conservatives

First, there is the conservative German population who is in favor of the traditional family, complete with working father and homemaking mother.

You might find this an old-fashioned view, but it is very much alive and well among Germany's older generations.

I still remember my grandmother's reaction when she found out that a local farmer's wife was working part time in a factory to bring in some extra money.

My grandmother accused her of leaving her children to fend for themselves (they were teenagers already), neglecting her household duties, and leaving her husband to face all the work on the farm by himself.

The husband was also criticized for not providing sufficiently for his family. After all, his wife had to work outside of the home. He was also considered weak in his own home

because he was forced to help with out with household chores that his wife could not complete.

Angry mothers

Then there is the group of angry mothers who believe that Von der Leyen is a driven and determined woman who imposes an unrealistic superhuman lifestyle on women and families that can neither deal with nor afford it.

After all, not everyone can afford a nanny and housekeeper, or has a husband who is willing to

help out at home.

Supporters and opponents of changes to current family policies are often divided among former East and West Germans. The Communist East German government had always strongly supported the use of institutional day care for children of all ages.

Apart from ideological purposes, the government's primary aim was to establish the compatibility of childrearing and the employment of mothers.

Child care costs

In the 1980s, child care slots for about 80 percent of infants and school-age children were available. The provision of slots in kindergarten was as high as 95 percent, and the cost of care to parents was negligible.

In contrast, the situation in West Germany was very different. Since childrearing is traditionally considered the mother's responsibility, day care, especially

for very young children, has been limited, and all-day care has only rarely been available.

This was not a problem as long as the extended family lived nearby (many in the same house). But as already high German unemployment rates continue to rise, Germans are increasingly leaving their birth places and finding employment elsewhere. This causes the mother to forego the supportive network of family members who help out with child care.

This is an especially difficult situation for working moms as German Kindergartens close at noon, and most state-run schools end at 1 pm.

The result is that many German women feel they have to choose between having children and a successful career. This is obvious by the fact that a staggering 42 percent of German women who have academic careers and are childless. They do not want to be burdened with the guilt or face the accompanying hurdles.

Time will tell

It remains to be seen if and how the proposed changes in family policy will take place.

After all, the last enthusiastic practitioner of family policy in Germany was the Nazi party, and this alone makes many Germans leery of any repopulation schemes.

And no matter how liberal many Germans seem, deep down we are still very traditional people with old-fashioned beliefs.

Have you ever wondered why Germans do certain things? I welcome your questions and comments. E-mail me at martina.bias@us.army.mil, and I may be able to address your suggestions in a future column.

Knödel or Klösse: By any name, it's a suppertime favorite

by MARTINA BIAS

Bavarian News

Food & Culture columnist

This is the third recipe in a four-part series that will give you a full course German meal. Last week's recipe was Schweinebraten (pork roast).

The most common side dish to accompany a roast in a Bavarian home is the famous potato dumpling.

In some regions it is called a Knödel. In others it is referred to as a Klösse.

Is it the same thing? Yes and no. I consider the firmer, ball-shaped dumplings as Knödel and the softer and slightly flattened version a Klösse.

Both are made from potatoes, starch, and a binding agent (flour, egg, or bread crumbs).

The differences in texture and appearance come from the amount of raw and cooked potatoes used. "Rohe" (raw) Knödel or Klösse are prepared from raw grated potatoes; "halb und halb" (half and half) Klösse or Knödel are prepared with some raw grated potatoes and some cooked and mashed potatoes; and what some



Homemade Knödel

people call "Baumwoll'ne" (cotton) Knödel or Klösse are prepared with all cooked potatoes.

Please understand that these are general guidelines and that different regions, as well individuals, have their own versions and recipes that may include varying amounts of the standard ingredients.

In addition, some people insist on adding roasted bread cubes in the center of their dumplings, while others prefer them without that added taste sensation.

Preparing dumplings from scratch is almost a science.

I still remember my first attempts at Klösse as a young wife.

Armed with my mother's vague recipe of "a little of this and enough of that, until it looks right", I set out to prepare my first batch.

Unfortunately, I wasn't quite so sure when it "looked right".

My first dumpling completely dissolved in the water and resulted in what appeared to be a weak tasting potato soup.

My second attempt turned out so bouncy and rubbery that you could have used them as tennis balls.

That is when the light came on. I realized then why there are so many shortcuts available today for the modern German housewife who is expected to serve up this traditional dish perfectly each Sunday.

You can buy the powdered mixture that you whisk into water to make the dough, ready-made dumplings in small plastic bags that you simply boil in water, and the refrigerated Knödel or Klossteig (potato dumpling dough) that only has to be shaped and boiled.

For those of you brave enough to embark on the adventure of making potato dumplings from scratch, I have written down the recipe that finally helped me to serve the perfect Knödel every time.

These go great with Krustenbraten (recipe published in the May 3 issue) and red cabbage or Bayerisch Kraut. Guten Appetit!

Bayerische Kartoffelknödel

3 pounds potatoes
1 cup fine bread crumbs
1 egg
½ cup milk, hot
1 tsp. salt
½ tsp. white pepper

Optional:

2 slices white bread
3 Tbs. lard or butter

Rinse two pounds of potatoes under running water and place (unpeeled) in a pot. Cover with water and boil with a lid for about 30 minutes.

Pour off the cooking water and shock potatoes under cold running water.

Peel and mash with a potato masher by pressing through a sieve or potato ricer.

Peel and wash the remaining pound of potatoes. Grate into a bowl with cold water. (I use the fine



Courtesy photo

Knödel can be made with or without roasted bread crumbs in the center.

shredding disk of my food processor and then processed the shreds even more finely in my blender).

Pour water and potato mixture through a dishtowel or cheese cloth, collecting the water that is running off. Press out as much of the liquid as possible. Let the collected water sit for at least 10 minutes for the starch to settle on the bottom of the bowl.

Carefully pour off the water and mix the starch into the dry raw potatoes. Add the cooked and mashed potatoes, bread crumbs, egg, hot milk, salt, and pepper and knead together to form the Klossteig.

If desired, cut white bread into small cubes. Melt lard or butter in a

pan. Add bread cubes and brown for a few minutes or until crispy. Remove and set aside.

In a large pot, bring salted water to a boil. With wet hands, form tennis ball-sized dumplings with the potato dough. Place roasted bread cubes in the middle, if desired. Place dumplings in boiling water and let steep for about 30 minutes.

Remove dumplings with a slotted spoon and place in a warm bowl. Serve immediately.

Yield: 8 - 9 dumplings

Do you have a favorite German dish you would like to recreate at home? E-mail me at martina.bias@us.army.mil.

Did you know? Wild game have traffic lights too!

You have probably wondered about the **shiny disks** you see hanging from the trees on the edge of the forest next to the roads. The **busy roadway** through the forest between Grafenwoehr and Vilseck has recently been "decorated" with these disks. I have been asked several times about these devices. Simply put, they are like traffic lights for **wild game**. When a car approaches while it is dark, the headlights are reflected on the disks, alerting animals of the danger and preventing them from crossing the road. While this sounds like a very good idea, it is not without **controversy**. Currently, you have to receive permission from the local authorities to install them.



Visitors can enjoy a relaxing walk around the Wandelhalle at the Oberer See lake area or just sit and enjoy the sunset.

Pssst! Looking for a best-kept secret? Visit *Böblingen*

Swabia is most famous for its “Spätzle,” the hand-made noodles boiled al dente in steaming hot water, but this region of Germany has *much more* to offer!



The side view of the Böblingen Stadtkirche with beautiful flowers planted on its hillside. Böblingen is very clean city and tourist friendly.

Story and photos by KIM DIANO
Staff writer

Looking for a town with decent shopping, great food and fabulous thermal baths?

Look no further than three hours west of Regensburg, Germany.

Located just south of Stuttgart off of Autobahn A-81, Böblingen is one of our area’s best kept secrets.

The picturesque Swabian town was founded more than 750 years ago. It boasts modern architecture and industry as well as small streets dotted with quaint half-timbered houses.

For an overnight stay

There are many nice hotels in Böblingen, including the Hotel am Schlossberg. Hotel personnel are friendly, the prices are reasonable; and the hotel accepts VAT forms.

Hotel am Schlossberg is located on a small cobblestone street and has its own restaurant, the Schlosskeller, where they serve great food with local flair.

If you request the attic room you will find plenty of space and beautiful windows with a view of the city. The parking garage is a three-minute walk from the hotel and costs no more than five Euros per night.

More than spätzle

In addition to excellent overnight accommodations, Böblingen has its fair share of excellent restaurants, including Italian pizzerias and a Thai and Chinese imbiß with indoor seating.

To satisfy your adventurous side, visit the Zwinger, located near the Wienerwald. If you aren’t familiar with German pfannkuchen, this is an excellent time to try it out.

These pancakes are a cross between the American pancake and the French crepe, and Zwinger offers



Warm water swimming and saunas are just some of the treats visitors can enjoy at the Mineraltherme thermal baths in Böblingen.

them with several different fillings including ham, cheese, tomato, and mushrooms in a fresh-y mixed sauce.

Another menu delicacy is the rostbraten, served with several sides such as salad, fried potatoes, or spaetzle, the famous Swabian noodles.

For the beer connoisseur in you, they serve a dark Czech beer called Kruševac as well as many other beers and wines. The food is excellent and well priced.

Ideal location

Just around the corner from Zwinger is a beautiful lake area where visitors can sit and watch the sun set over the water. This is an ideal location for an after-dinner walk. Be sure to bring your leftovers if you are interested in feeding the ducks which decorate the calm waters.

Another highlight of Böblingen is the mineral thermal baths located at the city’s entrance.

For nine Euros an adult can enjoy two and a half hours of warm water

swimming, various hot tubs, saunas, and a garden area.

Germans take pride in their relaxing atmospheres, and this thermal bath is no exception.

The first swimming area you arrive at as you enter the city has indoor and outdoor pools where you can sit and enjoy the spa’s tranquil environment.

Sauna

For sauna lovers, their rooms range from 60° to 95° Celsius. There are also damp saunas where you breathe in the smell of lemon or mandarins.

Be prepared for the FKK (Freikörperkultur), or nudity, of the locals in the sauna area. It is expected that patrons will not wear bathing suits in this section of the baths.

For another three Euros, visitors can go outside to a garden area where they can swim and lounge FKK, though most people wear a robe or towel while walking around.

Former Vilseck student plays NCAA soccer

Special to the Bavarian News

Oswego State University of New York Men's soccer coach Bob Friske continues his tradition of recruiting Department of Defense student-athletes, and Steven Tracy is the latest of several talented soccer players that has found his way to the United States, earning an education while playing high-level NCAA Soccer.

"There are many talented high school players who do not get the same attention and opportunities that stateside student-athletes get," Friske said. "I have always made it a point to make sure I give these students a home, wherever I am coaching."

"I identified Steven via the European Championships two years ago and I am delighted he took an interest in earning an education and playing soccer in the U.S.," said Friske. "He is a talented athlete and has been a complete pleasure to coach."

Tracy recently completed his freshman year at Oswego State in the school's highly successful Business Administration program and was a midfielder on the men's soccer team.

"I like the location because of the lake (Lake Ontario) and it's got a really nice campus. The people are very friendly," Steven said. "The soccer experience was great. It was a whole new level of competition and I've always wanted to

reach the collegiate level and it was awesome to play here."

Tracy is the type of student-athlete that Friske hopes to continue to attract to Oswego State. "Steve had a nice reputation coming out of Vilseck. He took it upon himself to make a highlight tape, got it into my hands and the rest is history," Friske said.

Friske's connection to the Department of Defense dates back to his first head coaching position back in 1995 when he coached one of the oldest private military colleges in the US.

After resurrecting a struggling Norwich University men's soccer program, now with a trophy-riddled office and numerous NCAA appearances and accolades, it wasn't long before Friske brought his successful coaching style and his unique recruiting efforts to Oswego State.

In Friske's short time at Oswego, he has begun to establish Oswego State as a regionally competitive soccer program. Friske's goal is to make Oswego nationally competitive.

Oswego State is a part of the State of New York University school system and plays in the SUNY Athletic Conference, one of the strongest overall athletic conferences in the country.

Friske has set aggressive goals for the program that has not won its conference title in over 40 years.

The Lakers struggled early on this season but managed to jump start the season in October and returned to the playoffs for the first time in four years.

"My goal as a first-year head coach was to get our program back into the playoffs. We achieved that after a tough start," Friske said. "Our goal from here on out will be not just to make our conference playoffs, but to win our conference and become nationally competitive, nationally successful. These may seem like lofty goals, but they will be achieved just as they were at the former schools I coached at."

"I want to build a diverse soccer team through my recruiting efforts. I plan to target every DOD region. I have not had a Pacific Rim student and I hope that will change this year."

"Coaches and players from DOD's in Europe, the Pacific and Guam should feel free to contact me. This has been an exceptional year for me at Oswego State and we have many spots to fill due to graduation and the new coaching turnover," he said.

I encourage every DOD student interested in collegiate academics and high-level soccer to contact me. Oswego is one of the best academic schools in the country, our athletic programs are nationally ranked, and the social climate of the school is outstanding," said Friske. I want



Former Vilseck student Steven Tracy

to make sure our DOD kids get this special chance."

The European Department of Defense Tournament is schedule for May 25-28 in Germany. Student-athletes interested in playing soccer in the U.S. can contact Friske at rfriske@oswego.edu or 315-312-4142 for more information.

Boost career with German internship

IMA-Europe MWR

Young Americans who have an interest in politics are being offered a unique opportunity to experience German politics firsthand through the Internationale Parlaments-Praktika program.

IPP is currently accepting applications for internships in Germany's Bundestag parliament.

IPP interns are introduced to German political, social, and cultural life through an extensive orientation seminar before completing a 15-week internship in the office of a German lawmaker.

Participants, who must be less than 30 years old, receive a monthly stipend

of 450 Euro (\$551), health insurance, and free housing in the German capital.

The program and its stateside alumni organization can have a major impact on future professional careers in a wide variety of fields.

The program is organized in close cooperation with Berlin's three universities—the Humboldt University, the Free University, and the Technical University.

Participants can elect to audit courses from any of those institutions during the summer semester.

Details on eligibility and application forms are available at the IPP Web site: <http://www.bundestag.de/dialog/ipp/info/usa.html>

The deadline for applications for the 2006 program is May 31.

The policy is intended to ensure FRG Web sites do not provide information that may give the enemy an advantage, endanger Soldiers or compromise missions.

The enemy considers the Web and Web logs great tools to gather information, according to Sgt. 1st Class Nicolas Vazquez, USAREUR operations security manager.

"They use the Web to gather important information about us," Vazquez said. "They can find out where we live, when and where our Soldiers are deployed, and other critical information that can be pieced together to be used against us."

The policy states all FRG Web sites in USAREUR must move to either AKO or vFRG by June 1.

The policy will help ensure information posted on FRG Web sites doesn't jeopardize Soldiers or missions, said Daniel LaChance, a policy specialist with USAREUR G-6, Office of Information Management.

"The Army made a solid commitment to its FRGs by providing them these protected sites to share personal or unit information with their deployed spouses and other authorized families," he said. "The last thing we want is for a Soldier, civilian or family member to be hurt because someone didn't protect information."

For more information on the new FRG Web site policy, contact your local information management specialist, unit operations security officer, or the USAREUR Webmaster.

MWR to host major league instructor

IMA-Europe press release

Major League Soccer official Chuck Locke has been selected to present the 2006 Soccer Officials Clinic at the Installation Management Agency-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation Training and Development Center, June 1-3 in Schwetzingen, Germany.

The yearly clinics prepare garrison officials to officiate clinics at their installations for Child and Youth Services and other military programs.

Locke has been a National Instructor Trainer since 2002. He is a member of the National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association officiating in the Big XII, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and NCAA Division II Regional Championships. Locke has served as an instructor in the Northwest, South West and western USA since 2003.

During the training, clinic attendees will learn the current soccer rules, points of emphasis and field mechanics. The clinic will culminate with a written test and practical examination which consists of on the field officiating during the 2006 IMA-EURO MWR Soccer Tournament at Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen.

The tournament begins June 3.

White House seeking best intern candidates



Courtesy photo

President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney pose with the fall 2004 White House interns on the North Portico steps of the White House.

White House Internship Program

The White House Internship Program offers an excellent opportunity to serve the United States president and explore public service.

We are seeking exceptional candidates to apply for this highly competitive program.

In addition to normal office duties, interns attend weekly lectures, tours, and complete an intern service project.

Interns may serve a term in the fall, spring or summer. All candidates must be at least 18 years of age, hold United States citizenship, and be enrolled in a college or university.

Explore our White House Intern Web site for additional information at:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/wh-intern.html>

To apply, read and complete the White House Intern Application. A strong application includes the following:

- * sound academic credentials
- * history of community involvement and leadership
- * solid verbal/written communication skills
- * demonstrated interest in public service

Completed application materials must be submitted to Karen Race, Deputy Director and Intern Coordinator in the office of White House Personnel, at intern_application@whitehouse.gov prior to the following deadlines:

- * Applications are due June 16 for fall 2006 term - (Sept. 5 to Dec. 15)
- * Applications due Oct. 13 for spring 2007 term - (Jan. 9, 2007, to May 11, 2007)

Contact Karen Race at (202) 456-5979 or e-mail intern_application@whitehouse.gov for more information.

American-German Business Club offering business scholarships

American-German Business Club

The American-German Business Club e.V. announces its first National Scholarship Program to assist persons with financial need who are studying business or business-related courses at the university level.

Deadline for application: June 30

Eligibility: Any German citizen who is or will be studying business or business-related courses at any university, or any American citizen currently residing in Germany who is or will be studying business or business-related courses at any university, or any American citizen

currently residing elsewhere but who is or will be studying business or business-related courses at any university in Germany.

Amount and number of awards: Five separate 1,000 Euro scholarships to be applied towards tuition, academic fees, and books only and to be used during the school year beginning Aug. 1 or later.

If possible, funds will be directly credited to the winning students' accounts at their enrolled universities.

Application process:

Letter

Each applicant must submit a maximum one-page letter in English

only to include first and last name; permanent mailing address; current address (if different from permanent); phone numbers (residence, cell, fax, etc.); email address(es); name and location of school currently attending and to be attended after Aug. 1; current subject area/grade or level of study and subject area/grade or level of study for the term beginning after August 1; approximate cost of tuition, academic fees and books for the term beginning after August 1; whether an American or German citizen; and the following two statements:

"I am making application for the AGBC National Scholarship because I have financial need to attend university in the term beginning after 1 August 2006."

"I understand that any information I provide that is later found to be false will cause me to forfeit any AGBC National Scholarship awarded and I will have to reimburse any funds already paid by the AGBC National Scholarship Fund."

Essay

Each applicant must submit an original essay between 500 and 750 words in English only on the subject of "How I would help improve U.S. and German business relations."

Please be as specific but creative as possible and remember it is about the applicant's own ideas so should not be told in the third person.

The letter and essay must be submitted in Word Document format and sent to both addresses below. These addresses may also be used for inquiries: scholarships@agbc.de and scholarships@officelab.de.

Moving

Summer PCS Tips

PCS cycle expected to be busier than usual

Headquarters, IMA-Europe

The Installation Management Agency – Europe is preparing for an extremely high volume of Soldiers and families leaving and entering Europe this summer and have provided tips on how to make the shipment of household goods go smoothly.

The IMA-EURO Logistics Division Transportation Office is expecting a busier-than-usual Permanent Change of Station cycle and recommends the following:

■ Contact your local transportation office about 45-days before you would like to move. Don't wait until the last minute.

■ If you get your orders with less than 45-days, go to the transportation office as soon as you receive them.

■ Try to remain flexible with your household goods pick-up dates. In addition to requesting a specific date, make plans for some alternate dates and be prepared to accept them.

■ In a normal PCS season, you could almost always get the pick-up date that you wanted.

That may not be possible this summer.

■ Look out for your fellow Army families. If you want to report early to your next duty station, you may be asked to defer your pick-up until a later date to make room for a family that must leave earlier.

■ Consider this request carefully unless you have a compelling reason to report to your next duty station early.

■ Get a confirmed household goods pick-up date before you make other plans.

Don't book your airplane tickets to your next duty station and hold off making your vacation plans until you know when your goods will be picked up.

Remember, you may not get the pick-up date that you were expecting, and that might force you to change your travel plans.

■ Be prepared to wait a little longer for your goods to be delivered once you arrive at your next duty station.

It's projected that this summer's challenges will be experienced worldwide.

Pet shipping know-how smoothes move POV move made simple with tips

Continued From Page 2

Instructions for feeding and providing water to the animal over a 24-hour period must be attached to the kennel. The 24-hour schedule will assist the airline in providing care for your animal in case it is diverted from its original destination.

You, as a pet owner, are required to certify your pet had been offered food and water within four hours of transport, and the documentation must include the time and date of feeding.

Food and water dishes must be securely attached and be accessible to caretakers without opening the kennel. Food and water must be provided to puppies and kittens every 12 hours if they are eight to 16 weeks old. Mature animals must be fed every 24 hours and given water every 12 hours.

Be Aware

Restrictions on shipping pets are established to ensure animals are not exposed to extreme hot or cold temperatures. Restrictions can apply at originating, connecting, or terminating airport locations. You will be notified in advance if a restriction applies.

If a restriction is enforced, your pet may not be able to fly on your scheduled flight. Your pet may be re-routed to another airport or held over until weather conditions at the origin or destination improve.

Please understand that this is done to protect the welfare of your pet. Have a back-up plan just in case.

Commercial Pet Shippers

An alternate option is to ship your pet through a commercial animal shipper.

These companies have been around for decades and specialize in pet shipping. They offer daily departures, same day arrivals, boarding service, daily flights to over 200 U.S. airports, and kennels available in various sizes.

The cost is more expensive; however, they can normally ship your pet when restrictions are enforced by the airlines.

There is no military entitlement to ship pets home when it is time to PCS. It is the responsibility of the member to make arrangements and pay for the shipping costs.

Visit USAREUR Customs Web at <http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/pets.htm>, or contact your local veterinary detachment office (DSN 476-2370) for more details.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Will the government pay to ship my pet?

A. No. The member is responsible for arranging and paying all costs associated with shipping pets.

Q. Can my pet and I travel on the same aircraft?

A. Yes, unless pet spaces are full or a heat restriction is issued by your airline. Restrictions are established to protect the health of your pet during extreme hot or cold temperatures. If a heat embargo is issued, your pet may be restricted from flying until conditions improve or re-routed on another airplane. Pet owners are normally given advanced notice of any restrictions.

Q. What if my pet cannot be reserved on my flight?

A. Due to the busy summer travel season, pet spaces on your scheduled flight may not be available. If so, the commercial travel office (SATO) will try to book your pet on another flight or airline. Remember any costs incurred for shipping your pet is a member responsibility.

Q. Do I go through commercial travel office to ship my pet?

A. Using the commercial travel office to ship your pet is convenient but not the only option available. There are commercial pet shipping companies that specialize in shipping pets. The cost is more expensive, but they can normally ship your pet when other airlines can't due to restrictions or non-availability. For a fee, they also offer pick-up services throughout Germany. The Soldier/family member will bear all costs and potential risks associated with using these companies. Contact your local transportation office or commercial travel office for a list of potential sources.

Q. What documentation is required to ship my pet to the U.S.?

A. The original and one copy of a health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian stating that the animal is healthy enough to travel by air and is free of injury and disease. The certificate must be dated 10-days or less from the date your animal will be shipped. A rabies vaccination certificate issued and signed by a licensed veterinarian at least 30-days old but



Vilseck's 72nd Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services) 3rd Squad commander Capt. Kristina McElroy. For helpful tips on your pet move, call DSN 476-2370.

Photo by Kathy Jordan

not older than one year from the date your animal will be shipped is required. If your pet is less than 12 weeks old you should obtain a memorandum from a licensed veterinarian that waives the rabies requirement.

Q. There are no veterinary facilities at my installation. Can I get shots and travel papers from vets on the local economy? Are such shot and other records recognized by U.S. officials back in the States?

A. You can use the services of host nation veterinarians. They're familiar with international standards of pet immunization and shipment. Host nation vets know that you need a health certificate and current rabies vaccination. In some cases, the health certificate and rabies vaccination will be on the same form. In other cases, they will be given to you as separate certificates. In either case, they will be recognized by health officials at your stateside destination.

Q. I have heard that some airlines will not accept a pet in a collapsible kennel. Is this true?

A. Yes. Collapsible or foldable kennels are prohibited by most airlines. The kennel used to ship

your pet must meet USDA guidelines for size, ventilation, strength and design. Animals must have enough room to stand up and turn around and each species must have its own kennel with the exception of compatible cats and dogs of similar size. When in doubt use a larger kennel. A contact address and phone number in the states, and two copies of your orders to help speed your pet through customs.

Q. What are the feeding instructions for my pet?

A. Call or visit your airlines Web site for feeding instructions. Most airlines and pet shipping companies require a 24-hour feeding schedule to be attached to the kennel in case it is diverted from its original destination. You, as a pet owner, are required to certify your pet had been offered food and water within four hours of transport, and the documentation must include the time and date of feeding. Food and water dishes must be securely attached and be accessible to caretakers without opening the kennel. Food and water must be provided to puppies and kittens every 12 hours if they are eight to 16 weeks old. Mature animals must be fed every 24 hours and given water every 12 hours.

Continued From Page 2

German and U.S. port charges, and customs fees.

A PCS move can be costly. Knowing the cost of shipping a second POV months before you move will allow you to plan your budget accordingly.

If the shipping price is acceptable, your second step is gathering the proper documents. You'll need a copy of your PCS orders, vehicle registration, military I.D. card or other valid I.D.

The third step involves a trip to the car wash. In order to ship your vehicle, it must meet U.S.D.A. inspection standards.

That means the motorcycle or auto must be free of dirt, soil, plant and animal life. This includes the interior, exterior, engine, engine compartment, and radiator. The interior must be vacuumed, including the trunk area. All personal effects must be removed, including air fresheners.

Bottom line, if your vehicle does not meet these standards it will not be shipped.

Make sure your vehicle has no more than ¼ tank of fuel at time of shipment. Now that your vehicle is clean, check its stickers. It must be a U.S. specification vehicle and have both the EPA and Department of Transportation stickers affixed. The EPA sticker should clearly be visible in the engine area. It's usually white with the word "CATALYST" listed on the bottom.

The DOT sticker should be clearly visible in the door jam area. It is usually white with the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and the month/year of manufacture listed on the bottom.

If the vehicle is missing either of these stickers, which sometimes happens during body work, repainting, customization, you'll need to obtain a letter from the manufacturer or EPA or DOT to verify the vehicle was manufactured in the U.S. to comply with applicable U.S. standards. This normally takes a couple of weeks so don't wait!

The number for EPA is (734) 214-4676; DOT can be reached at (202) 366-5291/1024.

U.S. and European vehicles often don't meet the same specifications for items like windshields, lights and emissions. If your vehicle is Euro-spec, it must be shipped through a certified independent commercial importer in the U.S. A list is available from the EPA.

Having your European vehicle modified to meet EPA and DOT standards can be an expensive process. It is important to note that European specification vehicles cannot be modified to U.S. standards while physically located in a European country.

Many European companies claim that they can convert Euro-spec vehicles to U.S. specifications while your vehicle is still in Europe. These claims are false.

In case of veterinary emergencies after business hours, contact a **local national veterinarian** near you. You can also check in the German telephone book under Tierarzt. In case of a military emergency, please contact the military police.

AMBERG

Dr. Lukas - 09621-24848/ 09621-33400, X-Rays, Surgeries, 24 Hr. Emergency, (Jahnstr. 6 - 92224)

AUERBACH

Dr. Graf - 09643-91151 - X-Rays, Surgeries, Emergencies

BURGLENGENFELD

Dr. Brudbl - 09471-7159 / Dr. Plank - 09471-200300

ESCHENBACH

Dr. Adalbert - 09645 - 918085, Surgeries, (Weiherstr. 15)

MANTEL

Dr. Weigl - 09605-8715, Surgeries, Emergencies (Freihunger Str. 8 - 92708)

PARSBERG

Dr. Seitz - 09492-1483, X-Rays, Surgery, 24 Hr. Emergency

PRESSATH

Dr. Baur-Schmelcher - 09644-300, X-Rays, Surgeries, Emergencies, (Lettenstr. 20 - 92690)

SULZBACH-ROSENBERG

Dr. Burkhardt - 09661-810755/09661-810757, X-Rays, Surgeries, ... (Goethestr. 6 - 92237)

VILSECK

Dr. Schmidt - 09662-8875
Dr. Tobias Guggenmos - 09662-6411, 24 Hr. Emergencies (Königsberger Str. 1 - 92249)

WEIDEN

Dr. Kringner - 0961-31791, X-Rays, Surgeries, Emergencies

(Hammerweg 64 - 92637)

Dr. Feneis - 0961-35355, X-Rays, Surgeries, Emergencies

(Stormstr. 1 - 92637 Weiden)