



THE CITIZEN



Vol. 33, No. 9

The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

May 4, 2004

Stuttgart, Bad Aibling, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

'KidsFest' brings afternoon of family fun to Patch

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

The children of the Stuttgart military community were treated to an activity-filled afternoon April 10 on Patch Barracks.

Sponsored by Child and Youth Services, KidsFest 2004: Passport to Hope, Health and Happiness sent Stuttgart youngsters on an installation-wide quest for information and entertainment.

Armed with passports to chart their progress (and qualify them for prize drawings), the KidsFest participants set out on an odyssey that was limited only by their own stamina and inquisitiveness.

The event began on Husky Field at the end of the Youth Services Baseball and Softball Opening Day ceremony.

As the young sluggers, fielders and hurlers dispersed to diamonds throughout the community, KidsFest attendees picked up their passports and fanned out across the installation.

For the artistically inclined, a prime first stop was the Patch YS facility, where face-painting and button-making stations let the little ones create – or become – temporary works of art.

Next door, young athletes were lured into the Patch Fitness Center gymnasium by the golden voice of Sports Director Steve Sanders, who worked the public address system like a seasoned carnival barker, promising piles of prizes to those whose shooting touch didn't desert them during their moment in the spotlight.

Similar scenarios unfolded throughout Patch, as readers and eaters joined future firefighters and the Broadway-bound to explore potential careers, enjoy a good meal or just sit back and let

Armed with passports to chart their progress, the KidsFest participants set out on an odyssey that was limited only by their stamina and inquisitiveness.

themselves be entertained.

In addition to the events held in the fitness center and YS facility, other KidsFest attractions included dance performances in the Patch Community Club, a hands-on firefighting demonstration outside the Child Development Center, and nutrition information and an art exhibit in the Stuttgart Wellness Center.

The Dental Clinic, Gussy Goose and Frame Shop opened their doors to the KidsFest crowd, as did the library and movie theater (the latter of which hosted a free screening of the popular film, "Brother Bear").

Read more about youth activities in the Stuttgart military community:

- **Page 9** – More KidsFest photos.
- **Pages 10 & 11** – Youth Services baseball and softball seasons begin with a sun-splashed Opening Day ceremony.
- **Page 18** – The 6th ASG gets a new YS sports director, and two former Major League players host a baseball clinic on Patch Barracks.

Jalend Venn, 4, gets a lift from his father, Dustin, while shooting hoops for prizes in the Patch Fitness Center during Stuttgart's KidsFest 2004.



INSIDE
THIS
EDITION

Page 4
EUCOM names top service members, civilians

U.S. European Command honors its best during an April 16 ceremony in Stuttgart.



Page 15
Army's 'Soldier Show' coming to Stuttgart

Some of the finest active-duty entertainers in the Army will perform in the Patch Barracks Fitness Center May 9.



Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions



Roses to:

The wonderful women who work at the Patch Library, for exemplifying the essence of excellent customer service.

The Stuttgart library system is one of the jewels of the 6th ASG – and its staff members make it sparkle.

Annette, a bartender at Sliders All Ranks Lounge on Patch Barracks. Annette always has a smile on her face – even during what seems to be a stressful time. She makes her customers feel welcome and at home. Because of her, Sliders feels like it has turned into “Cheers.”

Also, a “rose within a rose” to Tammy Donatucci for hiring Annette.

Thorns to:

The Stuttgart Dental Clinic, for only accepting appointments one week at a time. Week after week I call and call, only to be told that all appointments are gone – and I should try again next Monday.

There must be a better way.

Whoever significantly damaged the rear panel fender of my car (a silver BMW 530) while it was legally parked outside building 2321 on Patch Barracks.

You not only damaged my vehicle, you also wasted much of my time (filing insurance forms and police reports, etc.) and cost me a significant amount of money in repair and rental costs.

Whatever happened to character – not to mention taking responsibility for one’s actions?

E-mail comments to citizen@6asg.army.mil or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

‘Hero’ not exclusionary title Actions great, small worthy of honor

By Master Sgt. Ginger Schreitmueller
Commentary

It wasn’t a heated discussion, but certainly one that provoked a vocal exchange of opinions.

It wasn’t about politics, policies or religion. It was centered on a four-letter word: hero.

My friend insisted the term is over-used, being randomly placed in news articles that highlight individuals for everything from saving a trapped kitten to serving with valor on the battlefields in Iraq.

His viewpoint is if you label everyone a hero, then you degrade the significance of the term. If you are just doing your job, he reasoned, you can’t be a hero – you are just good at what you do.

Not true, I countered. Labeling people as heroes does not belittle the term. On the contrary, it enhances the power of the word.

That is when I stepped onto my soapbox.

‘Tons of heroes’

I have tons of heroes. Some have done unbelievable feats. Some have done simple little actions. All make a serious impact on my life.

For example, Superman is my hero. He is strong and tough on the outside, yet inside he is mild mannered.

Kryptonite aside, he reminds me

My heroes remind me what is important in life. It is not about being good at your job or being recognized for some specific achievement. It is about the impact you make in the life of others.

that you have to have balance in your life.

My family and friends, whose faith has pulled me over some Grand Teton-sized rough spots, are my heroes.

They are constant reminders that I have a cheering section whenever I need one.

My children are my heroes. They know how to make me laugh when I want to cry. They continually surprise me with their levelheaded philosophy on living life.

They remind me that being a mom is the coolest job in the world.

Courage and attitude

Then there are people like retired Master Sgt. Tim Wilkinson.

His personal courage and humble attitude remind me that dedication and professionalism make the difference – even when you’re in the midst of a 15-hour firefight.

As I rambled on with my list of heroes, my friend conceded the discus-

sion with his hands up in an “I quit” gesture.

I didn’t necessarily win, but I did make my point. Everyone needs heroes, and you can’t have too much of a good thing.

My personal list of heroes is endless, and I hope I continue to add names to that illustrious list every chance I get.

Heroes are those whose actions, words, deeds or mere presence portray courage and strength.

My heroes remind me what is important in life. It is not about being good at your job or being recognized for some specific achievement. It is about the impact you make in the life of others.

We should all hope that we are on someone’s list of heroes.

Schreitmueller is with the Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs Office, Hurlburt Field, Fla. This commentary originally appeared online at www.af.mil.

THE CITIZEN

Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris
6th Area Support Group Commander

Public Affairs Officer
Jennifer Sanders
pao@6asg.army.mil

Editor
Hugh C. McBride
citizen@6asg.army.mil

Assistant Editor
Melanie Casey
caseym@6asg.army.mil

Reporter
Mildred Green
greenm@6asg.army.mil

Contact Information

Office Location: Building 3307-W, Kelley Barracks
U.S. Army Address: Unit 30401, APO AE 09107
German Address: Gebäude 3307-W, Kelley Barracks,
Plieningerstrasse, 70567 Stuttgart
Telephone: 421-2046/civ. 0711-729-2046
Fax: 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570

Advertising Information

For advertising information call 349-8443/civ. 06155-601443. For classifieds call 349-8447/civ. 06155-601447.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Citizen are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army.

The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 6th Area Support Group public affairs officer. Private organizations noted in this publication are not part of the Dept. of Defense.

The Citizen is printed by the Stars and Stripes under written agreement. The European Stars and Stripes is responsible for commercial advertising.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army or the European Stars and Stripes.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The Citizen is an offset press publication printed in 6,500 copies every two weeks.

www.stuttgart.army.mil



Mildred Green

Smiles abound at the final tally of proceeds from the Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club annual Spring Bazaar: The club raised more than \$87,000 for area organizations.

Spring Bazaar Committee says thanks

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club's Spring Bazaar was held March 19 to 21. The event was a huge success, with 75 vendors from all over Europe.

The bazaar raised \$87,202.62, which was officially handed over to the SCSC welfare fund at the club's Crystal Bingo event April 20 in the Patch Community Club.

The Spring Bazaar Committee would like to thank all members of the community for their help and support of the bazaar.

It is impossible to individually thank all of the volunteers who helped and worked during the bazaar; however, we would like to give special thanks to all those members of the community who baked and cooked, the high school students who helped set up and tear down, the 6th Area

Support Group and Morale Welfare and Recreation personnel for their commitment and support, and the awesome Marines who put up the tents in snow, wind and rain the week before the bazaar.

All of the money raised goes directly back to the community, benefiting area individuals and organizations in many ways.

The success of the Spring Bazaar truly reflects the amazing spirit of help and cooperation that is the ethos of this community.

The dates for the 2005 bazaar are March 18 to 20.

*Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club
Spring Bazaar Committee*

Stuttgart ACS thanks volunteers

Honorees recognized for selfless service, dedication to community

Story & photos by Mildred Green

Volunteers from the Stuttgart military community were recognized for their service during the Army Community Service Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon April 26 in the Community Club on Patch Barracks.

The event highlighted volunteers' many contributions to the community, said 6th Area Support Group ACS Installation Volunteer Coordinator Keita Franklin.

"It's a way to recognize these wonderful volunteers – over 1,000 in our community," Franklin said.

Everyone's a winner

Every volunteer who attended the luncheon received a certificate of appreciation.

Six volunteers – chosen from among 53 nominations – were also presented with volunteer of the year awards. Their rewards included a parking pass for a designated space at the commissary, a trophy, a \$50 gift certificate from AAFES, and a bag filled with other prizes.

The following individuals were recognized as volunteers of the year:

- Deborah Hepburn – Commander's Volunteer of the Year
- Walter Vartan – Commander's Silver Volunteer of the Year
- Brian Conner – Commander's Youth Volunteer of the Year
- Nancy Moscone – Heart Volunteer of the Year
- Lois Knapp – Unsung Volunteer of the Year
- William Knoll – Rookie Volunteer of the Year

Lori Roop, president of the Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club, was also recognized for winning the Joan Orr Air Force Spouse Of The Year Award, which recognizes significant contributions made by spouses of Air Force service members.

Having won at both the U.S. European Command and 11th Air Wing levels, Roop will soon compete for this award at the Air Force level.

Making a difference

The theme of this year's event was "Inspire by Example," a concept that was addressed by the ceremony's featured speaker, Diane Csrnko.

The wife of Brig. Gen. Thomas Csrnko, commander of Special Operations Command, Europe, Diane Csrnko is the mother of two young boys, an active community volunteer and an Army Reserve Soldier.

Csrnko said she has experienced the contributions volunteers have made in many ways. Every time her children return from sports practices inspired, she said, she knows that a volunteer coach has motivated them. "You have made a difference," she told the volunteers.

Csrnko emphasized that volunteering inspires others to serve their community, and advised volunteers to "keep meeting challenges and working through obstacles."

After the presentation of this year's awards, 6th ASG Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris spoke, lauding the volunteers for their selfless service.

"By consistently giving of themselves for the benefit of others," she said, "our volunteers are not only the backbone of our community, they are its heart and soul."

Quoting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Bonéy-Harris said, "Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve ... You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve ... You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Opportunities

Stuttgart's ACS Volunteer Program helps community members who want to serve find a place that best suits them, Franklin said.

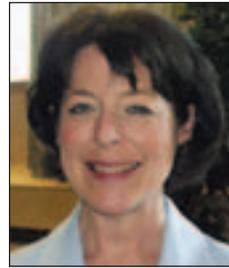
Anyone exploring new interests, wishing to obtain additional work experience or looking to maintain their skills can do so by volunteering, she said. Also, active-duty service members who volunteer can add to their work experience, work in their hobby fields and document their experience – all of which can help later in life, she said.

"Volunteering is also a fun way to meet new people and get to know our community," Franklin said.

For more information about volunteering in Stuttgart call Franklin at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176 or visit ACS on Patch Barracks (building 2307, 2nd floor).



Conner



Hepburn



Knapp



Knoll



Moscone

Walter Vartan was unable to attend the ceremony.

News & Notes

Mother's Day champagne brunch

Treat the special lady in your life to a wonderful brunch on Mother's Day. Show mom how much you care by treating her to a delicious meal May 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Patch Community Club.

Choose from a wide variety of entrees, breakfast selections, specialty drinks and desserts. Prices are \$14.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children ages 5 to 12, and free for children 4 and under.

Make reservations by calling Caroline Cosby at 421-2017/civ. 0711-729-2017.

IACS implemented in Stuttgart

Military Police have begun using the Installation Access Control System at installation entry points in Stuttgart.

For details call 430-8725/civ. 0711-680-8725.

Patch gym, parking lot closures

All parking areas around the Patch Fitness Center will be closed May 8 and 9 due to the Soldier Show. Vehicles must be removed by 9 p.m. on May 7. For details call Staff Sgt. Banks at 430-6735/civ. 0711-680-6735.

The fitness center's racquetball courts and gymnasium will also be closed May 8 and 9.

For more information about the fitness center call Steve Sanders at 430-5386/civ. 0711-680-5386.

Patch PX extends hours

The main post exchange on Patch Barracks has extended its hours of operation.

The PX is now open Mondays to Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For details call 421-2842/civ. 0711-720-3100.

6th ASG's new Web site premieres

The 6th Area Support Group's new and improved Web site is now online.

Visit www.stuttgart.army.mil for a comprehensive, user-friendly overview of 6th ASG directorates, community services, area information and much, much more.

Annual POSH refresher required

6th Area Support Group civilian employees and supervisors are required to attend refresher training in the prevention of sexual harassment each fiscal year.

Classes are scheduled on the following dates:

- **May 26** – 8:30 a.m. for employees and 10 a.m. for supervisors in the Swabian Special Events Center
- **June 1** – 9 a.m. for employees and 10:30 a.m. for new supervisors in Kelley Barracks building 3307, room 3
- **June 11** (final training for this fiscal year) – 8:30 a.m. for supervisors and 10 a.m. for employees in the SSEC.

For details call 421-2649/civ. 0711-729-2649.

Catholic group holds First Friday event

The Military Council of Catholic Women holds a First Friday program May 7, 9:30 a.m., in the Patch Chapel gazebo. The program will include a discussion on the Sacrament of Confirmation, Mass at noon in the chapel, and installation of the executive board.

For more information call Kim Cale at 0711-658-6143 or e-mail calefamily@t-online.de.

Stuttgart Golf Course programs

Swing by the Stuttgart Golf Course for a free orientation May 5 and 8, 6 to 7 p.m.

Don't miss Beginner's Golf May 11, 13, 18 and 20, 10 to 11:15 a.m. The class fee is \$75. Additional adult and youth golf classes are offered every Saturday.

For more information call 07141-879-151.

Patch Ski Club holds spring picnic

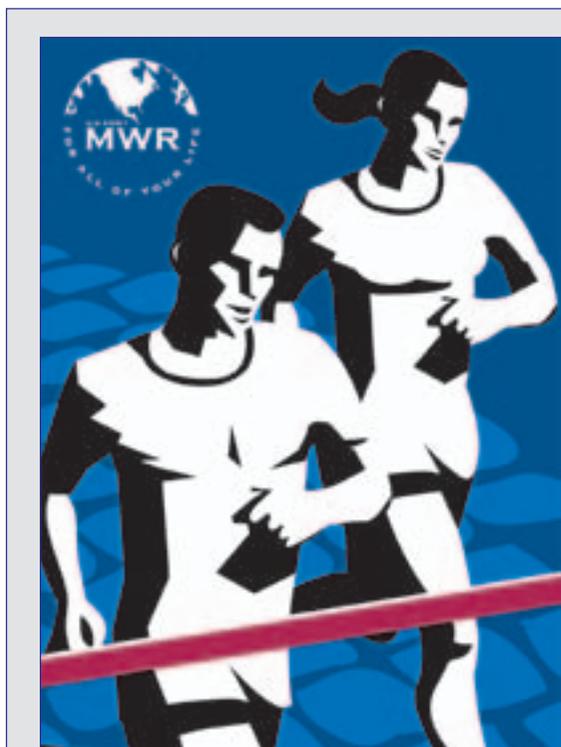
The annual Patch Ski Club spring picnic is May 15, noon to 5 p.m. at the Le Rose restaurant patio (outside the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks).

For more information call Mike Moon at 430-5789/civ. 0711-680-5789 or e-mail michael.moon@us.army.mil.

SNAP training in May

Safe Neighborhood Awareness Protection training is May 12 and 26, 10 a.m and 6 p.m., in the Panzer Kaserne Installation Coordinator's office, building 2974.

To register call Earnest Epps at 421-4615/civ. 0711-729-4615 or e-mail epps@6asg.army.mil.



Attention runners: Don't miss Stuttgart's inaugural

Cobblestone Classic

May 15, 10 a.m.

- Race from Patch to Panzer (approximately five miles) along the historic tank trails that connect these two U.S. military installations.
- Enjoy healthy competition in the great outdoors.
- Test yourself against the clock – and your fellow community members.
- Registration forms are available in fitness centers on Patch Barracks, Kelley Barracks, Panzer Kaserne and Robinson Barracks.

For more information call Cory Doubek at 430-5386/civ. 0711-680-5386 or e-mail doubekc@6asg.army.mil

Airman, Marine named EUCOM's best

Command also honors two civilians for excellence

By Hugh C. McBride

Two members of the Stuttgart military community were honored for excellence by the U.S. European Command during an April 16 ceremony on Patch Barracks.

Sgt. Prince Tailey of the Panzer Kaserne-based Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe, was selected as EUCOM's junior service member of the year, and Vicki Landes of EUCOM's Directorate of Logistics and Security Assistance was named the command's junior civilian of the year.

The winner of EUCOM's senior service member of the year award was Senior Master Sgt. Robert Henson, the operations superintendent for the 786th Security Forces Squadron at Sembach Annex.

The command's senior civilian of the year is Yvonne René Strombeck, a senior visual information specialist with EUCOM's Joint Analysis Center at RAF Molesworth in the United Kingdom.

Service & commitment

EUCOM Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. John B. Sylvester, the event's featured speaker, told the honorees they were being recognized for "your service and your commitment ... You have made a significant contribution among your group of peers."

Sylvester also lauded the work of all service members and civilians in support of the EUCOM mission.

"We are recognizing the effort of all of you as we recognize individuals among you," he said. "It's about what we do for one another ... and what we do for the country."

Support & motivation

This spirit of cooperation was reflected in the three award recipients who were present at the ceremony (Strombeck was unable to attend).

Henson said it was "tremendous support from my leaders, my subordinates and my peers" that enabled him to earn the award. "I just did my job," he said.

For Tailey, his wife's support during his long hours of studying – after putting in full days on the job – not only provided motivation, but also enhanced the satisfaction that came with his selection.

"Seeing her smiling when my name was called as the winner was wonderful," he said.

Landes cited both family and colleagues as essential to her success – but noted that knowing her co-workers caused her to initially doubt the phone call that informed her of her award.

"I thought it was a joke," she said. "My office is very comical."



Henson



Tailey



Landes



photos by Hugh C. McBride

As U.S. European Command Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. John B. Sylvester looks on, EUCOM Command Sgt. Maj. John Mersino presents a series of awards to a fellow Stuttgart Marine, Sgt. Prince Tailey. Tailey was named EUCOM's top junior service member April 16.

Harvard Black Sea Security Program

Black Sea region representatives visit Stuttgart as part of annual security conference

Story & photo by Melanie Casey

Twenty-six representatives from nine Black Sea countries met with senior officers from U.S. European Command's Plans and Policy (J-5) and Programs (J-4) directorates April 16 in Stuttgart to discuss economic, political and military issues.

The meeting was part of Harvard University's Black Sea Security Program.

The program – now in its fourth year – brings together high-level military and civilian decision makers from countries in the Black Sea region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Turkey and the Ukraine) in informal, neutral environments to discuss security issues and foster personal relationships, said Program Director Sergei Konoplyov.

The ties that bind

“We try to get intergovernmental organization representatives to meet their counterparts from neighboring countries and the United States, too,” Konoplyov said.

One of the biggest benefits of the two-week program is the network of informal relationships that develops, Konoplyov added.

Although the individual countries in-

volved decide who attends the program, Konoplyov said program organizers try to get a good mix of high-level military and civilian participants from various Black Sea-area Department of Ministry “think tanks.”

This enables participants to garner alternate, more realistic views than just the politically “official” standpoints, Konoplyov said.

A new Fulda Gap

“Today more than ever, it’s important we get together,” said Rear Admiral John Goodwin, deputy director of EUCOM’s Plans and Policy Directorate, in his opening remarks.

“We must work together to fight the global war on terrorism,” Goodwin told the group of delegates, noting that EUCOM’s objectives in the Black Sea region include not only thwarting terrorism but also promoting regional and economic security.

“That’s what this forum is all about,” he said.

Goodwin also noted that the threat [to the United States] has changed dramatically from 20 years ago. “We must stop the terrorist threat before it gets to Europe and the United States,” he said.

To that end, one of EUCOM’s objectives is stability in the Black Sea region because “the new Fulda Gap for EUCOM is centered

‘
The new Fulda Gap for EUCOM is centered in the middle of the Black Sea.

Col. Mike Anderson

EUCOM Directorate of Plans and Policy

in the middle of the Black Sea,” Col. Mike Anderson, chief, Europe Plans and Policy Division, said.

(Located in Northern Germany, the Fulda Gap was thought throughout the Cold War to be the likely point for a Soviet Union invasion into Western Europe).

The Black Sea Security Program began in 2001 and is funded by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the U.S. Department of Defense. In addition to Stuttgart participants in this year’s program visited Sophia, Bulgaria; Washington, D.C.; and Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

For more information about the Harvard Black Sea Security Program visit www.harvard-bssp.org.



Col. Mike Anderson addresses this year’s Black Sea Program delegates.

‘We are beyond normal wartime rules’

Bell orders extraordinary efforts on behalf of 1st Armored Division families

U.S. Army, Europe, Release

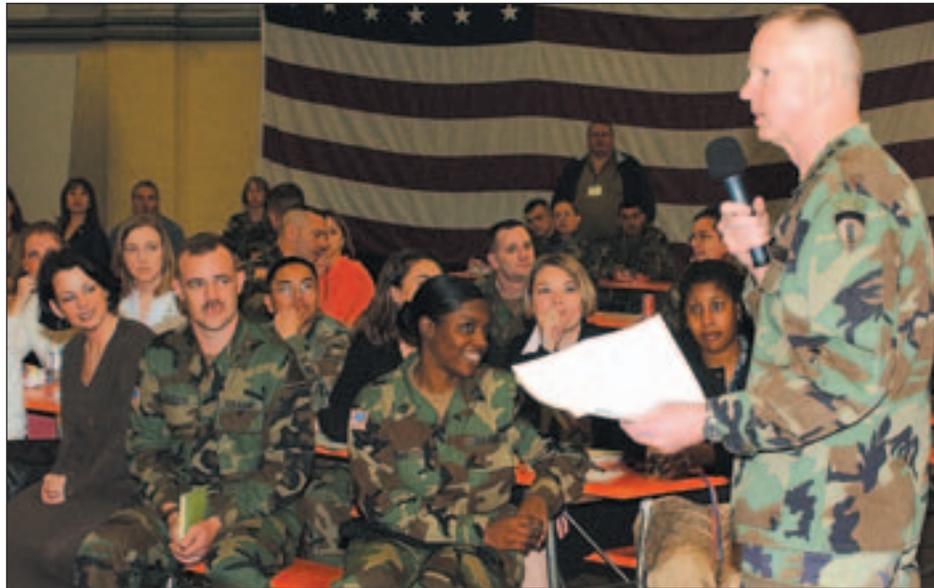
Black Thursday is how some family members of 1st Armored Division Soldiers refer to the day they were notified that the troops were extended in Iraq.

U.S. Army, Europe, Commanding Gen. B.B. Bell referred to it as “a bad dream,” and promised the immediate efforts of everyone on his staff to make it more bearable for families facing the extended deployment. “I wasn’t counting on an extension, but it’s my job to make sure you get through the next four months knowing we will take care of your needs,” Bell said.

To facilitate this help, Bell brought the senior members of his staff, loaded with answers and authority, to Friedberg and Baumholder for Town Hall meetings April 23.

They met first with community leaders who provide services to families, and later with the family support group leaders and rear detachment Soldiers who assembled for a lunchtime discussion to tell him what they needed.

Speaking to community leaders, Bell said that rules for peace worked minimally during wartime, but now a change in mindset was needed. “We have to turn it around now. I know that’s what you want to do. I’m here to authorize you to do what’s right on behalf of those families. Find ways around the regulations that don’t make sense for the next four months, and don’t say no.”



Arthur McQueen

USAREUR Commander Gen. B.B. Bell addresses attendees of a Town Hall meeting in Friedberg about the 1st AD’s extended tour in Iraq.

“As long as you can look in the mirror, and say ‘I’m doing what’s right,’ we won’t be calling,” he said.

One of several issues of concern was having community sports and youth activity programs continue through summer, rather than ending with the school year.

“We have this one solved,” said Russell Hall, Installation Management Agency Europe Region, director. Hall said fund-

ing has begun, with the remainder due in days. Other issues raised included powers of attorney, counselors and religious services, mentoring and summer school.

Bell directed his subject matter experts to solve all of these issues immediately. Bell also announced that each Soldier who was extended in Iraq will receive \$800 of assignment incentive pay and \$200 of additional hazardous duty pay for each month they are extended. “The command team is really here to help the spouses with their issues. I feel a lot better now, like the community is really coming together,” said Jenn Southard, whose spouse has been deployed since May 2003.

‘I wasn’t counting on an extension, but it’s my job to make sure you get through the next four months knowing we will take care of your needs.’

Gen. B.B. Bell
U.S. Army, Europe



photos by Melanie Casey

Marines assigned to the Stuttgart-based Headquarters, Marine Corps Forces Europe, salute while marching during MARFOREUR's Command Sergeant Major Relief and Appointment Ceremony April 21 on Panzer Kaserne.

MARFOREUR welcomes new sergeant major

By Mildred Green



Incoming MARFOREUR Command Sgt. Maj. August Beilmann, right, receives a ceremonial sword from MARFOREUR Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Jack Davis April 21 on Panzer Kaserne.



Sgt. Maj. Carlton Kent breaks into a smile while addressing ceremony attendees.

The first Marine to serve as the command sergeant major for Headquarters, Marine Corps Forces Europe, Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent, was honored during a relief and appointment ceremony April 21 on Panzer Kaserne.

The ceremony also served to officially welcome Kent's replacement at MARFOREUR, Sgt. Maj. August F. Beilmann.

Kent leaves MARFOREUR for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, where he will serve as command sergeant major. Though the 1st MEF is based at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Kent will deploy to Iraq to meet up with his new unit there.

'All Marine'

MARFOREUR's Deputy Commander, Maj. Gen. Jack Davis, reflected on Kent's time in Stuttgart after the relief and appointment ceremony.

Davis described Kent as "the M&M guy." He said the first "M" stood for being "all Marine," which Kent exemplifies as a warrior leader with esprit de corps.

The other "M," stands for mentor, Davis said, citing Kent's efforts both as teacher and advisor.

During the ceremony, Kent received the Legion of Merit award – which is the highest award a Marine can get outside of combat. "We wish you God's blessing," Davis told Kent. "Semper Fi."

Kent's wife, Elizabeth, was presented with flowers and a certificate of appreciation for her unfailing support of and devotion to MARFOREUR.

'A branded title in your heart'

Kent thanked God, his wife, and a number of Marines and family members for their effort and support during his time with MARFOREUR.

Kent then turned to the Marines aligned in formation on the parade ground behind him. "Marine is not something you just wear over your pocket. It's a branded title in your heart that lasts forever," he said.

"I leave you with pride because you will do great things for MARFOREUR," he added.

Before handing the microphone to Beilmann, Kent said he could not think of anyone better to take his place as MARFOREUR's command sergeant major.

Davis welcomed Beilmann by praising his leadership and experience. "I know you will take great care of our Marines," he said.

"I will serve you and we will serve our country in the core with as much honor, courage and commitment that we can muster," Beilmann said. "With that said, let's be about the business of Marines."



MARFOREUR Deputy Chief of Staff Col. Lee Busby bids farewell to members of an Albanian military delegation at the end of their weeklong visit to Stuttgart.

Stuttgart Marines host Albanians

Weeklong visit focused on NCO corps development

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

Though they may be best known for battlefield ferocity, the Marines of the Stuttgart-based Headquarters, Marine Corps Forces Europe, are also active in the bridge-building business.

As Master Gunnery Sgt. David Bumgardner put it, "Part of the Marine legacy is to win hearts and minds."

To that end, MARFOREUR hosted a delegation of military members from Albania for five days in April. Led by Lt. Col. Vasil Lelaj, the Albanians came to Stuttgart to learn the finer points of developing a noncommissioned officer corps.

"The primary goal of this visit was to give [the Albanians] a first-hand look at how our NCOs operate," said MARFOREUR Deputy Chief of Staff Col. Lee Busby.

Staff Sgt. Stephen Long, who worked closely with the Albanian delegation, said the visitors were "focused toward the future as a part of NATO. They're hungry to develop an NCO corps on a career level."

Conducted under the auspices of U.S. European Command's Joint Contact Team, the visit was designed to help the Albanian military increase its reliance on NCOs and implement methods to transition responsibilities from officers to career enlisted personnel.

"What we want to take back to our country is the best we can learn from other nations," Lelaj said, adding that he was impressed not only with the Marines' professional development but also with their hospitality.

"In our country, we have a saying: The first day, we consider you a guest; by the third day we consider you part of the family. We have been treated like a part of the family in Stuttgart," Lelaj said.

Maj. Tim Keefe of the MARFOREUR Public Affairs Office said communication between U. S. military members and their counterparts in other countries is beneficial not only to the parties involved, but to the world as a whole. "The nations we're working with in these types of programs are our partners in the war on terrorism."

News & Notes

Catholic parish seeks pianist

A pianist is needed to play during Mass Saturdays or Sundays. Hours are flexible and practice time on the piano is available.

For more information call Lani Hendryx at 08821-942-914 or e-mail lani.hendryx@garmisch.army.mil.

Garmisch flea market returns soon

There will be a regular flea market in Garmisch every second Saturday of the month at Wittelsbach Park, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning in June.

For more information visit the Host Nation Affairs office, building 203, room 105 on Artillery Kaserne.

New scoutmaster needed

Troop 50 is looking for a member of the Garmisch community to become its new scoutmaster.

Those willing to volunteer should call Jack Clarke at 0172-855-9562.

Upcoming Burke Lodge events

- **Travel to Urbino and Ravenna, Italy, May 20 to 23.** The cost is \$320 and includes three overnights.

- **Classical music in Munich, May 11.** Tickets range from 20 to 35 euro.

- **Hamlet lecture and video, May 24, 7 p.m.** The cost is \$2.

For more information or to register for a trip call 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461.

AER campaign in full swing

The Army Emergency Relief campaign is in full swing in Garmisch. To contribute call the George C. Marshall Center's Staff Sgt. Moran at 440-2572/civ. 08821-750-572.

For more information about Army Emergency Relief online visit www.aerhq.org.

ACS takes a break

Army Community Service is closed May 5 to 14. Individuals who need assistance with the loan closet during this time should contact the housing office at 442-2561/civ. 08821-750-561.

For emergencies contact the Directorate of Community Activities at 440-2684/civ. 08821-750-684.

For Equal Employment Opportunity assistance contact the Stuttgart EEO office at 421-2708/civ. 0711-729-2708.

Softball season fast approaching

The softball season begins May 10. Both co-ed and open leagues are available, so put together a team and join the fun at Kozlowski Field this summer.

For details contact the Mueller Fitness Center at 440-2747/civ. 08821-750-747.

Classes at The Crafts Tree

Instructional quilting classes with Sandra Fagan begin soon in The Crafts Tree, building 263 on Artillery Kaserne.

- **"Uncle Sam Wallhanging"** for advanced beginners runs Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., from May 18 to June 29. The cost is \$45.

- **"Fat Quarter Bag"** for beginners is May 20 and 27, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$35.

The Crafts Tree is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 9 p.m., and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to register for a class call 442-2888/civ. 08821-759-888.

GCSC holds luncheon, elections

The Garmisch Community Spouses' Club meets May 7 at the Grand Cafe for its monthly luncheon. RSVP to Jen Roberts at 08821-943-1680 or Sandra Slade at 08821-730-863.

Spring elections are right around the corner. Available positions include president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and treasurer as well as committee chairs.

For details call Monica Haschak at 08821-730-293.

German classes coming soon

An Introductory German class is forming (ever so slowly!) in Garmisch. We have five students registered, and need just three more to start the class.

For more information call Paul Dutro or Jessica Roberson at 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461.

'An ever-changing place'

Garmisch residents find instruction, inspiration in 'The Crafts Tree'

Story & photos
by Hugh C. McBride

Whether you want to play a piano or build one, the Garmisch Arts & Crafts Center is the place for you.

Music classes, art supplies and a wide range of woodworking tools are just a few of the enticements luring Garmisch's more creative-minded residents into Artillery Kaserne's building 263 – better known as "The Crafts Tree."

"This is an ever-changing place," said Michele Schneider, who oversees the center. With a significant inventory of supplies and an ample amount of work and class space, the center is able to adapt its offerings to meet the interests and talents of community members.

"If you have a talent or a hobby that you'd be willing to teach to others, come and see me," she said.

Current opportunities available at The Crafts Tree include the following:

- Drawing and painting
- Framing
- Woodworking
- Sewing and quilting
- Jewelry making
- Pottery and ceramics
- Piano instruction

While assistance is available, patrons are welcome to work on their own, Schneider said – provided they have demonstrated competence in safety and craftsmanship. "We don't charge any fees for use of the equipment, just for materials," she said.

Garmisch resident Tracy Rieper, who was working on a custom-framing project at the center, said she was impressed by both the educational opportunities and financial incentives associated



Calvin Grung works in the woodshop of the Garmisch Arts & Crafts Center (The Crafts Tree) on Artillery Kaserne.

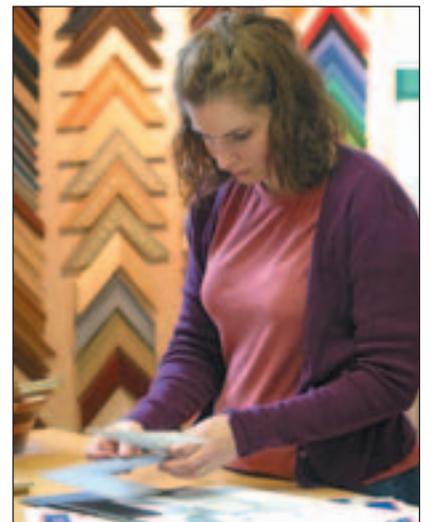
Michele is an amazing teacher, and the hours here are fantastic.

Tracy Rieper
Patron of The Crafts Tree

with the facility

"I save a lot of money by framing my own pictures," Rieper said. "Michele is an amazing teacher, and the hours here are fantastic."

The Crafts Tree is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 9 p.m. It is also open Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Donna Janka matches frame selections to personal photos in The Crafts Tree.

AST Garmisch honors volunteers at annual recognition ceremony

By Hugh C. McBride

Area Support Team Garmisch honored its community's volunteers with an April 28 recognition ceremony in the General Patton Hotel.

Celebrated because they "inspire by example" (the theme of Volunteer Week 2004), Garmisch residents who donated their time and talents throughout the previous 12 months were thanked during the ceremony.

Event speakers included AST Garmisch Director Greg Holzinger, George C. Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose and 6th Area Support Group Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez.

"As operational tempos increase – and stresses on families rise – our volunteers never fail to answer the call to service," Chavez said.

"From coaching a softball team to comforting the fam-



6th ASG Youth of the Year Ikaika San Nicholas was one of several honorees April 28 in Garmisch.

ily of a deployed service member, our volunteers ensure that even in these troubled times no member of our military family is ever alone," he added.

In addition to recognizing volunteers of the quarter for the previous year, the ceremony also served to honor the following four community members for significant service:

- **Elfie Chan** – Chan was given a Continuous Service Award for more than 13 years of service in the community's thrift shop.

- **Ikaika San Nicholas** – A high school senior and active volunteer, San Nicholas was honored for his recent selection as 6th ASG Youth of the Year.

- **Staff Sgt. Andrew Parra and Melissa Parra** – Though unable to attend the ceremony, the Parras were recognized in the program for earning a Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and Certificate of Appreciation for Civilian Patriotic Service, respectively.

KidsFest: An entertaining afternoon



Hugh C. McBride

[Above] Cathy Schmitt begins what will soon become a butterfly on the face of Kendra Taylor, 6, in the Patch Youth Services. Schmitt's face-painting station was a popular stop for KidsFest 2004 participants.



Hugh C. McBride

[Center] Caroline Coggins gets a helping hand from Trevon Clay, 3, as she staffs a passport station in the Patch Community Club. KidsFest attendees presented their passports at each activity station to become eligible for prize drawings.



Hugh C. McBride

[Bottom] After winning a prize at the basketball shooting contest in the Patch Fitness Center, Jalend Venn shares the secrets of his success with interviewer Steve Sanders.



Melanie Casey



[Above and right] Players and coaches run onto the field to the cheers of the crowd as their teams are introduced during the April 17 Opening Day ceremony.

[Left] As is traditional, all players recite the Little League pledge during the Opening Day ceremony on Patch Barracks. The 2004 pledge was led by former Major League pitcher Don Gordon.

[Far right, main photo] 6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris throws out the ceremonial first pitch to begin the Youth Services softball season.

[Far right, inset] Former Major League baseball player Jay Bell throws out the first pitch to start YS baseball April 17 on Patch Barracks.



Play Ball!

YS baseball, softball seasons start with sun-splashed ceremony on Patch Barracks

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Other Nature must be a baseball fan. Sandwiched between two weeks of gray skies and autumn-like temperatures, spring blossomed across Stuttgart just in time for Youth Services baseball and softball seasons to start in style.

One day after former Major League baseball players Don Gordon and Jay Bell hosted two clinics on Patch Barracks, baseball and softball seasons officially began with an Opening Day ceremony on Patch's Husky Field.

"We're here today to celebrate our freedom through the time-honored tradition of America's pastime," said Col. James Murtha, president of the Stuttgart Little League.

The 10 a.m. ceremony started with the posting of the colors by Patch High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet Michael Long followed by a stirring a capella rendition of The Star Spangled Banner by Senior Airman Mindy McCaleb.

After Murtha's opening remarks, the diamond became abuzz with activity as, team-by-team, the players who comprise all of Stuttgart's youth baseball and softball squads ran onto the field.

With the players in formation around the infield, Murtha introduced the ceremony's featured speaker, former Major League All-Star Bell.

The son of a career Airman, Bell spent much of his youth on overseas military installations – and he appeared to relish his return.

"It was a pleasure to come out and hang out with the kids," he said. "The kids were extremely honorable and were very well behaved. We had a great time."

Bell expounded upon the theme of honor in his comments to the assembled players, coaches, parents and volunteers.

"Baseball and softball are about team – they're about working together for a common goal," he said.

Speaking directly to the young players, he said working hard in practice, giving a consistent effort during games, and always being respectful are not only their responsibility, but also their way of honoring the game and their coaches, umpires and fans.

"You also need to learn to be a gracious loser," he said. "Not liking it a lot, but being gracious."

Bell also said his attendance at both the Opening Day ceremony and the April 16 clinics was a small way for him to honor the sacrifices made by service members and their families throughout the world.

"We're here today to celebrate our freedom through the time-honored tradition of America's pastime."

Col. James Murtha
Stuttgart Little League

"We don't thank you enough," he said. The ceremony ended with a recitation of the Little League pledge, which Gordon led, and the throwing out of two ceremonial first pitches.

Bell did the honors for baseball season, followed by 6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris, who ended the Opening Day festivities by delivering the first pitch of softball season.

For more information about Youth Services sports in Stuttgart call 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-616.



Downloading shared files threatens security

Use of 'Peer-to-Peer' programs also violates Army regulation

By Sgt. 1st Class Eric Hortin
U.S. Army Network Enterprise
Technology Command

Individuals across the globe spend hours in front of their computer screens, often downloading music or movies without paying a cent.

While civilian organizations continue to debate the morality and legality of these actions, the U.S. military is clear on its position: Downloading shared files on a government computer is a security threat and a violation of Army regulation.

One popular method that is used to download files is Peer-to-Peer, or P2P, architecture. P2P allows any computer running specific applications to share files with and access devices on other computers on the same network without requiring a separate server.

Access without consent

"The idea of someone getting unfettered access to anything of yours without your explicit consent should scare anybody – and that's exactly what P2P authorizes," says Zina Justiniano, an intelligence analyst with the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command's Intelligence Division.

"P2P is freeware ... [and] most of the stuff that you pay nothing for has a high price," Justiniano said. "The fact that it's free says that anybody and their cousin can get it; that means that anybody and their cousin can get to your machine."

P2P applications also affect bandwidth. Since the start of the global war on terrorism, one of the most pressing issues

'A price to be paid' for P2P use

Commanders who unwittingly allow P2P to run unchecked on their networks may be held personally liable for any illegal possession, storage, copying or distribution of copyrighted materials that occurs on their networks.

Soldiers, civilian employees and contractors who use P2P on government computers can also look forward to harsh punishments depending on the files they share.

"Say you have a Soldier downloading music through P2P, in violation of copyright rules – the people who own the copyright can actually sue that Soldier," said Tom King, a

legal adviser with NETCOM.

"Then you have the issue that [the Soldier] is violating a lawful order," King said.

"Then you have the issue that it's a misuse of government time and misuse of a government resource. He or she can be in a world of hurt," he added.

"Prosecutions are on the rise. Discipline is on the rise. People are taking this stuff more seriously all the time," King said.

"People just don't understand that there's a price to be paid for this."

– Sgt. 1st Class Eric Hortin

from the field has been the shortage of bandwidth to transmit battlefield intelligence to combatant commanders.

Unauthorized use of P2P applications accounts for significant bandwidth consumption – and limits the space available for official business and storage capacity on government systems.

An invitation to hackers

P2P use also exposes the network to Trojan horses, worms and viruses that create opportunities for hackers to attack systems.

Trojan horse applications record information and transmit it to outside sources. They can also install "backdoors" on operating systems and transmit credit card numbers and passwords – making these malicious programs a fa-

vorite of hackers.

Some of these codes allow hackers to snoop for passwords or disable antivirus and firewall software.

They can also link the infected system to P2P networks to send large amounts of information using vulnerabilities in the Windows operating systems.

Trojan horses are not the cause of all security issues. "Spyware" applications can also be installed with the user's unwitting consent (often buried in the long agreement that a user must accept in order to begin the installation).

Regulation violation

These are just a few of the reasons why the Army has enacted regulations prohibiting personnel from loading P2P

software onto government systems.

The Army's regulation on Information Assurance, AR 25-2, specifically prohibits the sharing of files by means of P2P applications.

Yet over a two-month period at the end of last year, government organizations identified more than 420 suspected P2P sessions on Army systems in more than 30 locations.

"People shouldn't assume they are using P2P applications in secrecy," said Ronald Stewart, deputy director of the CONUS Theater Network Operations and Security Center. "We are able to detect use of P2P, and when we do, we take measures."

To view the complete article from which these excerpts were taken, visit www.army.mil/arnews.

TF Soldier enhances warrior readiness

Task force follows Schoomaker's focus on 'The Soldier'

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

While inculcating the warrior ethos into all Soldiers is a top priority, so is ensuring that all deploying members of the Army team are properly trained and equipped, say members of a Fort Benning task force.

Task Force Soldier, a subordinate organization of Fort Benning's Infantry Center, has been charged by the chief of staff of the Army with analyzing Soldier training, equipment and readiness needs for fighting the global war on terrorism. The task force will coordinate with other Army organizations to implement programs and policies to meet those needs.

Materials and skills

TF Soldier is helping to ensure that needed clothing and equipment for deploying Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians are issued in a timely manner.

These items include moisture wicking undergarments that help prevent chafing in a desert environment, wraparound sunglasses and hydration systems.

These items will eventually become part of Soldiers' basic issue – items that they carry from post to post during their career, similar to what Special Forces Soldiers do with much of their gear – said Lt. Col. Peri Arnest, TF Soldier operations officer.

Other TF Soldier efforts include identifying 40 individual and 10 collective warrior tasks in which all Soldiers will be required to remain proficient, Arnest said.

"Those tasks include reacting to a grenade attack, evacuating a wounded or injured Soldier, avoiding an ambush and conducting a convoy operation," Arnest said. "[Training and Doctrine Command] is working to ensure the tasks are included in enlisted and officer initial entry training courses."

Warrior ethos

'The Soldier' is one of the focus areas the Army will be directing its resources toward "in a systematic and deliberate way in coming years," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker.

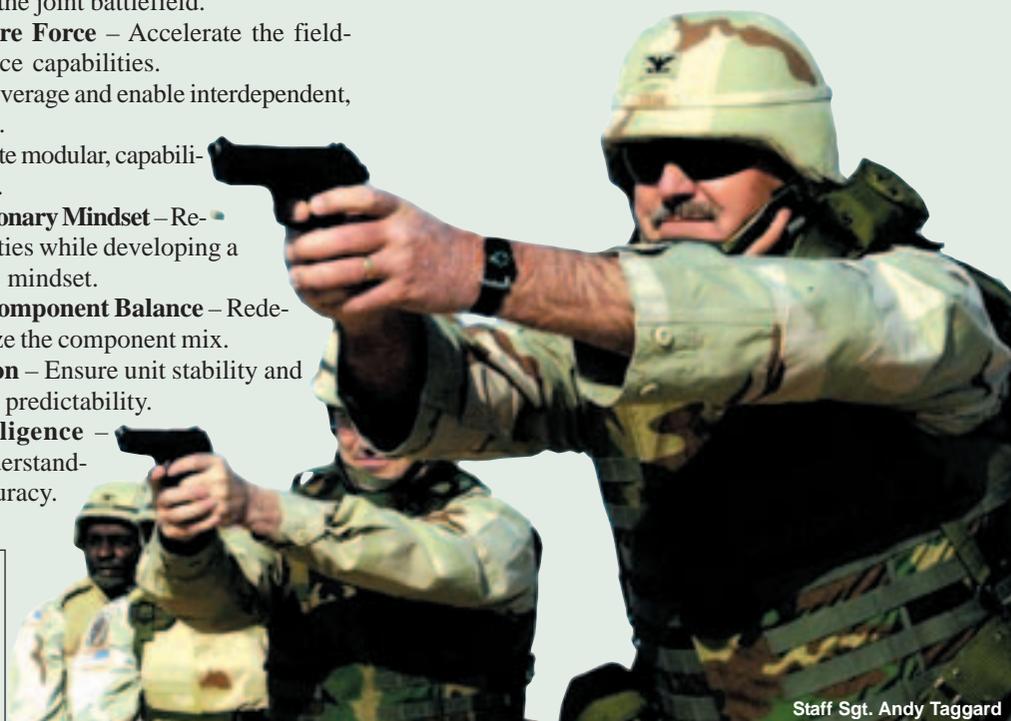
The warrior ethos statement contained within the new Soldier's Creed – "I will always place the mission first. I will never accept defeat. I will never quit. I will never leave a fallen comrade." – is a key aspect of The Soldier focus area, said Brig. Gen. Benjamin C. Freakley, Fort Benning's commanding general.

"This is about shifting the mindset of Soldiers from iden-

The Senior Leadership of the Army has established the following immediate focus areas to channel Army efforts on winning the Global War on Terrorism and to increase the Army's relevance and readiness.

- **The Soldier** – Develop flexible, adaptive and competent Soldiers with a warrior ethos.
- **The Bench** – Prepare future generations of leaders.
- **Combat Training Centers/Battle Command Training Program** – Focus training to meet requirements of the current security context.
- **Leader Development and Education** – Train and educate Army members of the joint team.
- **Army Aviation** – Conduct a holistic review of Army aviation and its role on the joint battlefield.
- **Current to Future Force** – Accelerate the fielding of select future force capabilities.
- **The Network** – Leverage and enable interdependent, network-centric warfare.
- **Modularity** – Create modular, capabilities-based unit designs.
- **Joint and Expeditionary Mindset** – Retain our campaign qualities while developing a joint and expeditionary mindset.
- **Active/Reserve Component Balance** – Redesign the force to optimize the component mix.
- **Force Stabilization** – Ensure unit stability and continuity, and provide predictability.
- **Actionable Intelligence** – Provide situational understanding with speed and accuracy.
- **Logistics** – Improve for a campaign-quality force.
- **Installations as Flagships** – Enhance installations' ability to project power and support families.
- **Authorities, Responsibilities and Accountability** – Clarify roles and enable agile decision-making.
- **Resource Processes** – Redesign resource processes to be flexible, responsive and timely.
- **Strategic Communications** – Tell the Army story so its relevance and direction are understood and supported.

For details visit
www.army.mil/thewayahead/focus.html



Staff Sgt. Andy Taggard

tifying what they do as a Soldier – 'I'm a cook, I'm an infantryman, I'm a postal clerk' – toward 'I am a warrior' when people ask what they do for a living," Freakley said.

The Soldier's Creed helps Soldiers understand that despite very diverse backgrounds, all Soldiers are warriors and members of a team, Freakley said.

The creed is also about changing the Army culture by encouraging it to examine its beliefs from a warrior's perspective and checking that the Army produces and retains Soldiers of value to the nation, he added.

"The Soldier's Creed training is being implemented throughout the Army, including pre-commissioning instruction, basic training and officer basic courses," Arnest said.

Schoomaker includes instruction on the Soldier's Creed when he talks to each pre-command course for officers preparing to take battalion, brigade or higher commands, Arnest said.

For more information about TF Soldier visit www.infantry.army.mil/taskforcesoldier.

Army Ball tickets available

Celebrate the Army's
229th birthday
at Stuttgart's
annual Army Ball
June 19.

For more information or
to purchase tickets:

- Contact your unit representative.
- Call 430-4100/civ. 0711-680-4100.
- E-mail your request to mantont@eucom.mil.

'The guts to try'

EUCOM historian explores history, legacy of failed mission to rescue hostages from Iran

By Lt. Col. John R. Dabrowski
U.S. European Command
History Office

Fifty-three Americans were taken hostage by militant Iranian "students" at the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran, Nov. 4, 1979, beginning a period of 444 days in which the Americans were held captive.

That same day, the U.S. government made a commitment to return the hostages to freedom.

Training

It was decided that a combination of helicopters and specialized aircraft could be used to accomplish the rescue. This mission is most often referred to as "Desert One."

The U.S. military assembled a rescue team composed of highly skilled volunteer Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines.

By the end of November, these men began training at a desert site in the western United States, where the terrain and climate were similar to those in Iran.

Rigorous training and exacting mission practice continued through March 1980.

Mission launch

President Jimmy Carter gave the authority to launch the mission April 24, 1980, when visibility and weather appeared most favorable.

At dusk that evening, eight RH-53 Sea Stallion helicopters took off from the deck of the aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz*. Their mission was to fly in darkness at low altitude, in formation, across hostile Iranian territory and rendezvous with the special operations C-130 aircraft at the Desert One site. Six C-130s had already departed for Desert One.

The mission was about two hours old when the first trouble occurred. Because of severe mechanical problems, one helicopter was forced to land and transfer crew and equipment to another helicopter.

A short time later, the C-130s and RH-53s encountered an unexpected dust storm that degraded visibility and made navigation difficult.

As a result of this storm, a second helicopter aborted the mission, reversed its course and returned safely to the *Nimitz*.

The C-130s arrived first at the Desert One refueling site, followed by the six remaining Sea Stallions.

Unfortunately, a third helicopter developed a hydraulic problem en route to Desert One.

The mission plan required a minimum of six helicopters.

With this third helicopter out, President Carter reluctantly made the decision to abort the April 24 mission.

Preparations were begun to complete the refueling of the helicopters

'No day hurts more than the day when these brave men lost their lives in an attempt to reach us.'

Bruce Langdon
Former hostage

and evacuate the site at Desert One. Tragically, while an RH-53 helicopter was being repositioned on the ground, its rotary blade struck the fuselage of a C-130, setting the two aircraft ablaze.

Though courageous efforts were made to save lives, three Marines in the helicopter were killed, and five Air Force crewmembers died on the refueling aircraft.

A national ceremony commemorating all the veterans of the rescue force was held at Arlington National Cemetery May 9, 1980.

The bravery of the individuals who participated in the aborted rescue attempt was perhaps best expressed by Ambassador Bruce Langdon, a former hostage in Iran:

"While no day hurts more – then, today and always – than the day when these brave men lost their lives in an attempt to reach us, no day makes us more proud as well, because of the way in which they stood for that cause of human freedom. For that, all of us will be forever grateful."

A 'wake-up call'

The failed mission was a "wake-up call" to the U.S. military with regards to special operations missions. It was seen as a turning point for special operations – a time when the military began investing time, money and resources.

The Desert One mission ended a period of decline for special operations forces during the 1970s – a time marked by distrust between special forces and the conventional military and by significant funding cuts for special operations.

Desert One also led the Defense Department to appoint an investigative panel, whose findings prompted the DoD to create a counterterrorist joint task force and Special Operations Advisory Panel.

On June 1, 1987, the U.S. Special Operations Command was activated at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, both special operations and conventional forces have waged war against global terrorism. The tragedy in the Iranian desert almost a quarter of a century ago brought about many of the changes that enable the United States to continue this campaign against terrorism.



photos courtesy U.S. European Command

Images of a disaster – Above and below, left, photos of the wreckage of the Desert One effort to rescue U.S. hostages from Iran. Below, right, members of the ill-fated mission.





[Above] Soldiers including Staff Sgt. Charles Howard of Larson Barracks, Germany (center right), perform the final act during the 2004 Soldier Show.

'Heart of a Soldier' coming to Stuttgart

2004 Soldier Show focuses on family connection during deployment

Story & photos by Tim Hips
Special to Army News Service

Communication between deployed Soldiers and their loved ones is the driving force behind "The Heart of a Soldier," theme of the 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show, which visits Stuttgart May 9, 5:30 p.m., in the Patch Barracks Fitness Center gymnasium.

Although every edition of the Army Soldier Show has a theme, few weave a storyline throughout the evening quite like this year's emotional rendition, said Soldier Show Director Victor Hurtado.

An emotional event

From letters to cellular telephone calls to e-mails, Hurtado said this is a song-and-dance display of how deployed Soldiers touch base with home during the global war on terrorism.

Prepare to have your heart-strings tested, Hurtado warned, as the show explores the "telepathic energy" that exists between deployed Soldiers and their loved ones at home.

Variety is the spice

Country, rock, pop, gospel, rhythm and blues, Latin and "'80s hair-band rock," as Hurtado calls it, are intertwined throughout the show, which includes the works of Prince, ABBA and Outkast. Hurtado said the show "moves really quickly" and won't exceed 90 minutes.

The cast includes active-duty, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers who range in rank from private first class to first lieutenant.

A Soldier tradition

The Soldiers are attached to the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center's Army Entertainment Detachment while on tour.



Sgt. Paul Kosby of Giebelstadt, Germany (second from right), joins three other Soldiers during a performance of "Yesterday."

U.S. Army Soldier Show in Stuttgart

May 9, 5:30 p.m., Patch Barracks Fitness Center

Free admission

For details call 421-2796/civ. 0711-729-2796.

The cast continues the tradition of "entertainment for the Soldier, by the Soldier" established during World War I by Irving Berlin, the founding father of today's Army Entertainment program. Berlin, best known for "White Christmas" and "God Bless America," wrote the first U.S. Army Soldier Show while on active duty in 1918 at Camp Upton, Long Island, N.Y.

During World War II, Berlin created another Soldier Show for Broadway, "This is the Army," which became a film featuring a military cast that included Ronald Reagan and Joe Louis.

At the request of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the show toured for three years, performing for troops stationed in Europe and the Pacific.

Online system tracks Soldiers' medical readiness

Command can verify troops' fitness with touch of button

Europe Army Regional Medical Command
Public Affairs Office Release

With an Internet connection and a few simple keystrokes, commanders and leaders across Europe can access the medical and dental readiness of units or Soldiers to ensure that they are medically ready to deploy.

Tracking readiness

The Army's Medical Protection System is the primary source to record, track and report the medical readiness of Soldiers and units, offering commanders and leaders a real-time, worldwide operational system to manage the medical deployability of units.

MEDPROS is used across Europe to track medical preparedness, said Col. Allen Kraft, director, Force Health Protection, Europe Regional Medical Command and U.S. Army, Europe.

Safe and effective

The data posted and reported on the system is secured and protected by using a combination of logon identifications and passwords as well as firewall and encryption techniques, Kraft said.

Since MEDPROS is used during Soldier readiness processing and during pre- and post-deployment processing, it provides the added benefit of complete and accurate electronic documentation of immunizations and other Soldier medical readiness requirements. This is true before and during deployments as well as when they return, thus capturing a comprehensive picture of a Soldier's medical readiness.

"All Army components – commands, units, Soldiers, ci-



courtesy Europe Army Regional Medical Command

Col. Allen Kraft (left) reviews the use of the Army's Medical Protection System, which records, tracks and reports Soldiers' medical readiness.

vilians and contractors – benefit from having a program that allows for the gathering, validating and reporting of medical readiness data," said Delois Klemm, ERM and USAREUR MEDPROS Medical Readiness coordinator.

"Not only can commanders get a medical readiness snapshot of a unit or of a Soldier from their desktop, MEDPROS allows us for the first time to document electronically and on one database that we are deploying healthy and medically fit Soldiers," Klemm said.

"It also ensures that same documentation during rede-

ployments from wars or other contingencies so that we can address any health issues that occurred when a Soldier was deployed or health concerns that may potentially arise later as a result of that deployment," Klemm added.

MEDPROS was initially put to the test in Europe between September 2002 and March 2003 when the Army in Europe documented the historical immunization data of over 500,000 individual immunizations for approximately 56,000 Soldiers.

Electronic data base

"For the first time we have an electronic data base that actually tracks the specific immunizations," Kraft said. "We've gone from sorting through paper files of individual medical records to a few keystrokes of a central electronic filing system.

"We're moving away from the days when hard copy medical records or immunization records were locked up, lost or misplaced, resulting in Soldiers having to receive immunizations again. When the records are posted in MEDPROS, they are accessible worldwide," Kraft said.

A key to readiness

Brig. Gen. Elder Granger, commander, Europe Regional Medical Command, is impressed with the success of MEDPROS in Europe.

"The leadership in USAREUR at every level recognizes that this centralized data system is key to unit readiness," Granger said.

"They realize the importance of having medically ready Soldiers to support the expeditionary force and they realize the significance of protecting these Soldiers and documenting these efforts," he added.



Heat for homes, not neighborhoods

By Hugh C. McBride

T.S. Eliot probably didn't have Dr. Mehdi Ghaderi in mind when he wrote the opening line of his epic poem, "The Waste Land," but he could have. Because both the poet and the 6th Area Support Group's energy manager would likely agree that "April is the cruelest month."

For Ghaderi, the problem with the year's fourth month isn't esoteric, but economic.

Cool April evenings prompt on-post residents to keep the heat on at night, but with the arrival of afternoon sunshine they often throw open their windows – without shutting off their radiators. And like Mom always said, we're not trying to heat the whole neighborhood here.

"We're asking all community members to be aware of energy conservation," Ghaderi said.

Residents who experience problems with their thermostats or radiators should call 430-HELP(4357)/civ. 0711-680-4357, said Ghaderi. He also said that individuals who need further assistance can contact him directly at 421-6126/civ. 0711-729-6126.

Students celebrate Earth Day

Field trips, service project encourage environmental awareness

By Hugh C. McBride

The Earth has its share of young allies in Stuttgart. Böblingen Elementary School and the 6th Area Support Group Directorate of Public Works (Environmental Division) teamed up for a week in April to promote a sense of Earth-friendliness among BES students.

Timed to coincide with the April 22 observance of Earth Day, the week involved both teaching the students about environmental awareness and allowing them to share their knowledge with fellow community members.

For the school's fifth- and sixth- grade students, the week began with field trips to the Stuttgart Water Treatment Plant. In addition to touring the facility, the students also performed experiments on water purification (learning how to ensure that water is safe for human consumption).

The Environmental Division's Bill Kavanagh said he received "nothing but positive feedback" from the field trip participants. "[The students said] they enjoyed the 'hands on' water purifying experiment immensely, and were astonished how they were able to change such murky water into 'clean' water," he said.

BES Principal Margaret Deatherage said the field trip went hand-in-hand with her school's emphasis on real-world education. "Böblingen Elementary's goals are to teach math and science in real-life situations," Deatherage said. "What could be more important than the purification of our drinking water?"

Deatherage said that the effort increased the students'



courtesy Böblingen Elementary School

Water purification experiments were just one part of Böblingen Elementary School's "Earth Week" activities.

knowledge of science and understanding of an important issue. "I believe that our youngsters now really understand the importance of ensuring that communities always have clean water to drink," she said.

On Earth Day itself, second-graders Trevor Taubitz, Christopher Turk and Sarah Wayland distributed Earth Day brochures to patrons of the Patch Commissary.

Mendoza takes reins of Youth Services sports program

By Hugh C. McBride

The 6th Area Support Group Youth Services has a new "top cop" for its sports program – and it didn't take long for his traffic-directing skills to come in handy.

Mike Mendoza, a former military police Soldier, took the reins of YS sports at the end of March – just in time to oversee the last-minute rush that preceded the opening of the YS baseball and softball seasons.

Verifying team assignments and eligibility, confirming uniform delivery and distribution – and of course hoping for good weather for the Opening Day ceremony – didn't leave Mendoza with much of a "honeymoon" period to ease into the position. But his boss, 6th Area Support Group Director of Community Activities Dennis Maruska knew he would be more than up for the challenge.

"We were very happy to have Mr. Mendoza join our staff here in Stuttgart," Maruska said. "He has extensive experience and knowledge in the MWR arena, and we know that he'll be a great asset to our community."

Before coming to Stuttgart, Mendoza worked in Youth Services, Outdoor Recreation and other Morale, Welfare and Recreation positions in Heidelberg and New York.

Yet before he begins to implement ideas drawn from his experience in other locations, Mendoza said, he wants to hear the opinions of Stuttgart's own subject-matter experts: the parents of children who participate in YS sports.

"The YS sports staff here is great. We all want only what is best for the program and the kids," Mendoza said. However, he added, the input of the community's parents is crucial to the program's continued success.

To encourage this feedback, Mendoza hopes to develop a Parent Advisory Council that will provide a forum for community members to "tell us what we're doing right, and tell us



'The YS sports staff here is great. We all want only what is best for the program and the kids.'

Mike Mendoza
6th ASG Youth Services

what we're doing wrong," he said.

A customer-centered mindset such as this, Maruska said, played a big part in the decision to add Mendoza to the YS staff.

"His track record of communication with staff and parents was a key factor in his selection, and we look forward to his efforts in that area here in Stuttgart," Maruska said.

To contact Mendoza call 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-616 or e-mail mendozam@6asg.army.mil.



Major Leaguers sharpen skills of Stuttgart youth

Story & photos
by Hugh C. McBride

Young athletes in Stuttgart got a chance to learn from two of baseball's best.

Former professional baseball players Don Gordon and Jay Bell hosted two skills clinics for Stuttgart-area youth baseball and softball players April 16 on Patch Barracks.

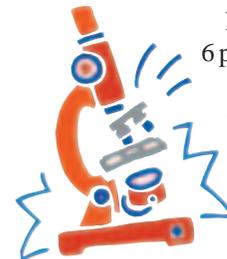
Brought to Germany on a goodwill mission by the International Baptist Church of Stuttgart, Gordon and Bell also hosted clinics for German players in addition to attending a variety of church-sponsored functions.

Volunteers needed for Patch High School events

The annual **Patch High School College Fair** will be held May 11, 6 to 8 p.m., in the PHS Forum.

The fair has been a very useful and successful event for area college-bound students over the years, but its success is dependent upon the participation of community members who volunteer to represent their alma maters.

For more information or to volunteer call Lynn Menches at 07159-933-707 or Robin Armstrong at 0711-120-8941 or e-mail patchcollegefair@yahoo.com.



PHS's **Junior High Science Fair** is May 26, 6 p.m., in the forum.

Volunteer judges are still needed for this event. Community members with a science background and a willingness to donate a few hours for the benefit of area youth are encouraged to call Cristen Klute at 430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191.

Are you ready for some football? Area service members join Team USA for charity game vs. Stuttgart Scorpions

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

Dan Miles wants to win his second straight Charity Bowl. But unlike the inaugural contest in 2002 – when he helped coach the Stuttgart Scorpions to a 62-14 lambasting of Team USA – Miles (and a few Stuttgart-area athletes) will be trying to win this one for the red, white and blue.

“I think this is one of the best teams that has ever come to Germany to play,” said Miles, a retired Soldier who is now coaching the Team USA Gladiators. The squad is primarily composed of minor league and semi-pro players from the United States – many of whom have college or Arena League experience.

The Gladiators’ Charity Bowl roster will be enhanced by 10 members of U.S. military communities in Germany, including Air Force Capt. Jake Fite of Stuttgart, who previously played for the Scorpions.

Team USA will face off against the Scorpions May 15, 6 p.m. in Degerloch’s Waldau Stadion. Game proceeds will be donated to

Charity Bowl 2004

Team USA vs. Stuttgart Scorpions

- When: May 15, 6 p.m.
- Where: Waldau Stadion (next to the TV Tower in Degerloch)
- Admission: 12 euro (seated); 6 euro (standing)
- For more information on the teams visit www.eteamz.com/teamusafootball/ or www.stuttgart-scorpions.de.

Herzenssache, a local German charity that serves disabled children, Miles said.

Though the full team will not arrive in Germany until four days before kickoff, Team USA Head Coach Rudy Wyland is confident that his side will be ready for the Charity Bowl.

“We selected exceptional athletes for this game, and we will put our best efforts into preparing,” Wyland said.

Though Team USA spent most of Charity Bowl 2002 trying to chase down the Stuttgart Scorpions, Coach Dan Miles says the May 15 rematch should give fans of the red, white and blue plenty to cheer about.

