



# WARNER WEEKLY

News & Information at Your Fingertips

VOL. 6, Issue 4

www.bamberg.army.mil

Thursday Jan. 27, 2011

## Tax center to open doors Feb. 1

By Mindy Campbell,  
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- It's that time of the year to start thinking about taxes.

In preparation for the upcoming April 18 deadline to file 2010 returns, the Bamberg Tax Center will open its doors Tuesday, said Pamela Taylor, the Bamberg Tax Assistance coordinator. The center, located in Building 7000 on the fourth floor, will be open for both appointments and walk-ins.

The center will be open Monday through Friday from 9 – 11:30 a.m. and 1 – 3:30 p.m. During the month of February, the center will also be open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon by appointment.

Although not open until next week, community members can schedule appointments beginning Friday.

The tax center service is free for qualified individuals, Taylor said.

The staff is made up of both Soldiers and civilians, who have been trained and certified by

the Internal Revenue Service, Taylor said.

"The service we provide is free," she said. "We are all IRS-certified and do what they do off post."

Another benefit of filing taxes with the Bamberg Tax Center is that the staff members have extensive experience with the military and military tax documents.

"Off post, you might run into the fact the preparer is not familiar with the military or our documents," she said.

Last year, the center filed more than 3,000 tax returns, with customers receiving more than \$4 million in federal and state tax refunds, Taylor said. This saved the community about \$312,000 in tax preparation fees.

Before walking into an appointment at the tax center, community members should prepare a few items to ensure they are ready to file their taxes, Taylor said.

Community members should bring anything tax-related including W-2s, dividend and interest documents. They also need to bring in

military identification cards and social security cards for all people listed on the return – even children.

"If you think it pertains to taxes, bring it in," Taylor said. "If you have a question about a document, you can always call us and ask."

As the tax filing deadline approaches, the Army continues to offer information and insight on how to properly file taxes and where service members can access professional assistance for a low or no cost.

Tax laws, such as standard deduction rates, can change annually so it is important that Army personnel use a professional program or office to complete filing.

U.S. Army Europe has produced an information brochure on U.S. tax preparation, Fact File, that they have posted on their website: [http://www.hqsareur.army.mil/FactFiles/Fact-File\\_AE-TaxCenters\\_2010-01-29.pdf](http://www.hqsareur.army.mil/FactFiles/Fact-File_AE-TaxCenters_2010-01-29.pdf)

The product not only answers commonly asked questions, but specifically focuses on

(TAX continued on page 12)

## Military police upbeat about stopping vehicle abandonment

By Douglas DeMaio, USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- Military police are stepping up their efforts to discourage Soldiers from abandoning their Privately Owned Vehicle and those who do so may receive more severe punishment than a fine.

An area near the nonoperational-vehicle lot has been cordoned off area to ensure owners don't temporarily store or abandon their vehicles.

The "purpose of cordoning off the area is... to alert the community that this area is not a drop off point, strip-repair area or permanent parking for nonoperational POVs," said Paul Townsend, a traffic investigator for the Directorate of Emergency Services.

There is designated storing and disposal procedures for nonoperational vehicles, Townsend said. Owners need to make arrangements through the DES Traffic Section to have their nonoperational vehicles properly stored inside the designated community nonoperational holding area.

"The designated POV nonoperational holding area is... not a permanent storage area," Townsend said.

Nonoperational POVs are vehicles that do not meet mechanical and safety inspection standards and are unable to pass a vehicle registration inspection.

Nonoperational vehicles are required to be parked on U.S.-controlled property as designated by the U.S. Army Garrison commander.

Once a nonoperational POV is placed inside the nonoperational-vehicle

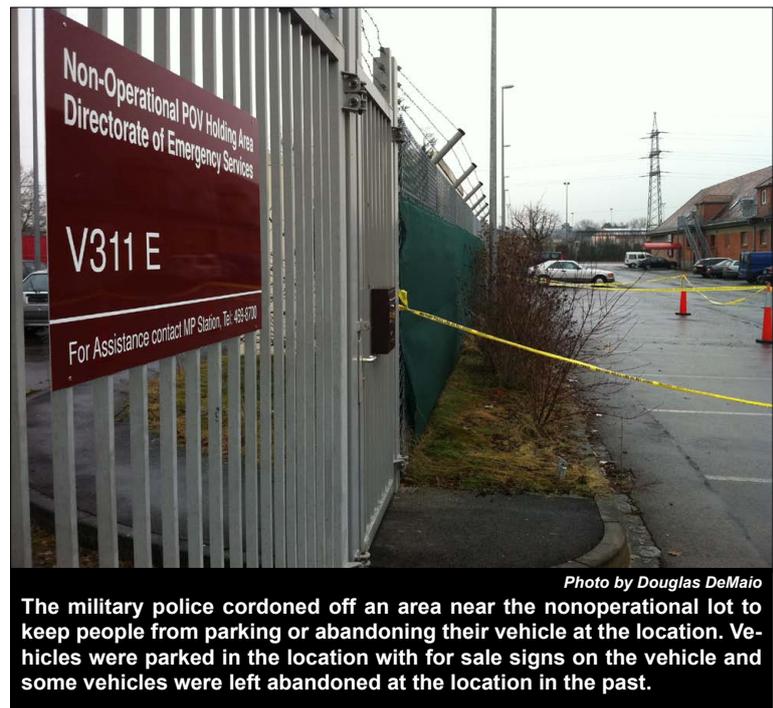


Photo by Douglas DeMaio

The military police cordoned off an area near the nonoperational lot to keep people from parking or abandoning their vehicle at the location. Vehicles were parked in the location with for sale signs on the vehicle and some vehicles were left abandoned at the location in the past.

lot, the owner has the obligation to have their vehicle either re-registered or disposed of through Morale, Welfare and Recreation strip yard before the expiration date of non-operational vehicle registration, Townsend

(POV continued on page 12)

# Bamberg's Facebook page reaches 2,000 fans

By Douglas DeMaio,  
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs



BAMBERG, Germany--  
U.S. Army Garrison  
Bamberg's Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/usag-bamberg](http://www.facebook.com/usag-bamberg) reached 2,000 fans Jan. 24.

Since launching the Facebook page May 5, an average of about 150 new fans joined per month, and while 2,000 fans don't appear to be a large amount of fans for a Facebook page, the amount exceeds more than 25 percent of the installation's population.

Army leaders put a lot of their focus and attention on making sure their community members stay informed, and social network services help in that effort.

Facebook is enhancing the way people and organizations communicate, and the Warner Barracks community is no different.

Having a resource that allows members of the community to collaborate on common issues, topics and events that affect their everyday life has proved useful to both the command and the community.

The command uses it to put out information on programs or events useful to the community and is able to view instant feedback from the community.

The Facebook page also allows the command to have a virtual two-way dialog with the community, which allows the command to better understand the community's needs and desires.

While it is a great tool for the community to communicate with one another and the command, it is not the main medium to address all issues. Its purpose is to empower the community by helping one another and to provide useful and timely information while maintaining operational security.



During the past nine months, there have been numerous constructive topics posted by both fans and the administrators.

Several fans have exchanged information that has allowed for people moving to Bamberg to get a better idea for some of the unique challenges they may experience before arriving here.

But helping people find their way in a new country overseas isn't the only comfort the page provides.

Last week, neighbors communicating over Warner Barrack's Facebook page helped return a lost ferret to its owners.

To sign up for the USAG Bamberg - Warner Barracks Facebook page, visit [www.facebook.com/usagbamberg](http://www.facebook.com/usagbamberg).



Photo by Douglas DeMaio

U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg's Facebook page, located at [www.facebook.com/usagbamberg](http://www.facebook.com/usagbamberg), has more than 2,000 fans. The Facebook page has helped to empower community members and given them a resource to communicate with one another on topics that affect their everyday life.

## Facebook

### USAG Bamberg

[www.facebook.com/usagbamberg](http://www.facebook.com/usagbamberg)

### Morale, Welfare and Recreation

[www.facebook.com/bambergmwr](http://www.facebook.com/bambergmwr)

### Freedom Fitness Facility

[www.facebook.com/usagbamberg#!/usagbambergfff](http://www.facebook.com/usagbamberg#!/usagbambergfff)

### Army Community Service

[www.facebook.com/usagbamberg#!/bambergacs](http://www.facebook.com/usagbamberg#!/bambergacs)



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U.S. Army Garrison  
Bamberg, Commander

USAG Bamberg, Public Affairs Officer  
**Renate Bohlen**

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All MWR Programs provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with special needs. For assistance please contact the facility manager prior to your visit.

To subscribe to the Warner Weekly please send an email with 'SUBSCRIBE' as the subject to [bambergpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:bambergpao@eur.army.mil)

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# Soldiers compete in quarterly 'best of' competition

By Spc. Kevin Alex,  
16th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- Every three months, 16th Sustainment Brigade Soldiers have a Warrior Leader of the Quarter and Warrior of the Quarter competition where the best Soldiers from each of the brigade's subordinate battalions go head-to-head in a multitude of challenges to see who is the best in the brigade.

In order to compete in this competition, Soldiers must first win a company board and a battalion competition.

The winners of the competition for the second quarter are Sgt. Moses Toliver, an electronic light maintenance shop foreman with B Company, 16th Special Troops Battalion, and Pfc. Monterio Churchman, an automated logistical specialist with 240th Quartermaster Supply Company, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

Toliver and Churchman will compete against the winners of the other three competitions in May for the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior Leader of the Year and Warrior of the Year title and the chance to represent the brigade at the 21st Theater Sustainment Command competition.



Photo by Spc. Kevin Alex

**Pfc. Monterio Churchman, an automated logistical specialist with 240th Quartermaster Supply Company, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, and Sgt. Kareem Jones, a multiple launch rocket system repairer with 317th Maintenance Company, 391st CSSB, plot their courses for the land navigation portion of the 16th Sustainment Brigade Warrior Leader of the Quarter and Warrior of the Quarter Competition.**

The competition consists of an Army Physical Fitness Test, written test, day land navigation course, night land navigation course, a six-mile ruck march and a formal board.

"The land nav course and the ruck march were the hardest parts, but they were also my favorites; I really liked the challenge," said Toliver. "I knew that this competition would be much more

(BEST continued on page 8)

## Place your bets



Photo by Szilvia Ascencio-Csapo

Players of the Texas Hold'em poker tournament at Birchview Bowling Lanes prepare to play at the final table on Jan. 22. The final table started with eight players. A total of 45 players entered the tournament that lasted about six hours.

## Monthly garrison dinners bring community together

By Mindy Campbell, USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- The Warner Conference Center was filled with the noise of laughter and shouts of excitement recently when community members gathered for a garrison dinner.

The dinner featured barbecue items such as ribs, chicken and hamburgers. After dinner, the group of about 85 people played Bingo while the children watched "Toy Story 3" on a giant inflatable screen in one of the meeting rooms, said Juergen Hagemann, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Business and Recreation Division chief.

"The dinners have been very successful," said Hagemann. "This latest one has been another great turnout."

The community dinners, which started in November, offer residents a chance to enjoy some American food and a night out, he said.

Each month the dinners have offered a varied menu and entertainment to appeal to a wide variety of community members, he said.

The garrison dinners are becoming a true community event.

Students from Bamberg Middle High School's culinary arts class have been volunteering at the dinners since the start, said Claire Aljunaibi, the culinary arts teacher. Students have done everything from helping serve, cleaning and even doing some food preparation and plating.

"This is a great way to be a part of the community," Aljunaibi said. "It is a wonderful opportunity to be able to go out and actually practice the things we learn instead of just learning about these things."

(DINNER continued on page 13)

## Community Announcements

Please send all announcements to Bamberg Public Affairs via the following website:

<http://www.bamberg.army.mil/mobilform.asp>.

### Closed campus

Beginning Monday, Jan. 31, Bamberg Middle High School will be going to a closed campus policy. This means that students will not be allowed off the school grounds during the lunch period. For more information, call the school at 0951-300-8874.

### EFMP

Find out more about Exceptional Family Member Program through the monthly Newsletter. Find out more by visiting [www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/).

### Volunteers, Issues Needed for AFAP

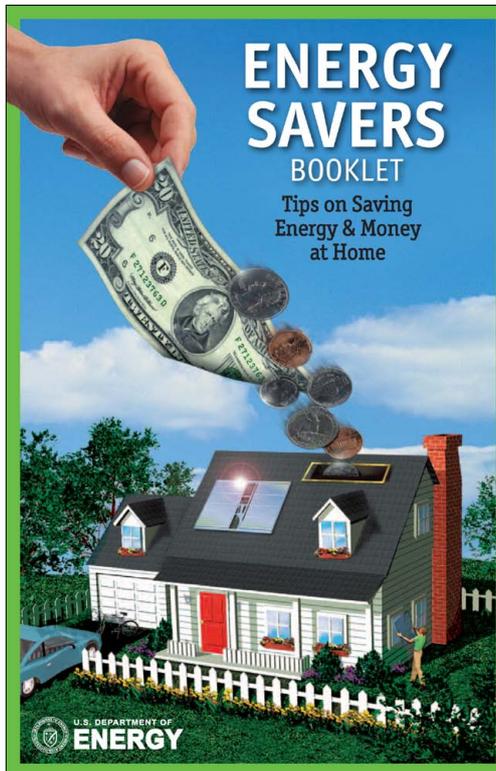
U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg officials are seeking volunteers and soliciting input from community members for the 2011 Army Family Action Plan conference Feb. 22-24 at the Warner Conference Center. AFAP is a grass-roots effort that allows community members to identify and elevate quality-of-life issues to senior Army leadership. Issues addressed at AFAP conference can be either local issues or Army-wide policy changes. Army-wide policy changes, such as the ability to transfer Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits to a spouse or family member, were results of AFAP conferences. Child care is provided for conference volunteers. AFAP issues can be submitted several different ways including through the ICE link at [www.bamberg.army.mil](http://www.bamberg.army.mil) and when prompted, clicking the policy or regulation change description, by clicking on the following link <http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/cvdd8liqHX1> and filling out the form or stopping by ACS. For more information, contact Vanessa Holland at 0951-300-7777 or 0951-300-7594.

### Basket Auction

The Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club will have dinner and an open and silent Basket Auction on Jan. 28 at the Warner Conference Center at 6 p.m. The auction will begin at 6:45 p.m. For more information about the auction or dinner, e-mail [basket.auction@yahoo.com](mailto:basket.auction@yahoo.com).

### Tax Center

The Bamberg Tax Center opens Feb. 1. The Tax Center is located in Building 7000 on the fourth floor. Appointments and walk-ins are available. Operating hours are Monday – Friday from 9 - 11:30 a.m. and 1 - 3:30 p.m. Saturdays during the month of February the office will be open for appointments only from



9 a.m. - noon. For more information, call 0951-300-8261/8262.

### Newcomer's Class

People Encouraging People, or PEP, is a five-day orientation course for newly arrived spouses and family members. The course covers German language and culture, customs, courtesies, food and a walking tour of Bamberg's historic downtown. PEP classes are scheduled for Feb. 7-11, March 14-18 and April 11-15. Call 0951-300-7777 to reserve a spot.

### Chili Cook Off

Do you want to see if your chili ranks supreme? Give it a shot at the 3rd Annual U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Chili Cook Off at the Community Activity Center Feb. 23 at noon. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Sign up by Feb. 18 at the CAC. For more information, call 0951-300-8659.

### Deployment Yearbook

Order your 173rd Brigade Support Battalion commemorative deployment book for Operation Enduring Freedom X by Feb. 20. All orders are handled online and can be shipped to any U.S. address. Visit <http://military.entourageyearbooks.com>, enter '173D BSB' in the search window and place your order. The link is also available on the BSB Facebook homepage. For more information, e-mail [michelle.m.ramos@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.m.ramos@gmail.com).

### Mardi Gras

Get ready for the U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg's Carnival and join the Mardi Gras parade starting at Memorial Park Feb. 25 at 4 p.m. All community groups are invited to be a part of the parade and have a chance to win prizes for their floats. The parade will end at Birchview Lanes Bowling Center where a costume party will be held. The party kicks off at 5 p.m. with lots of family-friendly carnival entertainment, including a best costume contest, entertainment and food. Children's activities will be from 5-7 p.m. and kids movies will be played from 7-10 p.m. Please come in costume. Admission is free. If you want to be part of the celebration with a skit or any other performance, call Brad Cline at 0951-300-8659 or contact him by e-mail at [Bradley.cline@eur.army.mil](mailto:Bradley.cline@eur.army.mil) or contact Juergen Hagemann at 0951-300-7885.

## Weekly Reminders

### Scrapbooking Events

Get your groove on Feb. 4 from 6 p.m. to midnight with various techniques that you can use on your Valentine scrapbook page to remember those special moments. We will be learning how to use "Core'dinations" cardstock through dry embossing and sanding techniques. The scrapbooking is at 173rd Brigade Support Battalion Family Readiness Group Center across from Ray's Diner. The cost is \$15. All crops include dinner, hourly door prizes and a free instructional class. Childcare is available at the FRG center play room with childcare providers at a cost of \$2 per hour per child. Reservations for childcare must be made in advance as space is limited. For more information, call 0951-300-7308 or [wendy.sledd@us.army.mil](mailto:wendy.sledd@us.army.mil).

### MWR Guide

Bamberg's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Guide for the month of February is now online at <http://issuu.com/BambergMWR/docs/brochure>.

### Sweet Dreams Project

As part of U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg's Child Youth and School Services Deployment Support Initiative, community members can send pictures to the School Age Center in a jpg. format with the location of the recipient and contact information to be made into a pillowcase. The project is for deployed Soldiers or those away from home for training and family members back home. Send e-mail to [michelle.mcclelland@eur.army.mil](mailto:michelle.mcclelland@eur.army.mil). For more information, call 0951-300-8698.

### Library Events

The library hosts weekly events. Every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. is storytelling. This is available for children ages 3-5 years old. There's also a Gamers' Challenge that meet every Saturday at 5 p.m.

### Instructor's Course

People interested in becoming a Health and Safety Instructor for the American Red Cross should call 0951-300-1760 or e-mail [RedCross.Bamberg@eur.army.mil](mailto:RedCross.Bamberg@eur.army.mil).

### Army Suggestion Program

The Army Suggestion Program encourages Soldiers, civilians and any concerned individuals to submit ideas regarding how the Army can increase efficiency and cut costs. Approved suggestions are assessed on how much they save the Army and can earn indi-

USAG Bamberg Library  
MWR  
Pet Expo  
Feb. 23, 2-4 p.m.  
USAG Bamberg Library, Bldg. 7047  
Learn about pet health care, receive training information, participate in the animal fashion show and compete in various contests for pets and their owners.  
Contact (0951) 300 1740

USAG Bamberg USAG Schweinfurt Outdoor Recreation  
MWR ONLINE SERVICES  
Hunting-Class  
Feb. 14, 6 p.m. Golf Course Conference Room  
Information Evening (Prerequisite to do the actual class)  
Feb. 17 - "Spring Hunting Course 2011"  
60 hours theory training, various range trainings  
Contact DSN 354-7041 or (09721) 96 7041  
ODR Bamberg: 469-9376 - ODR Schweinfurt DSN 354-8080



European Armed Forces Garrison

## Combatives Championship

Feb. 24-26, USAG Bamberg Freedom Fitness Facility  
Sign up by Feb. 18 by contacting FFF at DSN 469-8890/9086 or (0951) 300 8890/9086.  
Awards for the top 3 winners in each weight class

Email: [Ernest.Johnson@eur.army.mil](mailto:Ernest.Johnson@eur.army.mil)

viduals thousands of dollars. For more information, or to submit an idea, Army Knowledge Online registered users can visit the ASP website at <http://asp.hqda.pentagon.mil/public/>. Those unable to access AKO can submit a DA Form 1045 to their installation coordinator. The U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg coordinator Norbert Roth can be contacted at 0951-300-8001 or [norbert.e.roth@us.army.mil](mailto:norbert.e.roth@us.army.mil).

### Bamberg Community Classes

The Bamberg Community Recreation and Learning Center or Volkshochschule (VHS) is offering a variety of classes this winter. Sign up via their website [www.vhs-bamberg.de](http://www.vhs-bamberg.de), or at their office at Tränkgasse 4, 96052 Bamberg. Payment must be in cash or via German bank withdrawal. The following is a small selection of classes:

-(5225)Baking—Faschingskrapfen-Helau! (traditional donut); Jan. 29; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; one session, €12.80 plus €10 for ingredients.

For more classes and information on locations of classes as well as information on refunds contact the VHS directly at 0951-871-108, at their office or visit [www.vhs-bamberg.de](http://www.vhs-bamberg.de).

### Get EFMP Registered

Is your Soldier coming back from downrange? If your Soldier is receiving orders to another location, it is not too early to start your Exceptional Family Member Program paperwork. Family members can start the paperwork now. Your local Army Community Services EFMP manager can assist in determining what you need to do. Remember, if you have someone registered in EFMP, the registration has to be updated every three years or when the condition changes. For more information about EFMP or about registration, contact Bonnie Kellem, EFMP manger at 0951-300-7777.

### Postal Service

U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg has updated its Postal Service Center webpage to include instructions and links to the U.S. Postal Service for filing online postal claims and a new Temporary Mailing Instructions form that customers may use to submit holding or forwarding instructions for their mail online. For more information visit <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directories/dhr/psc.asp>.

### AWANA

Come join AWANA, the weekly children's Bible Club on Sundays from 4-5:30 p.m. at the high school gym. This free club is for 4-year-olds - 6th grade students. The club runs from September-May. For more infor-

mation, call the Bamberg Chapel at 0951-300-1570.

### Utility Tax Relief Services

Tax Relief Office now offers a new service for U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg customers. With the implementation of the Utility Avoidance Program customers can sign up locally and save 19 percent tax on their electricity, gas and water bills if these utilities are provided by Bamberg Stadtwerke. Other energy and utility providers can also be used, but customers will have to register through the USAG Schweinfurt UTAP. For more information, call the Bamberg tax relief office at 0951-300-1780 or the Schweinfurt tax relief office at 09721-96-1780.

### DES/Vehicle Registration Office

Bamberg license plates are available for motorcycles and trailers. Everyone that is due for renewal and still has the old U.S. Army Europe plates has to change to the new Bamberg plates. To renew plates, customers must bring a new insurance card (not older than 120 days). For more information about vehicle registration, call 0951-300-7580.

### Passport Office

The Bamberg Passport Office has upgraded its website. You can now access all the informational handouts at <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directories/dhr/passport.asp>. For assistance in filling out the Passport Application, download the Application Wizards User's guide.

### Passport and Immigration Fees

The rates for Consular Reports of Birth Abroad and Passports have increased. The new rates are the following:

Adult Passport Book Renewal: \$110

Adult Passport Book Initial: \$135

Child Passport Book: \$105

Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA): \$100

Visa Pages: \$82

Additional Information on other consular rate increases is available at [www.bamberg.army.mil/directories/dhr/passport.asp](http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directories/dhr/passport.asp). Look for the rate increases link, which will be located near the top of the page. If you are the spouse of a deployed Soldier, you can still apply for your child's Consular Report of Birth. You can also apply for your child's passport with the proper paperwork. Failure to do either of these can result in you not leaving Germany on schedule. For more information, stop by the Passport Office located in Building 7290 between 8 a.m. and noon or call 0951-300-8928.



Want to get hired?

**HIRED!**

Feb. 28 - May 27

Explore possible careers, learn how to write your resumé and gain valuable job experience! The HIRED! Job preparation program is open to ages 15-18

Contact HIRED! at (0951) 300 8036

### German Classes

Army Community Service, Relocation Readiness Program, offers free German classes every month. Beginner classes are scheduled Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. Intermediate classes are Tuesdays, noon to 2 p.m. and Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m. Advanced classes are Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m. and Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Classes are held at the ACS building in classroom 118. For more information, call 0951-300-7777.

### Clinic Hours

The Bamberg Health Clinic hours of operation are as follows: Monday through Thursday sick call is from 7 - 8 a.m.; full service is available from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. On Fridays, sick call is from 7 - 8 a.m. and full service from 7:30 a.m. - noon; closed on Friday afternoons for mandatory training, federal holidays and weekends. For more information or if you need to make an appointment, call 0951-300-1750. In case of a medical emergency, call the Bamberg Military Police at 0951-300-114. The TRICARE Nurse Advice Line, a toll-free number 00800-4759-2330, is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to talk to a nurse about health care concerns, get self-care advice, schedule appointments or arrange a call with your military care provider.

### Volunteers Needed at the Chapel

U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Community Chapel is looking for volunteers to fill the following volunteer positions: musician for the Protestant service, musician for the Catholic service, Catholic religious education coordinator, Protestant religious education coordinator and Catholic clergy. If interested in volunteering at the chapel, call 0951-300-8879.

### Lutheran Worship Service

The U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Community Chapel now sponsors a liturgical church service every first and third Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Bamberg Chapel Family Life Center. All Lutherans or other liturgically-minded people are welcome to attend. For more information about the service call the Community Chapel at 0951-300-8141 or e-mail [david.jacob@eur.army.mil](mailto:david.jacob@eur.army.mil).

### Chapel Meeting

The Bamberg Protestant Women of the Chapel has weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Bamberg Chapel. Free childcare is provided. For more information, call 0951-300-1570.

### Pre-Separation Briefing

Planning to move from Soldier to civilian? Take advantage of the transition services offered by the Army Career and Alumni Program, such as a Department of Labor two-and-a-half day job assistance workshop, resume preparation assistance and information about veterans' benefits. Make an appointment to attend the mandatory ACAP Pre-Separation Briefing; held weekly and about an hour long. Separating Soldiers can start the ACAP process one year before separating. Soldiers who will be retiring can start two years out from their projected retirement date. For more information, call 0951-300-8925.

### ACS Hours of Operation

Army Community Service is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The office is closed on federal holidays but open on training holidays. For more information, call 0951-300-7777.

### Veterinary Facility

The veterinary office's hours are Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., closed Thursday and open Friday 8 a.m.-noon. No walk-in appointments are available. The clinic is closed on the last week-day of each month for inventory and on all American

and training holidays. Over-the-counter products and prescriptions may be purchased during regular business hours. For more information about the clinic or to schedule an appointment, call 0951-300-7972.

### Sexual Assault

Your Sexual Assault Response Coordinator is available 24 hours a day. Call 0951-300-8397 for your local office or 0162-510-2917 for the 24-hour hotline.

### Family Strengths and Stresses

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program is here to provide help and support by offering a New Parent Support Program, Newborn Network, play group, parenting classes, communication classes, victim advocacy and Anger/Stress Management classes.

**Family Advocacy** - Need assistance in learning how to manage a life full of stress or ambivalence? Come every Thursday to Building 7487 from 1:30 – 3 p.m. for Anger/Stress Management Class.

**New Parent** - Being a new parent can be a challenge. Join the New Parent Support Group every Friday from 10-11:30 a.m. in Building 7487.

For information about any of these classes, call 0951-300-7777.

### Customs Office

The Bamberg Customs Office is located in Rooms 124 and 125 in Building 7011 across the street from the movie theater. Customer service hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and closed on German and American holidays. For more information, call 0951-300-7460 or 0951-300-9312. The fax number is 0951-300-8665. Office personnel can assist with importing items, selling items to non-ID card holders and help visiting family members get permission to drive USAREUR-plated car or have an ESSO card for rental vehicles by filling out a 175L form. Personnel can also help retirees and widows get permission to go shopping on post if they visit for more than 30 days or live in Germany.

### Service Office

The U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Retirement Services Officer/Casualty Manager is located in Building 7290, Room 208, next to Burger King. For more information, call 0951-300-7514.

## Sports, Health and Fitness

### Combatives Clinic and Tournament

The Installation Management Command Europe will host a combatives clinic and tournament Feb. 2-5 at the Freedom Fitness Facility. The clinic will be held Feb. 2-4, followed by the tournament on Feb. 5. The tournament is open to all active duty Soldiers. For more information about the clinic and tournament, call the Freedom Fitness Facility at 0951-300-8890.

### Krav Maga Self-Defense Class

The Freedom Fitness Facility is now offering Krav Maga Self-Defense and a women's self-defense classes. Classes will be held Tuesdays and Fridays. The women's class will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The Krav Maga class will be held from 7-8 p.m. Classes are \$10 per lesson or \$40 a month. For more information, stop by the FFF, call 0951-300-9086 or e-mail [kravmagaisrael@yahoo.com](mailto:kravmagaisrael@yahoo.com).

### Bowling Lanes

The Birchview Lanes Bowling Center is located in Building 7690, near the Bamberg Elementary School. For more information, updates and events, visit the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation website at <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directorates/dfmwr/bc.asp> or call 0951-300-7722.



**Winter Warm-Up Luau**

Put on your Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts to join in beating the cold! This family-friendly event will have crafts, activities and games for all ages.

Compete in the costume contest, take a photo with a Hawaiian cut-out and enjoy Hawaiian food and drink.

When: Jan. 29  
Time: 7-9:30 p.m.  
Where: Community Activity Center Building 7047

For more information, contact the Community Activity Center at 0951-300-8659

## Continuing Education

### Student Aid

Learn what resources are available to help fund your higher education. Visit <http://studentaid.ed.gov/POR-TALSWebApp/students/english/index.jsp> for more information.

### Study Overseas

University of Maryland University College Europe Field study courses provide students with an opportunity to travel and explore Europe while earning university credit. Two upcoming courses are Northern Renaissance Art in Brussels and Paris from March 12-19 and Expatriate Writers in Rome from March 12-19. The registration deadline for both courses is Feb. 20. For more information, e-mail [fieldstudies@europe.umuc.edu](mailto:fieldstudies@europe.umuc.edu) or call 06221-3780.

### University of Phoenix

The University of Phoenix is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. It is located at the Warner Barracks Army Education Center, Building 7047, Room 309. Your local University of Phoenix field representative can help you start your master's program. Online and on-site courses are available and degrees can be achieved in 15 - 24 months. For more information, call 0951-300-9280 or 0951-208-5350.

### German 101

A free Introduction to German class is offered every Monday at noon at the library. Participants will learn some German words and phrases. For more information, call 0951-300-1740.

### Federal Aid

Students are encouraged to explore the many financial aid opportunities available while enrolled in UMUC Europe, including grants, low-interest loans and monthly payment plans. The 2010-2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid application is now available for students to begin applying for 2010-2011 federal financial aid. Grants may be used along with Veterans Affairs benefits, scholarships, military Tuition Assistance and military spouse tuition assistance. For more information on registration, financial aid and services, contact a local UMUC Europe field representative, call 314-370-6762 or 06221-3780, or visit [www.ed.umuc.edu](http://www.ed.umuc.edu).

## Youth and Teens

### Cub Scouts

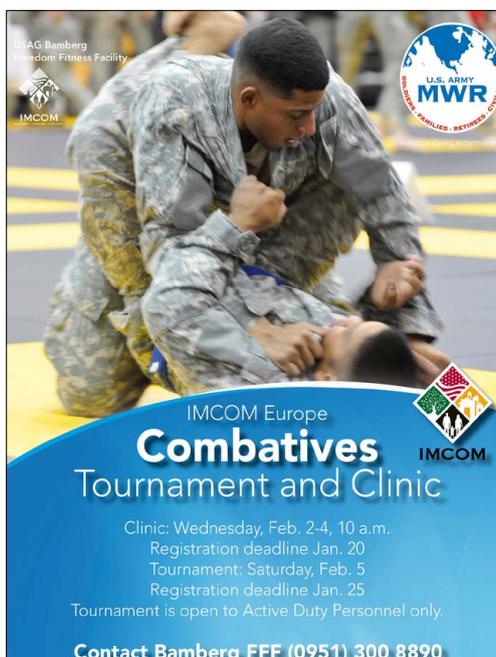
There is a Cub Scout Pack here in Bamberg with four active dens: Tiger Cubs (1st grade), Wolves (2nd grade), Bears (3rd grade), Webelos (4th and 5th grade). There are three meetings per month. There are one-hour activities to accomplish steps toward rank advancements. Pack meetings are once a month (Camp Out, Pinewood Derby, Bowlarama, etc.) Volunteers are needed to assist with den meetings and committee planning. Come and join in the fun of Cub Scouts. For more information about Cub Scouts, call 0162-234-0906 or e-mail [michael.mouritsen@eur.army.mil](mailto:michael.mouritsen@eur.army.mil).

### Ballet Class

Registration is open for Child, Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited ballet classes. The program is for ages 3-8. Classes are on Thursdays from 2 - 4:30 p.m. in Building 7669. Check the class brochure for specific times and holidays, e-mail [Archie.Johnson1@eur.army.mil](mailto:Archie.Johnson1@eur.army.mil) or call 0951-300-7452.

### Aqua Barons

Meet new people and become a part of the Aqua Barons team. Get into shape and stay in shape by swimming. Earn awesome rewards like trophies, medals, ribbons and even a varsity letter. Travel around Europe for swim meets to places like Italy, Spain, Belgium, England and many more. For more information, e-mail [bambergaquabarons@yahoo.com](mailto:bambergaquabarons@yahoo.com).



USAG Bamberg Freedom Fitness Facility

U.S. ARMY MWR

IMCOM Europe

**Combatives Tournament and Clinic**

Clinic: Wednesday, Feb. 2-4, 10 a.m.  
Registration deadline Jan. 20  
Tournament: Saturday, Feb. 5  
Registration deadline Jan. 25

Tournament is open to Active Duty Personnel only

Contact Bamberg FFF (0951) 300 8890



USAG Bamberg Warner Conference Center

U.S. ARMY MWR

Be My Valentine

**Sweet Heart Dinner**

**Feb. 11**

Warner Conference Center, Bldg. 7070  
Bar opens at 5:30 p.m., Dining starts 6 p.m.

Served meal will include salad and soup bar, prime rib with grilled shrimps, green beans almandine, roasted potatoes and desert (peach and cherry cobbler). Tickets will be available through units, at the CAC, Birchview Lanes Bowling Center and Outdoor Recreation. A photographer will be available for sweetheart photos (not included in price) as well as roses for all the ladies.

For more details contact Brad Cline at Tel. (0951) 300 8659 or e-mail [bradley.cline@eur.army.mil](mailto:bradley.cline@eur.army.mil)

USAG Bamberg  
Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers  
Freedom Fitness Facility

U.S. ARMY  
MWR

**BOSS**

**Brussels Trip**  
Feb. 18-20, \$369

Departure 1 a.m. at Chapel Parking Lot  
Includes: Roundtrip transportation, 2 nights in 3 star Holiday Inn Hotel in Brussels, 2 breakfast buffets, city tour of Brussels, visit to "Koninklijke Museum and Chocolate Museum in Brussels", lunch at the "Grand Cafe" in Brussels and tour guide services. Valid passport or ID Card and DA Form 31 required for this trip.

Contact (0951) 300 9086, DSN 469-9086 or email:  
mail.bam.dfmwr.boss@eur.army.mil

call Betty Bullard at 0951-300-8874 or e-mail [Betty.bullard@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Betty.bullard@eu.dodea.edu).

## Closures / Changes

### Bamberg Thrift Shop

The Bamberg Thrift Shop will be closed Feb. 1-7 as they prepare to move into a new location. When the store reopens Feb. 8, the Bamberg Thrift Shop will be located in building 7117, where the former Post Office was located and near the BookMark. The store will hold a grand opening ceremony Feb. 16. For more information, call 0951-32408.

### Passport Office

The U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Passport Office will return to a full five-day work schedule Feb. 1. Walk-in hours will be from 8 a.m. - noon and Consular Reports of Birth will be by appointment only from 1 - 4 p.m. For more information about the passport office hours or about obtaining a passport, call 0951-300-8928.

### Ray's Diner

The hours of operation for the dinner meal at Ray's Diner has changed. Dinner will now be served from 5-6:30 p.m.

### Dental Clinic

Preparing Soldiers for deployment and reintegration is the primary focus of the Bamberg Dental Clinic until early 2011. These priorities result in diminished access to space-available dental care for family members greater than 18 years of age. Care for children up to and including age 18 and access to orthodontic care should be minimally affected. All beneficiaries will continue to be able to access sick call for treatment of dental emergencies. Family members can receive care from TRICARE's preferred providers. Call TRICARE Dental Program customer service in the U.S. toll free from Germany between 8 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Friday Eastern Standard Time; first dial 0800-225-5288; after the AT&T prompt dial 1-888-418-0466. Or, contact the TRICARE Area Eurasia-Africa Dental Office at 0630-267-6358.

### Airport Shuttle

The Frankfurt Shuttle Bus has modified hours. The shuttle departs from the Bamberg Army Community Service building Monday-Friday at 6:20 a.m. and arrives at the airport at 10 a.m. The first return shuttle departs from the airport at 11 a.m. and arrives in Bamberg at 3:15 p.m. The second shuttle departs from the airport at 2:50 p.m. and arrives in Bamberg at 6:30 p.m. The drop-off point is at the ACS building. The shuttle is not available on American and training holidays.

## Entertainment and Leisure

### Super Bowl Party

Come root for your favorite team in the Super Bowl at the Super Bowl XLV Party on Feb. 6 at the Community Activity Center at 10 p.m.. Enjoy food, refreshments and half-time games. For more information, call 0951-300-8659.

### Broadway Hit

Don't miss the legendary Broadway hit Kander and Ebb at the Stable Theater in March. There are three stories of love and intrigue set in the early 1930's amid Berlin's flamboyant cabaret scene, superimposed against the surging Nazi rise to power. The show contains mature material and sexual themes. Show runs March 10 - 12 and March 17 - 19 at 7:30 p.m., and March 13 and 20 at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students and Soldiers E4 and below if reserved in advance. Tickets are \$11 for adults and \$9 for students and Soldiers E4 and below at the door. Ask about group specials. To purchase a ticket in advance or for more information, call 0951-300-8647.

### Outreach KONTAKT Club Events

The Outreach KONTAKT Club is an Army in Europe program designed to promote German and American friendship overseas. For more information, contact the German president Klaus Kirchhof by phone at 0951-24378 or by e-mail at [b.k.kirchhof@web.de](mailto:b.k.kirchhof@web.de) or contact the American project officer Capt. Carlos Rivera by phone at 0951-300-1610 or send an e-mail to [Carlos.rivera2@eur.army.mil](mailto:Carlos.rivera2@eur.army.mil).

### Youth Lessons

Child, Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited is offering lessons for tennis, racquetball and dance for youth ages 7-18. For more information about SKIES, e-mail [Archie.Johnson1@eur.army.mil](mailto:Archie.Johnson1@eur.army.mil) or call 0951-300-7452.

### Teen Stress

The National Military Family Association created a kit to give the people in military teens' lives a way to help them manage stress and affirm the positive aspects of military life. To obtain a copy of the tool kit and learn more, visit <https://www.myarmyonesource.com/News/2010/07/OperationPurple>.

### Volunteers Needed

The Bamberg Middle High School is seeking volunteers for tutoring students in any subject at the middle and/or high school level. If you would like to help out,

# Allstar Weekend takes center stage in Bamberg

The band Allstar Weekend took center stage in Bamberg Jan. 22. More than 275 people attended the show. The band is touring Europe and played a few shows at military facilities in the United Kingdom and Germany.

Armed Forces Entertainment and Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored the event that brought the four-man band to Warner Barracks.

Photos of the event on Warner Barracks can be viewed online at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/warnerweekly/sets/72157625910200970/>.



Photos by Mindy Campbell



# Bamberg Movie Schedule

AAFES Reel Time Theater is closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Thur.	Jan. 27	Nanny McPhee Returns (PG)	7 p.m.
Fri.	Jan. 28	The Green Hornet (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 29	Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows (PG-13)	3 p.m.
		Unstoppable (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sun.	Jan. 30	Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows (PG-13)	3 P.M.
		The Green Hornet (PG-13)(1st Run)	7 P.M.
Mon.	Jan. 31	Unstoppable (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Thur.	Feb. 3	Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Fri.	Feb. 4	Burlesque (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Sat.	Feb. 5	The Next Three Days (PG-13)	3 P.M.
		No Strings Attached (R)	7 P.M.
Sun.	Feb. 6	The Next Three Days (PG-13)	3 P.M.
		No Strings Attached (R)	7 P.M.
Mon.	Feb. 7	Burlesque (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Thur.	Feb. 10	The Next Three Days (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Fri.	Feb. 11	Love and Other Drugs (R)	7 P.M.
Sat.	Feb. 12	Tangled (PG)	3 P.M.
		The Rite (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Sun.	Feb. 13	Tangled (PG)	3 P.M.
		The Rite (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Mon.	Feb. 14	The Rite (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Thur.	Feb. 17	Love and Other Drugs (R)	7 P.M.
Fri.	Feb. 18	The Tourist (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Sat.	Feb. 19	Tron: Legacy (PG)	3 P.M.
		The Roommate (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Sun.	Feb. 20	Tron: Legacy (PG)	3 P.M.
		The Roommate (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Mon.	Feb. 21	The Tourist (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Thur.	Feb. 24	Little Fockers (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Fri.	Feb. 25	Little Fockers (PG-13)	7 P.M.
Sat.	Feb. 26	Yogi Bear (PG)	3 P.M.
		Just Go With It	7 P.M.
Sun.	Feb. 27	Yogi Bear (PG)	3 P.M.
		Just Go With It	7 P.M.
Mon.	Feb. 28	Just Go With It	7 P.M.



*Photo by Spc. Kevin Alex*  
**Sgt. Kareem Jones, a multiple launch rocket system repairer with 317th Maintenance Company, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, fights to get one last sit up during the Army Physical Fitness Test portion of the 16th Sustainment Brigade Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition.**

(BEST continued from Page 3)

arduous than the battalion competition, and it definitely proved to be just that.”

“My favorite part was the weapons qualification. Anyone can shoot a weapon but not everyone has the fundamentals down enough to hit what they are aiming for,” said Spc. Donaldson Colin, WOQ runner-up and a food service specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th STB.

Every participant is evaluated during each of the events and gets a score based on his or her performance. At the end of the competition, the scores are tallied from each of the events to determine the winners.

“I was pretty confident coming into the competition because I have been through similar competitions before, but I didn’t know who any of my competitors were so that really pushed me to work harder,” said Toliver.

“I came into this competition because I think a cook shouldn’t be defined as just a cook,” said Colin. “The competition was challenging but worth it. I think that everyone should step up to the challenge to improve themselves.”



## STRENGTHENING OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

### Meeting America’s Commitment

Multiple deployments, combat injuries, and the challenges of reintegration can have far-reaching effects on not only the troops and their families, but also upon America’s communities. These challenges should be at the forefront of the national discourse.

## Eligibility for TRICARE Retiree Dental Program includes 'gray area' retirees, surviving family members, retirees living overseas

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program Release

The government-authorized TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) began in 1998 as a voluntary option that offered basic dental benefits to Uniformed Services retirees and their eligible family members.

In 2000 - some three years before the first TRDP contract would expire - the TRDP scope of benefits was enhanced to include such comprehensive services as crowns, bridges, full and partial dentures, and orthodontics.

In 2003, the second five-year TRDP contract was awarded by the Department of Defense to the incumbent administrator, Delta Dental of California, and included further improvements such as a shorter enrollment commitment and waiting period, increased maximums, and an expanded dentist network.

The TRDP is now in its third year of operations under a new five-year contract that began Oct. 1, 2008 and today provides comprehensive dental benefits - including dental implant services, coverage for posterior composite fillings, and a \$1,500 lifetime orthodontic maximum - to more than 1.2 million covered lives.

Also starting October 1 of 2008, TRDP benefits under the new Enhanced-Overseas Program were expanded to retirees and their eligible family members who reside overseas. Until then, overseas enrollees had to return to the

Enhanced TRDP service area to receive dental care.

Additionally, the new contract included a provision that now allows Enhanced Program enrollees who live within the service area to be covered for emergency treatment when they are traveling outside the service area.

There are still a large number of eligible individuals—including retirees living overseas, unremarried surviving spouses and children, and "gray-area" retired Reservists and National Guard members—who are unaware of the TRDP or even that they are indeed eligible.

Outreach efforts by Delta Dental to promote awareness about the TRDP continue to expand to ensure that as much of the eligible population as possible is informed of the benefits this affordable group program has to offer.

The TRDP service area includes all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Canada.

Enrollees may seek care from any licensed dentist in this service area or can maximize their benefit savings by choosing a dentist from an expansive participating TRDP network.

After a mandatory 12-month enrollment obligation is satisfied, enrollees can remain in the

program on a month-to-month basis.

The Basic Program was closed to new enrollees in 2000 but continues with no change in benefits for those already enrolled and who wish to remain enrolled.

The TRDP carries a \$50-per-person-per-year deductible with a family cap of \$150 and an annual maximum of \$1,200 per person (\$1,000 for Basic Program enrollees) against which preventive and diagnostic services are not counted.

Coverage for these services as well as for basic restorative services, periodontic services, endodontic services, oral surgery and dental emergencies is available immediately upon the effective date of coverage.

Major services such as crowns, bridges, full and partial dentures, implants and orthodontics, payable at 50 percent, are available to Enhanced TRDP enrollees after a 12-month waiting period.

A waiver of this waiting period may be granted to certain individuals who enroll in the TRDP within four months after their retirement and provide supporting documentation.

More information about the TRDP, including how to enroll online, can be found on the TRDP web site at [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org) or by calling Delta Dental toll-free at 888-838-8737.

## Strollers recalled to repair amputation, laceration hazards

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Health Canada, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product.

Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

**Name of Product:** Jogging Strollers

**Units:** About 22,000 in the United States and 7,200 in Canada

**Importer:** phil&teds USA Inc., of Fort Collins, Colo.

**Hazard:** When folding and unfolding the stroller, a consumer's finger can become caught in the hinge mechanism, posing amputation and laceration hazards.

**Incidents/Injuries:** phil&teds has received three reports of incidents resulting in injuries to the adult users including a finger tip amputation and two reports of lacerations.

**Description:** This recall involves sport v2 and classic v1 model single-seat jogging strollers. The three-wheel strollers have a metal frame, cloth seat and a canopy. The sport v2 model stroller was sold in red, orange, green, black, charcoal, navy and in graffiti print. Sport v2 serial numbers included in the recall are 0308/0001 to 0510/0840. The classic v1 model strollers were only sold in red. Serial numbers for the classic v1 are 0308/0001 to 0510/0906. The first four digits of the serial number is a month/year date code and the last four digits are for the individual stroller. Serial numbers are printed on the inside of the folding hinge. The phil&teds logo is located on the crotch piece of the harness on both models.

**Sold by:** Specialty juvenile stores nationwide from May 2008 through July 2010 for between \$350 and \$450.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled strollers and contact phil&teds USA to arrange for the

shipping of a free hinge-cover kit and repair instructions.

### Consumer Contact:

For additional information, contact phil&teds USA at (877) 432-1642 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or visit the company's website at [www.philandteds.com/support](http://www.philandteds.com/support).

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction.

The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (301) 595-7054.

To join a CPSC e-mail subscription list, please go to <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx>. Consumers can obtain recall and general safety information by logging on to CPSC's website at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).



## Outside the Gate

Weekend events in and around Bamberg Jan. 28 - Feb. 6

### Friday, Jan. 28

- 8 p.m. Bamberg Symphonic Orchestra at Konzert- und Kongresshalle - Joseph-Keilberth-Saal, Musselsstraße 1, 96047 Bamberg; tickets are available at [bvd Kartenservice 0951-980-8220](http://www.bvd-ticket.de) or <http://www.bvd-ticket.de>
- 8 p.m. Carwash; music from the 70s and 80s; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, email: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 8:30 p.m. morphclubart: El Mago Masin; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg; visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)
- 11 p.m. Damaged Goods; Future bass, Raw dancefloor, Use ear protection; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg; visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Saturday, Jan. 29

- 5 p.m. Winterzauber; concert; music by Rieding, Vivaldi, Creston, Schubert, and movie music; Dominikanerkirche - Aula der Universität, Dominikanerstrasse. 2 a, 96049 Bamberg; free admission
- 6:30 p.m. Sacred music in the evening; church music; St. Stephanskirche, Stephansplatz 5, 96049 Bamberg, free admission, donations for new church organ welcome
- 8 p.m. No Lyrics, Boogie Woogie, Blues; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, email: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 9 p.m. Innershape; Jazzclub Bamberg e.V., Obere Sandstrasse 18, 96050 Bamberg; visit: [www.inner-shape.de](http://www.inner-shape.de)
- 9 p.m. Yambalaya (Ska, Reggae & More); Sound'n Arts Club, Sandstrasse 20, 96049 Bamberg
- 10 p.m. Greenclub; Rap, Funk, Deutsch-Rap; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg; visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Sunday, Jan. 30

- 1 p.m. Wedding Fair; Haas-Säle, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, email: [info@haas-saele.de](mailto:info@haas-saele.de), visit: [www.haas-saele.de](http://www.haas-saele.de)
- 5 p.m. Chamber music by the Bamberg Symphonic Orchestra at Spiegel saal der Harmonie, Schillerplatz 7, 96047 Bamberg; tickets are available at [bvd Kartenservice 0951-9808220](http://www.bvd-ticket.de) or <http://www.bvd-ticket.de>
- 8 p.m. Phantom of the Opera at Konzert- und Kongresshalle - Joseph-Keilberth-Saal, Musselsstraße 1, 96047 Bamberg; tickets are available at [bvd Kartenservice 0951-9808220](http://www.bvd-ticket.de) or <http://www.bvd-ticket.de>
- 8 p.m. Blue Sunday; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, email: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 8 p.m. Jazz Concert with the Big Band of the Bamberg University; Audimax Universität Bamberg, Feldkirchenstrasse 21, 96052 Bamberg, phone: 0951-8631926; free admission, donations appreciated
- 8 p.m. morphclubart: English Drama Group; two dramas: "Psychosis 4.48" & "The Man who wouldn't go to heaven"; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg, visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Friday, Feb. 4

- 8 p.m. Bamberg Symphonic Orchestra at Konzert- und Kongresshalle -

Joseph-Keilberth-Saal, Musselsstraße 1, 96047 Bamberg; tickets are available at [bvd Kartenservice 0951-9808220](http://www.bvd-ticket.de) or <http://www.bvd-ticket.de>

- 8 p.m. Punk-Rock-Night at Tanzpalast, Jurastrasse 30, 96155 Gunzendorf [www.gunzendorf-live.de](http://www.gunzendorf-live.de)
- 9 p.m. The Basic Beats; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, email: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 11 p.m. Life gets better when the beats are fatter - Electro Swing . Funky Breaks; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg, visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Saturday, Feb. 5

- 8 p.m. Classical music concert by the Bamberg University Band and Choir - Joseph-Keilberth-Saal, Musselsstraße 1, 96047 Bamberg
- 9 p.m. Franziska Becker & Band; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, e-mail: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 9 p.m. gerdband; Jazzclub Bamberg e.V., Obere Sandstrasse 18, 96050 Bamberg
- 10 p.m. DerWanderzirkus: Electro . House; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg; visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Sunday, Feb. 6

- 5 p.m. Chamber concert; Spiegelsaal der Harmonie, Schillerplatz 7, 96047 Bamberg
- 8 p.m. Pete Gavin; Live-Club, Obere Sandstrasse 7, 96049 Bamberg, phone: 0951-53304, e-mail: [info@live-club.de](mailto:info@live-club.de), visit: [www.live-club.de](http://www.live-club.de)
- 9 p.m. morphclublive: The Black Atlantic: Folk . Indie; Morph Club, Luitpoldstrasse 17, 96052 Bamberg; visit: [www.morphclub.org](http://www.morphclub.org)

### Special Events/Exhibits:

**Until Jan. 30:** Dampfmaschinen und Dampflok (steam engines in the children's room); special exhibit in the Puppenmuseum in Coburg; about 50 models of steam driven toys from the early times of industrialization are on exhibit; Coburger Puppenmuseum, Ruckerstrasse 2-3, 96450 Coburg; phone: 09561-891480

**Until April:** Ice skating in Nürnberg; open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m.; Arena Nürnberger Versicherung, Kurt-Leucht-Weg 11, 90471 Nürnberg, phone: 0911-988970, visit: [www.arena-nuernberg.de/index.php?id=eislauf](http://www.arena-nuernberg.de/index.php?id=eislauf); ice skates can be borrowed

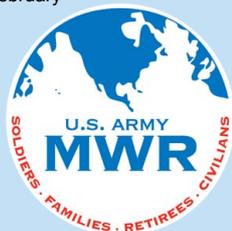
**Until Feb:** Schuhtick (shoe spleen); spanning 40.000 years of shoe history, the exhibit tells about a career simply serving as protection to an ornament for feet; it features VIP shoes (worn by Melanchthon, Marie Antoinette, Sisi, Audrey Hepburn, and Madonna) as well as offering the possibility to try out shoes; open from 10 a.m. daily, closed Mondays; Landesmuseum Mainz, Grosse Bleiche 49 - 51, 55116 Mainz, phone: 06131-28570, email: [landesmuseum-mainz@gdke.rlp.de](mailto:landesmuseum-mainz@gdke.rlp.de), visit: [www.schuhtick-ausstellung.de](http://www.schuhtick-ausstellung.de) (in English)

**Until Feb. 28:** MM - die Ikone Marilyn Monroe; special exhibit about Marilyn Monroe in Frankfurt; 300 artifacts including personal notes, movie scripts, and clothes, shed a little light on the life of Norma Jeane Baker; open daily from 10 a.m. except Mondays, Ikonen-Museum der Stadt Frankfurt, Stiftung Dr. Schmidt-Voigt, Brückenstrasse 3-7, 60594 Frankfurt; phone: 069-21236262, email: [info.ikonen-museum@stadt-frankfurt.de](mailto:info.ikonen-museum@stadt-frankfurt.de), visit: [www.ikonenmuseum-frankfurt.de](http://www.ikonenmuseum-frankfurt.de)

## Trips and Travel Opportunities

Take a trip with Bamberg Outdoor Recreation in January-February

Registration for trips begins the 15th of the month before the scheduled trip and must be made no later than the Monday before the scheduled leave date or they may be cancelled. To sign up or for more information, go to Outdoor Recreation, Building 7116 or call 0951-300-9376/7955. All trips depart and arrive from ODR unless otherwise noted. No refund will be given for no-shows. Military duty restraint or illness will be refunded with documentation. For more trips, visit <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directorates/dfmwr/odr.asp>.



**Feb. 5 Learn to Snowboard \$50**  
Try one of the hottest sports around on a day trip with ODR to a local slope to learn the basics. Trip includes transportation, lift pass, rental and approximately two and a half hours of lessons. Departs from ODR at 9 a.m. and returns at approximately 5 p.m.

**Feb. 8 Bad Staffelstein \$30**  
Relish the natural salt water as you warm your body in the steam baths,

pools, or hot tubs. Allow the natural minerals of the water to enhance the beauty of your skin, while relaxing in the invigorating atmosphere. Trip includes transportation and entrance fees. Departs from ODR at 5:30 p.m. and returns at approximately 8:30 p.m.

**Feb. 10 Tour Under Bamberg \$20**  
This unique trip through the tunnels under Bamberg gives you a view of the city that shouldn't be missed. The tunnels are generally cool and damp, so please wear appropriate clothing and bring a flashlight. Trip departs from ODR at 5 p.m. and returns at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**Feb. 12 Learn to Ski \$50**  
Glide down the slopes and learn the basics of skiing with us! Trip includes transportation, lift pass, rental and approximately two and a half hours of lessons. Departs from ODR at 9 a.m. and returns at approximately 5 p.m.

**Feb. 18-21 Dolomites, Italy, Ski & Snowboard \$325**  
Partake in the adventure of a lifetime with the opportunity to ski and snowboard at 12 separate ski resorts in the Italian Dolomites. Trip includes transportation, lodging at double occupancy for three nights with breakfast and dinner.



Please call us and tell us when you sell your item so we can remove the advertisement. Thank you.

## EMPLOYMENT

US Army Garrison Bamberg is looking for a Family Advocacy Program Assistant as a non-personal service contractor. Please visit the Contacting Office's website at <http://www.ecc-e.army.mil>, and go to "Bid Board Franconia". Solicitation number and amendment number is W912PG-11-T-0019 and W912PG-11-T-0019-0001. Job announcement closes Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. (1/20/11)

MEDPROTECT, a wholly owned subsidiary of SAIC is currently seeking a qualified Global TRICARE Service Center Beneficiary Service Representative for their Bamberg location. Specific responsibilities include processing registration of TRICARE beneficiary within the Composite Health Care System, maintenance of electronic system/paper files and data integrity, verifying eligibility information for remote beneficiaries and providing phone coverage and assistance for walk-in enrollment traffic within the TRICARE Service Center, to name a few. Required education skills include a high school education or GED although a degree is preferred; desired skills include three years cumulative experience in the following areas: two years experience in U.S. military health care delivery system or civilian managed care medical/administrative environment; two years experience in a medical or clinical environment; one year experience with the CHCS or other Civilian Health Care Computer System and in processing medical claims. Candidates will need to submit resumes online at [www.saic.com](http://www.saic.com). To contact the position recruiter e-mail [leo.j.faneuf.iv@saic.com](mailto:leo.j.faneuf.iv@saic.com). (12/21/10)

Vendor/stocker position available for night stocking in the Bamberg Commissary. For more information, call Customer Service at 0951-300-7650. (12/8/10)

Daily pet sitting services required for one female French Bulldog, Monday through Friday and possibly occasional weekends

when out of town. She is house trained and very good with children/dogs, a true joy to have around. If interested, please contact 1st Lt. Troy Shoemaker at 0151-405-21294 or e-mail at [troy.shoemaker@us.army.mil](mailto:troy.shoemaker@us.army.mil).

AAFES Bamberg is accepting applications for entry-level retail and food service positions. Join our team, log on to [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) today and be part of our new workforce of tomorrow. For more information, call the Human Resources Office at 0951-303159.

## AUTOMOBILES

2010 Red Dodge Avenger still new condition, Automatic, \$15,500 less than 5,000 miles and has been in our possession since August 2009. Only serious inquiries. Christina Gonzalez 0171-777-9328 [wgonzalez001@yahoo.com](mailto:wgonzalez001@yahoo.com). (1/20/11)

For Sale: 1992 520i BMW Sedan; green; automatic; winter tires; CD-player; power windows and locks; 223,000 km; asking \$2,000. Call 0162-462-3594 or e-mail [jonas.bateman@gmail.com](mailto:jonas.bateman@gmail.com). (1/3/11)

For Sale: 2010 Ford Escape – steel blue metallic, only 650 miles, I4 engine, sun-sync package with sun roof. Too big for me. Asking \$22,000. E-mail Ryn at [rlryn@netscape.net](mailto:rlryn@netscape.net) (1/3/11)

For Sale: Green 1997 Geo Prizm. 156k miles, all season tires, auto trans, just passed inspection, reliable second car. Asking \$900 OBO. For more information, call Dan at 0152-266-90950 or e-mail [djtd23@gmail.com](mailto:djtd23@gmail.com). (12/22/10)

For Sale: Toyota RAV4, 2003. Asking \$9,000. Toyota RAV4 is a 4-cylinder, gold, leather seats, 78,000 miles, regular maintenance, no accidents. E-mail [dinie76@hotmail.com](mailto:dinie76@hotmail.com) for photos. (12/11/10)

For Sale: Red 2002 Dodge Stratus R/T, \$6,000, 4-door, 2.7 liter, V6 automatic transmission, leather seats, 4 disc CD changer, auto-start, alarm, A/C, power seat, rear spoiler, all season tires, alloy 17" rims, new brakes, rotors, and battery, single owner. Call Liz at 0170-907-9377 for info. (10/25/10)

For Sale: 2008 Toyota Tacoma, Pre-Runner SR-5, VR 6 (236 HP). Less than 15.5K miles. Auto Transmission, Class III hitch, oil cooler, limited slip differential, access cab, upgraded interior (CD, etc), two-wheel drive. Asking \$20,500. Call 0951-300-8901 or 0954-998-8078, or e-mail [gibbonstr@hotmail.com](mailto:gibbonstr@hotmail.com).

For Sale: 2007 Harley Davidson Night Rod Special (US Spec). Gloss black, 9,500 miles, excellent condition (garage kept), new tires, new battery, two sets of mirrors, cover included for \$13,000 OBO. For more information or pictures, e-mail [abraham.gopfert@yahoo.com](mailto:abraham.gopfert@yahoo.com) or [kriddy43@hotmail.com](mailto:kriddy43@hotmail.com). (10/6/10)

## FOR SALE

Dual voltage printer. Wireless HP 4385 Photosmart All-in-one, print, copy, and scan. 3 years old, works perfectly. Software, cords, and ink included. \$50 Contact Brittany or Jonathan at 0170-202-7674 or [bmroberts0731@live.com](mailto:bmroberts0731@live.com). (1/27/11)

220Volt Large freezer, \$250 Jeep jogger stroller- still in great condition. \$50 Low maintenance elliptical- \$20 Lightening McQueen toddler bed with mattress- never used \$60 Kids left-handed golf set - \$80 Large gas BBQ- used once during summer 2010 - \$80 Small gas bbq- free In house small stereo with speakers- \$40. Christina Gonzalez 0171-777-9328 [wgonzalez001@yahoo.com](mailto:wgonzalez001@yahoo.com). (1/20/11)

Big free standing RCA HDTV on rollers 51 1/2in tall 48 1/2 in wide 120 works great \$200 O.B.O. call 015151679661 or e-mail [brikenmar@yahoo.com](mailto:brikenmar@yahoo.com).

Snails for sale: fresh water snails. \$.50 each. E-mail [pbbabe24@hotmail.com](mailto:pbbabe24@hotmail.com). (1/20/11)

The Bamberg Girl Scouts is accepting donations for a garage sale to be held at a later date. E-mail questions to [christypreston@yahoo.com](mailto:christypreston@yahoo.com).

Weight Bench \$75; Curl Bar \$20; 2 Long Bars \$15 each; 2 Dumbbell Bars \$10 for the set. 4x10 lb plates, 2x5 kg plates, 10x5 lb plates, 4x10 lb plates, 2x10 kg plates, 2x25 lb plates, 2x3 lb plates. All weights are 40 cents per pound and the complete set price can be negotiable. Leg Extender \$50; Computer Desk \$30. Call 0951-300-7044. (11/8/10)

For Sale. 240 V Treadmill is in good condition for \$70. Four 240 V pedestal fans are \$15 each. Classic Nordic Track is in good condition \$100. Please call Dave at 0162-271-1182. (12/14/10)

## MISCELLANEOUS

The school is in need of a bus driver who is qualified to drive a 40-passenger bus. If in-

terested, please e-mail [Dominick.Calabria@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Dominick.Calabria@eu.dodea.edu). (1/27/11)

Gabi's Doggie Daycare, I have space available only on weekends, holidays, and at home care. Daily care is full. Visit [www.gabidoggiedaycare.com](http://www.gabidoggiedaycare.com).

Free to good home. A rabbit with cage and everything that goes with it. If interested, call Steve at 0951-208-5148.

Mariachi Cuatro Caminos band. We are looking for local and newly re-deployed soldiers or family members to enlarge the mariachi band. Will perform for the community military and civilian, no money will be collected from gigs. Must read music and be able to play by ear, new to the mariachi or an instrument and you are willing to learn, no problem, as long as you can walk and chew gum at the same time. For more information, e-mail [puromariachi@hotmail.com](mailto:puromariachi@hotmail.com). (1/3/11)

The Bamberg Hospitality House supports the ministry of the Warner Barracks Chapel by offering additional opportunities for discipleship, Bible study, fellowship (that includes food, often!), weekend activities, etc. Join us Friday nights for 6:30 p.m. dinner and Bible study at our home (Sonnenstrasse 7; 96175 Pettstadt; visit [www.cadence.org/huisjen](http://www.cadence.org/huisjen) or call 09502-8037). Join us on Sundays at the 11 a.m. for the Protestant service (post chapel).

PCSing? Can't find a new home for your dog? Please don't abandon him/her, call us first. No questions asked. We are a privately funded non-profit dog rescue. Will give your dog solace and placement with a new, loving family. Located in Bamberg and open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Call 0954-532-2881 or e-mail [solacedogrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:solacedogrescue@yahoo.com). (8/23/10)

## AD SUBMISSIONS

When submitting a classified ad for publication, include your name, address and telephone number. We will not advertise commercial services. Classified ads will be erased after an appropriate publication length. If you have something you want to advertise in the classified section, please e-mail your submission to the Public Affairs Office at [bambergpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:bambergpao@eur.army.mil). We will ONLY accept classified ads by e-mail. We will not accept advertisements by phone or hand-written. These classified ads are a free service to you and in order for us to provide them, they must be in a cut-and-paste text only format. We hope this service is something you will utilize. For more information, call 0951-300-1600 or e-mail [bambergpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:bambergpao@eur.army.mil).

## AAFES Corner



07<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February  
20% Off All Facts!  
Call coupons available at your  
Banking One Stop

**0** interest.  
payments.  
until September 2011.  
Easy 6 months with no interest or  
payments on your purchase of \$500 or  
more when you use your  
Military One Stop Card from  
January 28 - February 14, 2011.

**Winter Sale**  
Jan 25<sup>th</sup> - Feb 5<sup>th</sup>

WINE COUPONS	30 % OFF
BEER COUPONS	30 % OFF
CHILDREN'S SHOES	30 % OFF

Valentine's Day  
Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

Click [here](#) to view weekly savings

## Defense Commissary Agency Corner



Go to <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Click [here](#) for printable online coupons.

Click [here](#) for recipes from Kay's Kitchen.

(TAX continued from Page 1)

issues concerning members of the military and their Families. It informs tax filers on where to receive quality tax counseling, including what documentation to bring to a post tax assistance center.

Another new service was recently developed by U.S. Army Europe. It is a Podcast geared toward tax preparation and is available at <http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/MediaServer/podcasts/2009-AE-TaxTips.mp3>.

Several free electronic tax filing services are offered through Military OneSource as well. The services are widely used and can be located at [www.militaryonesource.com/](http://www.militaryonesource.com/) under "Tax Filing Services."

For more information, call the Bamberg Tax Center at 0951-300-8261 or 0951-300-8262.

## Tax Facts

Q: What days and hours are tax consultants available for consultations?

A: Tax consultants will be available for consultation by phone 7 days/week, from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Q: How will the recent changes to some of the tax laws, made in late December 2010 by Congress, impact my tax return?

A: The changes will impact those individuals with itemized deductions. You can still complete your return using the Military OneSource customized H&R Block At Home on-line product, but there will be a delay in your filing being sent to the IRS. The IRS will not be ready to receive and process filings with itemized deductions until Feb. 14th. At that time, these filings will be sent electronically to the IRS and processed as usual. The delay will impact those that use one of the following forms:

- ◆ Schedule A (Form 1040), Itemized Deductions
- ◆ Form 8917, Tuition, and Fees Deduction Educator Expense Deduction claimed on Form
- ◆ 1040, Line 23, and Form 1040A, Line 16
- ◆ Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts
- ◆ Form 8859, District of Columbia First-Time
- ◆ Homebuyer Credit
- ◆ Form 3800, General Business Credit
- ◆ Form 5405, First-Time Homebuyer Credit and Repayment of the Credit



Photo by Douglas DeMaio

Owner's whose vehicle did not pass inspection because of major deficiencies will need to contact the Traffic Section at 0951-300-8549 to have their vehicle placed in the nonoperational lot.

(POV continued from Page 1)

said.

Vehicles that are in noncompliance can get a temporary five-day registration to go through the mechanical inspection, according to Army Europe Regulation 190-1.

"If the POV fails the inspection for an immediate safety hazard, it must be registered as non-operational immediately," the regulation states. "A five-workday extension may be granted only if the applicant provides proof that the POV is in a garage for repair (for example, garage work order) and only if the POV can be repaired and pass the mechanical inspection within the five-workday extension. If the POV fails the mechanical inspection for a minor deficiency, an extension equal to a total of 30 calendar days from the initial registration date may be granted."

Owners who fail to comply with the POV nonoperational or disposal procedures as outlined in AER 190-1 will be handled on a case by case basis, Townsend said. Violators could receive a citation for failure to obey a regulation or abandoning a vehicle.

Townsend recommends owners who are unable to get their vehicle to an operational status or sell their vehicles prior to changing a duty station should donate the vehicles to the MWR Strip Yard.

"If they want to junk a car, I just need the owner to check it in with a valid registration," said Bill Moran, Auto Crafts Shop manager. "It can be operation or non operational. It's best to do it before the registration expires. Most abandoned were non-op vehicles."

To donate a vehicle to MWR, owners need to take it to the scrap yard with a registration, Moran said. MWR provides paperwork to be returned to vehicle registration and the process is finished.

Townsend said abandoned vehicles do happen occasionally and that once a vehicle has been identified as abandoned, the owner's unit command is notified and commanders can take action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For more information about nonoperational vehicles, call 0951-300-8549.

## Eco-Friendly Tips



### Recycling Tips

1. Reduce waste and energy consumption in the workplace—reuse your paper, if possible.
2. Only print when absolutely necessary.
3. When you do print, use both sides of the paper.

### Energy-saving Tips

1. Thaw refrigerators regularly (1-2 times a year).
2. Check the rubber seal in the door of the refrigerator: test it by closing the door over a piece of paper or a dollar bill so that it is half in and half out of the refrigerator. If you can pull the paper or bill out easily, the latch may need adjustment, the seal may need replacing, or you might consider buying a new unit.
3. Open fridge quickly to avoid letting cool air out.

## “It’s a great family-friendly event. It’s affordable and fun.”

-Spc. Matthew Stevens  
173rd Brigade Support Battalion

(DINNER continued from Page 3)

It is a great partnership between MWR and the school, Hagemann said.

“This helps us out and is a great experience for the students,” he said. “They are great to work with.”

It feels good to help, said Charlott Polm, a senior, who has helped out at all the dinners.

“I like helping out and like to see the people enjoying the food we have helped prepare,” she said.

For Jeannie and Spc. Matthew Stevens, the garrison dinners provide an opportunity to get out and enjoy a community environment.

“It’s a great family-friendly event,” said Matthew, who has attended several of the dinners. “It’s affordable and fun.”

Jeannie added, “People complain there is nothing to do on post and the lack of American food. This is something to do and the food is excellent.”

The next garrison dinner will be an adult “Sweetheart” themed dinner Feb. 11, which will feature surf and turf (prime rib and grilled shrimp) and peach and cherry cobbler for \$18 a person. Women will be given a complimentary rose and a photographer will be available to take portraits for an additional fee. Childcare will also be available for the event from 5:45 – 9:45 p.m. To make a reservation for childcare, community members must contact Child and Youth Services Parent Central Services at 0951-



Photo by Mindy Campbell

Command Sgt. Major Daniel Ocanas, U.S. Army Garrison command sergeant major, dishes up a sundae along with two community members during one of the recent monthly garrison dinners at the Warner Conference Center.

300-7716 no later than Feb. 4.

Other upcoming garrison dinners scheduled include: March 17 - Steak Night followed by St. Patrick’s Day party with disc jockey; April 24 - Easter brunch with Easter egg hunts; and May 8 – Mother’s Day brunch.

Previously, tickets for the garrison dinner were being distributed through the units. Starting in February, the tickets will also be available for purchase at several MWR facilities including the Community Activity Center, Outdoor Recreation and Birchview Lanes Bowling Center.

For more information about the upcoming garrison dinners, contact Brad Cline at 0951-300-8659 or by e-mail at [Bradley.cline@eur.army.mil](mailto:Bradley.cline@eur.army.mil).

# Missed appointments cost millions annually

## Better reminders; patients rescheduling to cut no-shows

By Phil Tegtmeier,  
ERMC Public Affairs Office

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- Nearly 5,000 missed medical appointments per month costs Army Medicine in Europe about \$5 million per year. Engaging beneficiaries and unit leaders can help reduce the number of missed appointments by half, health officials say.

In addition to reducing the cost of health care, reducing missed appointments will help Europe Regional Medical Command clinics provide beneficiaries improved access to the health care they so richly deserve, according to Army Lt. Col. Andrew Lankowicz, ERMC Clinical Operations director. He noted that one missed appointment can impact three others: the unfilled missed appointment, the missed appointment someone could have used, and the one the person still needs for himself.

“We cannot expect patients to be able to make it to every single appointment they make with us, but we can work together to bring our no-show rate of 10 percent down to five,” Lankowicz said.

To that end, Army community health care clinics are looking at better ways to remind people of

upcoming appointments.

At the same time, they are taking other, customer-oriented steps to bring the rates down.

Lankowicz referred to a study of no-show rates in military hospitals. He said nearly half of the study’s respondents said they missed their appointment because they simply forgot they had one scheduled.

“If we provide better reminders and help patients make their appointments, we can make a great improvement,” he added.

Reminding patients of upcoming appointments does two things, Lankowicz said.

If everyone who missed an appointment because they forgot about it came in, the Europe no-show rates would go down by half, he said. At the very least, a reminder a few days before the appointment is due gives patients a better chance of rescheduling at a time that’s more convenient to them if their plans have changed.

“We also want to give unit leaders more time to make certain Soldiers make appointments or change them if the unit mission dictates rescheduling,” Lankowicz said. In order to do so, clinics across Europe are improving their reports of Soldier upcoming and missed appointments to unit commanders for Soldiers in their

units.

Knowing which Soldiers in a unit have medical appointments can be a useful tool in a combat unit.

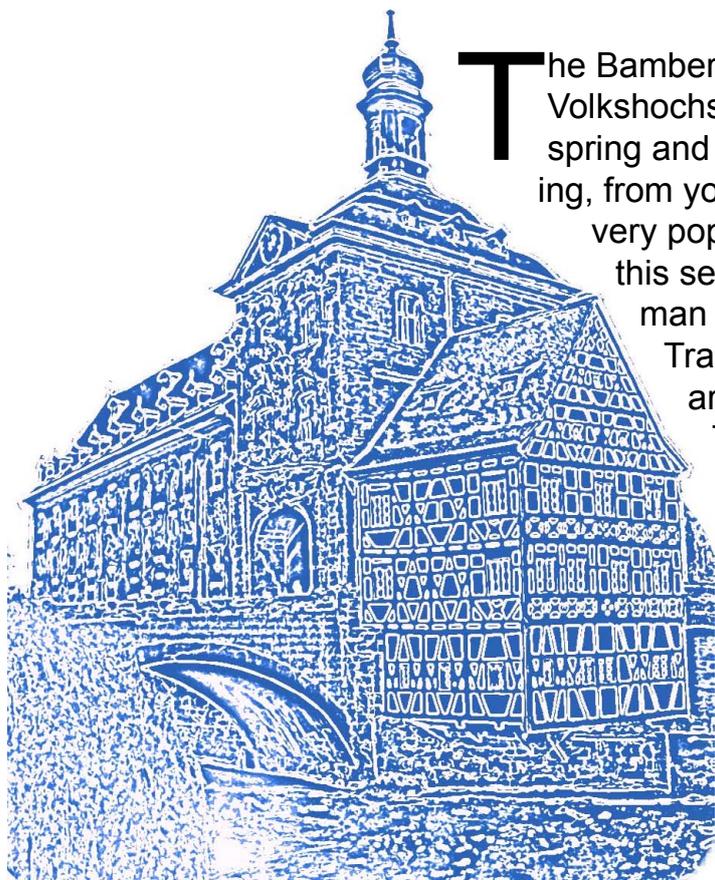
One deployed combat medic took part in an online discussion at the NCO Net forum at Army Knowledge Online. He said that asking Soldiers to leave their NCO leadership’s telephone information when making appointments would also help.

“Letting the platoon or first sergeant know of the appointment is not a cure-all, but it is a cheap and effective way to ensure another is tracking the appointment,” said Sgt. 1st Class Richard Stickels, a combat medic assigned to the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment.

The goal of notifications to leaders and other initiatives are to make it easier for patients to go to appointments when they can and to call in to reschedule when they cannot.

“Each missed appointment is a missed opportunity to provide care to someone needing our services,” said Col. William Novakoski, ERMC’s chief medical officer and deputy commander. “Please call your clinic as soon as you know if your plans change. By doing so, you give us an opportunity to provide services to more patients in need of our care.”

# Classes in Bamberg



The Bamberg Community Recreation and Learning Center or Volkshochschule (VHS) is offering a variety of classes in the spring and in the fall. Classes range from languages to cooking, from yoga to horseback riding. Some of these classes are very popular and fill up on the first sign-up day, which for this semester is Feb. 2. You can sign up via their German website [www.vhs-bamberg.de](http://www.vhs-bamberg.de), or at their office at Traenk-gasse 4, 96052 Bamberg. Their opening hours are Mon. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 5 pm., Tue., Wed., Thur. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 4 pm, Fri. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There are extended opening hours from Feb. 2 – 18: Mon. 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tue., Wed., Thur. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 5 pm, Fri. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Payment is either in cash, or via German bank withdrawal so have you bank information ready if you choose this method of payment. The following is only a small selection of classes. The number in parenthesis is the course number. Please check website for locations.

Course	Start	Time	Price	Location	Comment
Yoga (4262)	Feb. 21	6:20 – 7:50 p.m.	€49.92	Altes E-Werk, room U 10	Classes are always on Mondays
Yoga (4291)	Feb. 22	6 – 7:30 p.m.	€55.91	Altes E-Werk, room 207	Classes are always on Tuesdays
Intensive German language class (3013)	Feb. 22	6:30 – 8 p.m.	€76.80	Graf-Stauffenberg-Schule, room 214	Classes are always on Tuesdays. Additional cost for books: €24.95
German language class for moms (3010)	Feb. 24	9 – 11:30 a.m.	€20	Nuernbergerstrasse 108k	This is a beginners class. Free childcare during class. Classes are on Thursdays.
German language class for advanced beginners (3012)	Feb. 24	6 – 8 p.m.	€60.48	Franz-Ludwig-Gymnasium	Classes are always on Thursdays. Additional cost for books: €23
Yoga (4276)	Feb. 24	8:30 – 10 a.m.	€58.60	Altes E-Werk room 101	Classes are always on Thursdays
Moroccan cooking with chocolate (5425)	Feb. 25	5 – 9 p.m.	€21.80	Altes E-Werk, U16	
Cocinamos y conversamos (5422)	Feb. 25	6 – 9 p.m.	€39.55	Altes E-Werk U-17	Second session on Sat. Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Indian cooking class (5430)	March 17	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	€73.40	Altes E-Werk U17	Classes are always on Thursdays. Includes €25 for food items
Horseback riding (4980)	March 18	8 – 9 p.m.	€110	Poeldorfer Strasse 196	Classes are always on Fridays. No class on Apr. 22 and 29
Horseback riding (4981)	March 19	10 – 11 a.m.	€110	Poeldorfer Strasse 196	Classes are always on Saturdays. No class on Apr. 23 and 30
Cooking class for men only (5307)	April 1	5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	€29.80	Altes E-Werk U16	Includes €15 for food supplies
Indian cooking class (5432)	April 1	6 – 9:30 p.m.	€34.18	Altes E-Werk U17	Second session on Apr. 2, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Medieval cooking (5309)	May 4	5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	€25.24	Altes E-Werk U17	
Thai cooking (5440)	May 5	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	€38.72	Altes E-Werk U17	Classes are on Tuesdays; additional cost for food supplies: €18 payable on the first evening
Vegetarian Indian cooking (5431)	May 5	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	€73.40	Altes E-Werk U17	Classes are always on Thursdays.
Moroccan cooking class (5426)	May 6	5 – 9 p.m.	€21.80	Altes E-Werk U16	
Indian cooking class (5433)	May 6	6 – 9:30 p.m.	€34.18	Altes E-Werk U17	Second session on Sat. May 7, 10 a.m – 1 p.m.
Inline Skating class for children/teens (4985)	June 8	6 – 7 p.m.	€20	Rollschuhbahn, Stadion	Bring your own gear; helmet mandatory; classes are on Wednesdays
Inline Skating class for children/teens (4986)	June 11	2 – 3 p.m.	€20	Rollschuhbahn, Stadion	Bring your own gear; helmet mandatory; classes are on Saturdays
Inline Skating class for adults (4987)	June 11	3 – 4 p.m.	€20	Rollschuhbahn, Stadion	Bring your own gear; helmet mandatory; classes are on Saturdays

For more classes and information on locations of classes as well as information on refunds please contact the VHS directly at 0951-871108 or visit [www.vhs-bamberg.de](http://www.vhs-bamberg.de). Also, please double check dates and times when you sign up.