

The Franconian News

Serving the Franconia Military Community in Ansbach, Bamberg and Schweinfurt

Vol. 9, Issue 44

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Thursday Nov. 29, 2012

Urlas Army Lodging named to remember fallen Soldier

By Spc. Ondirae H. Abdullah-Robinson,
12th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

ANSBACH, Germany -- The 12th Combat Aviation Brigade here honored Capt. John Brainard III, an Apache pilot and the brigade adjutant, in a ceremony Nov. 9 renaming the Urlas Army Lodging building for the fallen aviator.

A native of Newport, Maine, Brainard was a helicopter pilot for nearly four years. Brainard was killed in action along with his co-pilot, Chief Warrant Officer 5 John C. Pratt, May 28, when his AH-64D Longbow Apache helicopter was shot down near Kabul, Afghanistan.

The distinguished visitors for the event included Brainard's wife, Emily; Col. Kelly J. Lawler, U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach commander; and Lord Mayor Heinrich Forster of Illesheim. Two of Brainard's favorite songs, "Jump" by Van Halen and "Eye of the Tiger" by Survivor, played as Soldiers and guests gathered.

Following the invocation, Col. Jay Voorhees, commander of the 12th CAB, delivered remarks.

"This is a great honor for the 12th CAB and for me personally to recognize and again honor in a very special way one of our own true American heroes, Captain (John) 'Jay' Brainard," Voorhees said. "As Jay would want it, I want to also recognize all the Griffins that remain in the fight at this very moment flying missions, pumping fuel, fixing helicopters and



Spc. Ondirae Abdullah-Robinson
Emily Brainard, wife of 12th Combat Aviation Brigade fallen warrior Capt. Jay Brainard, delivers remarks at a ceremony renaming the Ansbach Army Lodge on Camp Urlas in honor of her husband Nov. 9.

completing a myriad of other tasks that make this brigade continue to operate to the highest standard and meet mission requirements every single day."

"Jay brought such a positive energy to our headquarters and an unbridled enthusiasm about being part of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade team and contributing in whatever every manner he could," Voorhees said. "Jay was a magnificent person, energetic, loyal, dedicated, hardworking patriot and selfless."

As the brigade adjutant, Brainard tracked the brigade commander's calendar and schedule, informed the commander on happenings in the brigade, ensured the commander got where he needed to be, traveled with the commander and coordinated the battlefield circulations.

"Naming this lodge after him is a perfect tribute in so many ways," Emily Brainard said. "Jay and I spent a lot of time traveling throughout Europe and the states and we often stayed at military lodging."

(URLAS continued on Page 7)

DFACs serve Thanksgiving



Simon Hupfer

Officers and senior enlisted personnel serve a Thanksgiving meal to Capt. Petero Lole, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg, at Ray's Diner on Warner Barracks on Nov. 22. For more for information and photos from Thanksgiving celebrations through out the Franconia Military Community, see Pages 7 and 9.

Schweinfurt spouses, deployed Soldiers support Wounded Warrior Project

By Margaret Gotheridge,
USAG Schweinfurt Public Affairs

cause, while 26 teams completed 519 five-mile laps in Bamberg, Germany.

SCHWEINFURT, Germany -- In the early morning darkness, 140 Comanche Troop Soldiers of 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment -- currently deployed to Command Outpost Baraki Barack in Afghanistan -- ran more than 1,200 miles Nov. 8 to help raise more than \$70,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project as part of the Running of the Herd.

Sgt. Derek Stutz, the Comanche Troop senior medic who organized the satellite Running of the Herd at Baraki Barack, ran for 12 continuous hours on a quarter-mile lap at the command outpost completing a distance of 55 miles.

The sixth annual Running of the Herd event is a 24-hour relay run where participants from the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team run in remembrance of their wounded warriors and fallen heroes.

The runners' course was lined with signs containing the names of their fellow fallen Soldiers and wounded warriors that were placed every 25 feet. The course also contained a hall of heroes draped with unit and brigade flags.

During the one-day event, seven spouses in Schweinfurt completed two miles each for a combined 14 miles, raising an additional \$10,000 for the

The annual event is held on the 8th of November to commemorate the 48 Americans who died Nov. 8, 1965, during Operation Hump in Vietnam when the brigade was ambushed by Viet Cong fighters.

No tolerance for child neglect in the Franconia Military Community

By John O'Brien, USAG Ansbach Civilian Misconduct Office

ANSBACH, Germany -- Leaving a small child to sleep in a vehicle while the parent or guardian goes holiday shopping or allowing them to roam the housing area while taking a nap is not acceptable behavior. These are just some examples of the types of cases Ansbach has regarded as child neglect.

Though there can be times where such behaviors can be explained with a good reason, all too often these situations occur without justifiable explanation. Other common negligent acts involving children usually surrounds the topic of alcohol consumption and includes physical and mental abuse, malnutrition and failure to maintain reasonable living conditions within the home. The garrison commander will take an aggressive stance in these cases. It is not simply the goal of the Ansbach command to punish nonconforming behavior. More specifically, Franconia Military Command teams from Ansbach, Bamberg and Schweinfurt see it as a united responsibility of tenant commands and their garrisons to educate and empower Families to live healthy, safe and happy lives. The FMC offers many programs through Army Community Service and their family advocacy programs including Social Work Services in order to ensure Soldiers, Families and civilians have all the knowledge and skills needed to obtain and retain these necessary life skills.

More often than not, these cases can be prevented or, upon occurring,

Child Supervision Policy revisions designed to increase awareness, safety

By Heidi Sanders,
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg's Child Supervision Policy has been revised to make it easier to understand and help ensure children's safety, officials said.

The revised policy, which can be found on the garrison's website at <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/cg/Policies/20121201%20CDS%20CS.PDF>, goes into effect Dec. 1.

Mark Bradley, Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program manager, said one of the biggest revisions to the policy was changing it from grade based to age based. For example, previously where the policy laid out required supervision for children in first grade, it now specifies the level of supervision expected for a six year old.

"Now that it is age based, it is a little easier for people to track," Bradley said. The policy includes a chart that lays out what supervision is required for each age group and activity.

can be kept from reoccurring through effective use of these programs. The key is for leaders at all levels to engage their people and ensure they are living safely.

"Neglect cases are rarely isolated incidents that couldn't be prevented," said Col. Kelly J. Lawler, U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach and FMC commander. "When our Soldiers and Families fail, we fail."

Though it is the command teams' intent to educate and train Soldiers and their Families for the purpose of keeping Families together, Lawler said in some cases, "a garrison in Europe just isn't equipped with all the treatment and training tools needed to assist, support and meet a Family's needs. In these rare cases, our only option is an early return of dependants (EROD). It's not our preference but sometimes there are more programs back in the states than what we are able to offer."

If you need help or are aware of problems within your community, take action. Contact your local Directorate of Emergency Services, Criminal Investigation Division, ACS office or SWS, and they can give you guidance that can assist you as a parent or as a person who need support and assistance. You may also contact your local Civilian Misconduct Office, who can facilitate contact with the appropriate unit or organization. In Ansbach, call 09811-83-7760. In Bamberg, call 0951-300-8392. In Schweinfurt, call 09721-96-6955.

Another revision to the policy is a clear definition of direct supervision. The policy defines direct supervision as, "Someone who is an adult (parent, guardian, care provider friend), has line of sight and sound supervision and responsibility for the child. Supervision is within the same dwelling or within 25 meters (approximately 80 feet) of the person watching the child(ren) in public places such as a playground. Short absences are not acceptable under any circumstances."

USAG Bamberg Garrison Commander Michelle L. Bienias said the reason for the changes is to ensure safety of the children in the community.

"A parent cannot react fast enough if they are up on the third floor," Bienias said.

The policy also gives a better definition of who an adult guardian is, Bradley said. According to the policy, an adult guardian is "a person, 18 years of age or older, who has been appointed, either by law or by permission of the parent, to take care of the child or adolescent in the parent's absence."

The revised policy also includes a form that the parent can fill out designating a responsible adult who will supervise the children during their absence. Bradley said the form is not required to be turned in to any authorities but can be useful when a parent leaves an older child in charge, as it lists the adult guardian, emergency contact and other pertinent information.

Parents should keep in mind that the policy also applies in public facilities, such as the Community Activity Center, Bienias said. Children must be supervised by the adult guardian as it is not the responsibility of the CAC staff to watch the children.

For example, Bienias said, parents are required to stay with their children while they participate in a class as the CAC and cannot just be dropped off.

Bienias said everyone in the community is responsible to make sure the policy is being followed. Anyone who suspects child abuse or neglect should call the Military Police at 0951-300-8700 or 0951-300-7770.



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Bamberg website at www.bamberg.army.mil or the U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach website at www.ansbach.army.mil.

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

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Illusionist Rob Lake shows tricks are for adults as well as kids

By Bryan Gatchell, USAG Ansbach Public Affairs

ANSBACH, Germany -- The magician's assistant steps into the box. The magician folds the box down to roughly the size of a cubic foot. He then runs the box through with swords, removes the swords and unfolds the box to its original size. Out steps the assistant, who has herself performed a wardrobe change as part of the claustrophobic feat of cutlery. On a bare stage, how did the assistant leave the box without the audience noticing? Was she ever in the box in the first place? Or was there something happening that defies rational or scientific explanation?

U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach was treated to a night of such illusions at Katterbach Movie Theater at Bismarck Kaserne Nov. 15 and 16. Illusionist Rob Lake entertained with death-defying tricks, prestidigitation, eerie feats of mental acuity, and an easygoing rapport with his audience. Lake performed at USAG Bamberg on Nov. 17.

"It's something that we really are thrilled and happy to be able to do," Lake said. "There's definitely a sense of appreciation, and we can tell that a lot of people are pretty grateful that we have come over here to entertain them."

"It's a nice family event," said Cheyenne Nevada, president of the Ansbach Spouses and Civilians' Club and wife of Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Nevada, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Combat Aviation Brigade. "MWR has done some nice events. ... They're doing a great job here for the families."

Lake's involvement in the art of illusion dates back to his childhood and intersects with a longstanding tradition in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"I got into magic when I was 10 years old and never grew up," Lake said. "My grandfather served in World War II in the Pacific and he often talked about how Irving Berlin and other great performers of that era came over to entertain them and really boost their morale, so he always encouraged me to try to find a way to entertain the troops, so I was really, really glad when I got to team up with Armed Forces Entertainment."

Armed Forces Entertainment brings musicians, comedians, cheerleaders, celebrities of sports, film and television and magicians to audiences around the world to entertain Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors and their Families. The event was coordinated by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and received volunteer support from



Bryan Gatchell
During his origami illusion, magician Rob Lake runs a sword through a small box purportedly containing one of his assistants at Katterbach Movie Theater Nov. 15.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers.

"It was great fun," Ashley Swibold said. "I think that anyone who gets the opportunity to do it will remember it."

"We really are grateful for the service of the troops and their Families," Lake said. "We know it's a sacrifice. We know it's difficult. It's really the least we can do to come over and entertain them -- provide them a sense of wonder and enchantment and fun for them, even if it's just for a little bit. It's something that we really are thrilled and happy to be able to do. There's definitely a sense of appreciation and we can tell that a lot of people are pretty grateful that we have come over here to entertain them because most of the places we go to don't get much entertainment at all."

To learn more about what upcoming events that Family and MWR is putting on at your garrison, visit www.facebook.com/ansbachfamilyandmwr for USAG Ansbach, www.facebook.com/bambergmwr for USAG Bamberg or www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/fmwr/fmwr.htm for USAG Schweinfurt.

Offices moving to provide consolidated, centralized services in preparation for closure

By Jessica Lipari,
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

Directorate of Logistics will move into Building 7007 and Building 7016.

BAMBERG, Germany -- Centralizing services to support the community and allow the garrison to meet closure terms will see various offices relocating within the months to come.

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Building 7486, will be relocating by Dec. 5 to the second floor of the Garrison Headquarters, Building 7089. By the middle of December, the

Moves already have taken place to help accommodate these future moves. The Army Substance Abuse Program moved in November to the second floor of the Garrison Headquarters, Building 7089. The Plans Integration and Analysis Office and the Equal Opportunity Office have moved from the second floor to the third floor of the Garrison Headquarters.

EO has been consolidated with the Inspector General Office to offer community members better service, said Cpt. Petero Lole, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, U.S. Army Bamberg. Lole has been tasked with overseeing the consolidation of services to ensure the community is supported to allow the garrison to meet closure requirements.

"The move allows us to reduce the Bamberg
(MOVE continued on Page 5)

Beyond protection: Army Research Laboratory investigates next-level pelvic, groin protection

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- New ballistic research areas are filling a critical gap in troop pelvic protection systems, said U.S. Army Research Laboratory engineers.

No standard scientific methodology currently exists to assess the...

To read more on this story, click [here](#).



Soldiers using sunlight to improve combat capability

WASHINGTON -- Soldiers are enlisting the sun's power in Afghanistan. Ten solar generators are now providing Special Forces Soldiers in distant outposts the energy they need to accomplish their mission. And, these generators are allowing them precious more time to train Afghan forces and win the friendship of local Afghans.



To read more on this story, click [here](#).

German students awarded for accomplishments at robotics fair

By Spc. Latoya Dallas,
USAG Schweinfurt Public Affairs

SCHWEINFURT, Germany -- The garrison commander here presented awards Nov. 19 to the German students who took part in the inaugural Robotics Fair hosted by Schweinfurt Elementary and Middle School.

Lt. Col. Michael Runey, USAG Schweinfurt garrison commander, gave a speech in German and presented awards and ribbons to the first place winners of the SEMS Robotics Science Fair, four of whom came from Wilhelm Sattler Realschule and to the second place winners, eight of whom came from the Olympia Morata Gymnasium.

A total of sixteen German students and teachers participated in the SEMS Robotics Science Fair, which took place May 3 through 5.

Local German schools represented included the Olympia Morata Gymnasium and the Wilhelm Sattler Realschule. Faculty members and students from both attended and set up displays demonstrating the students' robot creations and capabilities. Additionally, the Alexander von Humboldt Gymnasium sent a physics and math teacher to assist with judging.

German students participating were required to submit entries qualifying under the robotics theme and demonstrate an ability to communicate in English.

First Place: Wilhelm Sattler Realschule – Reflex Test (Reaction Tester); Teacher: Britta Fuerst; Students (Grades 9 and 10): Erik Appel, Jussi



Courtesy Photo

Lt. Col. Michael Runey presents awards Nov. 19 to the first place winners of the 2012 Schweinfurt Elementary Middle School (SEMS) Robotics Science Fair, which included four students from Wilhelm Sattler Realschule in Schweinfurt.

Olbrich, Maxim Radschei, Bernd Wirth

Second Place: Olympia Morata Gymnasium – Team Dirk (Basket Ball Shooters); Teacher: Herr Bastian Paskuda; Liaison Teacher: Christina King; Students (Grade 5): Benedikt Hofmann, Robin Siedl, David Schimmel, Tristan Krause, Tim Scheuerer, Jusus Wehner

View more photos of the award ceremony at www.flickr.com/photos/schweinfurtpao/sets/72157632049800078/.

Spouse's advice: 'Embrace Change: New friends, new possibilities'

Editor's note: U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Public Affairs Office has found several spouses of currently deployed Soldiers who have thoughts that might be helpful, supportive and encouraging for other spouses.

By Crystal Mahany

ANSBACH, Germany -- Moving around can bring greatness, not just broken dishes and dinged furniture. You can slough off the old and welcome the new.

Leave behind the old post, old friends and old baggage. It is terrifying living in a new state (or country), new unit and new everything, but instead of being seized by trepidation, embrace the new post, new friends and new possibilities.

In our lifestyle, it is possible to start fresh – to renew old goals or drum up new ones, to dump the friends who aren't as supportive as we need and to purge the unnecessary.

By this, I mean unnecessary stress and unnecessary obligations – the weights that hold us down.

Moving can be a fortunate advantage many do not have, but it's up to us as to how we utilize that advantage. It starts by seeing it as an advantage rather than a disadvantage.

Every duty station thus far has been a different journey. At the first station, I was newly married and adjusting to married life as a military spouse.

Not having experience in either, I floundered finding my way and trying to cling to women as friends, though they really didn't know me.

It was our next move that I first discovered this venture of being able to define myself and who I wanted to be.

At the next duty station, I got my dream job working at a law firm. How did I do it? I applied and went for it. It was incredible to be doing something I had wanted to do for years.

I learned so much, grew up even more and strived to learn, learn, learn. It enabled me to be successful at an endeavor that I pursued.

The next duty station in Germany brought new opportunities. I became a spin instructor, which was amazing!

Being a part of someone else's fitness journey was rewarding beyond measure. It was also time to continue my education.

With my husband's generous support, I went to grad school. Earning my master's was challenging and I came to realize academia is where I'd like to be.

Just as each duty station has varied, each deployment has been vastly different from the other.

During my first deployment I grew my professional skills as a paralegal, and the second I got my master's.

This third deployment, I'm keeping my first baby human alive and wading through life as a geographically single parent. All three are so different, yet all challenging in their own right.

It's easy to blame circumstance on why we don't go after what we want, or fail to achieve what we say we will.

When we have a deep introspective look inside of ourselves, we can find sometimes it's less circumstance and more excuse. It is uncomfortable to take a risk.

It's easy to keep doing what is most familiar even if we have concluded it's not satisfying.

It's almost as if there are internal leashes bounding us to our fears – leashes around our feet keeping us from taking the first step or around our wrists keeping us from reaching for what we know we want.

It isn't too late to start fresh, even if you've been at a duty station for some time.

Don't hesitate to step beyond those who don't truly support you.

Each new beginning means something else has to end. Whatever your goals and ambitions may be, set a date and start going for it.

Dive in. Begin the new and be done with the old.

When you're out of the old and onto the new, nobody knows how great you can be but you.

Bamberg kicks off Christmas season with Tree Lighting Ceremony

By Heidi Sanders,
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- The community is invited to kick off the Christmas Season with a Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday in the chapel parking lot.

The ceremony will be packed with plenty of holiday festivities and entertainment. The event will begin at 3:45 p.m. with a performance from the U.S. Army Europe Band Woodwind Quartet.

At 4:15 p.m., children from Bamberg's Strong Beginnings will perform. Operation Rising Star winner Betty Palmer and other contestants will take the stage at 4:30 p.m. with a Christmas show.

The tree lighting will take place just after 5 p.m. and Santa will make a special entrance. At 5:30 p.m., the Operation Rising Star contestants will be back on stage and the Greater Nation Christian Fellowship Choir, a return performance from previous years, will perform.

Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Michelle L. Bienias will present awards for the canopy and tree decorating contest at 6:15 p.m. Brad Cline, Community Activity Center chief, said there are about 10 entries for this year's contest. At 6:30



Community members enjoy the festivities during the 2011 Tree Lighting Ceremony. This year's ceremony will take place on Friday at the chapel parking lot. *File Photo*

p.m., the Woodwind Quartet will be back to finish up the festivities.

Most of the activities will take place in a heated tent, Cline said.

Throughout the event, Family Readiness Groups, Post Organizations and the CAC will be selling refreshments and other goodies. Santa will be on hand for photos.

"It shouldn't be as cold as it has been the last couple of years," Cline said.

For more information, call the Community Activity Center at 0951-300-8837.

Schweinfurt wins 2012 IMCOM Europe Junior Soccer Championship



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to Schweinfurt's Junior Soccer team for winning this year's IMCOM Europe Junior Soccer Championship. (From left to right) Front row: Jessilyn Smith, Tristin Mansfield, Coach Derek Walker, Tavany Stice and Taylor Baumgartner. Middle row: Austin McKeithan, Xavier Salazar, Lindsey Goodrich, Mariah Ramirez, Aiyanna Ordillas, Romi Mota, Abigail Sekutera and Dawson Adrian. Back row: Tyler Cunningham, Aaron Schultz, Taggart Speakman, Lucas Sekutera, Carlos Vasquez, Benjamin Sekutera and Coach Carolos Ramirez.

By Tom Hlavacek

SCHWEINFURT, Germany -- Schweinfurt's Blue Thunder Junior Youth Soccer team defeated Vicenza's Black Dragons 2-0 during the Child,

Youth and School Services IMCOM-Europe Eastern Regional Soccer Championship Nov. 11.

The Blue Thunder's defense smothered their opponents' offense, leaving the three-time-champion Black Dragons scoreless. After a third-place finish for Schweinfurt last year, this year's team earned a perfect 7-0 record during the regular season and a 4-0 championship run.

Schweinfurt's first goal came from midfield with Tristin Mansfield scoring in the 16th minute. Taylor Baumgartner sealed the championship when he skidded the ball into the goal from 22 meters out with 15 minutes remaining in the game.

Schweinfurt coach Derek Walker took over the coaching reigns from Michael Awoyomi who deployed earlier during the season. "We played for him," said Walker.

"Our goal was just to improve as players and as a team every year," Walker added. "Our goalie, Carlos Vasquez, went all 11 games without being scored upon in regular play, and we mercy ruled most of the teams in Germany."

Final Team Standings: First place: Schweinfurt; Second place: Vicenza; Third place: Aviano; Fourth place: Ansbach, Fifth place: Bamberg; sixth place: Hohenfels; Seventh place: Vilseck.

(MOVE continued from Page 3)

footprint and it is a win-win situation," Lole said. "We are able to close buildings, return furniture, turn off the lights and minimize the heat until turnover. This will save money in renting and utilities."

Closing buildings that are not at full occupancy allows the garrison to prepare them for

turnover by providing needed maintenance.

Buildings that are closed early, will allow the Bundesanstalt für Immobilienaufgaben to look at buildings and asses the real estate in preparation for the return of land and buildings to the German government.

While coordinating the movement of offices

and closures of buildings, notification to the employees and community members is critical.

"By giving plenty of notification, we will be able to have a painless and smooth transition," Lole said. "We are trying to provide undisturbed services to the community at the same time as preparing for closure."

Bamberg teen seeks rank of Eagle Scout, completes gazebo

By Jessica Lipari,
USAG Bamberg Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany -- Neil Armstrong, Gerald R. Ford and Steven Spielberg are among the more than two million men that have achieved the highest rank in Boy Scouts. They are all Eagle Scouts, and one Bamberg Middle High School student is well on his way to achieving this rank.

Nicholas Zilhaver, is a ninth grade, honor roll student who has worked his way through the ranks of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts since he started first grade.

The average age of boys earning Eagle Scout rank is 17. However, this 14 year old has progressed through the ranks, earned his merit badges and recently completed his Eagle Scout service project.

Nicholas completed his service project at U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg by building a gazebo for the 16th Special Troops Battalion.

The service project tested Nicholas' skills in planning, developing and leadership while providing an opportunity to give back to the community.

Sitting down with Nicholas for an interview about his service project, one is quick to see that this bright youth will be a future leader.

After reciting the Scout Oath that he lives by, Nicolas said "If you master those aspects and all those skills you are pretty much the top of the top."

"There is no denying that you have everything that you can possibly get to be an excellent person, an outstanding citizen," Nicholas said. "Boy Scouts is a good organization and whatever your dreams may be, this will definitely help you to accomplish it."

What are your future plans and goals?

Well after I graduate high school, I hope to go to Brown University and study neuroscience, maybe become a neurosurgeon if possible. I will see how far I get. It is many years of studying.

What other activities do you participate in besides Boy Scouts?

I am working on JROTC (Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps). Actually in a couple of moments, I am heading over to the running event (173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team's annual Running of the Herd). Other than that at the moment, that is it. I am looking for a new

hobby.

Explain to me the project and why did you pick it?

Basically what it is, the Soldiers of 16th STB asked for a gazebo and I thought it would be a good Eagle project, and I would take advantage of this. It is right next to the Soldiers' barracks, so they can be outside and sit and have a gazebo, instead of the cement slab they sat on.

Did you have help from garrison with the project?

We had a couple engineers and workers that helped; we used garrison engineers on site and workers. There were stone masons and people that did inventory. There was a lot of help from them.

What is the purpose of the Eagle Scout service project?

The essential part was to organize and plan it out so it gets done. You can take part in the actual activity itself, but the main idea is to show leadership and organize an actual project.

What was the most difficult aspect of this project?

Probably getting everything to fit together. At first I thought actually that it would be getting to lead everybody but that worked out quite well. Really all the pieces to this massive puzzle were the most difficult to get to fit together if you think about it. You had to get all the garrison people there; I had to fill out a lot of paper. I had to order the kit, get people on site and actually get a general idea of how to throw this thing together. Also, a lot of the garrison workers are done with their work day by the time I am done with school and that was a little challenging. They were pretty awesome, I have to admit.

What was the most rewarding aspect of this project?

Honestly, apart from the fact that you achieve Eagle, you just look back and before I could barely even cook and now I can erect massive structures. It gives you a sense of what all you can do with yourself rather than just believing in a certain cause, what you might be able to do you actually get to see what you can do and how you can impact the community.

Over the years how has Boy Scouts helped you out with respect to growing up?

Other than the fact that everybody respects you and you do good things for the community, it also teaches you a lot of valuable lessons like integrity, it gives you social skills, and it improves your mental and physical aspects. It makes you a better person all around. It gives you really important life skills which not

only help with all the stereotypical things like camping and all that, but it also helps you with other future things like getting a job, passing school, getting through college, all the really difficult things in life these days.

What has scouting taught you that you will use in life as an adult?

Achieving actually to get to an adult cause a lot of people these days they are so misguided that they lose sight of what they are trying to achieve, but with Boy Scouts you actually know what you are going to do and how you are going to do it and it gives you the skill set in order to achieve your goal.

Why should boys join Boy Scouts?

If you are not in it already you should definitely get in it, not only because it teaches you things but it is a good way to spend your time. You can sit on your couch playing video games or whatever else you do but if you join scouts you don't just have something to do, you don't just learn things but you also get really cool opportunities in life as well because this goes on your educational record and people recognize that and they think you are definitely above the rest and with all the people that go to college these days that can really make a difference.

Once you achieve Eagle Scout rank do you plan on leading a troop?

That's exactly what I plan to do. Not only do you help lead the younger scouts and guide them, but there are also other progressions you can make after Eagle Scout which just adds to the process. It gives you something to do. Other than earning some extra achievements, I really do plan to help the organization of the troop I am in and hopefully guide younger scouts to their common goal.



Courtesy Photo
Nicholas Zilhaver uses a power drill to help construct a gazebo for the Soldiers of the 16th Special Troops Battalion.



Staff Sgt. Jose L. Rivera
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Crystal Celestine, 7th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade property book officer, serves a member of the Schweinfurt community during the Thanksgiving Meal Celebration at the Conn Dinning Facility Nov. 22.

Senior leaders join Conn DFAC for Thanksgiving meal

By Capt. William Marshall, 7th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade

SCHWEINFURT, Germany -- Not everyone can say they've been served turkey by the U.S. Army Europe commanding general in an award-winning dining facility, but the Soldiers and civilians of the Schweinfurt community had just that opportunity this past Thanksgiving.

On Nov. 22, the USAREUR Connelly award winning Conn Barracks Consolidated Dining Facility conducted its annual Thanksgiving Meal Celebration, putting together an outstanding selection of food and displays of culinary skill for the community.

In addition to an appearance by Maj. Gen. James Z. Boozer, the 7th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade commander, Col. Geoffrey S. Mangelsdorf and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephon Watson were in attendance. Also participating in the event were officers and other senior

leaders from the 72nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion who run the Conn DFAC, along with the 18th Engineer Brigade, 15th Engineer Battalion, the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment Rear-Detachment, the 172nd Support Battalion, and the 72nd Ex. Signal Bn.'s German partner unit, the Fernmeldebataillon DLO, located in Veitshöchheim near Würzburg.

These senior leaders took the opportunity and time out of their day to serve Soldiers and civilians of the Schweinfurt community during the annual event.

Also on tap was musical entertainment provided by Staff Sgt. Dale A. Dennis, HHC, 7th TTSB. While the community was enjoying the food and music, they also had the opportunity to view decorative displays produced by the DFAC Soldiers, with some having taken more than two weeks of preparation.

(URLAS continued from Page 1)

At the conclusion of remarks, Emily Brainard and Voorhees unveiled the plaque on the wall of the Army Lodging Building honoring Capt. John Brainard.

"Both of us believe that traveling helps you learn not only about other people and cultures, but about yourself," Emily Brainard said. "I hope that everyone who stays here, whether they are arriving to or leaving Germany and are here for just a few days or a few years, feels welcome, and that this place will be the starting point for many exciting travels and memories."

Brainard was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Aviation Branch May 9, 2008. His first duty station was Illsheim where he served as an Attack Platoon

Leader for B Company, 3-159th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 12th CAB. In March 2012, he was selected as the brigade adjutant and deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 12-13 in April.

Brainard was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star medal, Purple Heart and a Combat Action Badge. His other awards and decorations include the Air medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, NATO Medal and an Aviator Badge.

Construction of the 24-room lodge began in 2009 and finished in the summer of 2011 with the grand opening on Nov. 10, 2011. The facility offers complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee, a library of DVDs, a fitness room, guest storage and a breakfast room.

Native American Heritage



Heidi Sanders

Lindbergh Namingha teaches Ernest Laster, a fourth grader at Bamberg Elementary School, how to play a Native American drum during a Native American Heritage Month celebration on Nov. 21. Namingha and his wife, Sandra, performed Native American songs and dances during the celebration at Bamberg Elementary School. Ernest was selected to help Namingha on the drums, and Namingha gave him a drum stick to keep after the performance.

Experience, learn about Advent and Christmas traditions in Germany

By Bianca Sowders,
USAG Ansbach Public Affairs

ANSBACH, Germany -- Christmas time in Germany begins with the Advent season. Advent, a word derived from the Latin 'adventus' for arrival, is a Christian season of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

It begins on the first of four Advent Sundays. Many families display an Advent wreath with four candles to mark the four Sundays, and every Sunday one more candle is lit. The children open an Advent calendar filled with sweets or small gifts every day of December to make the waiting period seem shorter.

The Christmas markets are usually open during the whole advent season too. Most of the larger markets are open daily, but some of the small and special ones are only open one or two weekends, depending on the size of their town. Historically the Christmas markets go back to the Late Middle Ages in the German-speaking part of Europe; one of the oldest markets, dating back to 1434, is the "Strietzelmarkt" in Dresden.

Popular attractions at the markets usually include a Nativity Scene (a crèche or crib), Zwetschgamännla (figures made of decorated dried plums and nuts), Nussknacker (carved Nutcrackers) and the traditional decorations and tree ornaments handmade from wood or straw. Food specialties include 'Gebrannte Mandeln' (candied and roasted almonds), traditional gingerbread cookies like 'Lebkuchen' and 'Magenbrot,' 'Christstollen,' a sweet bread

with candied fruit and raisins, and, of course, the obligatory Bratwurst. Visitors often like to warm up with Glühwein, a hot mulled red or white wine, or Eierpunsch (an eggnog type warm alcoholic drink).

But there is more to 'Weihnachten' in Germany than the famous markets. The arts and entertainment scene also takes a seasonal turn in December.

Many cities offer cultural events like theatrical plays, operettas, musicals and classical concerts. People enjoy quiet times with family and friends; mothers bake cookies with their children; co-workers head to a local Christmas market together to enjoy a cup of Glühwein or hot chocolate.

St. Nikolaus, a bishop who lived in the 4th century, visits the children on the eve of the 6th of December and puts nuts, tangerines and small presents into the boots they placed outside. Sometimes he is accompanied by Knecht Rupprecht, a mean looking fellow, who threatens to punish and take away 'bad' children.

The tradition of the Christmas tree dates back to the Middle Ages, as early as the 15th century; back then the tree was decorated with apples, nuts and sweets. In the 18th century the candles were added. The first decorative handmade balls were introduced in 1830 and Lametta (tinsel) followed 50 years later. Many German families still decorate their tree in the "altdeutsche Tradition", the old German way, with real candles.

Christmas Eve is the important night for most Germans. It is an evening spent with close family and often includes attending a church service. The highlight of the evening, especially for the children, is, of course, the opening of the presents. The delivery person for the presents varies by region: In the South of Germany, as well in Austria and Switzerland, it is often done by the Christkind, the 'Christ Child,' and angels; in the North the job belongs often to the Weihnachtsmann, who looks a lot like the American Santa Claus.

Christmas Day is reserved for a large festive meal and time with the family. The day after Christmas is also an official holiday, used for an opportunity to visit with extended family and friends.

A traditional Christmas meal would be a roasted goose or duck, but of course every family also creates their own tradition.

The Christmas season is more or less concluded by Jan. 6, known as Three Kings Day or Epiphany. Traditionally members of the local church community walk around to collect money for charity projects. The group is called the Sternsinger (star singers) and is usually comprised of four children or teenagers, dressed up as the three wise men and a star bearer. They will sing a traditional song or recite a poem or prayer and write the blessing for the year on the top of the front door with chalk. The blessing will always contain the new year and the letters C+M+B, which stands for "Christus mansionem benedicat," - "May Christ Bless this House."

Illesheim Elementary School honors veterans with Veterans Day program

By Audrey Griffin, Illesheim Elementary School principal

ANSBACH, Germany -- Illesheim Elementary School celebrated Veterans' Day on Nov. 6. The day started with fifth grade teacher Shelia Goos cooking breakfast for Veterans in the community.

The school had a program to honor our veterans in the community.

Children wrote poems, sang songs, and the Sure Start students dressed in their dads' or moms' uniforms and sang a tribute to the Soldiers.

Sarah Johnson, the multi-age teacher, was the guest speaker. This was a treat for the students because they were not aware that she is a veteran.

Six staff members shared with the students that they are all veterans and they are still sharing their lives by being at Illesheim Elementary School to service the students of Soldiers.

The school also honored Emily Brainard for the sacrifice her husband gave to our country.

Brainard's husband, Capt. Jay Brainard, was killed in Afghanistan four months ago. All gave her a standing ovation and Dreeme Leverette fifth grade student, sang the song, "You are Our Hero."



Courtesy Photo
Illesheim Elementary School students honor veterans during a Veterans Day program at the School on Nov. 6.

Thanksgiving at Ray's Diner in Bamberg



Recognizing a Job Well Done



Bryan Gatchell

Col. Kelly J. Lawler, U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach commander, left, presents a memento and plaque to Josef Schindler, mason for the Directorate of Public Works, center, along with his son, Konrad, who is also a mason working for DPW. Schindler received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for his service from July 1995 to his retirement in January next year.

Turkey Bowling



Heidi Sanders

Capt. Gerson Ramirez, commander for Headquarters and Headquarters company, 16th Special Troops Battalion, hurls a frozen turkey down the lane during a Turkey Bowling event Nov. 16 in Bamberg. The event was hosted by the Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. Units and post organizations put together teams to compete in the event.

Franconia Military Community Announcements

Flu Vaccines

Flu vaccines are now available at your local health clinic. An annual average of 36,000 deaths and 226,000 hospitalizations occur each year in the US due to influenza infections. Annual flu vaccinations are the most effective method for preventing influenza virus infections and its complications. For more information, go to <http://bit.ly/flu-shot-video>.

Care Experience

Returning an Army Provider Satisfaction Survey can generate money for the local health clinic. Positive responses to the questions that generate money for the clinic are great, but honest responses about the customer experience is necessary to improve the clinic's quality of service. Beneficiaries who do not receive a survey within six weeks of a visit to a local clinic should ensure their Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System is up to date.

CID Seeks Qualified Soldiers

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, commonly known as CID, is recruiting qualified Soldiers who are interested in pursuing a career as a federal law-enforcement officer. For more information, visit http://www.cid.army.mil/join_CID.html.

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 individuals 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.

DEERS Validation

Soldiers are responsible for ensuring Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System information is updated. Please see the ID card section to update your DEERS information.

OneSource Mobile

Army OneSource is now available for smart phone browsers. The launch of a mobile device version will

Recycling Fact
It takes a 15-year-old tree to produce 700 grocery bags. Therefore use a cloth reusable bag.

optimize Army OneSource the mobile experience for visitors. Visit www.myarmyonesource.com today.

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.

Sexual Assault

Your Sexual Assault Response Coordinator is available 24 hours a day. Call 0162-510-2917 for the 24-hour hotline.

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; offered 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.

Trial Defense Services

If you're a Soldier and you are questioned by law enforcement, Criminal Investigation Division or members of your command about suspected acts of misconduct, you have the absolute right to remain silent. You have the right to refuse to answer any question, even from your commander and you have the right to talk to an attorney. If questioned, you should immediately demand to speak to an attorney. As a Soldier, you are entitled to free consultation and representation by a military defense counsel. All communications with a trial defense attorney are privileged and will not be released to your command. Let a U.S. Army trial defense attorney help you. For more information, come speak with a free trial defense attorney.

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>.

Involved Consideration

Missed appointments diminish a medical facility's ability to provide efficient health care. The next time you cannot make your medical appointment, please be considerate and cancel your appointment. We need your involvement to provide better care.

Scout Program

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selects three young people — of the Boy or Girl Scouts, Sea

Scouts or Venturing Crew — who have demonstrated practical citizenship in school, scouting and the community. The first-place winner receives a \$5,000 award, the second-place winner receives a \$3,000 award and the third-place winner receives \$1,000. For more information, visit <http://www.vfw.org/Community/Scout-of-the-Year-Scholarship/>.

PTA Scholarships

Apply for European Parent Teacher Association scholarships. For more information, visit <http://europeanptaonline.org/EPTAScholarship.aspx>.

Post 911 GI Bill

Take advantage of your military benefits. Earn a degree or skill with your Post 911 GI Bill. Find out more about your benefits by visiting <http://www.gibil.gov>.

Edelweiss Resort

Ongoing specials and packages Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. This full-scale resort and alpine lodge is in the heart of the Bavarian Alps and ski country. The hotel is part of USAG Garmisch with nearby AAFES shopping and gas facilities. There are often deals and package specials available. For more, visit www.edelweisslodgeandresort.com.

Utility Tax Relief Services

Tax Relief Office offers a new service for U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach, Bamberg and Schweinfurt customers. With the implementation of the Utility Avoidance Program customers can sign up and save 19 percent tax on their electricity, gas and water bills. For more information, call the Warner Barracks' Tax relief office at 0951-300-1780, Leward Barracks' Tax Relief Office at 09721-96-1780, Bismark Kaserne's Tax Relief Office at 09802-83-1780 or Storck Barracks' Tax Relief Office at 09841-83-4553.

Family Advocacy Programs

Army Community Services' 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. Contact your local ACS for dates and class schedules.

Immediate Appointments

Are you tired of waiting on hold while scheduling a medical appointment at health clinic? With TRICARE Online, you don't have to wait on hold. You can schedule appointments, refill prescriptions and manage your health needs better. Register today at www.tricareonline.com. To learn more, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7VeUlyTMa4>.

PROTECT YOURSELF - PROTECT YOUR FAMILY - PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY

AGAINST

SEASONAL FLU



GET AN INFLUENZA VACCINATION

AVAILABLE AT YOUR HEALTH CLINIC

 **ARMY MEDICINE**
Serving To Heal...Honored To Serve

This Health Clinic Offers

e-Healthcare

Now you can...

-  E-mail a Doctor or Nurse
-  Request Appointments
-  Request Medication Refills
-  Get Your Lab Results

It's Easy To Get Started

Ask Us About Secure Messaging

Just give your e-mail address to our staff.



 **ARMY MEDICINE**
Serving To Heal...Honored To Serve

Ansbach Community Announcements

Please send all announcements to Ansbach Public Affairs at usarmy.ansbach.imcom-europe.mbx.pao@mail.mil.

German American Christmas Tea

The Illesheim Spouses and Civilians' Club will host the annual German American Christmas Tea at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Storck Community Activity Center. Free and open to the community. The event includes a buffet dinner and performances by the Illesheim and Ansbach Operation Rising Star contestants. Limited child care is available. The cost is \$5 per child. Reservations are first come, first served. For more information or to make a reservation, send an email to illesheimiscc@gmail.com.

Christmas Markets

Army Community Service will be taking the train to several Franconia Christmas markets. On Dec. 6 visit Nuremberg, on Dec. 13 head to Rothenberg and check out Ansbach's market on Dec. 20. All trips depart at 8:30 a.m. and return around 5 p.m. The cost is approximately 20 euros for the train and food. For more information or to sign up, call Katterbach ACS at 09802-83-2883 or Storck ACS at 09841-38-4555.

Holiday Tree Lighting

There will be a Holiday Tree Lighting Dec. 7 from 6-8 p.m. at the Katterbach Boardwalk. The event will include photos with Santa, carols and refreshments. For more information, call 09802-83-2929.

Volunteers needed at Arts & Crafts

Seeking volunteer and contract teachers one to two times per month for sewing, cake decorating, felting, general crafts and more. Open to all ID cardholders. No experience needed just a happy personality and a creative idea to share. Send an email to AnsbachArtsCrafts@eur.army.mil.

Kinderheim Holiday Celebration

Brighten a child's Christmas by sponsoring them for the Dec. 1 Kinderheim 2012 Holiday Celebration at Storck Barracks. The event is sponsored by J. Ruth Roberts Chapter #22. The event is from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sponsors will meet their child at the Longbow Lounge, Building 6622 on Storck Barracks around 10 a.m. The sponsor and child will be able to enjoy various activities including a helicopter display, fire

truck display, free bowling and arts and crafts. Each child will receive a gift from Santa at the end of the day. To sponsor a child or for more information, email jruth_roberts22@yahoo.com or call 0951-300-8055.

Eagle's Nest Recreation Hall

The Barton Barracks Eagle's Nest Recreation Hall, next to the Duggan Gym, offers a full kitchen with an area to seat more than 30 people. The Eagle's Nest is open to all community members. For more information or to reserve, please call 0981-183-7848 or send an email to usarmy.ansbach.imcom-europe.mbx.ioc@mail.mil.

Research Assistant Opportunity

An energetic, dynamic, and knowledgeable person is required to fill the new Health Promotion Research Assistant position that will be assigned to assist the HPO responsible for the Franconia Military Community area. The HPRA is responsible for the day to day administrative support of the program as well as researching trends, statistics and collecting existing data necessary to track the impact of the HP program on the local installation. The HPRA supports the mission of Health Promotion Operations by developing strategies and protocols, and managing, coordinating and producing research that supports and invigorates the installation health promotion process. These activities directly respond to the health promotion strategic and operational plans as they relate to continuous quality improvement of the health of the installation. The project will involve developing research methodologies, collecting, organizing, analyzing, interpreting, reporting, communicating and disseminating high quality data and information regarding installation characteristics, activities and operations. Either completion of a bachelor's or equivalent work experience is required with associated research knowledge. Minimal travel is required. This is a contract position equivalent to a GS-7. Anyone interested in applying should email their resume to: darrel.d.kniss@us.army.mil.

Parents' Night and Day Out

Enjoy a day or night out by enrolling your children in the next Parents' Day Out or Parents' Night Out programs. Dates for Parents' Day Out will be Dec. 15 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Dates for Parents' Night Out will be Jan. 11 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. and Nov. 30 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Visit Parent Central Services or Webtrac to sign up. For more information, call 09802-83-2533 or 09841-83-4880.

ISCC Thrift Shop Needs Volunteers

Looking for a fun and rewarding way to help others and give back to your community? Look no further than the Illesheim Spouses & Civilians' Club Thrift Shop. Volunteer openings include sorting donations, organizing clothes, tagging items and general housekeeping. Volunteers will receive \$5 store credit for working a full shift. Profits from the Thrift Shop are given back to the Illesheim Community in the form of welfare grants and scholarships. Thrift Shop hours are as follows: Tuesday 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Thursday 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month from 12-3 p.m. For more information, send an email to illesheim.iscc@gmail.com.

Bowling Membership Club Card

Join the Katterbach and Storck Bowling Center club for \$25. The membership is valid for 1 year and members will receive \$1.50 games, free show rental, a free t-shirt and a few bowling towel. For more information, call Katterbach Bowling Center at 09802-83-2638 or Storck Bowling Center at 09841-83-4530.

Holiday Tree Lighting

STORCK
30 NOV • 6-8 p.m.

KATTERBACH
7 DEC • 6-8 p.m.

Carols • Santa • Refreshments • Fun for All!

- Storck Pedestrian Zone: Nov 30
- Katterbach Boardwalk: Dec 7
- Bowling for youth 17 and younger starting at 6 p.m. \$1/game & free shoe rental
- Photos with Santa!
- BOSS Santa Calling Sign ups
- More Info? 09802.83.2929/467.2929, 09841.83.4663/467.4663

U.S. ARMY MWR

Movie Night

Enjoy a movie free at the Storck Library every Friday at 3 p.m. For more information, call 09841-83-4675.

Stress and Anger Management

Don't be an angry bird! Help is available through a stress and anger management class. The class is offered on the first Wednesday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at the Katterbach Army Community Service or on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at the Storck ACS. Sign up today by call the ACS Family Advocacy Program at 09802-83-2516.

Brown Bag Lunch

Bring a lunch and explore a new town with Army Community Service. The meeting place is ACS on the first Wednesday of every month at Katterbach and the fourth Wednesday of every month at Storck Barracks. Meet at 10:30 a.m. Cost is 10-15 Euros. For more information, call 09841-83-4555.

Health Clinic Improvements

The Katterbach Health Clinic has a brand new

Illesheim Spouses & Civilians' Club
PRESENTS
the annual
German American Christmas Tea
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER (CAC)
STORCK BARRACKS, ILLESHEIM
A 30 YEAR TRADITION
December 4th at 6:30 p.m.
PERFORMANCES BY ILLESHEIM AND ANSBACH
OPERATION RISING STAR CONTESTANT'S
BUFFET DINNER
DRESS: SUNDAY BEST
FREE & OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
LIMITED CHILD CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR \$5 PER CHILD
RESERVATIONS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED
PLEASE EMAIL ILLESHEIMISCC@GMAIL.COM FOR RESERVATIONS

BARTON BARRACKS

EAGLE'S NEST
RECREATION HALL

The Barton Barracks "Eagle's Nest", located next to the Duggan Gym, offers a full working kitchen with an area to seat 30 plus people. The "Eagle's Nest" is open to all Community Members. For more information or to reserve please contact the IOC at 09811837848 or send an email to: usarmy.ansbach.imcom-europe.mbx.ioc@mail.mil

For more information on Ansbach community announcements, visit <https://www.facebook.com/U.S.Army.Garrison.Ansbach>

Christmas Markets

Take the train with ACS!
 Departs 8:30 a.m., Returns 5 p.m.
 Cost: Approx 20 euros for train & food
 DEC 6... Nürnberg
 DEC 13... Rothenberg
 DEC 20... Ansbach

Sign up with your ACS!

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE ACS
 Real Life Solutions for Successful Army Living

Katterbach ACS
 467.2883 • 09802-83-2883
 Stork ACS
 467.4555 • 09841-83-4555

front entrance just in time for the 2012 flu vaccine campaign. Stop by the Katterbach Health Clinic for your 2012 flu shot and experience the renovations, which are designed to improve the patient experience.

Closures and Changes

Resurfacing of B-14

Starting October 15, the state road B-14 along Uralas and Shipton Kaserne will be resurfaced. The project is scheduled in two phases and will be finished around Nov. 30. The speed limit will be reduced to 50 kilometers per hour and the temporary traffic light at the Shipton/Uralas access will be removed. Access and exit to and from Obereichenbach will remain the same. During phase one, two lanes going towards Katterbach will be resurfaced. Entering from Katterbach and exiting toward Ansbach will remain possible. There will be a detour exiting towards Katterbach and entering from Ansbach, offering two possibilities to turn around: One at Hotel Windmühle and one at Obereichenbach. During phase two, two lanes going toward Ansbach will be resurfaced. The current access near the traffic light will be blocked and drivers coming from Katterbach toward Ansbach will be detoured by Soldiers Lake. The detour for

Don't be an angry bird!

Help is available.
Stress and Anger Management Class

KATTERBACH ACS
 1st Wednesday of the month • 2-4 p.m.

STORCK ACS
 4th Tuesday of the month • 2-4 p.m.

Sign up today!
 ACS Family Advocacy Program
 09802.83.2516 • 467.2516

exiting toward Katterbach and entering from Ansbach will remain in place.

Youth and Teens

FRG Child Care Night

Child care is available for mission-related Family Readiness Group meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Parent Central Services at 09841-83-4880 or 09802-83-2533.

Ansbach Girl Scouts

What is green, almost 100 years old and hip and cool as ever? Girl Scouts! Come be a part of the adventure and fun that is Girl Scouts. Any girls kindergarten through 12 grade are welcome. To join or for more information, email gsansbach@yahoo.com or call 0151- 445-12471.

Sports, Health and Fitness

Dodgeball Tournament

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will be having its final Dodgeball tournament of the year on Dec. 1. This is a community-wide event which means we are accepting both civilian teams and Soldier-organized teams. Fee is \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door. Doors open at 10 a.m. for registration and games start at 11am. First Prize is a traveling trophy and each individual will receive an ownership trophy. Second-place finishers will receive medals. Food and drinks will be for sale. For more information, call BOSS office at 09841-83-2921.

Sweat Shop

Sweat Shop is a new class at Katterbach geared towards customers that need a cardiovascular component as a mode of physical fitness. Unlike some classes that are high intensity, this class renders a fully class of cardiovascular activities aimed to boost the body's maximal ability to utilize oxygen. The class takes place on Mondays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Starting Nov. 8, it will be offered in the evenings on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person per class.

TRX Training

This new mode of training will be offered at Stork Barracks Bunch Physical Fitness Center on Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. TRX is a core-based training that renders benefits not achieved from other modes of training like traditional weight training. The class is limited to eight people and will be based on first come, first serve. The cost is \$3 per person per class.

R.I.P.P.E.D. Season 9 Launch

R.I.P.P.E.D. has recently taken the community of Ansbach by storm. With its uniqueness in activities and instructions, R.I.P.P.E.D. aerobic classes attract more than 30 people per class; the highest participation was 50 people in one class. Season 9 elements will be part of the new activities for the next three months. The fee per participant is \$3.00.

New Aerobic Class at Katterbach

A new aerobic class called "Power XTREME" is offered Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. at the Katterbach Fitness Center. This class includes a variety of fitness components geared towards optimal health and fitness enhancements. For more information, call 09802-83-2771.

Weekly Reminders

Safety Hazard on B-13

Safety Hazard on B-13 between Ansbach and Illesheim North of Oberdachstetten there is a steep decline that goes under a railroad overpass. One lane of traffic going down the hill and two lanes of traffic

We're looking for instructors

Share your hobby!
Earn extra cash!
Flexible hours!

Storck
 COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER

STORCK RECREATION CENTER
 THIRD FLOOR • BLDG 6510
 467.4714 • 09841.83.4714

going up the hill, please do not pass.

Pet Reminder

Remember all pets on U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach installations need to be on a leash when outside. Please pick up after your pets.

Used Clothes and Shoes Container

We need your help! The used clothes and shoes containers are provided to the community at no cost. Unfortunately, they are often mistreated as garbage dumpsters. Please be sure that only clothes and shoes are disposed off in these containers. Please also make your neighbors aware of the purpose of these containers. If these containers are continued to be misused, the respective contractor will be unable to continue to provide this service.

Safety Training and Information

The U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Safety Office recommends this [website](#) containing many safety topics, in both English and German, which can be used for information and training in your organization throughout the year. As time goes by, more will be added, but there is a vast volume of workplace and off-duty subjects; to include videos and slide shows.

child, youth and school services presents:

PARENT'S DAY OUT

Need a little break?

- **Katterbach CDC/SAC**
18 August • 10-3 p.m.
- **Stork CDC/SAC**
22 September • 10-3 p.m.
- **Katterbach CDC/SAC**
27 October • 10-3 p.m.
- **Stork CDC/SAC**
17 November • 10-3 p.m.
- **Katterbach/Stork CDC/SAC**
15 December • 10-3 p.m.

For more information or to make a reservation:
 Katterbach Kaserne: 09802.83.2533 • 467.2533
 Stork Barracks: 09841.83.4880 • 467.4880
 Dates and times are subject to change.

Reservations can be made at Parent Central Services and on Webtrac
 Eligible patrons may use their 16 free hours of child care.
 Cancellations must be made at least 48 hours in advance.
 Deployment hours are not refundable.

Parent Central Services
 Katterbach: 09802.83.2533 DSN 467.2533
 Stork: 09841.83.4880 DSN 467.4880
 Sign up and pay at CYSS Webtrac:
<https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/ansbachcys.html>

Bamberg Community Announcements

Please send all announcements to Bamberg Public Affairs at usarmy.bamberg.usareur.mbx.pao@mail.mil.

Middle School PE Substitute Teacher Needed

Bamberg Middle High School is looking for a certified PE/health teacher. The Middle School PE teacher is being transferred to another school. The position is available for remainder of this school year. If you are qualified and interested in this position, please contact the school no later than Nov. 30 by phone at 951-300-8874 or email at principalbamberghs@eu.dodea.edu.

Emergency Placement Care Program

The Emergency Placement Care Program, which provides a safe and caring environment to children in crisis, is looking for Emergency Placement Care Providers who will open their homes to children in need. For more information, call Army Community Service at 0951-300-8397/7777.

Extended Holiday Postal Hours

The Postal Service Center will be open on Saturdays until Dec. 22 during the holiday season. The finance lobby and mail room window will be open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The mail room window will also be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 24.

Pregnancy and Postpartum Wellness Program

The Bamberg Health Clinic will host a Pregnancy and Postpartum Wellness Program Initial Orientation on Dec. 5 at 8:30-10 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. in the Preston hall Auditorium, Building 7080. Pregnant or postpartum Soldiers and civilians or family members are welcome to attend.

Bingo

The Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club will host a White Elephant Gift Exchange Bingo on Dec. 7 at the Warner Conference Center. Card sales start 6 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. Wear a Santa hat to receive a free bingo card. For more information, email bscc1stvp@gmail.com.

Aaron Tippin and Friends Concert Tour

Country music star Aaron Tippin will perform a free concert beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Freedom

Fitness Facility. Tippin is known for songs such as "You've Got to Stand for Something," "Kiss this," and "Where the Stars and Stripes and the Eagle Fly." The opening act will be The Lowry Sisters. Doors open at 6 p.m. For more information, call the Stable Theater at 0951-300-8647 or visit www.armedforcesentertainment.com/aarontippin.htm.

Single Soldier, Wounded Warrior Christmas Dinner

U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, Kontakt Club and the Religious Support Office will host a Christmas dinner for single Soldiers and wounded warriors at the Warner Conference Center at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 12.

Tap Dance - the Sequel

Starting Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Stable Theater there will be advanced tap dance classes for adults. Each session is \$5. This continues from the recent tap classes led by Nora Sobering. Classes will be Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6-7:30 p.m. Adults with prior tap dance experience are welcome. The class will be fast paced and will rely on previous steps learned. Call to register in advance at 0951-300-8647.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Kick off the Christmas season with a tree lighting ceremony Nov. 30 from 4-7 p.m. in the chapel parking lot. For more information, call 0951-300-7920/8659.

BSCC Members-Only Luncheon

The Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club will host a members-only Ugly Sweater luncheon at 11:30 Dec. 3 at the Warner Conference Center. The cost is 10 Euros. RSVP by Nov. 29 to bsccreservations@gmail.com. Not a BSCC member? Sign up at the Bamberg Thrift Shop.

Second Chance Prom

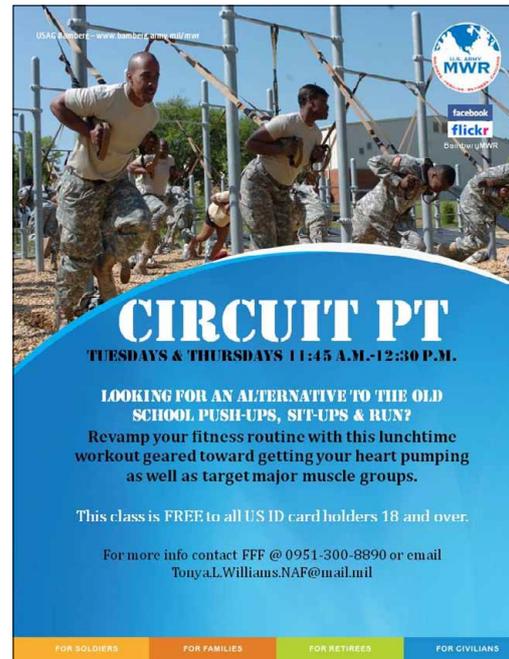
The Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will host a Second Chance Prom Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Freedom Fitness Facility. The cost is \$30 and includes a goodie bag, dinner and non-alcoholic beverages. This is a chance for adults of all ages to relive or redo their high school prom. Come dressed as you did about your prom, decade appropriate. Donations of dated formalwear are requested at the Thrift Shop. For more information, email bsccpresident@gmail.com or jimmy.carswell@us.army.mil.

London New Year's Trip

Bring in the new year in London with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. The cost is \$399 per person plus \$140 for a single room. The bus leave in the evening on Dec. 28 and returns late in the evening on Jan. 1. The cost includes three nights in a four-star hotel with breakfast, a sightseeing tour of London, roundtrip transportation on a German motor coach including ferry crossing, New Year's fireworks show near the London Eye and free time for your own adventures. Sign up with a \$100 deposit to reserve space, payable in full by Dec. 14. The trip is open to all adults, age 18 and older.

Club Beyond Winter Blitz

Club Beyond will be having its Winter Blitz camp Dec.30 through Jan. 5 in Innsbruck, Austria. The cost is \$250 for the general camp package or the basketball package and \$310 for the skiing or snowboarding package with rentals or \$290 without rentals. Spots are limited, so sign up now. For more information, contact Laura Reisinger at lreisinger@clubbeyond.org.



CIRCUIT PT
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 11:45 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

LOOKING FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE OLD SCHOOL PUSH-UPS, SIT-UPS & RUN?
Revamp your fitness routine with this lunchtime workout geared toward getting your heart pumping as well as target major muscle groups.

This class is FREE to all US ID card holders 18 and over.

For more info contact FFF @ 0951-300-8890 or email TonyaL.Williams.NAF@mail.mil

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

Taco Tuesday Buffet Bar

Come enjoy the Taco Tuesday Buffet Bar at the Community Activity Center on Dec. 11, Jan. 15 and Feb. 19. The taco bar is \$6 per person and includes either two hard tacos, two soft tacos or nacho chips with your choice of toppings. Toppings include cheese, tomato, lettuce, sour cream, refried beans, salsa, corn, beans, guacamole, onion, rice, peppers, etc. The buffet bar will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 0951-300-8837.

English as a Second Language Classes

English as a Second Language classes will take place each Monday and Tuesday in the Family Advocacy Program classroom, Building 7487 on Armor Drive behind the flower shop. ESL Level 1 will meet from 9-10:30 a.m., Level 2 from 10:30 am. to noon and Level 3 from 12:30-2 p.m. The last class for the year will be Dec. 18. All U.S. ID card holders are eligible to attend. For more information, contact Jeffrey Card at jeffrey.p.card.civ@mail.mil or at 0951-300-7777.

Red Cross Website

The www.redcross.org site is experiencing technical

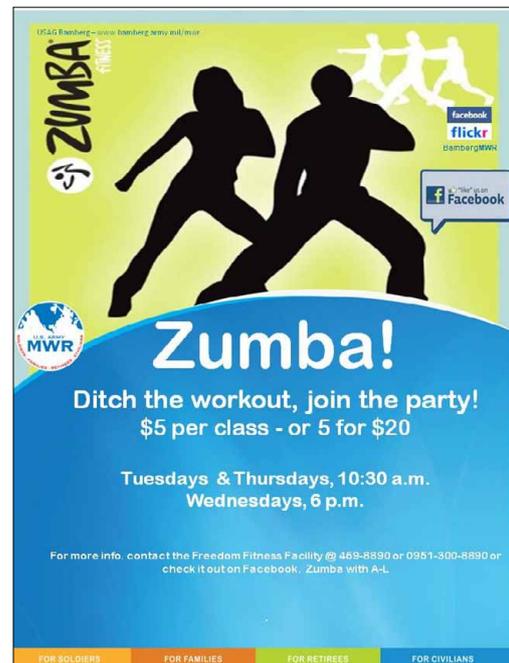


Tree Lighting Ceremony
Nov. 30, 4-7 p.m.
Memorial Park / Chapel Parking Lot

3:45-4:15 p.m. - USAREUR Band Woodwind Quartet
4:15-4:30 p.m. - CYS Services Strong Beginnings
4:30-5 p.m. - 2012 Bamberg Operation Rising Star (ORS) Contestants and Winner
5 p.m. - Retreat followed by Lighting Ceremony & Santa's Arrival
5:25-6:15 p.m. - Bamberg Operation Rising Star Contestants & Greater Nation Christian Fellowship Choir
6:15-6:30 p.m. - Garrison Commander presents Awards for Canopy and Tree Decorating Contest
6:30-7 p.m. - USAREUR Band Woodwind Quartet

Contact the Community Activity Center at
Tel. 0951.300.8837

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS



Zumba!
Ditch the workout, join the party!
\$5 per class - or 5 for \$20

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

For more info, contact the Freedom Fitness Facility @ 469-8890 or 0951-300-8890 or check it out on Facebook. Zumba with A-L

FOR SOLDIERS FOR FAMILIES FOR RETIRES FOR CIVILIANS

For more information on Bamberg community announcements, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bambergmwr>

ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
Country Music Artists: Headliner Aaron Tippin and opening act, The Lovely Sisters

AARON TIPPIN & FRIENDS



SUNDAY DEC 9
7 P.M. — FFF
FREE ADMISSION!
Doors open 6 p.m.

ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT

additional information, visit the American Red Cross office, Building 7029 or call 0951-300-1760.

CPR, AED and First Aid Certification

Come and learn how to give CPR, first aid and use an automated external defibrillator with the American Red Cross Dec. 14 and Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Army Community Services building. The cost of the CPR and First Aid Certification is \$55. You can log onto www.redcross.org to register. Once on the ARC site, go to "take a class" and enter your APO zip code to find the course, register and pay online. You can also register in person at the ARC office. For additional information or questions, stop by the American Red Cross office, Building 7029 or call 0951-300-1760.

Closures and Changes

Parking Lot Closure

The Garrison will be closing the upper parking lot adjacent to Memorial Park (Desert Storm Park) now to prepare for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Nov. 30. The Garrison reminds personnel that this lot is not for long-term parking. Vehicles should not be left there during field exercises, temporary duty assignments or leave.

Youth and Teens

Kids-On-Site Childcare

The childcare at the gym, Kids-On-Site, is available Monday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Your free hours of deployment hourly care can be used if you qualify otherwise the cost is \$4 an hour. Punch card must be pre-purchased at Parent Central Services. Please stop by Parent Central Services to sign your contract and pick up your punch cards. Reservations can be made on Webtrac at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/bambergcym.html> or call 0951-300-8660.

Boy Scouts

Boy Scout Troop # 40 in Bamberg is looking for boys ages 12 and older interested in becoming Boy Scouts. The troop meets every Monday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. except on holidays. The boys work on requirements for advancement and earning merit badges. The troop is also looking for adult volunteers and Eagle Scouts to assist with troop activities. Don't delay, become a Boy Scout today. For more information, call Cliff Leach at 0160-1585894.

Parents' Night and Day Out

Enjoy a day or night out by enrolling your children in the next Parents' Day Out programs. Dates for Parents' Day Out will be Dec. 1 from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost is \$12 per child and Army Family Covenant deployment benefits can be used if eligible. Visit Parent Central Services or Webtrac to sign up. For more information, call 0951-300-8660.

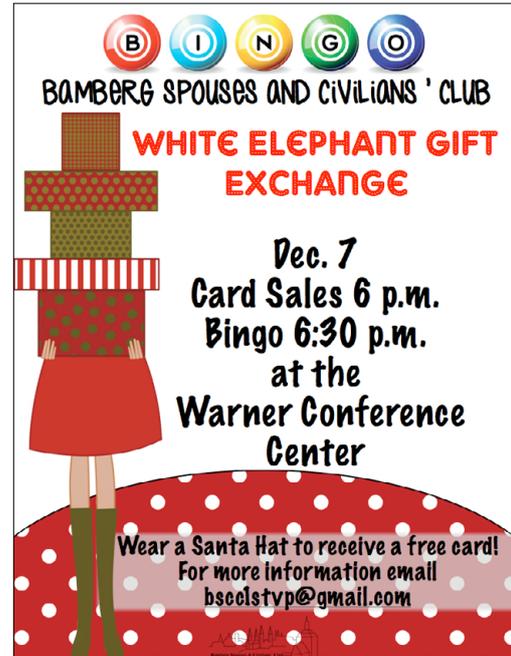
Sports, Health and Fitness

Circuit PT

Looking for an alternative to the old school push-ups, sit-ups and run? Revamp your fitness routine with Circuit PT. This lunchtime workout will get your heart pumping as well as target major muscle groups. This class is free to all ID card holders 18 and older. The class is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information, call 0951-300-8890 or email tonya.l.williams.naf@mail.mil.

Fitness Classes

The Freedom Fitness Facility offers a variety of fitness classes. To see a complete schedule, go to <http://www.bamberg.army.mil/directorates/dfmwr/docs/fff/FFF-FitnessSchedule.htm>.



BAMBERG SPOUSES AND CIVILIANS' CLUB
WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE
Dec. 7
Card Sales 6 p.m.
Bingo 6:30 p.m.
at the Warner Conference Center
Wear a Santa Hat to receive a free card!
For more information email
bseclstv@gmail.com

Running Club

Join the Bamberg Running Club for all levels of runners but especially targeted for beginners using the Jeff Galloway training method of running/walking. The Bamberg Running Club meets two times a week for 45-60 minutes of training, plus weekend runs. This is a partnership between Freedom Fitness Facility and the Bamberg Health Clinic. To learn more, email kelly.woodruff@us.army.mil or ernest.d.johnson3.naf@mail.mil or call 0951-300-9086.

Weekly Reminders

By Soldiers - For Soldiers

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Warner Barracks take place weekly on Wednesdays from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, Room 409. These meetings are open to anyone. Duty uniform allowed. For more information, call Kyle at 0151-1775-3880, Brian at 0172-271-3626 or Justin at 0151-4642-3940.

Military Council of Catholic Women

The Military Council of Catholic Women meet on Thursdays at the chapel. Mass begins at 12 p.m. followed by fellowship, lunch and study group from 12:30 to 2 p.m. For more information, email andrea.lands@gmail.com.

issues with class participants signing up for classes online. We request that all interested individuals call the station at 0951-300-1760 and sign up until further notice. We appreciate your patience. Alternately, you can search for available course offerings at <https://classes.redcross.org/>; it just isn't quite as user friendly as the main Red Cross website interface. Under the "New Users" link, click on the "View Catalog" link to search available offerings in your area. To register online for a class, you will need to create a user profile.

Parenting Skill Builder Classes

The first three Tuesday mornings of each month from 9-11 a.m. the Bamberg Chapel Family Life Center will have classes. Learning the skills to parent with Love and Logic can help make parenting fun and rewarding, instead of stressful and chaotic. You will learn practical tools and techniques to build respectful, healthy relationships with children and help prepare children for the real world. For more information, call 0951-300-1570/8141.

Red Cross Volunteer Orientation

Come and learn how you can become a volunteer with the American Red Cross from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 7 and 21 and Jan. 4 and 18 at the Army Community Service building. Please call and RSVP no later than the day before each scheduled orientation. For

Bamberg Spouses and Civilians' Club & Bamberg BOSS present

Second Chance Prom

December 8
7 p.m.
Freedom Fitness Facility
30 dollars
Price includes goodie bag, dinner, and non-alcoholic beverages

Join us for a night of fun for adults of all ages to relive or redo their high school prom! Come dressed as you did at your prom; decade appropriate.

Donations of extra dated formalwear are requested at the Thrift Shop.

For more information email bsecpresident@gmail.com or jimmy.carswell@us.army.mil



BOSS
London
Dec. 28 - Jan. 1, 2013
\$399 (p.p. in a double room; plus \$140 for single rooms)
Bus departs at Friday evening Dec. 28 and returns Jan. 1 late evening Jan
Trip includes: 3 overnights in 4 star Hotel with breakfast, sightseeing tour of London highlights, roundtrip transportation on German Motor Coach, ferry crossing, New Year's Fireworks Show near the London Eye & plenty of free time for your own adventures!
Sign-up with \$100 deposit to reserve space, payable in full by no later than Dec 14th. Trip is open to all adults, 18 years of age and up.
For more information, contact your local BOSS program in your community!

Schweinfurt Community Announcements

Please send all announcements to Schweinfurt Public Affairs at usarmy.schweinfurt.imcom-europe.mbx.pao@mail.mil.

Bingo

The Bravo Company 172nd Support Battalion Family Readiness Group will host the third annual Harvest Fest Bingo fundraiser on Nov. 29 at the Schweinfurt Elementary Middle School multipurpose room. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 5:30 p.m. The first 20 to arrive will receive a free door prize. Bingo prizes will include Polish pottery, German crystal and a coffee lover's treat. Food will be available for purchase. Profits earned will help support Soldiers and Families of Bravo Co. 172nd SB.

Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

Celebrate the beginning of the holiday season at the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony Nov. 30 at 4:30 p.m. at Andrus Garden at the Garrison Headquarters Ledward Barracks. Enjoy refreshments, holiday music and a visit from a special guest.

Picture Perfect Contest

Pumpkin pie, apple cider, caramel corn, Christmas cookies -- What is your holiday specialty? Share your favorite holiday recipe by entering it into the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Picture Perfect Contest. Submissions will be accepted now through Dec. 19 by email at email.usarmy.schweinfurt.imcom-europe.mbx.pao@mail.mil. Contest details available here www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/fmwr/PicturePerfect.htm.

"The Jungle Book"

Disney's "The Jungle Book" Kids will be performed Dec. 1 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Parkside Playhouse, Conn Building 82 (across from the park by the Bradley Inn). Tickets will be sold at the door. Ages 4 and under are free, age 5-17 are \$5 and 18 and up are \$10.

Saturday Postal Service Hours

Both Conn and Ledward Community Mail Rooms will be open for window service on Saturdays through Dec. 22. You can pick up your packages between

10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The Ledward Post Office will also be open on Saturdays during the same hours. For important holiday mailing timelines, visit www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/dhr/postal.htm.

AFAP Issues and Volunteers Needed

Schweinfurt, we are listening. Do you have an issue, idea or concern that you would like Army Leadership to address? Now's your chance. Speak up, speak out and make change by submitting your issues for the 2013 AFAP conference, scheduled for Dec. 11-13. For more information, visit www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/acs/afap.htm.

Wood n' Frame Shop Closure

The Wood N' Frame Shop will be closed from through Dec. 18. Projects that were submitted prior to the closure can be picked up at the Craft Studio on Ledward Barracks, Bldg. 204. For more information, please call 09721-96-6903.

BOSS Christmas Party

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will host a Christmas party from 5-10 p.m. on Dec. 25 at the Warrior Zone. This is a free event for all single Soldiers 18 and older. Enjoy games, snacks, movies and a white elephant gift exchange. Food and drink will be available for purchase. For more information, contact the Warrior Zone at 09721-96-6082 or talk to your unit BOSS rep.

Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt's 2012 Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. at Andrus Garden in front of Garrison Headquarters on Ledward Barracks. Come out, celebrate the beginning of the holiday season, and enjoy free refreshments and pictures with a special guest. The event will feature holiday music performed live by the U.S. Army Europe Brass Quintet.

CYSS Wrestling Clinic for Officials

Youth Sports and Fitness will host a wrestling clinic on Nov. 30 from 5-7 p.m. and Dec. 1 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. This clinic will certify you as a qualified wrestling official through non-appropriated funds sports. Contracts with NAF sports are paid positions. For more information or to register, call 09721-96-6822.

Bamberg Christmas Market

Travel with Army Community Service on Nov. 30 to the Bamberg Christmas Market by train. The cost is 7.50 euros to the ride the train and extra Euro is required to shop and eat. Departure is at 8:15 a.m. at the Hauptbahnhof and returns at 5:30 p.m. For more information and to sign up, please call 09721-96-6933.

Nürnberger Christkindlesmarkt

Travel with Army Community Service on Dec. 10 to the Nürnberger Christkindlesmarkt by train. The cost is 20 Euros to ride the train and an extra Euro is required to shop and eat. Departure is at 8:15 a.m. from the Hauptbahnhof and returns at 5:30 p.m. For more information and to sign up, please call 09721-96-6933.

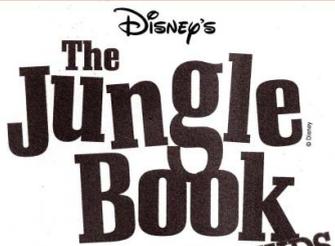
Texas Hold'em Tournament

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will host a Texas Hold'em Tournament Dec. 1 at 3 p.m. at the Warrior Zone. Open to all ID cardholders. The cost is \$30. Preregister by Nov. 30. Call 09721-96-6082/8476 for more information.

Photo Scavenger Hunt: Basic Challenge

The Ledward Library will be having an ongoing photo scavenger hunt beginning Oct. 1. How well do you

SEMS PTSA and Schweinfurt Scene On Stage
(Non-profit Organizations) Proudly Present...



Disney's
The Jungle Book
KIDS

November 29th & 30th
7 pm

December 1st
3 & 7 pm

Parkside Playhouse
Conn. Building 82
(Across from the park by the Bradley Inn)

Tickets will be sold at the door

Ages 4 and under Free	Ages 5 to 17 \$5	Ages 18 and Up \$10
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Any Questions?
Contact Krista Frenz (Director)
E-mail: krista.frenz@gmail.com

know your military community in U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt? Check out the photo gallery in the library and guess where in the community they came from. Submit your guesses about where the pictures were taken and the person with the most right answers wins a prize.

Recycling Education Class

Recycle education course for trash disposal offenders and anyone who wants to learn about recycling. The class is offered twice a month on Wednesday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Family members nine and up are encouraged to attend with their parent. Bring a friend if he or she lives in military housing or military-leased housing. Class space is limited so please call 09721-96-6955 to sign up. Classes cancelled if no one is signs up by 4:30 p.m. the Tuesday before class.

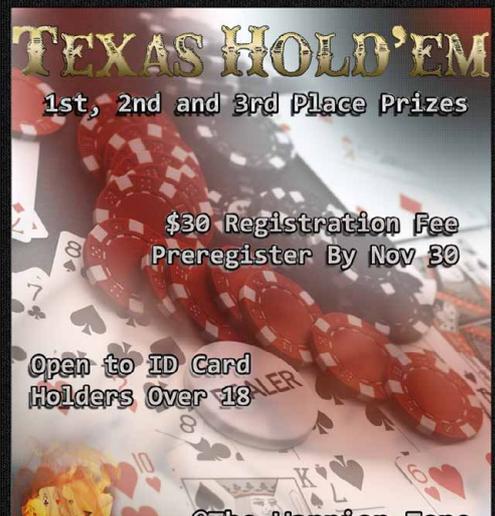
Closures and Changes

Schweinfurt EEO Services Limited

Schweinfurt community members requiring assistance from the Equal Employment Opportunity office must now contact the Ansbach EEO office at 0981-183-7733/7937. The best way to know how the

TEXAS HOLD'EM

1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Prizes



\$30 Registration Fee
Preregister By Nov 30

Open to ID Card Holders Over 18

@The Warrior Zone

December 01 @1500

BOSS/Warrior Zone | Ledward Barracks, Bldg. 224 | 09721-96-6082/354-6082

BOSS/Finney Rec Center | Conn Barracks, Bldg. 64 | 09721-96-8476/353-8476



Bravo Co. 172 SB FRG 3rd Annual Harvest Fest



Fundraiser

~ Play to win ~

Polish Pottery, 100% German Crystal, and a Coffee Lover's Treat

Thursday, November 29, 2012

@ Schweinfurt Elementary Middle School
(Multi Purpose Room)

Doors open at 5 pm - First bingo starts at 5:30 pm
First 20 to arrive receive a free door prize

Profits earned will go toward supporting Soldiers and Families of Bravo Co. 172 SB.

Food will be Available for Purchase

Pizza • Drinks Baked Goods



USAG SCHWEINFURT
2012 Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony
 FRIDAY, NOV. 30, 4:00 P.M.
 ANDRUS GARDEN
 GARRISON HEADQUARTERS
 LEDWARD BARRACKS

Celebrate
 THE BEGINNING OF
 THE HOLIDAY SEASON

ENJOY FREE REFRESHMENTS
 AND PICTURES WITH
 A SPECIAL GUEST!

FEATURING
Holiday Music
 PERFORMED LIVE BY
 THE USAREUR
 BRASS QUINTET

TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM
 news, services, recreation. facebook.com/SchweinfurtArmy

base closure will impact you is to stay informed. Go to www.teamschweinfurt.com and click on "Transition 2014."

Youth and Teens

Give Me 20

Looking to get fit? The Youth Center is offering a free fitness program every Wednesday and Thursday at 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for youth ages 13 through 18. Program facilitators will show youth how to safely work out and stay fit. Dedicated participants will see positive results. Workouts will include sports, spinning, weight lifting and more. Participants must be registered with CYSS and have a permission slip on file. To learn more or to register, contact the Youth Center at 09721-96-6732.

Smart Girls

Young ladies, we are proud to tell you that your Smart Girls program is up and running again! Topics include: life skills, healthy eating, fitness, health care systems, positive mentors, respecting yourself, fashion shows, dinner with parents, lock ins and more. Age groups include 11-14 and 15-18. Smart Girls meets every

Bamberg Christmas Market

Date: November 30, 2012 Time: 8:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 Cost - 7,50+ to ride the Rail & Extra Euro to shop and eat.

The Bamberg Christmas markets come in four different shapes and sizes in the UNESCO World Heritage town of Bamberg: the traditional Christmas market on the **Maxplatz Square**, the delightful medieval Christmas market at **Geyerswörth Palace**, the Advent Market in the **Sand** and the arts and crafts Christmas market on **Jakobsplatz square**.
 Come Join Us for a day of Great Holiday fun.

We will travel by rail so meet at the Hauptbahnhof NLT 8:15.
 Don't forget a scarf and mittens. It will be Cold!

For more information and to sign-up for this class please call
ACS CIV 09721-96-6933 or DSN 354-6933
 Day Care will not be provide on this trip, but please feel free to bring your little ones.

TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM
 news, services, recreation. facebook.com/SchweinfurtArmy

Monday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. For more information, call the youth center at 09721-96-6732.

German Class

Let's talk German! Come learn German one-on-one every Wednesday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. This great program is taught by our own education tech who was born and raised in Schweinfurt. This class can help your German grade go from a C to an A+ and it may even help you make friends in the German community. Test out your skills by joining us on a field trip downtown. For more information, call the Youth Center at 09721-96-6732.

SKIESUnlimited

SKIES offers different classes every month for youths ages birth through 18. The program is designed to complement, expand, and support the academic, life skills and athletic experiences children and youth have within Child, Youth and School Services programs and in schools. For the latest class listings, click here.

4-H Club

4-H is a club designed for middle and high school students. As a club, students will plan field trips, events and activities based on their four core values; head, hands, heart and health. 4-H meets every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. To participate, students must be registered with CYSS. For more information or to get involved, call the Youth Center at 09721-96-6732.

EDIS

Are you concerned about how your child is developing? If so, call Educational and Developmental Intervention Services to schedule a free screening. Screenings are available to children ages birth to 3 years old. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 09721-96-6257.

Wanted: Youth Sports Coaches and Officials

The Schweinfurt community is looking for coaches and officials for the youth sports program. No experience is necessary to participate. By registering through Child, Youth School Services, you will become a certified coach in the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS). This is a great way to volunteer in the community and earn extra income by officiating. For more information contact CYSS at 09721-96-6822 or email Derek.r.walker.naf@mail.mil.

Family Child Care Providers Needed

Help the community and start a new career as a Family Child Care provider. FCC Providers maintain a happy home-away-from-home atmosphere (in government controlled housing only) for children who can't be with their own parents during the day. You can care for your own children in addition to outside customers. All training and education is provided free of charge. Call 09721-96-6487 for details.

Sports, Health and Fitness

Personal Training

Dedicated personal trainers are available to the Schweinfurt Community by appointment. For details, contact the Kessler Fitness Center at 09721-96-6765 or Finney Fitness Center at 09721-96-8234.

Paintball Field Open

Relieve some stress or have some good old fashioned fun every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rental equipment is available at the Paintball Field. For more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 09721-96-8080.

Tuesday Night Cosmic Pin Bowling

Enjoy cosmic bowling every Tuesday night at the Kessler Bowling Center with funky lights and music

Nürnberg Christkindlesmarkt

Date: December 10, 2012 Time: 8:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 Cost - 20,00 + to ride the Rail & Extra Euro to shop and eat.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!
 The smell of mulled wine and rum punch, roasted almonds, Nuremberg bratwurst and gingerbread fill the air. Come join us as we lead you through the streets of Nürnberg Christkindlesmarkt. We will travel by rail so meet at the Hauptbahnhof NLT 8:15 a.m. Don't forget a scarf and mittens. It will be Cold!

For more information and to sign-up for this class please call ACS CIV 09721-96-6933 or DSN 354-6933

TEAMSCHWEINFURT.COM
 news, services, recreation. facebook.com/SchweinfurtArmy

mixed with colored pins in each lane. Games are \$1.50 each. Win a free game by knocking down a strike with the colored pin as the head pin. Cosmic Bowl also includes specials on food and drink.

Weekly Reminders

Newcomer Meet and Greet

Meet other spouses, learn about the community and get connected here in Schweinfurt every Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the Conn Club. The newcomer meet and greet initiative links up incoming spouses with seasoned Schweinfurt residents, offering the warm welcome our community is known for. Coffee and refreshments will be served and children are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Army Community Services at 09721-96-6933.

Inclement Weather in Schweinfurt

Know where you can find information on school closures and weather and road conditions. [More...](#)

Local Flea Markets

Flea markets are a fun way to find a bargain. The Army Community Services Information and Referral program provides a monthly list of flea markets here.

Zumba

Mon, Tue, & Thu, 6:15 - 7:15 p.m.
 Kessler Fitness Center
 Saturday, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
 Finney Fitness Center

~ SPECIAL OFFER ~
 \$5 per class or
 \$50 for 10 classes plus 1 free!
Note: Classes are not offered on federal or military training holidays.

Kessler Fitness Center
 CIV 09721-96-6735
 DSN 354-6735

Finney Fitness Center
 CIV 09721-96-8234
 DSN 353-8234

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coming to THEATERS

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 2

November 23, 2012 | 115 Minutes

The astonishing conclusion to the series, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2*, illuminates the secrets and mysteries of this spellbinding romantic epic that has entranced millions.

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence including disturbing images, some sensuality and partial nudity.

Visit www.aafes.com for more information.



IN THEATERS • NOV. 29 - DEC. 06

ILLESHEIM THEATER • 09841-83-4546

Dec. 01 - TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE (PG-13) 4 p.m.

SKYFALL (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 02 - DIARY OF A WIMPY KID (PG) 3 p.m.

SKYFALL (PG-13) 6 p.m.

KATTERBACH THEATER • 09802-83-1790

Dec. 01 - WRECK-IT RALPH (PG) 4 p.m.

THE MAN WITH THE IRON FISTS (R) 7 p.m.

Dec. 02 - WRECK-IT RALPH (PG) 3 p.m.

FLIGHT (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Dec. 06 - THE MAN WITH THE IRON FISTS (R) 7 p.m.

BAMBERG THEATER • 0951-297-3934

Nov. 29 - LAWLESS (R) 7 p.m.

Nov. 30 - TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART - 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 01 - TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE (PG-13) 3 p.m.

TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART - 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 02 - TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE (PG-13) 3 p.m.

TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART - 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 03 - TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART - 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 06 - THE POSSESSION (PG-13) 7 p.m.

SCHWEINFURT THEATER • 09721-96-1790

Nov. 29 - LAWLESS (R) 7 p.m.

Nov. 30 - SKYFALL (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 01 - TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE (PG-13) 4 p.m.

SKYFALL (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 02 - TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE (PG-13) 4 p.m.

SKYFALL (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Dec. 03 - SPARKLE (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Eco-Friendly Tips

Water-saving Tips

1. For your Christmas tree, don't place the tree near heating sources. Do not remove any bark above the cut on the stem. Check the water level daily and give a tablespoon of sugar every few days to the water and your tree will survive for the next few weeks.

2. Eat more vegetarian food – it takes a lot more water to raise livestock than it does to grow veggies.

Energy-saving Tips

1. Switch to LED Christmas lights. They need less energy than the regular ones.

2. Limit the time the Christmas lights are on. Use a timer to ensure the lights are off during the night. When everybody is sleeping nobody will enjoy your lighting.

Recycling Tips

1. For your Christmas presents or Secret Santa, use reusable gift bags or boxes instead of wrapping paper, and choose paper wrapping rather than metallic.

2. For new electronic toys buy rechargeable batteries, and recycle used household batteries at the Recycling Center. Think of alternatives, or better yet, buy energy-free gifts.

Trips and Travel Opportunities

Registration for trips begin 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. 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.



ANSBACH

Dec. 1 Augsburg Christmas Market \$29

Enjoy the unique "angel performance," set to the background at Augsburg's City Hall. Transportation departs Storck Barracks at 1 p.m. and Katterbach Kaserne at 2 p.m. and returns approximately at 10 p.m. Cost for transportation only is \$29 for adults, \$19 for children and \$65 for family.

Dec. 8 Strasbourg, France Christmas Market \$45

One of the oldest and largest Christmas markets in France, set in front of the Strasbourg Cathedral and its famous astronomical clock. Departs Storck at 11 a.m. and Katterbach at noon; returns at approximately 11 p.m. Cost for transportation only is \$45 for adults, \$35 for children and \$109 for family.

For more information, call Ansbach Outdoor Recreation at 09802-83-3225.

BAMBERG

Dec. 2 Lauscha \$35

Christmas tree ornaments originated in Thuringen, Germany, and in the mid 19th century, glass blowers in Lauscha began stringing glass beads and other shapes to put on Christmas trees. Come see the glassblowers for yourself and explore the town where original pieces can be bought ... makes a perfect gift for the season. Cost is \$20 for children 3 and younger.

Dec. 8 Regensburg X-mas Market \$35

Smell the roasted almonds, purchase a nutcracker and enjoy the holiday spirit with a trip to the Regensburg Christmas Market. The enchanting town provides the perfect backdrop for this hidden gem. Trip includes transportation, which departs chapel parking lot at 10 a.m. and returns at 7 p.m.

Dec. 15-16 Stubai Ski & Snowboard \$129

As one of the snowiest ski resorts in Austria, Stubai is ideal for snowboarders and skiers. Grab your gear and hit the slopes or rent some from ODR for \$20 before you go. Trip includes transportation and one-night lodging at double occupancy with breakfast. Price does not include lift pass. Trip departs ODR at 2 a.m. Dec. 15 and returns Dec. 16 at 11 p.m.

For more information, call Bamberg Outdoor Recreation at 0951-300-9376.

SCHWEINFURT

Saturdays Night Skiing \$35

Depending on the snow conditions, Outdoor Recreation goes night skiing every Saturday from 4 to 11 p.m. Cost is \$35 and includes transportation and ski or snowboard equipment or \$20 if you bring your own equipment. Lift tickets (which cost approximately 13.50 Euro) are not included. To sign up, call Outdoor Recreation at 09721-96-8080.

Dec. 8-9 Snowboard Trip to Garmisch, Germany \$159

Two days of skiing on the Zugspitze glacier, the Garmisch Classic and one overnight stay with breakfast in a beautiful hotel in the town of Garmisch are available for \$159, which also includes transportation and ski or Snowboard equipment. Lift ticket (approximately 70 Euro) are not included. Transportation leaves from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 4 a.m. Dec. 8 and returns at 11 p.m. Dec. 9. To sign up, call Outdoor Recreation at 09721-96-8080.

Jan. 18-21 Ski & Snowboard Trip to Flachau, Austria \$349

Three days of skiing and snowboarding in Flachau, Austria, and 350 kilometers of well groomed, easy-to-difficult runs are available for \$349. The cost also includes transportation, three overnight stays with breakfast and dinner, ski and snowboard rentals and snowboard lessons on the first day. Lift tickets (approximately 129 Euro for three days) are not included. Transportation leaves from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 11 a.m. Jan. 18 and returns at 11 p.m. Jan. 21. To sign up, call Outdoor Recreation at 09721-96-8080.

For more information, call Schweinfurt Outdoor Recreation at 09721-96-8080.

Was ist los in Franken?

By Bianca Sowders, USAG Ansbach Public Affairs

Ansbacher Weihnachtsmarkt

The Ansbach Christmas will be open until Dec. 23 with wooden booths and a large assortment of Christmas items and decorations, as well as culinary specialties from the region. Opening hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and Sunday noon-8:30 p.m. For more information, check www.weihnachtsmarkt-ansbach.de.

Bamberg Christmas Market

The Christmas market in Bamberg opens on Nov. 29 until Dec. 23; daily opening hours are Monday through Saturday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.-8 p.m. For more details, go to www.weihnachtsmarkt-bamberg.de or www.bamberg.info.

Medieval Market in Fürth

Fürth is hosting a medieval market in conjunction with its regular Christmas market on Nov. 29 -Dec. 23; it is open daily from 10 a.m. -9 p.m. For program details, go to www.mittelaltermarkt-fuerth.de.

Christkindlesmarkt Grand Opening

The Nürnberger Christkindlesmarkt officially opens on Nov. 30 at 5:30 with the "Christkind" speaking the opening words. From then until Christmas Eve the "little town of wood and cloth" will shine in the heart of Nürnberg's Old Town and turn it into "Christmas City." More than 180 market stands – all decorated for Christmas with fresh greens and lights – invite you to enjoy traditional Christmas ornaments of all shapes and sizes, the local gold-foil angel called "Rauschgoldengel," "Zwetschgenmännle" made of prunes, toys and games and delicious holiday treats to eat and drink. Experience this one-of-a-kind atmosphere on Mondays through Thursdays 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sundays 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. For details, visit the English language website <http://www.christkindlesmarkt.de/en>.

Erlangen on Ice

The city of Erlangen is offering a free ice skating rink downtown at Marktplatz between Paulibrunnen and Palais Stutterheim in conjunction with the traditional Christmas market; skating is available daily from 1-9 p.m.; skates can be rented for 2.50 euros on site. Special opening hours for the holidays will be available on a short notice at www.erlangen-marketing.de.

Celtic Christmas Concert

For a different kind of Christmas concert go to Burg Rabenstein in Ahorntal (Fränkische Schweiz, Rabenstein 33, 95491 Ahorntal) on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.; bard and harpist Andy Lang takes his audience on a trip through Ireland and Scotland with his selection of Celtic Christmas songs. Admission for adults is 22 euros, 16 euros for students. More information is available at www.burg-rabenstein.de; registration is required at 09202-970-0440.

Bamberg Shopping Night

The stores in downtown Bamberg will be open until midnight on Dec. 1; for more information also check mybamberg.de.

Nativity Scenes in Handwerkerhof

The Handwerkerhof in Nürnberg (Königstor, across from main train station) is featuring an exhibition of nativity scenes until Dec. 29; the admission is free. For more information also go to <http://www.handwerkerhof.de/en/home>.

Winter Flea Market in Gunzenhausen

Gunzenhausen is hosting a winter flea market on Dec. 2 from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; for sale will be only used, antique or handmade items. Children get their own special corner; for more details go to www.gunzenhausen.info.

Michael Winslow in Fürth

Michael Winslow, a "man of 10,000 sound effects" known from the "Police Academy" movies comes to the Stadthalle (Rosenstr. 50) in Fürth on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.

Christmas rock party on the lake

For a different kind of Christmas party check out the X-Mas Rockparty on Lake Brombachsee. Take a trip on a boat for 12.50 Euros on Dec. 7 and dance to seasonal music all night long; the boat leaves at 7:30 p.m. at the sail boat harbor in Ramsberg (Am Segelhafen, 91785 Pleinfeld) and it will return to Ramsberg at 9 p.m. for late party guests; the trip will be finally over by 1 a.m. For detailed information and reservations, go to www.ms-brombachsee.com.

Gospel in Bamberg and Schweinfurt

The Love and Joy Tour 2012/13 of Best of Black Gospel is coming to Bamberg on Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. at St. Otto Kirche (Siechenstr. 72); the same concert will take place in Schweinfurt's St. Michael church (Florian-Geyer-Straße 11) on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. Conductor and musical director is Grammy-award-winner Gregory M. Kelly, who worked with gospel stars like Hezekiah Walker, James Cleveland, Diana Ross or Stevie Wonder. The choir program will include classic, traditional songs as well as Christmas songs, but also modern arrangements of "Bridge Over Troubled Water", "Imagine" or "Oh happy Day", "Amen" and "Kumbai Ya My Lord". Tickets for Bamberg are available now at BVD, Lange Strasse 22, phone 0951-980-8220, online at www.sw-concerts.de or at the door. Doors are open at 7 p.m. The concert starts at 8 p.m.

Uriah Heep in Aschaffenburg

Uriah Heep is bringing their "The Nail On The Head Christmas Tour" to Aschaffenburg's Colos-Saal (Rossmarkt 19) on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. (Enter at 7 p.m.).

Franconian Jazzband in Nürnberg

The Franconian Jazzband will be playing Jazz Classics in Nürnberg at the Jazzstudio Nürnberg e.V. (Paniersplatz 27/29) on Dec. 15, beginning at 9 p.m. For more information go to www.jazzstudio.de.

Windsbacher Knabenchor in Nürnberg

The Windsbacher Knabenchor, famous boys' choir from Windsbach near Ansbach will perform at the Meistersingerhalle (Münchener Straße 2) in Nürnberg on Dec. 18 at 8 p.m.

Winterdorf in Bayreuth

The annual winter village in Bayreuth with little wood huts and local specialties in the Ehrenhof of Altes Schloss (Maximilianstraße 12-14) stays open until New Year's Day. Opening hours are Monday-Saturday 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Sunday 12:30- 11 p.m. For more information, go to www.bayreuther-winterdorf.de.

Guided Tours

Guided tours are a good way to get to know the place you are living or stationed. It is a good way to spend time outside, with friends or family. Check this website available in English on guided tours <http://www.bamberg.info/en/stadtfuehrungen/>.

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Christmas Markets 2012

- Ansbach** – Weihnachtsmarkt (Johann-Sebastians-Bach-Platz): Nov. 28-Dec. 23; www.ansbach.de
- Aschaffenburg** - Weihnachtsmarkt (Schlossplatz): Nov. 29-Dec. 22; www.aschaffenburg.de
- Bamberg** - Weihnachtsmarkt (Maxplatz): Nov. 29-Dec. 23; www.bamberg.info
- Bernkastel-Kues** – Weihnachtmarkt – Nov. 24-Dec. 23; www.weihnachtsmarkt-bernkastel-kues.de
- Coburg** - Weihnachtsmarkt : Nov. 30-Dec. 23; www.coburg-tourist.de
- Dinkelsbühl** - Weihnachtsmarkt (Spitalhof): Nov. 29-Dec. 23; www.weihnachtsmarkt-dinkelsbuehl.de
- Erlangen** - Medieval Weihnachtsmarkt (Neustädter Kirchenplatz): Nov. 30-Dec. 24; www.erlangen.de
- Fürth** - Weihnachtsmarkt (Freiheit): Nov. 29-Dec. 23; www.fuerth.de
- Forchheim** - Weihnachtsmarkt : Dec. 1-24; www.forchheim.de
- Garmisch** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec 1-26; www.garmisch-partenkirchen.de
- Heidelberg** - Weihnachtsmarkt (Karlsplatz): Nov. 21-Dec. 22; www.heidelberg-tourismus.de
- München** - Christkindlmarkt (Marienplatz): Nov. 30- Dec. 24; www.muenchen-tourist.de
- Nürnberg** – Christkindlesmarkt: Nov. 30-Dec. 24; www.christkindlesmarkt.de
- Roth** – Christkindlesmarkt (Schloss Ratibor): Dec. 1-9; www.stadt-roth.de
- Rothenburg ob der Tauber** – Reiterlesmarkt: Nov. 30-Dec. 23; www.rothenburg.de
- Schweinfurt** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Nov. 29-Dec. 24; www.weihnachtsmarkt-sw.de
- Würzburg** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Nov. 30-Dec. 23; www.wuerzburg.de
- Weekend Christmas Markets 2012**
- Bad Kissingen** – Lichterglanz (lights aglow): Nov. 30-Dec. 24; www.badkissingen.de
- Bad Mergentheim** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 13-16; www.bad-mergentheim.de
- Bad Wimpfen** – Altdeutscher Weihnachtsmarkt: Nov. 30-Dec. 2, Dec. 7-9, 14-16; www.badwimpfen.org
- Bad Windsheim** - Weihnachtsmarkt : Nov. 29-Dec. 2, Dec. 6-9, 13-16, 20-23; www.bad-windsheim.de
- Freilandmuseum Bad Windsheim** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec 2, 9, 16; www.freilandmuseum.de
- Gunzenhausen** – Weihnachtsmarkt – Dec. 2, Dec. 6-9, 13-16, 20-23; www.gunzenhausen.de
- Heilsbronn** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 7-9; www.stadt-heilsbronn.de
- Herrieden** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec . 21-22
- Hilpoltstein** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 1-2; www.hilpoltstein.de
- Iphofen** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 8-9; www.iphofen.de
- Marktbreit** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 2; www.marktbreit.de
- Marktheidenfeld** – Weihnachtmarkt: Dec. 7-9; www.marktheidenfeld.de
- Neustadt an der Aisch** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 7-9; www.neustadt-aisch.de
- Ornbau** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 1; www.ornbau.de
- Schloss Geyerswörth** (Bamberg) – Medieval Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec 8-16; www.kzk.de
- Schwabach** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 7- 9, Dec. 14-16; www.schwabach.de
- Stein** – Weihnachtsmarkt (Mecklenburger Platz): Nov. 30- Dec. 2; www.stadt-stein.de
- Wasserburg am Inn** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Nov. 30-Dec. 2, Dec. 7-9, Dec. 14-16, Dec. 21-23; www.wasserburg.de
- Weikersheim** – Weihnachtsmarkt (Castle): Dec. 14 -16; www.weikersheim.de
- Windsbach** – Weihnachtsmarkt: Dec. 1-2; www.windsbach.de
- Wolframs-Eschenbach** – Sternlesmarkt: Dec 15-16; www.wolframs-eschenbach.de