

Friday, Feb. 21, 2025

Better in Bavaria Community Update: From Col. Stephen C. Flanagan.

Here are a few updates for your Friday:

- **Force Protection Exercise (Feb. 24-27):** U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria's Force Protection Exercise will take place Feb. 24-27. This exercise will verify and enhance our force protection protocols. Security measures across our installations to include Rose Barracks, Tower Barracks, Hohenfels and Garmisch will be increased. Be prepared for traffic delays and allow extra time for your commute. Have two valid forms of identification with you. For more information visit our website at home.army.mil/bavaria.
- **Gate Maintenance has been rescheduled until beginning of March.** Gate maintenance at Tower Barracks Gate 6 will begin the first week March. During this time, please allow extra time for your commute, use alternate gates, and follow detour signs.
- There will be **construction at the Tower Barracks Post office parking lot starting March 10.** From March 10 until March 30 the entryway to the post office will be blocked for vehicles. Please use the parking lot at the chapel across from USO or the parking behind the DFAC during this time and follow detour signs.
- **Commissary Reusable Bags:** Commissary shoppers, the commissary is beginning to phase out the use of plastic bags this month. Customers will need to begin to bring their own, or purchase reusable ones for a small fee. There will be various bag options available for all your shopping needs!
Do not take the baskets. They are not for sale and are property of the Commissary. They are solely there to help you during your shopping in the store and taking them with you is considered a crime.
- **Recreational Drone Reminder:** Recreational drones cannot be used on or around military installations. That includes U.S. Army installations, Navy bases, Air Force Bases, German Military Kaserne's, other government facilities (U.S. or otherwise) as well as no flight zones. For more information on drone/RC aircraft regulations in Germany, visit: www.bmvi.de/drohnen. Be vigilant. If you see a drone, report it to the MPs <https://home.army.mil/bavaria/Directorates/DES> or at iSalute at <https://www.inscom.army.mil/isalute/default.aspx>.
- **Overseas Housing Allowance Survey open now until March 31.** The annual Overseas Housing Allowance Survey takes place now until March 31 and is open to service members and their spouses assigned throughout Germany. Participants must have been assigned to Germany for at least six months and reside in privately leased quarters (neither a homeowner nor a sharer be). Survey participants should reference utility bills, recurring maintenance expense receipts or estimates so they can report the following: electricity, natural gas for heating or cooling, bottled gas, kerosene, heating oil, coal, firewood, sewer, trash, running water, bottled water,

rental insurance, maintenance costs and alarm monitoring fees. Expenses excludes yard or lawn maintenance. If eligible to take the survey, visit <https://www.travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Overseas-Housing-Allowance/OHA-Data-Collection-Surveys/>

- **It is officially Fasching season!** Fasching is a pre-Lent celebration like Mardi Gras or Carnival. In northern Germany, they call it Fastnacht or Karneval, but Fasching is the most common name in Bavaria. Although the carnival season officially begins Nov. 11 at 11:11 a.m., February is the time when all of Germany goes crazy and the true celebration begins. While most the events will be held end of February this year a lot of cities already provide Fasching events. We have created a list with Fasching events in your area. Check out the USAG Bavaria website and social media channels!
- **Weiberfaching (Womens Fasching) is Feb.27!** This is the day that woman take over during Fasching! Be careful not to wear your best tie that day since the woman might cut it!
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Tower Barracks and Rose Barracks:

On-post events to check out:

- The Zone Smoothie Bar will open at the Rose Barracks Fitness Center on Feb. 24
- ACS Tax Preparation Workshop Feb. 26, 3-4 p.m.
- Dragoon Inn Warrior Restaurant Outreach event Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.
- Tech Expo Feb. 27 at the Tower View Conference Center from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.
- EFMP Kindness Karaoke Feb. 28 at Tower Barracks 4-8 p.m. at the Tower View Conference Center
- American Red Cross Babysitter Course and Pediatric First Aid/CPR March 3, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Vilseck Red Cross bldg. 162
- Kid's Krafternoon presents: Mindful Movement March 6 at 3 p.m. at the TB USO (bldg. 150)
- AER kick off March 6, 7-9 p.m. at the Tower Barracks Bowling Center
- CPR for your pets March 11, 5-6 p.m. Vilseck Red Cross bldg. 162

Off-post events to check out:

- Amberg Witches' Night, Feb. 27
- Carnival Parade Vilseck, March 2

What's happening at Hohenfels and Garmisch:

Hohenfels:

- ACS Tax Preparation Workshop Feb. 26, March 12 & 26, from 3-4 p.m.
- AER kick off March 5 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the ACS lobby of Bldg. 10A
- Outdoor Recreation is offering Austrian Skiing Daytrips for skiers and snowboarders 15 years and older on March 1 to the SkiWelt at Söll and on March 8 to the Zillertal Arena at Zell am Ziller
- Children ages 3 to 5 can learn the vocabulary of their host nation in a fun way during German story time March 3 at 10 a.m. at theTurnbull memorial Library
- Operation Deploy Your Dress stops at Hohenfels from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Community Activity Center. DoD ID cardholders attending prom, a military ball or even a wedding can join the pop-up shop and select a free formal own, accessory or men's suit. Donations of these items will also be accepted during the event
- 90th Chinese Fasching event Feb. 27 in Dietfurt

Garmisch:

- Flea Market at the Tierheim Animal Shelter Feb. 22, 2 - 6 p.m. in Garmisch-Pa.,
- Disco Ice Skating Feb. 22, 8 - 10 p.m. in Garmisch-Pa. at the Olympic Ice Stadium,
- Tue & Wed, February 25 & 26, 6.30-9 p.m., Ehrwald/Tirol, Wettersteinbahn, Night Skiing
- Deer Feeding, Feb. 25 & 27, 4-5 p.m. in Garmisch at the Maximilianshoehe
- Farmer's Market Feb. 27 and every Thursday at 8 a.m. at the Ludwigstrasse in Partenkirchen
- Night Skiing & Sledding Feb. 27 and every Thursday until March 13, 5.30 – 8.45 p.m. in Berwang/Austria
- Night Watchman Tour, March 1, 8 p.m., at the Ludwigstraße 73 in Partenkirchen,
- Disco Ice Skating, March 4, 8 - 10 p.m. in Garmisch-Pa. at the Olympic Ice Stadium
- Family Day at the Reptile House, March 6, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. in Oberammergau