



Photos by Kevin S. Abel, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The Charge of the Newly Promoted Noncommissioned Officer is signed during an induction ceremony on Panzer Kaserne, Aug. 30; right: Soldiers from four MP companies recite the charge; left, after the ceremony, the 38 are congratulated and welcomed by senior NCOs and others in attendance.

NCO Corps inducts 38 MPs from four companies

By John Reese

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

In a morning ceremony on Panzer Kaserne, 38 Soldiers from three companies of the 709th Military Police Battalion "Warriors," 18th MP Brigade, and one company from the 716th MP Bn., 101st Airborne Division Sustainment Brigade "Peacekeepers," raised their right hands, passed

through an arch of noncommissioned officer rank insignias and signed the Charge of the Newly Promoted Noncommissioned Officer as they were inducted into the Army NCO Corps, Aug. 30.

The newest NCOs of the 709th MP Bn. are from the 92nd, 554th and 529 MP companies; the 551st "Hooligans" MPs are currently augmented from 716th MP Bn. from

Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Staff Sgt. Ian Bromley, 554th MP Co., was one of the NCOs who organized the ceremony held in the Panzer Fitness Center.

"It's a formal rite of passage for newly promoted sergeants. When you make the rank of sergeant you're supposed to go through the ceremony. It's a formal process when you sign the charge of the NCO," Bromley

explained. "The command sergeant major usually gives some words of encouragement and wisdom."

Before the ceremony, the 38 MPs performed PT and received NCO professional development from the 709th's senior enlisted advisor, Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua M. Kreitzer.

See NCO CORPS, p.7

Sept. 8 a big day of activities for USAG Stuttgart

By John Reese

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

There are multiple events scheduled to take place on Panzer Kaserne Sept. 7-8; sports at Stuttgart High School and Patch Barracks, the CARE Fair and community flea market at the Panzer Exchange, a NAF used equipment warehouse sale and the USO's Family Amazing Race.



Photo by Holly DeCarlo-White, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The 2017 CARE Fair, held in the Patch Fitness Center, bustles with activity. This year's event at the Panzer main Exchange promises to be even bigger.

See ACTIVITIES, p.4

Construction to close Oak Street on Kelley Barracks

By Larry Reilly
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The final stage of the installation-wide sewer system upgrade on Kelley Barracks will begin Sept. 3, unfortunately, it will cause the closure of Oak Street for two months.

Oak Street is one of the main streets on Kelley Barracks, where the Kelley Theatre, the Subway shop and the post

flag are located.

"The sewer system upgrade project has impacted the entire Kelley Barracks throughout its construction period, and until now, we have been able to keep the inconvenience of the construction project to small areas and streets. This time we just can't avoid having to block off a main street," said Dianne Wilson, division chief master planning, Directorate of Public Works.

The street will be completely closed off to vehicle traffic from Sept. 3 until Oct. 29. The construction will also affect the pedestrian traffic flow on a regular basis. The two permanent duty bus stops on Kelley will not change. There had been a temporary change during an earlier phase, but is now back to the permanent stop by the commissary.

"There will always be a pathway for pedestrians along Oak Street during the construction phase," Wilson said. "However, they should take note of all pedestrian signs to make sure they are taking the safest route."

Traffic detour signs showing the flow

of traffic will be highly visible once you enter through the main gate and will direct traffic to the right onto Maple Street behind buildings 3312 to 3315, and on to Ash Street.

Exit bound traffic will flow along the other side of Maple Street behind buildings 3304 to 3310.

"We ask people to be patient as the construction project will create backups and possible confusion as people adjust to the new traffic flow," Wilson said. "The most important advice we can offer is for everyone to keep an eye on where they are going both on foot and while driving a vehicle."

Vehicle Registration experiences walk-in waits in August

By John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Social media was ablaze in August with frustrated comments about the long waits for walk-ins to register privately owned vehicles at the garrison's Vehicle Registration Office, Bldg. 2930, Panzer Kaserne.

No one likes to wait, especially when there's a chance of not being able to register on a particular day at all. Some people slept in their cars or on beach chairs after putting their names on an ad hoc waiting list. Command Sgt. Maj. Toese Tia, senior enlisted adviser, USAG Stuttgart, visited the line before going on the air at AFN Stuttgart, Aug. 22, and Sarah Kemp, the manager of the USO Center-Stuttgart heard about it and personally delivered coffee, juice and breakfast items to sustain the line, Aug. 24. Stars and Stripes even published an article about it, Aug. 27.

The problem was due in part a large influx of vehicles from PCS season. To speed up the process, Vehicle Registration began temporarily opening its doors earlier and the garrison is taking additional steps to make the process go faster.

While conveniently co-located, registration falls under the garrison's Directorate of Emergency Services, while the inspections fall under the 405th Army Field Support Brigade, BASOPS Maintenance Division.

When you go for your appointment

to register or reregister, be sure to bring your USAREUR driver's license, CAC ID card, vehicle title and proof of insurance accepted in Germany. Contractors also need to bring their SOFA card and passport. The registration fee is \$35.

When going for the annual reregistration of your vehicle, a good tip is to schedule your appointment a well in advance of the vehicle's registration expiration date. It doesn't affect the date the vehicle is registered, i.e., you won't lose that time; if the date is Sept. 21 and you have your vehicle inspected and passed Sept. 12, the new registration will still read Sept. 21. Will help you avoid being a walk-in.

When to visit vehicle registration

The office's normal hours are weekdays beginning at 7:45 a.m., closing at 3:45 p.m. (except Fridays when it closes at 3:30 p.m.); it's closed for lunch from noon until 1 p.m. The office opened a little earlier recently to alleviate the wait for walk-ins. It is closed on U.S. federal holidays and the last work day of the month; it's open on German holidays for appointments only—no walk-ins will be served. Call 431-2833/2883/2171/2495/3672 (from a civilian line, dial 07031-15- and one of the last four digit sets of the DSN).

Coffee and breakfast



Photo by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Mothers of Preschoolers Sarah Krawczyk (Panzer MOPS), left, and Carol Espique (Patch MOPS), offer complimentary coffee and breakfast goodies to parents and students passing by the Panzer Chapel on the first day of school, Aug. 27. MOPS is a USAG-Stuttgart Religious Support Office sponsored organization.

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DES offers back to school safety tips

By Chief Ruben Santiago
Directorate of Emergency Services
USAG Stuttgart

As the summer season comes to an end, it's natural to think about the fast pace of back to school shopping and all of the things that come with preparing our children for the new school year. Buses are picking up students, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings and busy parents are trying to drop their kids off before work.

Which is why it's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

Student Drop-Off Point

USAG Stuttgart installations are designed to be walking communities, and it's highly encouraged to use the transportation plans or walkways when possible.

There are various reasons why families elect to drop their children off at school. All Stuttgart Department of Defense Education Activity schools have very specific drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids. Statistics show more children are hit by cars near schools than at any other location.

Sharing the road with school buses

If you're driving behind a school bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It is illegal to pass any bus on USAG Stuttgart that is stopped to load or unload children. The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks.

Sharing the Road with Bicyclists

Bicyclists have the same rights



Sgt. Johnathan Gomez, 551st MP Co., directs cars and school buses at the intersection of Harde Strasse and Kassier Strasse, Panzer Kaserne, during the morning commute on the first day of school, Aug. 27. This intersection is very busy when the school buses are present.

and responsibilities as vehicles, but bikes can be hard to see. Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods. Watch for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars. When passing a bicyclist, proceed in the same direction slowly, and leave three feet between your car and the cyclist. Watch for bike riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling; children especially have a tendency to do this. When turning left and a bicyclist is approaching in the opposite direction, wait for the rider to pass. If you're turning right and a bicyclist is approaching from behind on the right, let the rider go through the intersection first-and always use your turn signals. Check side mirrors before opening your door.

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.

Distracted drivers law (cell phones while driving)

Vehicle operators on DOD installations and operators of government-owned vehicles, on or off the installation, will not use cellular phones or other hand-held electronic devices unless the vehicle is safely parked or they are using a hands-free device.

This prohibition includes text messaging using hand-held devices. Government-supplied electronic equipment that may be used for text messaging or other hand-held uses is prohibited for use by DOD personnel while driving; the only exceptions to this prohibition are emergency responders (such a military police, ambulance, fire emergency, EOD and HAZMAT responders) while in the performance of their official duties.

Army Regulation 385-10, Para. 4-E

The USAG Stuttgart Police Department has been focusing on extra enforcement and reminding commuters about back to school safety since Aug. 20. The most common issue people should prepare for during morning commutes is on Panzer Kaserne where

traffic will be backed up at the intersection of Harde Strasse and Kassier Strasse (the intersection near the bowling alley). Expect at least a 30 to 45 minute delay between 7-8 a.m. Most of this issue is due to commuters dropping off students instead of using the installation transportation or walking.

The USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services is dedicated to keeping our children and community safe and request your assistance in this effort. If you need additional information on back to school safety, please don't hesitate to call on us at 413-3102 or 07031153095.

You are about to enter the school zone ...

- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles
- Don't load or unload children across the street from the school
- Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school
- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at stop signs or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- Stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection
- Always stop for a crossing guard holding up a stop sign or assisting the flow of traffic
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way



Spec. Taylor Hammond stands watch over Patch Elementary School on the first day of the 2018-2019 school year.

ACTIVITIES

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Friday, Sept. 7, the Stuttgart High School Panthers varsity and junior varsity football teams will play their first home games against the Vilseck Falcons. *(See the upcoming SHS fall sports schedule on p.23.)*

"The JV game begins at 4 p.m.," said Joe Holder, school liaison officer. "The varsity coin toss is at 7 p.m."

SHS volleyball will play on campus, its cross country will hold a local match on Patch Barracks, and the tennis team will take to the Ramstein courts.

Child & Youth Services sports hosts junior girls soccer, followed by junior boys soccer on Sept. 8. These games literally kick off the 2018-2019 school year with friendly scrimmage games.

"We will most likely start the official games the following weekend on Panzer Kaserne," said Jason Kettenhofen, director, CYS Sports & Fitness.

Kettenhofen added that additional information about CYS sports will be coming soon. Visit the FMWR Stuttgart webpage for more CYS Sports & Fitness details.

The biggest event is the annual CARE Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., inside the Exchange mall. Conducted by USAG Stuttgart Family & Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the fair is the Stuttgart military community's best opportunity to find dozens of garrison services, universities, service organizations, sport activities and more, all under one roof. *(See pages 4 and 5 for more information as of press time.)*

Outside of the PX, an old-school community flea market will bustle with buyers and sellers looking for win-win deals.

"It's a grassroots type of event where community members can set up shop on a fest table and two benches in a place that is well trafficked because of its location and because there's a big event happening at the same time," said Martha

Povich, FMWR. "Buyers and sellers get the benefit of being in the same place as both the CARE Fair and Exchange, which is the place where everyone, including retirees, goes on weekends."

Sellers pay \$10 for a table and bench, and spaces usually sell out fast. Buyers should arrive early, as the best bargains tend to be scooped up quickly.

Newcomers to the community have a great opportunity to pick up 220v appliances at the flea market, Povich suggests.

For more information about the flea market, visit www.stuttgart.armymwr.com and click on "Flea Markets" under "Community Events."

Across post at the Panzer Fitness Center, a NAF warehouse sale will take place, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Buyers can pick up sporting equipment (such as getting a snowboard right before winter) and other outdoor items, electronics, office and household items such as refrigerators,

television sets and more.

"The NAF warehouse sale does not happen very often, but it always has amazing deals," said FMWR marketing specialist Joel Wasko. "All I can say is follow the sale event on facebook.com/familyandmwr, get all of the updates, scope out the offerings and get to the event early for the best deals."

Cash or VISA/Mastercard accepted. No returns after purchase. Call 421-2603 or 0711-729-2603 for more info.

Coming full circle to go full circuit, the USO's Family Amazing Race also takes place on Sept. 8. Teams will receive clues to checkpoints around Panzer Kaserne where they'll complete challenges such as reciting the pledge of allegiance at the parade ground or completing a lap as a human wheelbarrow. The race brings participants back to the CARE Fair. Register your team of three family members of any age to participate in this fun challenge at 9:45a.m., Saturday, at the USO.

2018 CARE Fair participants

- AFRICOM Family Readiness Group/Air Force Recruiting
- American Legion
- American Red Cross
- Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection & Emergency Management
- Armed Forces Comm. & Elec.Ass. (AFCEA)
- Army Community Services (ACS)
- Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)
- Association of the United States Army (AUSA)
- Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers (BOSS)
- Black Forest Quilt Guild
- Boy Scout Troop #113
- Boy Scout Troop #154
- Boy Scout Troop #324
- Boy Scout Troop #44
- Civil Air Patrol: US Air Force Auxiliary
- Civilian Personnel Advisory Center - NAF
- Civilian Personnel Advisory Center - APF
- Club Beyond
- Community Bank
- Cub Scout Pack #113
- Cub Scout Pack #154
- Cub Scout Pack #324
- Cub Scout Pack #44
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- DHR - Military Personnel Division
- Directorate of Emergency Services
- District No. 8 Knights Templar
- DPW Housing
- EDUCATION CENTER - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- EDUCATION CENTER - University of Maryland
- EDUCATION CENTER - University of Oklahoma
- Education and Developmental Intervention Service Clinic (EDIS)
- EUCOM Family Readiness Group
- EUCOM School Meal Program - AAFES
- Family and MWR - Arts & Crafts Centers
- Family and MWR - Child & Youth Services
- Family and MWR - Marketing
- Family and MWR - MWR Tours
- Family and MWR - Outdoor Recreation
- Family and MWR - School Liaison Officers (SLO)
- Family and MWR - Sports & Fitness
- Family and MWR - Stuttgart Theatre Center
- Family and MWR - VAT/UTAP
- German American Women's Club
- Harold Washington Military Lodge #128
- Knights of Columbus
- MARFOREUR/AF Family Readiness Team
- 66th MI Brigade
- Patch Elementary School PTA
- Patch Middle School PTSA
- Patch Ski Club
- Patch Thrift Shop
- RB Elementary School PTSA
- Religious Support Office
- RSO - Catholic Community
- RSO - Jewish/LDS
- RSO - Protestant Community
- RSO - Women's Ministry (POWC/CWOC/MOPS)
- SHARP
- Soldier for Life - Transition Assistance Program
- Stuttgart Army Wellness Center
- Stuttgart Community Handbell Choir
- Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club - SCSC
- Stuttgart Field Office
- Stuttgart German American Wandering Club
- Stuttgart Girl Scouts
- Stuttgart High School PTO
- Stuttgart Piranhas Swim Team
- Stuttgart Ski Patrol
- Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic
- Stuttgart Youth Bowling League
- Thursday Morning Ladies Bowling League
- TRICARE
- United Service Organization (USO)
- US Youth Soccer - Stuttgart Select
- USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office (PAO)
- USAG Stuttgart Safety Office
- USAHC - Patient Administration
- USAHC Stuttgart
- VFW Post 10810
- WIC (Women, Infants, & Children) Overseas
- Women of Purpose, Int'l/Stuttgart Chapter

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September is Suicide Prevention Month

By Drs. Bala M. Fischer, PsyD
and Kaffie Clark, D.H.S
USAG Stuttgart

Did you know that more Americans now die from suicide than are killed in car crashes each year?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there has been a substantial spike in suicide deaths in the United States in recent years. Today, approximately 9.3 million Americans admit to having suicidal thoughts, and approximately 2.7 million Americans each year actually make a plan for how they would commit suicide.

We are a deeply, deeply unhappy nation, but of course, this phenomenon is not just limited to America. According to the World Health Organization, suicide is now the third highest cause of death in the entire world. Globally, suicide rates have soared by 60 percent over the past 45 years, and the WHO is now projecting that by the year 2020 someone will be committing suicide somewhere in the world every 20 seconds.

In the U.S., suicide rates have been rising in nearly every state, according to the latest "Vital Signs" report by the CDC. In 2016, nearly 45,000 Americans age 10 or older died by suicide. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death and is one of just three leading causes that are on the rise.

Suicide in the Military

The military reflects an important subset of the American population with both shared and unique

characteristics when compared to the U.S. population.

Historically, military suicide rates have been lower than those rates found in the general population. However, rising suicide rates among service members and veterans over the past decade have raised public and professional

concerns. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in the U.S. military.

***"You're strong.
You're ready.
You're essential."***

According to the calendar year annual report 2015 Department of Defense Suicide

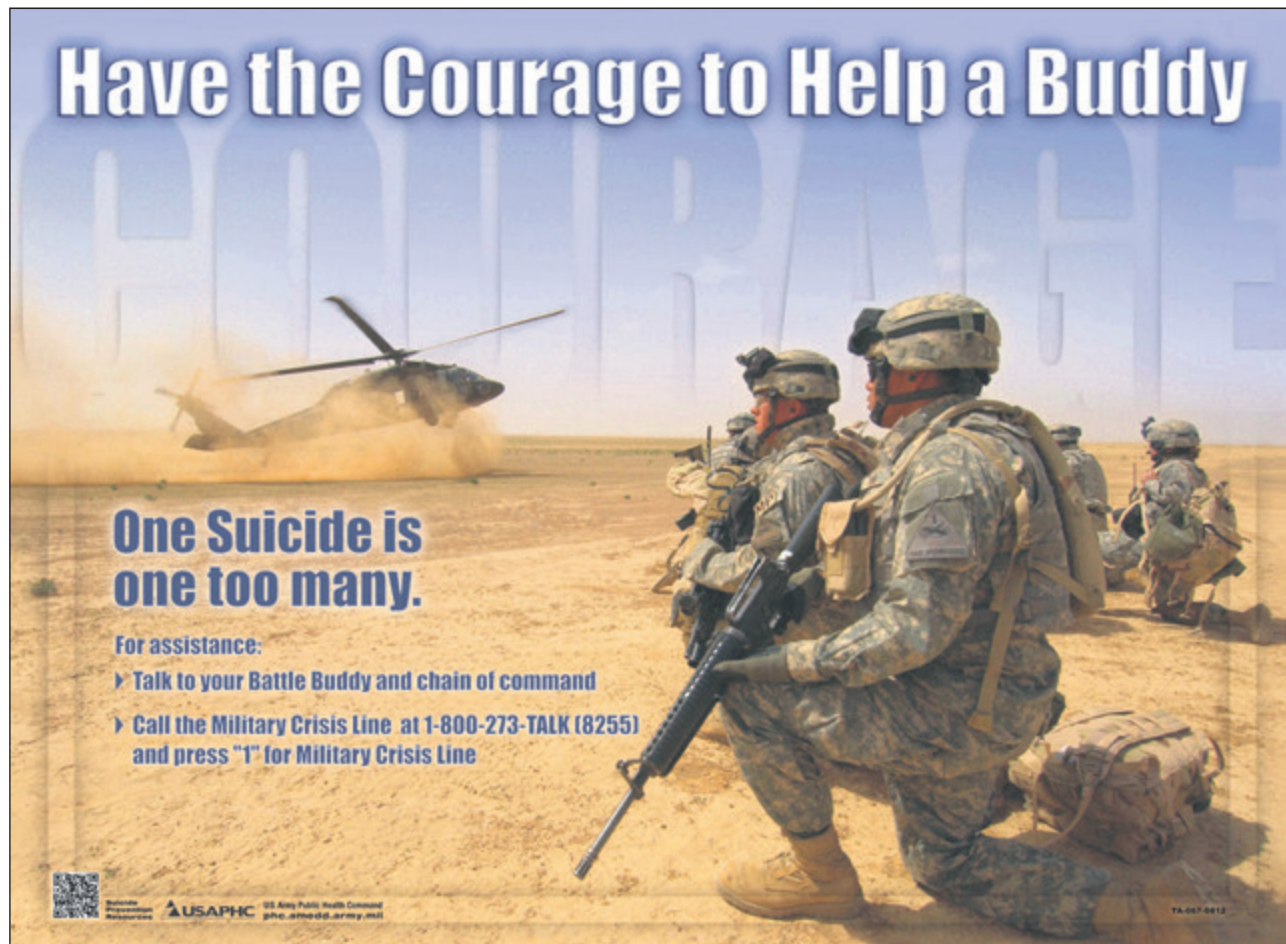
Event Report annual report, the standardized suicide rate was 20.2 per 100,000 for the active component. For the selected reserves component, the rates were 24.7 per 100,000 for the Reserves and 27.1 per 100,000 for the National Guard.

As of Aug. 5, there has been 197 active duty deaths related to suicidal behavior (either confirmed or suspected), which is an increase from 182 year-to-date 2017. All active duty services except Air Force experienced a gliding increase in suicidal deaths.

"Suicide is a leading cause of death for Americans - and it's a tragedy for families and communities across the country," said CDC principal Deputy Director Anne Schuchat, M.D. From individuals and communities to employers and healthcare professionals, everyone can play a role in efforts to help save lives and reverse this troubling rise in suicide."

In order to create awareness and mitigate this "epidemic," 2018 Suicide Prevention Month's focus is to express positive message to our force:

"You're strong. You're ready. You're essential."



(Editor's note: Fischer and Clark are the USAG Stuttgart Community Ready & Resilient Integrator/Alcohol & Drug Control Officer and Employee Assistance Program Coordinator, respectively.)

Top 11 facts countdown about suicide prevention

11. Asking someone in distress if they want to die will not give them the idea for suicide.

10. Someone who talks about wanting to die oftentimes attempts, and may die by, suicide.

9. Service members do not ask for help because they don't want to be perceived as "broken."

8. Someone thinking about or attempting suicide is suffering severe pain and distress. Take every ideation seriously.

7. In some cases, waivers can lead to good career outcomes.

6. When a method for suicide is removed, someone at risk is unlikely to substitute with a different method.

5. Alcohol or drugs are involved in 58 percent of service members' death by suicide.

4. Fewer than half of service members who died by suicide

had a mental health diagnosis. (12 percent had a depression diagnosis 8 percent had a PTSD diagnosis)

3. The rate of military suicide deaths has been stable since 2011.

2. Risk for suicide is highest during times of transition. Increased number suicide attempts and deaths and typically seen in the summer months.

1. The most effective way to prevent suicide is putting time and space between a distressed person and a lethal means.

Resources

- Suicide/Crisis Hot line DSN 118 or 431-3102, or 0711-680-0113 or 07031-153102
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255); en Español, 1-888-628-9454
- Military Crisis Line, text to 838255

Army Suicide Trends

- Highest suicide rates across the Army from 2014 – 2018 has rotated among ranks E3-E6
- Death by suicide appears to occur earlier in a Soldier's time in grade (first 18 months), analysis ongoing
- Deaths by suicide are once again more prevalent among the ranks of E4 and E3.
- GAT findings on Soldier emotional, spiritual and physical attributes related to suicide
- Soldiers having low resiliency scores are three times more likely to die by suicide than high resiliency individuals.
- Depressed and overwhelmed individuals are two times more likely to die by suicide than calm individuals.
- Soldiers with low spiritual scores are two times more likely to die by suicide than Soldiers with high spiritual scores.
- Tobacco users are two times more likely to die by suicide than non-users.
- Moderate (upper range) to heavy drinkers are two times more likely to die by suicide than low risk drinkers.

NCO CORPS

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"This ceremony represents a rite of passage as they pass from being a junior Soldier to a noncommissioned officer," Kreitzer said.

The 38, Kreitzer added, were all exceptional Soldiers.

"High speed," he said.

Kreitzer led the induction ceremony, interacting with the four NCOs sponsoring the inductees and with a few junior enlisted in the audience making the "Soldier's Request," a series of expectations from them for their new NCOs before they passed through the arch.

Sgt. Donovan Coleman, 92nd MP Co., was first to pass through the arch and sign the charge.

"The importance of the ceremony today, for me, was a rite of passage—that we were once junior enlisted and now we're joining amongst the ranks of the other noncommissioned officers in the Army," Coleman said.

Fellow new NCO Sgt. Brittani Thompson, 92nd MP Co., was 14th in line to pass through the arch. Her decorations earned before becoming an NCO included the coveted Bundeswehr Schützenschnur in Silber, the silver-level marksmanship award authorized for wear only by enlisted U.S. Army and Air Force

personnel.

"The importance of this ceremony is to highlight all of our hard work to become NCOs," Thompson explained.

Sgt. 1st Class Wesley T. De Souza provided an inspirational keynote speech about the rigors and rewards of being a leader for the new NCOs that had senior NCOs in the audience nodding and audibly approving.

"The United States Army NCO Corps is the best in the world," said Lt. Col. John W. Copeland, commander, 709th MP Bn. "These Warriors are the backbone of the U.S. Army and will train the next generation. I'm very proud of them and grateful for their leadership."

Once all 38 NCOs had signed the charge, they and the Soldiers in attendance recited the NCO creed and sang the Army song to conclude the induction.

Thompson and Coleman offered their guidance to the junior enlisted who will follow in their footsteps.

"Just learn how to be better than you were," Thompson said.

"Everyone is going to hate the beginning," Coleman said. "You have to embrace (the difficult beginning) and then push on to stay in, because it does get better later on. If you can keep your head up and just do what you have to do, then you can make it as an NCO and continue in the Army."



Photos by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Under the watchful eye of his 1st Sgt. and those of three other MP companies, Sgt. Donovan Coleman, 92nd MP Co., is first of 38 Soldiers to sign the charge at the NCO Induction ceremony, Aug. 30.



Sgt. Brittani Thompson, 92nd MP Co., awaits her name to be called before passing through the ceremonial arch to receive her "Blue Book," an instruction guide for Army leaders since the American Revolutionary War.



Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua M. Kreitzer and Sgt. 1st Class Wesley T. De Souza, 709th MP Bn., stand ready to receive and congratulate the 38 new NCOs after they sign the charge of the NCO.

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VFW VIPs visit



Photos by Joe Holder, Stuttgart VFW Post 10810

Top picture from left, Hal Roesch - Junior Vice Commander-In-Chief of Veterans of Foreign Wars; Robert Wallace, Washington DC Office Executive Director; and John Towles, National Security and Foreign Affairs Director, answer questions from enlisted service members and spouses during a working lunch at the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) dining facility. The VFW representatives also received briefings from leaders at USAG Stuttgart, U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command.

Ask a JAG: Civilian PCS moves, relocation expense reimbursements

By Capt. Nicole A. Oberjuege
Judge Advocate and
Chief of Client Services
Stuttgart Legal Center

Q: I PCS'd OCONUS. How does the new tax law affect me?

A: While most people snooze as soon as the words tax and law are mentioned, if you are a civilian employee and the U.S. Government moved you OCONUS, or is moving you back to CONUS, now is not the time for a nap.

For civilian employees, if the government moved you on military orders, be prepared for a significant increase in your taxable income this year because of the new tax law. Active duty service-members, feel free to continue snoozing as moving expenses are still excludable from your gross income and are not subject to income taxes.

OCONUS household goods (HHG) shipments can cost more than \$25,000. Airfare for a family can exceed \$5,000. As OCONUS PCS moves are particularly costly, civilian employees will receive a hefty bill for taxes owed.

Public Law 115-97, Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, effective Jan. 1, 2018, temporarily repeals the tax exempt status of the qualified moving expense reimbursement fringe benefit. In plain English—starting in 2018, the IRS is including most of the expenses associated with moving, e.g.

lodging expenses for en route travel, airline tickets, shipment of household goods and shipment of POVs, as part of government civilian employees' gross income. An amount added to an individual's gross income is taxable unless exempted by law.

What can you do?

First, you have to pay. There is no exception to policy. Relocation expenses are subject to 22 percent IRS income tax withholding by DFAS, and will be withheld from an employee's travel settlement payment amount or billed to the employee as a debt.

However, civilian employees can also apply for relief via the Relocation Income Tax Allowance (RITA), which reimburses eligible employees for the additional income taxes incurred as a result of receiving taxable travel income. RITA is not automatic. Eligible employees must apply for RITA in the year after receiving taxable travel pay.

Finally, if you have not moved yet, but will likely move soon, you can decrease the cost of your move by taking the following actions: losing HHG weight, declining unaccompanied baggage, not shipping a POV, and not storing HHG.

Got a taxing question?

If you have additional questions about tax implications of a recent PCS move, contact the Legal Assistance Office on Kelley Barracks at 421-4152 or 0711-7294152.

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Travel back to prehistory with Ice Age hunters

Story and photos by Angelika Aguilar
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The caves in the Alb region represent a unique archive of history of civilization.

The early Stone Age people created figures and instruments from mammoth ivory and animal bone. World-renown discoveries were made in the caves of the Ach and Lone valleys, including the oldest artworks created by man. The most sensational finds and oldest artworks are nearly 40,000 years old, including the legendary lion man, the little horse, the mammoth and many other small figures from the caves in the Ach and Lone valleys. There are also some old tools and remains of hunting quarry, bearing witness to how people used to live on the Alb.

Clad in his unique Ice Age hunter's garb, Dr. Wolfgang Bausch, a graduate geologist and certified geopark guide, met our group of 12 in the village of Rammingen to give us a foretaste of the adventure that lay ahead. From Rammingen, we walked 2-3 km to the first cave, the Bockstein Cave and the "Hohlenstein/Baerenhoehle (bear cave).

In the cave of the lion-headed figurine in Rammingen-Lindenau, you gain a first impression of the Lonetal (Lone Valley) caves where the oldest figurative works of art created by mankind were found. Because of this, the Lone Valley caves have attracted worldwide attention, and not only in archaeological circles. The Lone Valley caves were a place of refuge and settlement for early man; the Neanderthals retired to these caves 70,000 years ago to seek protection from the weather and their enemies. Several times, Bausch pointed out proof that Neanderthals were by no means stupid, but highly intelligent; early man also didn't look anything like apes, as they are so often depicted, but looked astonishingly similar to today's homo sapiens. He shared many images of how they actually looked.

The caves are easy to reach on foot from Rammingen-Lindenau (Hohlenstein 1 km, Bocksteinhöhle 2 km and Vogelherdhöhle 3 km). Next to the cave of the lion-headed figurine is one of the most attractive beer gardens in the region.

Visiting the Geopark

Dive into the geopark adventure and experience the Earth's history live. For your journey back in time, there are innumerable exciting geological highlights to discover all over the Swabian Albs. You can choose whether you would prefer to hunt for fossils, immerse yourself in the fascinating cave world of the Swabian Albs, examine a meteorite crater first-hand or marvel at the



Geologist and certified geopark guide Dr. Wolfgang Bausch explains the different types Ice Age hunters' tools and weapons, part of the adventure visiting the Geopark Swabian Albs.

oldest known artworks.

To experience the Albs at first hand, a guided tour is just the thing. The landscape guides in the Geopark Swabian Albs are usually locals who have completed a special training course to become cultural landscape guides. They are the ideal people to accompany you and turn your hikes, cycling and bus tours into a fascinating and unforgettable experiences. There are various different groups of certified landscape guides right across the Swabian Albs.

Ice Age hunters Lone Valley

Discover the caves of the Lone valley Stone Age-style with demonstrations and hands-on activities such as striking a fire from a stone, hunting with the weapons of the time (throwing sticks, spears, spear-throwers, bows and arrows) and painting with red ochre and charcoal. There are also clear explanatory texts with plenty of visual aids on site. The Ice Age hunters pass on information about our ancestors and their living

conditions in a clear and well substantiated manner. The cost for a guided tour is €100; the entry fee to the Archäopark is €60 plus €7 per person. It's recommended to get a group of at least 10-15 people to share the costs for the tour guide and the entry fee.

For more information, contact Dr. Wolfgang Bausch at 07023-908-202 or email geobausch@t-online.de.

(Editor's note: No federal endorsement is implied.)



Dr. Wolfgang Bausch, left, leads a pack of adventures into one of the ancient caves once inhabited by Neanderthals.

Measles outbreak in Europe continues; Army Medicine officials urge vaccination

By Ashley Patoka
Regional Health Command Europe

Adults and children not vaccinated for measles could be at risk for contracting the illness as a result of an

ongoing measles outbreak in several European countries. Regional Health Command Europe officials recommend families review their vaccination records to ensure everyone is fully vaccinated

against the disease. Additionally, in 2017, Army Medicine clinics throughout Europe began giving the Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine as part of the routine 6-month visit with their pediatrician. The vaccine is highly encouraged for all children aged 6-12 months, especially those in day care. This dose is in addition to the two doses given to children in the U.S. over 12 months of age. Measles is an extremely contagious virus, with essentially 100 percent of exposed susceptible individuals becoming infected. The virus can linger in the air of a room or transportation vehicle for up to two hours according to Col. Rodney Coldren, Public Health Command Europe Preventive Medicine Chief. "However, there is a very safe and effective vaccine available to prevent this disease," Coldren continued. "The vast majority of Americans are already immunized against measles, having

received at least two doses of the MMR vaccine in early childhood." Measles can be a very serious, even fatal, illness and is especially severe in babies and elderly persons, according to Coldren. Adults and children not vaccinated for measles could be at risk for contracting the illness due to the outbreak. Two groups of people in the American military community are particularly vulnerable to measles infection: 1. Family members who were not subject to the U.S. immunization schedule as children, for example, foreign-born spouses. To help protect your family when traveling around Europe, we recommend that you review your vaccination records to ensure that everyone is fully vaccinated against measles. 2. Children under one year old traveling to high risk areas. Children

TAKE 3 ACTIONS TO FIGHT THE FLU

FIGHT FLU

INFLUENZA

Influenza (flu) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Every year, millions of people get sick, hundreds of thousands are hospitalized, and thousands to tens of thousands of people die from flu. CDC urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from flu.

GET YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY VACCINATED!

OCTOBER 1

DECEMBER 31

A yearly flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. Everyone 6 months or older should get an annual flu vaccine by the end of October, if possible, or as soon as possible after October.

Flu vaccines are offered in many locations, including doctor's offices, clinics, health departments, pharmacies and college health centers, as well as by many employers, and even in some schools.

Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family. Get Vaccinated. #FightFlu

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/vaccinations.htm>

TAKE EVERYDAY PREVENTIVE ACTIONS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF FLU VIRUSES!

Illustrations: Tissue box, person coughing into elbow, hands being washed with soap.

AVOID

Avoid close contact with sick people, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often (with soap and water), and clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with flu viruses.

If you become sick, limit contact with others as much as possible. Remember to cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw tissues in the trash after you use them. Stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine before resuming normal activities.)

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/prevention.htm>

TAKE ANTIVIRAL DRUGS IF YOUR DOCTOR PRESCRIBES THEM!

FLU ANTIVIRALS

Illustrations: Prescription pad with 'Rx' and signature, pill bottle, and pills.

If you get the flu, antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu illness.

Antiviral drugs can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick. They also can prevent serious flu complications, like pneumonia.

CDC recommends that antiviral drugs be used early to treat people who are very sick with the flu (for example, people who are in the hospital) and people who are sick with the flu and are at high risk of serious flu complications, either because of their age or because they have a high risk medical condition.

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/treatment.htm>

#FIGHT FLU



Photo by Yakobchuk Viacheslav / Shutterstock.com

under one are too young to receive the first regularly scheduled measles vaccine. This is a concern if they are travelling to an area affected by a measles outbreak. In such cases, U.S. authorities allow for the early administration of measles vaccine to provide

protection until the regular measles series can be started at 12 months of age. This early dose can be given as early as six months. However, this early dose is additional and does not replace the first shot in the

normal immunization schedule.

"Measles has been largely eliminated in the United States, with the exception of small, localized

Health and Wellness Fair

Get healthy, stay healthy by attending the Health and Wellness Fair at the Patch Fitness Center, Sept.15. beginning at 8 a.m. The fair includes the free 5K Dirndl Dash Fun Run to kick off fest season (come in your dirndls and lederhosen), an array of healthy snacks and raffle prizes.

See the USAG Stuttgart MWR webpage for more details.

outbreaks, so the MMR vaccine isn't normally administered until 12 months of age," said Coldren. "However, this leaves infants 6-12 months old at risk in areas where the virus is present, because the immunity that was passed on to them from their mothers is generally not effective beyond six months."

For more information on protecting your infant with an early dose of measles vaccine, or assistance reviewing family members' immunization status, please contact your Primary Care team.





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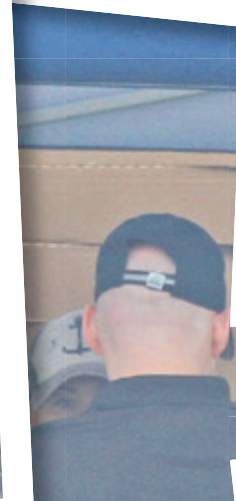
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Photos © Dirk Kittelberger

Hundreds of hardy community



Story and photos by John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

It didn't matter to the hundreds of participants that the USO's 5th annual "Sun & Fun Day," Saturday, Aug. 25, bracketed on Friday and Sunday with warm, sunny weather, dawned cold and rainy.

"We might not have brought the sun, but we definitely brought the fun," said Sarah Kemp, manager, USO Center-Stuttgart.

Featuring five different carnival games, some huge inflatable games such as a bungee run (where kids—and a few adults—ran forward as far as they could, seeking to make contact with the game attendants at the

end, only to be vigorously yanked backwards; being an inflatable, all of the reversals ended softly) and a giant Velcro soccer ball "dartboard" were very popular, plus garrison and service organizations. The American Red Cross was also present, distributing compact bandage kits and explaining its many services.

"It's great that they're out here just in case anyone needs anything from them," Kemp said.

The day offered more than enough fun despite being wet and chilly.

On stage, 10 acts in a talent show by kids under 18 ranged from juggler Alex Crider, who synchronized his act to the theme music from the

popular "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies, to Irish step dancer Anya Roeske, to garage band "Dysf(x)al" and solo singers Jordyn Kastelic, Zoe Perry, Mika Taylor and Ella Assouramou. Stephanie Kastelic danced the "Charleston," Nathan Harris strummed ukulele, and the skit "Iron Man and the New Suit" was acted by Soren and Gibson Cantu. The show warmed the hearts of the crowd and provided the day with a ray of sunshine.

On the field, the 551st Military Police Company put together an obstacle course for kids and let them experience what it's like to sit in the driver's seat of a police cruiser, complete with lights and siren; nearby,

the MPs and canines of the 100th Military Working Dog Detachment put on an impressive basic demonstration of obedience.

"In a basic demonstration of obedience, there are five phases to it, which are running bite, standoff, search & escort, search and re-attack and false run; the false run is when the person comes in and shows his ID and everything is fine, but the run & bite is when the suspect runs, and search and escort," explained Spec. Benjamin Allison, 100th MWD Det. "The crowd really liked it. For a small turnout (at the Sun & Fun Day), there were a lot of people watching to support us. That was really nice to see."

MWD "Sgt." Chango and Allison

y members have fun sans sun



3



4



7



8

1: USO Center-Stuttgart manager Sarah Kemp warms up the crowd detailing the events of the 5th Annual Sun & Fun Day.

2: On the right, the cotton candy line, and on the left, the snow cone line.

3: Pvt. 1st Class Jermaine Lewis, 100th MWD Det., gives Astor a swing before a big crowd gathered to see a basic demonstration of MWD obedience.

4: Kids participate in a watermelon-eating contest that was messy and very entertaining.

5: Alex Crider juggles for the first act of talent show.

6: MPs of the 551st help kids try out their equipment while the local teen band "Dysf(x)al" performs on stage.

7: Henry Langer, 2, finds his fun in a nice, dry pool of colorful plastic balls.

8: American Red Cross Staff and volunteers huddle for warmth between customers while adjacent Polish pottery samples move briskly.

were recently deployed and they were on shift earlier in the day, beginning at 4 a.m.

"Astor bites hard, but not as hard as Chango," said Allison, who played the bitten suspect. "I've been doing this a lot. Chango is older, but he also has a higher drive for this."

Through a little help from its sponsors, the USO held drawings for prizes such as tour trips, tickets to Europa Park and roundtrip airfare to the U.S. One of the sponsors was a hotel in Poland that was giving away bits of Polish pottery. Between a busy line of people seeking literature and Polish pottery samples, Maria Lindley visited with the manager of the Polish hotel while her husband

and children played carnival games; she'd previously stayed at that very hotel and was pleasantly surprised to find its manager on Husky Field.

Lindley and her family enjoyed the day despite the intermittent showers and low temperature. Regarding the inclement weather, the weather hadn't kept the Lindley family from coming.

"We are new to Stuttgart—so far, so good," Lindley said, shrugging at the gray skies. "Sometimes (the weather) wins. It's the USO's Sun & Fun event. The sun is gone, but the fun is still here."

And of course, there was great food (including a watermelon-eating contest that drew a large crowd).

As the event got into full swing, the lines for burgers, dogs and cotton candy grew long.

"There's no line for snow cones," a loudspeaker voice boomed across Husky Field.

The line for cotton candy was the longest, even though it had to be kept under an umbrella at points to prevent it from disintegration.

"Cotton candy is popular today," snow cones, not so much," Kemp said. "I want to thank DeCA (Defense Commissary Agency). They have been amazing. They helped us out with the cake and the delivery of the food. They've been absolutely great helping us pull off this event."

Ten Navy chief selects volunteered

to work the food tent.

"We also had some Marine Corps volunteers out here, too," Kemp said. "And all of our USO staff and volunteers. We have 67 volunteers today — 67! It is huge!"

At the end, despite a cold and steady downpour, the crowd held on for the drawings and were rewarded with an impromptu hip-hop dance by four well-synchronized Soldiers.

(Editor's note: The USO also stepped up to provide coffee and breakfast goodies in the early morning for those waiting line to sign up as walk-ins at the garrison's vehicle registration office, Aug. 24. See related story, p.2.)

NEWS BRIEFS

**Maultaschen with that wine?**

The annual Stuttgarter Weindorf (wine village), continues until Sept. 9 in downtown Stuttgart.

More than 500 wines from the Württemberg and Baden regions can be paired with traditional Swabian dishes. The fest offers patrons the chance to get to know downtown Stuttgart from the Marktplatz square to Kirchstrasse and the Schillerplatz square a little better and become familiar with a few of its most notable sights. Family Sunday is Sept. 9 from 12:30-5 p.m. with face painting, sporting and hands-on activities for children.

RB Commissary's new hours

The RB Commissary is now open 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with early bird shopping at 10 a.m. During weekends, the

commissary is open 10 a.m.-6 p.m., with early bird shopping at 9 a.m. It is closed on Mondays and Thursdays. For more information, call 420-7923 or 0711-819-7923.

Windows 10 security update

As of Aug. 20, all networked computers within the European and African theaters are receiving an automatic mandatory software upgrade to the latest version of Windows 10 (Fall Creators). No action is required from users – the update will be installed remotely by 119 at a rate of 1,000 computers per night and is scheduled to be completed by Oct. 1. Users can request the update themselves through the software center on their computers, but it will require 3.5 hours and several restarts to fully install. Users are advised to first read the full installation instructions on the 119 portal before choosing this option. In the unlikely event that the upgrade causes a disruption to your computer please call DSN 119 so the problem can be quickly addressed.

Frog Road still croaked

According to Böblingen County, K1055, the non-Auto-bahn link between Patch Barracks and Panzer Kaserne,

better known as "Frog Road," will remain closed for ongoing road work until sometime between Sept. 17-21. And did you know that the road sign caution images are actually of toads, not frogs, so it should really be called "Toad Road?"

CAP open house

The Civil Air Patrol-Stuttgart Flight will host an open house, 6:30 p.m., Sept. 11, in the lower level of Bldg. 2900, Panzer Kaserne (*Marine Forces-Europe building near the Panzer main gate*). The CAP is for community members aged 12 and up who are interested in aviation and service to the country. Call 0170 7027412 or visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com.

Apt app

Get the garrison mobile app, an informational mobile app including one-touch emergency contacts, quick appointment links, the bus schedule, things to do and more. Search "USAG Stuttgart" in Google Play or iTunes and download the free app.

Last MSF courses of the year

The garrison offers two required Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses this year for active duty personnel with. Sept. 6 is an intermediate classroom block of instruction on Panzer Kaserne; Sept. 27 is the Experienced Rider Course at Stuttgart Army Airfield. Soldiers may register online

via U.S. Army Traffic Safety Training Program Registration System at: <https://imc.army.mil/airs/Home.aspx> (registration requires a CAC.) All other service members should contact the USAG Stuttgart Safety Office at 430-5472. Civilians wishing training should contact a Rider Mentor Coach at 431-2198 or 07031-15-2198, or 430-2226 or 0711-680-2226. Additional information may be found at www.imcom-europe.army.mil and on the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart SharePoint portal, Installation Safety Office.

SCSC's Quartermania!

The next Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club social is Sept. 18 at the Patch Community Club. Bring your quarters and join SCSC in a game of Quartermania — a cross between an auction and a raffle. You can also dress in your favorite Greek attire



and compete in an optional best-dressed contest. Beverages, raffle tickets, ways and means merchandise, and fest table pre-orders will be available for purchase. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. RSVPs and payment must be received by September 10. Visit www.stuttgartspousesclub.org for payment details, and for upcoming event information, follow the SCSC on Facebook @ Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club-SCSC.

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GAWC Coffee & Fashion Show

Sip a welcome coffee with the German-American Women's Club Welcome Coffee & Fashion Show. The GAWC will celebrate 50 years of Pfenning Bazaar Fashion and it's free to all. Come see old friends and make new ones at the Swabian Special Events Center, Patch Barracks, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 20. Non-ID card-holders need to RSVP atrsvp-ger@gawc-stuttgart.org.

NAF knowledge

A Non-Appropriated Fund benefits briefing for all current regular NAF employees enrolled in NAF benefit programs and Appropriated Fund employees who retained their NAF retirement and 401(k) benefits will take place in the Patch Community Club, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Sept. 20. The presentation will include current updates on AETNA International Medical Benefits, Rlife insurance and portability.

Juice box painting

The garrison's Exceptional Family Member Program will hold a series of three "Painting and Juice Boxes" evenings (like adult painting and wine classes, only for kids) in the Panzer Chapel classroom, beginning at 6 p.m., Sept. 20. The other two nights are Oct. 11 and Nov. 1. This is a free family activity for EFMP families in which children will create a painting masterpiece with an experienced art instructor. Snacks will be served and all supplies are included. Call 431-3362/07031-15-3362 to register for one or more classes.

Evacuation and truck pull

The Directorate of Emergency Services - Fire Department will hold the next evacuation coordinator training at 1:30 p.m., Sept. 27, in the "Firehouse" (Bldg. # 3180 (Waldburgstraße 104, 71032 Böblingen, near Panzer Kaserne). These classes are mandatory in accordance with AR 420-1. Classes are held the last Thursday of every month. Please pre-register. Call 431-3830 or 431-3857.

Coming up Oct. 11, in conjunction Fire Prevention Week, AFFES is sponsoring a Fire Truck Pull at the Patch Express. Fire safety material will be available for kids, and there will be live fire and rescue demos carried out from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Stick around

The U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart on Patch Barracks will conduct its annual pandemic influenza infectious disease vaccination exercise, Oct. 1-4 for assigned service members. The exercise simultaneously helps the Army prepare for a pandemic event while inoculating military personal with the annual flu shot. Locations are the Panzer and

Patch fitness centers, and the Kelley Theatre. Note, vaccinations during the exercise are for military personnel only; civilian personnel will be vaccinated at a later date.

Volunteers needed for retirees

Volunteers are needed to run the Retiree Services Office and to be on the retiree council. Call 431-2010 or 07031-15-2010.

Have a late (Community) Club sandwich

You've just left the movie theater and the popcorn didn't fill you up. Solution? The Patch Community Club now offers late afternoon and evening food options such as burgers, chicken, appetizers and more. The days and hours of food service include: Thursdays 4-10 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 4 p.m. to midnight. If you're looking for that midnight snack, head on over to the club.

New to the garrison?

Central Processing now has a new CAC-only link for unit/command sponsors to register incoming

personnel. To use the system, the sponsor must login through the garrison SharePoint using a CAC. For information on becoming a sponsor or sponsor training for service members or spouses, call 431-3362 or 07031-15-3362.

Be a BOSS

The Stuttgart military community's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers meets at 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. on the first (Patch Arts & Crafts Center) and third (HHC USAG Stuttgart on Panzer Kaserne, next to the Panzer Commissary) Wednesdays of the month. Check with your unit BOSS representative or call 430-4061 or 431-2083 for details.

Online appointments

Community members can now schedule appointments online for vehicle registration or inspection, the hospital tour and host nation orientation tour, with more services to be added in the near future. A CAC isn't necessary to access it. Users may also access the site through the "Appointments" section of the USAG Stuttgart mobile app. Once customers have selected their appointments, the scheduling site allows them the option to create an account that will help them track multiple appointments. Customers will receive immediate email notifications to confirm appointments upon booking with additional details about the appointment, as well as the option to cancel or reschedule up to 24 hours in advance. Visit www.stuttgartcitizen.com/appointments or use the app.



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Stuttgart RAD coming in October

By USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Retirees, prepare to be appreciated at the garrison's annual Retiree Appreciation Day, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 25, at the Swabian Special Events Center, Patch Barracks.

The day recognizes those who served and their family members who continue contributing to the country and the Stuttgart military community. Most attendees are retirees who return year after year to meet up with old service buddies, swap war stories and catch up on each other's lives. First time attendees meet new friends and generally find an event worthy of repeat attendance year after year. RAD provides retiree support services and information to these deserving individuals. The event is free and open to military retirees of all branches, widows or widowers and other surviving family members.

This year's RAD promises to be as heartwarming and service-friendly as in years past. The support services participating hope to see their many retired friends and family members enjoying the celebration for their many sacrifices.

The annual event features guest

speakers; medical services will include flu shots and other vaccinations, diet counseling, eye exams, medical screening, blood-pressure screening, blood-sugar testing, and pharmacy information. Ophthalmology services may also



Photo by John Reese,

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Dental specialists Sgt. Amos Ngilla (back) and Spc. Amanda Eubanks sign up retirees for checkups at the Panzer Dental Clinic as part of the RAD, Oct. 19, 2017.

be offered, depending on personnel availability. Dental services will provide retirees only with oral hygiene information and exams (the Dental Clinic will provide services from their permanent location in Bldg. 2996 on Panzer Kaserne).

Providers from more than 20 agencies will be present to offer literature and answer questions. As of press time, representatives of the following services participating include the Religious Services Office; Customs; American Red Cross; Army Community Service; passport office; Installation Access Control System (Note: IACS-ID card processing and registration in the IACS will be available on Panzer Kaserne, Bldg. 2915, across the parking lot from the main Exchange); National Archives and Records Administration; Stuttgart Law Center; local service organizations and associations; USO; Army-Air Force Exchange Service; Veterans of Foreign Wars; USAA; Defense Commissary Agency; and Service Credit Union. Representatives for Social Security Administration and Veterans Administration are also expected to be in attendance.

Door prizes may be provided by

sponsors, including DeCA, AAFES and others.

Doors open at 8 a.m. for registration. Free coffee and pastries are available from 8-9 a.m., then at 9 a.m. following the opening ceremony, manned informational displays and free medical screenings will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with a free buffet at lunch time.

For gate access questions, participants should call or visit Installation Access Control System (IACS) with any questions or concerns in Bldg. 2915, Panzer Kaserne, 07031-15-2872/2889.

Plan to attend RAD

Retirees who wish to take advantage of the many services available within the Stuttgart military community are asked to RSVP no later than Oct. 10. Call 07031-15-2010.

In addition to attending RAD, retirees are asked to volunteer to serve in the Retiree Services Office and on the Retiree Council. The office has been in need of volunteers for about a year. Call 431-3512 on Wednesdays.

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The right way to put your feedback on ICE

By Plans, Analysis and Integration
Division of the USAG Stuttgart S-3/5/7

Do you want to provide feedback on garrison services?

Stuttgart military community members can make a positive comment about an employee or service function, a negative experience the garrison command team should know about to correct or a suggestion / recommendations on improvements we can make to better integrate services across the community installations we live and work: Panzer Kaserne, Patch Barracks, Kelley Barracks, Robinson Barracks and Stuttgart Army Air Field.

When dealing with a problem, first try to discuss your issue with a representative of that office in person, over the phone or via email. If that doesn't work, submit an Interactive Customer Evaluation comment. ICE service provider managers will receive your comments, and will provide a response to the comments.

The ICE system is your online customer feedback mechanism. Submitting ICE comments is an effective and efficient way for community members to give feedback.

All ICE comment both positive and negative are important because it formally puts your feedback on record and sends the signal to leadership that you're serious about pursuing an issue. The garrison uses the ICE system as a tool for listening to the voice of the customer and to determine customer satisfaction and engagement.

When used effectively, ICE has a uniquely democratic effect within the military in that makes the garrison and its service providers responsive to the will of the community. When drafting an ICE comment, remember the Army acronym SMART; write comments, suggestions, and opportunities for improvement that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound. Be specific and avoid writing angry, nasty or threatening comments. Describe the situation with as much detail as possible. Explain exactly what you want done and include names, times, dates and locations — all information the ICE service provider managers can use to substantiate your concerns to provide solutions to the issue.

ICE comment cards can be left

anonymously. But you have the option to provide your name and contact information and request a response from management. This is particularly useful to you because it's the gateway to one-on-one engagement with those decision-

makers who can turn your comments into results. Each ICE service provider manager associated with a comment card is responsible for

reviewing every submission received and responding within three business days. ICE comments with no name or contact information, though they are shared with the command team for review, are only added to reports which track trends within the organization. There is no retribution for those who submit a negative ICE comment.

All comments are confidential, too, said Rosalinda Davis, USAG Stuttgart ICE program manager, S-3/5/7.

"Comment card information is released to the ICE manager within that directorate and the garrison command team for awareness and tracking trends to improve customer services within the garrison footprint," Davis said.

Every comment or suggestion is also read by the garrison commander, senior enlisted adviser and deputy to the garrison commander. The command uses ICE comments to gauge the community's efforts to continuously improve its services to the Stuttgart military community.

Leave positive feedback, too. The purpose of the ICE system is to enable DOD organizations to collect feedback to improve services, according to the DOD's ICE policy.

"Positive feedback reinforces what we are doing well and what we should continue," Davis said. "It also motivates an employee to receive positive feedback about how they are doing."

Davis suggests leaving positive comments about actions, service or programs, no matter how small.

ICE comments, positive or negative can reflect a trend, perhaps the greatest mover and voice of change. A spike in comments about a particular service, for example, may provide the justification for more funding or resources. Similarly, a trend in positive comments toward a service may strengthen its foothold in the community and prevent it from downsizing.





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Children work together during a resiliency building exercise.

Transitions matter! Students get newcomers orientation

Story and photo by Brian Pappas
School Liaison Officer USAG Stuttgart

Military-connected children experience multiple moves, changing schools on average between six to nine times over the course of their school years.

When families arrive in Stuttgart, adults attend a host nation orientation. Teens may attend their own version: the Stuttgart Youth Newcomers Orientation. Recently, elementary-age students had Stuttgart's first ever School Age Newcomer Orientation.

The garrison's School Liaison Office, in collaboration with the four Stuttgart CYS School Age Centers, facilitated a two-hour orientation with activities that provided children

an opportunity to get to know each other, learn about German language and culture, and gain an understanding of the role of resilience in building connections with others and confidence in themselves and their unique abilities. Activities included a team competition to determine the top ten German foods and kid-centered destinations, an interactive read-along of "Extra Yarn" by Mac Barnett and blindfolded balloon races.

These activities helped the children to consider how leveraging their own knowledge, skills and talents, as well as effectively communicating with their peers, can help them to bring the best of themselves to this upcoming school year.

School year 2018-2019 now in session



Top photo by John Reese, bottom photos by Bardia Khajenoori, USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs
DES deputy police chief Jacob White, right, and Staff Sgt. Scott Frantz greet children with high-fives as they enter Patch Elementary School, Aug. 27.



Stuttgart High students catch up with friends outside the school's main entrance on the first day of the new academic year. More than 200 freshmen filled the auditorium of Stuttgart High to hear a series of administrators offer information and encouragement on their first day at a new school.



Eme Howard captures her daughters Lily (left) and Pearl on the first day of school at Stuttgart Elementary; Lily began second grade while Pearl entered the first grade.

Youth Program takes center stage ahead of 2018-2019 theater season

Story and photo by Moneé Luckey
Volunteer, USAG Stuttgart

The Stuttgart Theatre Center's Summer Youth Program on Kelley Barracks created a world of creativity, imagination and courage for aspiring thespians. The five-day workshop, held Aug. 13-17, provided children ages 7-10 and youth 11-15 with theatrical training from experienced teachers.

Designed to teach more than just acting, the children learned concentrating techniques, character development, storytelling and improv. The youth delved into more in-depth training to include monologues, growing as actors, the audition process and how to get cast.

The children learned basic techniques through performance and fun. In an exercise, they paired with another participant to mimic each other as if they were looking into a mirror.



After practicing a range of emotions in dress rehearsal, the groups retake the stage to perform in front of their peers.

This warm-up technique taught them to focus as actors, observe and how to get into character.

Many participants shared how much they enjoyed portraying someone else and creating their own lines for the improv session. Also, there were a few that experienced a bit of stage fright.

"The games and improv are really

fun, but I was nervous the whole time," said 10-year-old Gabriella Quilon.

The program was filled with mostly first-time attendees, and they intend to return next summer to refine their skills. In a short period of time, the children have already experienced growth and a boost in their confidence.

"I love how I can really see what I can do here. I want to come back," said 9-year-old Mairead Tierney. "It's still early in the acting, but I can see what all of my friends can do. Although I get nervous, I have a lot more confidence because of the program," added Quilon.

Quilon was joined by her older sister attending the youth session. They weren't the only siblings making it a family affair.

"We see lots of brothers and sisters or sisters in the program," said summer youth coordinator and "Madagascar: A Musical Adventure Jr." co-director Sarah Watson. "It's very interesting.

Although the age groups are split, you can see how they're almost the same-but also very different."

The aspiring actors will get an opportunity to put their skills to the test for the upcoming 2018-2019 theatre season. "Madagascar" will feature only youth ages 7-18.

"Madagascar is going to be fun! It's a lot of dancing and singing with a huge cast featuring about 30 kids in animal costumes," Watson said "They're going to learn not only about how those animals act, but how people acting as animals act."

The holiday classic, "A Christmas Carol," begins auditions for children and youth Oct. 22-24. The season also includes "Avenue Q: The Musical," "Witness for the Prosecution," and "Mamma Mia."

For more information about the upcoming theatre season, visit stuttgart.armymwr.com.



A highlight of the camping trip was paddling into a cove where gasses from volcanic activity could be seen bubbling up from fissures below.

Stuttgart Scouts attend summer camp in Italian volcano

Story and photo by Scoutmaster Pete Field
Troop 113, Robinson Barracks

Boy Scouts in Europe often face logistical challenges that their counterparts in the States don't, yet they also get the chance to experience some amazing opportunities for adventure. Troop 113 of Robinson Barracks had such an opportunity when they attended Camp Volcano, a BSA Summer Camp held at the Carney Park facility within the extinct Mount Guaro volcano, approximately 14 miles west of Naples.

Troop 113 made the trip of more than 800 miles from Stuttgart to Camp Volcano to spend the week of July 22 - 28 with approximately 300 Boy Scouts from all over Europe. The camp is run by the Transatlantic Council of Boy Scouts of America, and staffed by Scout adults and youth volunteers from many places. Scout troops from France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy participated in a week of merit badge classes, camping, leadership and life skills training, and Scouting fellowship.

A relatively junior group of Scouts, Troop 113, focused on an aggressive schedule for merit badges and advancement. Their efforts resulted in the six Scouts earning a total of 26 merit badges, 19 of which are specifically required to obtain the rank of Eagle, the highest rank possible for a Scout. Merit badges earned included the swimming, lifesaving, first-aid, emergency preparedness, wilderness survival, and camping merit badges, all of which required hours of class participation and skills demonstrations.

Always looking for unique challenges

and adventures, Troop 113 took the opportunity to participate in a kayaking adventure traveling along the coast of Naples. The Scouts learned about the history of the area and the Roman ruins ashore visible from the sea, as well as taking a dip in the beautiful, warm waters of the Mediterranean. A highlight was paddling into a cove where gasses from volcanic activity could be seen bubbling up from fissures below.

The week concluded on Friday night with an excellent closing campfire put on by the camp staff. Troop 113 represented Stuttgart well, beating all of the other troops for top honors, and was awarded the coveted Honor Patrol Award. This award

is presented to the troop that accumulates the most points during the week from events, including uniform presentation and appearance, participation in camp-wide special events, daily campsite inspections, and overall Scouting spirit.

Adding to the magic of the evening, July 22 was the night of the blood moon eclipse, the longest lunar eclipse of the 21st Century.

"It's a once in a lifetime experience to win the Honor Patrol Award under a blood moon eclipse inside an Italian volcano!" said 16-year-old Drake Field, senior patrol leader.

When asked about their thoughts on camp, it was clear the Scouts understood the magic of the experience.

Chalk this one up as another successful adventure for Troop 113.

(Editor's note: In addition to being the scoutmaster for Troop 113, Lt. Cdr. Pete Field is a strategic resources branch chief with U.S. European Command.)

"It was an unforgettable experience to camp in a volcano during an eclipse of a blood moon."

13-year-old Scout Dan Hinkel

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Djibouti children receive 'Pen in a Box' school supplies

Story and photo by Mika Taylor
American Red Cross Youth Club

A shipment containing hundreds of school supplies collected by the Stuttgart American Red Cross Youth Club was recently sent to Djibouti schools in need.

That might sound like a small effort, but in this way, team leaders Caitlin Shekleton and Aidan Wright reinforced the Djiboutian children's fundamental right to education. Millions of students around the world lack the necessary school supplies for their school year. Although in many cases financial support is provided by the government for school itself, students and their families must carry the burden of supplies on their own. To combat this issue, recent high school graduate Shekleton and current senior Wright led a series of donations through the American Red Cross to the charity "Pen in a Box." To reach more children, this charity organization works hard to be cost-effective in its transportation to multiple countries, relying on local individuals, non-profit and religious organizations in the area that are willing to deliver the supplies to the people in need. Currently, Pen in a Box branches can be found in 34 schools.

Shekleton picked up the idea of bringing Pen in a Box to Stuttgart High School after hearing about it through a summer program at Yale. She then led the Pen in the Box project during the 2016-2017 school year before passing it off to the current ARC Youth Club president Aidan Wright. As leaders of the Youth Club, Wright and Shekleton put meticulous effort into the workings of their project. They contacted all of the schools in the garrison and left donation boxes at the Red Cross office. The donations themselves had a delivery deadline of July 12.

Post-collection, three days were spent during the summer with the ARC Youth Club volunteers



Boxes of donated school supplies are quality-control checked at the ARC Stuttgart Station before being shipped for use by children in Djibouti.

organizing, quality checking and packing what accumulated to 16 classroom sets.

An additional day was spent mailing those boxes to the ARC station located at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. From there the supplies that were collected across the US military bases in the Stuttgart area were distributed to multiple schools in multiple villages in Djibouti.

"I personally think this is an incredibly important project because when someone donates a pen, it's not just a pen to the kid who sees it," Wright said. "It's a means to achieve an education, and it's the resulting joy and happiness that children receive when they get an education. Education is a right for all children and this project helps see that kids in need can achieve what is their right."

Wright plans to continue the project into the future with help from this year's board members Emma Boyer, Rachael Sanborn, Olivia Schmitz, and Keona Kaneshiro.

Be on the lookout for your chance to help out!

(Editor's note: In addition to writing this article, SHS senior and Girl Scout Ambassador Mika Taylor is also an ARC Youth Club board member.)

Red Cross/ASBP blood drive coming

American Red Cross–Stuttgart Station
News Release

The Armed Services Blood Program and the American Red Cross–Stuttgart Station are teaming up again for another Stuttgart military community blood drive, Oct. 23 (Patch Community Center, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.) and Oct. 24 (Panzer Fitness Center, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.).

The ASBP is a tri-service Department of Defense agency that provides lifesaving blood products to service members and their families worldwide. Blood is shipped weekly into theater to care for our injured troops. In addition, blood is needed daily in our military hospitals for surgeries, premature births, accidents, burns and cancer treatments.

Who can donate?

Anyone meeting the basic criteria may donate to the ASBP.

Donors must be at least 18, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be free of cold/flu symptoms for at least three days; they must wait four weeks after an MMR or Varicella vaccination. Smallpox must wait at least three weeks.

Most medications are acceptable, including aspirin, blood pressure or cholesterol medications, birth control, antidepressants, pain medications, etc. If you are taking antibiotics for an infection you must wait 72 hours after your last dose. For specific questions please call us at 590-5958 or 063 71 94645885

Tattoos are acceptable if received in the following states: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CO, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MO, MS, MT, NE, NJ, NC, OH, RI, SC, TN, TX, VT, WA, WV, WI. Others must wait 12 months. Tattoos overseas are a 12-month wait.

Donors who have been to Iraq, Afghanistan, Djibouti and Niger must wait one year. Kuwait and Qatar are OK. Donors who were south of Seoul, Korea may donate



Photos by John Reese, USAG Stuttgart
Public Affairs

The 2017 Red Cross/ASBP blood drive, Nov. 15, exceeded expectations in the number of pints collected from the Stuttgart military community.

immediately, but donors who traveled north of Seoul must wait 24 months, unless it was less than a 24 hour trip.

All donors who were in the UK for more than three months from 1980-1996 are ineligible. Military affiliated donors who were stationed in Germany, Belgium, or the Netherlands between 1980-1990 for more than six months are ineligible. Those stationed in the rest of Europe between 1980 and 1996 for longer than 6 months are ineligible. Donors who traveled to certain countries in Europe between 1980 and present for longer than five years are ineligible. Any time spent in the U.K. after 1996 does not count toward five years in Europe.

Have questions regarding travel or health history?

Contact the Donor Center at 590-5885 or 06371-9464-5885, or send a Facebook message to www.facebook.com/ASBBCEUR.

Stuttgart USO volunteers recognized, travel offered

Congratulations to the Summer Volunteer of the Quarter, Terran Jacobs. In her short six months at USO Stuttgart, Jacobs volunteered for the USO's Spring Eggstravaganza, National Grilled



Cheese Day, Adventure Race, Stuff Your Face, SHARP Burger Burn, Mother's Day and National German Chocolate Cake Day. She also took a leadership position for National Walking Day, the United Through Reading program and Christmas in July. Her unflappably positive

spirit, can-do attitude, and desire to do more help USO Stuttgart to continually be its best. Read more about Jacobs at <https://stuttgart.uso.org/stories/45>.

Tori Bogue was recognized as the July 2018 Volunteer of the Month. Bogue volunteered for events on every installation in the garrison footprint since she started in May, including carving a watermelon into a hedgehog today for National Watermelon Day. Her service to the Stuttgart military community To read more about her, visit the USO-Stuttgart website at <https://stuttgart.uso.org/stories/46>.

Doh! Come to the USO Center beginning at 8 a.m., Sept. 14, for National Play-Doh Day. Demonstrate just how creative you are. There will be Play-Doh to play with until 6 p.m. and colorful snacks will be served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Travel with USO

The USO Stuttgart offers the following upcoming tours:

Scotland – The Highlands Departs Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 5 a.m. Returns Monday, Oct. 8 at 11 p.m. For more information or to book your trip visit Interra Reisen at: <https://www.interra-reisen.de/index.php/scotland/scotland-highlands>.

Verdun – The Great War Departs

Saturday, Oct. 27 at 5 a.m. Returns Sunday, Oct. 28 at 10 p.m. For more information or to book your trip visit Interra Reisen at: <https://www.interra-reisen.de/index.php/france/verdun>.

Have you signed up to volunteer with the USO yet? To become a volunteer, register at www.volunteers.uso.org to begin the volunteer onboarding process, then attend an orientation to learn more about how to become part of the USO family.

Visit the USO Center on Panzer Kaserne, located on the 3rd floor of Bldg. 2915, and open weekdays 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Eid al-Adha and Islamic New Year

By John Reese
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

Of two Islamic holidays (Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha) observed around the world, the "Feast of the Sacrifice" or Eid al-Adha took place Aug. 21, 2018. Muslims travel to Makkah (Mecca) during this month to fulfill one of the five pillars of Islam "Hajj" before partaking into the festivities. The feast (sometimes referred to as a festival) commemorates the Old Testament story of Ibrahim (Abraham) offering to sacrifice his son; instead, a lamb was sacrificed and shared in three parts: the needy, relatives and friends, and family. In the Quran, the story is sura 37 (As-Saaffat), ayat 100-112; in the Bible, it's in the first book of Moses, Genesis 22; in the Tora, the story is called "Akedah," or the Binding of Isaac.

Eid can translate to "solemn festival" or "celebration." In Germany, Eid al-Adha is called Opferfest or, by Germany's large Turkish population, Kurban Bayrami. The fest has many other different names worldwide.

Eid al-Adha prayers must be performed at a mosque or designated ground in congregation after the sun completely rises but before the noon prayers, barring any natural disaster that would prevent it. Following the service, visits, greetings and gifts are exchanged in a tradition called Eid Mubarak (blessed celebration). It is also a day of remembrance to visit cemeteries. Muslims traditionally wear

their finest clothing during Eid al-Adha.

In addition to sharing the halal meat of the sacrifice three ways, special cookies and other sweets are made and shared.

New Year

The following month after the Festival of the Sacrifice, the Islamic calendar celebrates Ra's al-Sanah al-Hijriyahi, or New Year, Sept. 11, 2018. Like many calendars dating back to antiquity, Ra's al-Sanah al-Hijriyahi falls on a different day on contemporary calendars.

The first month of the Islamic New Year is called Muharram. It's considered one of the holy months on the Islamic calendar.

Being the first month of the Islamic New Year, Muharram holds great importance in Islam. It is one of the four holy months in the Islamic calendar. Muharram translates to "forbidden," as in acts of war are forbidden. The ninth and tenth or tenth and eleventh days of Muharram are fasting days to commemorate the freedom of Jews from the Pharaoh, although fasting on these days was highly encouraged but optional.

As with the western calendar, Ra's al-Sanah al-Hijriyahi is a time for New Year's resolutions for self-improvement and performing good deeds for others.

(Editor's note: Navy Muslim Ch. (Cdr.) Abuhena M. Saifulislam, U.S. Africa Command, contributed to this article.)

Stuttgart Jewish community celebrates major holidays

By Erick Posner
Stuttgart Jewish Community Lay Person

Moving to Stuttgart can be challenging for garrison community members, and even more challenging for those of the Jewish faith, in a country that has risen out of the ashes of the Nazi regime horrors. Today, Stuttgart boasts a thriving modern and growing Jewish community, including the USAG Stuttgart Jewish Community (SJC).

SJC serves the Stuttgart military community by providing Jewish-related support, such as Judaica items. The SJC has a Sunday school, bi-monthly Shabbat services, and observes countless Jewish holiday celebrations.

This September includes four of the Judaism's most important holidays: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah.

Beginning on the sundown on Sept. 9, Rosh Hashanah marks the start of the new Jewish year and a period of self-reflection and repentance. Jewish people celebrate the holiday with the blowing of the Shofar (ram's horn). Apples dipped in honey, symbolizing a sweet new year, are the traditional way to enjoy Rosh Hashanah.

The period of introspection and atonement ends on Yom Kippur known as "The Day of Atonement," the holiest day in Judaism. This year, it begins on the evening of Sept. 18. Jews fast for 24 hours, spending the day in synagogue to atone and ask forgiveness for sins committed against people and God.

After the High Holidays, Sukkot is observed for a week, Sept. 23-30 this year, to commemorate the sheltering of the Israelites in the Wilderness. Observances include the construction of

flimsy temporary shelter covered with foliage called Sukkah.

Simchat Torah is the last major Jewish holiday. It occurs immediately after Sukkot and celebrates the conclusion of annual cycle of Torah readings and the beginning of the new cycle. Jewish people mark this moment by singing and dancing. They even unroll the entire Torah. It begins on the eve of Oct. 1.

This year's Simchat Torah celebration is special for the USAG Stuttgart because the SJC is working on modernizing the Jewish chapel with a new Ark under construction to house the Torah scroll. SJC invites the community to join in the unveiling of the new Ark and the transfer of the Torah during Simchat Torah service. The service will begin at 6 p.m., 1 Oct. 1, at Panzer Chapel. An ice cream social will occur afterward. Everyone are welcome. This is your chance to see the Torah scroll, and sing and dance with us!

L'Shana Tov! (Happy New Year!)

For information and to RSVP, please email SJC at info@stuttgartjewishcommunity.com

Special Jewish Simchat Torah Service for Everyone:

The USAG Stuttgart Religious Support Office and the USAG Stuttgart Jewish Community (SJC) fondly invite the USAG Community to join the SJC for the unveiling of new Ark where the Torah will be housed in and Simchat Torah service. The event will take place at Panzer Chapel from 6 to 7:15 p.m., Oct. 1. An ice cream and dessert social will be provided immediately after the service. Everyone is welcome. For more information and to RSVP, please contact SJC at info@stuttgartjewishcommunity.com

Chag Sameach! (Happy Holidays!)

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We would love to hear from you. Please contact us. We will be happy to meet you and enjoy some time of fellowship.

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Stuttgart High School Fall Sports Schedule

by Stuttgart High School

Tennis

Sept. 8: at Ramstein
Sept. 15: at Vilseck
Sept. 22: Home vs. Vicenza
Sept. 29: Home vs. Kaiserslautern
Oct. 12: Home vs. Shape
Oct. 20: at Hohenfels
Oct. 25-27: European championships at Wiesbaden

Football

Sept. 8: Home vs. Vilseck
Sept. 15: at Ramstein
Sept. 22: at Lakenheath
Sept. 29: Home vs. Wiesbaden
Oct. 13: Homecoming vs. Kaiserslautern
Oct. 20: at Vilseck
Nov. 3: European championships

Cross Country

Sept. 8: Local Races
Sept. 15: Home

Sept. 22: Home
Sept. 29: at Wiesbaden
Oct. 13: Homecoming
Oct. 20: at Wiesbaden
Oct. 27: European championship at Baumholder

Volleyball

Sept. 8: Home
Sept. 15: at Wiesbaden
Sept. 22: Home
Sept. 29: K-Town
Oct. 13: Homecoming
Oct. 20: Lakenheath
Oct. 27: Home
Nov. 1-3: European championships at Kaiserslautern

(Editor's note: Coaches, athletes, friends and family are encouraged to send the garrison Public Affairs Office photos of the above SHS sporting events. Photos should be high resolution and include identification of players, with a description the action.)



Special Forces vs Special Operations

Photo by George Hagos
 USAG Stuttgart FMWR Sports

to advance to the IMCOM-E tournament in Wiesbaden, Sept. 21-23.

Players reacted as the ball crosses the pitch toward the goal during a unit-level FMWR intramural soccer match held at the Panzer Fitness Center complex, Aug. 23. The 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (white uniforms) beat Special Operations Command-Africa, 3-1.

There are six teams in the local intermural team. The top two teams for the Stuttgart tournament qualify

Bowlers of the Galaxy

Photos by Larry Reilly
 USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs

The Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center, Panzer Kaserne, hosted two events in August aimed at young bowlers.

"It was great success," said Khalid Waqqas, assistant manager at the Galaxy. "We saw a lot of participation by community, and they really enjoyed the camp."

The camp took place Aug. 13-17.



The garrison's Exceptional Family Member Program hosted a "Back to School Bowling" to celebrate the new school year with other families in the EFMP community, Aug. 21. Participating children received a school supply goodie bag.

Below, Jim Einhorn, Galaxy crewmember and bowling pro, left, teaches children how about strikes, spares, splits and spin to become better bowlers at a youth bowling camp.



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