



**Reader feedback**  
"I turn off the lights when I'm not using them and I recycle," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Klene. See page 2 for more feedback.



**Transformation insight**  
Host nation tours help in community relations effort. See page 7.



**German legends**  
A treasure trove of day trips offers insight into German medieval history and mythology. See page 16.

# Herald Union

Vol. XV, No. 1

Wiesbaden: Your home in Germany

Oct. 11, 2012



## Orientation DoDDS educators get a taste of military life

**Story and photos by Wendy Brown**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

David Craig, a math and physics teacher at Wiesbaden High School, was glad to tour Clay Kaserne for several reasons. The foremost was that he got to see a Blackhawk

helicopter up close. He and his students were building helicopter models to study how they work, and seeing the helicopter up close would help him explain their dynamics better. Craig was one of more than 65 educators from  
**See Military life on page 4**



Photo by Karl Weisel

Maj. Gen. James C. Boozer, deputy commander of U.S. Army Europe, joins Wiesbaden Middle School seventh-graders for a run Oct. 1 to launch Fueling the Future in Wiesbaden.

## Fueling the Future

USAREUR, middle school team up to launch nutrition, fitness program

**By Karl Weisel**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

It's a simple concept — start the day off right and good things will follow.

That's what U.S. Army Europe leaders are sharing with school children throughout Europe in an effort to encourage healthier lifestyles.

"I want to talk to you about Fueling the Future," said Maj.

Gen. James C. Boozer, USAREUR deputy commander, to a roomful of Wiesbaden Middle School seventh-graders during the launch of the

**See Fueling the Future on page 3**



**Dr. Frankie Nielsen, a Wiesbaden Middle School counselor, gets instructions from Staff Sgt. Jason White in the Engagement Skills Trainer during a tour of Clay Kaserne for American and German educators Sept. 20.**

## Chief explains process for obtaining housing

**By Wendy Brown**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Hundreds of people are moving into U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden from the Heidelberg and Mannheim garrisons. Recently the Housing Office saw 136 customers in one day who required on-post housing services, and more than 50 who required off-post housing services, said Don Meyer, chief of housing for U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden.

In order to inform people about the housing situation, Meyer addressed the following series of questions.

**Why is there vacant housing in U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden when so many people need housing?**

When people drive through our housing areas it appears that there is plenty of vacant housing available for immediate assignment; however, this is not the case. Some of our housing is vacant because we are getting it ready for a major construction projects. There are several buildings that we are getting ready for construction projects in Aukamm Housing, for instance. Construction crews will do a complete renovation of 11 buildings installing new kitchens, flooring, lighting and bathrooms. All 11 building must be emptied and turned over to the contractor at the start of the project. Therefore, those units not currently being worked on appear to be vacant

**See Housing on page 6**



Photo by Wendy Brown

**A family moves into Newman Village.**

## Feedback: *What do you do to save energy?*



**Sgt. 1st Class Edwin Laud-erbeck**  
U.S. Army Garrison  
Wiesbaden Equal  
Opportunity adviser

“I think energy conservation is very important. I turn off everything when I leave — because it saves the planet and also saves me money.”



**Pvt. 2 Tomeka Dixon**  
Company B, 2nd Military  
Intelligence Battalion

“When I leave I turn off my power and my lights. I don’t have a car, so if I want to get there, I’m walking.”



**Staff Sgt. Victor Hamilton**  
Directorate of Emergency  
Services

“I make sure the lights are off, the windows are closed and the heat is turned off when not needed. I also make sure that timer lights are set to go off in a timely manner.”



**Lon Blair**  
AFN Wiesbaden station  
manager

“I’m a fanatic for turning off lights. I do it in the office and at home. I’m always turning faucets off as well.”



**Carson Hamrick**  
Family member, age 9

“You should turn off the lights when you leave the room. Also turn off the water.”

## Ask the commander:

### Have a quality-of-life question or comment?

*Editor’s note: Have something you’d like to share with the commander? Please visit the garrison’s Facebook, Twitter or Interactive Customer Evaluation pages (www.wiesbaden.army.mil) or send an email to the Public Affairs Office (usagwiesbadenpao@eur.army.mil).*



**Col. David Carstens,**  
U.S. Army Gar-  
rison Wiesbaden  
commander

*ers’ orientation. I am proud of our school liaison officer and the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security for planning and executing this great event. ... and thank you for what you do to prepare our nation’s youth for the future.*

compared to the main issue there is with these open gates. In times like these, where Americans are targeted more than ever all over the world, I think it is irresponsible and frustrating for the residents here to live in a housing area that is so accessible for everybody. I understand there are issues with the city of Wiesbaden regarding the roads going through Aukamm, but as a spouse whose husband is deployed to Afghanistan I should be able to feel the Army makes it a priority that families feel safe and protected as well as possible. I cannot feel safe if my only protection is by MPs and Polizei driving through the housing areas every once in a while.

*Response: P.G. I can assure you that we take your concerns very seriously and have continued to work very closely with the host nation to do everything we can to ensure the safety of all members of the Wiesbaden community — Germans and Americans. Statistics show that the rate of crime in our housing areas, whether gated or not, is no higher than the surrounding German neighborhoods and is in fact considerably lower than many areas in the United States. As always I can’t stress enough that while our U.S. military and host nation law enforcement personnel do an admirable job of watching out for our service members and families — and responding when needed — we rely on the active participation of those who live and work in the Wiesbaden military community to keep a watchful eye and to report anything out of the ordinary. I would ask that if you, or any of your neighbors, see anything suspicious to report it immediately to the Military Police at mil 337-5096/5097 or civ (0611) 5096/5097.*

### Lost and found

**Melinda H. asked:** My 10-year-old son found a piece of jewelry near Army Lodging. What is the process for a lost and found?

*Response: Melinda, thanks to you and your son for being good citizens. Please take it to the Military Police Station on Clay Kaserne where it will be inventoried and held for return to the rightful owner. The MP Station is located just inside the Main Gate on Clay Kaserne.*

### Teachers’ orientation

**Donald S. commented:** I wanted to compliment the garrison for the outstanding and informative event held Sept. 26 for Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe teachers. The orientation was very well organized, the initial briefing provided information classroom teachers never get to hear and the personnel manning the weapons simulator, flight line and Mission Command Center were all quite knowledgeable, personable and patient with our questions. This event was nothing less than a best practice example for other garrisons and bases.

*Response: Donald, I appreciate your taking the time to share your positive comments about the recent teach-*

### Halloween happenings

**Jasmin S. wondered:** What is going on in Wiesbaden on Halloween?

*Response: Jasmin, there are a host of Halloween happenings including a free admission haunted house at the Warrior Zone on Clay Kaserne Oct. 30 and 31 from 6-9 p.m., a Halloween Party in the U’r Place Bar and Grill Oct. 31 from 6-10 p.m., trick-or-treating at Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing after school Oct. 31 and community-wide trick-or-treating in all of the Wiesbaden military community housing areas on Halloween, Oct. 31, from 5-7 p.m. See the next issue of the Herald Union for the latest Halloween happenings.*

### Security concerns

**P.G. commented:** I am fully aware this subject has been discussed before, but I feel I have to address it again. I have been sending my children off to school with a very uncomfortable feeling in my stomach lately. Looking at the things that are going on in the world right now, I am surely not the only one who feels that way. The gates to my housing area are open, everybody is able to walk or drive in at any time. The main street is like a race track, with German cars flying through, but that seems to be a small problem

### Herald Union published by AdvantiPro

The Herald Union, printed exclusively for members of the U.S. Army Garrisons Wiesbaden and Baumholder, is an authorized, unofficial Army newspaper published under the provisions of AR 360-1. Contents are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content is the responsibility of the USAG Wiesbaden and Baumholder Public Affairs Offices. No payment is made for contributions. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for sale, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. This is a biweekly newspaper published by AdvantiPro GmbH. Circulation is 8,500 copies. For display advertising rates call Sabine Vogl at civ (0631) 3033 5537, email [ads@herald-union.com](mailto:ads@herald-union.com); classified advertising rates call Isabell Smith at civ (0631) 3033 5531 or post at [www.class-world.eu](http://www.class-world.eu). Editorial offices are in Building 1205 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Address: USAG Wiesbaden, Herald Union, Unit 29623 Box 60, APO AE 09005-9623; Telephone: mil 337-7405; civ (0611) 705-7405; Email: [usagwiesbadenpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:usagwiesbadenpao@eur.army.mil); Home page: [www.wiesbaden.army.mil](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil).

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## News flash

### Still time to give to CFC

Have you taken the opportunity to give to the charity of your choice during this year's Combined Federal Campaign? This year's CFC-Overseas event runs through Nov. 17. Contact your unit CFC coordinator or visit [www.cfcoverseas.org](http://www.cfcoverseas.org).

### Herald Union correction

Reader Ralph Koch pointed out that in the Aug. 30 edition of the *Herald Union* in an article about Medal of Honor recipient Spc. Ross A. McGinnis his unit was incorrectly listed as falling under the 2nd Infantry Division. McGinnis, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in Iraq and was recognized with a street in his honor in Wiesbaden's new Newman Village, was actually assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd (Dagger) Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. Thanks for helping us set the record straight.

### AFN airing debates

AFN viewers can catch the presidential and vice presidential debates on AFN Television. A vice presidential debate will air live Oct. 12 from 3-5 a.m. Central European Time. Presidential debates will air live Oct. 17 and Oct. 23 from 3-5 a.m. Central European Time. AFN will repeat each debate the same day on AFN news from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. (*AFN Public Affairs*)

### Cyber Technology Showcase

Head to the Tony Bass Fitness Center on Clay Kaserne Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to learn about the latest in cyber technology. The event, hosted by the 5th Signal Command, will feature complimentary refreshments and giveaways.

### Immunization schedule

Walk-ins for flu immunizations will be welcomed at the Wiesbaden Health Clinic on Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon starting Oct. 15. All children under 3 years of age must be vaccinated at the clinic. The clinic will also offer outreach flu immunizations Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mainz-Kastel Power Zone, Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Commissary, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tony Bass Fitness Center, Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Taunus Theater, Oct. 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tony Bass Fitness Center, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Taunus Theater, Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tony Bass Fitness Center and Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Commissary.

### WWII ordnances discovered

German officials found a World War II unexploded ordnance in the vicinity of Fort Biehler Sept. 28. Another was found on the north side of the Clay Kaserne airfield Oct. 8. Both were safely defused by German Explosive Ordnance Disposal personnel. The area was evacuated with traffic being rerouted on Autobahn 66 and around Clay Kaserne during the defusing process.



Photo by Karl Weisel

## Giving the gift of life

**Sgt. Carlos Martinez preps V Corps' Pfc. Matthew Britt to donate blood during the Wiesbaden Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and American Red Cross sponsored blood drive Oct. 4. Britt said he gives regularly to the Armed Services Blood Program. "It's important for people to donate," said Jaime Waterbury of the Wiesbaden American Red Cross. "The blood goes to Landstuhl where it directly affects all of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines." Red Cross volunteers were on hand with free snacks and other goodies for those who contributed. The next blood drive is scheduled to be held at the Tony Bass Fitness Center on Dec. 14.**

## Fueling the Future . . . . .

### Continued from page 1

USAREUR initiative in Wiesbaden Oct. 1. "It's all about eating smart and living smart."

Explaining that the initiative is an outgrowth of an earlier effort by Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling, USAREUR commander, called Fueling the Team, the programs aims to try to get all members of the Army Family engaged in eating nutritious foods, exercising and enjoying healthy lifestyles. "We want you to start feeling better physically and to feel smarter — and you can do that by eating right — starting the day off right," Boozer said, asking the students to consider the foods they are eating. "Think before you eat about what you are putting in your body, whether or not it's good for you."

As the auditorium filled with the sounds of the popular dance hit "Macarena," the USAREUR leader asked students to join him in a quick dance routine to get the blood flowing and bodies stretched. After a quick workout, Boozer led the students to the Wiesbaden High School track for some laps around the newly renovated field.

"The focus of the program is all about eating smart and being smart," Boozer said, "fueling your bodies each day to be physically fit, spiritually fit and mentally fit."

"It's really a community program," he added, explaining that everyone plays a role in the overall fitness of a family and a community.

Dr. Susan Hargis, Wiesbaden Middle School principal, was also on hand to join in launching the

school's nutrition literacy partnership program with the Defense Commissary Agency. She explained that through the new program, one similar to a program she introduced while leading the Kaiserslautern Middle School, students will work with the local commissary to get better informed about food safety, nutrition and other topics.

"The commissary will become an extension of the classroom," she said, pointing out that military families consistently visit their local store, and children shape their parents' buying habits. "As a military parent myself, I know that the major decisions in a family are influenced by the children."

"I learned that eating healthy is the best choice for you," said Wiesbaden seventh-grader Chantal Lanier. "Staying healthy and fit is good so you won't have problems in the future."

"The program today was fun," echoed fellow seventh-grader Jarred Edwards. "A lot of us learned what good nutrition is."

For Haylie Livingston the takeaway message was "don't eat pizza and pancakes every day."

Livingston, who said she suffers from asthma and doesn't like to run, explained that for her fitness involves taking long walks and singing to herself.

Reaching children at an early age to stress the importance of healthy eating and physical fitness are vital in helping families make the right choices and to promote future health, Hargis added. "Anything we want changed — we start with the kids."



Photo by Karl Weisel

### USAREUR's Maj. Gen. James C. Boozer cheers on the runners.

## From the blotter

Compiled by the U.S. Army Garrison  
Wiesbaden Directorate of Emergency Services

### Sept. 15

An unknown person by unknown means damaged a Soldier's privately owned vehicle while it was parked at the Hainerberg Main Exchange.

A family member is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

### Sept. 16

An unknown person by unknown means damaged a noncommissioned officer's privately owned vehicle while it was parked near Building 1022 on Clay Kaserne

### Sept. 17

An NCO became a victim at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center after someone stole his Mastercard and €80 from his gym bag.

### Sept. 18

An officer became a victim in Hainerberg Housing when an unknown person stole various items from his storage facility.

An officer is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

### Sept. 19

A local national was detained by German Police and Military Police after stating there was a bomb on the van that the Pond's guard didn't find during a vehicle search.

### Sept. 20

An NCO became a victim in Crestview Housing when an unknown person stole various items from his storage facility.

### Sept. 21

A Soldier became a victim in Hainerberg Housing when an unknown person stole his jacket and two cell phone cases from his privately owned vehicle.

### Sept. 22

An NCO is being charged with owning an unregistered vehicle after allowing his tags and registration to expire.

### Sept. 23

An NCO is being charged with a traffic accident after failing proper clearance and striking another vehicle.

### Sept. 24

A family member is being charged with tax evasion after using her Army postal privileges to purchase and ship items from the United States, and operating a home business without approval from the garrison commander and registering with the German Tax authorities.

### Sept. 25

A Soldier became a victim in Crestview Housing when an unknown person stole his iPod from his privately owned vehicle.

## Military life . . . . .

### Continued from page 1

local Department of Defense Dependents Schools and German schools who toured the post Sept. 20. This was the seventh year U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden has hosted the Teachers' Orientation on the post.

The tour started at the Tony Bass Fitness Center with a short introduction about the post that answered questions such as why the garrison's population is increasing. U.S. Army posts in Heidelberg and Mannheim are closing, explained Col. David Carstens, garrison commander, and the moves are expected to save the government \$112 million annually.

Tom Blakely of the Transformation Stationing Management Office, gave a short presentation about changes to the garrison that

will take place over the next few years. The Hainerberg Housing area will become a closed post, he said, and the garrison is building a new elementary school and middle school in 2014. The garrison plans to build a new high school in the 2014-2016 timeframe, he added.

From the fitness center, the tour broke into groups that made their way to the Engagement Skills Trainer to use the weapons simulator, the flight line and the new General John Shalikashvili Mission Command Center. While the educators walked to the various points, they had a chance to talk to one another.

Roman Twardy, a music teacher at the Oranien Schule, and Scott McGlyn, a music teacher at Wiesbaden High School, discussed the possibility of bringing their students together for a concert. The concert would be part of the Leonardo project, which is an initiative to forge partnerships between German and American schools.

Twardy said he was interested in taking the tour



**Roman Twardy, a music teacher at the Oranien Schule, talks with Col. David Carstens, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, during a teacher orientation Sept. 20 on Clay Kaserne.**

because he lives in Delkenheim, which is near the airfield, and because he wanted to meet contacts for the Leonardo project.

The tour was extremely interesting, Twardy said, partially because he had never seen a military installation that close up.

McGlyn said he just started working in Wiesbaden this year, and was glad to have the opportunity to tour Clay Kaserne and the airfield.

He used to teach at an Air Force base in Okinawa and never went to the flight line, McGlyn said.

Karsten Schindler, a music and physical education teacher at the Helene Lange Schule in Wiesbaden, said he did not know what to expect from the tour, but was pleasantly surprised.

"I never thought U.S. Army people could be so nice, so warm hearted and have a colonel with a sense of humor. It's quite different than what I thought before," Schindler said.

## News flash . . . News flash

### Winter tires

German law requires that vehicles have "adequate tires" for winter driving. That means that in Hessen drivers must have either winter or all-season tires (with the M/S label or a snowflake label). Winter tires should have a tread depth of at least three millimeters. Besides helping ensure safer driving, having adequate tires helps ensure coverage by one's insurance company in the case of an accident. (*Directorate of Emergency Services*)

### Electronic Personnel Files

The Office of Personnel Management is leading a massive project to convert paper personnel documents into an electronic format for easier access and management. The Electronic Official Personnel Files will allow each employee to have electronic access to his or her own personnel folder. Access will be granted to the civilian workforce in a phased

approach over a five-month period with the first release scheduled for Oct. 16. For more information on eOPF visit <https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/automation/index.htm>.

### Slow down to save money

Each month the city of Wiesbaden records some 10,000 speeders on its streets, thanks to radar devices throughout the city. Drivers are asked to always observe the speed limits and to be aware that speed measurement devices are in place at various locations, including near the Hainerberg Shopping Center.

### Check Fuel Card

Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials advise patrons to check their Esso Fuel Card expiration date (lower right hand corner). If near expiration, customers must stop by the nearest AAFES Fuel Card issuing location for a replacement card. (*Courtesy of AAFES Public Affairs*)

## Wiesbaden celebrates Hispanic heritage

By Wendy Brown

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

The most recent Hispanic recipient of the Medal of Honor is Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Petry, who received the medal from President Barack Obama last year.

Petry lost his hand in Afghanistan while saving others from a grenade, and when he received the medal, he became a part of a proud tradition of Hispanics in the U.S. Army.

In proportion to the number of people who serve, Hispanics are the largest single ethnic group in to earn the Medal of Honor, said Lt. Col Michael Cardenas during the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Hispanic American Heritage Month celebration Sept. 24 at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center.

Cardenas, commander of the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion, said 44 Hispanic men have earned the honor, and 21 gave their lives in the process.

Cardenas was the guest speaker during the event, which also included music by the Borin Kuba Band, a dance performance by Jesus Basail and Sunny Saylan and a lunch of Hispanic food. Members of the 5th Signal Command hosted the celebration.

The U.S. Army is stronger because of Hispanic contributions that date back to the Revolutionary War, Cardenas said, and many Hispanics have reached the highest rungs of military leadership positions.

For example, Gen. Richard Cavazos served with great



Photos by Wendy Brown

**Guest speaker Lt. Col. Michael Cardenas, commander of the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion in Wiesbaden, speaks about hispanic heritage from the podium during a Hispanic American Heritage Month celebration Sept. 24 at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. Many hispanic values dovetail with military values, Cardenas said, and that has led to the success of many people of hispanic heritage in the military. Photo right: Jesus Basail dances with Sunny Saylan to music from the Borin Kuba Band during the event.**

distinction for 33 years and received two Distinguished Service Crosses, among many other awards, Cardenas said.

Hispanic values go hand-in-hand with military values, Cardenas said.

“The values, traditions and hard work ethic that I learned being raised in a Hispanic family are some of the principle values that drew me to join the military,” Cardenas said.

Cardenas grew up in Westlaco, Texas, which is five miles from the Mexican border.

His parents, from Mexico, both worked to put themselves through college while raising a

family, Cardenas said. Their example taught him and his three brothers the importance of hard work.

Growing up near their grandparents, nine aunts and uncles and 25 cousins, they also learned the importance of family, Cardenas said.

“As part of my Hispanic upbringing we took every opportunity to celebrate as a family,” Cardenas said. “On any special occasion, be it a birthday, an anniversary, any significant U.S. holiday, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day and the 4th of July.”

The Army is like a family as well, Cardenas said. “No matter where you end up in the Army, you always feel like you are part of a family and a team,” he said.

Col. David Carstens, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, said he appreciates the contributions members of the Hispanic community have made to the Army.

“Our guest speaker is just one reminder of what the Hispanic community does for us every day, not only here in Wiesbaden, but across the Army,” Carstens said.

Brig. Gen. Bruce Crawford, 5th Signal commander, said he

was glad to have the opportunity to attend the event and celebrate America’s diversity.

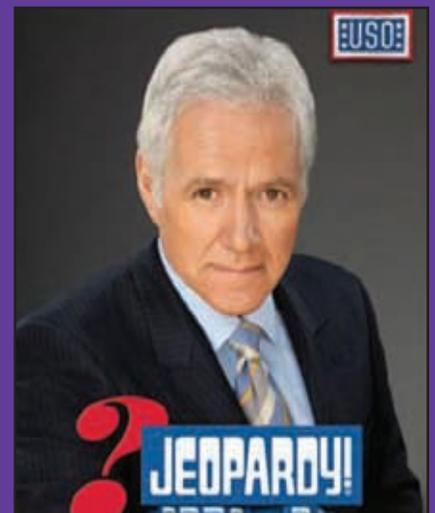
Staff Sgt. Charles Kistler’s singing of the words “the home of the free and the home of the brave” during the U.S. national anthem at the event’s start gave him goose bumps, Crawford said.

“Without recognition and without the need, the urge, the desire to celebrate our diversity, and what these different cultures bring to us as a people, there is no home of the free, and I can tell you there is no real home of the brave,” Crawford said during his remarks.

## Meet Alex Trebek and try out to be a Jeopardy contestant

U.S. active duty personnel and their spouses ages 18 and older are invited to participate in the Jeopardy tour with host Alex Trebek when it touches down in Wiesbaden Oct. 12.

Stop by the Community Activity Center on Clay Kaserne from 9-11 a.m. for an autograph-signing session and audition. Call Joseph Harris at mil 335-5390 for more information.



## Housing

**Continued from page 1**

and ready for assignments.

We also have a demolition project scheduled for 10 buildings in Hainerberg. The demolitions will make room for the new Access Control Point once Hainerberg is made a closed post and a new middle school. In order to save money we are vacating the remaining buildings for these projects by attrition as service members PCS; however, this action will be complete in the next couple of months.

People will also see a few buildings in Crestview Housing vacant because we are getting ready to turn them over to the host nation. In fact, eight buildings on Neptune Strasse and Bierstadter Höhe were returned to the host nation on Sept. 28, 2012. The buildings have been vacant for eight years and are outside the perimeter fencing established for Crestview and it made no sense to extend the fence.

In Newman Village, there is also housing that is vacant. We have now received 100 percent of the housing inventory back from the contractor, but that does not necessarily mean that the housing is completely ready for people to move in. For example, we found that even though the contractor turned over some units, there is still a need for cabinet and closet work. In addition, during the final inspection we found other small deficiencies, and that work can take up to two weeks to get completed. After that, the units receive delivery and installation of appliances and final cleaning, so it can take as many as four to five weeks after we have received a unit from the contractor for it to be ready for someone to move in.

So although it appears we have a lot of housing — and we do have enough to meet the needs of the people moving to Wiesbaden — the housing is not necessarily available for immediate assignment.

**What is the average waiting time for housing?**

For on-post housing, the current average wait is 25 days, which is down

from 31 days in the last 60 days. For off-post housing, the average wait is 35 days, which is down 10 days from this summer.

**What are some measures you've taken to reduce the wait for housing?**

We review our waiting lists at a minimum of twice a week and compare them to the list of available housing. After this review we identify the steps we can take to assign housing as quickly as possible. One example is to over house the family. As an example, AR 420-1 authorizes the Housing Office to assign Soldiers and their families to housing one bedroom above their requirement. For example, if a family requires a two-bedroom unit, we have given them a three-bedroom. Similarly, we have given some families that require a three-bedroom unit a four-bedroom unit. However, there are certain requirements that must be met first before we can do this. As an example in order to over house a junior enlisted service member and family with a two bedroom requirement to a three bedroom unit, there can be no one waiting for quarters on the junior enlisted three bedroom waiting list.

Also, although 100 percent of junior enlisted Soldiers (E1-E4) are housed on post, if a Soldier who is an E-5 or above has been on the waiting list for more than 30 days, we can offer him or her the option of living off post as outlined in the USAREUR and garrison housing policy letters. These Soldiers do not have to take the off-post option, but it is there for them.

In addition, if it is projected that a Soldier (E5 and above including officers) will be on a waiting list for more than 60 days, the Soldier will automatically be issued a Certificate of Non-availability for off-post housing. For example, if there are no field-grade three-bedroom units projected to be available for 60 days, the service member would be issued a CNA.

Another way we have reduced the waiting lists is to do as much vacant quarters maintenance as possible on



Photo by Karl Weisel

**Movers deliver items in a Wiesbaden housing area.**

vacant units to get them ready for occupancy. The Housing Office has also surged the number of advertisements for off-post housing in local newspapers and real estate agencies. Additionally, the garrison plans to hold a conference to invite landlords to learn more about how to rent to Americans and list rental properties with our office. We hope to increase the number of available off-post units this way.

**What is the basic process for obtaining housing?**

First, a Soldier meets with a housing counselor and provides a copy of the orders assigning him or her to Wiesbaden. Based on the Soldier's rank and number of command sponsored family members, a determination is made as to what kind of housing the Soldier requires. From there, the counselor will offer the Soldier available units and the Soldier has an opportunity to view the units and either accept or decline the offer. If the Soldier accepts a unit, then the move-in process begins. The Housing Office goal is to make at least two offers to the service member for adequate quarters. If service members decline both offers they could possibly be removed from the housing list for 30 days and their Temporary Lodging Allowance will stop. After 30 days the

service member can reapply for housing with the date of eligibility being the date of application. However, this is just the worst case scenario, and we make every effort possible to house the service member and his or her family.

If housing is not available for the Soldier at time of arrival, the Soldier goes on a waiting list. As soon as housing is available the Soldier is contacted by the Housing Office. The Soldier can then view the offer and accept or decline it.

The housing list is located in the lobby of Building 1023E on Clay Kaserne, and it is updated at a minimum every Monday. While people are on the waiting list, they stay at the Wiesbaden Army Lodge. If the lodge is full, people can stay at a hotel downtown after receiving a Statement of Non-availability from the lodge. We try to steer away from this though because the Soldier is usually required to pay the hotel bill and then receive reimbursement from the U.S. Army. The Army Lodge is always the preferred place to stay.

**How much housing is available on-post in Wiesbaden?**

There are roughly 2,200 on-post housing units now, but when we are finished returning buildings to the host nation and demolishing buildings there will be approximately 1,754, which is the requirement for housing at our end state population.

**How do you plan to keep people informed about housing?**

The housing office has taken several initiatives to keep residents informed about housing here in Wiesbaden. We have recently started an online newsletter that will cover a large spectrum of topics, including construction, transformation, housing policies and regulations and frequently asked questions.

The newsletter is now available on the housing website at [www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/newcomers/housing/HousingWebsite.htm](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/newcomers/housing/HousingWebsite.htm). Command policies, the resident handbook and a link to Army Housing Online, is also available on the website.

## Enjoying free Wi-Fi in Wiesbaden



Looking for a good place to enjoy some free Wi-Fi service in the Wiesbaden military community?

Head to one of the Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities — the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center,

Wiesbaden Library, Little Italy Restaurant and Catering Center, Warrior Zone or Wiesbaden Army Lodge to kick back and log in.

Free Wi-Fi is also now available in the Wiesbaden Dining Facility.



Photos by Karl Weisel

## An inside look at the garrison

Jeff Stone of the Airfield Operations Office briefs visitors from the Hofheim City Council and surrounding municipalities during a host nation visit to Clay Kaserne Sept. 28. Around 30 visitors came to learn more about how transformation is affecting the Wiesbaden military community and its impact on surrounding local communities. Photo right: Dr. Willi Steckelberg, a member of the Hofheim City Council, gets a hands-on look at a Blackhawk helicopter during the visit.



# Everyone plays a role in protecting network

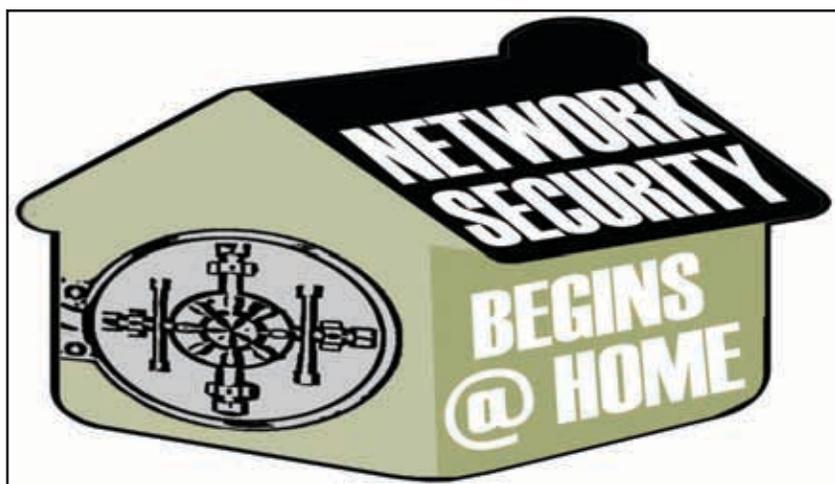
U.S. Army Europe information assurance officials want to remind members of the U.S. forces community in Europe that October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and that it's everyone's duty to protect Army information and communications.

USAREUR cybersecurity experts say there is a real and ongoing war in cyberspace. The U.S. is constantly under cyber attack by hostile governments, organizations and individuals. Everyone can contribute to defending the U.S. against such attacks. Your contributions can include securing networks from hazards, staying up to date on threats and

training, practicing good online habits and setting the example for others to be cautious and vigilant as well.

President Barack Obama declared October National Cybersecurity Awareness Month for the first time in 2010. This year's focus for the U.S. Army in Europe community is on home computing security. USAREUR officials said they will offer more cybersecurity information and resources throughout the month.

More information is also available to computer users on the eur.army.mil domain at <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/iassure>.



# Cost of Living Allowance Survey now in progress

Eligible U.S. Army in Europe Soldiers are being asked, via email, to participate in the 2012 Overseas Cost of Living Allowance Overseas Living Patterns Survey, scheduled for Oct. 1-31.

This survey is used to track the shopping patterns of uniformed service members stationed overseas. The data collected will assist in the determination of COLA paid to members in their country of assignment.

The survey is only for service

members stationed at 13 locations in Germany; Ansbach, Kalkar, Bremerhaven, Kaiserslautern Military Community, Buechel, Spangdahlem, Garmisch, Stuttgart, Geilenkirchen, Vilseck-Grafenwoehr, Heidelberg, Wiesbaden and Hohenfels. The service member also must not be living in the barracks and have been on station for at least three months.

Although participation in this survey is voluntary, maximum response is en-

couraged so that data will be an accurate representation of the service member's country of assignment.

To prepare for the survey, service members should determine where they purchase groceries, clothing, household furnishings, entertainment, communications and transportation.

Every three years, this survey is conducted to determine the local economy outlets where military families shop. Then, during the follow-on annual Retail Price Schedule, which is scheduled to begin Nov. 10, the prices of 120 goods

and services are collected from outlets identified by service members during the COLA survey. The Defense Travel Management Office compares the prices in Germany to those in the U.S. and then calculates the Cost of Living Index which establishes the country's COLA rate per location.

For more information, service members and their family members are encouraged to contact their unit personnel office or visit the COLA survey website at <https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/oscola-lps-germany.cfm>.



Photo by Wendy Brown



Photo by Michael Coleman

## ***German-American partnership and friendship***

Lt. Col. Mikel Russell, former director of U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Directorate of Emergency Services, speaks with German Erster Polizeihauptkommissar Thomas Fink during Russell's retirement ceremony Sept. 27 at the Little Italy Restaurant and Catering Center on Wiesbaden's Clay Kaserne. Russell and Fink noted the close ties they

developed while working together during Russell's tenure as the senior law enforcer in the Wiesbaden military community. Photo right: Gerd Stinner encourages members of the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade's Lazy Dragons team before the start of a Dragon Boat race Sept. 22 at Schierstein Harbor in Wiesbaden.

**DB Media and Buch GmbH**



Photo by Patrick Henry

## ***Job well done***

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden's Command Sgt. Maj. Sa'eed Mustafa and Col. David Carstens recognize individuals for their participation in the garrison's Suicide Prevention Stand-Down Sept. 20. The 66th Military Intelligence Brigade's Sgt. 1st Class LaShawn Stradford (not pictured) was recognized with an Army commendation Medal for her efforts in bringing people together for the event.

**Dr. Broichmann**

## Spouse sponsorship program starting

By Jodie DeLeon  
Wiesbaden Army Community Service

Attention all spouses — do you remember what it was like when you found out you were moving to Wiesbaden?

“What is housing like?”

“I was involved in my family readiness group and spouses club at our last location. How do I get in contact with those groups in Wiesbaden?”

“We weren’t expecting it to be cold already, where can we go to find coats?”

Wouldn’t it have been nice to have someone to answer your many questions? That is where our new Army Community Service program, Spouse Sponsorship, comes in.

The Spouse Sponsorship program is a new initiative, under the Total Army Sponsorship program and ACS, which is designed to help ease the transition of a permanent change of station move for incoming and new spouses. In order to ensure the incoming/new spouses are welcomed and informed, we are looking for volunteers willing to offer their assistance.

You are not expected to know all the answers to the



new spouse’s questions, but the training offered through ACS will give you the tools to either answer the questions or

know where to find the answer. You just have to be available to the incoming spouse and to be that friendly face when they arrive.

The members of the Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club are a perfect partner for this program. One of the intents of the program is to match the incoming spouse with a Spouse Sponsor who has some similarities, such as organizational involvement or family structure.

It is important to have a

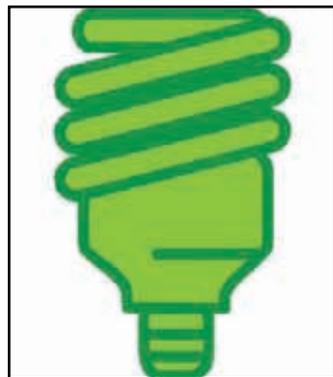
Spouse Sponsor who is an active member of the community, to ensure the new spouse has someone who can help them get out of the hotel and become an active member of the community; take them to their first WCSC meeting and introduce them to the members.

Spouse Sponsors can help create a positive outlook for new spouses and improve their time here in Germany.

Join the next Spouse Sponsorship training sessions 9-10:30 a.m. Nov. 13.

For more information on becoming a Spouse Sponsor or to sign up for training call civ (0611) 408-0254 or visit Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing.

## October is Energy Awareness Month



By Maj. William McGlothlin  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Department of Public Works Operations Officer

Energy awareness is about understanding that all day and night we’re using energy in our houses and facilities and energy is expensive (especially in Europe). Some things we do use a lot more energy than others such as running washing machines and dishwashers. Simple changes in our habits can lead to big reductions in our energy consumption which in turn is better for our

environment and pocket books. Here are a few tips to reduce energy consumption:

- Close windows and doors during winter months.
- Open the blinds to allow the sunshine to naturally heat the room.
- Turn off heaters when rooms are unoccupied.
- Always use the energy savings programs on washers/dryers and dishwashers.
- Start the washers/dryers/dishwashers

only when completely loaded.

- Turn off interior/exterior lights and electrical devices (computers, monitors, printers, audio/TV, wall chargers) and power strips when not needed.

- Unplug unused electrical devices in storage areas (i.e. refrigerators, freezers).

To learn more about energy conservation visit the energy awareness portion of our garrison Wiesbaden website at [www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/local/energy.asp](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/local/energy.asp).



### American food in Germany

People buy and eat hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, candy and sodas at a Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation booth downtown at the Wiesbaden Stadtfest Sept. 28. The festival included a variety of musical events, a Harvest Festival, an Autumn Market and an automobile display. There was also a German-American marketplace, and Wiesbaden American Forces Network-Wiesbaden did a live broadcast. In addition, the U.S. Army Europe rock band Nightfire gave two performances. The festival is an annual event in Wiesbaden every autumn.

Photo by Lisa Crews

## Singers shine at local Rising Star competition

**Story and photos by  
Wendy Brown**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

The place where Mary Knudson put in hours of practice for her Operation Rising Star performance in Wiesbaden could not have been more appropriate.

Knudson, who sang Martina McBride's "In My Daughter's Eyes" and won the competition, said she sings the song almost every night to her daughter at bedtime. She has sung it to her hundreds of times, she said.

Knudson beat out six other contestants to win the competition and a \$500 prize Sept. 21 at the Little Italy Restaurant and Catering Center. She now has a shot at winning the military-wide competition and receiving a professional recording contract, said Joseph Harris III, head of special events for Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Audience votes counted for 50 percent of the contestants' final score, and the judges' scores also counted for 50 percent, Harris said. A total of 59 people from the audience voted. The judges were Kim Goins, and Spc. Fred Brown and Sgt. Stephen Counts from the American Forces Network-Wiesbaden.

Knudson, who lives in Heidelberg and competed last year but did not win, delivered a stunning professional-level performance with ease. "That was amazing. I'm just blown away," said Counts after her performance.

Brown said, "You are very natural on stage. It does sound like you've sung this song hundreds of times. It's the perfect song for you and you really owned it."

Knudson also had some stiff competition.

Vincent Rappa of Wiesbaden came in second and received a \$250 prize. His acoustic version of "Livin' on a Prayer" by Jon Bon Jovi was a hit with the audience and brought on a huge round of applause. Rappa said he has been singing for most of his life.

"You did very well," said judge Brown. "Thank you for singing that."

DeShontea Jackson of Wiesbaden came in third and received a \$100 prize. She sang "Hurt" by Christina Aguilera,

and also did a great job impressing the audience and the judges. "It gave me chills from the beginning," said judge Goins.

Another contestant who did well was Carlos Collins, who came in fourth and sang "Hang On" by the Sounds of Blackness with the Tribe of Judah, a live band and choir that plays at the Clay Kaserne gospel service. "I decided if you're going to give God your best, you have to bring the best," he said.

Collins said he chose the song partially because it was Suicide Prevention Month. "This song says, 'Hold on, you're going to make it,'" he said.

When Collins was finished singing, all three judges used the word "great" to describe his performance. "You're very comfortable on stage," added Counts.

Contestants had to be members of the military — active, National Guard or reserve — or a family member, according to the contest rules. They also had to be more than 18 years old and strictly amateur.

The competition is modeled after the popular "American Idol" television show, and by the end of the competition, Counts had earned himself the nickname "Simon" for his frank (but never mean) assessments of the contestants' performances. Simon Cowell is a former "American Idol" judge known for being critical of contestants' performances.

The first round of the competition was a cappella, but during the final event contestants had background music. They also received a significant amount of cheering from the audience, thanks in part to an award that gave \$300 to the organization that provided the most spirit during the competition. The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club won hands down.

The 2012 military-wide Operation Rising Star Finals will be held in San Antonio, Texas, and will be broadcast on the Pentagon Channel. Visit [www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com) and click on the entertainment tab to find the link to Operation Rising Star for details.

Last year, Sgt. Melissa Neal of Ansbach won the competition.



**Carlos Collins (top) sings "Hold On" by the Sounds of Blackness during the Operation Rising Star competition Sept. 21 at the Little Italy Restaurant and Catering Center on Clay Kaserne. Mary Knudson (middle left) sings "In My Daughter's Eyes" by Martina McBride. Knudson won the competition and goes on for consideration in the military-wide competition. Vincent Rappa (middle right) sings "Livin' on a Prayer" by Jon Bon Jovi. DeShontea Jackson (bottom) sings "Hurt" by Christina Aguilera.**



Photos by Karl Weisel

## Running to raise breast cancer awareness

More than 7,550 people turned out for this year's Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Frankfurt Oct. 30. As in past years, members of the Wiesbaden Warrior football (above right) and volleyball teams (plus coaches and parents) joined in to show their support of this annual fund- and awareness-raising effort aimed at finding a cure for breast

cancer. The event, held along both sides of the Main River starting near the Holbeinsteg bridge in Sachsenhausen, featured a two-kilometer walk and five-kilometer run. Many cancer survivors were among the participants. Information stands were set up to provide more details on ways to get involved in helping spread the word.

# DoD hiring more people with disabilities

*Fourteen percent of civilians on DoD workforce have some type of disability*

**By Terri Moon Cronk**  
*American Forces Press Service*

The Defense Department's hiring of wounded warriors and others with disabilities is on an uptick, the Pentagon's director of disability programs said.

Stephen M. King, whose office is part of diversity management and equal opportunity, spoke with the American Forces Press Service about a recent Office of Personnel Management report that said 14 percent of the Defense Department's civilian employees have disabilities, putting DoD in second place among cabinet-level agencies for disability hiring.

"There is a greater [applicant] pool, and more emphasis on hiring individuals with disabilities and wounded warriors through two executive orders in the last three years," King said.

Veterans with disabilities bring values to DoD such as familiarity with military culture, proven leadership and the ability to enter the workforce and "perform on day 1," he said.

Additionally, hiring veterans and others with disabilities contributes to military readiness, King said. DoD will reap the benefits of those who have served by hiring them after their

service, he added.

DoD and other agencies want to hire veterans with disabilities whether they were injured recently, have acquired a disability, or if the disability is service connected, King said.

"We want ... those abilities in DoD regardless of how long ago you were a veteran," he said.

"For any organization to be its best, you really have to take advantage of and value what everyone brings to the table: their background, knowledge, skills and abilities," he said.

People with disabilities face unique challenges, King noted. "We need that type of problem-solving ability and skill in the workplace," he said.

"It is awesome when you get to talk to someone who [wore] a uniform and tells you the difference that you've made as an organization by allowing [him] to continue to serve his country but in a different capacity," King said.

The upward trend in DoD's disability hiring stems from several initiatives and programs, King said.

"There is a renewed focus within DoD and the federal government on utilizing existing hiring flexibility, [such as] hiring individuals with disabilities noncompetitively," he said.

Numerous hiring programs include the Hiring Heroes job fairs and the Veterans Hiring Initiative, which seeks out veterans and

***"For any organization to be its best, you really have to take advantage of and value what everyone brings to the table..."***

### Accente Wiesbaden

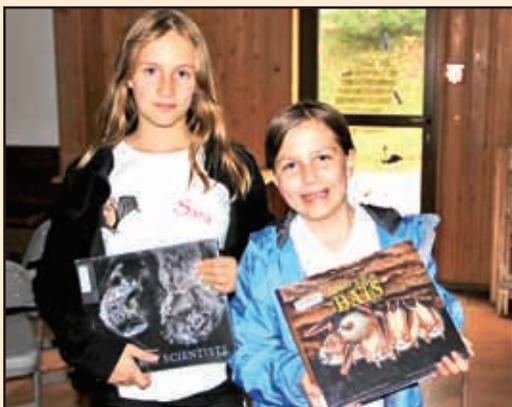
### Louisiana Frankfurt

## Girl Scout Bat Night

Girl Scouts Sara Klatt (left) and Zoe Moseng, both in the sixth grade, hold up books they used to plan a Bat Night at the Rheinblick Recreation Complex. By organizing the event, the girls completed the requirements for the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn, the Girl Scout Bronze Award. To earn the award, the girls designed and carried out a plan to educate younger Girl Scouts about bat conservation.

The event taught girls in grades two through five about bats. The girls also compiled a "Bat Box" so other groups can organize their own Bat Nights. Photo right: Girl Scouts and their family members look and listen for bats.

Photos by Andrea Childerhose



## Network security begins at home: disposing of old computers

**By U.S. Army Europe Headquarters**  
Office of the Chief of Public Affairs

Why do users need to be

concerned about disposing of old computers?

Computers often hold personal and financial information, including:

- passwords
- account numbers
- license keys or registration numbers for software programs
- addresses and phone numbers

bers

- medical and prescription information
- tax returns
- files created automatically by browsers and operating systems

Just deleting files or reformatting the hard drive will not remove this information. When you delete a file, the links to reconstruct the file disappear. But the bits and pieces of the deleted file stay on your computer until they're overwritten, and they can be retrieved with a data recovery program. To remove data from a hard drive permanently, the hard drive needs to be wiped clean or destroyed.

What can be done?

Utility programs to wipe a hard drive are available online and in stores where computers are sold. These programs are generally inexpensive.

Some are available on the Internet for free.

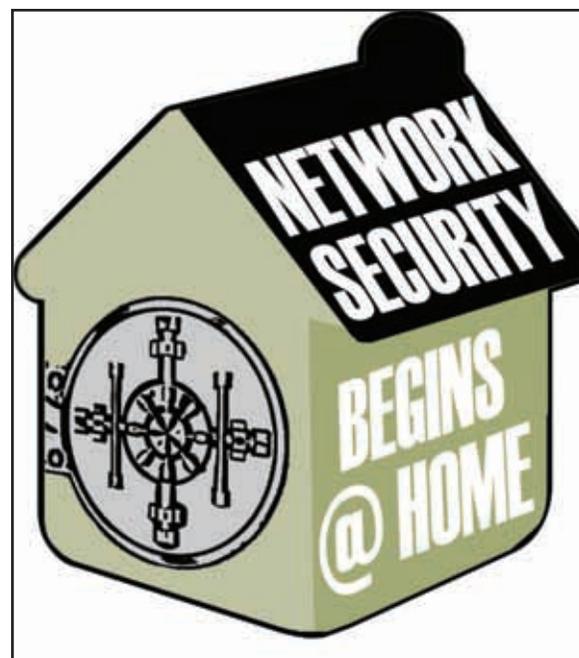
These programs vary:

- Some erase the entire disk, while others allow you to select files or folders to erase.
- Some overwrite or wipe the hard drive many times, while others overwrite it only once.

Consider using a program that overwrites or wipes the hard drive many times. Otherwise, the deleted information could be retrieved. Or remove the hard drive and physically destroy it.

More information and tips for home network security and other personal protective measures can be found on the U.S. Army Europe vigilance web page at [www.eur.army.mil/vigilance](http://www.eur.army.mil/vigilance).

### Schloss Vollrads



## Community notes ... Community notes

### Girl Scout breakfast

Wiesbaden Girl Scouts will celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's birthday with brunch at the Wiesbaden Dining Facility Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$5.25 (bring ID card — E1s-4s and their dependents receive a discounted rate). Each troop is encouraged to decorate a cake and to bring it for a contest. Make reservations by Oct. 21 by sending an email to [rogersdw@hotmail.com](mailto:rogersdw@hotmail.com).

### Library happenings

The Wiesbaden Library holds preschool story time at 10 a.m. on Oct. 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 29. The library will be open from noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 11 and 22.

### Trunk or Treat

Awana invites business members to represent their business at the Awana Trunk or Treat event for children ages 3 to sixth grade Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the Clay Kaserne Chapel parking lot. Email Rachel Kistler at [luvbnmomof6@yahoo.com](mailto:luvbnmomof6@yahoo.com) for details. Other upcoming Awana happenings include **Old Fashioned Day** Oct. 14, **I Am Thankful Day** Nov. 18, **Double Shares** Dec. 2, **Awana Store/Wise Men Night** Dec. 16 and **Wacky Hair** Jan. 13. Awana meets from 5-7 p.m. Sundays at the Clay Kaserne Chapel.

### Halloween Spooktacular

Fright fans will want to mark their calendars for the Halloween Spooktacular Oct. 30 and 31. Haunted houses will be featured in the Warrior Zone for children and families and at Wiesbaden Arts and Crafts for teens and adults from 6-9 p.m. both days. The free community event is open to all U.S. ID cardholders. A Halloween party will also be featured in the U'r Place Bar and Grill Oct. 31 from 6-10 p.m.

### Tell Me A Story

Joint Parent-to-Parent for a great afternoon of family fun Nov. 4 from 3-5 p.m. at Hainerberg Elementary School. Tell Me A Story, a literacy event sponsored by the Military Child Education Coalition, will feature guest reader Col. David



Photo by Wendy Brown

### Exotic neighbors

**Members of a flock of ring-necked parakeets gather on the roof of a building on Westfalen Strasse in Aukamm Housing. The parakeets are not native to Germany, but accounts differ on how and when they got here, said Gordon Adam, USAG Wiesbaden environmental technician. The parakeets can be found in various places throughout Europe, including Brussels, London and Rome, Adam said. Their scientific name is *Psittacula eupatria* and they stay in Wiesbaden throughout the year.**

Carstens, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, reading the book "Verdi," by Janell Cannon. The event will also feature activities, crafts and a snack. Each attending family will receive a copy of the book. Reserve spaces (list people by name and specify whether children or adults) by sending an email to [ptop.wiesbaden@militarychild.org](mailto:ptop.wiesbaden@militarychild.org) (space is limited).

### Red Cross classes

The Wiesbaden American Red Cross holds a **Babysitting with Infant/Child CPR and First Aid class** Oct. 19 from 5-9 p.m. and Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and an **International Humanitarian Law Class** Oct. 26 from noon to 5 p.m. Classes are held in Room 223, Building 1023E on Clay Kaserne. Call mil 337-1760 or civ (0611) 705-1760 for more information.

### Next CIB Oct. 30

Pick up all the latest information at the Wiesbaden military community's next Community Information Briefing Oct. 30 at 9:30 a.m. in the Community Activity Center on Clay Kaserne. If you can't make it to the briefing visit the garrison's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/usagwiesbaden](http://www.facebook.com/usagwiesbaden) and follow it

live online.

### Saluting volunteers

Congratulations to the following Volunteers of the Quarter: **Julie Parker, Jaime Waterbury, Rebecca Carmichael, Wannica Wyatt and Kimberly Speed**. Kudos also to the garrison's Volunteers of the Month: **Jennifer Oravetz, John Falk, Jamie Cogbill, Lt. Col. Jason Wieman, Robert Dieguez, Carrie Cogbill, Maj. Bryan Love, Linda Dieguez, Kimberly Speed, Staff Sgt. Susanna Lavoie, Michelle Melicosta, Parin Finch** and

**Maria Kennedy-Dortch**.

### Financial readiness classes

Army Community Service hosts the following financial readiness classes: **Credit and Debt** Oct. 17 from 2-3:30 p.m. and **First Term Financial Training** Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call ACS at mil 335-5254 or civ (0611) 4080-254.

### Candlelight walk

Join fellow community members in taking a stand against domestic violence during a "Take Back The Night" candlelight walk Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. starting at Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing. Call mil 335-5254 or civ (0611) 4080-254 for more information.

### Spouses club events

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club invites newcomers and members for **coffee and cake** on the first Thursday of the month. Other upcoming WCSC happenings include a **book lovers get-together** the fourth Thursday at the month at 11:30 a.m. and the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; the **lunch bunch** (go to different restaurants in the area) every

fourth Tuesday of the month; **fitness Fridays**; and the **Grapes of Wrath Fall Bazaar** Oct. 12-14 at the Mainz-Kastel Storage Station. The bazaar will be open from noon to 7 p.m. Oct. 12, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 13 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 14. It is open to all U.S. ID cardholders. Email [Wiesbadenspousesclub@yahoo.com](mailto:Wiesbadenspousesclub@yahoo.com) or visit [www.wiesbadenspousesclub.com](http://www.wiesbadenspousesclub.com).

### Bank closing

The Community Bank on Clay Kaserne will be closed Oct. 16-18 as operations are moved back into Building 1021 following renovations. ATM service will be available during that time. The bank will hold a grand reopening ceremony Oct. 31 at 10 a.m.

### BOSS headed to Paris, London

Join the members of the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers as they head to Paris Oct. 20 or London Nov. 16-18. Stop by the Warrior Zone on Clay Kaserne (by Wiesbaden Arts and Crafts) for details.

### AFAP ideas

Help make a quality-of-life change in the U.S. Army. Submit your ideas or take part as a delegate during the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden's Army Family Action Plan Conference Oct. 18-19 at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center. To submit an idea, click on the AFAP button on the garrison's home page (upper right). Call civ (0611) 4080 254 for more information.

### Fall Bazaar

## School bits

### Wiesbaden school dates to remember

Local Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Wiesbaden will be closed Nov. 2 for a teacher work day. Parent-teacher conferences will be held Nov. 8-9 at the elementary schools and Nov. 8 at Wiesbaden's middle and high schools. The schools will be closed Nov. 12 in observance of Veterans Day and Nov. 22 and 23 for Thanksgiving. Winter break is Dec. 24 to Jan. 4 with classes resuming Jan. 7.

### University of Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma offers Masters of Human Relations and International Relations degree programs. Courses are taught face-to-face by internationally recognized OU faculty. Each three-hour credit course is taught in a weeklong format (Tuesday to Sunday). Enroll now for human relations courses starting Nov. 13. Call mil 337-5937, civ (0611) 705-5937 or email [apwiesbaden@ou.edu](mailto:apwiesbaden@ou.edu) for more information.

### Central Texas College registration open

Central Texas College in Wiesbaden is offering courses in traditional classrooms in Criminal Justice, Automotive Mechanic/Technician, Early Childhood Professions and Hospitality Management Programs and their newest addition: the Legal Assistant Program. The term runs from Oct. 22 to Dec. 14. Classes are in the evenings and/or on weekends. For more information contact the Wiesbaden field representative at civ (0611) 705-5561, mil 337-5561 or [wiesbaden@europe.ctcd.edu](mailto:wiesbaden@europe.ctcd.edu). The office is located in the Education Center in Building 1023E on Clay Kaserne.

### University of Maryland registration

University of Maryland University College Europe holds registration for its online and on-site Session 2 classes starting Oct. 22. Two highlights are field study courses in Cambridge, England, and Dublin, Ireland. Both courses start Oct. 13. For more information visit your local UMUC field representative at the Wiesbaden Education Center, [www.ed.umuc.edu](http://www.ed.umuc.edu) or call mil 370-6762 or civ (06221) 3780.

### Free/reduced lunches

Families may be eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches based on size and income. Ask for an application at your child's school or Parent Central Services at civ (0611) 705-7928.

### Need a tutor?

U.S. military families can get around-the-clock assistance from a professional tutor through [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military). The free service is funded by the Department of Defense Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Library Program. (Courtesy of the Wiesbaden Middle School's Wildcat Update)

### School closure, weather information

Parents are reminded to listen to the American Forces Network-Wiesbaden radio or to check the garrison home page for the latest school closure and traffic delay information. Visit [www.wiesbaden.army.mil](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil) and click on the Road/Weather/School Closure Information link for the latest news about traffic delays and school closures.



Photos by Wendy Brown

## Constitution Day

### at Aukamm Elementary

Staff Sgt. Jorge "David" Santoro receives the Aukamm Bear from Principal Debbie Parks during a Constitution Day assembly at Aukamm Elementary School Sept. 26. Santoro, who was deploying, planned to bring the bear with him to Afghanistan with V Corps. V Corps officials planned to take pictures of the bear during his deployment so students could get an idea of what life is like for Soldiers in Afghanistan. Photo right: Isabella Hurst sings during the assembly. Every student in the school gathered for the assembly and sang songs such as "The Fifty Nifty United States." Students liked the song so much they spontaneously started singing it as a group when the background music started at the beginning of the assembly.



## Post-9/11 GI Bill celebrates start of fourth year

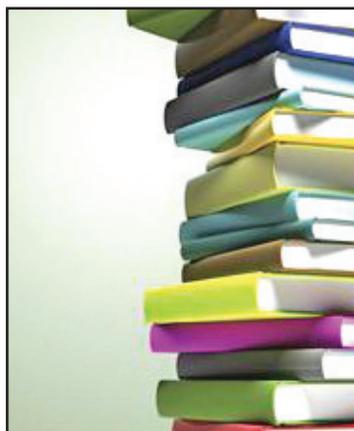
### By the Department of Veterans Affairs

This year marks the third anniversary of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and since it was implemented, the Department of Veterans Affairs has provided educational benefits to 773,000 veterans and their family members.

"This is one of the most important programs helping our Iraq and Afghanistan veterans reach their educational goals," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "We're proud this important benefit is making such a big difference in the lives of so many veterans."

The Post-9/11 GI Bill pays tuition and fees on behalf of veterans or eligible dependents to the school in which they are enrolled. Eligible participants also receive a monthly housing allowance and up to \$1,000 annually for books and supplies. The program also allows eligible service members to transfer their benefits to their spouses and children.

The program provides a wide range of educational options, including undergraduate and graduate degrees, vocational/technical training, on-the-job training, flight training, correspondence training, licensing and national testing pro-



grams, entrepreneurship training, and tutorial assistance.

"For over 68 years, GI Bill programs have shaped and changed the lives of service members, veterans, their families and survivors by helping them reach their educational goals," said Allison A. Hickey, Veterans Affairs undersecretary for benefits. "Benefits provided under the Post-9/11 GI Bill will continue to shape and change the lives of veterans by helping them build a stronger foundation for their careers."

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is the most extensive educational assistance program since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944. VA has since paid more than \$20 billion in benefits to veterans and their family members. For the 2012-2013 academic year, 1,770 colleges

and universities are supplementing Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits by participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

Under the Yellow Ribbon Program, degree-granting institutions make additional funds available for a veteran's educational program without an additional charge to their GI Bill entitlement. To make up the difference for those students whose tuition and fees exceed what the Post-9/11 GI Bill covers, institutions can voluntarily enter into a Yellow Ribbon Agreement with VA to designate an additional amount of funding, and VA will match that amount.

VA is seeking legal authority to trademark the term GI Bill. President Barack Obama signed an executive order on April 26, 2012, directing VA and the Department of Defense to undertake a number of measures to "stop deceptive and misleading" promotional efforts that target the GI Bill educational benefits of service members, veterans, and eligible family members and survivors.

In June, the attorneys general of several states gave VA the rights to the *GIBill.com* website after the original owners agreed to give up the Internet site to settle a lawsuit by the states.



## Out for a Newman Village run

Katrina Bialobrzeski, a military spouse, runs along the 1.5-mile trail around the perimeter of Newman Village housing on Clay Kaserne Oct. 5. Bialobrzeski, who recently moved to Wiesbaden from Heidelberg with her family, has lost 50 pounds in the last six months. The running course is marked at the start, which is near the future tennis and basketball courts, and at the half-mile and one-mile marks. The trail is open to military-identification card holders. Although the trail and the soccer fields are open for use, the rest of the Newman Village sports complex, including parking, will not be open until next spring.

Photo by Wendy Brown

## Family matters: tackling obesity, for security's sake

Commentary by  
**Lisa Daniel**

*American Forces Press Service*

It's not often there is a national call to action over a matter of national security, but that is what's happening over America's obesity problem. Luckily, there is no shortage of resources for everyone to address the issue.

Concerns about the quick rise in obesity — some call it an epidemic — and its potential to harm military readiness are not new. Ever since 100 retired generals and admirals formed the nonprofit organization “Mission: Readiness” and released its landmark 2010 report “Too Fat to Fight” to convince Congress to mandate healthy school lunches, federal officials, at least, have known of the military imperative to reverse the fat trend. The report included the services' assessment that 75 percent of the nation's 17- to 24-year-olds do not qualify for military service — mostly due to obesity.

Those concerns were reiterated last month when the Bipartisan Policy Center released its report, “Lots to Lose,” which shows alarming trends not only in recruiting, but also in retention due to overweight problems.

In the past two years, the

movement has changed from alarm bells to action as public officials, including Defense Department leaders, carry the issue from Washington to cities, towns and military installations across the country. First Lady Michelle Obama took her Let's Move campaign to Philadelphia to announce locally-based public-private initiatives.

The DoD has made similar changes, requiring all of its schools and day care centers to give children meals emphasizing fruits and vegetables, restrict television and computer time, ensure daily exercise and ban sweetened drinks. Also, Military OneSource offers free nutrition and fitness training to service members and their families.

In promoting Let's Move, the first lady often talks about changing American culture toward healthier living. That's where families come in. Most parents agree that one of the toughest challenges is in challenging the idea that “kid-friendly” cuisine is limited to pizza, fries and chicken nuggets. Changing the culture will mean cutting back on the all-too-easy and inexpensive drive-through meals. It will mean cooking healthy and encouraging children to try new things — even when one's child's friends are

over. Changing the culture means challenging the notion that children need snacks for every event — soccer and Scouts, for example — even when the event only lasts an hour. And it means asking teachers to discourage parents from bringing cupcakes in the classroom for every birthday, especially when there are 30 children in a class.

I've had to do all these things in the year and half since my daughter was diagnosed with Type I diabetes. It's not easy to make these kinds of changes,

but it can be done. Now, at age 9, my daughter has memorized carbohydrate counts of many foods — there are great carb and calorie counters on the market. She also recognizes foods high in sugar, salt and fat, and understands how much better she feels eating eggs for breakfast instead of pancakes or doughnuts.

Granted, she would not have learned all this without being forced to, and that is where the campaign against obesity comes in. With the right information

— and there is plenty out there — Americans can change the tide on obesity and its many related problems.

Some great websites for information are the Agriculture Department's Choose My Plate at [www.choosemyplate.gov](http://www.choosemyplate.gov), Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures at [www.healthykidshealthyfutures.org](http://www.healthykidshealthyfutures.org), and the National Institute of Health's Health, Lung and Blood Institute at [www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/eat-right/index.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/eat-right/index.htm).

## USAG Kaiserslautern

# Discovering 'The Nibelungenlied' off the written page

## 12th-century German legend provides several day-trip opportunities

By Wendy Brown  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

When many native English speakers first hear of "The Nibelungenlied," they find themselves saying, "The Nibelunge — what?"

So take a moment and say it slowly. It's pronounced Nee-be-loong-en-lead.

Then get ready to explore a medieval story that is to German literature what "Beowulf" is to English literature. It tells a tale of warriors, beasts and scoundrels, and in Germany, it's a story that is extremely well known. Several German cities, Wiesbaden included, have a group of streets named after the main characters. Wiesbaden's are near the Südfriedhof, which is located on the Siegfriedring.

The story concerns Siegfried, a prince from the Netherlands who comes to what is now Germany and wins a battle against the dragon Fafnir. He bathes in the dragon's blood and becomes invincible in all but one spot where a leaf fell and kept the blood from touching his skin. Next he helps Burgundian King Gunther win the hand of the Brunhild, an Icelandic queen. In the process, Siegfried helps win himself the hand of Gunther's beautiful sister Kriemhild.

When brought together, however, Brunhild and Kriemhild quarrel, and their dispute ends up causing the warriors Siegfried trusts the most to kill him. Hagen, Siegfried's murderer, convinces Kriemhild to show him where Siegfried is vulnerable by promising to look out for that spot in battle. The rest of the story, which takes up more than half the book, concerns Kriemhild's revenge. She succeeds in avenging Siegfried's death by taking her late husband's sword and cutting off Hagen's head.

There's no way to justly summarize "The Nibelungenlied" in two paragraphs though; it has to be read. English translations are easily available on *Amazon.com*, and although the Wiesbaden library does not have a copy, a few U.S. Army libraries in Europe do, and library personnel here can order you a copy.

There are also two 1920s silent movies by Fritz Lang that tell the book's story, and they are excellent. "Die Nibelungen" DVDs are available on *Amazon.com*, and several clips are on YouTube.

The title, by the way, literally means the song (*Lied*, in German) of the Nibelungen. The Nibelungen were the people who fought for Siegfried after he conquered the dragon. In Richard Wagner's operatic work "Der Ring des Nibelungen," loosely based on "The Nibelungenlied," they are dwarves.

An anonymous author wrote "The Nibelungenlied" around 1,200 A.D.

One reason to become familiar with "The Nibelun-



Photo by Wendy Brown

**Venus looks down from the top of a fountain at the Schloss Drachenburg in Königswinter, which is located near Bonn next to the Rhein River. The castle is a short walk from the spot where Siegfried killed the dragon Fafnir in "The Nibelungenlied."**

genlied" is because it is an important piece of German culture. But there's another great reason to become familiar with it — Wiesbaden residents are within close driving distance to several of the book's main points of interest.

They are a treasure trove of fun day trips, and before you know it, the word "Nibelungenlied" will flow off your tongue like you're a native German speaker.

### Drachenfels in Königswinter

In Königswinter, about an hour and a half's drive from Wiesbaden, is the Schloss Drachenburg and Drachenfels. Drachenfels is where people say the fight between Siegfried and the dragon took place.

This is a trip that is completely child friendly. Simply tell the story of how Siegfried killed the dragon and bathed in its blood to become invincible — except for the one place on his back where a leaf fell — and you're on your way.

Parking is available at the bottom of the hill from Drachenfels, and after a short walk, a cog railway train that dates back to 1883 takes passengers up the hill to the

castle and Drachenfels. Passengers can get off the train at the castle, or go up to Drachenfels first and then see the castle on the way down. For more information about the railway, visit [www.drachenfelsbahn-koenigswinter.de](http://www.drachenfelsbahn-koenigswinter.de).

The castle is stunningly beautiful, and also includes a gift shop and a cafe. Baron Stephan von Sarter, a rich banker and broker, completed construction on the castle in 1884. For more information visit [www.schloss-drachenburg.de](http://www.schloss-drachenburg.de).

At the top of the hill people will find the rock under which Siegfried slew the dragon and the ruins of the Burg Drachenfels, a castle that dates back to the 12th century. The site provides a great view of the Rhein River in both directions.

In fact, Drachenfels is also famous because of another literary work — "The Pilgrimage of Childe Harold" by Lord Byron — which was published in the early 1800s.

In it, Byron says, "The castled crag of Drachenfels/ Frowns o'er the wide and winding Rhine./ Whose breast of waters broadly swells/Between the banks which bear

the vine./ And hills all rich with blossomed trees./ And fields which promise corn and wine./ And scattered cities crowning these./ Whose far white walls along them shine./ Have strewed a scene, which I should see/ With double joy wert thou with me!"

It's necessary to note that Königswinter is a wonderful destination without the Nibelungenlied connection. It has a pleasant downtown area that includes many shops and restaurants, and is located next to the river.

The area around Drachenfels also includes the Naturpark Siebengebirge, which has several hiking trails. For more information about the park, visit [www.naturpark-siebengebirge.de](http://www.naturpark-siebengebirge.de).

### Worms

Most of "The Nibelungenlied" takes place in Worms, which is less than an hour's drive from Wiesbaden. In Worms there is the Nibelungenmuseum, which is a museum dedicated to the story.

Visitors to the museum receive headsets to they can listen to a narrator tell about the story at a variety of video screens and other exhibits in the museum. The narration is available in English and several other languages. Many of the screens show clips from the Lang movies.

The museum — which is sleek, technological and stylish — is built into the old city wall not far from the Rhein River, where legend has it the Nibelungen treasure was sunk and never found.

The museum's contemporary nature stands as a testament to the fact that the story is as relevant today as it was when it was written.

Another beauty to visiting the museum is that Worms, like Königswinter, is a wonderful place to visit in and of itself. There is the Cathedral of St. Peter, several restaurants and cafes and plenty of places for shopping. Worms also has a 1,000-year Jewish history, and visitors can go to a synagogue, the Jewish Museum and the historic "Holy Sands" Jewish cemetery, which is the oldest Jewish cemetery in Europe.

Worms is a great place to spend an entire day. The only drawback to the Nibelungenmuseum is that children who are not old enough to read the book probably will not get much out of it.

For more information on the museum, visit [www.worms.de/extern/nibelungen-museum](http://www.worms.de/extern/nibelungen-museum).

Also be aware that the city of Worms holds an annual Nibelungen festival, with theater offerings and more. The next one is scheduled for July 5-21, 2013. More information is available at <http://nibelungenfestspiele.de>.

### Lorsch

The Lorsch Abbey, only a 20-minute drive from Worms, is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. One of the reasons for its historical value is that it includes the Siegfried Sarcophagus, which is said to contain Siegfried's remains.

Although no one has determined definitively that the coffin does contain his remains, the legend says he was buried at Lorsch and someone at some point in time identified the coffin as Siegfried's, according to the abbey's website.

The stone coffin contains decorations on the inside that include a cross and the fountain of life, according to the abbey's website.

**"Sew a little mark on his clothing so that I shall know where I must shield him in battle." She fancied she was saving the hero, yet this was aimed at his death."**

~ "The Nibelungenlied"

Truth be told, while Siegfried's coffin is an interesting addition to the abbey, it is not the main reason to visit. Instead, the abbey itself, which includes a beautiful garden, is a peaceful, beautiful place to visit. The place boasts a Carolingian gate house, a church, a tithe barn and a monastery wall. It is a 45-minute drive from Wiesbaden.

The abbey also hosts many medieval-themed events and medieval cooking classes as well. For more information about these offerings and the abbey, visit [www.kloster-lorsch.de/lingua/englisch.html](http://www.kloster-lorsch.de/lingua/englisch.html).

### Nibelungen — Siegfriedstrasse

Both the Nibelungen and Siegfried scenic roads start at Worms and end at the Würzburg castle. In between, the

roads offer nearly endless tourism opportunities.

Each town along the way has its own offerings, and there is not enough space here to go into all of them. To find a list of all the towns, visit [www.nibelungen-siegfriedstrasse.de](http://www.nibelungen-siegfriedstrasse.de). Another good website is [www.nibelungenroute.de](http://www.nibelungenroute.de). From there, people can find out information about virtually any German town by putting the town's name between "www." and ".de." The website for Michelstadt, for example, is [www.michelstadt.de](http://www.michelstadt.de).

In several of the cities and towns along the roads are the 14 Nibelungenlied-based sculptures of Jens Nettlich. The sculptures are made of black metal and depict characters in various scenes from the book.

Atop a hill in Wertheim is the Burg Wertheim, a large castle reminiscent of Heidelberg Castle. The city has a website that includes a lot of tourism information in English at [www.tourist-wertheim.com](http://www.tourist-wertheim.com).

Another notable place to visit is the Englischer Garten Eulbach, which is located between Amorbach and Erbach. Parents with young children will particularly enjoy this place because it not only

includes a zoo, but a playground, a snackbar and a lot of wide-open space for children to roam. There are also Roman ruins on the site.

The Englischer Garten is located in the middle of a dense forest and seems to come out of nowhere. It is on the property of the Eulbach hunting lodge and across the road from the lodge and a traditional German guesthouse.

It is open year round from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information about the gardens, visit the Erbach website at [www.erbach.de/lebenerbach/freizeit/natur/englischer-garten-eulbach.html](http://www.erbach.de/lebenerbach/freizeit/natur/englischer-garten-eulbach.html).

If you have not already read the book, however, start your journey there. You won't regret it.

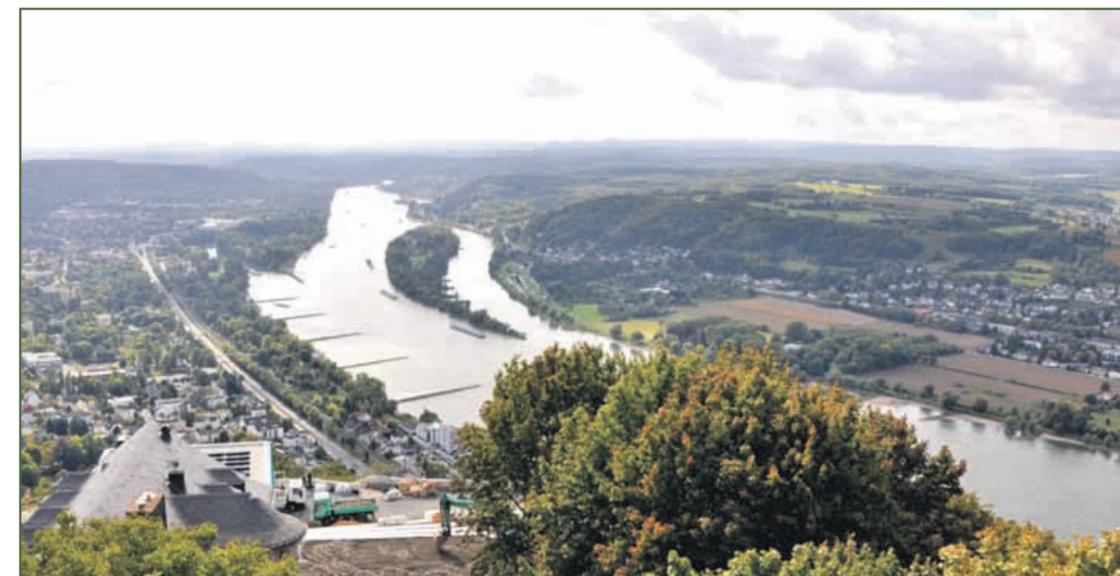


Photo by Wendy Brown

**A view of the Rhein River from Drachenfels, the place where Siegfried killed the dragon Fafnir in "The Nibelungenlied." Lord Byron also made the place famous when he mentioned the spectacular view of the river in "The Pilgrimage of Childe Harold" in the 1800s.**

# Sports and leisure



Photos by Karl Weisel

## Cheering them on during homecoming

The Wiesbaden Warriors may have fallen to Ramstein 14-0 during homecoming, but it wasn't for lack of trying and massive fan support. Football fans turned out in force for the Friday night showdown Oct. 5. Other Wiesbaden athletes were more successful during the homecoming weekend. The boys tennis team defeated Lakenheath 6-3 and girls beat Lakenheath 8-1. Warrior Alex Wieman took first place on the cross country trail in a time of 17:02, leading Wiesbaden to third place overall behind first-place Ramstein. Photos clockwise from above: Wiesbaden JROTC members; Quarterback Carlos Grinter and running back DeQuan Reed and cheerleaders.

## Things to do ... Things to do ... Things to do

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

Wiesbaden's Amelia Earhart Playhouse features the comic musical "Little Shop of Horrors" Oct. 12-14, 19-21 and 26-28. Call the Playhouse at civ (0611) 816 2473 for reservations. The playhouse also holds auditions for its Christmas musical Oct. 15 and 16 from 7-9 p.m. Get involved in the theater, make new friends and contribute either onstage or behind the scenes.

### Free climbing event

The Wiesbaden USO invites single and unaccompanied Soldiers (E-5s and below, O-3s and below in the Wiesbaden military community) to a day of climbing on the Wiesbaden Kletterwald ropes course Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and lunch will be provided for free. A €40 deposit is required to reserve a space (will be returned on the day of the trip). Spaces are limited to sign up by Oct. 13 at the Hainerberg or Clay Kaserne USO centers.

### Sample wines at Kloster Eberbach

The Eberbach Monastery features a session of wine and sparkling wine tasting — this year's prize winners — starting at 2 p.m. Oct. 27. Tickets, costing €21, are available for purchase at the Tourist Information Office in Oestrich-Winkel and other locations. Visit [www.weingenuss-im-kloster.de](http://www.weingenuss-im-kloster.de) for more information.

### USO classes, tours

The Rhein Main Area USOs feature ballroom, swing and salsa dance lessons; portrait photography classes; wine tasting; ballet and more. Upcoming tours include **Saar-Mosel Triangle and Patton's Conquest of Trier** Oct. 13; **Bern, Switzerland**, Oct. 13; **St. Goar** Oct. 20; **Hidden Heidelberg** Oct. 20; **Coburg and the Veste Fortress** Oct. 20; **Paris** Oct. 20; **Poland: Pottery and Sightseeing** Oct. 26; **Meuse-Argonne**



Photo by Chrystal Smith

**The USO and Wiesbaden Kletterwald are teaming up to invite single Soldiers to a free day of climbing.**

**Military History** Oct. 27; **Rhein River Cruise** Oct. 28; **Wartburg Castle and Eisenach** Nov. 3; **Luxembourg** Nov. 3 and **Lyon, France**, Nov. 9-12. Call mil 335-5106 or stop by any Wiesbaden USO for more information.

### Wine fests and more

The town of Lorch on the Rhein River holds an **Onion Cake Festival** Oct. 12-14. Sample the new wine and onion cake. Ruedesheim holds its **New Wine**

**Days** with all kinds of local specialties on the market square Oct. 19-21 and 26-28. Wiesbaden holds a **Wine Fair** Nov. 2-3 at the New Town Hall. Eltville hosts a **Wine Harvest Festival** Nov. 2-5.

### Live at the Irish Pub

Wiesbaden's Irish Pub (Michelsberg 15) features the **Timmy Rough Solo Show** Oct. 11, **The Capones Band** Oct. 12, **Sven Ruppert Band** Oct. 13, **karaoke** Oct. 14 and 16, **open stage nights** Oct. 17 and 24, **Steven McGowan** Oct. 18, **The Benrix** Oct. 19, **Eight Balls** Oct. 20 and **Macy's Mob** Oct. 26. Visit [www.irish-pub-wiesbaden.de](http://www.irish-pub-wiesbaden.de) for more information.

### Upcoming concerts

Frankfurt's Jahrhunderthalle features **Alice Cooper** Nov. 3, **Alanis Morissette** Nov. 16, **Jason Mraz** Nov. 24 and **Kris Kristofferson** Nov. 28. Visit [www.jahrhunderthalle.de](http://www.jahrhunderthalle.de) or call civ (0180) 5360 1240 for ticket information.

### Ballet, opera highlights

The Hessisches Staats Theater Wiesbaden features the ballet **"Romeo and Juliet"** Oct. 13, Verdi's **"La Traviata"** Oct. 14 and 31, Verdi's **"Aida"** Oct. 18 and 28, Donizetti's **"Don Pasquale"** Oct. 25 and a **chamber concert** or works by Britten and others Oct. 14. Visit [www.staatstheater-wiesbaden.de](http://www.staatstheater-wiesbaden.de) for details on these and other performances.

### Christmas Bazaar

The Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury in Wiesbaden holds a Christmas Bazaar Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The historical "English Church" bazaar will feature homemade English treats, hand-crafted items, gift baskets, cake, coffee and more. For more information on the church, services or bazaar visit [www.staustines.de](http://www.staustines.de) or call civ (0611) 306 674.

## Wiesbaden wins boxing tournament *Event gave several new boxers a chance to compete*

**Story and photos  
by Wendy Brown**

**U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office**

As a team, Wiesbaden came in first in the Hispanic History Boxing Tournament at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center Oct. 6. Rubin Stackhouse of Wiesbaden became the event's super heavyweight champion.

Stackhouse, a military police officer who works in customs, said this was his third official boxing match, and so far he has won two and lost one. "It's an outlet," he said. "Instead of getting into trouble, I turned to boxing and turned a negative into a positive."

Many of the tournament's boxers were not as experienced as Stackhouse, but they all gave it their best shot, and many said they would continue boxing. The event took place before a crowd of about 300 people.

Neiko Guillory of Wiesbaden's 4th Air Support Operations Squadron, for example, beat Jeremy Ayala of Grafenwöhr in a light heavyweight match. Not only was this Guillory's first match ever, but he only started training a week before, he said.

"It's fun," Guillory said of boxing.

Likewise, John Purfield of Wiesbaden's 1st Military Intelligence Battalion, said this was his first competition and he had trained for three weeks. Wearing a beat-up pair of white sneakers with tape wound around the bottoms for traction, he beat Antonio McFadden of Heidelberg in a light heavyweight match.

Purfield also said he would like to continue boxing. "It's a way to channel primal male aggression," he said.

One of the evening's crowd favorites was James Beck from Baumholder's 86th Aero-medical Evacuation Squad, who caused the evening's only knockdown. Beck, who was several inches shorter than his opponent, knocked down Marcus Spruill of Grafenwöhr not long after the light heavyweight match began. The referee stopped the contest.

After taking a shower, Beck laughed as a boxing fan wanted to take his picture while he was standing in line for food.

Beck said he started training as a boxer about eight months ago, but this was his first official match. "You train and you train and you want to see where you are," he said.

Another Wiesbaden fighter was Joel Flores of 2nd Signal Brigade, who lost a close fight by decision to Aaron Williams of Baumholder in the light welterweight division.

Flores said it was his first fight and that he had trained for two weeks. "I just did it for Hispanic Heritage Month because I'm Hispanic," he said, but he definitely planned to continue boxing. Grafenwöhr came in second as a team during the tournament, and Baumholder came in third. In other Wiesbaden matches, Mark Ruffin of Wiesbaden beat Nathaniel Barnd of Wiesbaden in the middle heavyweight division, and Daine Watson of Wiesbaden beat Dwayne D. McGowan of Grafenwoehr in the light heavyweight division.

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Command Sgt. Maj. Sa'eed Mustafa said the event's large crowd is evidence that Wiesbaden Family, Morale and Welfare knows how to put on a quality event.

Also, the fact that the event was well done shows that there are quality events for people to attend during long weekends if they choose to stay in Wiesbaden, Mustafa said.

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Sports and Fitness Director Kevin Ringgold said the garrison holds boxing events twice a year, and the next one will likely be in February. The organization has not set a date yet, he said.

Boxers Shawn Elliot of Wiesbaden, John R. Rene of Heidelberg, Odis Robinson of Wiesbaden and Ares Djaf of KSV Schriestein all had uncontested matches and won by default.



Rubin Stackhouse prepares to land a left on the head of Anthony Santiago of Grafenwöhr during the Hispanic History Boxing Tournament at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center Oct. 6. Stackhouse won the match and became the tournament's super heavyweight champion. Photo left: The referee orders James Beck of Baumholder out of the way after Beck knocked down Marcus Spruill of Grafenwöhr. The referee ended the light heavyweight fight. Photo below: Joel Flores of Wiesbaden leans out of the way to avoid a punch from Aaron Williams of Baumholder during a light welterweight bout. Flores lost the match by a decision.



Kevin James (second from left) stars as a high school biology teacher who moonlights as a mixed martial arts fighter to raise money to save the school's music program in "Here Comes the Boom." The film also stars Salma Hayek (third from left).

## Movie plots

**Here Comes The Boom (PG-13)** — Kevin James stars as a high school biology teacher who moonlights as a mixed-martial arts fighter in an effort to raise money to save the school's music program. Also stars Salma Hayek and Joe Rogan.

**Taken 2 (PG-13)** — Liam Neeson is back in this sequel to 2009's surprise global hit "Taken," that sees the actor reprise his role as Bryan Mills, the retired government operative who decimated the Paris underworld to free his kidnapped daughter, played by Maggie Grace.

**Frankenweenie (PG)** — After unexpectedly losing his beloved dog Sparky, Victor harnesses the power of science to bring his best friend back to life — with a few minor adjustments. He tries to hide his home-sewn creation, but when Sparky gets out, Victor's fellow students, teachers and the entire town learn that getting a new "leash on life" can be monstrous. Starring the voices of Winona Ryder, Martin Landau and Martin Short.

**Ted (R)** — Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane brings his boundary-pushing brand of humor to the big screen as writer, director and voice star of Ted. In the live action/animated comedy, he tells the story of John Bennett (Mark Wahlberg), a grown man who must deal with the cherished teddy bear who came to life as the result of a childhood wish ... and has refused to leave his side ever since.

**The Watch (R)** — Suburban dads who form a neighborhood watch group as a way to get out of their day-to-day family routines find themselves defending the Earth from an alien invasion. Stars Jonah Hill, Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn.

**Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (R)** — Filmmakers Tim Burton and Timur Bekmambetov bring a fresh and visceral voice to the bloodthirsty lore of the vampire, imagining President Abraham Lincoln as history's greatest hunter of the undead.

**Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG)** — "Ice Age's" Manny, Diego and Sid embark on their greatest adventure after cataclysm sets an entire continent adrift. Separated from the rest of the herd, they use an iceberg as a makeshift ship, which launches them on an epic seafaring quest.

**The Campaign (R)** — When long-term congressman Cam Brady (Will Ferrell) commits a major public gaffe before an upcoming election, a pair of ultra-wealthy CEOs plot to put up a rival candidate and gain influence over their North Carolina district. Their man: naïve Marty Huggins (Zach Galifianakis), director of the local tourism center. At first, Marty appears to be the unlikeliest possible choice but, with the help of his new benefactors' support, a cutthroat campaign manager and his family's political connections, he soon becomes a contender.

## At the movies Oct. 11-25

### Wiesbaden, Taunus Theater

- Oct. 11 — Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 12 — Taken 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Watch (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13 — Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 4 p.m. Frankenweenie (PG) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 14 — Frankenweenie (PG) 4 p.m. Total Recall (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 15 — Taken 2 (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 16 — The Watch (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 17 — The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 18 — Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter

(R) 7 p.m.

- Oct. 19 — Here Comes The Boom (PG-13) 7 p.m. Argo (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Oct. 20 — Ice Age-Continental Drift (PG) 4 p.m. Here Comes The Boom (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21 — Ice Age-Continental Drift (PG) 4 p.m. The Campaign (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 22 — Argo (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 23 — The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 24 — Ted (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 25 — The Watch (R) 7 p.m.



A boy brings his beloved dog, Sparky, back to life in Tim Burton's "Frankenweenie." Photo left: Liam Neeson is back with a vengeance in the heart-pounding sequel, "Taken 2."