

Volunteers inspire by example

By Dennis Johnson

414th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Many services offered in our military community would be much the poorer without the help of volunteers. And some organizations like the USO, the Red Cross, Girl and Boy Scouts and other community organizations couldn't exist without volunteers.

"I don't know what we'd do if we didn't have the volunteers here every week," said Lori Pond, Hanau's USO manager. "They help us with every aspect of our mission, from recycling the office paper and maintaining the office to helping with the pre-deployment and re-deployment briefings. And we may be moving soon, so I'll be sending out the emails to the volunteers, help!"

There're many reasons people volunteer. Some may be interested in getting out of the house and meeting new people, learning new job skills or sharpening old ones, networking or just to enjoying time with adults away from the children. Other people volunteer solely for the feeling of accomplishment and recognition.

"I've volunteered in every military community I've lived in for the past 15 years," said Jenny Peaster, a former Army Community Service volunteer who is now an ACS outreach coordinator. "Everywhere I go I try to find an outlet for whatever my interests are at the time. During this period while my husband is deployed in Iraq, I wanted to try something different and I was led to ACS by a friend. ACS was just starting their re-integration briefings, way back in August, and I was interested in helping the families, whenever their personal homecomings would be. It was just the outlet I needed to stay busy during this stressful time. The more I got to know the staff at ACS, the more I wanted to be a part of it everyday."

The process of becoming a volunteer for

the 414th BSB is simple. Complete a volunteer registration form and return it to the Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Kristi Kolthoff, at ACS, Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne. Her telephone number is mil 322-8977 or civ (06181) 88-8977. If you're not sure where you'd like to volunteer, Kolthoff can assist you in finding an organization that interests you and needs your help.

"The big needs are at the USO, the Red Cross, the Boy and Girl Scouts and at the CYS sports program," said Kolthoff. Decide where you want to volunteer and she'll provide you with a point of contact for that organization.

Once you begin volunteering it's important that your hours are documented. Official documentation may be necessary to obtain a paid position in the future. Volunteers can request official documentation of their volunteer hours from the IVC. Additionally, the total number of documented volunteer hours plays a major role in allocating funding for the community.

Supervisors of volunteers should make sure that all volunteers are properly registered. "If you have unregistered volunteers, contact me and I'll send out registration forms or come to your organization to assure that everyone is properly registered. Only if they are registered can we give them the recognition they deserve. I want to ensure that all volunteers are recognized for the many contributions they make to our community," said Kolthoff.

Many people volunteer as a way to learn about job opportunities. "It gives the people you're volunteering for a chance to access your work skills, see how you interact in the military community and observe your work ethic," said Terrisa Burke, an ACS outreach specialist and former volunteer. "And just because you're working at one place, that doesn't limit your chances of finding a job elsewhere. Here at ACS I meet people from

other organizations every day, it's just good networking."

Getting a feel for a new career is another good reason to volunteer. Mark Flynn, now an MWR sports specialist, first volunteered for three months at the Pioneer Fitness Center.

"It was a good way to see if I was interested in making a career in the sports and fitness field. But working at the fitness center doesn't seem like a job. Working with the people is the big thing. Everyday we're trying to put a smile on people's faces. Sports are good for the morale of the Soldiers, and it helps to make their overseas tours a bit less stressful. And we serve their families too. Even though I work full time, I still volunteer a lot," said Flynn.

Volunteers play a bigger part in our community than most people realize. From April 2002 to March 2003 there were 1,126 volunteers enrolled in the 414th BSB. Seven hundred and twenty two of these volunteers donated 70,806 volunteer hours, and those were just the documented hours.

If all these volunteers were paid employees, the amount they would have received in salaries has been estimated to be \$1,171,131.

"Not only adults volunteer, our youth do as well. In Büdingen two teens regularly come into the Büdingen Outreach Center to help out," said Burke. "We also have some retired military helping in the community."

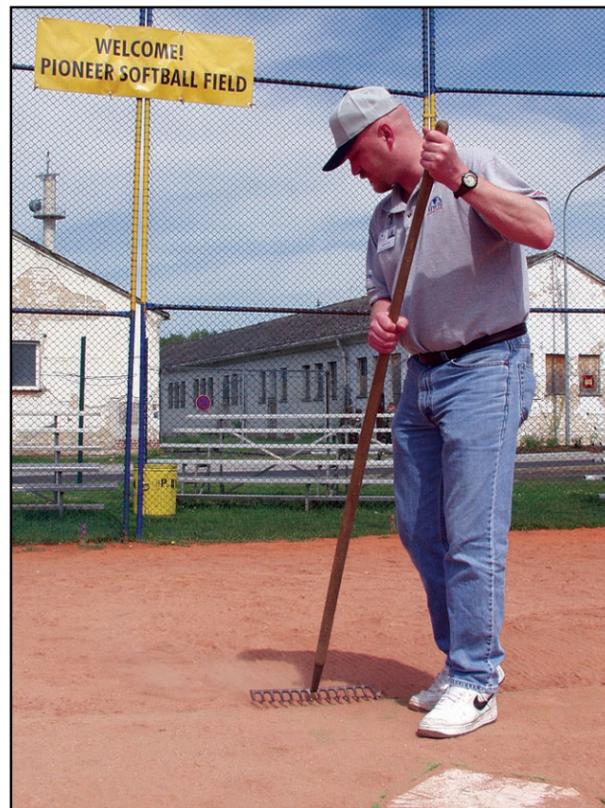


Photo by Dennis Johnson

Mark Flynn's volunteer work helped lead to a new job at the sports center on Pioneer Kaserne.

To give thanks to these selfless people, a Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, sponsored by ACS, will be held at 6 p.m. on May 14 at the International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. This year's theme is "Volunteers Inspire by Example."

All registered volunteers who logged hours between April 1, 2003, and March 31, 2004, will receive invitations to the ceremony. "We cannot express enough our thanks to all the selfless and devoted volunteers. Our community would not be the success it is without our incredible volunteers," said Peaster.



Hitting the road for German-American partnership

Soldiers give a smile and a wave during a road march, April 28, near Hanau. One hundred and seventy six Soldiers from the 130th Engineer Brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 565th Engineer Battalion, the Hanau Dental Clinic and the 71st Ordnance Company marched in order to earn the Leistungsabzeichen, the prestigious German Army Achievement Badge. The event was sponsored by the German Army Reservisten Kameradschaft unit from Hanau and the Bundeswehr from Schoeneck.

Photo by Jayme Lopnow



Bulletin board

At the movies May 11-27

Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

- May 11 — Welcome To Mooseport (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 12-13 — Broken Lizard's Club Dread (R) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — The Alamo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 4 p.m. The Alamo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 16 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 4 p.m. Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 17-18 — Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 19-20 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — Free Army Soldier Show 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 4 p.m. Walking Tall (PG) 7 p.m.
- May 23 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 4 p.m. Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 24-25 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 26-27 — Hidalgo (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Büdingen, Little

Closed

Dexheim, Rhein

- May 14 — Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Walking Tall (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 16 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 3 p.m.
- May 21 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 23 — Agent Cody Banks: Destination London (PG) 3 p.m.

Friedberg, Old Ironsides

- May 13 — Broken Lizard's Club Dread (R) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — Taking Lives (R) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Cheaper By The Dozen (PG) 2 p.m. Taking Lives (R) 7 p.m.
- May 16 — The Passion Of The Christ (R) 3 and 7 p.m.
- May 20 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — The Ladykillers (R) 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (PG) 2 and 7 p.m.
- May 23 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 27 — Hidalgo (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Giessen, Skyline

- May 11-12 — Spartan (R) 7 p.m.
- May 13 — The Passion Of The Christ (R) 3 and 8 p.m.
- May 14 — The Passion Of The Christ (R) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Along Came Polly (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 16 — The Big Bounce (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 18 — The Passion Of The Christ (R) 7 p.m.
- May 19 — Taking Lives (R) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — The Perfect Score (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Spartan (R) 7 p.m.
- May 23 — You Got Served (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 25 — The Ladykillers (R) 7 p.m.

Movies and times subject to change by local theaters. For the most up-to-date schedule visit the ASG's website (see address below).



Hugh Jackman and Kate Beckinsale team up to destroy Count Dracula in "Van Helsing."

- May 26 — Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (PG) 7 p.m.

Hanau, Evening Star

- May 11 — 50 First Dates (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 12 — Broken Lizard's Club Dread (R) 7 p.m.
- May 13 — Welcome To Mooseport (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 7 p.m. Eurotrip (R) 9:30 p.m.
- May 15 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 7 p.m. Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- May 16 — Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 17 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 18 — Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 19 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 7 p.m.
- May 20 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — Van Helsing (PG-13) 7 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 9:30 p.m.
- May 22 — Van Helsing (PG-13) 7 p.m. Hidalgo (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- May 23 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 4 p.m. Van Helsing (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 24 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 25 — Hidalgo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 26 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 27 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 7 p.m.

Rhein Main, Gardens

- May 12 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — The Alamo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 5 p.m. Eurotrip (R) 7:30 p.m.
- May 16 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 19 — Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — Hidalgo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 5 p.m. Walking Tall (PG-13) 7:30 p.m.

- May 23 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.

- May 26 — Van Helsing (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wackernheim, McCully

- May 12 — The Alamo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 26 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Flyers

- May 13 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 15 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 20 — Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 22 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 7 p.m.
- May 27 — Van Helsing (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Taunus

- May 11 — Walking Tall (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 12 — Against The Ropes (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 13 — Welcome To Mooseport (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 14 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 7 p.m. Man On Fire (R) 9:30 p.m.
- May 15 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 4 p.m. Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m. Eurotrip (R) 9:30 p.m.
- May 16 — Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) 4 p.m. Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 17 — Eurotrip (R) 7 p.m.
- May 18 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 19 — Twisted (R) 7 p.m.
- May 20 — Man On Fire (R) 7 p.m.
- May 21 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 7 p.m. Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- May 22 — To be announced locally
- May 23 — Free U.S. Army Soldier Show 7 p.m.
- May 24 — Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 25 — Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) 7 p.m.
- May 26 — Hidalgo (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- May 27 — Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Movie plots

Van Helsing (PG-13) — Monster hunter Dr. Abraham Van Helsing (Hugh Jackman) is summoned to a mysterious land to vanquish evil forces including Count Dracula (Richard Roxburgh), the Wolf Man (Will Kemp) and Frankenstein's Monster (Schuler Hensley). Assisting him is Anna Valerious (Kate Beckinsale), the heir of a long-running family committed to hunting down and destroying Dracula.

Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen (PG) — A teen is convinced her city revolves around her until her family packs up and moves to the suburbs. There, she finds herself competing for attention because another girl has already staked a claim as the school's center of attention. The result is a comic battle for adolescent bragging rights. Stars Lindsay Lohan, Alison Pill and Adam Garcia.

Laws Of Attraction (PG-13) — As divorce attorneys Audrey and Daniel (Julianne Moore and Pierce Brosnan) have seen love gone wrong in all its worst case scenarios. Now it's their turn to try their hands at romance.

Eurotrip (R) — Scotty Thomas (Scott Mechlowicz) and his Berlin-based email pal Mieke (Jessica Boehrs) have been writing each other for years, sharing every detail of their lives. When Mieke makes a cyber pass at Scotty, he freaks out, thinking the guy he's known for years is coming on to him — in German no less. Scotty doesn't realize that in Germany Mieke is a girl's name. Stars Scott Mechlowicz and Michelle Trachtenberg.

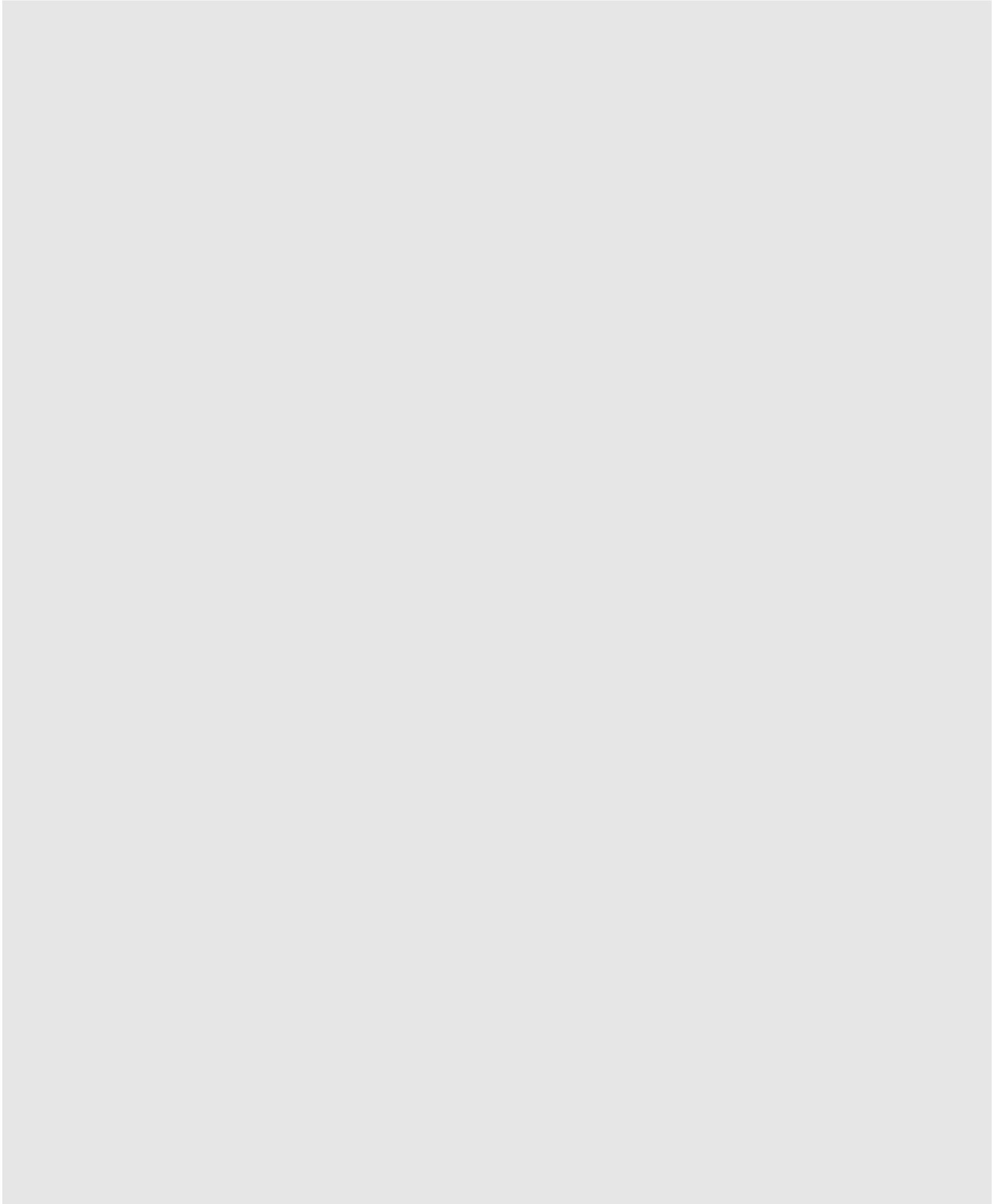
Man On Fire (R) — Denzel Washington is a government operative/Soldier who reluctantly agrees to take a job protecting a child (Dakota Fanning) whose parents are threatened by a wave of kidnappings. When she is abducted he stops at nothing to save her.

Walking Tall (PG) — Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson plays Chris Vaughn, a retired Soldier, who returns to his hometown to discover his high school rival, Jay Hamilton (Neal McDonough), has closed the once-prosperous lumber mill and turned the town's resources toward criminal gain. The place is now overrun with crime, drugs and violence. Enlisting the help of his old pal Ray Templeton (Johnny Knoxville), Chris gets elected sheriff and vows to shut down Hamilton's operations.

Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG) — Frankie Muniz returns as a super-cool spy in this sequel. A rogue CIA agent (and Cody's trainer) has stolen a top secret mind control device, and Cody must go undercover in London to get it back.

Starsky And Hutch (PG-13) — Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson team up again in this movie remake of the popular 1970s TV show. Snoop Dogg plays their savvy street informant, Huggy Bear.

Herald Union classifieds



Picking up children's spirits at Springfield

Week of activities takes sting out of extension surprise

By David Ruderman
104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Springfield Elementary School students, teachers and families responded to the news of the 1st Armored Division extension with a week of special activities to keep children engaged and show their support for Soldiers.

"It's everything for the troops," said Subrina Morris, school secretary and volunteer coordinator. "We're calling it Spirit Week. We're going to be patriotic, wearing red, white and blue."

Activities May 3-7 included Soldiers coming into classrooms to read to students. Children engaged in hanging yellow ribbons and Soldier stars, planting flowers, mounting pictures of deployed Soldiers on bulletin boards and theatrical performances.

Among Springfield's approximately 300 children, over 80 percent have a parent serving in Iraq, said school officials.

"This is in response to the extension. Actually our children are doing fine," said Morris, whose husband is downrange with the Fliegerhorst-based 127th Aviation Support Battalion. He was two hours away from a flight to Germany when the news of the extension broke. They have three children, one of whom is a fourth-grader at Springfield.

"As long as he's doing fine, I'm doing fine," said Morris.

"I think in the first couple of days everybody was in shock because they had parties planned and houses cleaned and were looking forward to it so much," said school counselor Penny Carson. "When the news broke on Friday there was a big uproar. I just heard it from the moms Monday morning. What can they do?"

"We noticed immediately with the kids, after they announced their dads and moms wouldn't be coming home, that they were depressed," said principal Eric Gentry. "Maybe that's too strong a word, but they were down."

The school reacted by organizing Spirit



Photo by David Ruderman

Baillie Taft (from left), Alexandria Ortiz, Paige Smith and Jaius Truss read "Mop Top—A Tale of Norway" under the watchful eye of fourth-grade teacher Sarah Starkovich (back right) during an evening of Spirit Week dramatic performances May 3.

Week activities to help the children cope.

"Several kids reacted by being angry," said Carson. "A lot depends on how the moms react. I really feel for these women.

Some of them have a hard time coping. As for

the children, of course they were upset, but they're OK now."

Earlier in the school year Carson met with small groups of boys who were depressed, missing their fathers. She would tell children to close their eyes at night in bed and send good thoughts to their parents in Iraq. "We

always try to talk to the kids. I always try to instill in them that, yes, your dad's going to come home, he's going to be fine. If you just put it out there it comes back to you," she said.

"Last year when the Soldiers deployed we had counseling sessions. We still have counseling sessions by class and individually," said Morris.

For Spirit Week, Carson was involved in the Soldier star project. "I'm going to have them cut out stars and put the name of whoever they have in Iraq on them. It's a real pick-me-up for them," she said.

Fourth-grade teacher Sarah Starkovich worked with students to produce a series of stage performances the evening of May 3. "It was to welcome home the Soldiers, but now that isn't going to happen. We just switched it to go with Spirit Week," she said.

First- through third-graders read out "reader theater" plays, scripts for younger children, and fourth- and fifth-graders presented "Beauty Is a Beast," projects they had been working on since February.

"They were very disappointed because they worked really hard," said Starkovich. "I think my favorite part is seeing the kids get so excited."

Children have been doing well despite the yearlong separation from their Soldier parents, said art teacher George Kofas.

"It's been in the back of kids' minds, but to me it's seemed mostly business as usual. I'm sure there's stress for the students knowing their dads aren't coming home when they thought they would. I try to factor that in, be a little more easygoing and joking around because they just need to feel good. We try to be a lot more understanding," he said.

The school will make coverage of Spirit Week activities available to deployed parents through its website, said Morris. "For downrange purposes it's going to be on our website. I'm going to talk to the Family Readiness Groups so they can spread the word to the Soldiers. It's really cool. The kids are very excited about it."

"Everybody's pulling together on this, the parents too," said Gentry. "The kids know we're here for them, and the Soldiers downrange know we're taking care of their kids and support what they're doing."

Focus on Springfield Elementary School



School bits

Space camp scholarships

The Military Child Education Coalition will send 10 children of active duty Soldiers enrolled in sixth- through ninth-grade to Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala., for one week as recipients of the Bernard Curtis Brown Space Camp Scholarship. Awardees may attend anytime between June and December this year. Applications must be faxed or postmarked by May 17. Go to www.militarychild.org and scroll down for details and an application.

Transition Counselors Institute

Heidelberg District school guidance counselors, liaison officers and administrators are invited to a two-day Transi-

tion Counselors Institute May 17-18 at the Rhein-Main Heidelberg Professional Development Center in Gateway Gardens. The institute will focus on easing transition difficulties for Department of Defense Dependents Schools students, and will be co-led by Dr. Mary Keller, executive director of the Military Child Education Coalition. Parents of children of all ages are invited to a parents workshop to be held May 19 at 6 p.m. in the Heidelberg High School auditorium. Free child care is available to those who make reservations at civ (06221) 677 326.

Bookmarks of distinction

Congratulations to **Shelby McDeavitt, Matthew Crawford and Sally Krenz**, winners of the Hanau and Büdingen Libraries bookmark design contest, a part of National Library Week activities April 18-23. The winning bookmarks will be printed and distributed to library patrons.

Tech Fair seeks volunteers

Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe will host the 20th annual Technology Fair May 25-26 at Gen. H.H. Arnold High School. Volunteer are sought to judge and sponsor the approximately 300 participants in a variety of professional technical studies ranging from architectural modeling to website design. For details call fair coordinator Frank Pendzich at mil 337-6268 or civ (0611) 705-6319.

Warrior Spring Concert

Gen. H.H. Arnold High School band and show choir musicians will join their German peers for a free Spring Concert May 13 in the Wiesbaden Music and Art School at 7 p.m. The school is at Schillerstr. 1, across the square from the Rathaus. For details call mil 337-6319.



Sports and leisure

Take a hike

By Donald Seltzer
Special to the Herald Union



Weekend of May 15-16

Daxweiler — This walk takes wanderers to the Soonwald forests west of Bingen. From points east take Autobahns 60 and 61 past Bingen. Exit at Stromberg to follow unnumbered roads and IVV signs through Warmsroth to Daxweiler.

Start: Hause der Gemeinde **Saturday and Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly woods **Award:** None.

Kreuzwertheim — Southeast of Aschaffenburg and west of Würzburg, this event is in Naturpark Spessart adjacent to the Main River. Take Autobahn 3 toward Würzburg and exit at Marktheidenfeld. Follow an unnumbered road toward Oberwittbach and Röttbach to the start.

Start: Dreschhalle **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (10 and 15 km) and 7 a.m. to noon. (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods **Award:** From previous year

Lauterbach/Hessen — This event is an opportunity to enjoy the scenic beauty northwest of Fulda and is easy to reach from Giessen. Take B-254 from Fulda to Lauterbach. From Giessen take Autobahn 5 toward Bad Hersfeld, exit at Alsfeld and continue on B-254 to the start.

Start: Vogelsbergschule **Saturday:** 4-7 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** From previous events.

Wörsdorf/Taunus — This event is north of Wiesbaden on the edge of Naturpark Hochtaunus. Wooded trails offer scenic views after a long, uphill start. Take Autobahn 3 toward Limburg, exit at Idstein and follow B-275 and an unnumbered road to Wörsdorf. From Wiesbaden and Mainz use B-417 and B-275 north toward Limburg and Idstein to Wörsdorf.

Start: Gemeindehalle **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6, 11 and 20 km) **Trail:** Very hilly, woods **Award:** From previous events.

Friday, May 21

Mörten — Late starting times make this event in the scenic Hoher Westerwald west of Herborn possible for readers in Giessen. Follow Autobahn 45 to the Herborn-West exit and follow B-414 toward Bad Marienberg. Pick up an unnumbered road at Kirburg to Mörten.

Start: Bürgerhaus **Friday:** 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. (6 and 10 km) and 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** Keychain flashlight.

Weekend of May 22-23

Hahnstätten — Find a variety of trails at this event directly south of Limburg. Take Autobahn 3 toward Limburg, exit at Bad Camberg and follow unnumbered roads through Beuerbach, Ohren and Kirberg to Hahnstätten.

Start: Bürgerhaus **Saturday:** 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km), 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) and 6-11 a.m. (30 km) **Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) and 6-10 a.m. (30 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** From previous events.

Hattersheim-Okrfittel — Midway between Frankfurt and Wiesbaden, this walk is easy to reach for readers in the central region of the 104th Area Support Group. Take Autobahns 66 or 67 toward Wiesbaden (or head toward Frankfurt from Wiesbaden). Take the Hattersheim exit from A-66 and follow IVV directional signs to Okrfittel.

Start: Haus der Vereine **Saturday and Sunday:** 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 km), 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (10 km) and 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Flat, almost entirely stroller-friendly, fields and city neighborhoods. Pay attention to trail markings or you'll miss the turns. **Award:** Lanyard for keys.

Weekend of May 29-30

Bensheim — Participants at this event can enjoy a scenic drive along the Bergstrasse, or castle road, which winds south from Darmstadt through Bensheim and Heidelberg to Bruchsal. Take Autobahn 5 south toward Heidelberg, exit at Bensheim and follow B-47 to the start or pick up B-3 south to Bensheim from the Pfungstadt exit of A-5.

Start: Weststadthalle on the Berliner Ring **Saturday and Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) and 6-8 a.m. (42 km) **Trail:** Fairly flat, mostly fields (5 and 10 km); hilly, fields and woods (20 and 42 km) **Award:** Model truck (shorter trails) or patch and certificate (marathon).

Münster-Sarmsheim — This event southwest of Bingen is easy to reach. From points east follow Autobahns

60 to Bingen and 61 toward Koblenz. Exit at Dorsheim and backtrack a bit toward Bingen to pick up B-48 to the start.

Start: Grundschule **Saturday and Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Somewhat hilly, fields and woods **Award:** Ceramic bear.

Weekend of June 4-6

Dietkirchen — This event offers a triathlon north of Limburg with walking and cycling trails at Dietkirchen and swimming at nearby Limburg. Bike rental and shuttle service will be available. Take Autobahn 3 toward Köln and exit at Limburg-Süd. Follow B-3 to Lindenholzhausen and an unnumbered road to Eschhofen and Dietkirchen. Watch for IVV directional signs.

Start: Bürgerhaus in Dietkirchen and Freibad Limburg **Saturday:** 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 and 10 km, plus cycling), 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (20 km), 6-9 a.m. (42 km) and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (swim) **Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km, plus cycling), 6-9 a.m. (42 km) and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (swim) **Trail:** Hilly, woods **Award:** Porcelain doll for shorter walks, certificate for triathlon and patch and certificate for marathon.

Seibersbach — This event is in the Soonwald west of Bingen. Take Autobahn 61 toward Koblenz, exit at Stromberg and follow an unnumbered road approximately 4-5 miles toward Stromberg and Rheinböllen. Pick up an unnumbered road to Seibersbach and watch for IVV signs.

Start: Dorfgemeinschaftshaus **Saturday and Sunday:** 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km), 6-9 a.m. (42 km) and 6-7:30 a.m. (50 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, fields and woods **Award:** Garden mushroom figurine (shorter trails) or patch and certificate (marathon).

Thursday, June 10

Mainz-Bretzenheim — This midweek walk south-southwest of Mainz presents an after-work hiking possibility for readers nearby. Take Autobahns 60 and 63 (at Autobahn Kreuz Mainz) toward Mainz. Shortly after the Autobahn turns into B-40, look for the start at the Alte Ziegelei.

Start: Alte Ziegelei **Thursday:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5 and 11 km) and 8 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Trail:** Flat, fields and some woods **Award:** From previous events.

Questions? Send email to volksmarch@hotmail.com.



Benefit golf tourney

The Wiesbaden Association of Good Neighbors hosts a benefit golf tournament May 22 at Wiesbaden's Rheinblick Golf Course. Proceeds raised will go to support



Photo by Karl Weisel

Cyclists can put their endurance to the test at the Dexheim Biathlon May 29. See right for details.

the German-American Student Exchange Program of the Federation of German-American Clubs and the Wiesbaden Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program. The tournament greens fee is €50. Make reservations by calling Klaus-Peter Hollenkamp at civ (0611) 564 476 by May 18.

Dexheim Biathlon

Team 221st Sport and Fitness hosts the fourth annual Dexheim Biathlon May 29 at 10 a.m. Registration is at 8 a.m. that day. Cost is \$20 including a commemorative T-shirt. Call mil 334-5746 or 5685 for details.

Free football tickets

Several American players will take the field when the Darmstadt Diamonds kick off their second German league football season against the Wiesbaden Phantoms May 15 at 3 p.m. at Darmstadt's Böllenfalltor. U.S. ID card holders get into the game free as a show of appreciation. Other games will be held May 23 (versus the Kirchdorf Wildcats), July 31 (versus the Hanau Hornets), Aug. 7 (versus the Munich Cowboys), Aug. 14 (versus the Franken Timberwolves) and Aug. 28 (against the Allgäu Comets). All games will be played at the Darmstadt Bürgerpark, except the Aug. 7 game at the Böllenfalltor and cost ID card holders \$2 entry.

Sports shorts

G-A hoop action

A German-American Friendship Basketball Tournament will be held June 5 at Giessen's Miller Hall Fitness Center. Call mil 343-7201 for details and to sign up.

Prenatal yoga

A yoga exercise routine for pregnant women starts in June at Wiesbaden's Tony Bass Fitness Center. Classes will be held Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon. Call mil 337-6943.

Over-30 basketball

The fifth annual Over-30 Basketball Tournament will be held June 5-6 in Wiesbaden. Entry is \$125 per team of 12 players (including coaches). Call mil 337-5943 for details.

3-on-3 basketball

The 284th Base Support Battalion holds a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament June 12-13 at Giessen's Miller Hall. Team entry fee is \$35 per four-person team. Sign up at Miller Hall or Friedberg's Ray Barracks Fitness Center.

Youth golf clinic

Baumholder's Rolling Hills Golf Course features a Junior Golf Clinic (for youths age 7-18) every Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. starting June 15. Cost is \$75. Call mil 485-7299.

Galaxy versus Claymores

The Frankfurt Galaxy take on the Scottish Claymores May 16 and the Berlin Thunder May 22 at Frankfurt's Waldstadion. Call the Galaxy hotline at civ (0180) 526 6216 or stop by the Darmstadt USO for tickets.

Vets Wheelchair Games

More than 500 disabled veterans will compete in the largest annual wheelchair sports event in the world — the 24th National Veterans Wheelchair Games, June 15-19 in St. Louis. The games, presented by the Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America, are open to all U.S. veterans who use wheelchairs for sports competition due to spinal cord injuries, certain neurological conditions, amputations or other mobility impairments. For more information about the games browse to www.wheelchairgames.org. (VANEWS)

Martial arts classes

Wiesbaden's Tony Bass Fitness Center offers western-style karate classes Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-9 p.m. Pre-registration is required for the eight-week program. Cost is \$80. Call mil 337-5943.

Giessen castle run set

Giessen's Schiftenberg Castle will be the site of a 7.5-kilometer run and 3-kilometer family fun walk May 29 at 11 a.m. Register from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Cost is \$15 with a commemorative T-shirt or, \$10 without. Walkers enter free. Call mil 343-7201 for details.

Sports and leisure



Photo by Karl Weisel

Tennessee National Guardsman Sgt. 1st Class Randy Harris adds a few hot licks during the Charlie Daniels Band concert on Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

Things to do

Army Soldier Show

The 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show will be featured in Hanau's Fliegerhorst Fitness Center May 16, Baumholder's Wagon Wheel Theater May 21 and Wiesbaden's Taunus Theater May 23. All shows start at 7 p.m. and are free.

Kubrick exhibit

The Deutsche Film Museum in Frankfurt features an exhibition of photos, cameras and other items detailing the work of famed director Stanley Kubrick through July 4. The museum is located next to the Architecture and Communication museums on the Sachsenhausen side of the Main River at Schaumainkai 41.

Outdoor Rec trips

Hanau Outdoor Recreation features a **London Express Trip** May 14-16, **Lahn River Canoe Trip** May 22, **Trip to Spain's Costa Brava** May 27-31, **Black Forest and Strasbourg Trip** May 28-29 and a trip to **Europa Park** May 31. Stop by Outdoor Recreation in Building 459 on Old Argonner Kaserne or call mil 322-8891 for more information.

Rhein Main bazaar

Rhein Main's Community Spouses Club holds a bazaar May 14-16 in Hangar 425 at Rhein Main Airbase.

Dali on display

The Heuson-Museum in Büdingen presents the work of Salvador Dali through June 15 to mark the 100th birthday of the Spanish surrealist. About 270 works in a variety of media are on display. The Heuson-Museum, Rathausgasse 6, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

'Art' at playhouse

Wiesbaden's Amelia Earhart Playhouse presents the hit comedy, "Art," May 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. Pick up tickets at the Hainerberg or Wiesbaden Army Airfield USO offices or call the playhouse at civ (0611) 816-2473 for reservations.

Concert highlights

Frankfurt's Amerika Haus presents blues musicians **David Evans** May 11 and **Rick Vito and the Lucky Devils** May 26 at 9 p.m. at Frankfurt's Blues and Beyond (Bergerstrasse 159). Call civ (069) 1340 400 for tickets. Frankfurt's Alte Oper features **Nelly Furtado** June 23. Call civ (069) 1340400 for tickets. **Melissa Etheridge** performs at the Frankfurt-Höchst Jahrhundert-halle July 18. Call civ (069) 9443660.

The devil went down to Wiesbaden

Charlie Daniels Band rocks the hangar during free concert

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Charlie Daniels fiddled his way into the hearts of Soldiers, civilians and family members at Wiesbaden Army Airfield May 6. Members of the Charlie Daniels Band performed a free concert on the airfield to show their patriotism and support for U.S. troops.

"I was planning on just coming out here to check on our troops," said Gen. Gus Hargett Jr., adjutant general for the Tennessee National Guard who helped coordinate the event with U.S. Army Europe. "Charlie got wind of it and asked if he could come along," said the ad-



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

Charlie Daniels fans express their appreciation for the music.

jutant general who has more than 200 Tennessee National Guardsmen deployed to Kosovo and Germany.

Hargett said he called his friend and fellow Tennessee native, Gen.

B.B. Bell, U.S. Army Europe commander, who then made it happen.

Six months later, Hargett and the band, along with local media from Tennessee, began their trip, starting in Ramstein with a visit to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center May 4.

"The spirit and patriotism of these kids, some of whom have arms or legs blown off, are just amazing. I expected to find low morale; instead I found out that these kids want to go back down-range," Daniels said. Daniels talked about one Soldier in the hospital who lost his leg in Iraq. "He told his commander to get him a leg and 'send me back to fight.'"

After visiting the wards in Landstuhl the entourage headed for the Balkans, where Daniels and his band performed a free concert

for Soldiers there and visited Tennessee National Guardsmen.

"This is my way to serve [our country]. I can't serve myself, but I can certainly support those who do," said Daniels during a private lunch at the Wiesbaden Dining Facility the next day.

More than 60 of the Tennessee National Guard Soldiers were bused in from Mannheim, Stuttgart, Kaiserslautern and Heidelberg to meet with Daniels, get autographs and talk about "home."

"We don't get to see someone like this that often, especially someone from our home. It's a real honor to meet with Mr. Daniels and the general," said Spc. Nick Oswald of Chattanooga, Tenn.

"People don't understand what the Guard does. They think we're different because we're in the National Guard. But we deployed to 38 countries last year. We're not different, we just choose not to be on active duty all the time," Hargett said. "And now I'm here, and if there's anything I can do to make things better for these guys, I'll do it."

During the free concert in Wiesbaden the guardsmen waved the Tennessee state flag as some 1,000 people filled Hangar 1036 to hear good old country music. Fans were on their feet by the time the 75-minute concert concluded with Daniels fiddling to his well-known song, "The Devil Went Down to Georgia."



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

Tennessee National Guard Soldiers and others look on as a fan cuts loose.