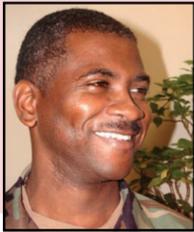


## Inside



### Reader feedback

"Service members should be given respect on that day because they've given lots of sacrifices for their country," said Sgt. 1st Class Edward Modlin in this week's survey about the meaning of Veterans Day. See page 2.



### Haunting fun

Soldiers and civilians enjoy a host of Halloween happenings in the Wiesbaden area. See page 5.



### Emergency response

Baumholder tests its readiness during a chemical spill exercise. See pages 14 and 15.

# Herald Union



Vol. XI, No. 3

Serving the military communities of the 104th Area Support Group

Nov. 11, 2003

## News flash

### Open season for health benefits

Open season to modify current health insurance plans or select a new one for federal employees runs through Dec. 8. Employees should visit the Federal Employees Health Benefits website at [www.opm.gov/insure/03/index.asp](http://www.opm.gov/insure/03/index.asp) to review the open season guide, make changes or obtain health plan brochures. Employees are advised that some insurers do not offer coverage for overseas employees. Information regarding overseas coverage is available online at [www.opm.gov/insure/03/html/overseas.asp](http://www.opm.gov/insure/03/html/overseas.asp). (U.S. Army Civilian Personnel Directorate Release)

### Iraq casualties

Spc. John P. Johnson, age 24, of Houston, Texas, and Baumholder's 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, died of non-combat-related injuries in Baghdad Oct. 22. Pfc. Rachel K. Bosveld, age 19, of Waupun, Wis., and Giessen's 527th Military Police Company, was mortally wounded Oct. 26 during a mortar attack on the Abu Ghraib Police Station in Iraq. 2nd Lt. Benjamin J. Colgan, age 30, of Kent, Wash., and Giessen's 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, died as a result of injuries suffered after being struck by an improvised explosive device in Baghdad Nov. 1.

### New commander

Capt. Melisa D. Hartigan assumed command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 104th Area Support Group, from Capt. Patrick A. Monroe in a ceremony in Hanau's Cardwell Fitness Center Nov. 6. Hartigan formerly served as S-3 plans and operations officer with the 16th Corps Support Group in Hanau. Monroe moves on to an assignment with the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command in Fort Lee, Va.

# Gearing up for Thanksgiving

## Local dining facilities set for holiday gatherings

Military dining facilities are opening their doors this holiday season to provide the traditional feast on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In the communities of the 104th Area Support Group the following dining facilities will be open on Thanksgiving, Nov. 27:

**Dexheim (Anderson Barracks) and Wiesbaden (Army Airfield)** — from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Giessen (Building 19 on the depot)** — from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for meal card holders and noon to 3 p.m. for non meal card holders.

**Friedberg (1-36th Dining Facility on Ray Barracks)** — from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Hanau (Sapper's Inn on Pioneer**



Photo by Karl Weisel

Soldiers, civilians and family members enjoy a Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings at a 104th ASG dining facility during last year's celebration.

**Kaserne** — from noon to 4 p.m.

**Hanau (Underwood Kaserne in Grossauheim)** — from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Büdingen (Armstrong Barracks)** — from noon to 3:30 p.m.

**Baumholder (Smith Housing) and Baumholder (Strassburg Kaserne)** — from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

"As in years past, our dining facilities are making every effort to

ensure terrific meal support for all our personnel," said Michael J. Damico, Installation Management Agency-Europe food program manager. "The traditional holiday meals are the biggest community and family-oriented meals we provide in our dining facilities. Our entire food operations staff — from food service specialists, food operations sergeants, food advisers and Area Support Group food program managers — are hard at work to provide a memorable holiday meal for all."

The discount meal rate for family members of enlisted personnel in pay grades E-1 through E-4 is \$4.55. All others pay the standard rate of \$5.25.

Soldiers and family members will be invited to send holiday wishes to their friends and loved ones serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as camera teams will be taping in dining facilities during the holiday meal. For more information

**See Dining on page 3**

## To avoid accidents, injuries

# Play it safe during winter weather

Colder weather brings a host of challenges. Staying safe on European roads, remaining warm and dry in the most adverse weather conditions and preventing injuries on slippery surfaces are all vital considerations at this time of year, said safety officials.

"European safety statistics show that motorists constantly underestimate the danger of driving in adverse weather conditions," said Mohammed Awan of the 414th Base Support Battalion's Safety Office. "Thousands of accidents occur because of fog, black ice, glare ice and unsafe driving practices.

"Operating a vehicle during the winter season requires us to be alert and cautious," Awan said. "Listening to late night and early morning

radio and television weather forecasts is recommended."

Listeners in the 104th Area Support Group should tune their radios to either the AM or FM American Forces Network radio stations to get the latest updates on school and office closings, hazardous driving conditions and traffic information.

Motorists should take the following things into consideration when preparing for adverse weather conditions, Awan said:

\* Clean vehicle windows, headlights and tail lights that are covered in ice and snow completely. "Peep hole" driving is forbidden and dangerous.

**See Winter on page 3**



Photo by Karl Weisel

Add winter weather to already speedy Autobahn traffic and the combination can be deadly.

## When help is needed

## Emergency Placement Care provides safe haven

By David Ruderman  
104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Families under stress often take out anger and pain on the weakest member of the group — the child. Army Community Service offices

around the 104th Area Support Group are recruiting Emergency Placement Care homes to temporarily harbor children while the parents put themselves, and their child's world, back together.

"Our main goal is to protect chil-

dren in a situation that could endanger their lives or their well-being," said Christy Eplee, EPC coordinator for the 414th Base Support Battalion ACS in Hanau.

**See Emergency Placement Care on page 4**

# Commentary

## Feedback: What does Veterans Day mean to you?



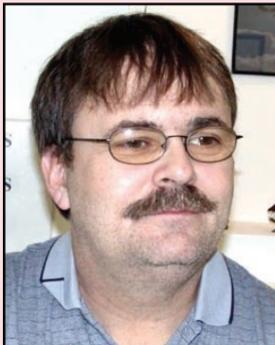
**Craig Birchard**  
284th Base Support Battalion

"Veterans Day, which was originally called Armistice Day, is a day set aside to honor Soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen who fought and won America's wars. For me it is important to remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so gallantly to ensure that there would be an enduring peace in the world."



**Master Sgt. Horris Lindsey**  
104th Area Support Group S-2/3

"Me being an old veteran, it means a lot. I've been there — Vietnam, Desert Storm. It's a day to remember all that we've done to protect our country — all of our sacrifices. Although I think for some Americans it's just another holiday."



**Gene Winfree**  
222nd Base Support Battalion Schools Office

"Veterans Day is a day to honor all those who fought for our country to make our country free. There are times when I think America does not pay enough respect to those who served, but then it's all in the eyes of the beholder."



**Staff Sgt. Jeffrey G. Snyder**  
284th Base Support Battalion  
Provost Marshal's Office

"Veterans Day is special to me. There are generations of veterans in my family. My grandfather served in Korea; another grandfather served during World War II; my younger brother is in the Army and is currently deployed to Iraq. The great things our veterans have done for us makes me proud to serve in the military."



**Madeleine Dwoiakowski**  
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs

"What started as Armistice Day after World War I was later declared Veterans Day, and it is intended not only to preserve the historical significance of the date but it is a celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to sacrifice for the common good. ... Veterans Day is for the living who so valiantly fought for our freedom that we cherish today."

## Keep holidays safe

**By Gen. B.B. Bell**  
U.S. Army Europe  
commander



We will celebrate two special holidays in November: Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Veterans Day is observed to honor those who served with the U.S. armed forces during wartime. Thanksgiving provides an opportunity for us to give thanks for our freedom and think about those who go into harm's way to preserve it, including our forward-deployed soldiers.

Many of our soldiers and their families will be traveling or taking part in winter activities over the Veterans Day and Thanksgiving holiday weekends. These long weekends, however, are often marred by accidents, especially those involving privately owned vehicles and winter sports. To help avoid needless tragedy and to ensure that our soldiers are prepared for the upcoming holidays, first-line leaders must do the following:

- \* Take time before the holidays to help soldiers plan and prepare their travel and recreational activities. Remind them of the hazards of winter driving, especially when driving in bad weather. If a soldier plans to hike, ski or snowboard in mountainous areas, make sure that he or she understands how

dangerous these activities are.

- \* Identify soldiers who are high-risk and counsel them. Leaders must explain the risks to these soldiers and help them take steps that could save their lives.

- \* Ensure that soldiers understand their responsibilities in making safe decisions.

- \* Ensure that unit-notification and ride-home programs are in place and fully functional.

I conveyed the intent of, and my personal commitment to, the Winter Safety Campaign on Sept. 16 during the inaugural meeting of the U.S. Army Europe Commanders Safety Council. At that meeting I also charged commanders and command sergeants major with the responsibility for aggressively implementing winter safety campaigns in their organizations. I expanded on this in my Holiday Safety Campaign, which I issued on Oct. 3. The safety measures in both campaigns must be emphasized during the upcoming holiday weekends.

As leaders we are all accountable for the safety of our people. Do not allow anyone to die on your watch. We can achieve our goal of "no loss of life" only with everyone's active participation. Take charge and do all you possibly can to ensure we are ready for Any Mission, Anywhere. I wish each of you a safe holiday and I thank you for your continued selfless commitment to our nation and our Army.

## Letter to the editor: Drowning is preventable

It happens hundreds of times a year — a child drowns. Drowning is a serious issue.

The doorbell or phone rings and a child is left alone in the tub. No matter how fast one runs to the door or phone, it only takes a matter of seconds for a child to drown. One child drowning is one too many. Splish splash can be the sounds of a playful child splashing in the bathtub, or the same splish splash sounds can be a child drowning in water vigorously struggling for air.

Drowning can also occur swiftly and silently.

There is no excuse to leave a child unattended in the bathtub and there is nothing important enough to risk a child drowning. If a parent or caregiver needs to leave the bathroom the child needs to be taken along. Be prepared for bath time. Have the washcloth, towel and other toiletries situated within arm's reach.

Another sorry mistake is scorching a child.

Always check the water temperature. When bathing your child always keep him or her within arm's reach. Do not let children watch each other in the bathtub either.

Practice water safety habits with your family and make no exception.

If a drowning child is saved there are still other serious factors to remember. Hospitalization is common among near-death drowning children. Nonfatal incidents can also result in a tragic, serious injury such as brain damage.

These are important matters of fact to remember. Think twice before leaving a child unattended because it can be a choice of life or death.

These little safety tasks might seem common knowledge, yet children are often left unattended, and accidental deaths do occur. Drowning is a big problem, and it is preventable.

**Jennifer Sturgeon**

**There's still time to give to the Combined Federal Campaign. See your unit keyperson or visit the CFC Overseas website at [www.overseas.org](http://www.overseas.org) for details.**

## Herald Union

The *Herald Union* is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the 104th Area Support Group. Contents of the *Herald Union* 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 104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office. No payment will be made for contributions. This is a biweekly publication printed by *The Stars and Stripes* in Griesheim, Germany. Our office is in Building 1205 on Hanau's Yorkhof Kaserne. Circulation is 13,000 copies. For advertising rates contact Sean Adams at civ (06155) 601-203, mil 349-8203 or [adamss@mail.estripes.osd.mil](mailto:adamss@mail.estripes.osd.mil).

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# News and features

## News flash

### MacArthur awards

U.S. Army company grade officers (lieutenants and captains) and junior warrant officers (warrant officers or chief warrant officer 2s) not on a promotion list to major or chief warrant officer 3 who have passed the Army Physical Fitness test less than six months before Dec. 31, 2003, and have met height and weight standards listed in Army Regulation 600-9 are eligible to be nominated for the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards. The nomination recognizes exceptional young leaders. Deadline to enter is Dec. 5. Unit personnel offices have details. Call Capt. Jason Vranes at mil 379-7629 for more information. (USAREUR Public Affairs)

### Native American dancers

The 221st Base Support Battalion's Entertainment Branch hosts performances by the Great Plains Indian Dancers Nov. 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the Wiesbaden Middle School gymnasium and at 1:30 p.m. at Wiesbaden's Taunus Movie Theater. Both are located at the Hainerberg Housing and Shopping Center complex.

The 104th Area Support Group Equal Opportunity Office hosts a Native American Heritage Month Powwow by the Namingha Family Dancers Nov. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Illusions Roller Rink at Hanau's Wolfgang Shopping Center. Everyone is welcome to the free performance.

### Contract employees sought

The Department of Defense seeks temporary contract federal civilian workers to help rebuild Iraq and Afghanistan. Job skills sought include civil engineering, banking, agriculture, education, communications and security. Individuals will be hired for a 12-month period with the option to extend and need not be current or former federal employees. Visit the Supporting Our Friends in Iraq and Afghanistan website at <http://cpolsdev.belvoir.army.mil/sofia> and click on "Available Opportunities." (DoDNEWS)

### Prepare to vote

The registration and absentee ballot request deadlines are quickly approaching in states holding presidential preference primaries in January and February 2004. Citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act who are residents of the states below should register and request a ballot by completing and submitting a Federal Post Card Application to their local election official before the end of 2003. These voters should also submit a second RPCA after Jan. 1, 2004, when all other voters need to mail an FPCA in order to receive absentee voting materials for the 2004 state primary and November general elections. The following states are holding presidential preference primaries on these dates: District of Columbia Jan. 13, New Hampshire Jan. 27, Arizona Feb. 3, Delaware Feb. 3, Missouri Feb. 3 (submit FPCA not earlier than Dec. 22, 2003), Oklahoma Feb. 3, South Carolina Feb. 3, Tennessee Feb. 10, Virginia Feb. 10, Wisconsin Feb. 17. For more information visit the FVAP website at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). (IMA-E Public Affairs)

### Beef prices rise

Defense Commissary Agency Europe officials anticipate there will be a noticeable rise in beef prices in European commissaries over the next several weeks. "Because we have about a six-week delivery window, we will be able to hold onto current prices until about the middle of November," said John Hoca, DeCA Europe's central meat processing manager. "After that beef prices are sure to increase, but to what extent and how long the higher price environment will last is impossible to predict. Our beef supplier has told us they expect prices to begin to decline by the end of December or the first of January, but because of the current volatility of the beef market, they can make no guarantees." (DeCA Europe Release)



### Learning to live drug-free at an early age

McGruff, the crime-fighting dog, hands out red ribbons to second-graders Denise Zanosso (left) and Zierre Banner at Gelnhausen Elementary School. Schools and communities throughout the 104th Area Support Group observed Red Ribbon Week with a host of special events aimed at encouraging everyone to adopt a drug-free lifestyle.

Photo by Mary Crawford

## Winter

Continued from page 1

- \* German law forbids idling a vehicle more than three minutes to warm it up.
- \* Adjust your speed to the driving conditions. Slow down in fog, snow or icy conditions.
- \* Use low beams in fog. Consider turning on your fog light.
- \* Practice smooth driving. Avoid speeding up suddenly and braking hard — especially when roads may be slippery.
- \* Check that all lights, brakes, wipers and turn signals are in good working order before setting off.
- \* Check tires for proper pressure.
- \* Make sure you have all required safety gear stowed in vehicle before driving — warning triangle, first aid kit.

Carrying a blanket, flashlight and other "emergency" items is also recommended.

Medical officials recommend that everyone become more aware of the warning signs of cold weather injuries. All cold weather injuries are preventable, they said.

Ways to prevent cold weather injuries include ensuring that you have appropriate cold weather clothing, dressing in layers and wearing loose-fitting clothes, making sure boots are dry, wearing proper cold weather/weather resistant gloves and avoiding dehydration.

Check with your local Safety Office for more safety advice. (Courtesy of the 414th BSB Safety Office, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Heidelberg Public Affairs Office)

## Dining

Continued from page 1

about the taping program call your local Public Affairs Office.

Bus transportation (see below for schedule) will also be available from Wackernheim's McCully Barracks to the Dexheim Dining Facility, from housing areas in Mainz-

Kastel and Wiesbaden to the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility, from Butzbach's Roman Way Shoppette to the Giessen Depot and from the Bad Nauheim Commissary to Friedberg's Ray Barracks. (Courtesy of the 104th ASG and IMA-E Public Affairs Offices)

### Thanksgiving dining facility bus schedule

#### McCully to Dexheim Dining Facility

From McCully Barracks (dining facility) to the Dexheim Dining Facility ----- 10:20 a.m. and 1 p.m.  
Returning from Dexheim to McCully at ----- at 12:20 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.

#### To Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility

Mainz-Kastel Housing ----- 10:30 a.m. and noon  
American Arms Hotel ----- 10:45 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.  
Hessenstrasse/Schleswigstrasse in Aukamm Housing ----- 10:55 a.m. and 12:25 p.m.  
Westfalen/Rheinlandstrasse in Aukamm Housing ----- 10:56 a.m. and 12:26 p.m.  
Marsweg/Saturnstrasse in Crestview Housing ----- 11:01 a.m. and 12:31 p.m.  
Plutostrasse/Merkurstrasse ----- 11:02 a.m. and 12:32 p.m.  
Washingtonstrasse in Hainerberg Housing ----- 11:07 a.m. and 12:37 p.m.  
Commissary in Hainerberg Housing ----- 11:08 a.m. and 12:38 p.m.  
Texasstrasse in Hainerberg Housing ----- 11:09 a.m. and 12:39 p.m.  
Coloradostrasse in Hainerberg Housing ----- 11:10 a.m. and 12:40 p.m.  
Buses leave to return from the Wiesbaden Dining Facility ----- at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

#### Butzbach to Giessen Dining Facility

From Butzbach Shoppette to Giessen Depot ----- 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.  
Returning from Giessen Depot back to Butzbach ----- at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

#### Bad Nauheim to Friedberg Dining Facility

From Bad Nauheim Commissary to 1-36th Dining Facility on Ray Barracks ----- 11:40 a.m. and 1:10 p.m.  
Return from Friedberg to Bad Nauheim ----- at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

# News and features

## Emergency Placement Care . . . . .

Continued from page 1

"It's a last resort," said Perry Tripp, Family Advocacy Program manager with the 284th BSB ACS in Giessen. "The last thing we want to do is separate families. It's only done when a child has been abused or is in imminent danger of being abused. It's one of those safety nets you want to have in place."

The small number of qualified homes presently able to accept children, and the expected redeployment next spring of units stationed in Iraq, have prompted EPC coordinators across the 104th ASG to ratchet up their recruitment and training programs now.

"Right now I'm focusing mostly on getting certified families," said Eplee. "My goal is to have 10 families by the time the Soldiers start redeploying, just in case there are some incidents, which could possibly happen. We just never know what the stress will be and how it affects the family dynamic. You just never know and you want to be prepared."

Jenny Gerber, assistant EPC coordinator and victim advocate for FAP in the 222nd BSB, held an informational briefing Nov. 3 to get the word out around Baumholder. The community has one EPC-certified family, but they are scheduled to PCS before the end of the year. "We need families badly. We're hoping for 10 or 15," she said.

"Participation in the community, at least during the deployment, is low," said Eplee. "We have a lot of people interested, and there are a lot of people who want to help." She



Photo by David Ruderman

Christy Eplee, Emergency Placement Care coordinator for the 414th Base Support Battalion's Army Community Service in Hanau, talks to a prospective care giver during an outreach information briefing Nov. 5.

presently has four families certified, one awaiting the conclusion of background checks and three more in training.

Families and couples, both with and without children of their own, are sought to apply for certification. "They don't have to be married or be parents, and a spouse can be deployed," said Gerber. Single soldiers living in private housing can be considered, but those living in the barracks cannot, she said.

EPC certification involves extensive background checks and training, said Eplee. The focus is on parenting education and the rights

and requirements of everyone involved: the child, the child's family and the EPC provider.

CPR and abuse recognition are also taught, said Gerber. A medical screening is required, as are home visits, interviews with the FAP manager and a safety inspection of the home.

Placements are usually short term and cannot be longer than 90 days without approval from EPC officials at Installation Management Agency-Europe, said Eplee.

"The average for having a kid in place is seven to 10 days," said Gerber.

The decision to place children in EPC is taken by a case review committee that notifies her office, said Eplee. Available care givers are consulted and decide whether to take the child or children under the specific circumstances of the case. "I will go through my list of families and see who's most compatible. Then they're on call and they can tell me if they're available now. I encourage them, if they have any reason, to say 'no.'"

Melissa (not her real name) took the EPC training last spring with her husband, who is now deployed to Iraq. It took them six hours on each of two successive Saturdays, she said.

"I got my first set of kids in May. The mother didn't harm her children; she wanted to harm herself. Since she didn't have a family care plan the children were given to me till the husband could take over. They were staying with friends, but since Social Work Services was involved they had to place them through ACS."

The father, deployed to Iraq at the time, was back in Germany within eight days, was evaluated by SWS, and the children entrusted to his care, said Melissa. The family has since PCS'd to the United States, and the last indications were that they had managed to restructure their lives.

Martina (not her real name) has been caring for a teenager for a longer period of time. "It's quite possible we're still in the honeymoon period, but she's a good girl. Fortunately she's just come in and

become a part of the family. The same things that are going on with my kids are going on with her. It's a fulfilling thing to do. You can really make a difference in a child's life, even if just by keeping them safe while the parents get the additional information to better care for their children."

"I was led by God to do this. It was almost like I had an epiphany," said Melissa, who has three children of her own. "So far they've been very open, sharing their room and also sharing me, my time. Our middle child loves to have another sibling her age."

Separating from a child after caring for her or him might be the most difficult aspect of the relationship, said Melissa. "It's always hard sending the child back in certain cases. You worry about them. So that's the hard part. But I do believe it enriches a family, to see what your blessings are and to give back to the community. It's who you help in life," she said.

Anyone interested in the possibility of offering a temporary home to a child in need should call his or her area ACS office for information. The more families that participate, the wider the scope of coverage EPC will be able to provide by the time Soldiers return from Iraq.

"It's going to be a stressful time," said Eplee, "especially after a year. This is no six-month peacekeeping mission. I'm not really sure what to expect because it's such a different situation for all of us. I pray there's nothing, but I want to be prepared if there is."

### At Landstuhl medical center

## Donations support wounded Soldiers

Story by Sgt. Phillip E. Breedlove Jr.  
Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Public Affairs

When wounded warriors arrive at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, the last thing on their list of worries should be clothing, shoes or personal hygiene products. According to Loretta Wood, administrative assistant with the LRMC Chaplains Office and a volunteer with the Pastoral Services clothes closet, this will never be a concern of theirs if LRMC has anything to say about it.

"They endure a lot when they go downrange," Wood said. "This is just reaching out and showing appreciation."

Chaplain (Col.) David McLean, Europe Regional Medical Command chaplain, said, "Even though the military system provides uniform

items to these wounded warriors, these donations tell them just how much the American public cares."

The donations are kept in a clothes closet where the warriors can acquire clothing, shoes and personal hygiene products. Wood and 12-15 volunteers sort the clothing, staff the closet and perform other duties.

"None of this could be done without the long hours and selfless service of volunteers sorting and distributing donated goods to help our troops."

Hundreds of individuals and organizations throughout the world donated anywhere from a \$20 box of clothing to a 10,000-pound pallet of necessities. Additionally they received approximately \$20,000 in gift certificate checks.

"It's great that so many people supplied the things we were able to get," said Lance Cpl. Adam Michali,

a reservist assigned to a Marine Corps truck company in Ebersburg, Pa. "It made me feel closer to home."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, schools, churches and major corporations have been significant contributors to the cause. In addition to donating necessities, AAFES set up a website that allows any individual with Internet access and a bank account to donate a gift certificate. Through their website at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) they were able to raise over \$20,000 in certificates.

Additionally the Department of Defense authorized service members injured downrange a \$250 AAFES voucher that can be provided to patients with special needs.

"It has taken a lot of people to put this together," Wood said. "Without the donations and the support of the volunteers, none of this could have happened."

## Ghouls run amok; children flee on Halloween

Story and photos by  
**Cassandra Kardeke**  
221st Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Adults and children alike didn't seem to mind the damp chill in the air as they took to the streets Halloween afternoon.

Dressed in various costumes from nice and sweet to horribly scary, trick-or-treaters flooded the streets of housing areas throughout Wiesbaden in search of goodies to eat. But going from house to

house wasn't the only happening activity Halloween evening. Hallelujah Night, hosted by the Team 221st chapels, served as an alternative to trick-or-treating at the Youth Services gym in which children could play games and take part in activities and still receive plenty of treats.

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Program hosted a Haunted House in Hainerberg Housing for those who dared to be scared.

"We did pretty well and definitely scared the kids," said Laura Waid, Morale, Welfare and Recreation special events coordinator.

That wasn't the only haunted house children ran from. Even while escorted with parents, several children fled the Army and Air Force Exchange Service haunted house in Mainz Kastel.

"We had four kids in our group and they were gone by the time we got to the second room," said Mike Cockrell.

"That was scary," said Teddy Howard after having made it through the entire horrifying ordeal. "It was scary, but it was fun," said Harrietta Allen, Howard's grandmother. Allen explained that although plenty of creatures jumped out to scare her, she got the chance to do some scaring of her own. "In one room there was a guy with a chain saw. I crept up on him and scared him," she said.

For those who didn't wish for scary surprises, AAFES also offered hayrides along with an extra two hours of shopping at the Mainz-Kastel stores.



Dressed as a devil, Kyle Stewart heads out in search of treats.



Carmen Gerwing and Deborah Williams fight over body parts of a corpse to horrify those who dared enter the Haunted House at Mainz-Kastel Storage Station Oct. 31. Employees of the Darmstadt Main Exchange, the two competed with other AAFES employees to create the scariest room of the haunted house and won hands down.