

# 221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photo by Connie Parker

## Digging in for improvements

A \$363,000 project to add a ladies room, sauna, cardiovascular and weight room to the Anderson Barracks Fitness Center began with a ground-breaking ceremony Jan. 6. The additional building and renovations are expected to be finished by April 30. Lt. Col. Clark W. LeMasters Jr. (from left), 123rd Main Support Battalion commander; Manfred Forstere; 221st Base Support Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Smith; Eric Haelke and Gerd Maskow.

# Army Community Service news

## Town Hall Jan. 22

A Town Hall Meeting will be held Jan. 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gen. H.H. Arnold High School auditorium for all Wiesbaden community members.

## Holiday thanks

Members of the 221st Base Support Battalion's Holiday Assistance Committee thank community members, First Command and AT&T for their support during the holiday season. Over 400 families and 600 children in the Wiesbaden, Dexheim, Mainz and McCully communities had a happier holiday season thanks to their contributions.

## Extended hours

Wiesbaden Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment has extended its hours to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The 221st Base Support Battalion Housing Office is now open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

## FRG session

Family Readiness Group Networking Sessions are held at Army Community Service, Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. Call Bob Williams at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034 for more information.

## Wiesbaden Scouts

Bored? New in town? Make new friends and get together with old ones with Wiesbaden Scouts. Sign up today — Girl Scouts, call civ (06123) 899 593; Boy Scouts, call civ (0611) 520 532; Cub Scouts, call civ (01728) 044 8247.

## Religious services

Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel holds Protestant services at 10 a.m., Gospel services at 12:45 p.m. and Catholic services at 5 p.m. Sunday. Hainerberg Chapel features Catholic services at 9 a.m. and Protestant services at 11 a.m. Sunday. For more information call mil 337-1570 or civ (0611) 705-1570.

## Stress classes

Anger and stress management classes are held through Social Work Services. For more information or to sign up call mil 337-5297 or civ (0611) 705-5297.

## Financial readiness

Dexheim Army Community Service offers free classes on Leave and Earnings Statement basics, debt liquidation, banking and credit services, budget development and record keeping, using credit wisely, insurance and consumer rights. Call mil 334-5827 to sign up.

## Babysitters needed

Babysitters are needed to provide child care in the home of a family. Sign up at the 221st Central Enrollment Office. For more information call mil 338-5383 or civ (0611) 380-5383.

## Domestic violence awareness

Social Work Services offers a six-week psychoeducational group focus on the dynamics of abuse, cycles of violence and other related issues. For more information call mil 337-5297 or civ (0611) 705-5297.

## Loan Closet

Household items are available for loan to you and your family at no charge through Army Community Service's Loan Closet. Basic living items include pots, pans, dishes, cooking and eating utensils, irons and ironing boards, coffee makers, toasters and microwave ovens. Children's items include booster seats, strollers, cribs, car seats, highchairs and sure gates. Call mil 337-5754 or civ (0611) 705-5754 for more information.

## Emergency care providers needed

Wiesbaden Army Community Service seeks emergency placement care providers. Free training and certification is offered. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

## Newcomers tour

Army Community Service hosts a community orientation for soldiers, civilians and their family members the last Wednesday of every month. The tour begins at 9 a.m. at ACS and ends with lunch at the Wiesbaden Dining Facility. This tour allows newcomers to experience the community visually without trying to locate facilities. Reservations must be made by 1 p.m. the day before the tour. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034. A Newcomers Class is held the first and third Monday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. at the American Arms Hotel. Stop by the Information Center at the Arms Hotel for more information.

## McCully ACS

Army Community Service programs are now available at McCully Barracks every Wednesday and Friday. Services include Army Emergency Relief, Financial Readiness Planning, Family Advocacy Program, Family Member Employment Assistance, Volunteer Information, Relocation Assistance and unit and community training. ACS is located in the Soldier's Center, Building 6212, and can be reached at mil 334-4786 or civ (06132) 508 786.

## Evening newcomer class

Army Family Team Building offers evening newcomers classes at the Information Center in the American Arms Hotel the first and third Monday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. Register at the Information Center or Army Community Service.

## Bring issues to top

Do you have an issue you feel needs to be looked at and corrected in the community? Wiesbaden Army Community Service hosts the Team 221st 2003 Army Family Action Plan Conference Feb. 4-6 at the Wiesbaden Catering Center. The conference reviews community responses to comments and suggestions, and outlines ways to improve the community. Volunteers are needed to facilitate, transcribe and provide input. Stop by ACS to volunteer or complete an "issue" form and list what issues you feel are most important and how they should be resolved. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

## More ACS news

### Anger management help

Social Work Services offers a four-week anger management group that teaches relaxation and self-calming skills that help you deal with adaptive responses when struggling with anger provoking situations. To sign up call mil 337-5297 or civ (0611) 705-5297.

### Couple communication class

With the high stress of deployments and long separations, couples are encouraged to attend a hands-on interactive class to help new and seasoned couples increase skills in communication, understanding intimacy and styles of effective ways of resolving conflict. For more information or to sign up call mil 337-5297 or civ (0611) 705-5297.

### Young comedians sought

If your child is 18 or younger and has a few jokes up his or her sleeve, he or she may want to register for Apollo Night at the Wiesbaden Youth Center in Hainerberg Housing March 15 at 6 p.m. First-prize winners earn a \$75 gift certificate and second place takes home a \$25 gift certificate. Register by Feb. 14 or pick up \$2 advance tickets to watch the show at the youth center. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$3. Call mil 337-5383 for more information.



### Victim support group

Social Work Services offers a weekly Victim Support group to help educate, empower, motivate and support people experiencing or who have experienced abuse. For more information call mil 337-5297 or civ (0611) 705-5297.

### Planning a successful move

Know what to do when making a Permanent Change of Station move. Get free training and PCS tips at Army Community Service. Classes are held the last Tuesday of each month. Call ACS at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

### Newcomers coffee

Dexheim Army Community Service holds a newcomers coffee every month. Learn more about the community, how to get around and shop in Germany. For more information call mil 334-5716.

### Auto skills services

Check out the local Auto Skills Center for vehicle maintenance and repairs. Mainz-Kastel, McCully and Dexheim Auto Skills Centers can adjust headlights, balance wheels or turn brake discs and drums and many other services for a nominal fee. Use the Diagnostic Trouble Code Machine at Dexheim Auto Skills to find out what's ailing your vehicle. Learn to properly care for your vehicle at the next Basic Maintenance Class. If you need repair information for your U.S. specification vehicle, use the Automated Repair Manual System at the facilities. Call Mainz-Kastel Auto Skills at mil 334-2460, McCully at mil 334-4776 or Dexheim at mil 334-5766.

### Towing service

The Mainz-Kastel Auto Skills Center provides a towing service Monday through Friday from noon to 8 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call mil 334-2460 or civ (06134) 604460.

# Tax Center gears up to provide free services

By Cassandra Kardeke

221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Not only is the start of a new year a time for making changes and keeping resolutions, it's also the beginning of tax season.

After sorting through piles of paperwork and receipts it's time to file. Deciding which form to use, how to take advantage of tax credits, where to report different kinds of income and overcoming other challenges before April 15 is not an easy process.

Some people may decide to rely on a service to prepare their taxes which then results in the burden of paying for the tax preparation. But that doesn't have to be the case.

The 1st Armored Division Legal Office will open a Tax Assistance Center Jan. 27 in Building 31 on Heer Strasse (near the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel and Shoppette).

"The best thing is that we can assist customers with accurate and efficient tax preparation and file returns for free," said Cathy Pulley-Ballard, a legal assistance attorney



with the 1st AD Judge Advocate General Office in Wiesbaden. "It is also important for soldiers getting ready to deploy to get their tax returns taken care of now, before they leave, so that they do not have to worry about it later," she said.

The free services save Wiesbaden area active duty military personnel, retirees, Department of Defense civilians and their family members hundreds of thousands of dollars each year — money that might have been spent at tax preparation agencies which charge for services.

The Tax Center will be open Jan. 27 to June 30, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. No appointment is needed. Just bring W2s, financial documents, past year's tax forms and valid ID card.

Appointments can be arranged for people with more complicated returns that involve significant investments, real estate and rental properties, or foreign income by calling mil 337-4725.

Stay tuned to the *Herald Union* and AFN television for upcoming unit tax nights and special extended hours.

## Parent and family programs

### Army Family Team Building

Wiesbaden/Dexheim Army Family Team Building offers training to spouses, civilians and family members including teens. Benefits of training include enhancing employment opportunities, promoting self-reliance, learning to adapt to change with minimal stress and preparing families to face challenges of the military lifestyle. Classes will be held Feb. 11 and 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

### WIC Overseas

The Women, Infants and Children Overseas program is available to eligible military families in Wiesbaden and Dexheim. Participants in the program receive healthy foods, meal planning assistance and nutritional screenings for pregnant women and children. For more information call mil 338-7366, civ (0611) 380-7366 or stop by the WIC office at Building 7005 in Crestview Housing.

### Parent support

A Single Parent Support Group meets every first and third Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Dexheim Army Community Service. For more information call mil 334-5716.

### Supplemental aid

The Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance program offers eligible active duty service members to increase the basic allowance for subsistence up to \$500 a month. Eligibility is based on gross income of the entire household. For more information call mil 337-5754 or civ (0611) 705-5754.

### Adoption support

An Adoption Support Group meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Immanuel Baptist Church in Wiesbaden. Topics include how to adopt overseas, choosing an agency, medical and developmental issues, post adoption support, home studies, Immigration and

Naturalization procedures and crosscultural issues. For more information call civ (06775) 960 675 or (0178) 296 2102.

### New parent programs

The **New Parent Education and Support Program** assists pregnant women and families with children up to age 4. Focusing primarily on a home visit program, NPESP also offers parent support groups, toddler playtime and parenting classes. All services are free, voluntary and confidential.

The **New Parenting Playgroup** meets every Friday from 9:30-11 a.m. at Dexheim Army Community Service.

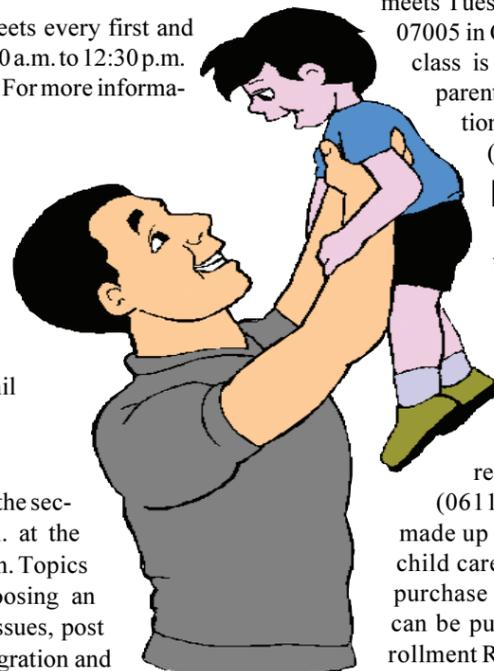
The Wiesbaden Health Clinic will host a labor and delivery class Tuesdays from 1-3:30 p.m. For more information call mil 337-5273 or civ (0611) 705-5273.

**Toddler Time** is a play group designed to help parents discover how children learn and develop through play and positive group interaction. A group meets every Wednesday at the NPESP Training Room in the Women, Infants and Children Building (Building 07005) in Crestview Housing from 9:30-11:30 a.m. An **Infant and Toddler Parenting Class**

meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. in Building 07005 in Crestview Housing. The structured class is designed to explore and answer parenting questions. For more information call mil 338-7721, 337-5754 or civ (0611) 380-7721/705-5754.

### Hourly child care

Hourly child care is available at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Child Development Center. The child must be enrolled through the Central Enrollment Registry before receiving care. For more information call mil 338-7592 or civ (0611) 380-7592. For reservations call mil 337-6282 or civ (0611) 705-6282. Reservations can be made up to one month in advance. Hourly child care pre-paid cards are available for purchase in blocks of 10 hours of care and can be purchased through the Central Enrollment Registry.



## Deploying? 221st Housing officials detail concerns about quarters

By **Cassandra Kardeke**  
221st Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

What happens to my quarters while I am deployed? If my family moves to the United States while I'm deployed will I still have quarters?

These and other questions have flooded the 221st Base Support Battalion Housing Office as deployment orders are issued and service members prepare for the possibility of war.

While individuals and families may have unique situations or concerns, most housing deployment questions are addressed in the 104th Area Support Group Housing Management Standard Operating Procedures and Army Regulation 210-50.

### Family housing

"If the sponsor (whether military or civilian) deploys, the family (members) can remain in their quarters until the sponsor returns. Spouses who do remain will be responsible for the care and upkeep of the quarters," said Roz Mathis, Housing Services Division chief.

Sponsors whose family members are expected to be away from the

quarters for more than 90 days during the deployment must request approval from the ASG commander in order to keep their family quarters. The Housing Office will provide information to sponsors who wish to make this request.

If family members choose to return to the United States at personal expense while the sponsor is deployed, the sponsor will have to reapply for government housing upon return. The sponsor must have at least six months left remaining on his or her tour after quarters are available for assignment. Sponsors will then be placed on a waiting list as of the date of the application.

"Sponsors whose family members terminate quarters and return to the U.S. at government expense will not be eligible for government quarters upon their return from the deployment," Mathis said. If family members decide to return to the United States, a pre-termination and termination inspection appointment must be made before the sponsor's deployment as well as coordination with the trans-

portation office to ship the household goods.

Single parents and dual military couples who are both deploying may keep their quarters for their

of the landlord, and the location of the soldier's personal vehicle.

"Personnel living off post who are to be deployed must notify their landlord of their extended absence

if they intend to retain the quarters and should contact water, electric, gas and other utility companies to have the

services discontinued temporarily," Mathis said. Ensure that automatic bill paying is initiated so that bills are paid in a timely manner while away. Select a point of contact who can be responsible for the continued care and upkeep of the quarters during the deployment and ensure that he or she has a set of keys.

"After selecting a POC you must provide the Housing Office with the person's name, address and phone numbers," Mathis said. The landlord must also be able to reach the POC in the event of an emergency such as heating pipe leak, broken window caused by severe weather or just periodic airing of the apartment. "Security deposits can be forfeited and charges can be assessed if the landlord claims damages were caused by inadequate precautions taken in the absence of the sponsor," Mathis said. Mathis also suggested that a limited power of attorney be given to the POC to act on the sponsor's behalf.

Soldiers also have the option to terminate their off-post living arrangements, but must coordinate

with their unit commander, housing and transportation offices before departing on deployment. Service members must provide written notice to their landlord as specified in the lease (the Housing Office can assist with notification). "Movement and storage of household goods during a deployment can be done at government expense," said Mathis. A move into new quarters upon return from deployment will also be done at government expense. Arrangements with Housing Division's central furnishings management office must be made to have all government furnishings and appliances picked up before final inspection of the rental unit. Termination of off-post housing allowance must be initiated.

Soldiers about to deploy with approved exceptions to the housing policy permitting a move into government housing for hardship or compassionate reasons will be placed on the appropriate waiting list. A power of attorney must be issued to a responsible party if a final inspection of the rented quarters is to be done after the soldier deploys.

### Taking care of pets

Under no circumstances may pets be left in vacant quarters unattended for any length of time. A periodic visit by someone to check on the pet is not authorized. Deploying personnel must make arrangements for pets left behind.

Anyone with questions or concerns regarding housing deployment issues can call the Housing Office at mil 337-7058/7063 or civ (0611)705-7058/7063.

**"Sponsors whose family members terminate quarters and return to the U.S. at government expense will not be eligible for government quarters upon their return from the deployment."** —

**Roz Mathis, 221st BSB Housing Services Division chief**

dependent family members during the deployment; however, a legal guardian must be appointed to assume responsibility of the care and conduct of minor children and the quarters. Written approval from the BSB commander must be given for the appointed legal guardian to reside in the quarters during the sponsor's absence.

### Off-post housing

Unaccompanied personnel residing in off-post housing must provide the unit's rear detachment personnel with written instructions and a strip map to the residence, name, phone number and address



**SNAP!**  
Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program  
Neighbors helping neighbors  
keep their community safe and secure

## Be a SNAP volunteer



Welcome  
to  
Team 221st

Volunteer today and help safeguard your community by:

- ☛ Increasing threat awareness
- ☛ Actively observing your surroundings
- ☛ Watching out for your families and fellow soldiers

Cut out and return this form to the Army Community Service installation volunteer coordinator at ACS in Hainerberg Housing, Building 7790.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Housing area \_\_\_\_\_

**Around town**

**BOSS meeting**

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. in the 221st Base Support Battalion conference room.

**Spouses club luncheon**

A Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club luncheon and fashion show will be held Feb. 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Catering Center. Call civ (0611) 565 7401 or (0611) 505 5712 for reservations.

**Sponsorship training**

The Army Community Service Relocation Readiness Program offers unit sponsorship training. Although S-GATE is a primary training tool it does not include the entire scope of sponsorship. The next class is Feb. 12 from 2-4 p.m. at ACS. Units wishing to schedule a different day can call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034 for assistance.

**VFW meeting**

The Dexheim Veterans of Foreign Wars meet Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Building 6553, Room 12, on Anderson Barracks. A VFW recruitment drive will be held Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Anderson Barracks PX. Comrade Todd Ota, Department of Europe commander, will be on hand to answer questions. Call Earl Daniel at civ (06241) 58737 or (0177) 7279 807 for details.

**Bowl bashes**

Rheinblick Golf Course, The Kastel Club and the Cappuccino Casino host Super Bowl parties Jan. 26. Free snacks and giveaways will be featured. Call any of these locations for hours and more information.

**Family bowling**

Take the family bowling at the Wiesbaden and Dexheim Bowling centers. Children age 11 and under bowl free every Sunday night.

**Mexican buffet**

The Rheinlander Club in Dexheim hosts a Mexican buffet dinner Jan. 31 from 6-9 p.m.

**German lessons**

Learn to speak German free at Dexheim Army Community Service every Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Call mil 334-5622 or civ (06133) 69622.

**Soldiers train in Kuwait**

Story and photos by Pfc. Christopher Fincham  
3rd Corps Support Command  
Public Affairs Office

As dawn approaches the Kuwaiti desert is eerily silent. With the Iraqi border a mere eight miles away, soldiers of the 19th Support Center, headquartered at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, stand alert and prepared in their foxholes.

“Claymore, Claymore, Claymore,” yells one of the soldiers.

Suddenly the serene surroundings erupt in a thunderous and vigorous firefight. Weapons ranging from .50-caliber machine guns to squad automatic weapons and M-16s blast rounds rapidly downrange at the “enemy.”

The culmination of months of preparation and training, 19th Support Center’s Convoy Support Center Live Fire exercise enabled soldiers who would process paperwork to put live rounds on target in a real-world setting. Set up in foxholes and a trench surrounding a simulated Convoy Support Center, 19th Support Center soldiers were on point to provide security as they would during wartime.

“As units would move north we would serve as a resting point,” said Sgt. 1st Class Donald Kelly, who served as the range noncommissioned officer in charge. “(It’s)



Soldiers of the 19th Support Center vacate the landing zone as another Blackhawk prepares to land.

kind of like a truck stop. They can come in here and get a good meal, shower up, sleep in a safe and secure environment and be able to roll out from here more battle-ready.”

In the course of “battle” some soldiers were dubbed “casualties,” adding another challenging aspect to the conflict. Soldiers had to not

only continue suppressing enemy force, they had to evaluate and evacuate their fallen comrades as well. Teams were called in, and combat medics sprang into action as .50-caliber rounds fired all around them.

“We’ve been practicing and training on all this stuff for a long time now, and it really seemed like

everybody knew what to do and how to react,” said Pfc. Darian Kirby. “We were really well prepared.”

“I think everyone out here gained a lot,” said Capt. Chris Oldani, “a lot of knowledge, a lot of experience and a lot of confidence that they’re capable of accomplishing the mission.”

**Soldiers sing in American tribute**

By Cassandra Kardeke  
221st Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

They are eight people with something in common. They are all soldiers with a desire to perform. With only five weeks rehearsal time, these soldiers comprise the Bravo Soldier Show, an Army theater touring company, that has been traveling throughout the United States and is now performing in Europe.

Making their first European stop at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, this small group of soldiers performed for over 250 community members at the Flyer’s Theater Jan. 10.

“Our show celebrates the pulse of our nation,” said Sgt. Toby Atkinson, production stage manager.

With a colorful map of the United States as the backdrop and the theme “Lift Up Your Hearts America,” the group takes its audience on a tour of Americana using patriotic music and skits. Spectators are invited to journey to Niagara

Falls, discover things about Idaho and to view what is on display at the Cockroach Museum during the 70-minute show.

“I really think our performance shows soldiers just what it is they are out there fighting for,” said Sgt. Hali Picciano, one of the show’s performers, assigned to the Walter Reed Medical Center.

In a couple of the skits the soldiers use their own experiences to get the meaning across on just what it means to be an American.

In one of the skits Spc. Vanessa Brachulis, assigned to the 1st Infantry Division in Vilseck, tells of her first Independence Day celebration away from the United States and just how much it meant to be waving sparklers on the Fourth of July.

The troupe continues to tour Europe and will perform in Hanau Feb. 6-7 and Giessen Feb. 13-14. Check with the local Morale, Welfare and Recreation office for details.



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

Soldiers touring with the Bravo Soldier Show perform at Wiesbaden Army Airfield. From left are Sgt. Maylan Thomas, Spc. Armando Correa, Sgt. Hali Picciano, Sgt. David Yoder and Spc. Vanessa Brachulis.

# 222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

## Youth Services

Building 8743, mil 485-7276/7003

### Providers needed

Child and Youth Services is looking for spouses who love children and want to work out of their homes. The Family Child Care program needs child care providers in all housing areas, but especially in Strassburg, Neubrücke and Birkenfeld. If interested stop by the CYS central registration office on the second floor of the health clinic, Building 8743 and pick up an application. For more information about FCC briefings and free training call Hildegard Bragg at mil 485-6588.

### Teens, be job ready

The Job Ready program that introduces high school students to the work force begins Jan. 28. The program provides training, information and guidance to teens wishing to enter the job market. Job Ready also assists in developing interpersonal skills and offers an opportunity for youth to learn how to advance from jobs to careers.

Classes will be held every Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. in the Teen Cafe. The first session covers customer service. Subsequent classes include communication skills, making career decisions, attitude in the workplace, interviewing skills, dress for success, resume writing and financial management. Interested teens may register by calling Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

### Youth swim classes

Enroll your child ages six months and older for swim classes with Baumholder Child and Youth Services. Classes offered include Parent/



Child Water Orientation for ages six months to three years; preschool swim lessons for ages three to five; and Level I, II, III and IV for ages 6 and up.

Children can participate in synchronized swimming, water polo, stroke improvement and water safety. The cost is \$45 for eight classes. Classes will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays at the Baumholder indoor swimming pool. The registration fee includes a skill level certificate.

### Different cultures

Your sixth-through 12th-grader can sample foods and experience cultures of nations around the world with Baumholder Youth Services. They'll be dining out Feb. 7 from

# MWR roundup

5:30-8 p.m. at a soul food restaurant in Landstuhl. The bus departs the Underground at 5:30 p.m.

### Coaches needed

Baumholder Youth Sports coaches are needed for all ages and sports. The perks are free training, certification and registration discounts for parents with children in the program.

### Rheinlander

Building 8085, mil 485-7507

### Sunday brunch

Visit the Rheinlander in Baumholder for Sunday brunch Feb. 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The buffet includes eggs, bacon, pancakes, shrimp, brötchen and much more. Reservations are not necessary, but are appreciated.

### MWR job fair

Opportunity awaits job seekers at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation job fair on the second Wednesday of every month at the Rheinlander. Doors open from 9-10 a.m. Customers will learn of open MWR positions, have an opportunity to fill out applications and receive interviews on site.

### Rod and Gun Club

Building 8167, mil 485-6345

### Super Bowl party

Meet your friends at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club for a Super Bowl party Jan. 26. The party begins at 10 p.m. with contests, free finger food and more. (Rudy's Super Bowl party begins at 8 p.m.)

### Right on cue

Pool tournaments are now happening at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club. Tournaments begin at 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Prizes will be awarded to winners.

### Gone country

If you love country and western you'll feel right at home at Baumholder's Rod and Gun Club. Round up your friends for free country and western dance lessons every Thursday night and stop in for country music on Fridays and Saturdays until 4 a.m.

### ACS

Building 8746, mil 485-8188/6965

### AFAP airs issues

The Baumholder community will have its chance to put a voice to its concerns at the annual Army Family

Action Plan conference Feb. 4 and 5 at the Rheinlander Convention Center from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Every year the AFAP staff organizes this conference to give the community an opportunity to share quality of life issues with the installation and Army leadership

Delegates are selected to represent the community in work groups that will discuss and make plans for the individual issues brought forward before the conference. The issues can be anything concerning a quality of life issue with a broad impact on the Army and the military.

There are several ways to voice concerns for discussion at the conference. One way is to email the a description of the concern/issue and how you would propose to fix it to the AFAP point of contact at [Elizabeth.Curran@104asg.mwr.army.mil](mailto:Elizabeth.Curran@104asg.mwr.army.mil). If you do not have Internet access you may call or visit ACS and they will gladly accept your issue. For more information or for volunteer opportunities contact Beth Curran, AFAP coordinator.

### Financial readiness

The Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will begin offering financial readiness training for first-term soldiers starting in January. Training will be conducted on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the ACS conference room.

This mandatory class discusses principles of personal finance including understanding the military pay system, planning and budgeting, banking and checking accounts, using credit wisely, getting insurance, saving and investing, making large purchases, consumer scams and where to go to get help.

The goal of the class is to take preventive measures to decrease the impact of personal financial problems on mission readiness. Even though this program is mandatory for first-term soldiers at their first duty station, it is beneficial for anyone looking for a refresher in basic personal finance.

The class can also be taught at individual units or organizations upon request.

### Consumer help

Baumholder Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program can assist in handling consumer complaints. This program is the military answer to the Better Business Bureau.

### Job market class

The local job market orientation class provides valuable insights to the employment opportunities in the Baumholder community and its surrounding area. Participants receive information concerning military spouse preference, defining federal and private sector opportunities and application procedures, basic Resumix start-up information and volunteer opportunities. Classes are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9-10:30 a.m.

### Golf course

Building 8888, mil 485-7299

### Summer greens

Rolling Hills Golf Course is playing summer greens all winter long, providing there is no snow or frost. Golf rates start at \$9 for a full day of golfing. Winter hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

### Unit level golf pass

For \$400 customers can get a golf pass, one set of rental clubs and one driving range token. This is an ideal reward for soldier of the month or simply to have available to sign out.

### Sports and fitness

Building 8743, mil 485-7003

### Goju lessons

Chinese goju lessons are offered to youth and adults. Youth classes are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. at Baumholder High School and Mondays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. at Neubrücke Gym. The cost is \$30 each month and includes an official patch, testing, advancements, belts and certificates.

### Coach or play

The Baumholder Sports Office is looking for soccer and volleyball coaches and players. For more information call mil 485-6671/7176.

### Home games

The following upcoming home community level basketball games are scheduled in the Hall of Cham-

pions:

- Feb. 8 vs. Ramstein
- Feb. 9 vs. Spangdahlem
- Feb. 15 vs. Kaiserslautern
- March 1 vs. SHAPE

Women's games are at 1 p.m. and the men's games are at 3 p.m. Game times are subject to change.

### Bowling center

Building 8105, mil 485-6569

### Nifty Fifties

Enjoy smoke-free, 50-cent bowling at Nifty Fifties night every Tuesday from 4-11 p.m. at the bowling center. Come out and enjoy the fun.

### Auto Craft Center

Building 8438, mil 485-6344

### Auto skills classes

Baumholder Auto Craft Center offers a Handling Auto Roadside Emergencies class Jan. 28 from 6-7 p.m. Call in advance to reserve your place in the class.

### PCSing your car

Make an appointment to get your wheels aligned at Baumholder Auto Crafts Shop. Let them handle your PCS car cleaning and they will clean the inside, outside and under the hood of your vehicle. They can also purge the fuel system.

### Outdoor Recreation

Building 8895, mil 485-7182

### Paintball games

Baumholder Outdoor Recreation organizes paintball games Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$9 using personal equipment or \$19 to rent their's. If you'd rather play your own game, rent a set for \$12 (includes gun, CO2 tank and hopper).

### Getting around

Baumholder's Outdoor Recreation offers the following trips in January:

#### Trip to Frankfurt Zoo

Jan. 26

\$25 for adults and \$15 for children.

Bus departs at 7 a.m. and returns at 9 p.m.

Cost includes entrance fee.

#### Black Forest ski trip

Jan. 25

\$55 for adults, \$35 for children. Bus departs at 4 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

Ski the highest mountain in the Black Forest region. There are several different runs and a sledding slope.

#### Neuschwanstein castle

Jan. 25

\$65 for adults and \$35 for children. The bus departs at 6 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

# 222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

## See your VA rep

Soldiers contemplating retirement or retired veterans living in the community can contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for more information. That office is specifically geared to help soldiers on an MEB. The office is located at LRMC, Building 3700, Room 214. For details or to make an appointment call ACAP. A VA representative will be available in the latter part of January.

## Tax Center opens

The Baumholder Tax Center opens Jan. 27. Located in the 8th Finance building, hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays. Simple tax returns and 1040EZs can be prepared on a walk-in basis. More complex returns usually require an appointment. For more information about Tax Center operations call the Legal Assistance Office at mil 485-6506.

## Cadet honored

Eighth-grader Jonathan Gilford was recognized by Baumholder's 6th Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps as Cadet of the Month for December, 2002. Gilford is 14 years old and was born in Alabama. Gilford's parents are 1st Sgt. and Mrs. Robert J. Gilford, 1-6th Infantry Battalion. Gilford has been promoted to cadet corporal.

## Lost ID must be reported

People who lose their military identification card must now report the loss to the Military Police before applying for a replacement. Regardless if it is lost or stolen a new ID card will not be issued until the sponsor reports the lost or stolen ID card to the local MP station. Staff sergeants and below must have a memorandum signed by the commander in addition to the MP memorandum. For more call your unit PAC or Detachment A, 90th Personnel Service Battalion, at mil 485-6199.

## Post notes

### ACAP services

mil 485-6741/6330, civ (06783) 6-6741/6330

ACAP office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ACAP is also open during lunch to assist clients. Soldiers scheduled to separate can get information about their options at ACAP. ACAP offers preseparation briefings, job assistance workshops and job assistance counseling that can help soldiers review their options and assess how the skills developed in the Army can be transferred into civilian life. Call ACAP for an appointment.

### Preseparation briefing

Soldiers are required to complete a mandatory preseparation briefing at the ACAP office no less than 90 days before their separation date. Appointments are available every day at 9 a.m. and require approximately an hour and a half.

### Job assistance

Army Career and Alumni Program offers job assistance workshops and counseling to help with the transition from the military to the civilian job market. Two-day workshops are offered every other Tuesday. The next workshops are Jan. 28 and 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Job assistance can also be accessed through ACAP's computer system and covers such topics as how to create a resume, find jobs, network and interview. Clients can cover topics by computer at their own pace.

Call to schedule an appointment or drop by any afternoon to work with ACAP's computer-based job assistance tools. ACAP is open during training holidays but closes every

other Thursday at noon for training.

### Spouses can use ACAP

Any family member of a soldier scheduled to separate is eligible to receive services from the Army Career and Alumni Program. Orders are not needed and the sponsor does not have to be present for the spouse to attend ACAP classes or to receive assistance from ACAP counselors. Even if a soldier is deployed, spouses can still receive ACAP assistance in Baumholder.

ACAP offers job assistance workshops and professional counselors to help advise during the career transition process. Counselors will help clients think through issues such as a civilian budget, searching the job market, writing a resume and preparing for job interviews. Take advantage of ACAP services now to begin planning for the future.

### Learn the German language

Baumholder's Adult Education Program will offer the following courses starting this month: Gateway German will be offered at noon, Conversational German I and II, Conversational French I and English as a Second Language will be offered in the evening. Call Bill Badger at 485-8491 for more information.

### University rep visits Baumholder

The University of Oklahoma field representative from Ramstein Air Base will visit the Baumholder Army Education Center Feb. 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The representative may be reached daily at mil 480-6807.

### Aviation night for teens

An aviation for teens night is scheduled Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Vogelweh Community Center. For details call Raphael Eredita at mil 489-7752.

## Soldiers now snuffing it out at clubs

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

No butts about it, club goers are now snuffing out their cigarettes before stepping into any U.S. military club.

A new policy making all U.S. military clubs smoke-free went into effect Dec. 7 as a result of an executive order by then President Bill Clinton that declares all U.S. military clubs as smoke-free facilities unless retrofitted with special ventilation systems.

To accommodate its customers who wish to smoke, the Rod and Gun Club's new Winter Garden room opened its doors in December.

This new room is equipped with appropriate ventilation ducts that suck the smoke completely out of the room and allows customers to light up while the facility remains in compliance with the presidential order.

"DPW has done a really great job on the whole facility. Not only have they built this new addition to

the club, but they have done extensive work on the outside of the club," said Mary Jane Spreier, Rod and Gun Club manager.

"They've painted the whole outside of the building. They've upgraded the front patio, made a really nice porch out of it with all new beams and railing," she said.

"Our customers are glad they have a room to smoke in. They really like it," said Spreier.

Looking ahead the club has been earmarked for an additional \$330,000 worth of renovation in 2003 that will completely remodel the ballroom and create an additional smoking area inside the club. "The new smoking area should be complete by the end of January," said Spreier. In April and May the whole ballroom will be renovated and made into a community club said Spreier.

The club will take on a totally new look. "No more of the just country look. It's going to be a community club. We're also looking for a new name for the club," said Spreier.

The Rod and Gun Club is not the only facility on Baumholder affected by the no smoking policy.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

The new Winter Garden at the Rod and Gun Club is designed to accommodate smokers. All military facilities became smoke-free Dec. 7 as a result of a presidential order.

"Our customers have to go outside. We don't have a retrofit in here," said Les Quick, bowling center manager.

With plans for a new bowling center down the road, the current facility is not scheduled to be retrofitted.

Rheinlander customers are luckier. The club has a winter garden and is allowing its clientele to use it when they need to light up.

## Alcohol, drugs prove costly for soldiers

Sgt. Antonio A. Valladares, Company B, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial Dec. 18. He forfeited \$1,219.

Spc. Efren R. Vega, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial Dec. 18. He received a sentence of confinement for seven

days and forfeiture of \$1,000. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spc. Patrick J. Dennis, Company B, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial Dec. 18. He received a sentence of confinement for seven days and was reduced to private first class. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spc. Justin R. Vondrak, Company B, 1-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of failure to be at his appointed place of duty, one count of absent without leave and one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance by a summary court-martial Dec. 20. He received a sentence of confinement for 30 days, reduction to private and forfeiture of \$737. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Pfc. Jason J. Hall, Company B, 1-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of failure to be at his appointed place of duty, one count of absent without leave, one count of disobeying a lawful order and one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He received a sentence of confinement for 30 days, reduction to private and forfeiture of \$737. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Staff Sgt. Jason H. Kaufman, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4-27th Field Artillery, was found guilty on one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance and one count of wrongful possession of a controlled substance by a special court-martial at Mannheim Dec. 30. He received a sentence of confinement for 14 days and reduction to private. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

### Safeguard your personal data

## It can happen to you — guard against identity theft

By Capt. Catherine Lev  
Baumholder Legal Center

You receive bills for things you never bought. Collection agencies hound you for debts you never made. The bank refuses you a loan claiming you already took a loan from them while you know no such thing happened. Although it may sound surreal to have someone out there operating under your name and using your credentials, unfortunately, this does not just happen in James Bond movies.

Identity theft happens in real life and anyone can become a victim.

The good news is there are steps you can take to reduce your chances

of becoming one and also to restore your good name. When it comes right down to it, for companies that provide goods and services you are just a collection of numbers on a database. Once someone obtains a few crucial pieces of information about you, they can obtain credit, goods and services in your name.

That is what identity theft is all about. The question is, how do thieves get their information and how can you thwart their nefarious plans?

● They dig through your garbage looking for pieces of paper with numbers on them (bills, credit card offers, etc.). You need to shred

all such papers or tear them into very small pieces before throwing them out.

● They steal your mail and your wallet. You need to take precautions to guard your wallet from pickpockets. You may also consider using a mailbox that locks.

● They listen to conversations you have in public. You need to be discreet when revealing personal information in a public setting. If a bank teller asks you for an account number, show, rather than tell.

● They run scams on the telephone and on the Internet. You need to learn not to fall for them. Avoid giving personal information

to strangers in these situations.

If you believe you are a victim, consider taking the following actions:

File a police report and get a copy of it.

Cancel all credit cards and get new numbers. Call the fraud departments of the three major credit report agencies: Equifax (800) 525-6285, Experian (888) 397-3742, TransUnion (800) 680-7289. Ask them to add a "victim's statement" to your file. That will make creditors contact you before opening any new accounts in your name. Ask the credit reporting agencies for copies of your credit report.

If you lose your wallet, close all checking and savings accounts and open new ones. Stop payments on outstanding checks.

Get a new ATM card and a new PIN (Personal Identification Number)

Contact the Federal Trade Commission's identity theft hotline at 1-877-IDTHEFT. Ask for a copy of "ID Theft: When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name."

For questions or concerns about identity theft call the Baumholder law center at mil 485-6506 or civ (06783)6-6506. Remember—when it comes to identity theft you can never be too careful.

## Peace, good luck focus for new year

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Two chimney sweeps adjust their black coats and place black cylinders on their heads. One holds a basket of pfennigs while the other's basket is filled with chimney sweep tokens. They take their place at the end of the reception line and prepare to greet the more than 300 German and American guests who are showing up to ring in 2003 at the Baumholder New Year's reception. The sweeps along with the tokens and pfennigs they are giving the guests are traditional symbols of good luck.

One by one the guests file past Brig. Gen. Fred D. Robinson, Baumholder senior tactical commander, his wife Reva, Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, and his wife Renee. At the end of the line are the two chimney sweeps who present each guest with the good luck pfennig and tokens.

After welcoming all the guests Robinson stood at the foot of the



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Guests enjoy the buffet and each other's company during the annual Baumholder New Year's reception.

scrolling staircase that empties into the ballroom where the guests are already feasting on the elaborate fish and poultry buffet.

"Let me thank you for what you do every day for our soldiers," said Robinson.

The ballroom bustles with the

numerous military guests dressed in their formal blues that glitter with their countless accomplishments as they mingle with the German guests.

Represented in the crowd are dignitaries, Polizei officials, doctors and other residents of Baumholder, Idar-Oberstein and the numerous sur-

rounding communities. German military guests are also present and all eyes are on Robinson who continues with his brief comments.

"During this time of turmoil when no one knows what the future's going to bring, I think it's only right that we get together and think about

peace," he said.

"I wish I knew more about the future, but I don't. But one thing I do know is, the relationship of the military community here in Baumholder is amazing. And what you the German population do for us, we can't thank you enough."

"For you leaders here who are wearing the uniform, what you do for our soldiers and our nation is truly amazing. And the spouses of these soldiers, officers, sergeants major, you really do make a difference every day. I personally owe you a deep debt of gratitude."

Motioning to the buffet Robinson said, "If you've noticed, there's black-eyed peas." Robinson told the crowd that he was from Tennessee and in the South, "black-eyed peas are a tradition just like the pfennigs are and the chimney sweep."

"Many of you went by and rubbed the chimney sweep to hopefully get some luck. With the people in this room you really don't need luck because of all the caring and talent and dedication you have to mankind," he said.

## Cinderella soldiers make it to the ball

### Privates mingle with community rollers

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava  
222nd Base Support Battalion Public  
Affairs Office

The annual Baumholder New Year's reception is a formal affair brimming with lots of military pomp and circumstance. It traditionally brings together all the movers and rollers of the community.

German and American dignitaries, both military and civilian, gather to wish each other a happy new year and often to talk shop or even conduct a little business.

One would not expect to see a private or specialist let alone German citizens who have no connection with the military rubbing elbows with the community's elite at such an event.

It's a Cinderella story at Baumholder though because privates and grassroots German families have an opportunity to go to the ball. For three consecutive years now several German families with no connection to the U.S. military and line privates have received an invitation to mingle with the elite. The Germans are not village mayors, they hold no official office and the privates or specialists are not hand-picked.

The German families are just common folk with big hearts who voluntarily offer to host a single soldier in their homes during the

holiday season. Soldiers usually spend Christmas Eve with the families and enjoy a Christmas dinner. The families often invite the soldier back to celebrate New Year's. In gratitude the commander extends an invitation to the families and the soldier they hosted to attend the New Year's reception.

Operation Good Cheer is the annual initiative that brings these families and soldiers together during the holidays. With assistance from the 222nd BSB Public Affairs Office, soldiers are matched with German families who volunteer for the program.

A few days before Christmas the families and soldiers meet and get to know each other at a dinner hosted by the 222nd BSB Public Affairs Office.

"We have families who have participated in Operation Good Cheer for several years," said Madeleine Dwoiakowski, 222nd BSB public affairs officer.

Participation in the program varies from year to year. Some years more soldiers participate in the program than families. No soldier, however, is left without a family because many families volunteer to take in more than one soldier.

"We have families who have taken up to four soldiers in for the holidays," said Dwoiakowski.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Pvt. 2 Gered M. Vinyard and his German hostess, Angelika Hettrich, make their way through the buffet line at the annual New Year's reception.