

Preparing your pet for vacation

Planning essential to carefree summer

By Petra Roberts

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Summer vacation season is approaching, and local animal protection agencies urge community members to remember the welfare and safety of their pets as they plan their getaways.

Is the neighbor who promised to look after the family pet reliable? Will your dog be taken out for walks every day? Will the cat litter box be cleaned, fresh food and water provided?

Consider these contingencies and make arrangements well in advance.

★ If the pet is cared for at home, make sure that animal and caretaker get along and that the person is trustworthy. The fact that a pet does not have its owner around is already stressful enough. Waiting for hours for somebody to come by and spend a little time with your pet can be torture on the animal.

★ Discuss what needs to be done with the caretaker and talk about the caretaker's expectations. That is an important element. Is she or he expecting to get paid? Can you

return the favor one day? Are you expected to return the favor? Come to clear agreements before departing.

★ Dog owners who decide to travel with their pets should obtain information about regulations or restrictions that govern pet travel in their country of destination.

In most cases families travel without their pet and have trouble finding a reliable sitter. Consider other options for pet care.

Cat and dog hotels provide pets the care and attention they need for a relatively small fee. Dogs are usually kept in individual kennels with runs; cats are kept in a secure environment to assure they don't "go for walks."

Daily rates range from €8-14 depending on the pet hotel and the size of your pet. The 284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office can provide addresses and phone numbers for adequate, care-giving shelters.

Another option is to place pets in the care of the local animal shelter, which is managed by the Animal Protection Agency. Dogs and cats that have experienced these kennels more than once actually feel right at home there, said pet owners. The Giessen animal shelter can be reached at civ (0641) 52251. It is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday



Photo by Alexandra Williams

A feline in Giessen's animal shelter enjoys the sunshine in the outdoor area for cats. Bringing your pet to the shelter for the duration of your vacation is one option to have it cared for while you are away.

from 3-5 p.m. and weekends from 3-6 p.m. Butzbach's shelter is open Tuesday to Friday from 5-6:30 p.m., Sunday and German holidays from 10 a.m. to noon. It can be reached at civ (06033) 5538.

Summer vacations should not result in

abandoned animals being found tied up to a pole somewhere. Spending a few extra dollars to assure your pet's well-being should be part of your budget. A happy reunion with your pet when you get back will make it all worthwhile.



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Memorial flag raised over Butzbach

Butzbach Elementary School fifth-graders raise the memorial flag sent to Department of Defense schools in Europe by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. The flag was raised and lowered over the Pentagon Aug. 30, 2002, in honor of those who died Sept. 1, 2001. The flag-raising ceremony paid tribute to those who lost their lives that day. The flag was then brought to Bad Nauheim Elementary School.

USAREUR Best House Management Award goes to Keller Pub

By Alexandra Williams
284th Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Winning the 2003 U.S. Army Europe Best House Management Award came as a surprise to the staff of the Keller Theater and Pub.

"We've been nominated for it for a couple of years in a row, but we didn't expect to win," said pub manager Donald Rollins.

"I am still excited. We had no idea that we were considered for it until we went to the award ceremony held in Heidelberg in April. Suddenly they announced us as the winner for the Best House Management award," he said.

The prestigious award is given to facilities that provide best customer service including facility cleanliness, selection of food and drinks, friendliness and efficiency of staff, along with overall appearance of facility.

Giessen was among 17 facilities, including the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Belgium, Vicenza in Italy and Alconbury in England that entered the competition. The pub impressed the jury when they visited the the-

ater in March and April.

"Like every year our theater submitted a play to the competition, and the jury came to the theater to watch it. The pub served as the greeting point. They told us that they were impressed with the pub's environment and the relaxed atmosphere," Rollins said.

"Coming to the pub is almost like going back into the past of the theater. It's like a museum with all the photos of our actors and the awards we won," he said.

"However our volunteers have a large part in that too. They are just great. The award is given for best customer service and that includes friendliness and efficiency of staff. We are short on staff and our volunteers work in all aspects. They help out in every area. They are actors, musicians, technicians — but they

also work as bartenders and waitresses," he said.

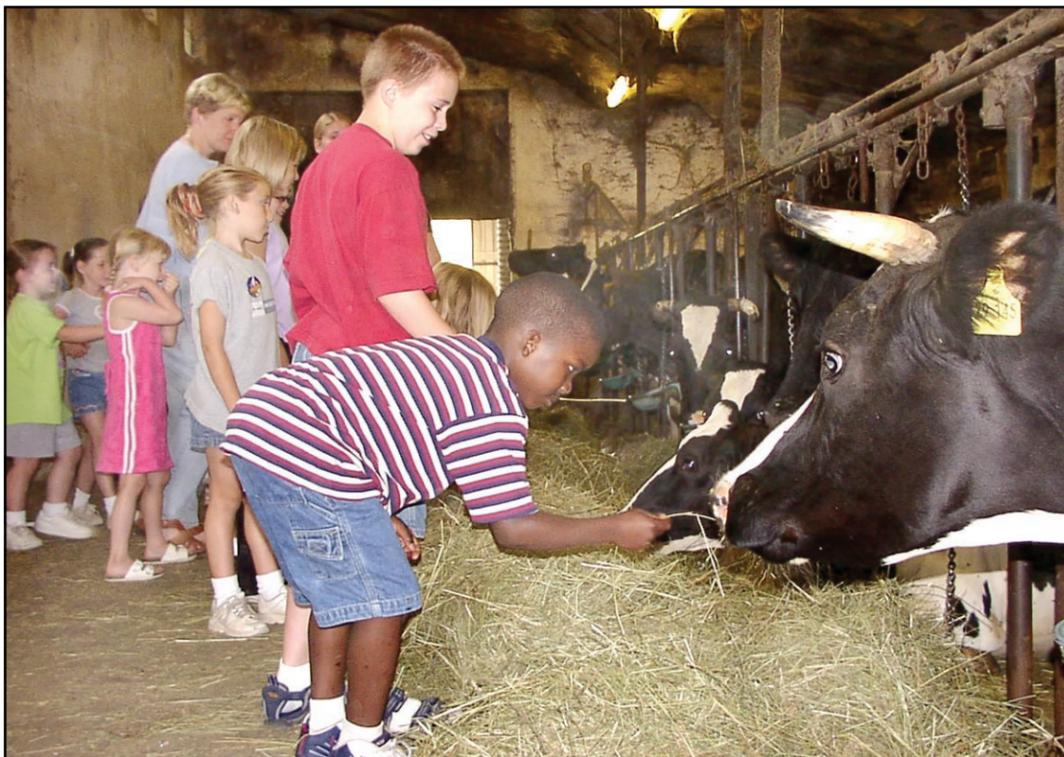
"We are all very proud of the hard work they are doing and, of course, the award. To us this award means the same as the Oscar does for Hollywood," Rollins said.



284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen



Photos by Alexandra Williams



This summer children in the 284th Base Support Battalion can join various fun camps as well as daily activities. Children can enjoy a variety of activities to include physical fitness, exploring farm life (photo right) and trips to cultural sites and local swimming pools.

Wealth of summer activities awaits youth

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

School's out, summer's here and a host of fun activities await young people in the 284th Base Support Battalion.

"Due to the deployment many military parents are not here for the summer, so we are offering a wealth of fun programs for the kids to ensure that they have a good time," said Heather Irwin, 284th BSB Child and Youth Services Outreach Services director.

SAS activities

"The School-Age Services hosts the 'Summerific' program, which is open to all children age 6-11," said Irwin.

Summerific provides activities for the 4H program, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, special interest groups and various other programs, she said.

Activities featured include photography, cooking and dance classes, sports and crafts workshops, fine arts and a daily show.

"For the first time we are offering daily participation, which means that children can choose to either participate in the week-long sessions or attend just on a certain day. In that case parents only pay for hourly care, which is \$1.50 plus entrance fees if applicable, and with prior coordination parents may tag along," she said.

"We are also introducing themed months this summer. June's theme is 'Celebrate Your Loved One.' July is 'Tropical July.' August's theme will be 'Hot Diggity Dog Month' and September features 'Funky Chicken Month,'" said Irwin.

"We are trying to incorporate the themes into some activities. During 'Tropical July' for example, all CDC staff will wear tropical attire on Fridays. We ordered leis which will be given to staff and parents. On Aug. 15 all children are invited to bring in their favorite stuffed animal dog and Aug. 28 all CDC's host a Dog Days of Summer barbecue. In September the CDCs feature the Funky Chicken Art Gallery featuring Chicken Scratch Art and the Youth Services host a chicken barbecue," she said.

YS summer camp

Youths age 11-15 can enjoy this summer with fun and fitness, trips to amusement parks and German cultural areas at the Camp "B" Jammin' hosted by the 284th BSB Youth Services.

"The camp is open from June 16 to Aug. 28. Every week has a different theme such as friendship, health, leadership

and others," said Margaret Ann Curry, 284th BSB Youth Services manager.

The first five weeks of the camp will be held in Giessen, and the last weeks in Butzbach. The camp will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. "In the last week of camp we are only offering half days of fun from noon to 4 p.m.," said Curry.

Parent downtime

"Parents will also have a chance to enjoy a break this summer," said Irwin. "We are introducing Super Saturdays. It's a test pilot which will run until September and will then be evaluated. The Child Development Centers in Giessen, Butzbach, Bad Nauheim and Friedberg will each open on one Saturday every month from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parents told us that they are really excited about it because it means some downtime for them. With the military spouses being deployed many parents are looking forward to going shopping or running errands without always taking the kids along," she said.

"Additionally we are offering Parent's Night Out on a regular basis. The next date is June 20 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Butzbach CDC," she said.

Library activities

The 284th BSB libraries are also offering a variety of activities for children in grades kindergarten to sixth. "This year's summer reading program 'Join the Winner's Circle' runs from June 23 to Aug. 6," said Ann Burski, 284th BSB librarian.

"Every week has a theme, and special activities reflecting this theme take place every Wednesday at the Giessen Library at 10:30 a.m.," she said. "The first week features wood. In the second week we take the kids to the Math Museum in Giessen. Week three features environment followed by a trip to a farm in week four. The fifth week's theme is measurements. Week six features crafts to make and to take, and in the last week we host the grand finale during which Command Sgt. Maj. (Keith) Francis will hand them certificates."

Starting June 24 the storymobile hits the road and provides entertainment for preschoolers. "But others are welcome to come too," said Burski.

Children may catch the storymobile every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. in Butzbach's New York Road, every Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. in Giessen's Dulles Housing and at 2:45 p.m. in Marshall Housing, and every Friday at 10 a.m. in Bad Nauheim's Alvin York Housing.

ACS programs

Army Community Service hosts programs for children age 5 and under. Programs are offered throughout the year and will be continued during the summer.

"We are hosting a Movie Day every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Parents and their children will watch a movie together, do a learning activity and then have a snack together," said 284th BSB ACS information referral clerk Carmen Bastos.

Parent and Me Playtime is another chance for parents to spend some time with their child. It is hosted every Tuesday at the Butzbach Outreach Center from 9-11 a.m., every Wednesday at the Friedberg ACS from 10 a.m. to noon and every Friday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Educational and

Developmental Intervention Services Building on the Giessen Depot.

"During Parent and Me Playtime parents and children do some crafts together, play games and have a story read to them. It's a

great way to spend some quality time, but also to meet other parents as well," Bastos said.

The ACS programs are free of cost. For more information call Giessen ACS at mil 343-7618, Friedberg ACS at mil 324-3465 and the Butzbach Outreach Center can be reached at civ (06033)925 329.

Family activities

Programs for the entire family are also available this summer.

The Giessen Arts and Crafts Shop hosts family crafts time every second and fourth Saturday of the month starting June 28. "Families will work on group projects and learn new crafts together. The first project will be raku, a two-part pottery making class and the third class will be wind chimes," said Paula McGuire.

The cost is \$7 for one adult with one child and \$3 for each additional child. "Normally our kids classes are for children age 6 and up, but this way families can bring their 3-year-olds. We came up with the idea to assist families in coming together to learn different crafts," she said.

Last but not least the 284th YS hosts family trips Aug. 1-3 to Euro Disney in France and a school shopping trip to the Czech Republic Aug. 30. For details on YS events call Giessen YS at civ (0641) 402-6129 and Butzbach YS at civ (06033) 73048. For more information on the listed CYS activities in this article call Heather Irwin at mil 343-8216.

Things to do this summer



Community spotlight .. Community spotlight

Foster families sought

The 284th Base Support Battalion's Army Community Service Emergency Placement Care Program seeks families to provide EPC, formerly known as foster care, for children at risk. Interested families must go through training. For details call Perry Tripp in Giessen at mil 343-7618 or Florentine King in Friedberg at mil 324-3709.

Weekend child care

Super Saturday Child Care is offered June 21 at the Friedberg Child Development Center and June 28 at the Giessen CDC from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children must be 11 years or younger and CLEOS registered. Respite card for E-4s and below will be accepted. Register by noon on the Thursday before the Saturday opening. For reservations call the Friedberg CDC at civ (06031) 81-3137 and the Giessen CDC at civ (0641) 402-6200.

Breastfeeding Support Group canceled

The Army Community Service Breastfeeding Support Group meetings for June are canceled. A new Parenting Support Group will be established instead. For details call Kathrine Monge at mil 343-7618.

Transition briefing

The Giessen Transition Office hosts a transition briefing June 24 starting at 9 a.m. in Building 7, Room 312 on the Giessen Depot. For more information call Stephen Bailey at mil 343-6504.

Medical officer sought

The Friedberg Health Clinic has an immediate opening for a general practice medical officer. Applicants must have at least one year of experience and possess a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy degree from a school in the United States or Canada approved by a recognized accrediting body or an equivalent degree from a foreign medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools. The job is open to current U.S. forces local national employees, external local nationals and external non-U.S. citizen family members. For more information call Dr. Jeffrey A. Levy at mil 324-3654/3538/3596 or your local civilian personnel office.

Job Search Workshop

The Army Career and Alumni Program hosts a two-day Job Search Workshop June 17-18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants learn details about the entire job search process enabling them to apply those principals to their own careers. Topics of the workshop include self-assessment, job search strategies, networking, resume writing, interviewing and negotiating job offers. Workshops are held monthly. Spouses of service members who are within one year of his or her original ETS date or two years of possible retirement, regardless of stop-loss extensions, are eligible to use the ACAP services. Call



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Sharing Asian-Pacific traditions

Dancers perform traditional Asian-Pacific dances for community members at the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month celebration held May 30 at Giessen's Marshall Housing. The celebration featured specially prepared pork and other culinary delicacies, music and dance and also a martial arts demonstration by the Panther Martial Arts Club.

Claire Sowinski at mil 343-9332 to register.

Travel with Outdoor Rec

Outdoor Recreation hosts a Rhein River cruise June 14 for those interested in cruising the Rhein River Valley and exploring Rudesheim. A trip to the castle in Neuschwanstein is scheduled for June 21. For details on departure times and fees call Outdoor Recreation at mil 343-8202.

Preschool story time

The 284th Base Support Battalion Library presents preschool story time every Friday at 10 a.m. at the Bad Nauheim Community Center through June 20. The program is free and open to all toddlers and parents in the 284th BSB. The story time at the Butzbach Outreach Center has been cancelled. For more information call mil 343-1740.

Basketball tournament

Giessen's Fitness Center hosts a three-on-three basketball tournament June 14-15. Cost is \$35 and includes T-shirts. Teams are limited to four players. Awards will be given to the final three teams, and individual awards will be given to the top two teams. For details call Danny Sullivan at mil 343-6384.

Shows at the Keller Theater

The Keller Theater in Giessen presents "The Taming of the Shrew," a comedy by William Shakespeare, June 12-14 and 19-21 at 7:30 p.m. The "Stars of the Keller Theater" perform free shows June 15, 22 and 29 starting at 7 p.m. For more information call mil 343-6515.

Summer jobs available

The 284th BSB Youth Services and School-Age Services have openings for summer camp counselors in Giessen and Butzbach from June 16 to Aug. 29. Applicants must be 18 or older. For information call the NAF Personnel Office at mil 343-8618.

Learn about the community

The next Community Information Briefing takes place in Friedberg's Villa Calabria June 25 at 10:30 a.m. The briefing is open to the entire community and is a chance to pick up valuable community information.

Arts and Crafts corner

Friedberg Arts and Craft Shop hosts a Card Making class every Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. and every Thursday starting at noon. Participants learn how to create personalized cards for their loved ones. Cost is \$5.50. A Heart-shaped Shelf Making Woodworking class takes place June 18 from 4-6 p.m. The cost is \$18 and includes materials. Instructions cover basic joinery and how to approach and design a simple project. The class is suitable for beginners and qualifies participants for the use of the woodshop. Sack Lunch Crochet takes place every Tuesday in June from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The class is suitable for those at beginner and intermediate skill levels. The cost is \$7 and includes hook and thread. For details call Eric Danzeiser at mil 324-3266. Giessen Arts and Craft hosts a Crafts Market every third Saturday of the month. Local craft vendors and those from other communities bring in unique craft items

such as Americana, woodwork, needlework and artwork. The next market takes place June 21 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reservation fees for a table are \$10. The While You Were Gone scrapbook project takes place every Tuesday in June from 3:30-4:30 p.m. The cost of the class is \$10 including materials and laminating. For more information call Paula McGuire at mil 343-6672.

German head start classes for family members

The Education Center in Friedberg offers German head start classes for family members for the duration of the deployment. Classes take place Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To enroll call Renate Feldmann at the Giessen Education Center at mil 343-7152/8103.

Auto Skills services

The Friedberg Auto Skills Center offers an Oil Change class June 15 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$12. Customers must bring their own oil and filter. The center offers an airport shuttle service for \$50 one-way and \$90 round trip. For details call Richard Babcock at mil 324-3218.

How to request service orders

Service orders to request minor repair and maintenance work not exceeding \$2,000 per order should be submitted by telephone, work order or online at www.bosgmbh.com/giessen/giorder.htm. Write and retain the service order number for reference. Service orders for minor repair and maintenance work are typically completed within 30 days of submission.

Kudos to volunteers

Army Community Service thanks the following volunteers for playing a role on the ACS team and making a difference: Tameka Allen, William Ashmore, Carmen Bastos,



Kristine Burich, Katheryn Chavarria, Melissa Collier, Hillary Cram, Candice Grizer, Sadie Grizer, Jackie Kirkeby, Doris McLaughlin, Luz Medeiros, Katherine Monge, Keller Peterson, Debbie Sudduth, Marlene Torres, Kristy Walker, Lana Young, Eunice Garcia, Valentina Smith and Allison Lichty.

Vacation Bible School volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to support the Vacation Bible Schools in Friedberg and Bad Nauheim from June 23-27, and in Giessen and Butzbach from July 28 to Aug. 1. Child care will be provided for volunteers. For information in Bad Nauheim and Friedberg contact Bobbi McKenna at mck4@prodigy.net or call her at civ (06031) 169 871; or send an email to Jessica Ayers at jesserenenebruce@hotmail.com or call her at civ (06035) 189 349. For details about Giessen and Butzbach call Jennifer Matthews at mil 343-8020/7794 or civ (0641) 402-8020/7794.

284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

SORT needs support from all

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Protecting the environment, saving tax dollars and enforcing the Separate or Recycle Trash program is a never-ending mission of the 284th Base Support Battalion Directorate of Public Works.

"The U.S. Army Europe created the SORT program to comply with host nation recycling laws. It's our mission to encourage the community to support the program," said Paul Koontz, SORT coordinator for the 284th BSB DPW. "There is no law in Germany saying that Americans have to recycle, but it's the right thing to do for the environment."

As the liaison between the DPW and the community Koontz spends about 90 percent of his time in the housing areas investigating recycling habits, both good and bad. "That's the most efficient way to find out what the community needs to support SORT. This way I can identify the needs of the community and apply those needs to better our trash and recycling program," he said.

Koontz is also involved in beautifying the refuse and recycling drop-off points. "When the area looks clean people are not turned off and are less tempted to just drop their recyclables beside the containers. Furthermore we placed



bins all over the housing areas to shorten the walk from the house — to make it as easy for them as possible," he said.

An effective recycling program includes the working area as well, said Koontz. He has placed receptacles for separating paper, soda cans, plastic bottles and residual refuse near soda machines and entrance areas throughout the BSB to encourage staff and customers to recycle on the job.

"Participating in SORT helps the community to save a lot of money. We pay a contractor to come and pick up and separate our refuse, but it's not a flat rate we are paying," Koontz said. When trash is mixed in recycling bins, the BSB pays for someone's lack of consideration.

"The entire waste container will be labeled as unrecyclable and has to be sent to the landfill," Koontz said. The BSB has to pay for the amount of separation that the contractor is doing. The less they have to separate, the less the BSB has to pay. "That means we can use the money saved elsewhere, for instance for base beautification."

Everyone has a part to play, he said.

"Even though you recycle and your neighbor doesn't should not discourage you from recycling. Every little bit helps, and if your neighbor sees you often enough maybe he or she will get the hint and start. A friendly hint here and there wouldn't hurt either," Koontz said.

How to support SORT

- ▶ Buy washable, reusable food storage containers instead of plastic wrap or tinfoil.
- ▶ Avoid products in plastic bottles and aerosol cans, which are difficult to recycle.
- ▶ Buy rechargeable batteries, refillable containers and other reusable products.

Benefits of recyclables:

- ▶ Glass can be recycled forever and should never end up in the landfills.
- ▶ Aluminum can also be recycled endlessly. Reusing it saves 95 percent of the energy cost to produce it anew.
- ▶ Paper is slightly degraded with each recycling and eventually becomes unusable. Still if people would recycle just their daily newspaper it could save more than 500,000 trees a week.
- ▶ Plastic can be recycled into many different products.

Some facts:

- ▶ The average American tosses away 1,200 pounds of trash each year.
- ▶ Recycling a single aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV set for three hours.
- ▶ Virtually 100 percent of car batteries returned to stations and dealers get recycled and reused.

Summer safety

Teach young employees to work safely

By Benjamin P. Sugui

284th Base Support Battalion Safety Office

Every year millions of teenagers work in part-time or summer jobs that provide opportunities for learning important life skills and acquiring hands-on experience. However federal and state rules limit the hours and the types of jobs that teenagers can work. Employers must understand and comply with these rules to ensure that young workers have a safe and rewarding work experience.

Young workers want to do a good job, but they need help to work safely. Their lack of experience works against them and they may not feel comfortable asking questions. Supervisors should take the following steps to help prepare youth to work safely. What they learn now, they will take with them throughout their working careers.

• Double check tasks. Supervisors and co-workers can help compensate for inexperience by showing teens how to do a job

correctly. What may be obvious to an employee may not be so clear to a teen tackling a task for the first time. Time spent showing a young worker the best way to handle a job will be paid back three-fold through work done right and without injury to the worker.

• Give them clear instructions and tell them what safety precautions to take. Ask them to repeat your instructions and give them an opportunity to ask questions.

• Show them how to perform the task.

Then watch them as they do it, correcting any mistakes.

• Ask if they have any additional questions.

• Don't let them take shortcuts with safety. Be sure that supervisors and co-workers set a good example by following all appropriate rules.

For information contact the 284th Base Support Battalion Safety Office at mil 343-1760.



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Click it or ticket

Staff Sgt. Dennis Brown (center), traffic noncommissioned officer in charge of the 284th BSB Provost Marshal's Office, and Polizeihauptkommissar Michael Rollshausen (right) of the Butzbach Polizei check if Col. David Bender, 284th BSB commander, is in compliance with the safety belt law. The check was conducted in Butzbach's Roman Way Housing and marked the beginning of this summer's "Click it or ticket" campaign.

ACS happenings

NOW workshop

Newcomer's Orientation and Welcome workshops provide tools to get out and about in Germany. During the two-day workshop participants learn details about the community and its agencies and go on a surrounding area tour. Free child care is provided when registered in advance. The next workshop takes place June 17-18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Army Community Service in Friedberg. For details call Christina Daily at mil 324-6039.

Hearts Apart luncheon

ACS hosts monthly Hearts Apart luncheons from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every first Tuesday of the month in Butzbach, every third Thursday in Giessen and every fourth Friday in Friedberg. Special emphasize is on spouses of deployed soldiers to join the community for soup, support, laughter and

friendship. Advance reservations are required. Call Deborah Gantt in Giessen at mil 343-6039 or Martha Pinion in Friedberg at mil 324-3710.

Translator service

The Butzbach Outreach Center provides German translating service every Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. to help with those mind-boggling letters or calls to local vendors. For details call civ (06033) 925 329.

Multi-Cultural Support Group

Giessen Army Community Service hosts a multi-cultural support group meeting every third Thursday of the month. This workshop is designed to give support and assistance to foreign-born spouses. For more information call Patricia Harper at mil 343-6910.

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

CYS programs, summer camp set

By Marie DeLopez
414th Base Support Battalion Marketing

Youngsters in the 414th Base Support Battalion can look forward to a wide range of summer activities when the Child and Youth Services summer camp program gets under way June 16. CYS offers open recreation, organized trips, classes, contests, tournaments, parties, sporting events, a summer teen camp and more.

This year summer adventures include swimming outings, trips to Teamwork Towers, skating and bowling. The CYS program also offers a variety of fun trips to amusement parks and area attractions. Youngsters can spend a day at Phantasialand or participate in camp activities such as field trips, sports, arts and crafts, music, outdoor activities and lots of summer fun and games.

The Summer Camp, for youth in sixth grade or above, will run daily from June 16 to Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$35 per week or \$315 for the whole summer. Fees cover transportation, entrance to amusement parks, supplies, meals and snacks. Parents can register children through the CYS they attend or through CLEOS if they are not enrolled in the CYS program.

Sports activities galore are on the CYS sports branch schedule. Open play basketball will take place every Monday at the Cardwell Fitness Center and every Wednesday at the Pioneer Fitness Center from 4:30-6 p.m. for children ages 11-18.

CYS Sports will conduct All Day Sports Camps for boys and girls 10-14 years of age that include a snack and lunch each day. The **basketball camp** starts July 7. **Cheerleading and tennis** begin July 14. **Football and golf** camps will kick off July 21. The **volleyball camp** begins July 28. Participants must be 10 years old by the camp starting date.

"All programs are also offered at prices well below average," said Nate Harris, Galaxy Teen Center director. Camps are scheduled on a weekly basis and children can attend individual camps or the entire summer package. Sports camps cost \$25 per week or \$150 for all camps. Participants are required to be registered with CLEOS. Registration fees are extra.

"Learning can be fun and free," said Janice Wheeler, Youth Services director at the Millennium Teen Center in Büdingen, which will conduct a summer enrichment program to encourage educational development during the summer. The program will run from June 16 to Aug. 22, Monday thru Friday from 2-5 p.m. "Our goal is to get kids back to school fresher and smarter," said Wheeler.

School-Age Services programs offer a hodgepodge of creative activities and fun-filled trips for youngsters to places such as Holiday Park, the Morfelden Water Park, Europa Park and Miramar. SAS also offers a nine-week camp program beginning June 16 and running through Aug. 15.

"To participate parents need to register their children with CLEOS," said Joe Girten, SAS program manager. Children must be in first through fifth grade to participate.

Day trip schedule

Hanau Youth Services

June 19 — Phantasialand, July 10 — Europa Park, July 17 — Phantasialand, July 23 — Rhein River cruise, July 24 — Warner Bros. Park, Aug. 7 — Europa Park, Aug. 14 — Trip to Holland.

School-Age Services

June 18 — Geiselwind, June 25 — Holiday Park, July 2 — Morfelden Water Park, July 9 — Lochmühle, July 16 — Holiday Park, July 23 — Geiselwind, July 30 — Miramar, Aug. 6 — Europa Park, Aug. 13 — Local swimming pool trip.



Plenty to do 'on the economy'

For those willing to go off post the rewards of exploring Hanau and the surrounding countryside comes in fun experiences that can make the adventure of living overseas just that — an adventure. Consider these possibilities when making plans for summer outings.

Happening in Hanau

Wildlife Park Alte Fasanerie

Hanau's wildlife park, the Alte Fasanerie in Hanau-Klein Auheim, is a great place to experience a wide range of animals living in an almost natural habitat. The park covers 250 acres with approximately 200 animals from some 40, mostly indigenous species. Among them are wild boar, deer, reindeer, elk, wildcats, lynx and wolves. With its wide open living spaces for animals, visitors have ample opportunity to view their behavior as it exists in nature, rather than in a pen or cage. Plan on spending three or four hours, a whole morning or afternoon, for a visit.

Children can pet and feed sheep, goats and wild boar. The Fasanerie is also home to a number of pheasants, which give the park its name, including several large ones that roam at will around the grounds. Be sure to bring your camera to take snapshots for loved ones far away.

Guided tours for groups are available in English. Call the 414th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office at civ (06181) 88-1600 or mil 322-1600 for assistance. A highlight is the feeding of the wolf pack with its hierarchical behavior and the chilling musical accompaniment of its howling.

The Fasanerie is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entrance fees are €3 for adults and €1.50 for children. Children under 6 enter for free and groups get a discount. For information call civ (06181) 69191. To get to the Fasanerie from Hanau take the B43a toward Weisskirchen and follow the signs. From elsewhere take the Klein-Auheim exit from Autobahn 3 and follow the sign to Parkplatz Fasanerie.

Fairy Tale Festival

Hanau's two best known native sons, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, are the inspiration for the annual Märchenfestspiele that stages productions of their fairy tales for the entertainment of children every summer. This year's program runs through July 27 and features performances of "The Bremen Town Musicians," "Hansel and Gretel," "Frau Holle," "Jorinde and Joringel" and "Iron Hans."

Performances take place on the outdoor stage at Philippsruhe Castle. A special reading of tales in English to



Photo by Karl Weisel

The pedal helicopter and log spin ride are among dozens of amusements at the Lochmühle in the Taunus Mountains.

musical accompaniment will be held July 20 at 11 a.m. Other special performances include a jazz matinee of "The Four Seasons" June 22 at 11 a.m., a ballet version of "Frau Holle" July 6 at 11 a.m. and the ballet "Swan Lake" July 13 at 6 p.m.

Morning performances are available for kindergarten and school groups. Same day sale tickets cost €10 for adults, €8 for children ages 3-14, and are somewhat less expensive when purchased in advance. For details call civ (06181) 24670/24677 or surf the web to www.brueder-grimm-maerchenfestspiele.de.

Deutsches Goldschmiedehaus

The internationally renowned Deutsches Goldschmiedehaus is an exhibit space for the best and the latest in silver and gold jewelry and related arts. It also houses a historical goldsmith workshop and a large collection of contemporary works. It is located at Altstädter Markt 6 in Hanau and is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to noon and 2-5 p.m. Call civ (06181) 295 430 for information.

Hessisches Puppenmuseum

The Hessian Doll Museum is located in the park promenade on the grounds of Wilhelmsbad Castle. In addition to a fine collection of dolls, there are often special exhibits and demonstrations in the museum. The Wilhelmsbad park itself is a green oasis for spending summer afternoons. A miniature golf course and outdoor restaurant are on the grounds. The Doll Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to noon and 2-5 p.m. Call civ (06181) 86212 for information.

Day trips near and far

The Opel-Zoo

Frankfurt's Opel Zoo is a favorite with youngsters of all ages. The zoo, which covers more than 200,000 square meters, is home to 1,000 animals of 200 species and features a petting zoo, over 100 play and fitness activities and an ecological trail. The Opel Zoo is northwest of Frankfurt between Königstein and Kronberg on secondary road B 455.

A different kind of amusement park

The Lochmühle, located in the Taunus Mountains near Wehrheim, northwest of Frankfurt and not far from Bad Homburg, has a variety of rides and play activities distinctly void of the usual electronic clutter. Carousels, a range of rides, water slides and a 40-meter long group slide are among the highlights. There are 20 barbecue sites for visitors to use, miniature golf and a petting zoo for young children.

Entry fees are €9 for adults and children over 90 centimeters tall pay €8. Shorter children enter for free. Group rates are available. Dogs must be kept on a leash and owners must clean up after them.

The Lochmühle is open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For directions visit their webpage at www.lochmuehle.de or call civ (06175) 790 060.



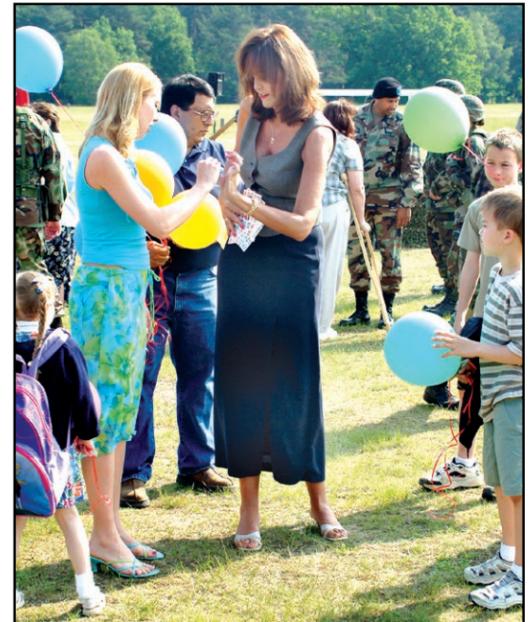
Photo by Karl Weisel

A youngster enjoys feeding the four-legged denizens of one of the many area petting zoos.

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Photo left: 5-7th ADA units pass and review during the homecoming ceremony. Below: Pam Belanger (center), Army Community Service officer for the 414th Base Support Battalion, hands out festive stickers and balloons to Michelle Whiting (center left) and her children.



Photos by Karl Weisel

Welcoming home the 5-7th ADA

Air defenders return from Israel and Turkey

By David Ruderman

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Friends, family and fellow soldiers of 5-7th Air Defense Artillery gathered on Hanau's Campo Pond May 30 to welcome home the first area battalion to redeploy from the Middle East in the wake of Operation Iraqi Freedom. About 600 soldiers assembled on the parade ground under an intense spring sun to mark their return from a mission of deterrence and defense in Turkey and Israel.

"This mission tested our unit's readiness in every possible way. It tested our very mettle," said Col. Roger F. Mathews, 69th ADA Brigade commander. "You handled two missions magnificently. You met every challenge in stride. Most Americans don't know much of your sacrifice. Such is a soldier's lot. I can assure you, however, that you have made history."

Mathews praised the 5-7th for accomplishing a tough mission while working 12-hour days under at times arduous conditions. He noted winter storms in Israel that turned the simplest camp operations into major obstacles. Despite every difficulty, 5-7th ADA coordinated with its partner Israeli air defense units to create an extended air defense task force. He praised the 5-7th ADA soldiers stationed in Turkey who comprised a joint NATO-led force, integrating their operations with those of their Dutch peers.

With the mission accomplished and all soldiers returned to Germany, 5-7th must concentrate now on recovery, reintegration and force protection, said Mathews. "We can't lose focus. As our nation wages war on terrorism, we must always be ready."

"This ceremony is about the accomplishments of the soldiers and family members," said Lt. Col. Forrest E. Smith, 5-7th ADA commander. "There are 698 soldiers in this battalion — 592 soldiers deployed to either Turkey or Israel in order to support Operation Juniper Cobra 03, Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom," he said.

Pointing out that 50 percent of soldiers left family behind



Soldiers and family members welcome home 5-7th ADA members at Hanau's Campo Pond Training Area May 30.

in Germany while deployed, Mathews and Smith presented certificates of appreciation to Family Readiness Group leaders for their efforts in keeping the home front together during the mission. "The most cohesive Family Readiness Group I have seen in my career stood to and covered down on our soldiers, their families and the community," Smith said.

"You are defined in character by your accomplishments, your conduct, your competence in performing your duty," Smith told the soldiers. "Operations with boots on the ground in Turkey and Israel were near flawless. In Turkey, Delta Battery hit the port running, achieving ready-to-fire status just six hours after your equipment was off loaded from the ship. Bravo Battery had two missions: Protect Turkish priorities and my mission, which was to be prepared to deploy 400 kilometers and get across the border into Iraq. We came so close," he said.

"In Israel you defined the tactics, techniques and procedures, and then fought the fight with the world's only two-tiered air defense system, fighting alongside Israel's Patriot and Arrow weapons systems." The battalion conducted split base operations with a 94 percent operational readiness. Of 411 pieces of equipment deployed on the missions, only five had to be towed back, he said.

"You have gone forward with the knowledge that harm

could come your way, and you have accomplished great things. We will long wonder 'what if ...?' What if the 4th Infantry Division had rolled through Turkey into northern Iraq? What if Iraq had launched 40 ballistic missiles on Tel Aviv and Haifa as they did in 1991? Your superior performance in every endeavor has defined your abilities. I think it is clear — and our allies shared the same conclusion — you were supremely prepared."

Among the soldiers at the homecoming 2nd Lt. Craig Whiting, Battery E, 5-7th, was celebrating his reunion with his wife Michelle and their four children, Colin, Caleb, Colton and Madison.

The deployment went pretty smoothly and the return was pretty quick, said Whiting. "It wasn't bad. We had some challenges, but we dealt with it as it came. The roughest was not knowing what was coming next, in terms of having to be prepared for terrorism or force protection, staying always ready for change."

While focused on the mission of deterrence and defense, some ADA soldiers did get to see a bit of their host countries while deployed. Some soldiers deployed to Israel got to see such sights as Masada, the Dead Sea and Caesarea. For Chaplain (Capt.) Will Horton, the highlight was a visit to the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River, where he took the opportunity to baptize about 35 soldiers. "It was just an awesome experience," said Horton.

Family members coped with the deployment as best they could and were happy to have their soldiers home. "It was very busy — I have three boys," said Horton's wife, Vickie. "It was a challenge. I learned a lot. I learned to change a brake light by myself."

Capt. Karen Saravia and 1st Sgt. Vickie Hopson of 19th Maintenance Company reminisced about the mission while enjoying some cool water together after the ceremony.

Saravia had some complimentary words to say for their Israeli partners and their strict force protection regime. Hopson remembered live fire exercises as a highlight of the mission. But both returned again to memories of the intense winter storms that lashed their base during the winter.

"We had a lot of inclement weather," said Saravia.

"I'd never been in a hurricane before," said Hopson.

"Not in a tent," said Saravia.

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Around the community

Changes of command

Lt. Col. Samuel T. Piper III will assume command of the 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery, from Lt. Col. Forrest E. Smith in a ceremony at Hanau's Campo Pond Training Area June 26 at 2 p.m. The unit recently returned from Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lt. Col. Thomas P. McKenna will assume command of the 39th Finance Battalion from Lt. Col. Jane S. Polcrack in a ceremony at the Pioneer Kaserne flagpole (or Pioneer Fitness Center in inclement weather) July 10 at 3 p.m.

Annual bazaar

The Hanau Community Spouses Club invites all local Family Readiness Groups and non-profit organizations to participate in its annual bazaar which will be held Oct. 24-26 in Building 1313 on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Contact Bianca Moton at civ (0160) 910 52378 or Rose M. Buckley at civ (06181) 906 3792.

IACS registration

All ID card and installation pass holders are reminded that they must register with the Installation Access Control System office by this fall to continue to have access privileges to U.S. military installations in Europe. Department of Defense ID card holders should register in Building 21 on Hanau's Pioneer Kaserne between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Installation pass holders should register in Building 24 on Pioneer Kaserne from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Staff Sgt. Henson at mil 322-9009/8773 to make appointments for large groups or units.

Free coupons

Stop by the Hanau Army Community Service in Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne to pick up coupons worth reductions on items at the commissary and Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Call mil 322-8965 or civ (06181) 88-8965 for more information.

Drill team trophy

The Hanau American High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Drill Team claimed third place honors at the Europe-wide championships in Giebelstadt May 17. Members of the team thanked the soldiers and JROTC leaders who provided their testing skills and off-duty time to support the team's efforts.

Father's Day bowling

When the children bring dad to bowl June 15 from 11 a.m. to closing, he only pays 50 cents a game. Call mil 322-8534 for details.



Retiree dental care

The Hanau Dental Clinic will conduct its annual Retiree Dental Health Day June 12. All military retirees and their family members are welcome to participate. Examinations will be provided on a walk-in basis starting at 7:30 a.m. with appointments for routine care being offered throughout the day. Dental services available will include cleanings, fillings, extractions and limited specialty care. Call mil



Photo by Karl Weisel

Join the USO on a trip to the Opel Zoo June 18. See below for details.

328-6520, 322-6522, civ (06181) 500-6520 or 500-6522 for more information.

USO happenings

Not only does the Rhein Main Area USO feature a variety of trips to locations throughout Europe, but it also features fun activities and classes for all ages. The USO's **Dining Out Series, Wiesbaden by Night, Childrens' Watercolor Classes, Cooking With Sybille, Kinderhimmel, German Language Classes and La Leche League** meetings are all aimed at providing soldiers and family members with a wealth of ways to enjoy time together and to explore their local surroundings. Upcoming tours include **Rhein River Cruises** June 15, 21, 29, July 13, 19 and 27; a trip to the **spa in Bad Orb** June 14, July 7 and 12; a **Frankfurt Train and City Tour** July 24; **Hanau Orientation and City Tour** June 11 and July 9; **Bischoff Brewery Tour** June 12; **Rothenburg City Tour** June 12 and July 10; **Paris Express** June 13-15 and July 18-20; **Cologne Cathedral City Tour** June 14 and July 12; **Monte Mare Water Park Trip** June 14; **Nürnberg City Tour** June 17 and July 22; **Büdingen Tour** June 18; Trip to the **Opel Zoo** June 18; **Hunsrück Mountains and Idar-Oberstein** Tour June 20; **Amsterdam Express** June 21 and July 26; **Heidelberg Castle and City Tour** June 21 and July 30; **Wine Sampling with Eric the Red** June 22; **Black Forest Trip** June 24; **Trier/Luxembourg Memorial Tour** June 24; **Aschaffenburg Castle and Shopping Trip** June 25 and July 2. Stop by the USOs in Wiesbaden, Rhein-Main Airbase, Büdingen or Hanau for more information about these events and other USO happenings.

Feeling crafty?

Enroll in any of the June classes with the American Sampler Craft Shop: **Sewing Lab** June 21, **Make a Wreath with Nancy** June 12, **Gallery Glass Workshop** June 14 and 26; **Decoupage It** June 19; **Paper Beads** June 21; **Upholstered Scrapbook** June 22. Call mil 322-

8082 or civ (06181) 88-8082 to register.

Sponsorship training

Help make your fellow soldier's transition an easy one by attending a Sponsorship Training Class at Hanau Army Community Service. Classes are held the first and third Friday of each month from 10-11 a.m. in the Hanau ACS conference room. Call mil 322-8828 to sign up in advance.

Live comedy

Hanau's International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne presents live comedy by professional comedians who have performed at the Def Comedy Jam and Night at the Apollo June 28 at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Call mil 322-9045 for details.

Jobs available

The 104th Area Support Group has immediate vacancies at all Child Development Centers. Openings include part-time and full-time positions. For more information call civ (06181) 88-1630 or visit the Civilian Human Resource Management Agency website at www.chrma.hqusa.army.mil.

Tax Center to close

The Tax Center will close at the end of business hours June 16. In order to provide services for soldiers or families affected by deployment, tax assistance will be available by appointment only Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Legal Center. Appointments may be made by calling mil 322-8993.

Vacation Bible School

Volunteers are needed to help run this summer's Vacation Bible School Aug. 11-15 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If interested contact Deana Porrett at civ (06183) 913 050 or Denise Swaine at (06181) 364 747.

Roller skating fun

Meet friends or plan a birthday party at Hanau's Illusions Roller Rink. The indoor skating rink, located at the Wolfgang Shopping Center by the Hessen Bowl, is open

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from noon to 9 p.m. Call mil 322-9013 or civ (06181) 88-9013 for more information.

Vehicle know-how

Learn to take care of your vehicle at the Basic Car Care Class every Friday at 2 p.m. at the Hanau Auto Skills Center on Grossauheim Kaserne. Learn how to change your oil and other basic car care procedures. Cost is \$10. Call civ (06181) 88-8247.

Swap baby clothes

The Baby Swap Shop offers parents the opportunity to swap baby items with other parents or borrow a few things. The New Parent Education and Support Group is looking for new and used clothes, toys and books to loan out and give away to new parents. The Swap Shop is open Thursdays from 2-5 p.m. and by appointment. Call mil 322-9636 or civ (06181) 88-9645 for details.

Toddlers play group

Join in Play Mornings every Tuesday from 10-11:30 a.m. at Büdingen Army Community Service and at the Wolfgang Outreach Center every Wednesday from 10-11:15 a.m. Play Mornings offer an interactive playgroup that can help improve a child's social, cognitive and motor skills. For more information call Büdingen ACS at mil 321-4786 or civ (06042) 80-786.

Summer reading

Hanau Child and Youth Services will hold a summer enrichment program to continue educational development during the summer. The program will be held June 16 to Aug. 22, Monday through Friday from 2-5 p.m. For more information call mil 322-8231 or civ (06181) 88-8231. The Pioneer and Büdingen libraries will also hold their summer reading program June 27 through July 31. For more information contact the Pioneer Library at mil 322-8942.

Limber up and dance

Gymnastics classes are available for children ages 2-12 every Tuesday and Wednesday at Cardwell Youth Services. Ballet classes are offered for children ages 3-15 years old. Children will be placed in classes based on their skill level. For monthly fees and enrollment contact the Hanau CLEOS office at mil 322-9144.

All service car care

Keep your car in tip-top condition. Hanau Auto Skills Center offers towing service, auto detailing packages, while-you-wait oil change service and basic car care classes. For more information visit Hanau Auto Skills Center in Building 625 on Grossauheim Kaserne or call mil 322-8247, 8625.

Outdoor Rec trips

Hanau Outdoor Recreation offers trips to **Poland** June 13-15, **Phantasialand amusement park** June 14, the **Birkenstock Shoe Factory** June 21 and **Bavaria's castles** June 28. Call mil 322-8891 or civ (06181) 88-8891 to sign up and for more information.