

HeraldPOST

Serving the communities in U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg

HP THURSDAY
Oct. 22, 2009

Speed Read

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Saving Time ends in Germany - move clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. Oct. 25. The U.S. ends Daylight Saving Time at 2 a.m. local time at different time zones Nov. 1.

ENERGY AWARENESS

Heidelberg has embraced several environmental initiatives throughout the year that have helped save both energy and money. 2

BLIND STUDENT TEACHER

Patrick Henry Elementary School welcomed a blind student teacher from the University of Heidelberg for a three-week practicum. 3



BRONZE STAR WITH VALOR

During Saturday's Retiree Appreciation Day in Heidelberg, a Vietnam veteran received a Bronze Star with Valor for actions during a battle in June 1967. 4

INSPIRATION TO YOUTH

While serving in Uganda for the Natural Fire 10 exercise, a 21st TSC logistics specialist who grew up in Kenya found himself to be the inspiration for a crowd of high school students. 6

RED RIBBON RUN

Saturday is Kaiserslautern's annual Red Ribbon Run to encourage the community to take a stand against drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The Army is competing with the Air Force and Navy to see who can garner the most participation. 8

Defense Details

AFGHAN ELECTION

President Barack Obama applauded Afghan President Hamid Karzai's consent for a second round of elections next month, calling the decision "an important step forward" for the country. Karzai agreed earlier today to a run-off with Abdullah Abdullah, his top challenger, after controversy over the credibility of Karzai's votes in Afghanistan's Aug. 20 election.

Army news: www.army.mil

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KAISERSLAUTERN
More than 1,100 flock to College Night event

By Christine June
USAG KAISERSLAUTERN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As he weaved through the crowds, Alex Tremble kept referring to his list. He was shopping for his 16-year-old daughter who was home sick.

"Just saw Penn State ... need Connecticut ... just saw them ... where was that? No not here," he thought out loud as he searched the rows of tables.

He was shopping for his daughter's future at the Kaiserslautern High School and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's College Night held Oct. 8 at the garrison's Special Events Center on Rhine Ordnance Barracks.

"My job as the dad is to come out here and pick up information from the schools she has whittled down to - she started out with about 50 schools," said Tremble, who is the Drug Demand Program manager for Ramstein Air Base. "She's been doing her homework over the last couple of years, and now, she is down to five schools."

A one-stop shopping for higher education bonanza, College Night offered all Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe high school students - see **COLLEGE NIGHT** page 16

BOSS turns 20



Ina Stiewitz

Spc. Kathryn Bowman, 243rd Engineer Detachment, volunteers to supervise first graders while they color pictures during the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers service day at Patrick Henry Elementary School Oct. 13. Members of the Heidelberg BOSS program played games and hung out with the students as part of their community service project in honor of the 20th birthday of the BOSS program.

Heidelberg troops celebrate through service

By Ina Stiewitz
USAG BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Heidelberg's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers group celebrated the Army program's 20th anniversary last week.

During its birthday celebration, BOSS attached great importance to its three pillars - quality of life, recreation and leisure

activity, and community service - while spending a day with first to fifth graders at Patrick Henry Elementary School Oct. 13.

Eleven BOSS volunteers provided help to the school in different ways. Supporting the teachers by reading to the class, or talking and singing with the students, but also helping to carry supplies and cleaning see **BOSS BIRTHDAY** page 16

5th Signal officially leaves Mannheim

By Kristopher Joseph
5TH SIGNAL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Headquarters, 5th Signal Command, formerly stationed on Funari Barracks in Mannheim, cased its colors Oct. 16 on the barracks' parade field to signify the official move to Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

5th Signal, commanded by Brig. Gen. Jeffrey G. Smith Jr., is conducting a phased move of approximately 125 Soldiers and ci-

vilians and approximately 250 family members to WAAF through this month.

Portions of the headquarters and general staff will remain in Mannheim until renovations on 5th Signal's slated headquarters building on WAAF is completed sometime in 2010. The move is part of the Army's overall transformation process to consolidate key units on WAAF to improve operational capability, improve force protection see **5th SIGNAL** page 16



Kristopher Joseph

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey G. Smith Jr. (right) and Command Sgt. Maj. Patrick Brooks, 2nd Signal Brigade, case the 5th Signal colors Oct. 16.

BOSS BIRTHDAY

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the storage room were part of their responsibilities.

"We've had an ongoing relationship with BOSS for the last two years. They are reading to the kids, conducting aerobics, and playing games," said David Groat, assistant principal at PHES.

"What I mostly like about volunteering at the school is being with the kids and observing how they react and behave towards adults," said Spc. Kathryn Bowman, 243rd Engineer Detachment, who volunteered for the day. "You can see that some kids are really shy."

Bowman volunteered to read a story about Christopher Columbus to first graders, followed by coloring pictures and singing a Christopher Columbus song.

The attendance of Soldiers at the school is an unusual experience for the kids, according to Groat.

"When the kids see Soldiers in their uniform, they see their parents, who are on active duty or even deployed," Groat said. "Having the Soldiers at our

school is a way for the children to be connected to the community."

The students enjoyed the BOSS service day, and a lot of them clung to the Soldiers' sides. Playing "duck-duck-goose" or basketball at the school's playground were highlights of the day.

The time outside at the playground is not only the most fun bringing part of BOSS's service day, but also a great resource for the school, the Soldiers and the students.

"The greatest resource is to have adult trainers on the playground," Groat said. "The kids get so excited about the Soldiers playing with them, and that is great to see."

The Soldiers constantly interacted with the kids. They either taught them to throw a ball into the basket or played a basketball game with them, where they formed a Soldiers' team versus a student team.

"BOSS is a great program, because it helps Soldiers to interact with the community," Bowman said.

Teachers, secretaries, students and the supervisors at the playground all agreed that it is great to have the vol-



Ina Stiewitz

Spc. William Perkins (left), BOSS president, Spc. Kathryn Bowman, 243rd Engineer Detachment, and Pfc. David Henderson, 43rd Signal Battalion, all part of Heidelberg's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program, play basketball with elementary school students Oct. 13.

unteers at the school.

"We thank BOSS for the ongoing process, and we look forward to expand ways of volunteering for them to all schools," Groat said. "Whenever they are available, they are welcome at our school."

The BOSS birthday week ended with Soldiers from the Heidelberg community participating in a community run and holding a music and barbecue bash at Slapshots Friday, which attracted more than 220 community members.

5TH SIGNAL

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posture and save on operational costs by moving units onto a few main operating bases.

5th Signal's 2nd Signal Brigade headquarters will also move with approximately 45 Soldiers and 30 civilians from Mannheim to WAAF sometime in 2010.

5th Signal Command has a long-standing relationship with Rheinland-Pfalz and Baden-Württemberg. The command was activated July 1, 1974 and was located on Taukkunen Barracks in the city of Worms until 1996 when 5th Signal then moved to Mannheim's Funari Barracks.

Smith has mentioned on several occasions to Rheinland-Pfalz and Baden-Württemberg leadership and friends that although the command will move to the German state of Hessen, the relationship between 5th Signal and Baden-Württemberg will remain active and strong in the years to come.

"For over 13 years, this has been our home. It's a beautiful home. And it will always be a home to those of us who have been lucky enough to be a part of this unit," Smith said during the ceremony.

"We have engaged in a partnership that will continue to grow. It is a testament to the strong partnership between our armies and our nations," Smith said. "I realize we use this phrase often, but trust me, it is not one we take lightly. This partnership, at our level or at a national level, is deeply appreciated and essential in the world today."

"I am still the senior commander in Mannheim, and we still have many units, Soldiers, civilians and family members here," Smith said. "Both the military and host nation communities should know that I will continue to be their representative, and I will continue to provide them support."

COLLEGE

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school students and their parents a chance to get first-hand knowledge about colleges and universities, scholarships and financial assistance.

Tremble was one of 1,132 people who attended this year's College Night. Also shopping for their futures were students, parents, guidance counselors and teachers from international and DoDDS schools throughout Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

"Alexis and I have been going to College Night here for about five years now – when she was still into middle school – she's a junior now," he said as he continued to search for the University of Connecticut.

He still couldn't find it, so he decided to double back and check one of the boards listing the universities and colleges – more than 100 – represented at this year's event.

"It says Connecticut should be right here," as the words came of his mouth, Tremble turned and looked right into the eyes of Air Force Staff Sgt. Meredith Healy, stationed on Sembach Air Base and an alumnus of the Uni-



Christine June

More than 1,000 people attended the Kaiserslautern High School and U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern's College Night held Oct. 8 at the garrison's Special Events Center on Rhine Ordnance Barracks.

versity of Connecticut's graduate school.

Tremble asked Healy questions from a list provided by his daughter, making sure to hit each one. "I really enjoy talking to students and their parents about their futures and what is available and just getting to know what they are looking for," said Healy, who added this was the second year she represented the University of Connecticut here.

Representatives at this year's College Night were a mixture of university

staff from the U.S. and alumni living in Europe. There were also representatives from scholarship and financial assistance agencies, and military recruiters.

While she answered the questions, Healy gave Tremble several information brochures about the university, its programs and enrollment procedures.

By this time, all the attendees were carrying college or scholarship information either in their hands and under their

arms, or in bags provided by many of the representatives there.

Tremble passed by several scholarship tables. "We started her college fund when she was very little," he explained.

But, when he heard Sgt. 1st Class Craig Buchan, from the garrison's Directorate of Human Resources, call out, "Graduating seniors – need scholarship money," Tremble stopped at the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.'s table.

"We gave out \$12,000 last year in scholarships," Buchan told Tremble, who then asked for more information for next year when Alexis will be a senior at Ramstein High School. Most of the schools on Alexis' shopping list were represented at this year's College Night.

"I didn't come here expecting to see Florida State or Connecticut, but they were here," Tremble said. "That makes me feel good because it gives me an opportunity to sit down with my daughter and talk with her about college and how she is going to pick the one that's she going to, and make that decision as a family."

Heidelberg hosts its College Night 2-6 p.m. Sunday at Heidelberg Middle School.