

Education roundup

Central Texas College is accepting applications for positions at the Baumholder Army Education Center. Please call Lonnie Allen at mil 485-6484 for more information. Open positions include: Substitute and Part-Time Learning Center Operator; Substitute Test Examiner; and German Language Instructor.

The General Education Degree Testing Service will introduce a new, completely revised GED test in January 2002. Anyone who has not completed the old test should attempt to do so before December 2001. Scores from the old test and the new test cannot be combined. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487 for more information.

Active duty service members may be eligible to use both, Army tuition assistance and their Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits to pay for college tuition at the same time. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487 for more.

It is now possible for active duty members with VEAP education benefits to convert to the more lucrative Montgomery G.I. Bill. Stop by the Baumholder Army Education Center today to confirm eligibility. For more information, call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487.

The Baumholder Army Education Center offers a Functional Academic Skills Training course 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, June 11 to 22. The course is free and focuses on math and verbal skills development and prepares Army personnel for retesting to raise their GT scores. Family members are welcome to participate in the classes, free of charge. For more information, call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487.

Persons wishing to use the computers located in the Army Learning Center or the University of Maryland's Computer Lab are reminded they must take and pass the USAREUR Computer Users Test. For more information call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487.

The University of Oklahoma and Cameron University Representative from Ramstein Air Base visits the Baumholder Army Education Center on a monthly basis. The next visit is June 6 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Auto Crafts Center is offering several classes in June. Learn how to use the Auto Crafts Center June 4 and 11 from 2 to 3 p.m. Customers can learn about front end alignment June 7 and 15. All classes are \$5.

The School Age Services Summer Camp for first through sixth grade students begins June 18 and runs until Aug. 17. The camp runs Mondays through Fridays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be field trips to Frankfurt Zoo, Holiday Park and Smurfland. Besides the pre-sched-

uled outings, children will be able to participate in a variety of sporting, recreational and arts and crafts activities. For summer camp program details, call the School Age Services coordinator at mil 485-6641 or civ (06783)6-6641.

The middle school summer camp begins June 18 and runs through Aug. 24. This is a theme based camp that incorporates boys and girls club activities. Children will participate in sports, writing and arts and

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crafts workshops and pre-scheduled trips based on the same themes. For more information on middle school summer camp, call central registration at mil 485-7003 or civ (06783)6-7003.

There is something for both families and single soldiers at the Rheinlander. There is family dining Thursdays and Saturdays from 5 - 10 p.m. and Fridays from 6 - 10 p.m. Stop by the BUB after work to unwind. On Friday the T.G.I.F party

runs from 5 p.m. until midnight. The Rheinlander also has a Cyberzone to check email or internet web sites. Surf the web Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 8 p.m. The Rheinlander has something for everyone so stop by and see what it has to offer.

The 2001 women's intramural softball season begins June 18. There is no cost to play and organizations interested in fielding a team must register by June 8 at the Baumholder Sports Office.

AFTB program leader steps down

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs office

Baumholder's Army Family Team Building program has prospered by leaps and bounds during the last year under the leadership of Shantell Badger. She is now stepping down and handing the program over to Olivia Maxson who

has been involved with AFTB since December 2000.

"I look forward to working with all the volunteers. We've made a wonderful foundation with the AFTB program and I just want to take it one step further and get a little bit more of the community and military personnel involved," said Maxson.

A very enthusiastic Maxson

said, "I'm looking forward to working with everybody and I want to give them 100 percent of my time and my effort. I can't wait to see where we can take it (AFTB) from here. I don't leave until 2003 and I plan to be here until then."

When Badger took over the program in February 2000, AFTB had only four active instructors and no master trainers. Badger was one of

six that attended the master trainer program in Vicenza, Italy in April 2000.

Shortly thereafter, in June 2000, the AFTB program moved from its humble surrounding in Wetzel to its current location next to Army Community Service in the clinic compound.

According to Badger, by July 2000, the program had seven active master trainers, six active instructors, two administrative supporters, and a very effective advisory council.

In September the new center held its first open house. AFTB has supported the community during events such as Month of the Military Child; the Baumholder Community Ser-



Photo by "Iggy" Rubalcava
Shantell Badger

"The year 2000 was a successful one for AFTB," said Badger during the gavel passing ceremony May 1. "I'd like to take a minute to thank all the volunteers and supporters of AFTB for this. None of it would have been possible without the help of these people. Take a moment to look around the room at the attendees for this passing of the gavel ceremony. You are AFTB and it's foundation. You are what makes the program work for the community. And you are the reason I have enjoyed volunteering with the program," said Badger.

Badger added that she feels very good about turning over the program to Maxson for two reasons. "Olivia is a good leader and motivator. She has the charisma to keep the program going and make it better every day. The second reason, is the AFTB staff. This is a dedicated group of people that will help Olivia every step of the way," said Badger.

Badger is not giving up AFTB altogether. She plans to continue being active in the program by instructing classes, though she hopes to find a job later this summer.

She added, "Olivia and I have been working together for the past six weeks to help prepare her for the new position."

Anyone interested in joining the AFTB team, or those who would like to take classes, can reach the office at mil 485-8542, or 8188.



Photo by "Iggy" Rubalcava
Olivia Maxson

vice Club basket and wreath auction; Buccaneer Night; and attending and speaking at family readi-

"Olivia is a good leader and motivator. She has the charisma to keep the program going and make it better every day"

ness group meetings and unit meetings. In turn, the program has received much support from the community.

ACS begins new program

Army Community Services is beginning a new service targeted at single working parents. The Sole Parent Support Service is designed to introduce single parents to one another. Increasing the understanding and appreciation of oneself as well as one's children, by exploring and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of being a single parent. The first get together is scheduled for May 19. Call ACS at mil 485-8188, or civ (06783) 6-8188 for more information on these services.

Foster care

The Army Community Foster Care Program is looking for foster care families. A foster care program is designed to provide a needy child with a temporary home in which she or he can find love, happiness and protection. Foster parents are people who know that being a parent is not easy. They are familiar with the stresses of raising a family and are ready to help out in a crisis. They are willing to extend the love they share with others. Foster parents are very special people. All interested families should contact the foster care coordinator at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783)-6-8188.

NOW

Baumholder NOW, Newcomer's Orientation and Welcome, is a program for spouses in the Baumholder military community. This is a three-day orientation designed to welcome and inform spouses of military members and civilian employees by providing relevant information and developing necessary skills for living in this unique environment.

Spouses will learn about Germany and the local community through briefings on customs and a survival German language and cultural adaptation class.

Spouses, new to the military or not, will also have an opportunity to attend an introductory class to the Army life-style. Field trips on the economy will provide them with practical skills in using German public transportation and local shopping. Free transportation and child care is available for all registered participants during the orientation. All participants must register with ACS.

To learn more about this program stop by ACS in Building 8746, or call mil 485-8188, or civ (06783) 6-8188.

International spouses meet

The Baumholder International Spouses Club meets the first and

third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon, at Army Community Service. The club was created to help spouses meet other members of the community and to cope with being a military spouse in an overseas location. Membership is open to all military and civilian spouses. Come and share your culture. You can share what is unique about you, and perhaps find out what you have in common with those from other nations.

Story hour

Army Community Services and the Baumholder Library are offering story hour for children the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Story hours are offered 9:30-10:30 a.m. for children ages 0-18 months; and 10:30-11:30 a.m. for children ages 19 months to school age. People who would like to be a guest reader may contact the ACS Outreach Program at mil 485-6252.

ACS calendar

May 15

Stress and Time Management
International Spouses Club

May 16

Developing A Positive Self Esteem
Financial Planning For Women

May 17

Child Safety and Supervision

May 18

Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Prevention

May 21

Successful Parenting
Employment Orientation
Resumix Workshop
Baumholder NOW

May 22

Anger Management and Coping Skills
Baumholder NOW

May 23

Conflict Resolution Skills
U.S. Savings Bonds
Investor Information
Baumholder NOW

May 24

Couples Communication
Story Hour (Library)
Family Violence Prevention

May 29

Stress and Time Management
International Spouses Club

May 30

Developing A Positive Self Esteem
Savings Fitness

May 31

Child Safety and Supervision
For more information call mil 485-8188, or civ (06783) 6-8188.

ACAP services

Baumholder's Army Career and Alumni Program has changed its office hours and is now open from

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7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ACAP is also open during lunch to assist clients. Soldiers scheduled to leave the Army can get information about their options at ACAP. ACAP offers pre-separation 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. Soldiers can make appointments for ACAP services at mil 485-6741/6330, or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

Pre-separation

Soldiers must complete a mandatory pre-separation briefing at ACAP no later than 90 days before their date of separation from the Army. Appointments are available every day at 9 a.m. and require approximately an hour and a half.

Job assistance

ACAP offers job assistance workshops and counseling to help with the transition from the military to the civilian job market. Workshops are offered by formal instruction every other Wednesday. The next formal workshop is May 23 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

Call to schedule an appointment, or drop by any afternoon to work with ACAP's computer-based job assistance tools. For more information, contact ACAP at mil 485-6741/6330, or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

Kosovo bound? Get with ACAP

Soldiers who are scheduled to transition out of the military within the next 180 days should start the ACAP process before they deploy. If soldiers complete their mandatory pre-separation briefing before deployment, developing a resume and exploring the job market can be completed via the Internet, phone, fax, and email from down range.

Spouse ACAP

Any family member of a soldier scheduled to ETS 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.

Call to schedule an appointment at mil 485-6741/6330, or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.

VA briefing

Soldiers contemplating retirement or retired veterans living in the community can attend a veterans affairs briefing May 22, at 9 a.m. A

VA representative will address questions about VA benefits, claims filing and home loan guarantees. Call ACAP at mil 485-6741/6330, or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330 to reserve a space at the briefing or for an individual appointment with the VA representative after the briefing.

ACAP is hiring

ACAP is now accepting applications for the position of ACAP counselor. This is a contractor position for current U.S. identification card holders. The position requires a master's degree, two years teaching or presentation experience, and computer literacy with Microsoft Word and the Internet. For detailed information, contact Harold Ericksen at mil 485-6741/6330, or civ (06783) 6-6741/6330.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
Ralf Wayand, lead fire prevention inspector, starts up the fire department's new command unit. The price tag on this new vehicle was DM 123,000.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
Wolfgang Polch, fire prevention inspector, prepares to roll out the new hazardous material response vehicle. This latest addition to the fire department's vehicle inventory cost the military DM 197,000.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
Hans Kuhn, Baumholder's fire chief, gives the department's new command vehicle its daily inspection.

Fire fighters rate best in USAREUR

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Every three years, the lords of fire protection and prevention descend upon all the fire departments in U.S. Army Europe for a thorough inspection that covers everything from practical exercises with the fire crews to inspecting the records of fire wardens in the community.

When it was all over, Scott Freeman, USAREUR chief of fire prevention, announced that Baumholder fire department's 96 percent rating made it the best fire department in USAREUR for this three-year period.

Baumholder's fire chief, Hans Kuhn, explained that Freeman took a critical look at management, fire prevention programs, budget, and

the fire crews.

A team is only as good as its members but when it comes to fire prevention, the equipment at their disposal also plays an important role. Baumholder shines in both of these areas.

"This was a successful inspection only because of all the good work from the crew members," said Kuhn. The directorate of public works also played a key role by providing the funding to properly equip the department with such new equipment as a hazardous material response vehicle and a new command vehicle.

"Our equipment standard is at a very high level," said Ralf Wayand, lead fire prevention inspector.

The fire department is also looking forward to purchasing two new pumper vehicles once funding is available from the Department of

Defense.

Since providing assistance when needed is very much a part of their job, Baumholder's fire fighters do not limit their assistance to just the military community. "We also have a very good mutual aid agreement with the German community in the county of Birkenfeld," said Kuhn. "We respond to requests from the local communities when they need assistance." The various fire departments in the local community do not have ladder trucks and Baumholder has the only ladder truck in the area. "We also have a lot of equipment on it that other fire departments don't have," said Kuhn. The truck's ladder can reach up to 75 feet - about five or six stories. "We can reach all the buildings in our community, German and American," said Kuhn.

Critical to the department's suc-

cess is the help it receives from the many fire wardens at each facility on post. "We have to rely on those people," said Wayand. "When we go to a building to conduct an inspection we talk to the fire wardens first. If they have all their checklists accomplished, it makes our job easier. The bases for good fire prevention is to have a good fire warden program," said Wayand.

During the recent evaluation, inspectors focused much of their attention on fire prevention procedures for child care centers. "The child care centers have 100 percent of their people trained, including the alternate fire wardens. They know what to do. They've got all of their paperwork done and the buildings are all in very good shape," said Wayand.

Educating people about fire prevention also keeps fire department

members busy. "We offer a lot of classes to the community such as fire extinguisher classes, fuel handler classes, family child care provider classes and fire warden training," said Kuhn. The fire department also has a 20-minute session during inprocessing so that everyone assigned to Baumholder receives a fire safety orientation.

Seeing to the fire safety needs of the community at any given time are some 25 fire department personnel consisting of one chief, one assistant chief, one lead fire prevention inspector and three fire prevention inspectors. There are also four fire control operators, and 14 crew members per shift as well as a fire extinguisher repairman who repairs 4,000 to 6,000 extinguishers per year for all the buildings and the extinguishers that soldiers use in all their vehicles from trucks to tanks.