

DoDDs programs fit deployment

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

With the onset of the new academic year, administrators and teachers from all four Baumholder schools are making a conscientious effort to key in on any concerns or problems that might arise in their respective student bodies in light of the current deployment that has separated so many children from at least one family member.

Although this initiative on the part of teachers and administrators was expected and is definitely in the interest of all their students, administrators from all four schools are saying that the numerous programs that DoDDS has had for years or those that have just been initiated are actually tailored to handle almost any issue that may arise as a result of the absence of a family member.

The recently instituted Pupil Teacher Ratio in the earlier grades is actually helping teachers monitor their classes and detect any issues that may arise.

"It's an early childhood initiative where the first to third grade classes are at approximately a 1 to 18 ratio, one teacher for 18 students," said Helen Balilo, assistant principal at Baumholder's Smith Elementary School.

In addition to counseling and the various support services available at each school, two of Baumholder's schools are adding another dimension to give children a better understanding of what their parents are dealing with in Iraq. They are reaching out and setting up correspondence programs with schools in Iraq.

"We're trying to get a better understanding of the situation in Iraq. Our school is involved in the support-a-school program. Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Wackerhagen has asked us to help support the Airport Village Elementary School in Iraq," said Debbie Brooks, Principal at Wetzell Elementary School.

"He has several purposes for this program. One being that this program allows the U.S. children and Iraqi children the opportunity to correspond with one another. For example, the first grade class will probably correspond with the first grade class in Iraq and they'll be sharing some pictures.

"The second purpose of the program will allow the U.S. children the opportunity, and this is strictly voluntary, to donate any supplies. Right now we're asking kids to come up with things like old pencils or markers. We'll mail the packages back through the rear detachments," said Brooks.

Neubrücke Elementary School is conducting a similar program. "Chaplain (Capt.) Darren Powers, who is deployed in Baghdad, has been in touch with our staff regarding adopting a school over there. We're going to try and set up some sort of an exchange of letters and communication. We just have to find somebody here who can translate Arabic into English. That's a new venture for us. It's a start and it's something that our kids are excited about and they want to do it," said Wayne Dozark, Neubrücke Elementary

School Principal.

In the high school it's a slightly different story. Dom Calabria, Baumholder American High School principal, notes that "There's a lot of normal anxiety in the high school where credits start counting for graduation, but we do have a number of new support programs available," said Calabria. The high school has support programs in language arts, reading, geometry and two in algebra that help children that are having problems.

"They're all funded very well by DoDDS which includes real good computer programs. So we have a computer lab set aside just for these labs where every different period a group of kids goes in, kids that need extra support. Each period there's a different subject that goes in there with a group of kids that have been identified as needing extra help.

"That's one of the things that we're instituting for the high school and a couple of middle school classes to support kids that need the extra help," said Calabria.

Another initiative of the high school this year is to separate the high school and middle school children as much as possible. In an indirect way, this also deployment related in that it helps cut down on any undesirable habits that the younger students might pick up from the older students. The younger students are more impressionable than the older ones and without that extra parental influence provided by the deployed mother or father, this could create problems later in the year.

"Along with that we are also instituting this year separate lunch times for seventh and eighth graders and then for high school kids so they should have very little connection during the day.

"There's still some eighth grade, specifically eighth grade but also some seventh grade kids who, if they are deemed able to take it, are in algebra classes or working in classes with the high school students for credit.

"We also do have a gifted program for seventh and eighth graders where they do some high school things but overall the seventh and eighth grades are separate from the high school," said Calabria.

Students are not the only ones affected by the deployment, several faculty members also have family members deployed to Iraq. "At Smith we have a lot of staff members that are directly affected by family members being deployed," said Balilo.

"Even if our students aren't directly affected, everyone is indirectly affected in the school. So pretty much from the very beginning we've talked with the new staff members and all the teachers about being a little bit more compassionate.

"So we're just trying to create more of a sense of community in the school and supplement some of what's missing at home," said Balilo.

Dozark points out that it's a little early for to identify any particular child who seems to be having problems dealing with dad or mom being deployed. "We're not seeing anything right now. The kids actually seem to be doing



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Michelle Fischer, a kindergarten teacher at Smith Elementary School, gets to know her students during the first day of school for the younger crowd. Kindergarten classes started a week after all other classes.

fine and I'll tell you, they were excited about school opening. The kids were ready. It was an awfully long summer ... so when school opened it became a really exciting time for them and we made it special," said Dozark.

"I think if there's one thing we got here that keeps kids excited about school is that it's such a fascinating day for them when you stop and think about it. Throughout the day they will have art, music and PE. They will also have host nation and computer classes. They have a gifted education teacher come into their room virtually every other day. They have an opportunity to participate in school activities like our accelerated reader program. We're going to start this week, hopefully, our after school programs where we will have something like 'games unplugged,' no electronic games. We had a big success with that last year," said Dozark.

"Our class loads are perfect," he said. "We have a full staff with several new people. They are dynamite. It's probably the best

staff I've ever had in all my years of supervision and being a principal. With that said, there's a lot of care and concern expressed by these teachers. With the smaller number of kids in their class they're able to monitor them very carefully. So we're aware about their needs," he said.

Regardless if they are instituting an outreach program or making effective use of tried and true DoDDS programs, Baumholder schools are ready to step up and help Baumholder make it through the school year and the deployment. But because it's still early in the school year and some issues may not have had time to manifest themselves, Baumholder's teachers and school administrators are keeping a watchful eye on their students. And although all the schools have taken the initiative on the topic of deployment concerns and challenges, it's still early in the school year and Dozark summed it all up by saying, "I guess you could say we're just monitoring right now."

Bailey makes All Army, helps win the gold

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

The dream of all ball players is to some day make it to the big leagues. For Baumholder's Robert Bailey that dream became a reality when he was selected for the 2003 All Army Softball team. But his dream didn't end there. Bailey and his 14 Army team mates brought home the gold after competing at the Armed Forces Softball Championship at Eglin AFB, Fla.

"Last year the Army took the bronze and the year before they won the gold. This year we came back," said Bailey.

"What was neat about it was that all the other forces had veterans, guys that had been there before. They had like nine to 10 veterans on every team. We only had six vets and we came back to win the gold medal. I was a first year player," said Bailey.

One might falsely conclude that playing softball for the Army is a classic military "boondoggle" that takes you away from your job so you can have some fun and do nothing but play softball all day. Bailey says nothing could be further from the truth because for him it was a real challenge.

"A lot of people think, oh you're just playing softball. You got it easy, but it's not easy. Out of everything I've done in the military that's the hardest thing I've done physically.

"Just like normal units, we were up at six and doing PT. After PT and breakfast we were on the field by 8:30 a.m. We practiced from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and then we would get two hours off for lunch. At 1:30 p.m. we were back on the field until 4:30 p.m. We'd get an hour and a half off and then we'd play three games at night so we were not done 'till 10 or 10:30 p.m. We'd grab something to eat, go home, take a shower and



Robert Bailey

we'd be in bed by 11:30 p.m. or midnight and then it would start all over again," said Bailey.

"We'd go six days a week. The only day we had off was Monday to kind of recover. So it was rough," he said.

Of course players had to display a skill and talent for softball before becoming one of the lucky 15 players to bask in this "dream" routine but the selection process was no cake walk either.

Victor Rivera, this year's All Army coach reviewed about 250

applications before whittling that number down to 24 candidates.

Because of the deployment, the number of candidates was not as high as other years. "Usually the coach gets anywhere from 300 to 500 applications from guys wanting to play. So out of the 250 that applied this year, he selected 24 guys that he thought had the best chance of making the team," said Bailey.

The first two weeks at the All Army training camp are a great disappointment for nine of the 24 can-

didates. That's when the coach cuts players and keeps only the 15 players he believes have what it takes to play on the All Army team.

After making the cut, the 15 players begin their rigorous month and a half training before traveling to Eglin AFB, Fla. to represent the Army at the Interservice Softball Championship.

Selection for the All Army camp involves completing an application that resembles a resumé. It asks things like how many years you've been playing, at what levels have you played, how many home runs have you scored, what's your average?

"On top of it, you usually have to have someone who's made the team before look at you and say 'hey, you can go. You can try out,'" said Bailey.

"What they'll do is give your name to the coach and say 'I can vouch this guy. He can play. Give him a chance,'" he said.

Bailey has tried out in the past but had never made the cut until this year.

"In the past I haven't made it, but I've come close," he said. Bailey was still undecided about applying this year when he received a call from Victor Rivera, this year's All Army softball coach.

"I played with him for about three years when he was stationed in Buedigen so when he called he asked if I was still interested in playing and I said yeah he said 'you need to put your application in.' So I said alright. I went down there. I tried out and ended up making the team," said Bailey.

At the Armed Forces competition Bailey boasted being 6 for 9. "I was like over 700, which is good for softball. In baseball you can say

300 is good but in softball if you say 300 you're in trouble," he said.

"I did pretty well at the Armed Forces. I didn't start. I came off the bench. I knew that but he (Rivera) said 'hey, there's gonna be a time when I'm gonna call you and I need you to be ready,'" said Bailey.

"As it turned out, we were against the Marine Corps and we were down 11-12 with two outs in the third ending. One of our guys wasn't hitting as well, he was just struggling. I'm sitting on the bench and he looked over and I knew it was coming so I started putting my stuff on. So he says 'are you ready?' So I got my stuff on and he said 'okay, let's go.' I went up, got a base hit and scored both runs and it put us up.

"That was what was good about our team. I mean, even though we

had a lot of rookies, all 15 of us played at one point, unlike the other armed forces teams. A couple of guys from the Air Force didn't even see the field.

"And every time he made a substitution, call it good coaching or whatever you want to call it, everyone came out and did what they had to do and it helped us win.

"He's a good coach. Discipline is a big factor. He doesn't care if you're the Barry Bonds of the softball world. If you show an attitude, you're on the bench. You're going to play within his standards. I think in the past we didn't have that and with him coming in as a new coach, that's what helped us win it," said Bailey.

Bailey now takes his place amongst the other gold medalist whose individual or team pictures have earned a place of honor at Baumholder's Hall of Champions.

"He doesn't care if you're the Barry Bonds of the softball world. If you show an attitude, you're on the bench."

CFC Overseas kicks off Oct. 1

The Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas, part of the largest workplace giving campaign in the world, has announced the CFC-O will run from Oct. 1 through Dec. 10. During the campaign season, donors can designate contributions to a variety of deserving American and international U.S.-based charities through the CFC-O.

"The CFC raised \$58,849 at Baumholder last year with 18 percent of the population participating," said Bill Badger, this year's CFC project officer for Baumholder.

The official kickoff at

Baumholder will be in front of the post exchange Oct. 1 at 1:30 p.m. There will be cake available, donated by the exchange to commemorate the occasion and CFC information. Everyone is invited to stop buy to help kickoff this year's campaign.

Unit coordinators will begin contacting their members shortly.

"Last year, U.S. military members and federal employees pulled together and generously raised over \$11.2 million overseas," said Renée Acosta, president of the campaign management organization for the

CFC-O. "This year we know the tradition of giving will continue."

The CFC's philanthropic commitment is rooted in the many charitable campaigns of the 1960s. Seeing a need to collect all the philanthropic campaigns under one umbrella, federal employees created the CFC—one campaign, once a year. An Executive Order signed by President Kennedy made the CFC a reality and turned an innovative idea into a uniquely effective way for federal employees to help those in need close by and throughout the world.

Rheinlander Club mil 485-7507

Saturday market

The Baumholder Saturday market is like an indoor garage sale. Persons can buy or sell household items, children's items, clothes and much more. Reserve a space for \$5. Tables rent for \$7 and \$10. The next Saturday market is Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the Rheinlander Ballroom.

Sunday Brunch

The Rheinlander Club in Baumholder hosts Sunday Brunch Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. This event is by reservation only. The menu includes made-to-order omelets, waffles, eggs, bacon, sausage, pasta, potatoes, salad buffet, dessert buffet and more.

The cost is \$12.50 for adults; \$9 for children ages 10 to 15; \$6 for children 6 to 9 years old and free for children 5 and under. Contact the Rheinlander to make a reservation or for more information.

Outdoor Rec mil 485-7182

Furniture trip

Are you still looking for just the right accents to make your government quarters feel like home? Let Outdoor Rec take you shopping at IKEA, the Swedish home furnishing store. The cost for transportation is \$24 for Adults and \$15 for children. Trips are scheduled for Oct. 2, 16; Nov. 6, 20; and Dec. 4, 18.

Polish pottery

Get on the express shopping trip to Poland and pick up some Polish pottery. The cost is \$75 for adults and \$55 for children. Persons must make reservations one week in advance. Trips are scheduled for: Oct. 4-5, Nov. 14-15 and Dec. 12-13.

Frankfurt Zoo

There is still time for a day trip to the Frankfurt Zoo. The cost is \$35 for adults and \$25 for children. The next trip is Oct. 1 so reserve your seat today. Additional Frankfurt Zoo dates are: Nov. 1, Nov. 22 and Jan. 17.

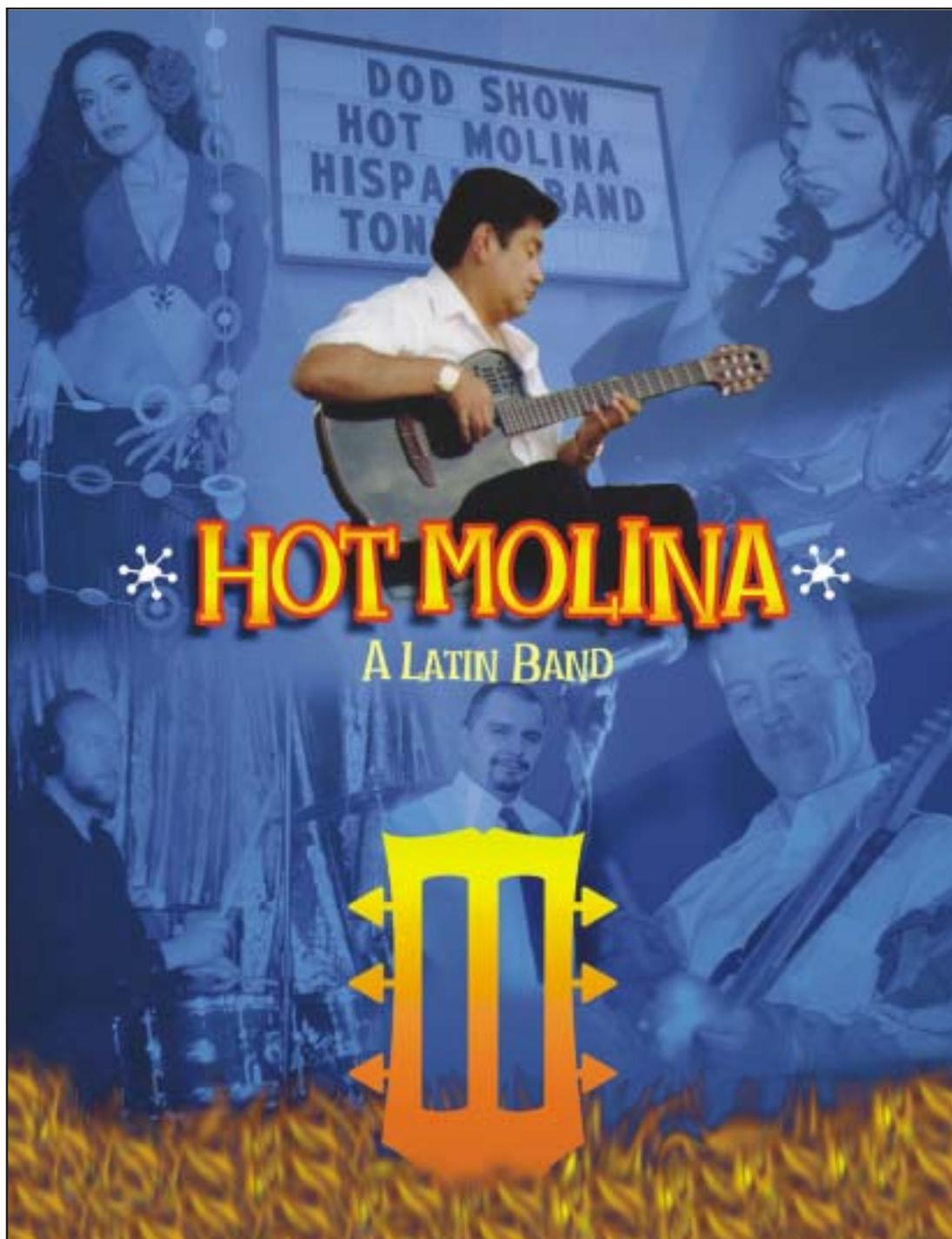
Flea markets

You can find antiques, furniture and souvenirs galore by joining Outdoor Rec on Flea market excursions. The cost is \$35 for adults and \$15 for children. Trips scheduled to: Metz Flea Market Oct. 4, 25; Saarbrücken Flea Market Nov. 8; and Luxemburg Flea Market Nov. 22.

Mall experience

You can have an American mall experience at CentrOMall. The cost is only \$45 for adults and \$25 for children. Reserve your seat for any

MWR update



Contributed graphic

Hot Molina

The Latin sensation band Hot Molina is coming to Baumholder. The band has spent over 11 years entertaining Americans overseas. Enjoy a free electrifying salsa performance when the band performs in concert Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Rheinlander.

of these dates: Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 13

Express shopping

Reserve a seat today for an express shopping trip to Karlovy Vary and the Dragon Flea Market. The cost is \$65 for adults and \$45 for children. Trips are scheduled for: Oct. 24-25, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, Dec. 5-6 and Dec. 19-20.

Mini vacation

Enjoy a mini vacation on the slopes. Reserve your seat for a trip to the Swiss Alps and don't forget your skis. The cost for round trip transportation is \$95 for adults and \$75 for children. Trips are planned

for: Dec. 19-21, Jan. 2-4, Jan. 30-Feb. 1, Feb. 20-22 and March 12-14.

Ski Columbus Day

Get away for the Columbus Day weekend Oct. 10-13 by going skiing in Austria for \$295. Price includes hotel accommodations with breakfast and dinner. Also included is your ski pass and equipment rental, lift pass and round trip transportation.

Ski your holidays

Spend your holiday weekends on the slopes of Austria. Get an all-inclusive weekend get-away for

\$295. The price includes hotel accommodations with breakfast and dinner, ski pass and rental, lift pass and round trip transportation. Reserve your seat for one of these trips: Nov. 7-10, Veteran's Day; Nov. 26-30, Thanksgiving; Jan. 16-19, Martin Luther King Day; Feb. 13-16, President's Day; March 11-14, Early Spring; and April 8-11, Easter.

Christmas markets

It's almost time for the German Christmas so start planning a trip now with Outdoor Rec. Reserve your seat in advance for the following markets:

- Trier Christmas Market

- Nov. 28
\$35 adults, \$15 children
Depart at 8 a.m.
- Rothenburg Ob der Tauber Christmas Market
Dec. 6
\$55 adults, \$35 children
Depart at 7 a.m.
- Nuernberg Christmas Market
Dec. 13
\$65 adults, \$45 children
depart at 6 a.m.

Auto Skills Center mil 485-6344

PCS cleaning

If you're getting ready to PCS, let the Auto Skills Center help you clean your car before you ship it. For \$45 get your car detailed inside and out.

Oil change

Get your oil changed at Baumholder Auto Skills Center. The cost is \$19.95 (oil and filter included). For \$39.95 get synthetic oil (filter included). Service is by appointment only Tuesdays through Fridays after 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Ballet classes

Ballet classes begin Oct. 30 at Baumholder Youth Services for children 3 to 18 years old. The cost is \$30 per month for one classes

and \$22 per month for 45 minute classes. Classes are held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in Building 8879, Wetzel School Age Services.

- Tuesday classes are 5 – 5:45 p.m. for 3- to 4-year-olds and 6 – 7 p.m. for those 7 to 9 years old.

- Wednesday classes are 10 – 10:45 a.m. for 3- to 4-year-olds; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. for children 7 to 9 years old and 5 p.m. for children 5 to 6 years old.

- Thursday classes are from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. for children 5 – 6 years old and up and 5 to 6 p.m. for children 10 years old and up.

The instructor is Viviane Elliot. She was a professional ballet dancer who has 11 years of intensive classical ballet training. She has three years of teaching experience. Elliot performed in principal roles like The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty and more.

For more information contact Youth Services central registration at mil 485-7003 or their administration office at mil 485-7276.

Last minute

Be a life guard

There is an urgent need for persons to work as lifeguards at Baumholder's indoor pool. For more information call the Rec Emporium at mil 485-6156.

222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg



Photo by Bernd "Bernie" Mai

Ulrich Jung along with family readiness group leaders and merchants from Pro Baumholder accept a truck load of Shampoo from Christiane Hupfeld from Sebastian International. The Beauty and cosmetic firm donated 5,923 bottles of shampoo, valued at € 68, 561.82, for single soldiers stationed in Iraq.

Merchants continue support for single soldiers

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

The city of Baumholder continues to show its support for deployed soldiers not only with words but also with its deeds.

The most recent contribution coordinated by Baumholder resi-

dents was a truckload of shampoo valued at a whopping € 68,561.82.

The donation included 5,923 bottles donated by Sebastian International, a company specializing in beauty body and hair products.

Contact with Sebastian International was initiated by Ulrich Jung, son of the owner of the barber shop "Friseurteam Jung" in downtown

Baumholder.

Christiane Hupfeld, a representative of the beauty and hair product company that made the donation, traveled to Baumholder from Wiesbaden, Germany to personally make the presentation to family readiness group coordinators of the Baumholder military community.

FRG coordinators Tina Olsen

and Nathalie Carillo accepted the donation on behalf of Baumholder's FRGs.

Also on hand during the presentation were numerous representatives from Pro Baumholder, an organization of local merchants who spearheaded the initial initiative to provide care packages to single soldiers stationed in Iraq.

Some of the donated shampoo was immediately packaged up along with other donated products and prepared for shipment to single soldiers in Iraq. The remainder will be packaged in future shipments.

These care packages include the bare necessities that soldiers may need to make life just a little more pleasant while deployed.

BCSC luncheon

The Baumholder Community Spouses Club holds a luncheon Sept. 17 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Rheinlander. RSVPs are required and may be made via email to cher.lim@us.army.mil For more information call (06783) 999-2928

Get a head start

Headstart classes are offered again weekly from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays at the education center. The classes are open to family members and soldiers and offer students an opportunity to learn some of the German language and participate in a field trip to Trier on Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Persons interested in attending must register by noon on Friday the week before they wish to attend class by calling Danna Stone at mil 485-7574/7298.

Child care is the responsibility

of the parents as it is not provided by course coordinators. Students must complete all classroom work to participate in the field trip to Trier and receive a certificate. Transportation to the education center and lunch are also the responsibility of the student.

SAEDA, force protection training

The 222nd Base Support Battalion and 66th Military Intelligence Group will conduct a briefing on antiterrorism, force protection awareness, subversion and espionage directed against the Army Oct. 21 at the Wagon Wheel Theater. The English version is from 1 to 2 p.m. followed by the German ver-

sion from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. This briefing is an annual requirement for all soldiers, Department of Defense civilians, and local national employees. Family members and dependents age 16 or older are highly encouraged to attend. Any unit or element with 10 or more people planning to attend is asked to call to ensure space is available. Direct any questions to the Baumholder MI office at mil 485-7386 or civ (06783) 6-7386.

Nutritionist job

Choctaw Management Services Enterprise has a full time position in the Baumholder office of the WIC Overseas Program for a dietitian, nutritionist or registered nurse with a BSN. Experience in maternal, child or infant

nutrition is required. A registered dietitian is preferred and WIC experience is desirable. Applicants must have a current USAREUR driver's license and be willing to travel.

E-mail résumés, cover letter and a copy of applicable licenses to either:

cathleen.holmes@ramstein.af.mil,

or

april.parsells@cmty@mail.104asg.army.mil, or fax application to: civ (06783) 6-8049 or civ (06731) 47-9383. applications may also be delivered to the Baumholder WIC office or the Ramstein WIC office, Building 2118.

Placement care

Baumholder's Emergency Placement Care, formerly known as Foster Care, is in need of families to provide short-term 24-hour care for

eligible children who cannot be cared for by their natural family or legal guardian.

The Exceptional Family Member Program currently needs potential Emergency Placement Care providers.

Volunteer hours are earned for time spent in training. Once certified as an Emergency Placement Care provider, volunteer hours are awarded for on-call status and for total time spent caring for children.

The Emergency Placement Care Program relies on special people in the community who are willing to invest their time and energy to ensure that our children are well cared for when they are most vulnerable. Participation by volunteers will make a difference in the community. Persons interested in becoming a provider, or who have questions about the program may call Floyd Davison at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

Post notes