

Post notes

A time for families, friends

Looking for homes

Child and Youth Services is looking for spouses who love children and want to work out of their homes. The Family Child Care program needs child care providers in all housing areas, but especially in Strassburg, Neubrücke and Birkenfeld. If interested, stop by the CYS central registration office on the second floor of the health clinic, Building 8743 and pick up an application. The next family child care briefing will be Jan. 8 at the CYS training room. Free FCC training is scheduled Jan. 13 – 23. For more information call Hildegard Bragg at mil485-6588.

Be safe

During the holidays many will be attending festivities throughout Germany with many opportunities to consume alcohol. Remember to always use alcohol responsibly and plan for alternate transportation. The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration estimates someone dies every 33 minutes due to alcohol related vehicle accidents. It can happen to you. Never drink and drive.

Bank closes

The Community Bank will be closed Dec. 24 through 26 for Christmas. On New Year's Eve it will be open from 9 a.m. – noon and closed on New Year's Day. All ATM machines will be operational as usual during these times. The bank wishes every member of the Baumholder Community a very merry and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Credit union closed

All Service Credit Union branch offices close at 1 p.m. Dec. 24. They will be closed all day Dec. 25 for Christmas. All Service Credit Union branch offices will reopen Dec. 26.

All Service Credit Union branch offices will close at 1 p.m. Dec. 31. They will be closed Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day and reopen on Jan. 2.

Health clinic closed

The Baumholder Health Clinic will not have a holiday clinic Dec. 24 because this day has been declared a USAREUR holiday and patient work load has always been minimal on this holiday. For more information call mil485-8571/1750.

Teens, be job ready

The Job Ready program that introduces high school students to the work force begins Jan. 28. The program provides training, information and guidance to teens wish-

ing to enter the job market. Job Ready also assists in developing interpersonal skills, and offers an opportunity for youth to learn how to advance from jobs to careers.

Classes will be held every Tuesday from 5 – 6 p.m. in the Teen Café. The first session covers customer service. Subsequent classes include communication skills, making career decisions, attitude in the workplace, interviewing skills, dress for success, resume writing and financial management. Interested teens may register by calling Youth Services at mil485-7276.

Lost ID

People who lose their military identification card must now report the loss to the military police before applying for a replacement. Regardless if it is lost or stolen a new ID card will not be issued until the sponsor reports the lost or stolen ID card to the local MP Station. Staff sergeants and below are must have a memorandum signed by the commander in addition to the MP memorandum. For questions call your unit PAC or Detachment A, 90th Personnel Service Battalion at mil485-6199

Volunteers honored

The volunteers of the quarter were recognized Nov. 26 at the town hall meeting. Donna Schreiner, Ramey L. Price Jr. and Sgt. Sharon Gaither were presented a certificate, a 222nd Base Support Battalion commander's coin and a plaque by Maj. Stephen Wise. Schreiner was recognized for her contribution to the Smith Elementary, Cub Scout Pack 96, and 1-6 Infantry Battalion family readiness group. Price, youth volunteer of the quarter, was recognized for his contribution to the Recreation Emporium. Gaither, active duty volunteer of the quarter, was recognized for her contribution to the Recreation Emporium as an aerobics instructor.

The following individuals were also nominated for their volunteer service with the following organizations: Shawntae N. Price (Youth), Recreation Emporium; Marie Wilson, Smith Elementary School; Tammy Bayham, Neubrücke Elementary; Renate Hebert, 4-27 Field Artillery; Sameka Bunting, 4-27, Field Artillery.

Be safe

During the holidays many will be attending festivities throughout Germany with many opportunities to consume alcohol. Remember to always use alcohol responsibly and plan for alternate transportation.

By Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs

222nd Base Support Battalion Commander

Throughout the world, the holiday season is a time for families and friends to come together again. This is everyone's wish for the holidays, to be together as a family again after a long, busy year. For some of us it means waiting for a husband or wife to return and we wish them all a safe journey home to their families. Some of you will travel to your families. We wish you too a safe journey and we'll see you again when you return. Some of you will find your family in your friends here. Celebrate friendship this holiday season. Reach out, leave no one alone.

Soon we shall all be enjoying the excitement of the Baumholder winter. Snow and ice will come. Be prepared. Be patient. Be safe. That goes for you children out there too! Enjoy the snow but think about what you are doing. Take care of yourselves and your friends too.

As this year comes to a close, we can now pause briefly, reflect on all we have accomplished, make some time in our hectic schedules to enjoy the company of our families and loved ones and prepare ourselves for the challenges of the new year.



Photo by Madeleine Dwolakowski

As soldiers and military families you all make a sacrifice for your country, a sacrifice to preserve freedom and peace. My family and I offer each and every one of you our personnel thanks for your selfless service to our Army and our nation. We wish you and your families a joyous holiday season.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Fred Wegley, left, 222nd Base Support Battalion garrison manager, and Brig. Gen. Elder Granger, commander, European Regional Medical Command, talk about the clinic's accomplishments while Lt. Col. Francis Bannister, clinic commander, reviews the plaque's inscription.

Health clinic rated top notch

The Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health care Organizations gave the Baumholder Army Health Clinic a clean bill of health in May when the clinic was surveyed as part of the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Health care System.

JCAHO is a civilian organization that has more than 570 standards they closely look at to ensure health care organizations provide

quality care. During the survey, Baumholder clinic received no negative findings and the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center received an overall score of 93 percent.

At the time of the survey LRMCC had achieved the highest score for any Department of Defense Medical Center.

Brig. Gen. Elder Granger, commander, European Regional Medical Command, presented the ac-

creditation document for the Baumholder, Army Health Clinic to Frederick Wegley, 222nd Base Support Battalion garrison manager. The document symbolizes that the clinic is committed to providing quality health care services to the Baumholder Community.

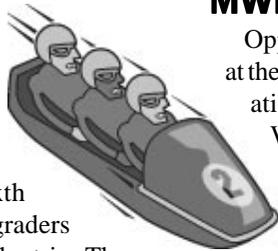
Also at the presentation were Lt. Col. Francis Bannister, clinic commander and Lt. Col. Grace Franklin, chief nurse.

Youth Services

Building 8743, mil 485-7276

Bobsledding trip

Baumholder Child and Youth Services will go bobsledding on the Erbeskopf. The bus departs the Underground on Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m. Enjoy a day of sledding on the highest hill in Rheinland Pfalz with runs 450 meters long. Sixth through twelfth graders may register for the trip. The cost is \$3 plus spending money.



Youth swim classes

Enroll your child ages six months and older for swim classes with Baumholder Child and Youth Services. Classes offered include: Parent/Child Water Orientation for ages six months to three years; preschool swim lessons for ages three to five; and Level I, II, III, IV for ages six and up.

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

Different cultures

Your sixth through twelfth grader can sample foods and experience cultures of nations around the world with Baumholder Youth Services. They'll be dining out Feb. 7 from 5:30-8 p.m. at a Soul Food restaurant in Landstuhl. The bus departs the Underground at 5:30 p.m.

Ice skating trip

Let Baumholder Youth Services take your sixth through twelfth graders ice-skating in Saarbrücken. The trip is \$10, plus spending money. The bus departs the Underground at 9 a.m. Don't forget to bring a sack lunch.

Coaches needed

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

For more information, contact the central enrolment registry in Building 8743 at mil 485-7003.

Rheinlander

Building 8085, mil 485-7507

Sunday brunch

Visit the Rheinlander in Baumholder for their Sunday brunch Jan. 5 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The buffet includes eggs, bacon, pan-



MWR roundup



cakes, shrimp, brötchen and much more. Reservations are not necessary, but are appreciated.

MWR job fair

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

Rod & Gun

Building 8167, mil 485-6345

Get 'all shook up'

Elvis Night is happening at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club Jan. 18 from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. They'll offer Graceland specials, look-a-like and dance contests, prizes and more. As always, there's no cover charge.

Super Bowl party

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

Right on cue

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

Gone country

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

ACS

Building 8746, mil 485-8188

Consumer help

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

Job market class

The local job market orientation class provides valuable insights to the employment opportunities in the Baumholder community and its surrounding area. Participants re-

ceive information concerning military spouse preference, defining federal and private sector opportunities and application procedures, basic Resumix start-up information and volunteer opportunities. Classes are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9-10:30 a.m.

Golf course

Building 8888, mil 485-7299

Summer greens

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

Unit level golf pass

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

Sports, fitness

Building 8743, mil 485-7003

Goju lessons

Chinese Goju is a combination of hard and soft elements in karate and kung fu. This discipline enhances flexibility, self-esteem, and builds confidence. Learn from Master Instructor, Thomas Felder who has 30 years of experience in martial arts. Youth classes are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. at Baumholder High School and Mondays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. at Neubrücke Gym. The cost is \$30 each month and includes an official patch, testing, advancements, belts and certificates.

Coach or play

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

Home games

The following upcoming home community level basketball games are scheduled in the Hall of Champions:

- Jan. 11 vs Giessen
- Feb. 8 vs Ramstein
- Feb. 9 vs Spangdahlem
- Feb. 15 vs Kaiserslautern

●March 1 vs Shape

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

Bowling center

Building 8105, mil 485-6569

Super Bowl party

Get ready for the Super Bowl of bowling Jan. 20 at the bowling center. Games are only \$1 each, with snack bar specials and a chance to win premium prizes. The games begin at 6 p.m.

FootBowl

Monday night FootBowl is held every Monday night through Jan. 20 at the bowling center. The evening is broken up into four quarters from 6-10 p.m. Each quarter offers a different snack bar special and bowling is a \$1 per game. There's also a chance to win Express and Overnight trips to various locations around Europe with Enjoy Tours, as well as other premium prizes.

Nifty Fifties

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

Auto crafts

Building 8438, mil 485-6344

Auto skills classes

Baumholder Auto Craft Center offers the following classes during January: Auto Tune-up Class on Jan. 7 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Auto Front End Inspection Class Jan. 14 from 5-6 p.m., Auto Axle and CV Boot Repair Class Jan. 22 from 5-6 p.m. and Handling Auto Roadside Emergencies Jan. 28 from 6-7 p.m. Call in advance to reserve your place in the class.

PCS your car

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

Outdoor Rec

Building 8895, mil 485-7182

Paintball games

Baumholder Outdoor Recreation organizes paintball games Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The cost is \$9 using personal equipment or \$19 to rent theirs. If you'd rather play your own game, rent a set for

\$12 (includes gun, CO2 tank and hopper).

Trips

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

Amsterdam Express

Jan. 11

\$65 for adults

One-day express trip

Bus departs at 3 a.m. and returns at midnight.

The tour guide can arrange museum and boat tours for individuals or groups at an additional cost.

Trip to Frankfurt Zoo

Jan. 26

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

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

Cost includes entrance fee.

Paris Express

Jan. 19

\$65 for adults and \$35 for children.

The tour guide can arrange museum and boat tours for individuals or groups at an additional cost.

Switzerland ski trip

Jan. 11

Bus departs at 11 p.m. the night before and returns at midnight the day of the trip.

\$95 includes a lift pass, ski rental, transportation and beginner ski lessons.

Nonskiers are welcome.

One-day ski trip to the Eiger and Jungfrau Region in Grindelwald. The longest run on the mountain is 11 km.

Black Forest ski trip

Jan. 4 and Jan. 25

\$55 for adults, \$35 for children

Bus departs at 4 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

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

Nonskiers welcome.

Neuschwanstein castle

Jan. 25

\$65 for adults and \$35 for children.

Includes transportation and entrance fee.

The bus departs at 6 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

Remember:

All U.S. military facilities are now smoke free



1st sergeant returns to Snow's House

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

On the morning of Aug. 6, 1976, the company billets of then Bravo Company 293rd Engineers was dedicated to 1st Sgt. Charles Ray Snow.

The dedication of a building, facility, or street is usually reserved for individuals who have passed away but Snow was held in such high esteem by the soldiers of his unit that they elected to dedicate Building 8111 in his honor, naming it Snow's House.

During the recent renovation of the facility, the plaque was removed

and misplaced. Snow returned to Baumholder Dec. 11 to witness the rededication of the building with a new plaque and to relive old memories.

It was Snow's daughter Teresa Ruiz who first noticed that the plaque was missing. Having spent more than six years here, she literally grew up in Baumholder. Her husband is stationed in Wiesbaden and together they came to Baumholder for a visit and to reminisce on the past.

Naturally she was surprised to discover that the plaque was missing. After a few phone calls, she finally got a hold of Bill Kalavsky,

222nd Base Support Battalion adjutant, who got the ball rolling to have a new plaque made. After some research and with the help of the 222nd BSB Directorate of Public Works, a new plaque was made and affixed to Building 8111.

The original dedication was conceived, planned and executed by the NCO's of B Company, 293rd Engineers. It gave tribute to an unusual and exceptional man who had dedicated nearly 30 years to the United States Army.

As part of the original dedication, Capt. Michael Ryan, company commander for B Company 293rd Engineers wrote that Snow was

widely known by his men as a strict disciplinarian. Yet they knew if they needed assistance he would be there to help, or if they found themselves in trouble, he would deal with them fairly. His troops knew that he would go all out for them if they showed him they were giving the unit everything it deserved.

His strict nature gave new meaning to a popular phrase of that time which proclaimed, "This barracks is your home, take care of it." Snow changed that phrase to "This is my home, if you don't take care of it you will sleep in a tent."

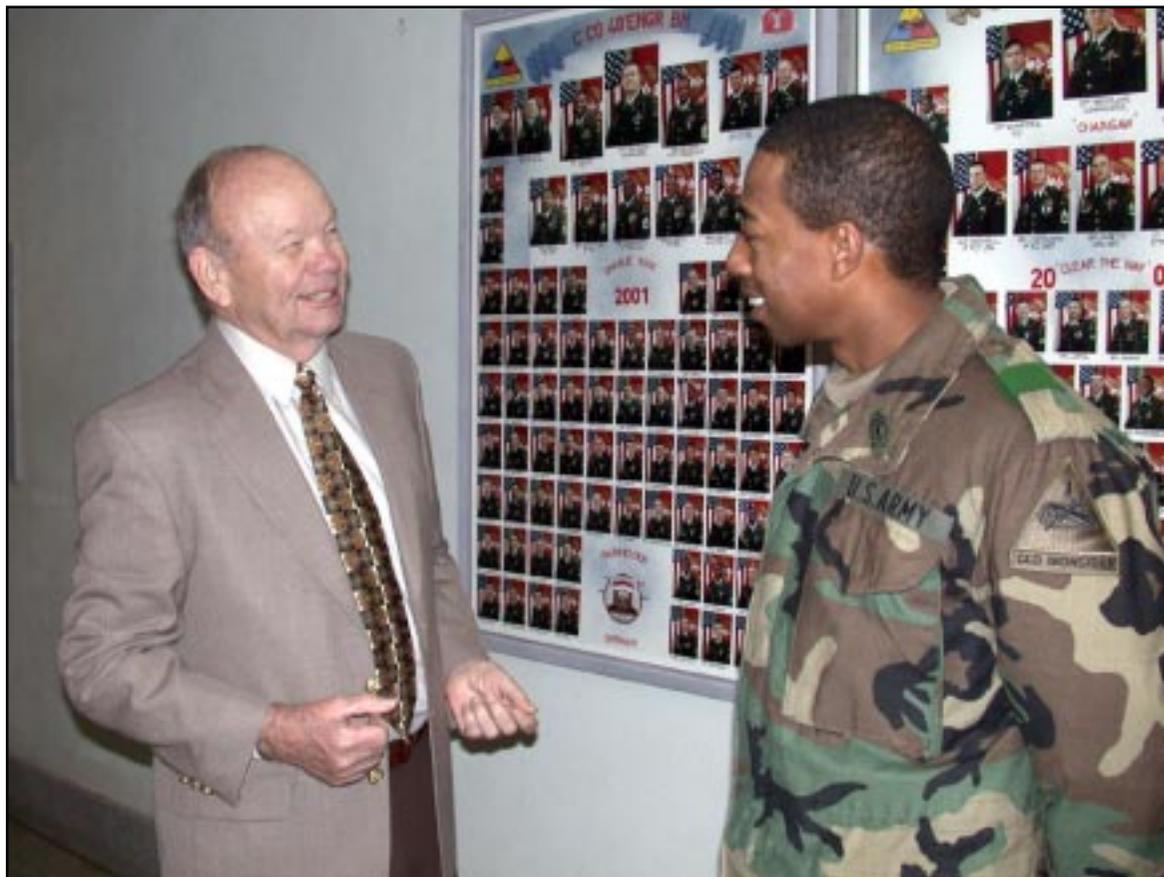
As most retirees do, Snow had one or two interesting war stories to tell. He spoke of a time when a soldier tried to commit suicide but had not been very successful. Someone tried to cover the soldier with an Army blanket to prevent shock but Snow said, "Don't use an Army blanket. Use a civilian one because he is not acting like a soldier."

There is more to Snow however than just a crusty demeanor, brown

shoes, M-1 Carbines and bayonets. Snow is a soldier who refuses to fade away. As he addressed the members of C Company 40th Engineers who had assembled for the dedication ceremony, it was clear that his passion to serve has never died. "I looked at a sign on the adjutant's desk and it said, "Once a soldier, always a soldier," he said. The old soldier chuckled lightly and added, "I've tried to reenlist several times, the latest was just last week but they would not take me because I don't fit the parameters you soldiers now have."

Snow was first sworn into the Army on Feb. 2, 1947. During his career he hop-scotched the globe serving numerous tours of duty, two of which were in Viet Nam. "During the time that I was in you had to have an IQ of approximately 10," he said. His jest stirred a wave of laughter among the soldiers. "We had draftees back then. They were only good for one year and they wanted to get out the minute they got here so it was a great difficulty keeping them in line for that one year. I just wish that I was young enough to start all over again. If I did, this is where I would be. Thank you very much."

After the rededication ceremony 1st Sgt. Gerald Williams, the first sergeant of C Company, 40th Engineers, turned to Snow, whispered a few words. Snow wheeled around and faced the formation. For one last time, the old soldier's commands broke the chilly morning calm. "Company! Attention! Right face! Fall out!"



Photos by "Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Retired 1st Sgt. Charles R. Snow, and 1st Sgt. Gerald Williams, first sergeant of C Company, 40th Engineers, trade a few war stories. At right, Snow shares a "military moment" with members of C Company, 4th Engineers.



Don't ride off the cliff when buying your wheels

By Capt. Katherine Lev
Baumholder Legal Center

With the exception of a home, a car is the most expensive item most people buy. Choosing and financing a car is a very serious undertaking. Because few people can afford to pay cash for a car they have to resort to borrowing. Borrowing money or financing allows you to pay for the car over an extended time.

When it comes time to finance a car, it pays to shop around for the best rates. Although the dealer may offer you financing, it may not be the best offer. Consider contacting lenders directly and compare prices. When doing so keep in mind the

following items when you evaluate offers:

- The exact cost of the vehicle
- The amount of your loan. It will be more than the cost of the vehicle
- The finance charge (the dollar amount credit will cost you)
- The annual percentage rate which expresses the finance charge in a form of percentage per year
- The number and amount of payments

If you're offered a low-interest loan, look for pitfalls like a balloon payment (several thousand dollars due in the end) or an obligation to buy special merchandise or services such as rust proofing or credit

insurance.

You should expect to pay more if you borrow. Just make sure you can comfortably make the monthly payments.

Keep in mind that APR's are usually higher and loan periods usually shorter for used cars than for new ones. Be careful with advertisements offering financing to first-time buyers or people with bad credit. These offers often require a big down payment and a high APR. If you decide to sell the car before the contract expires, the amount you get from the sale may be a lot less than the amount you still owe on the loan

Your agreement with the institu-

tion that gave you a loan is a contract. Your signature binds you to them. Even if you give your car to someone and that person wrecks it, you are still responsible to the creditor because you are contractually obligated to pay off the loan. Giving the loan book to the other person and assuming they will make payments does not relieve you. You'll be free from the contract only if you, the other person and the representative from the creditor sit down together and remove your name from the contract. Some creditors may do it, but they don't have to.

The consequences of not meeting your obligations to the creditor can be significant. The creditor may

repossess your vehicle. In many states they do not have to notify you. Even if you voluntarily turn the vehicle over to them, your inability to make payments still goes on your credit report. You will most likely lose money because the creditor does not have to sell it for the amount you borrowed. If they sell it for less, you will be responsible for the difference plus fees.

Remember, a car is a way to get from point A to point B and not a symbol of who you are. Your credit report, however, is a symbol of who you are. Banks and employers judge you on the basis of your credit report. It is to your advantage not to ruin it in pursuit of an evasive dream.