

SABER E-HERALD

SPANGDAHLEM AB

NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

FEB. 9, 2012

CFC helps shape future

Nowhere to run: Pay customs, courtesies

Happy Valentine's Day!

A Valentine's Day dinner and dance takes place 6 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Brick House. The \$50 per-couple cost includes hors d'oeuvres, music and a comedy show. Semi-formal dress is required. For more information, call DSN 452-7260 or 06565-61-7260.



CHIEFS BOWL OUT COMMANDERS 1,491-1,443

Chief Master Sgt. Ricky Owen, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron chief, throws a bowling ball down a lane during the "Commanders vs. Chiefs" bowling tournament at the Eifel Lanes Bowling Center here Feb. 3. The chiefs surmounted the commanders with a total score of 1,491 - 1,443. The tournament allows enlisted and commissioned leaders to compete with one another in a friendly environment outside of work while building morale and camaraderie. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)

Join a private organization, boost morale

**Senior Airman
Natasha Stannard
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs**

Airmen contribute to the Air Force every day with their commitment to service, but contributions don't stop there. They can also participate in military private organizations, which not only helps others, but can instill a sense of personal pride.

There are 42 morale-boosting private organizations here made up of groups, squadrons, sections, enlisted ranks and officer grades. The purpose of these organizations is to raise money for morale programs and activi-

ties, fundraisers, charity events, and for families in need, said George Price, 52nd Force Support Squadron special events coordinator.

"People within squadron sections, enlisted ranks or officer grades are automatically members and are encouraged to participate in private organizations," Price said.

For example, a first sergeant is automatically a member of the 1st Shirts Association and can participate in and attend the group's meetings. However, some organizations require members to pay dues to become an active member.

Participating in any private

organization not only helps others, but it can help individuals grow, Price explained.

"It's really a career-broadening thing," Price said of participating in a private organization. "It gives Airmen a unique chance to deal with the public, and it helps organizations grow and become closer especially [organizations with] junior Airmen."

First IV, a private organization run by junior Airmen who hold monthly meetings, is one organization Airmen can make a contribution to the 52nd Fighter Wing.

To read the entire article, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123289329>.



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

Staff Sgt. Elijah Bonzer, 52nd Medical Support Squadron biomedical equipment repair technician, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of Feb. 9 - 15. To read the entire article, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123289330>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Fredericks/Released)

Specialized vehicle maintenance supports global operations

Staff Sgt. Daryl Knee
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

The U.S. Air Force partners daily with joint and coalition teams to win today's fight and protect U.S. and Allied interests across the globe.

The 52nd Fighter Wing here does its part by supplying the European and combatant commanders with trained and proficient Airmen, and precise combat power comprised of the F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-10 Thunderbolt II fighter aircraft.

Behind those capabilities works the maintainers who keep the support equipment operational.

The 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Material Handling Equipment and Fire Truck Maintenance Shop provides specialized repair to the base's priority support vehicles: material handling equipment, fire trucks and deicers.

"We have all three priority vehicles, and that's what makes us so diverse," said Tech. Sgt. Eric Ford, 52nd LRS the shop's NCO in charge. "The reason our shop does maintenance on all of these specialty vehicles is because

of the unique pumping or hydraulic systems."

Ford said the shop boasts 12 Airmen with varying degrees of specialty experience. In their technical training, Airmen choose a specialization, like fire-truck repair. Once they arrive at a duty station, their on-the-job training with other specialty vehicles commences.

"I love being able to train the new Airmen coming in," Ford said. "When they come here, they just know the bare basics, and when they leave, they're mechanics."

Fire-truck Maintenance

Each Spangdahlem fire truck serves a different purpose and carries varying amounts of water. The base fire department requires a specific amount of available water -- proportionate to the number and size of grounded aircraft -- to prepare for any aircraft accident or fire.

"Without our vehicles working properly, we cannot complete our mission," said Tech. Sgt. Adam Gunter, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department Fire Logistics NCO in charge.

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123289337>.

Right: Airman 1st Class Jake Gimigliano, left, and Staff Sgt. Roger Kruback, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance technicians, align a transfer case block before it can be pieced together and bolted together during a transfer case rebuild on a P26 Tanker Truck inside the fire truck maintenance shop here Feb. 8. The transfer case is essential to the operation of the P26 Tanker Truck because it's the gear box that transfers power from the transmission to the front and rear wheels enabling the truck to drive in extreme weather conditions. The fire truck maintenance shop consists of 12 technicians and is responsible for the maintenance of more than 50 heavy equipment vehicles such as fire trucks, aircraft deicers and aircraft load equipment. Technicians assigned to the fire truck maintenance shop ensure daily operations continue even when fire or ice present potential hindrances. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)



Above: Staff Sgt. Roger Kruback, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance technician, applies high-temperature gasket sealant to the surface of a transfer case block before the drive shaft can be mounted during a transfer case rebuild on a P26 Tanker Truck inside the fire truck maintenance shop here Feb. 8.



Left: Staff Sgt. Roger Kruback, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance technician, mixes high-temperature gasket sealant before it can be applied to the surface of a transfer case block during a transfer case rebuild on a P26 Tanker Truck inside the fire truck maintenance shop here Feb. 8.

Celebrate Fasching: Germany's biggest bash

Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

Most people think Germany's biggest bash is "Oktoberfest" in Munich, but it isn't.

Fasching is Germany's version of Mardi Gras and involves more celebrating than any other bash in Germany. This year, it kicks off 11 minutes past the 11th hour Feb. 16 and runs until Feb. 21.

Fasching, or Fastnacht, is the foolish or silly season during which parades are held and thousands of clubs host costume balls, dances and Kappensitzungen, or fun sessions.

Popular celebrations occur in the Rhineland close to base and begin on "Fat Thursday" Feb. 16 with Weiberfastnacht, or Ladies Fasching.

This day is devoted to ladies in Germany. The women dress up in colorful costumes and walk from door to door pulling jokes on people, especially local politicians. Fasching participants

are also out during this time to paint peoples' faces and offer them a drink for a small fee.

In many towns, such as Bitburg, Wittlich and Speicher, it is a tradition for the ladies to "capture" the local Rathaus, or city hall, and take the city key from the mayor. This always happens at 11:11 a.m. The "intruders" often will set up a ladder and climb through the window into the Rathaus as is always the case in Wittlich. Once the ladies seize the key, they are in charge of the town for that day. Typically a band plays special Fasching music, people dance in the streets and the women serve beverages and traditional Fasching treats, including a traditional pea soup.

It's customary for ladies to walk around and cut off men's ties with scissors, so it's safest for men to not wear a tie that day.

A third tradition includes local children standing in the streets of the villages to stop cars.

To read the entire article, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123289331>.



BITBURG, Germany – U.S. members, together with local Bitburg residents, enjoy walking in a Fashing dance line in front of the Bitburg Rathaus, or city hall, after it was "captured" by the ladies there in 2009. Once a year on Fat Thursday, the ladies are in charge of the city for a day after taking the key from the mayor. It has become tradition for Spangdahlem Sabers to help the mayor defend the city hall at 11 minutes past the 11th hour on Fat Thursday. This year's capturing of the Rathaus takes place Feb. 16 in Bitburg. Fasching, Germany's Silly season, takes place Feb. 16-21 this year. (US Air Force photo by Iris Reiff/Released)

AMS DEFEATS MDG IN PLAYOFF BATTLE

(L to R) Brandon Pieper, 52nd Medical Group, and Tommie Albright, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, jump for the ball during the opening tip-off of an over-30 basketball league playoff game at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center here Feb. 7. The 726th AMS team rose to victory against the 52nd MDG with a final score of 37-27. The league championship game will take place Feb. 13 at the fitness center. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Toon/Released)



Was Ist Los?

Photo exhibit

A free photo exhibit called "Eyes Over Africa" takes place now through March 11 at the Bitburg Beda House cultural center. For more information, call 06561-9683-11.

4th Symphony concert

A 4th Symphony concert takes place 8 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Trier city theater, located at Am Augustinerhof. The performance will include compositions by Beethoven, Bartok, Brahms and others. For more information or to reserve a ticket, call the theater at 0651-7181818 or email theaterkasse@trier.de.

Musical Magics' 10th anniversary

Musical Magics celebrates their 10th anniversary with several performances: March 3 at Schmelz; March 23 at the Pruem Karolinger hall; March 24 at the Merzig city hall; April 9 at the Zell, Mosel, sports hall; April 21 at the Daun Forum; and May 12 at the Trier Europa hall. The performance will include a mixture and combination of their past musicals. For more information or for tickets, call 0651-9790777.

Kim Wilde concert

A Kim Wilde concert takes place March 8 at the Trier Europa hall. For more information and to purchase tickets, call 0651-7199-996.

What's happening?

Online ID card appointments

ID card appointments for active-duty members and their families, Defense Department employees, contractors and civilian employees can be made online at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/>. For more information, call DSN 452-6117 or 06565-61-6117.

Couples massage

A couples massage class takes place from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. The cost is \$35 per couple, and couples may sign up and pay at the fitness center front counter. For more information, call the DSN 452-6634 or 06565-61-6634.

Intro to Scuba Diving

An introduction to scuba diving class takes place 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Feb. 14. The \$69 cost includes gear, transportation, a guide and entry fees. Participants should meet at outdoor recreation. For more information, call DSN 452-7170 or 06565-61-7170.

Coffee Talk

A Federal Woman's Program Coffee Talk takes place 10-11 a.m. Feb. 14 in the Eifel Conference Center room behind Kuhl Beans. The topic for this meeting is "How to Start a Home-Based Business in the European Community." For more information, email liesel.woodard@spangdahlem.af.mil.

Unaccompanied Airmen dinner

There will be a free unaccompanied Airmen dinner 5 - 7 p.m. Feb. 15 at the

Brick House. For more information, call DSN 452-7260 or 06565-61-7260.

Craft fair

A "Heartfelt and Handmade" craft fair takes place 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Eifel Community Center. The cost to register is \$10 and includes a booth, and it is free for shoppers. For more information, call DSN 452-6841 or 06565-61-6841.

Cirque Dreams world tour

Cirque Dreams will perform at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at Ramstein Air Base in Hangar 2. The event is free and seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. This event is provided by Armed Forces Entertainment. For more information, call DSN 452-6466 or 06565-61-6466.

Military America Saves Week

America Saves week is Feb. 19-25 and the airman and family readiness center will conduct financial classes for Airmen and their families. AFRC will assist in pulling credit reports and explain what they contain 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Feb. 17 and 19. They will also host an ins and outs of online-banking class from 9 - 10 a.m. Feb. 21, a credit and debt management class from 9 - 11 a.m. Feb. 22, a building a financial foundation class and a money saving strategies class from 1 - 3 p.m. Feb. 23, a basic investing class from 9 - 11 a.m. and a home buying class from 1 - 3 p.m. Feb. 24. To sign up, call DSN 452-6422 or 06565-61-6422.

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