

# SABER E-HERALD

SPANGDAHLEM AB

NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

APRIL 27, 2012

Wives eligible  
for vocational  
scholarships

ESOH CAMP keeps  
Spangdahlem AB  
in the 'green'

Health is important,  
ask your pet

Phases for an upcoming  
exercise are as follows:  
Phase I is May 3 - 4 and  
Phase II is May 7 - 9.



## AIRMEN GO GREEN FOR EARTH DAY, CLEAN UP LOCAL AREA

Volunteers from the 52nd Fighter Wing pick up trash along the L-46 outside Spangdahlem Air Base April 20. Base members cleaned up roads surrounding the base, mainly along the L-46 and B-50 as part of an Earth Day initiative. The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron is partnering with other base organizations and the local community to conserve natural resources, minimize waste and prevent pollution by hosting several Earth Day events on and off base. To view more photos, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123298875>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Fredericks/Released)

## Order up for changes at Club Eifel

Senior Airman Natasha Stannard  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

host up to five parties, meetings, events or functions at once.

"Now you can divide the ballroom into one big room or five separate rooms," said Larry Garrett, Club Eifel general manager. "We can book five different events for one time, but this is strictly for small functions. Before, the ballroom wasn't capable of this."

Garrett added that two sections of the ...

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123299207>.

Club Eifel members can book parts of or the entire club ballroom starting May 1. The ballroom closed in December, and the approximately \$500,000 in renovations fixed the room's ceiling and partitions, which can now slide out to divide the ballroom into five smaller rooms.

Having this capability allows the club staff to

## GATE CLOSURE

The main gate will be closed April 28 -29 while workers paint lines on roadways and a traffic circle. The south gate will be open throughout this time.



## SUPER SABER PERFORMER

Staff Sgt. Gary Saunders, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron A-10 Maintenance floor chief, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of April 26 – May 2. To read the entire article, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123299588>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Fredericks/Released)



DUFFEL, Belgium – The 52nd Fighter Wing Honor Guard performs ceremonial drills during colors at an annual remembrance ceremony held here April 22. The ceremony is held to remember a B-17G Flying Fortress, Pluto's Avenger, that crash landed Feb. 22, 1944, in Duffel. People travel to the aircraft-crash site memorial to participate in the ceremony, which honors the four crew members who were killed in action during the crash. The honor guard works to support the local community's ceremonies by performing at more than 20 memorial and recognition ceremonies each year. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)



# Remembering Pluto's Avenger



Above: DUFFEL, Belgium – People watch the 52nd Fighter Wing Honor Guard perform ceremonial drills during colors at an annual remembrance ceremony held here April 22.

Left: DUFFEL, Belgium – Staff Sgt. James Beasley, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron and honor guard member, holds a ceremonial-drill rifle during an annual remembrance ceremony held here April 22.



# New program, same card: CSA transitions to GTC

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

The transition from the Controlled Spend Account Travel Card Program to the Government Travel Card Program occurs June 18 and runs through Sept. 1.

This transition makes travel easier for cardholders.

The CSA program brought unique challenges to some frequent travelers. The new GTC can meet mission requirements and will be easier for travelers with even the most unique mission sets to use, according to a statement issued by the Secretary of the Air Force Financial Management Program.

The new card's credit limit becomes fixed -- like a personal card.

"There will always be a credit limit on the card," said Anna Lutsch, 52nd Fighter Wing Agency Program Coordinator. "You don't have to load orders to get funds onto your card. It's like the old GTC, so your credit limit is always available. With the new card, we can choose the disbursement amount that goes to personal and Citi credit accounts."

## At a Glance

The Air Force recently decided to transition existing Controlled Spend Account travel cards to an enhanced Government Travel Card by the end of fiscal 2012.

Cardholders will receive notifications from their unit APC via email once their card has transitioned, but until then, holders should use their cards as normal.

Members won't have to get new cards as the cards currently issued will convert over automatically. Holders who still have a GTC will only have to renew their cards once they expire.

If members dispose of their cards before the card expires, they will have to apply and wait for new ones.

"It's important to keep your blue or grey cards," Lutsch said of the travel cards that will automatically convert and carry over account balances.

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123299418>.

# Goal day defined: Commander rewards wing for sustained excellence

**Staff Sgt. Daryl Knee  
52nd Fighter Wing  
Public Affairs**

U.S. Air Forces in Europe leadership delegated the authority to award base goal days, or down days, to wing and numbered air force commanders in December 2011.

Spangdahlem leadership then developed a local set of standards which the base must meet or exceed for goal-day eligibility.

These standards are measured by delinquency or completion percentages and are separated into categories: performance reports, fitness, training, preventative health assessments and individual medical readiness, the flying hour program, upgrade training, and inspections. Five out of the seven categories must meet a certain criteria for the wing to earn the goal day.

For example, the wing must have a delinquency rating of less than or equal to 3 percent of performance reports 30 days past the closeout date and less than or equal to 1 percent 60 days past the closeout date. The category is considered "green" if both of those requirements are satisfied.

"The [metrics] set the expectation so people know what to strive for, get to that level and then exceed

it," said Maj. Chris Wilson, former 52nd Fighter Wing director of staff. "It's a reward, but it's also a way to reinforce those standards across the wing."

Each group has their own internal metrics, but wing leadership meets quarterly to compile the data and evaluate if a goal day is warranted, he continued. Wing and NAF commanders can then plot the day off in the upcoming quarter.

"Taking care of people and accomplishing the mission is a delicate balance," Wilson said. "The metrics allow base commanders to gauge success of their units in both of these realms. It also empowers the commanders to reward their own people for good performance."

USAFE leadership used command-wide goal day metrics before delegating the authority to wing and NAF commanders. The command would evaluate the metrics from each wing, and if one base did not meet the standards, no base received the reward.

Spangdahlem Airmen value time off to be with their friends and families, said Col. Chris Weggeman, 52nd Fighter Wing commander.

Read the rest of the story at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123299230>.



## 2011 EXPLORE THE EIFEL HIGHLIGHT



Members of the 52nd Fighter Wing walk through vineyards in Mehrling, Germany, July 2, 2011, as part of an Explore the Eifel tour. The group signed up for the tour of Alfons Sebastiani's vineyard during the 2011 Explore the Eifel fair. This year's fair is scheduled for May 11 with tour dates of May 19-20. More than 100 exhibitors will be at the fair to provide regional travel information. Tourist agencies, clubs, associations, mayors, and community volunteers will offer events such as wine tastings, hikes, volksmarches, picnics, pony rides, park visits, shopping sprees, wellness offers and more. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Kelley J. Stewart/Released)

# What's happening?

## Was ist los?

### Theater performance

A dancing performance by Sven Gruetzmeier and the Trier Theater takes place 7:30 p.m. May 1 at the Trier city theater. Tickets cost between 14 - 23 Euros, and can be purchased at the door 30 minutes prior to the performance time, or in advance by calling 0651-71-81818.

### Organized bicycling excursion

Bicycle excursions take place May 5 and 12 on the Ruwer-Hochwald bicycling trail. This trail is about 50 kilometers long and connects the Hunsrueck with the Moseltal valley. A bicycling bus will leave from the Konz Rathaus, or city hall, at 9 a.m. the day of the event to take people to the start off point. The cost is 15 Euros per person including transportation of participants and their bikes. For more information, call the Konz tourist information office at 06501-60-18040.

### Guided walk

A guided walking tour along the Kastel Felsen rocks trail is available between 1:30 and 5 p.m. May 9, 17 and 28 as well as June 7. Tickets cost 3 Euros for adults and are free for children. Sign-ups are required with the Saarburg tourist office. To sign up or for more information, call the Saar-Obermosel-Tourist Office at 06581-99-5980.

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### Traffic-free bicycling event

Nimms Rad, a free traffic-free bicycling event, takes place May 28 between the communities of Rommersbach and Rittersdorf. The ride is 26 kilometers. For more information, visit <http://www.nimms-rad.de>.

### Happy Mosel bicycle tour

Happy Mosel, a free 120 kilometer traffic-free bicycling event, takes place June 3. For more information, visit <http://www.happy-mosel.de>.

### Suedeifel bicycle tour

Suedeifel Tour, a free 25 kilometer bicycle tour, takes place June 17 between the communities of Arzfeld, Neuerburg and Erzen. For more information, visit <http://www.suedeifeltour.de>.

### Ehlenz volksmarch

Ehlenz will host a volksmarch between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. June 24 starting at the Ehlenz Gemeindehaus or community hall. Walking distances are 5, 10 and 20 kilometers and the cost is 1.50 Euros. For more information, visit <http://www.wanderverein-seffern.de>.

### Caring for People forum

There is a Caring for People forum 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. April 30 at Club Eifel. This event is open to everyone with ideas to improve child and youth activities, physical fitness, single Airmen support, sponsorship, martial relations and spouse support. To register for this forum, call the airman and family readiness center at DSN 452-6422 or 06565-61-6422.



### Tip of the week

About 20,000 people have discovered the rich German culture and heritage during Explore the Eifel since its inception in 2005.

### Countdown

14 days

until the Explore the Eifel Fair at Club Eifel.

To subscribe to an email notification for the Saber E-Herald, email [52fw.ds@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:52fw.ds@spangdahlem.af.mil). To submit content to the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs News Section, email [52fw.panews@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:52fw.panews@spangdahlem.af.mil) or call DSN 452-6012.

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