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NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

JAN. 11, 2013

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An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 480th Fighter Squadron takes off Jan. 5, 2013. Members of the 480th FS are participating in Red Flag 13-2, an annual multiservice exercise to increase their combat readiness and interoperability. The F-16 is a multirole fighter aircraft that can accomplish air-to-air and air-to-surface attack operations, which will be tested at the training event. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathanael Callon/Released)

480th FS tests warfighting skills at Red Flag

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

Members of the 480th Fighter Squadron departed Spangdahlem Air Base Jan. 4, to participate in Red Flag 13-2 at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

Red Flag is an annual multiservice and coalition force air-to-air combat operations exercise. Pilots from U.S. and allied countries are set to train on a variety of platforms throughout the exercise to increase combat readiness and interoperability, according to the Red Flag website.

“Red Flag gives us the opportunity to get our pilots combat ready,” said U.S. Air Force Capt. Jeremy Phifer, 480th Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge from Denver. “This way, when they leave to go downrange, they’ll be well versed in doing things that they can’t practice at Spangdahlem.”

Red Flag not only provides the pilots with combat readiness training, but support elements such as maintenance and logistics personnel as well, said Phifer.

The 480th FS will also have the ability to strengthen bonds with their allies as they train alongside other U.S. Air Force units, U.S. Navy, and British, Netherlands, Singaporean, and Swedish forces.

“Anytime we go into any sort of conflict, it’s going to be with a joint or coalition force,” Phifer said. “Training with them at Red Flag helps us work out all the kinks in a controlled environment versus downrange.”

“Working with different nations is good for our training because when we go down range we’re not just going to work with British forces; we’re going to work with American forces a lot, so this training should be good fun,” added British Army Sgt. Lee Neale, 20th Armored Brigade.

Read more and view more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123331726>.



Members of the 480th Fighter Squadron board an aircraft departing for Red Flag 13-2 Jan. 4, 2013. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Natasha Stannard/Released)



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

Senior Airman Jazelle M. Wise, 52nd Security Forces Squadron alarm monitor, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of Jan. 10-16. Read more at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123331997>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)



Firefighters train for emergency egress

A 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter cuts into an aircraft canopy while his teammate stabilizes the canopy, Jan. 7, 2013. Firefighters train emergency egress tactics several times a year. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)



An Airman from the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron starts a circular saw during emergency egress training outside the Spangdahlem fire station, Jan. 7, 2013. This type of training offers firefighters hands-on experience in cutting through aircraft canopies during emergency egress and pilot rescue situations.

Karsten Kurtze, second from left, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron crew chief from Speicher, Germany, teaches fellow firefighters how to use a circular saw during emergency egress training outside the Spangdahlem fire station, Jan. 7, 2013. Part of emergency egress training involves learning how to safely use equipment.



More than 15 firefighters participated in emergency egress training at the Spangdahlem fire station Jan. 7, 2013, to ensure constant emergency response readiness in support of the 52nd Fighter Wing mission.

Christmas ends in Germany with visit by Star Singers

Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

Elifel residents should expect a visit from the Three Magi, or Star Singers, in the beginning of January.

The Christmas season in Germany always ends with the visit and feast of the Three Magi, or "Heilige Drei Koenige" as the Germans call them. The event commemorates the journey of the Three Magi, who brought gifts to the infant Jesus in Bethlehem.

In the 9th century, the legend of the Three Magi became the legend of the Oriental kings, named Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar. In 1164 relics alleged to be derived from the Magi, which had been kept in Milan for centuries, were brought to

Cologne. The golden shrine of the Three Kings, Dreikoenigsschrein has to this day remained the greatest treasure of Cologne's Dom cathedral.

The relics, sought out by countless pilgrims during the Middle Ages, motivated the citizens of Cologne to build their great Dom cathedral.

The custom of celebrating "Three Kings Day" spread from Cologne to other Roman-Catholic areas of Germany.

For the church, Jan. 6 is actually the feast of "Epiphany," celebrating the manifestation of the salvation of mankind. For the Catholic



The Christmas season in Germany traditionally ends with a visit by the Three Magi the beginning of January. Groups of adults or children walk house-to-house in the area, dressed as the Three Magi or three Holy Kings. They carry a star-shaped lantern on a stick. Because they carry the star and sing a song or say a religious poem at people's doors they are also called the star singers. It is encouraged to give the star singers gifts such as eggs, bread, cake or small money donations, which go to humanitarian aid funds. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo/Released)

population, however, the feast is called the feast of the Three Kings.

Read more at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123331742>.



CLOSE GAME ENDS WITH 52ND CS VICTORY

Laron Mayfield, 52nd Communications Squadron, goes for a layup during a basketball game against the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center Jan. 8, 2013. The 52nd CS led the first half 19-16. View more at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123331863>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)

What's happening?

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Local dance performance

The Oberkail Dance Group, in conjunction with dance students from the Bitburg Beda House, will perform dances under the program "Legends meet New Pop." About 160 dancers will feature a trip through three centuries of music. The Oberkail Dance Group will also introduce their new project "Gothica." Performances are 7 p.m., Jan. 12 and 5 p.m., Jan. 13 at the Oberkail Gemeindehaus community hall. Oberkail is located right outside the gate of Spangdahlem AB.

Over-30 party

An over-30 party takes place 9 p.m., Jan. 12 at the Bitburg city hall, located on Roemermauer 4, 54634 Bitburg. For more information, call 06561-9492810 or email info@bitburger-stadthalle.net.

Irish dance group performance

The Irish dance group, Rhythm of the Dance, will perform a show at 8 p.m., Jan. 19 at the Trier Europahalle hall, located on Kaiserstrasse 29, 54290 Trier. Ticket prices range between 39.95 and 49.95 Euro. Tickets are avail-

able now at <http://www.eventim.de/rhythm-of-the-dance-Tickets.html>.

The 12 Tenors

Reserve your tickets now to a concert by "The 12 Tenors" singers 8 p.m., March 8 at the Bitburg Stadthalle, or City hall, located on Roemermauer 4, 54634 Bitburg. Tickets are 35.95 Euro and can be obtained now at 0651-9790777 or via <http://www.ticket-regional.de>.

New York Gospel Stars in Trier

See the original New York Gospel Stars on tour 8 p.m., Feb. 1 at the Trier Saint Maximin church, located on Maximinstrasse, 54292 Trier. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are 24.90 Euro and can be obtained now at 0234-9471940 or at <http://www.LB-EVENTS.de>.

Art show

An art exhibition with the theme "People Meeting" is now through May 31, 2013, at the area administration's city hall in Manderscheid. Most art is done in either oil or acrylic color.

Barista training

Barista training takes place 6 p.m., Jan. 11 at the coffee mill. For more information call DSN 452-6711 or 06565-61-6711.

School Advisory Board meeting

A School Advisory Board meeting takes place 4 p.m., Jan. 15 in the Spangdahlem Conference Room behind Kuhl Beans. For more information, call DSN 452-5015 or 06565-61-5015.

No-tap tournament

A no-tap bowling tournament takes place 5 p.m., Jan. 16 at the Eifel Lanes Bowling Center. Cost is \$25 per bowler and club members receive a \$5 discount. This event is for people 18 and older. For more information, call DSN 452-2695 or 06565-61-2695.

Free Breakfast

Club Eifel members can enjoy free breakfasts 6:30-8:30 a.m., Jan. 17 and Feb. 7 at Club Eifel. For more information, call DSN 452-4633 or 06565-61-4633.

Free bowling

Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day by bowling for free at Eifel Lanes Bowling Center Jan. 21. For more information, call DSN 452-2695 or 06565-61-2695.

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