

SABER E-HERALD

SPANGDAHLEH AB

NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

AUG. 9, 2013

Click titles below to view stories

Gorenc assumes
command of USAFE,
AFAFRICA, Allied
Air Command

Back to school:
basics that parents
should know about

Airmen to register
to save lives



12TH ANNUAL MOTOR WEEKEND

A Chevrolet 3100 is displayed in the 12th annual Motor Weekend contest, Aug. 04, 2013. Compared to previous years, the annual Motor Weekend has grown in popularity and displayed more than 240 cars this year. View more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123358505>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Kyle Gese/Released)

Hagel announces reduction in civilian furlough days

Staff Reports American Forces Press Service

Hundreds of thousands of Defense Department civilian employees who have had to take a weekly unpaid day off from work since July 8 are getting some relief, as the total number of furlough days has been reduced from 11 to six, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced today.

Here is the complete text of the secretary's announcement:

When I announced my decision on May 14 to impose furloughs of up to 11 days on civilian employees to help close the budget gap caused by sequestration, I also said we would do everything possible to find the money to reduce furlough days for our people. With the end of the fiscal year next month, managers across the DoD are making final decisions necessary to ensure we make the \$37 billion spending cuts mandated by sequestration, while also doing everything possible to limit damage to military readiness and our workforce. We are joined in this regard by managers in non-defense agencies who are also working to accommodate sequestration cuts

while minimizing mission damage. As part of that effort at the Department of Defense, I am announcing today that, thanks to the DoD's efforts to identify savings and help from Congress, we will reduce the total numbers of furlough days for DoD civilian employees from 11 to six.

When sequestration took effect on March 1, DoD faced shortfalls of more than \$30 billion in its budget for day-to-day operating costs because of sequestration and problems with wartime funding. At that point we faced the very real possibility of unpaid furloughs for civilian employees of up to 22 days.

As early as January, DoD leaders began making painful and far reaching changes to close this shortfall: civilian hiring freezes, layoffs of temporary workers, significant cuts in facilities maintenance, and more. We also sharply cut training and maintenance. The Air Force stopped flying in many squadrons, the Navy kept ships in port, and the Army cancelled training events. These actions have seriously reduced military readiness.

By early May, even after ...

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123358801>.



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Justin R. Gordon, 52nd Operational Support Squadron survival evasion resistance escape operations and training acting NCO in charge, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of Aug. 8-14. Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123358813>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Ryan McClary, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal superintendent of EOD logistics from Eureka, Calif., lies on the ground after a combat fitness workout at the fitness assessment cell Aug. 8, 2013. Two Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters joined Airmen in the workout as part of a visit to Spangdahlem AB. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo/Released)

Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters visit Spangdahlem



Above: Airmen from Spangdahlem AB pose with Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters Michael Pierce and Edgar Mendez after a combat fitness workout at the fitness assessment cell Aug. 8, 2013. The visit will last until Aug. 10, where the fighters will join Airmen for a televised UFC fight viewing inside Club Eifel.

Left: Edgar Mendez, Ultimate Fighting Championship fighter, lifts weights during a combat fitness workout at the fitness assessment cell Aug. 8, 2013. Mendez later lead a ladies self defense clinic at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center as part of his visit to Spangdahlem AB. View more photos at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123359197>.

Play it safe around pools for a refreshing summer

**Staff Sgt.
Alexander Zlatkin
52nd Aerospace
Medicine Squadron**

With the unexpectedly hotter summer weather than in recent years, swimming and water-based activities are refreshing treats for children.

Although swimming is an exciting relief from summer heat, the danger of drowning is real and even the most well planned pool party can turn tragic if basic water safety is neglected.

According to the American Red Cross, drowning is the second most common cause of death from injuries among children younger than 14. Drowning can happen rapidly — sometimes in less than



two minutes after a child's mouth goes under water. That leaves very little time for someone to help. That's why it's imperative for you and your children to be familiar with safety around water.

Public outside swimming pools are the most common summer water venues for children. As a rule of thumb, always be present when your

children are in the pool — never assume your child knows how to handle themselves in water and allow him or her to go into the pool unattended. Lifeguards are trained to provide a watchful eye and handle a variety of water emergencies. Additionally, a slip or a fall can be dangerous. Tell your children to never run in the pool area and

teach them to walk slowly at all times. In inclement weather, particularly high winds or lightning, have everyone exit the pool immediately and take shelter.

Body temperature drops more quickly in water than on land, so cold water can shock a child's body, making their blood pressure and heart rate go up. Cold water can also

slow your child's muscles, making it difficult for them to swim. Make sure to test the pool's water temperature before allowing your child to jump in. Recommended temperatures vary depending on the swimmer's water activity, age and whether or not they are pregnant. A temperature below 70 degrees Fahrenheit is too cold for most swimmers. In general, 82-86 degrees is comfortable for school age children participating in recreational swimming. Younger children, such as infants and toddlers, are more comfortable when the water is on the warmer side ...

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123359003>.

Power of Family

Top AF leaders demonstrate their commitment to care

**2nd Lt. Katrina Cheesman
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs**

Despite their distinguished status as the wives of Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Mark A. Welsh III and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody, Betty Welsh and Athena Cody casually fit in the circle of chatting coffee-drinking ladies like they've been here their entire lives. Maybe it was their smiles, or their easy manner or perhaps their commitment to honoring the service, strength and sacrifices of military families.

"General Welsh is scared to death of what will happen when we have a girl," Welsh, grandmother of three boys, said with a laugh, drawing chuckles from her audience. Welsh bounced four-month-old Hope, daughter of Capt. Jeremy Phifer, 480th Maintenance Squadron, and Valynnda Phifer, on her knee. Hope's big blue eyes took in her surroundings as Welsh and Cody listened to each woman's story with inviting smiles.

The eclectic group, mothers of rowdy children and caretakers of animal companions, active duty spouses and dependent wives, has one thing in common: their spouse is deployed, and they are left behind to hold down the fort...alone.

It's the little things that remind the spouses of their deployed loved ones... the empty chair at the table, the forgotten sock under the couch, the pacing dog that waits anxiously for his missing master.

"I found our dog sitting on my husband's computer chair; he's normally never there," Melissa Bigler, wife of Staff Sgt. Tyler Bigler, 606th Air Control Squadron, told the listening group. She looked down at the coffee cup in her hands before continuing.

"The dog is very protective of me. At the time when my husband is supposed to come home, he stands in front of the door, waiting... I just try to keep busy, you know?"

And they do. These spouses represent a small fraction of the spouses and families at Spangdahlem Air Base who keep supporting the mission,



Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody along with their spouses met with Airmen and military spouses during a brief familiarization tour Aug. 1, 2013. Their visit to Spangdahlem included base tour, lunch with Airmen and military spouses, as well as an Airmen's all call. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Kyle Gese/Released)

even when their military spouse is continents away. For this visit, Welsh and Cody's mission was simple: relay the Air Force's appreciation for the family, to the family. According to the duo, it isn't just the Air Force that supports the family; the family also supports the Air Force.

Welsh and Cody, who visited Spangdahlem alongside their husbands, are experts in this matter. They've spent a combined 64 years supporting their husbands, their families

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123358609>.

What's happening?

events in the Saber community

Karting at St. Vith

A trip to the track takes place Aug. 10. The cost is \$20 per person and includes 35 minutes on the karts, laser tag, sumo wrestling or fun-boxing, one game of bowling, 7Di Cinema, rodeo and two soft drinks. For more information, call DSN 452-7170 or 06565-61-7170.

Dorm Wars

The battle of the dorms begins Aug. 17. The event is free and participants can engage in games of strength, speed and skill in the battle to the top. Winners will be rewarded prizes, glory, and legendary status. The final event closes out with the annual Block Party. More details to come.

Basic Car Care Maintenance Course

A basic car care maintenance course takes place Aug. 24. The cost is \$20 per person and includes instruction from a trained mechanic, oil and a filter. The class requires a minimum participation of four people. For more information, call DSN 452-6842 or 06565-61-6842.

Winter Bowling League

Sign-ups for the winter bowling league have begun. The season starts at the end of August and includes No Tap Monday for 18 and older, Tuesday scratch league, Wednesday Base Intramural, and Saturday Youth Bowling. For more information, call DSN 452-2695 or 06565-61-2695.

Munitions Storage Area Closure

The 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight munitions storage area will be closed from Sept. 3-13 in order to conduct semi-annual 100 percent inventory. Any issues, turn-ins and courtesy storage pickups needed during the inventory time frame must be completed the week prior. For more information call munitions operations at DSN 452-6230.

Was ist Los

Street displays in Trier: Aug. 2-Oct. 18

Enjoy seeing the Trier-Luxembourg 2013 first Elephant Parade through Oct. 18 throughout the city of Trier. The event features a colorful outdoor public art exhibition showcasing unique elephant sculptures decorated by talented artists.

Flea market

Flea markets are scheduled to take place Aug. 10 at the Irrel festival grounds, at the Pruem Mehrzweck hall, at the Trier Moselauen fairgrounds and along the Zelting Mosel shore. Sales stands are typically open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A flea market also takes place Aug. 11 at the Pruem Mehrzweck Hall.

Local village festival near Bruch castle: Aug. 9-12

The community of Bruch will celebrate their annual "Kirmes" communi-

ty festival Aug. 9-12 with food and beverage booths to open at 5 p.m. Aug. 9- dance music provided by the "No Name" band during the evening Aug. 10- concerts by various local music associations will take place throughout the afternoon Aug. 11- enjoy food specialties, including the traditional Hungarian Schaschlik dish on all days of the festival; coffee and cake served at low cost in the afternoon Aug. 12 with live music by Joe Casel, featuring classic rock and modern tunes at 8 p.m.

Highlight festival with fireworks display: Aug. 10

The popular Koblenz "Rhine in flames" and "Rhine aflame on the Rhine river" festival takes place Aug. 10, featuring nine fireworks displays along the Mosel river in the towns of Koblenz, Spay, Braubach, Rhens and Lahnstein. More than 70 Rhine riverboats with over 30,000 people on board glide from the Boppard Hamm to the Deutsche Eck or German corner in Koblenz for the spectacle. German corner is where the Rhine and Mosel rivers join. The fireworks in Koblenz will start off around 11 p.m. from the castle Stolzenfels and the Koenigsbacher brewery. Multiple fireworks displays also take place from the Ehrenbreitstein fortress located across from the Deutsche Eck.

Mosel fireworks displays take place all summer in communities along the river.

[Click here to get to the new Spangdahlem Blog](#)

[Click here to submit content, subscribe to a weekly Saber E-Herald email and find out what your local Public Affairs office can do for you.](#)

[Click here
for more news](#)

[Click here
for movies](#)

[Click here
for more events](#)