



Schweinfurt Dispatch



Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

September 6, 2007

Warrior Transition Unit to help Soldiers

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

Wounded Warriors in Schweinfurt have a unit to call their own now that



Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker, Schweinfurt Health Clinic commander, addresses Wounded Warriors regarding the activation of the Warrior Transition Unit.

the Schweinfurt element of the Bavarian Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) has been activated.

In a town hall meeting last night, Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker, Schweinfurt Health Clinic Commander, introduced the unit's mission, features and leadership to the 36 Soldiers who currently are on-track to joining the unit.

"The WTU is a distinct and separate unit within the community... dedicated to paying specific attention to wounded warriors" and their needs, Duecker said.

Soldiers who have been identified as needing special medical care for more than 6 months, Soldiers awaiting a medical board, or Soldiers

who would have previously been put on a medical hold are all candidates for move to the WTU.

WTU cadre will wear MEDCOM patches, but the Soldiers transferred to the unit itself will wear their original unit patch.

"We're not going to take that away from you," said Staff Sgt. Salvatore Hrycych, WTU platoon sergeant.

Duecker concurred, pointing out that the unit's mission isn't about patches, it's about "getting you healthy" so that Soldiers can transition back into service or out into the civilian world.

The unit will have a provider assigned to assist with care, and will facilitate appointment scheduling and transportation.

"We already have two vehicles assigned

See **WARRIORS** page 6

Garrison chaplain glad to be back in community

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

"I was at the opening of Burger King with my son. That dates me a little," said Schweinfurt's new Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas Wesley.

This is not his first tour in Schweinfurt. He and his wife, daughter, and two sons were here from 1985 to 1988 serving in the chaplaincy. In his 27 years of active duty military service, Wesley has been stationed in Germany a total of four times.

"I've actually live outside of the U.S. more than I've lived inside the U.S.," he said after describing his youth growing up in the Panama Canal Zone where his father worked.

At his first duty station, Wesley ran into the organization called Youth With a Mission

(YWAM). Their active Christian program drew him in as a young Soldier. Wesley recalled a time when a leader of YWAM asked him if he knew Jesus. After Wesley's affirmative response, the leader asked then why he wasn't serving Jesus.

"It was a really strange encounter, but it got me to thinking," said Wesley, as he explained how this experience jump-started his journey to becoming a chaplain. "I started reading the bible and praying... and next thing I knew, I started to experience God in my life."

And that experience was one in a series of life-changing encounters that has played a role in bringing him to the Schweinfurt community today as the new garrison chaplain of Ledward Chapel.

"The basic infrastructure is the same," he said, about

Schweinfurt military facilities, "but there have been a lot of improvements."

Wesley hopes to add to those improvements.

"My desire is to build a work environment and a chapel community where people want to come and have fun... I'm interested in the spiritual health and depth of people," he said.

Wesley aspires to get the Conn Chapel services started up again and also hopes to fill up the pews in Ledward Chapel each Sunday. And, like many, he looks forward to Soldiers returning from downrange.

"It breaks my heart to see wives walking around with their strollers all by themselves... [Enduring deployments] is a hard thing that we ask of families," he said.

Wesley also looks forward to a change in job description



Wesley

with this final "retirement tour." Interaction with people is what he's all about, and the last five years spent behind a computer doing administrative tasks was hardly that. But now, his tour in Schweinfurt will finally provide the opportunity to connect.

And as far as Schweinfurt goes, Wesley said it's great to be back one last time.



News Briefs

Wuerzburg Health Clinic moving

Starting Sept. 10, Wuerzburg Health Clinic will be located in building 24 on Leighton Barracks, co-located with the dental clinic. Hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 350-2317/3854 or 0931-804-2317/3854.

Medieval fest

Come to the Medieval Festival Sept. 8-10 in downtown Schweinfurt at various sites along the historic old city wall. See camp life in the middle ages, knights and squires, jugglers and fire-breathers, and much more! Festival runs 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, and 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday. Free transportation and refreshment vouchers will be provided by the city of Schweinfurt for U.S. I.D. card holders on Sunday and Monday. Busses will leave every hour starting at 2 p.m. Sunday and 4 p.m. Monday from the Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz across from Askren Manor entrance gate. Last bus back to the Volksfestplatz is at 8 p.m. Minstrels, jugglers and musicians will perform in various areas around the wall throughout the festival. A knight's tournament will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the White Tower, followed by a children's fencing event. More jousting and fencing fun will follow at 4 p.m. at the Philosophengang, next to the lake. If you miss out Sunday, the

jousting and fencing fun will be repeated at the White Tower Monday at 4:30 p.m. or shop the medieval market all day Sunday and Monday.

Chapel picnic Sunday

Join the community parish picnic in cooperation with the Catholic, Protestant and Gospel Congregations Sept. 9 at Kessler Field in Yorktown Village from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Potluck event is open to I.D. card holders only. Parental supervision is required for children under 12 years of age. Volunteers needed for food, set-up, clean-up, and coordination of games. Please contact Jo Ann Bantillo at 354-6250, 09721-472-4748 or 016346-10515.

Grand opening

Conn Barracks announces the grand opening of Ramon's Grill in Finney Fitness Center tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. for free food sampling until 12:30 p.m. Regular business hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. Enjoy breakfast, lunch and daily specials. Delivery is available by calling 353-8707 or 09721-96-8707.

German market trip

Travel with the Schweinfurt Arts and Crafts Studio to local German markets. Sept. 9 visit Michelstadt Paper Market or Sept. 16 visit Lichtenfels Basket Market. Transportation space is limited so sign up in advance. Call 354-6903 or 09721-96-6903 for more information.

Free MWR trip

The USAG Schweinfurt MWR will host another Family Friendly trip, this time to Strasbourg, France, Sept. 8. Attendees must be U.S. ID card holders and must possess a tourist passport. The bus departs from the Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz and also from Wuerzburg. Call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305 to sign up.

Rising stars perform

The "Rising Star" competition (formerly "Military Idol") will kick off with its first show Friday in the Abrams Entertainment Center at 7 p.m. The competition will continue every Friday night through Oct. 12, when the Schweinfurt winner will be named. Audience participation is very important, so come cheer your Soldier, vote for your favorites, and maybe win some great door prizes, like "Rising Star" memorabilia or even an MP3 player. For more information, call 0162-296-2776.

SNAPS orientation

The Schweinfurt Newcomers' Awareness Program for Spouses (SNAPS) will hold its next orientation classes Sept. 10-14. SNAPS is a monthly 5-day relocation readiness program offered by Army Community Services. Learn what the military and German Schweinfurt communities have to offer. Tour local medical facilities, learn to ride the German busses, and take a train trip to Bamberg. Child care is available, free of charge, for the entire week for CYS registered children.

Schweinfurt Dispatch



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The Schweinfurt Dispatch weekly newsletter is an unofficial publication of the U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt, IMCOM-Europe and the U.S. Army authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1.

The newsletter is published and distributed weekly in an electronic format. The newsletter can be viewed on the U.S. Army Schweinfurt website at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil>.

This newsletter is a command information product that places emphasis on events and activities occurring throughout the Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia areas.

Information and photos included in this

newsletter are acquired from sources that highlight events, programs and activities in Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia.

Dates, times, locations, and the events themselves might change or be cancelled without prior notice.

To be added to the Schweinfurt Dispatch distribution list, please email: mail.sft.pao@eur.army.mil.

This address can also be used to submit community slides or information on upcoming events, or you can reach the USAG Schweinfurt public affairs office by calling 354-1600/6381 or (09721) 961600/966381.



- 7 SEPT --Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 8 SEPT --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Strasbourg, France, free transportation. Call for more info. or to sign up 350-6305. Tourist passport required.
--Parent's Day Out, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sign-ups begin August 27. Register in person at Central Registration in The Commons on Ledward Barracks or the Leighton CDC.
- 8-10 SEPT --Medieval festival in downtown Schweinfurt next to the east historical city walls, Saturday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- 9 SEPT --Protestant Sunday School and Catholic CRE kick off, Ledward Chapel.
--Chapel community welcome picnic 2-6 p.m. at Kessler Field.
--Michelstadt Paper Market trip with Arts and Crafts Center. Call for more info. 354-6903.
- 13 SEPT --ACS Lunch Bunch, Schwimm Club, Italian restaurant, meet at Ledward ACS, 11 a.m.
--"Reunion and Children" reunion briefing, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933.
- 14 SEPT --Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 15 SEPT --MWR Street Party on Askren Manor, noon to 8 p.m. featuring Donny Vox Band (variety rock) starting at 6 p.m.
--3rd annual Little Miss and Mister Schweinfurt Pageant at MWR Street Party. Applications available at Ledward Thrift Store for ages infant to 19 years old, plus a Ms. Division.
--MWR Family Friendly Trip to Europa Park, free transportation, entrance fee of 30 euro per adult & 26.50 euro per child. Call for more info. or to sign up 350-6305.
--Fall Aerobathon, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Finney Fitness Center, no cost, register day of event.
- 16 SEPT --Lichtenfels Basket Market trip with Arts and Crafts Center. Call for more info. 354-6903.
- 17 SEPT --"Spouse Battlemind Training" reunion briefing, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ledward ACS 354-6933.
- 18 SEPT --Civilian Fitness Program assessments, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Kessler Fitness Center. Call 354-6793.
- 19 SEPT --Civilian Fitness Program assessments, noon to 3 p.m., Kessler Fitness Center. Call 354-6793.
- 21 SEPT --Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 22 SEPT --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Oktoberfest, free transportation. Call to sign up 350-6305.
- 22-23 SEPT --Volksmarch at Machine Hall in Kutzberg starting at 2 p.m. Saturday & 7 a.m. Sunday.
- 26 SEPT --Kitchen Passport, German cooking, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ledward Library.
- 28 SEPT --B.O.S.S. Meet & Greet kick-off 5 p.m. at Finney Sports & Leisure Center/Ramon's Sports Bar. Call 354-6051 for more information.
--Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 29 SEPT --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Oktoberfest, free transportation. Call to sign up 350-6305.
- 3 OCT --German holiday: Unification Day, German concessionaires on post will be closed.
- 5 OCT --Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 12 OCT --Rising Star (formerly Military Idol) performance 7 p.m. at Abrams Entertainment Center.
- 19 OCT --B.O.S.S. Creepy 70s Party 5 p.m. at Finney Sports & Leisure Center.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



69th ADA golfers get into the swing

By Staff Sgt. John Queen
69th ADA Public Affairs Office

KITZINGEN, Germany – Friends and Soldiers of the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade enjoyed a day of fun in the sun August 30, as they took to the links at Golfclub Kitzingen for the unit’s annual golf tournament.

The event, which was played using a golf scramble outline, started with morning shotgun tee-off and took just over five hours for the 28 teams participating to complete.

“I think we had a much better turn out this year,” said Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Shay from the brigade’s Headquarters Battery. “More of the players had some experience with the game and knew what they were doing.”

Unlike tournaments played in previous years, the rules for this competition required every team to have at least one experienced golfer on it.

“We all shot to our skill-levels,” said Shay, whose team shot nine over par to come in with the middle of the pack.

Generally in a golf scramble, each team consists of four players, with the most experienced one being the team captain. Each player on the team tees-off and hits their own ball throughout the 18 holes on

the course. However, the shots to the flagstick are made from the best lie regardless of who hits it.

The event included several contest holes



1st Lt. Arthur Ball sends his ball on a one way flight down the fairway at Golfclub Kitzingen’s 17th Hole. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. John Queen, 69th ADA Public Affairs)

that had competitors vying for various BMW signature prizes. Pvt. Ashley Mathis won for sinking a distance putt from nearly twenty feet away and Sgt. 1st Class Alejandro Espitia and Sgt. Atoyia Holt took top spot for landing their ball closest to the pin. All three Soldiers are from Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 7th ADA.

The golfers enjoyed a moderately warm day with a steady breeze that added a degree of difficulty to the game for some of the less experienced players.

“It started off chilly but warmed up quite a bit by the end,” said Staff Sgt. William Jackson, one of Shay’s teammates. “It was probably one of the best days we’ve had for golf all year.”

Nearly 112 Soldiers from 5-7 ADA and the brigade’s headquarters took part in the event which ended with the team lead by 5-7 ADA’s top noncommissioned officer, Command Sgt. Major Ryan Jones taking home the first-place trophies with their combined ten under par.

Back in the clubhouse after the game, the players enjoyed lunch while they listened for their chance to win one of nearly 30 prizes being raffled off.

The brigade is planning to hold one more tournament here in Germany next summer before it relocates to Fort Hood, Texas.

PWOC begins weekly meetings

From left, Yolanda White, Xandria Henry, Bridget Nelson, and Theresa Smith get food from the lunch table at the kick-off program for Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) Sept. 5. More than 30 women attended the event to find out more about PWOC, learn about small group bible studies offered this fall, and hear a message about sharing the Christian faith to the community.

For more information about PWOC or its small group bible studies, contact Schweinfurt President Christina Gomer at lovineurope@hotmail.com or 0160-9835-4485. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)





Schweinfurt Medieval Festival

September 9 - 10

Downtown Schweinfurt
at the Historic City Wall

**Free transportation
and refreshments will be provided ****

Buses will leave from the
Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz
across Askren Manor entrance gate.

**** For U.S. ID Card Holders Only.**



Bus Schedule

	<i>From Volksfestplatz</i>	<i>From Downtown (Drop Off Point)</i>
Sunday, September 9	2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m.	3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 8 p.m.
Monday, September 10	4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m.	5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 8 p.m.

SFT health clinic adds pediatrician to staff

By Kimberly Gearhart

Maj. Vinaya Garde is the new kid on the block at the Schweinfurt Health Clinic, and she's here to help the kids on your block. Garde is a pediatrician.

Military families stationed overseas are familiar with the constantly changing faces of health care providers as reservists and civilian doctors rotate in and out to supplement active duty staff. Most often, these providers are general practitioners, able to see everyone from newborns to adults.

The addition of a pediatrician to the health clinic staff "for the foreseeable future" will greatly enhance the services available to Families in the community, said clinic commander Lt. Col. Daniel Duecker.

Garde, who began seeing patients at the

end of August, just sees an opportunity to help children.

"I love kids because they're honest. What you see is what you get," Garde said, which is why she loves being a pediatrician, although she admits that getting kids to cooperate with exams can be a challenge.

Garde, who joined the Army right out of high school, attended West Point, then medical school, and began practicing medicine in 1998. She has been practicing pediatric medicine for nearly 10 years. And although she will not be the only doctor attending to children in the community, Garde says that she is always available to help or consult when other doctors need a pediatrician's view.

"There is a balance you have to try to find between the number of people who want to be seen and the number of appointments available. ... It's important for parents to

feel their concerns have been addressed and that they haven't been rushed out the door in five minutes," said Garde.

Like any doctor, her patient's health and well-being are Garde's main concerns. The recent rise in childhood obesity seen in the U.S. and around the world is a "big issue, and obese children are at a higher risk of becoming obese adults," Garde said.

Garde notes that once children begin to become obese, the only option that doctors can offer is diet and exercise, since most obesity medication is not approved for children's use. So, prevention is key.

"If I could get one message out to parents, it would be to ensure that your child is out there and active and just being a child," she added. Sports activities, even simple games of tag on the playground, are critical to helping children maintain happy, healthy lives.



International licenses encouraged for travel

By Spc. Sean Finch
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office, Heidelberg

Upon arrival in Germany, Soldiers, Department of Defense civilian employees and Family members have much to do while getting settled in. One major item on that “to-do list” is getting a U.S. Army Europe driver’s license.

The USAREUR license entitles the bearer to drive within the confines of the country in which it was issued. Driving to other European hot spots such as Paris, Prague or Stockholm requires an international license.

For example, a USAREUR license obtained in Germany is a privilege granted through an agreement with the German government only, said Tom Lorenzini, of the USAREUR Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) in Heidelberg.

“That means that you must get an international driver’s license in order to legally drive outside the German borders,” he said.

Because other countries are not bound by the licensing agreements between the United States military and Germany, they will only recognize an international driving license issued in accordance with appropriate international agreements, continued

Lorenzini, a former military policeman who has worked in the USAREUR RMV for 17 years.

Lorenzini stressed that while having an international driver’s license is important, it is still contingent upon the validity of a USAREUR license.

“Because the international license is registered using your Army Europe license, if one gets suspended or revoked, so does the other,” he said.

Any driver who has his USAREUR license suspended or revoked receives written notification by mail and a copy of their suspension is sent to his or her chain of command. Additionally, all licenses based on the USAREUR license are suspended, too, said Lorenzini.

“If your license gets suspended, you will most definitely know it,” he said.

Currently, USAREUR personnel are encouraged to get an international license. However, they may soon be required to carry one when driving outside Germany, said Lorenzini.

For information on how to obtain an international driver’s license, the USAG Schweinfurt community can contact the driver’s licensing office at 353-8662 or 09721-96-8662.

USAREUR commander visits Sky Soldiers at JAF



Sgt. 1st Class Jacob Caldwell
173rd ABCT Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua T. Savusa, U.S. Army Europe command sergeant major, thanks Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Sept. 5 for their service at the Forward Operating Base Fenty dining facility. Savusa was visiting USAREUR Soldiers across Eastern Afghanistan while conducting battlefield circulation.

WARRIORS

Continued from page 1

to the WTU, courtesy of the garrison,” Duecker explained.

When Soldiers do not have appointments, they will be on duty. Duecker, with help from the garrison, is determined to find each member of the WTU “meaningful work” to do so that while they are healing, they do not lose the skills that make them good Soldiers.

Hyrcych was quick to point out that the WTU is “just like a regular unit” in that they will have formations, PT, and regular working schedules.

In addition to the health clinic facilities, ACS has set up a Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC) in building 242. The SFAC can be used as a place to relax, with a TV, sofas, and refreshments available, but more importantly, there will be a dedicated employee on hand to assist WTU Soldiers with whatever they need.

Gen. James Boozer stopped in as well and gave WTU Soldiers a mission.

“These programs get kicked-off thanks to good ideas from Soldiers and their spouses. If you’ve got a way to make this program better, you [must] let us know,” he said.