



Team offers expert answers to Families of extended Soldiers

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

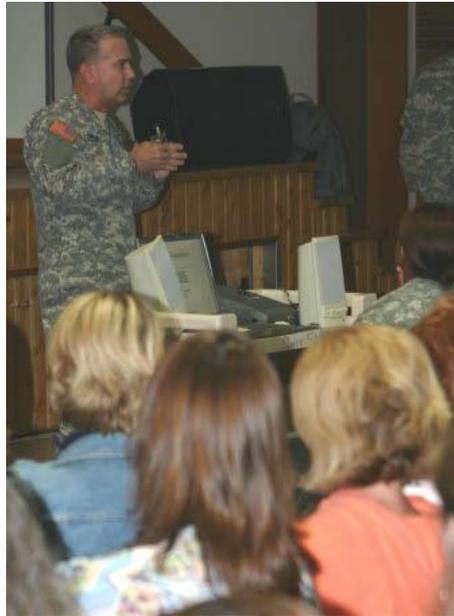
A nine person team of subject-matter experts from the Department of the Army visited Schweinfurt and Wuerzburg this week to offer assistance to the Soldiers, Families, the garrison and other agencies affected by the recent announcement that active duty Soldiers' deployments have been extended to up to 15 months.

The main body of the Dagger Brigade is expected back in Schweinfurt by the end of October, while the trail party will follow shortly thereafter, according to Lt. Col. Robert Whittle, Task Force Guardian commander.

"That's the news. You've all heard it, and that's why we're here," Whittle said at the outset of the USAG Schweinfurt commander's update forum, the first stop on the "Tiger Team" visit.

The team was on its fourth visit to assist the communities where Soldiers' deployments have been extended, according to Col. Dennis Dingle, the director of human resources policy at the Department of the Army G-1, who led the Tiger Team.

"In my daily job, where I deal with



Col. Dennis Dingle, director of human resources policy at the Department of the Army, addresses the audience at the Commander's action forum.

policy, I can't think of any greater reward than to come out here and put boots on the ground," said Dingle, a former commander of the 98th Area Support Group in Wuerz-

burg.

"We're here to fill in the gaps and take issues straight back to the Pentagon," he said of his team, which included colleagues from Human Resources Command, assignments and entitlements officers, and representatives from the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Army Medical Command, and the U.S. Army Family and MWR Command.

Dingle told the standing-room only crowd of roughly 300 that the team would be an extension of the affected units until the troops are back in Schweinfurt, available to assist them through their chains of command and community.

He then opened the floor to questions, which varied widely in their topics, from orders and returns of dependents to promotions and redeployment dates.

The first question was whether exceptions could be granted to the 90-day stabilization period upon the brigade re-deployment. The approval authority for enlisted Soldiers is the first lieutenant colonel, while the first colonel approves the exception for officers, Whittle said.

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Slots still open for Camp A.R.M.Y. challenge

There are still a few spaces available in this summer's Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge City Adventure for youth in grades 6-8 and the July 27-Aug. 1 Tall Ship Adventure. Applications for these sessions have been extended until May 25 or until all slots have been filled, Installation Management Command-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation officials announced Wednesday.

The weeklong program will

be held July 16-21 in Heidelberg and will include cultural awareness programs. City Adventure is one of four summer camp sessions being hosted this summer by IMCOM-Europe MWR which are designed specifically to meet the needs of teens and middle-school youth with one or both active-duty parents deployed.

Middle school students in grades 6-8 (during the 2006-2007 school year) whose ac-

tive-duty Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine parent deployed between June 1, 2006, and February 28, 2008, are eligible to apply. Students having just completed 8th grade are considered an 8th grader for camp attendance.

Complete information and the application form for Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge are available online at www.mwr-europe.com. Applications are accepted online only.



**It's
Teacher
Appreciation
Week**

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News Briefs

Ledward main exit closed

The Ledward Barracks main exit gate onto Niederwerrnerstrasse remains closed for renovation to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The construction is estimated to last until mid-August. To accommodate this closure, the east exit gate is now open 24-hours, and the west gate will serve as an entry and gate, also 24 hours. Thank you for your understanding.

School closure ceremony

Würzburg American Middle School will close its doors forever Friday, June 8. A closing ceremony will be held that afternoon at 1 p.m. All former personnel are invited to attend. The organizing committee is also looking for WAMS memorabilia and photos as well as any parting words or thoughts on WAMS. Anyone interested in attending should contact Nancy Muzatko by May 15.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage month. Come celebrate with the community at Schweinfurt Middle School tomorrow from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Students will perform traditional dances, an exhibition of Karate techniques, and Oriental food will be available to sample and enjoy. The entire community is invited to attend. Please call

09721-83688 354-6051 for more information.

USO trips

The Schweinfurt United Service Organizations office is sponsoring an express trip to Prague May 19. Cost is \$40 per person, and participants must bring a valid U.S. Passport. A longer trip to Normandy will depart May 25 and return May 28. Price is \$355 per person, and includes transportation and two overnight stays. For more information about either trip, contact the USO at 354-6711 or 09721-96-6711.

Parents' Night Out respite care

Sign-ups are ongoing for CYS' Parents' Night Out May 18 from 6:30 to 11 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to give yourself a break, take in a movie, or just relax at home. Children will be cared for at no cost to families. Open to children ages 6 weeks to 5th grade. Children must be registered with CYS and reservations in person must be made in advance. Call for more information 354-6517 or 09721-96-6414.

Mother's Day Brunch

A Mother's Day Brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Conn Club. Come honor the moms of our community at this MWR-sponsored event. Last week's edition publicized the incorrect date for this event. Call 354-6715 for reservations.

Nurturing a Successful Family

The USAG Schweinfurt Army Community Service Center will conduct a "7 Habits of Successful Army Families" class Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Conn Community Club. The class will focus on principals that can be used to build strong, loving Army families. For more information, call 354-6933.

Fishing Trip

Join MWR for fishing trips to Gersfeld and get some Rainbow or Brown Trout! Meet in the Finney parking lot April 29 at 8:30 a.m. Trip will return by 5 p.m. Cost is €3 for a one-day fishing permit plus €7 per kilo of fish caught. Rods are available for rent, and bait is available on-site.

AAFES Würzburg changes

The following changes to operating hours in Würzburg AAFES facilities will be made: Effective June 4, the Shoppette hours will begin opening 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., 7 days a week. The furniture store will move into PX. Effective June 5, AAFES Mega Mall will begin closing Tuesdays. Operations will run Wed through Sun. However, Charley's and Anthony's Pizza will continue to operate, on the same schedule currently used on Mondays. Finally, also effective June 5, the PX will close at 7 p.m., rather than 8 p.m. Wed-

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.



- 11 MAY --Asian Pacific Heritage Month celebration, 1:30-3 p.m., Schweinfurt Middle School gym.
--Mother's Day Tea, 3rd grade, Schweinfurt Elementary School.
--How to Avoid Marrying A Jerk seminar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Conn Club. Call 354-6135.
- 12 MAY --Flea Market in Volksfestplatz benefitting the Bavarian Red Cross, begins 7 a.m.
--Family Friendly Trip to Nürnberg Zoo, call 350-6305 for details.
- 13 MAY --Fishing trip with MWR to Gersfeld, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call for more info, 353-8476.
--Mother's Day Brunch, Conn Club, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., call 354-6715 or 09721-96-6715.
- 15 MAY --Staying Lovers Through Deployment class, 9 to 11:30 a.m., Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933/6751.
- 16 MAY --Savings & Investing class, 9 to 10 a.m., Ledward ACS. Call 354/6933/6751.
--7 Habits of Successful Army Families, two days 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Conn Club. Call 354-6933.
--Dan Crow & Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony at Schweinfurt Elementary, begins 4 p.m.
- 17 MAY --Spring Carnival, 5-7 p.m., Schweinfurt Elementary School.
- 18 MAY --Parents' Night Out respite care, 6:30 to 11 p.m. Sign-ups begin May 7. Call 354-6517/6414.
--Summer Hire application deadline.
- 19 MAY --SAS special Saturday opening, 9 a.m. to noon, "Asian-Pacific Heritage Month." Call 354-6974.
--Flea Market, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Schweinfurt Middle School. Call Diane Schmidt 354-6815.
--Prague Express, cost is \$50 per seat, passports required. Call USO 354-6711.
--Family Friendly Trip to Legoland, call 350-6305 for details.
- 22 MAY --Couples' Communication class, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Leighton ACS, call 350-7103
- 22-23 MAY --Environmental Awareness Days, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Conn Recycling Center.
- 23 MAY --ACAP Veteran's Affairs Briefing, 8 a.m. to noon, Ledward Theater. Call 354-6019.
- 24 MAY --ACS "Lunch Bunch" 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 354-6933/6751.
--Science Fair, Schweinfurt Elementary School, 3rd, 4th, 5th grades.
- 25 MAY --Local Youth of the Year ceremony, 6 to 8 p.m., Middle School Zone. Call 354-6308.
--Deadline for MLB Star Award application submission at Central Registration.
- 25-28 MAY --USO trip to Normandy/France. \$355 for two overnights with breakfast. Call 354-6711.
- 26 MAY --D-day Memorial 10k and family fun run, 9 a.m., Kessler Fitness Center. Call 354-6735.
- 28 MAY --Fishing trip with MWR to Gersfeld, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call for more info. 353-8476.
- 29-31 MAY --Army Family Team Building Level I, 9 a.m. to noon, Yellow Ribbon Room. 354-6933.
- 11 JUNE --Fall sports registration begins at Central Registration. Football, Soccer, Cheerleading.
- 22 JUNE --USO shopping trip to Boleslawiec in Poland. Departs 6 a.m., returns 7 p.m. \$45 per seat. Last day to sign up June 18. Passport required. Call 354-6711 or 09721-96-6711.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Deployed troops put their muscle on the line

**By Staff Sgt. Mary Rose
7th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment**

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Training and fitness are a big part of the U.S. Army’s way of life. Making sure Soldiers are able to complete 18-hour, and sometimes longer, missions while wearing up to 70 pounds of gear is essential to survival in Iraq. But some Soldiers currently deployed to Baghdad have taken these elements to the next level and stood as an example to their peers, of what hard work and dedication looks like.

Twenty-six bodybuilders, currently serving in Iraq, got the opportunity to show off the many hours they spend in the gym at the U.S. Forces-Iraq Bodybuilding Championships held here May 5.

The man behind the competition, 1st Sgt. Woody B. Carter,

57th Signal Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, has been an enthusiast and involved with natural bodybuilding most of his life.

“I just want to get out there and promote natural bodybuilding,” he said.

With several months left in Carter’s deployment to Baghdad, this isn’t the last bodybuilding competition for him to organize. Carter, a native of Pensacola, Fla., is now preparing for the next bodybuilding show, the Baghdad Classic, Bodybuilding and Fitness Competition, which is set for Sept. 22.

The competition was comprised to six events; women’s figure, women’s bodybuilders, men’s light weight, men’s middle weight, men’s light-heavy weight, and men’s heavy weight. There was also a professional bodybuilder membership card given to the top male



(Left to right) Sgt. Gordon Wesley, won the men’s heavy weight event; Sgt. George Figueroa won the light-heavy weight event; Department of Defense employee Marcon Haynes won the middle weight event; and Sgt. 1st Class Demetrial Houston won men’s light-weight event and the men’s overall competition.

contestant.

The first place winners won \$100 donated gift certificates from Hessen Tactical, lifting belts from PowerTec and all who participated received their perspective trophies, medals from World Natural Bodybuilding Federation (WNBFF), wrist

straps from Schiek Sports and ATP Pro Wrist Straps and Certificate’s of Achievement from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Sgt. 1st Class Demetrial

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On several of the issues, the Soldiers’ chains of command have case-by-case waiver authority, such as moving permanent change of station or expiration of term of service dates.

“As a general rule, we’ll push the dates 90 days to the right and then work the exceptions,” Dingle said. Rest and recuperation leave for Soldiers who deployed later than the brigade “center of gravity” was another example.

“That’s a chain of command decision. The decision makers on that are the chain of command downrange,” Whittle said.

One family member asked how the Army could break a contract with Soldiers with implementation of stop-loss and stop-move.

“I think that the bottom line is the Army’s operational requirements take precedence,” Dingle said, noting that the Army would like to reduce the frequency of such moves.

Another hot topic was the assignment incentive pay of \$1,000 per month beyond the first year.

“The time starts when their boots hit the ground in Kuwait,” said Lt. Col. Matthew Voithofer, compensation and entitlements officer at the Army G-1.

To view a flyer with some more detailed information related to the extended deployments, go to the Info Vault located at www.schweinfurt.army.mil



Scott Rouch

Eva Marie Mueller, left, shakes hands with Caisley Ladd after spending an hour at Wuerzburg American Middle School May 4. Mueller, who grew up during World War II, passed on her recollections of the war during a visit to Wuerzburg American Middle School May 4. Translated by her daughter, Christa Teel, she regaled the students with stories and observations, including that of a face-to-face meeting with Adolf Hitler, and fielded questions during her hour at the school.



DPW wants to close the door on energy waste

By Mark Heeter

A picture is worth 1,000 words to the USAG Schweinfurt Directorate of Public Works' environmental division. Or a lot of money.

As part of its fight against global warming and inefficient energy usage, members of the division's pollution prevention program used thermographic imaging to conduct a study of 30 garrison buildings last November and February. The results will be published in an upcoming edition of the Army's "Environmental Update."

The USAG Schweinfurt was the first program in the U.S. Army Europe to conduct such a study, according to Rueckert. The researchers sampled motor pools, barracks, schools and housing areas to obtain an accurate sampling of garrison facilities, according to a draft of the article.

"With the thermal imaging, you find out the weaknesses in the building construction, where

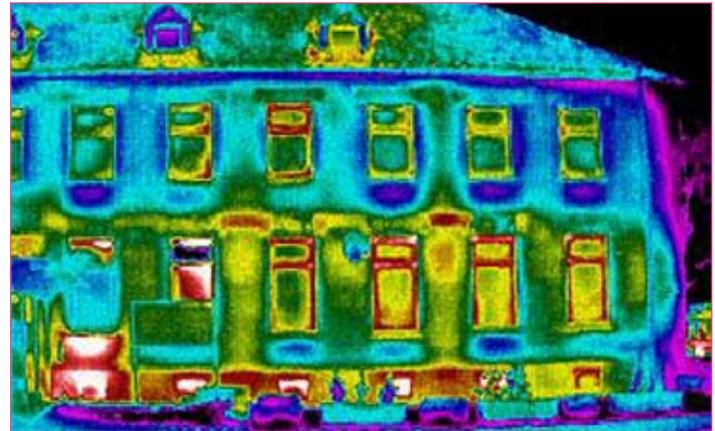
the heat losses are in the wintertime," said Lothar Rueckert, environmental division chief.

"The first thought was for energy conservation purposes. But we also found that with energy conservation, we reduce the greenhouse effect. We reduce the carbon dioxide emission," Rueckert said.

And they can find ways to save money. A room temperature reduction of one degree Celsius equals a six percent drop in energy consumption, Rueckert said.

Researchers used an infrared camera to photograph the buildings from the outside to examine heat loss, and also inside rooms to determine moisture and the potential for mold growth.

"When you take pictures inside, you can identify health problems, like mold that is not visible with the regular eye. You see all the wet spots and you see how good is the insulation on the heating system," Rueckert said.



Claus-Peter Weber

Unlike any picture you might have ever seen of building 212 on Ledward Barracks, the red areas in this thermographic image show the outflow of heat.

"It was part of the pollution prevention program last winter, and I think next winter we'll do more buildings, so it's always part of the pollution prevention program in Schweinfurt," said Kai Battenberg, program manager.

"We have bimonthly energy conservation meetings, and we discuss these results there as well, so we can say what the priorities are, based on these

pictures," Battenberg said.

"The more electricity you use, the more carbon dioxide you use. The more heat fuel you burn, the more carbon dioxide is generated. And if you have better insulation, you need less heat," Rueckert said, explaining the cycle of heating and cost increases.

In the summer months, keep the lights off and the heater off, when possible, Rueckert said.

Spanish club brings a taste of Hispanic culture to Schweinfurt

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

The Hispanic world came to Schweinfurt Elementary School (SES) Thursday, May 3, courtesy of the SES Spanish Club. Students put on an hour-long song and dance program showcasing the music, language, and fashions of the Spanish-speaking world.

"There has been a lot put into this program," said SES Principal Wilma Holt, praising the hard work and dedication shown by the Spanish club participants.

A New-World pyramid dominated the backdrop, surrounded by masks from around the Hispanic world.

"Many people don't realize that the history of the Hispanic world goes back so far. They were building pyramids around the same time as the ones in Egypt. It's a rich



From left to right, Aaliyah Decena, Joshua Diaz, Aolani Mayo and Alissa Nixon dance in traditional clothing.

history," said Jean Kenny, Spanish Club sponsor.

As a reminder of that history, the show opened with a darkened stage, and a masked student, dressed as a monster out

of Pre-Hispanic central American mythology, stalked around the stage to simple, primal percussion.

With such a serious opening, one might expect a purely educational event to follow, but the multi-cultural show featured everything from skits and poems to the "Itsy-Bitsy Spider" sung in Spanish. At one point, students belted out "La Bamba" in sailor's hats while the audience clapped in rhythm.

The spirit of the show bled into the audience, where even some onlookers dressed up, representing the cultural heritage of places like Costa Rica and Mexico.

Club parents and supporters supplied a buffet of Spanish-influenced food for the audience to sample as well.

"The children have worked so hard, and it really shows," Kinney said during the event.



Students take time to applaud their teachers

Story and photos by Sandra Wilson

"I appreciate everything that my teachers do, because if it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be getting the grades that I'm getting today. And I wouldn't be learning hard equations and stuff," said eighth-grader Xavier Hancock.

Teaching can a thankless job to those who choose it as a profession. Though the sharing of positive comments and thanks from parents and students is always encouraged, Teacher Appreciation Week gives a special reminder to those who benefit from all the hard work of teachers.

Students at Schweinfurt Middle School were given the opportunity to share their gratitude this week and to try to understand what it would be like to be a teacher. When asked what they thought would be the hardest thing about being a teacher, the students tried to picture themselves in teacher shoes.

"Dealing with all the kids, because many kids don't care, or they don't understand and they don't want to understand.

And then there are some kids who space

out," said seventh-grader Alex Curry as she described what difficulties teachers are presented with in the classroom.

Eighth-grader Megan Norris described what she thought would be a challenge for teachers.

"Trying to keep up with the assignments they give to the students, keeping track of the papers, (and) making sure that everyone's in the class," she said.

Sixth-grader Rafael Dealmeida described the qualities of a good teacher: being nice, happy with the class, explains and enjoys the subject, and doesn't give too many detentions.

Kiersten Cade sixth-grader said teachers need to have "patience and tolerance to work with kids who may need special help."

Along with the long list of good qualities their teachers display, Hancock and sev-



Math teacher Donna Walker lends a helping hand to Nathan Shellhammer.

enth-grader Ryle Francisco described how their teachers help them want to learn.

"They make class work interesting, like stuff that you wouldn't find interesting. They find a way, I don't know how they do it, but it just clicks and you enjoy it," Hancock said.

"Thank you for this wonderful year, you're very good at teaching, and you make me look forward to coming to school," Curry said.

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Houston, a 38-year-old Dallas native, who won the men's light-weight event and is with the 1st Cavalry Division, won the overall competition and earned his professional natural bodybuilding membership card, which will be issued by the International Natural Bodybuilding and Fitness Federation.

"It's a life style," he said of bodybuilding. Houston competed and won his first competition 10 years ago in Seoul, Korea, and has been involved with natural bodybuilding ever since.

Being involved with the sport of bodybuilding also helps him train his Soldiers.

"It's a good sport," said Houston who is also a Tae Bo instructor. "Physical fitness is a major part in the Army's obligation right now."

Both Houston and Carter are eager to train those who want to participate in the upcoming event in September.

Houston decided to help others achieve their goals instead of competing in the next competition and explained how difficult it is to train "mentally and physically" here in Baghdad.

"It makes me feel great to be able to help Soldiers attain a goal and teach them the proper, natural way to meet their goals," Carter said.

Though Carter arranged the event, he received a generous amount of support from many outside organizations to make the competition run.



Courtesy photo

Bantam cheerleaders from Wuerzburg captured second place in a recent competition held in Ansbach. The young squad captured the eyes of competition judges, the Frankfurt Galaxy cheerleaders, who posed with the squad after handing out awards.

Squad members are: (front row, from left) Courtney Janotti, Kayla Couturier, Morgan Swafford, Taylor Knowles and Heather Marshall. Second row: Candice Garnica, Caisley Ladd, Megan Couturier, McKenzie Carle, Elizabeth Davis, Kelly Marshall and Lexi Castleman. Standing at right is Hyoa Sharrock, the team's volunteer coach.