



## Auto skills center wins award



Jose Vazquez mixes water with antifreeze in his car at the award-winning auto skills center Tuesday.

*Story and photo by Mark Heeter*

The USAG Schweinfurt Auto Skills Center was named the best of its kind for medium-sized garrisons at the National Recreation & Parks Association (NRPA) conference in Indianapolis Sept. 24. The Army recreation awards program is part of the NRPA awards.

"The awards recognize garrisons and individuals that develop and deliver customer-focused programs that address the needs and the interests of the Army," according to a release by the Installation Management Command announcing the awards.

The five-person team at the skills center comprises specialists whose efforts blend together for the winning combination, said Tom Woditsch, the facility manager. "I cross-train the employees so they can do everything," Woditsch said of his basic management philosophy.

"Everybody helps each other out," he said, to include the customers.

"I think it's our customers," said Tim

Gittelsohn, assistant manager, when asked what makes the Schweinfurt center the best in the Army. "We're only here because of them."

Another significant improvement to the auto skills center was its merger with the strip lot, according to Woditsch. And a new recycling program has significantly increased the profit, he added.

"Every inspection we've had, we've passed with flying colors," Woditsch said.

The business recreation division and garrison have been extremely accommodating when Woditsch has made requests in his effort to improve the center, he said.

"We've got the best backing. This is the first place I've ever been where I've gotten everything I've asked for," he said, referring to the overhauled equipment and facility.

And the customers keep coming back.

"This is the best customer-based shop there's ever been," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Robert Gaskins, after being greeted by the crew on a visit to the center Tuesday.

## Fire prevention week: practice your escape plan

*Story and photos by Mark Heeter*

From water tanks to foam tanks, and from generators to a fridge full of bottled water, and from bells to whistles, this truck has it all.

The USAG Schweinfurt Fire Department is heading up the local celebration of national fire prevention week, the motto for which this year is "Practice Your Escape Plan."

The first step to that practice is to get out quickly, said Ralph Metz, fire inspector with the USAG Schweinfurt Fire Department.

"People need to be alert that, when the fire alarm goes off, they need to get out immediately," Metz said, following a visit to the firehouse by 27 kindergartners from the Schweinfurt Elementary School.

In addition to hosting schoolchildren throughout the week for tours of the station, the fire department conducted a joint exercise at the elementary school with host nation firefighters, conducted fire drills, and provided fire extinguisher training.



Frank Drexler, fire inspector with the USAG Schweinfurt fire department, explains the finer points of the main fire truck to kindergarten students Tuesday.

**PREVENT, see page 4**



## News Briefs

### Hispanics celebrate heritage

Join the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration on Sunday at the Ledward Chapel from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The service will be conducted by Sergio Ortiz with gospel singer Jorge Martinez. There will also be praise dancing, singing, and Hispanic food-tasting. Come out and enjoy the festivities sponsored by the Schweinfurt Chapel and the Equal Opportunity Office.

### Wuerzburg book fair

Come to Wuerzburg Elementary/Middle School for the Fall Scholastic Book Fair next week. Everyone is invited to attend Mon, Tue, and Wed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thu and Fri from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 will be Family Night from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

### “Last Respects” performs this weekend

Come watch the USAG Schweinfurt Community Theater production “Last Respects” by Colin Calvert at the Abrams Entertainment Center Friday or Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Adults are \$7 and students are \$5. Children under 10 years old are not recommended to attend. Doors open at 7 p.m. For more information or for tickets, contact [garland.travis@us.army.mil](mailto:garland.travis@us.army.mil) or 0162-296-2776.

### B.O.S.S. hosts event

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (B.O.S.S.) is hosting an “I Can Do It” Success Series event. Come to the Conn Auto Skills Center, building 49, Oct. 17 at 1 p.m. for welding instruction. For more information, call 354-6270 or 09721-966270.

### Health fair for civilians

Travel to the nearest health fair to visit health carriers and learn more information about civilian health benefits for U.S. employees. Fairs run from Oct. 22 to 29 in Wiesbaden, Stuttgart, Kaiserslautern, and Ramstein. For more information, call Schweinfurt’s Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at 354-1630/6450/6382 or 09721-85866.

### Gospel Musical time change

Come to the Fall Gospel Musical sponsored by the Gospel Service at Ledward Barracks Chapel on Saturday at 7 p.m. This is a change from the originally planned start time. Chaplain Thomas and the Gospel Service invite the entire community to join this spirit-filled event. Childcare will be provided during the event, and an evening of fellowship will follow at Rohr’s Diner. For more information, call 354-1570 or 09721-96-1570.

### Reunion tips offered

Army Community Services (ACS) offers the last reunion briefing for spouses “Happiness after the Homecoming” Friday from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Learn how to make reunion with your returning spouse smooth with tips and advice from the experts. For more information, call ACS at 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

### Memorial ceremony set

The memorial ceremony for PFC Christopher Pfeifer, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, will be held at the Ledward Chapel Tuesday at 10 a.m. The community is invited to attend.

### Landstuhl bus stop moved

Effective Monday, the Landstuhl bus stop will be located on Leighton Barracks at building 24, the Health & Dental Clinic. The move is necessary due to the fact that the clinic moved to Leighton. Departure times will remain as posted.

### Shop at PTSA flea market

The community is invited to attend the Schweinfurt Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) flea market at the school gym Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come snag a good deal.

## 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](mailto: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.



- 12 OCT --“Wee can do it” success series, scrapbooking, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Leighton CDC/SAS.
- “Happiness after the Homecoming” ACS reunion briefing 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ledward ACS.
- 17 OCT --“Take back the night” domestic violence walk, begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Commissary.
- 18 OCT --B.O.S.S. “This One’s for You” program, 3-7 p.m., Kessler Fitness Center. Call 354-6270.
- 19 OCT --B.O.S.S. Creepy 70s Party 5 p.m. at Finney Sports & Leisure Center.
- Harvesting Family Memories scrap-booking, 6 to 8 p.m., Yellow Ribbon Room. Call ACS for more information at 354-6933.
- Midnight Madness, 6 p.m. to midnight, Ledward Library. Call for more info., 354-1740.
- 19-21 OCT --Fishing license class, 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday at 4 p.m., Outdoor Rec. Call 353-8080.
- 20 OCT --MWR Family Friendly Trip Nachtmann Crystal Factory, free transportation. Call 350-6305.
- B.O.S.S. Salsa Fever concert, Finney Fitness Center, beginning at 5 p.m.
- Breast Cancer Awareness run/walk, Kessler Field, registration at 7:30 a.m., run/walk at 9 a.m.
- 22 OCT --Beginner’s German, Ledward ACS. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. M, W, F. Call 354-6933 to sign up.
- 23 OCT --Belly Dancing class, noon, Finney Fitness Center, part of ‘I can do it’ series. Call 354-6933.
- Pumpkin patch trip with ACS, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., meet at Leighton Yellow Ribbon Room.
- 24 OCT --Pumpkin patch trip with ACS, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., meet at Ledward ACS. For info call 354-6933.
- 26 OCT --Harvesting Family Memories scrap-booking, 6 to 8 p.m., Yellow Ribbon Room. Call ACS for more information at 354-6933.
- Parents’ Night Out, 6:30 to 11 p.m. Register in person at Central Registration.
- 27-28 OCT --Community women’s basketball tournament, Leighton Fitness Center. Deadline to register is Oct. 22. Call 353-8234 for more information.
- 31 OCT --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Frankenstein’s Castle in Darmstadt. Call 350-6305.
- Reformation Day, German Holiday, concessionaires closed.
- 1 NOV --All Saints Day, German Holiday, concessionaires closed.
- 2 NOV --Thankful to be a Military Family, ACS brief, 6 to 9 p.m., Yellow Ribbon Room. 354-6933.
- Teacher work day, no school for DoDDS students.
- 3 NOV --MWR Family Friendly Trip to the Black Forest, free transportation. Call to sign up 350-6305.
- 6 NOV --Rock Climbing class, 1 p.m., Outdoor Recreation, part of the ‘I can do it’ series. Call 354-6933.
- 8 NOV --Shop Safety class at Auto Skills Center, Conn Barracks, 1 p.m., 353-8224.
- 12 NOV --Unit level basketball registration deadline, open to military ID card holders. Call 353-8234.
- 15 NOV --B.O.S.S. “This One’s for You” program, 3-7 p.m., Finney Fitness Center. Call 354-6270.
- 17 NOV --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Wartburg Castle, free transportation. Call 350-6305 to sign up.
- ACS Nutcracker Tea for ages 3 to 12, Schweinfurt Abrams Center. Call 354-6933 to reserve.
- 20 NOV --ACS paintball class, 1 p.m., Conn paintball field. Call ACS for more information at 354-6933.

**Community 6 week outlook calendar**



# Come out Wednesday and 'take back the night'



By Mark Heeter

Domestic violence awareness and prevention month continues Wednesday with a candlelight march called "Take back the night." The event begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the commissary parking lot in Askren Manor housing area. In the event of inclement weather, the march will begin in the elementary school across the street.

"This is a reminder that taking care of each other is the success," said Kurt King, Family advocacy program manager. "This is a just individuals,"

**"...Taking care of each other is the linchpin of our success."**

Organizers hold the event in area because they would have impact, according

**Kurt King,**  
Family advocacy program manager

King, Family manager. community, not he said.

who noted that candles will be provided to marchers on the spot. Take back the night began in the late 1970s in Europe (Belgium, West Germany and England in 1976 and 1977) to call attention to and combat rape and violence against women. The first "Reclaim the night," as it was called then, in the United States was held in San Francisco in 1978.

decided to the housing that is where the largest to King,

"It took off from then, and it's a worldwide event now," King said.

The entire community is invited to participate in next week's event.

As part of domestic violence prevention and awareness month, a mobile display will be located at the Main Exchange on Leighton Barracks tomorrow and at the Ledward Main Exchange Oct. 19, King said.

## PREVENT

The week will culminate with an open house and equipment display for the entire community Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

According to Metz, the purpose of fire prevention week is to alert people to some simple lifesaving tips. "For example, what shocks me is that people don't know how quickly a fire can start," he said, citing kitchen fires as a main flash point.

"Do not leave the kitchen when cooking," he said.

During the tour, Metz offered the children a tip about one particular hazard—do not touch matches or lighters. "That's a real fire hazard and very dangerous," he said.

At the conclusion of their visit, the children all got to try their hand at firefighting, spraying a target on a model house with water.



Sheree McClain, 5, tries her hand at firefighting under the direction of USAG Schweinfurt firefighter Wolfgang Keller behind the fire station Tuesday during a Fire Prevention Week activity.



## Scrap-booking event attracts community youth



Sandra Wilson

Orya Lau, seventh-grader, scans the table full of stickers, paper, and stamps for ideas during the Youth & Teens Can Do It, too! ACS success series on scrap-booking Tuesday. This success series is geared toward 12- to 18-year-olds. Army Community Services (ACS) sponsors the events which will continue through the fall and winter. The next event, Nov. 2, will meet at Leighton Barracks' ACS to take local transportation downtown for shopping from 1 to 4 p.m. Call for more information, 350-7103 or 0931-889-7103.

## New events, president bring life to BOSS

By Kimberly Gearhart



Smogonovich

There's a new B.O.S.S. in town, and its got a new president as well.

Sgt. James Smogonovich (but you can call him Sgt. Smog) is a newcomer to Schweinfurt, a member of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery. He's also our new Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (B.O.S.S.) president.

"B.O.S.S. is a program for single Soldiers by the single Soldiers. They come up with things they would like to do, and MWR helps them carry those things out," said Silvia Joiner, MWR recreation specialist who has been assisting with the B.O.S.S. program since 1989.

Soldiers, however, don't really know what B.O.S.S. is all about, or at least, that's what Smogonovich has seen.

"I'd mention B.O.S.S. in the dining facility or the gym, and Soldiers would just look confused. I want to change that. I want to get that knowledge out there and get them involved," he said.

The local B.O.S.S. program has recently initiated an agenda of wider community involvement with joint MWR programs and reintegration initiatives. Smogonovich wants to continue that trend and expand it.

"This is a program designed to improve the quality of life for the single Soldiers, to provide a fun and viable alternative to excessive drinking. Getting them actively engaged in something positive is one of our goals."

One of Smogonovich's personal aims for the program is to get the single Soldiers to be more active in the military and local civilian communities. School programs and partnership initiatives like community clean-ups are just a couple of the ways that the B.O.S.S. program can contribute to the community as a whole.

"We, as single Soldiers, have put out a bad image over the years, especially on the economy. I want to take that away. I want them to know that we're here to help and defend them, too," Smogonovich said.

B.O.S.S. programs, such as the "This One's for You" reintegration project, often reach out to the whole community, rather than just single Soldiers, although those Soldiers are the priority.

"We're not a private organization. You don't have to be a part of a 'club' to participate. We'd like to incorporate the entire community," Smogonovich said.

Those with questions about B.O.S.S. or upcoming events can contact Smogonovich at 354-6270 or 0170-725-6464.

The next B.O.S.S. reintegration event, which is open to all Soldiers, will be held Oct. 18 beginning at 3 p.m. in the Kessler Gym.

## Volunteers of the quarter (July through Sept.)

### Active duty:

- Spc. Christopher Haggerty
- Spc. Tameka Edwards
- Pfc. Nancy Santos
- Pvt. Alma Borunda
- Pvt. Stephen Ziegenfuss
- Pfc. Stephanie Hernandez

### Civilian:

- Teresa Duncan - agency
- Samantha Richards - youth
- Kim Napier - Family member
- DeAndra Brand - individual unit

## September volunteers of the month

- Christine Ayers - agency
- Sarah Sanchez - youth
- Jane White - Family member
- Linda Lowry - civilian

- Lena Spalty - individual unit
- Sgt. Adriana Gonzalez - active duty