



Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

Feb. 15, 2007



2BCT welcomes heroes home

photos by Kimberly Gearhart

Task Force Guardian welcomed back several Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (2nd BCT), and a few non-2BCT Soldiers as well, Feb. 7 at the Conn Club in Schweinfurt.

Lt. Col. Robert Whittle said a few words welcoming the Soldiers back "on behalf of Col. J.B. Burton," and Chaplain (Col.) Mike Brown said a brief prayer in thanks for their safe return.



(Above) Provost Martial Capt. Lid Ryan, right, and daughter Brianna greet Maj. Sean Ryan upon his return from deployment to Iraq.



(Left) Family members, Soldiers, and leaders from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team wave and cheer to a small group of Soldiers returning home from their deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Centralized community information now available online

by Kimberly Gearhart

The USAG Schweinfurt is dedicated to keeping the community abreast of all the latest happenings. To that end, the Schweinfurt home page has a new resource that you, as a community member, may want to investigate.

The "Community Info Vault" is your one-stop-shop for information relating to community programs, event calendars, and even notes and minutes from community-centered meetings.

Did you miss the last Community Update Forum? Check out the Info Vault for a run-down of the information covered.

Wondering if it's ok to leave your 6th grader in charge of his brother while you run to the commissary? The commander's policy letters are posted in the Info Vault.

The Community Info Vault is one way you can stay informed about what's going on in your community. Check it out on the Schweinfurt home page www.schweinfurt.army.mil, just click on the Community Info Vault.



No change to Wuerzburg bulk trash pick-up schedule

Bulk trash pick up on Leighton Barracks will CONTINUE to run on Mondays and Fridays. There has not been a change in the bulk trash schedule.

This is a correction to information recently sent out in error through other venues.

For more information, call 351-4408 or 351-4444 during regular business hours.



News Briefs

Youth sports registration

The USAG Schweinfurt Child and Youth Services Sports registration for Spring soccer, baseball, and softball ends Friday, Feb. 16. The coed soccer season will run Feb. 22 through April 7, and cost is \$30. Baseball (for boys) and softball (for girls) seasons run Mar. 20 through June 3, cost is \$46. Registration takes place in the Commons with Central Registration in Schweinfurt, or at the Child Development Center on Leighton Barracks.

ACS February Lunch Bunch

This month's Lunch Bunch will meet at Landwehr Restaurant on Friedrich Ebert Strasse 28 Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m. Come try a local restaurant that is budget and family friendly. Get out of the house, meet new people, and get to know something about the surrounding dining and entertainment options in Schweinfurt. Please RSVP to ACS at 09721-96-6933.

Family Friendly Shopping

The USAG Schweinfurt Morale, Welfare and Recreation division offers another family-friendly trip Feb. 24. Take a ride to the Karlovy Vary, in the Czech Republic,

for a shopping trip featuring inexpensive crystal and crafts. Also enjoy a Vietnamese market. Passport is required. Call 350-6305 or 354-6715 for more information.

Memorial Ceremony

A memorial ceremony for Sgt. Corey Aultz and Sgt. Milton Gist, both of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, will be held on Thursday, Feb 22, at 10 a.m. at the Ledward Chapel. Immediately after the ceremony, an open reception will be held in the Ledward Chapel fellowship room

Fitness instructors needed

The USAG Schweinfurt Business and Recreation Division Sports & Fitness programs are in need of contracted instructors to teach Spinning, Pilates, Yoga, Kickboxing, Body Sculpting, Step Aerobics, and more. Call 09721-96-6264 for more information and requirements.

SAS special Saturday opening

The USAG Schweinfurt School Age Services (SAS) will be open this Saturday, Feb. 17, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost for care is \$3 per hour. This month's theme celebrates deployed family members, and children will write to their loved ones downrange. Reserve your slot in advance. Call 09721-82181.

AFAP forms still needed

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) is your chance to be heard, don't miss it. Pick up an issue form from the Army Community Service Center (ACSC) and tell us what you think could use improvement in our military community, and tell us how you think it should be improved. For more information, call 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Coffee, cake, & coupons

Leighton Army Community Services and the Leighton Commissary have partnered up to encourage shoppers to save money by using coupons. The commissary will open an hour early, at 9 a.m., Feb. 20 as part of a promotion to get the community excited about saving money. Come for shopping, savings, prizes, and more! Call 350-7103 or 0931-889-7103 for more information.

Women's Heart Health

The truth of the matter is that the leading cause of death among American Women is heart disease; and, while some women are genetically predisposed to the disease, others are at risk due to contributing factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/hearttruth/events/nwrld.htm> and learn more of the facts!

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 bi-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: Mark.Heeter@cmtymail.98asg.army.mil or elvira.gladwell@cmtymail.98asg.army.mil.

For more information about the Schweinfurt Dispatch, or to reach the USAG Schweinfurt public affairs office, call 354-1600/6381 or (09721) 961600/966381.



Community 6 week outlook calendar

- 16 FEB** --CYS regular parent's night out 6:30-11:30 p.m., Sign up at CER. Sign up begins Feb. 5.
-- Italy Ski Safari departs 5:30 a.m. on Friday, returns late night Monday, \$269
--Spring youth soccer, baseball, and softball registration ends, call 354-6822 to sign up.
- 17 FEB** --Flea market in Schweinfurt on Wirsingstrasse 13 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.
--School Age Services special Saturday opening 9 a.m. to noon. Celebrate deployed family members. \$3 per hour per child. Reserve slot in advance, call 354-6974.
- 18 FEB** --Daytona 500, watch NASCAR event at Leighton CAC. Call 350-6305 for info.
--Fasching's Dance at the TG Sportsclub in Schweinfurt 7:30 p.m.
- 19 FEB** --Flea market for children's clothes and toys at Kindergarten Christus Church in Schweinfurt from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 20 FEB** --Fasching's Parade in Schweinfurt starting at 1 p.m. Begins at Spitalbunker across the street from St. Joseph's Hospital.
- 22 FEB** --Black History Month Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dining Facility, Ledward Barracks.
- 24 FEB** --Czech Republic Shopping Trip. Passport required, call 354-6715 to sign up.
--Dodge ball tournament at Finney fitness center. Call 353-8234 to sign up. Coaches meeting at 9:30 a.m., games begin at 10 a.m.
- 27 FEB** --AFAP Conference begins, Conn Barracks, get in your issue form today. Contact the Army Community Service Center, 354-6933, for information
- 28 FEB** --Mardi Gras Party, Leighton Community Activities Center, call 350-6305 for info.
- 2 MAR** --Women's History Month Tea, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., theme "Voices from Within," Leighton Community Activities Center
- 3 MAR** --Winter Kid's Festival, Conn Barracks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 8 MAR** --Federal Resume 101. 11:30 a.m., Schweinfurt ACSC, Ledward Barracks.
- 9-11 MAR** --Leighton Spring Bazaar, Leighton Fitness Center
- 13 MAR** --"Putting Your Best Foot Forward," professional development class, Leighton ACSC.
- 14 MAR** --Winter Kid's Festival, Conn Barracks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 20 MAR** --Women's History Celebration Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Conn Club, Conn Barracks, Schweinfurt. Guest Speaker Carol Haager.
- 22 MAR** --Computer 101. Basic skills class. 11:30 a.m. Schweinfurt ACSC, Ledward Barracks.
- 23 MAR** --Black History month celebration, Schweinfurt Elementary School.
- 24 MAR** --USO Schopping express trip to Cheb. \$30 per seat. Call 354-6711 for more information.



PWOC helps local women bond, grow

First in a series

Story and photos by Sandra Wilson

Ladies, you don't have to go the deployment alone; the Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) is here to help.

"PWOC is an opportunity to get out and socialize with other women that are going through the exact same thing and at the same time build a relationship with Christ," said Christina Gomer, Schweinfurt PWOC programs director and treasurer.

Since 1955, when the idea of PWOC first began in Berchtesgaden, Germany, the organization has spread throughout the military with the goal to educate women about God's word and mentor them on their spiritual journey.

"Weekly [our goal] is to provide a very welcoming, safe place for women to come to, Christian or not, to be able to share their struggles and unwind and experience the love of God," said Amanda Clark, Schweinfurt PWOC president.

PWOC meets Wednesday mornings beginning at 9 a.m. at the Ledward Chapel.

The program begins with snacks and

socializing then moves into a time of singing and sharing prayer requests. Small group Bible study fills the remaining hour ending at 11:30 a.m.

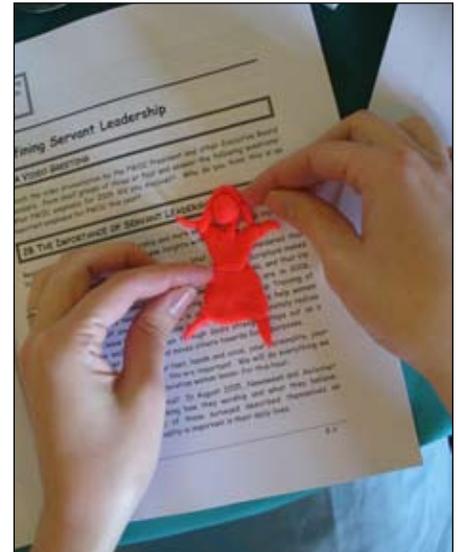
"It's helped me to grow spiritually [and] to focus on others more than I focus on myself...when you're with a bunch of other women that are going through the same thing, they help you to see it a different way," Gomer said.

Currently, three small groups gather for studies on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome to join at any time throughout the course of the studies this spring, and Clark is sure that all women in the community can find a comfortable place in PWOC.

Childcare is provided during the meetings so that women can study and socialize without worrying about what to do with their young ones.

"We've got a group of wonderful women with big hearts, great listening ears, full of compassion, who love to meet new people, and who love to come together and eat and talk and laugh," Gomer said.

PWOC is here to help women not just cope with their current situation but to thrive as strong, contributing members of



PWOC hopes to help women mold themselves into strong community members and show them that they aren't alone when their spouses are deployed.

society. And, in the end, they will have something to show for it.

"[I] pray that...when their husbands return...the women will have grown individually as well as in their community," Clark said.



Beth Walter, Laura Cross, Michelle Mitchell, Julie Brandt, Amanda Clark and Lourdes Vilwocck enjoy breakfast at PWOC's weekend travel-training workshop last fall in Würzburg.



Fat Tuesday last day of the season for feasting

Story by Sandra Wilson

Whether you call it Fat Tuesday, Carnivale, Mardi Gras, Pancake Day, Fasching, or Shrovetide, the St. Francis of Assisi Military Catholic Community in Schweinfurt has decided to join in by hosting a party on the eve of Ash Wednesday.

Fat Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 6 to 8 p.m., will be two hours of feasting and fun in the Schweinfurt Elementary School multipurpose room.

The Catholic community is invited to attend the extravaganza for one last opportunity of merrymaking and indulgence in food and drink before the 40-day season of Lent begins the next day.

“One of the reasons we’re doing Mardi Gras is [that] it’s a chance to have a party, and we don’t want to pass that up. [It’s] a reminder that Lent is upon us,” said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas Robert.

On Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras beads will be given away to all. Some of the games of the evening will include piñatas, limbo rock, chicken dance, electric slide, and a

parade.

Dinner is free, and it’s a fun evening for all.

“This is a night out, entertainment for the kids, you don’t have to cook, there’s plenty of fun and games for the family. It’s a chance to meet other parish members [and] celebrate the last party for 40 days,” Robert said.

A king cake will be served and whoever finds the plastic trinket inside will be crowned king and queen for the night. A prince and princess amongst the kids will also be secretly selected.

Lily Bagtas, coordinator of the event, explained the necessity of the event for morale boosting of the Catholic families.

“I think the community needs it, especially now with the deployment. It’s our way of showing our support,” she said.

Those attending are asked to bring their own camera to take photos of the special carnivale guests invited during the last hour of the program. Adorned in their full carnivale regalia, they will pose for pictures as a memento to send to family or loved



Susan Albamonte

Sara Maka, left, and Nancy Dauber, both Schweinfurt Middle School teachers, posed for pictures at Carnivale in Venice last year.

ones downrange.

“We just want to invite the whole Catholic community to attend the program. It’s basically meant to have fun, be merry and eat a lot of junk food,” Bagtas said.

Fasching (Costume) Balls

February 17

at the “Alter Kramerladen” in Gochsheim, at 8 p.m.
at the “Gemeindezentrum” in Niederwerrn, at 8 p.m.
at the Tennis Hall in Bergheinfeld at 8 p.m.

February 18

at the Tennis Hall in Bergheinfeld at 2 p.m.
at the TG Sportsclub in Schweinfurt at 7:30 p.m.

Fasching Parade

The Fasching Parade will take place in downtown Schweinfurt Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. at the “Spitalbunker”

Ash Wednesday Services

Leighton Catholic noon & 5:30 p.m.
Leighton Lutheran 7 p.m.
Schweinfurt, Ledward Chapel Catholic 6:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Schweinfurt, Ledward Chapel Protestant 11:30 a.m.

Tiger Cubs scout the media



Kimberly Gearhart

Local Tiger Cub Scouts learned that Superman is a reporter, and Spidey takes some mean photos as part of badge-earning effort to learn how the media gets out information to the public. The badge was the final one this troop needed to earn to graduate from Tigers into wolves. They learned about newspapers, radio, TV, and newsletters. Armed with notebooks and pens, the Cub Scouts will report on their experiences in their own Troop newsletter.