



## Wuerzburg NCO top medic in Europe

By Anne Torphy  
Bavarian MEDDAC PAO

Staff Sgt. Gabriel Noel I. Camacho, non-commissioned officer in charge of Education and Training, Bavarian Medical Command in Wuerzburg, conquered the Expert Field Medical Challenge (EFMC) to become the Top Medic in Europe for 2008.

The competition, held Nov. 4-6 in Grafenwoehr, is a 60-hour comprehensive competition which requires competitors to have earned the Expert Field Medical Badge or Combat Medical Badge prior to entry. Camacho possesses both.

Candidates took part in land navigation exercises, demonstrated their medical skills in a field setting, overcame an obstacle course and completed a 12-mile road march in full gear in under three hours. Candidates were also tested on communication and Warrior skill tasks.

"One of the great things about the competition was that it did challenge you both physically and technically. These are two aspects of being a combat medic that are crucial when fulfilling your duties while

deployed, so it does help you gauge your combat readiness," said Camacho.

Camacho earned the highest total points in the competition and will travel to Fort Sam Houston in the spring to represent U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) in the Army level EFMC. Camacho will not be the sole European representative in San Antonio, however.

"You're all winners ... I'm going to fund the top six of you to go back to Fort Sam Houston to compete for the title of Army's best medic," said Brig. Gen. David Rubenstein, USAREUR Command Surgeon and Commanding General, who was on hand to bestow the honors.

The announcement was met with

excitement.

"I sincerely hope I see all the same candidates from Europe compete down in San Antonio as well. We will definitely show the rest of the Army that there are warrior medics in Europe," Camacho said.



Staff Sgt. Gabriel Camacho slides down the inverted rope on the obstacle course in Grafenwoehr in February 2007 while competing for the Non-commissioned Officer of the Year for the Europe Regional Medical Command. He took on the same course in competing for USAREUR Top Medic in November. (Photo by Phil Tegtmeier)

## Preparation, caution keys to winter driving safety

By Kimberly Gearhart

Winter is here, in spirit if not by date, and that means it is time—or past time—to winterize your vehicle. Doing so can help you remain safely on the road and out of trouble.

First and foremost, make sure that you have either winter or all-weather tires on your car. German law requires that tires "suitable to the weather" be used at all times, and you can be fined for failing to comply.

In addition, you should check your tires frequently for proper inflation, but be careful

not to over-inflate them.

"You should maintain the manufacturer's suggested pressure. Tires that are too tightly filled do not connect properly with the road, and you get less traction," said Juergen Hoechemer, garrison safety specialist.

Along with having proper tires, drivers are also required to use a windshield washer fluid that contains anti-freeze. Headlights should be checked for proper alignment as part of the winterization routine, and wipers should be checked.

"The number one cause of

accidents is driving too fast for the conditions. Number two is following too closely," Hoechemer said. Driving too fast or too close to the car in front of you with inappropriate tires in wet and icy weather is a recipe for disaster.

Most people, however, do drive more carefully when the weather is overtly bad. When we can see rain or snow on the roads, we are more cautious. This is what makes "black ice" so dangerous.

"Black ice is very dangerous because it forms before people expect it, so they are

unprepared," Hoechemer said, adding that bridges and perpetually shaded areas such as those found along forested roads are particularly prone to developing unseen icy patches.

Properly preparing to drive is just as important as driving carefully. It is imperative that all snow and ice is removed from all windshields, windows, and mirrors prior to driving. The obstructed view caused by the ice adds to the risk of winter driving and can put you at fault in case of an accident.

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## News Briefs

### Phone directories

The Oct. 2007 edition of the garrison phone book, is now available on the USAG Schweinfurt website <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil>. Printed copies of the phone books will be at the Ledward Army Community Service (ACS) in the near future. In addition, Schweinfurt German phone books are available at the Ledward ACS and library.

### Deployment fun run

Participate in the "Worlds Apart, We Run Together" five kilometer fun run/walk and show support for deployed Soldiers while joining runners in Schweinfurt, Bamberg, Vicenza and Afghanistan at Kessler Fitness Center Saturday at 9 a.m.

### Thanksgiving dinners

Come to the Thanksgiving dinner in Leighton's Community Activities Center by reservation only on Nov. 22. Dinner runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is 12 euro or 7.50 euro for E-5 and below. Children are half price. To reserve a seat, call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305 by Monday.

The Ledward Consolidated Dining Facility will also host Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$6.05 for dependents of E-5 and above, \$5.15 for E-4 and below. The community is invited to attend.

### Wartburg castle trip

Join MWR for a free bus ride to Wartburg castle in Eisenach Saturday. Transportation is free. Bus departs Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz at 7:45 a.m. and Leighton Barracks building 5 at 7:00 a.m. Call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305.

### Drama at the chapel

Come enjoy a performance by the Covenant Players Theatrical Group at the Ledward Chapel Sunday starting at 6 p.m. The drama will be a variety of selected plays with content geared toward reintegration topics. For more information, call 354-1570 or 09721-96-1570.

### Chapel Prayer Breakfast

Come to the Community Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast at the Ledward Consolidated Dining Facility at 7 a.m. on Wednesday. Enjoy a breakfast free of charge sponsored by Schweinfurt's Chaplains Office.

### Leighton showcase

The Leighton community will have a transformation showcase in the old book and furniture store on Leighton Barracks Wuerzburg, Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come to enjoy a flea market, PCS/ETS information booths, food, and activities for the whole family. For more information, call 350-7151.

### Evaluate chapel services

Take the new religious education survey to improve the programming for the USAG Schweinfurt military community chapel. The survey can be found at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/sites/Chaplain/chaplain.asp> and then click on "Religious Education Survey."

### CPR class Saturday

The Schweinfurt American Red Cross (ARC) will be offering a standard first aid class with adult, infant and child CPR at the ARC office in building 206 on Ledward Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost of the class is \$45. To register, call 354-1760 or 09721-96-6251.

### Commissary open

In an effort to provide needed services to the community, the Schweinfurt Commissary will be open Monday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for all of your Thanksgiving holiday needs. It will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22, and will reopen at its normal time the next day.

### Turkey Bingo

Come out for Turkey Bingo at Wuerzburg Elementary/Middle School Friday starting at 6 p.m. Bingo cards are \$5 for a single pack and \$10 for a double pack. Children play free. The grand prize will be a turkey and a \$50 Commissary gift card.

## Schweinfurt Dispatch



**Commander** Lt. Col. Anthony Haager  
**Command Sgt Maj.** CSM Keith McMullen  
**Public Affairs Officer** George Ohl  
**Command Information Officer** Mark Heeter  
**Writer/Editors** Kimberly Gearhart  
Elvira Gladwell  
Sandra Wilson  
Roger Teel  
Miranda McLean

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.



- 16 NOV** --Thankful to be a Military Family ACS event, 6 to 9 p.m., Leighton CAC, 350-7103.  
 --Turkey Bingo, Wuerzburg Elementary/Middle School, 6 p.m., food available.  
 --“Suite Simon” Wuerzburg High School drama, high school cafetorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 17 NOV** --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Wartburg Castle, free transportation. Call 350-6305 to sign up.  
 --Wuerzburg Transition Showcase, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in front of Leighton Theater 350-6305.  
 --Worlds Apart Fun Run/Walk in support of 173rd Airborne Brigade, 9 a.m., Kessler Fitness.  
 --Nutcracker Tea for ages 3 to 12, Abrams Entertainment Center. Call ACS to sign up 354-6933.  
 --B.O.S.S. paintball, Outdoor Recreation Conn paintball field, 2-4 p.m.  
 --“Suite Simon” Wuerzburg High School drama, high school cafetorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 NOV** --ACS paintball class, 1 p.m., Conn paintball field. Call ACS for more information at 354-6933.
- 21 NOV** --Community Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast, Ledward DFAC, 7 a.m., open to all.
- 22 NOV** --Thanksgiving Dinner, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Leighton CAC. Call 350-6305 for reservations.  
 --Thanksgiving Dinner, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Ledward DFAC, bldg. 212, open to community.  
 --Schweinfurt Christmas Market opens, 10 a.m. Runs through Dec. 22. on the Marktplatz.
- 22-25 NOV** --Ski/Snowboarding trip to Austria with Outdoor Recreation. Call 353-8080 to register.
- 23-25 NOV** --International Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sun. Kessler Fitness.
- 25 NOV** --Nutcracker Suite children’s trip, 1 p.m., meet at Leighton ACS for transportation to Wuerzburg Nutcracker Suite matinee performance.
- 26-29 NOV** --Advanced Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access ACS computer classes, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. each day, open to community, Finney Gym Learning Center, 354-6933.
- 27 NOV** --Bulk Trash pick-up, Askren, Yorktown, and government-leased housing.  
 --Couples Communication class, Ledward ACS, 1 to 4 p.m. Call to sign up 354-6933.  
 --B.O.S.S. Create Your Own Stein class, Ledward Arts & Crafts Studio, 6-9 p.m. Call 354-6270.
- 30 NOV** --Wuerzburg Christmas Market opens 10 a.m. Runs through Dec. 23 on the Marktplatz.  
 --B.O.S.S Meet & Greet, Route 66 Party, begins at 5 p.m., Conn Keller Bar. 354-6270 for info.  
 --Kid Friendly Trip to Wuerzburg Christ Kindl Markt, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., meet at Leighton ACS.  
 --Teen girls retreat for ages 14-17 through Sunday, Schweinfurt Teen Center. Register by calling Sarah Small at 09729-90-7099.
- 1 DEC** --MWR Family Friendly Trip to Bad Wimpfen Christmas Market, free trans. Call 350-6305.  
 --Ivushka, Russian Christmas review, Stadt Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Call 09721-51475 for tickets. Second showing Dec. 2, 2:30 p.m., same location.
- 5 DEC** --Christmas concert with “Kreuzchor” of Dresden, Stadt Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Call 09721-51475.
- 7 DEC** --Leighton Barracks Christmas tree lighting, 4 p.m., Victory Garden.
- 13 DEC** --B.O.S.S. “This One’s for You” program, 3-7 p.m., Finney Fitness Center. Call 354-6270
- 16 DEC** --Ledward Barracks Christmas tree lighting, 4 p.m., Andrus Garden.

**Community 6 week outlook calendar**



## Dagger Soldiers come rolling along ... home

A packed Finney Fitness Center was the scene early this morning, when more than 300 Soldiers completed their nearly 15-month deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom and were greeted by a raucous group of families, friends and comrades. This morning's ceremony follows the return of several hundred Dagger Brigade Soldiers to Schweinfurt over the past few days. Lt. Col. Miciotto Johnson, Task Force 1-77 commander, led the group into the gymnasium, where a standing-room only crowd awaited them.

The remainder of the Dagger Brigade is expected to be fully returned to Schweinfurt over the next few weeks. (Photos by Mark Heeter)



## AAFES accelerates Wuerzburg eatery changes

By Roger Teel

An AAFES-operated All-American Eatery, which is to provide a greater menu variety, will begin serving customers in the Leighton PX food court Dec. 2.

The move to the AAFES-run eatery-- and the closure of Charley's-- was accelerated, officials said at the Leighton Community Forum Nov. 14, because local commanders and members of the AAFES advisory council said the expanded menu was a practical move. The eatery was originally slated to open in February.

Addressing 120 community members at the Leighton Community Activity Center, AAFES general manager Stan McGhee said decisions affecting local customers are

not made in a vacuum.

"The move from Charley's to the All-American Eatery earlier than planned was directed by command guidance. We continue to assess every situation in our facilities and make adjustments as needed. That being said, your feedback and comments are always encouraged," he said.

Justin Mitchell, deputy USAG Schweinfurt commander concurred.

"Col. Haager and I are in near-daily contact with the AAFES staff. There is not one decision being made that we're not aware of beforehand," he said.

The new eatery will open "without any loss of service," said Tom Gross, incoming AAFES general manager.

"We will close Charley's at the end of the day Dec. 1... and open the next morning as the All-American Eatery." The eatery's menu includes a full breakfast, lunch and dinner menus.

Hours of the eatery will be: Mon-Tue 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wed-Sun 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Anthony's Pizza, also an AAFES entity, will continue to serve customers. Hours are Mon-Tue 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wed-Sun 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

As the forum drew to a close, Mitchell encouraged those in attendance to continue bringing issues to the forums.

"We're here because you're here... We can only address an issue if we know about it," he said.



# Center offers something for all local youth

By Mark Heeter

For the aspiring cook who is looking for a few new recipe ideas, try the Schweinfurt youth center. One member of the international cooking class there has come up with a secret sauce that includes syrup and mustard.

“Every day there’s a little something different,” said Donna Hilley, teen director and facility manager at the youth center, currently home to the Middle School Zone and the teen center.

“We offer different activities every single day. Now kids do have the chance to hang out with their friends if they’d like to, but we offer quality programs,” Hilley said.

Whether scrapbooking, whipping up a snack or participating in the artists’ roundtable, USAG Schweinfurt youth have a place to go to be with friends and participate in any of a number of activities under the supervision of a diverse staff.

“We were very fortunate to find very talented people to work here at the center, and they’ve given of their time, their talent, really their love to these kids, with their commitment. We’re really very, very thankful,” Hilley said.

“And that allows us to support the kids

with whatever kinds of activities they’re really interested in here,” said Brian Eve, the homework lab instructor who runs the very popular Power Hour.

“We have Power Hour every day from 3 to 4 (p.m.), and that is basically time reserved for the kids to do their homework,” Eve said.

Another offering, a mentorship program called Passport to Manhood, includes classroom sessions, interviewing techniques, and physical training, said Samad AliNur, who oversees the Middle School Zone programs at the center.

“It’s a great time to be combined right now, and it’s beneficial to everyone,” AliNur said of the temporary combination of the teen center and Middle School Zone.

The two groups have at least one thing in common: service.

“The youth center, us combined



Jose Steinfield, Chris Oaks, and Lonnie Dixon work together composing music at the youth center. (Photo by Debra Gosinski)

together, is very active in our community. We provide a lot of community support,” Hilley said. The youth have donated gifts to an orphanage, visited senior citizens and a refugee center, and will be creating and hosting a Thanksgiving dinner at the center, located in building 241 on Ledward Barracks, Saturday at 6 p.m.

“Last year we had about 200 people, and this year, we expect at least that many-- a big crowd,” Hilley said.

## WINTER

In addition to the usual emergency equipment required by German law, motorists should also prepare an emergency kit to keep in their trunk. Such a kit should include blankets, jumper cables, a first aid kit, flashlight, and sand or gravel.

The key to safe winter driving is in being prepared and slowing down.

“Don’t put yourself in a time crunch,” said Eddie Sauer, garrison safety manager. It takes longer to prepare and longer to get where you are going, but speeding or not preparing properly can be deadly.

## Veteran’s Day remembrances

The Schweinfurt Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) made its annual Veteran’s Day trek through Schweinfurt and surrounding communities as far flung as Muennerstadt and Loeffelsterz to decorate the graves of fallen Soldiers from the current and past wars. The trip included a stop at the Dagger Memorial on Conn Barracks and the final resting place of Dale Carlson, where Scott Isom, right, placed a wreath. (Photo courtesy Schweinfurt VFW)





# Wuerzburg High School sponsors college fair

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

High-schoolers and their parents gathered at Wuerzburg High School Wednesday evening to peruse college admission material while community members stood by their tables to answer questions about the colleges they attended.

“It’s very important to further your education after high school no matter what path you take,” said Maribeth Clarke, Wuerzburg High School counselor.

For this reason, Wuerzburg High School sponsors a college fair each year to give students and parents an additional opportunity to see what’s out there. There is an abundance of information on the internet these days, said Clarke, so it’s essential to help students and parents weed through it all and narrow their search.

“I hope to get a better understanding of what these colleges have to offer... I’m looking for a place that I can stay at for the whole four years. I don’t want to bounce around from school to school,” said senior Anthony Miles.

While the research required to find financial aid and the perfect college may seem intimidating, the schools are here to help. With the school-provided login information, students can have access to a useful website to search for majors, careers, colleges and aid: <https://myroad.collegeboard.com>. Individual profiles can be made and preferences can be listed to narrow each search.

There were 32 colleges and universities represented at the college fair as well as Andrews Federal Credit Union and a Navy recruiter— all offering a personalized view of their institutions. Many students and parents gathered material from the tables to review at home and others talked with alumni to get the inside scoop on college life. One of the prevalent topics of the evening was about financing a college education.

“Tuition can sometimes be a big block. When you see this big figure you don’t automatically think financial aid, scholarships and



Sophomores Courtney Quick, left, and Victoria Richards take in information given by college alumni at Wuerzburg High School’s college fair last night.

grants— you just think that’s a lot of money to come up with for college,” said Nancy Reichert, college prep teacher.

In addition to the cost of college, being overseas can contribute to a fear of the unknown since many students are not able to visit colleges before applying. Another complication comes from not wanting to leave a parent home alone during a deployment.

Once the fears are addressed, and it comes down to the details of filling out lots of applications for admission and aid, Clarke and Reichert both encourage all to seek assistance whenever needed.

“The secret to getting ahead is getting started. And they can always have help getting started in the counseling office,” Clarke said.



## Goodbye gift bestowed

Sheik Omar Jabouri presented a ceremonial plate to Lt. Col. George Glaze, the commander of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, as a farewell gift to the Vanguard. The Vanguard are redeploying to Schweinfurt, Germany, after completing a 15-month tour in Baghdad. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Ben Washburn, 4th IBCT, 1st Inf. Div. Public Affairs)