



In memory of two Schweinfurt Soldiers

by Mark Heeter

Ledward Chapel was packed this morning with family, friends, community members and fellow Soldiers who came to pay their final respects to two Soldiers lost in Iraq.

Sgt. Milton A. Gist Jr., and Sgt. Corey J. Aultz, both assigned to headquarters and headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, were killed by improvised exploding devices Jan. 30.

"Both were funny, as well as serious Soldiers," recalled Sgt.

Christian G. Thomas, who was a close friend to both Soldiers and was Aultz's roommate while in Iraq.

"Sgt. Gist was one of my closest friends here in Germany," Thomas said of their shared experiences both within the unit and out on the town.

Thomas admitted that his friend Aultz converted him to coffee while in Iraq and always gave him a hard time about "stealing" his sugar.

"But he always made sure we had enough," Thomas noted with a smile.

Reading the remarks of the fallen Soldiers' commanders, Capt. Thomas McMurtrie, the Company D commander, said that Aultz always had three things with him when he was preparing to drive off on a mission.

"A cigarette, a coffee and a story about the unit from 5 or 6 years ago," he said, relaying the remarks of Maj. Jabari Miller,



Sgt. Corey J. Aultz

HHC commander.

Aultz, whose only duty station in more than 11 years of service was with the Steel Tigers, was well-integrated in the community of Munnerstadt. A busload of mourners from the town attended the memorial service to bid their friend farewell.

"I can only see his incredibly huge smile," said McMurtrie as he read the remarks of Lt. Col. Miciotto Johnson, Task Force Steel Tiger commander.

Gist, who served as a food specialist with the unit, volunteered upon deployment to serve on the battalion leadership's personal security detail.

"Whatever he did, he did it with style," Miller said, describing the delicacies on the food line in the dining facility where Gist worked.

"Everything before him looked like it came out of a big gourmet magazine," Miller said.

Remembering his two friends, Thomas said it would not be easy to go back to Iraq and not see them there.

"They were such fine NCOs," said Johnson.

Aultz is survived by his wife Nadine, daughter Selena, father Donald Degaugh, and sister Tamra Aultz.

Gist is survived by his wife Raheisha, daughter Jendayah, son Jakweli, and mother Angienette Morgan.



Sgt. Milton A. Gist Jr.

Appreciation Winter Fest planned for March 3

by Kimberly Gearhart

The USAG Schweinfurt Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) division will host a Winter Fest March 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Finney Fitness Center on Conn Barracks.

"It's a big community event. We'll have different activities from electrical bull riding to arts and crafts and activities for the children," said Silvia Joiner, recreation specialist with the USAG Schweinfurt

MWR program.

The eclectic event is all part of an effort to show local families and Soldiers how much the sacrifices they make are appreciated, and is unique to the Schweinfurt military community.

Free food, magicians, games, and an obstacle course are all just part of the fun planned inside the fitness center. Outdoors the climbing wall and paintball activities will be open as well.

The Winter Fest was made possible in

part by sponsorship from the Schweinfurt Spouses' Club, Culligan water, and Gil Sanborn, a private citizen from the U.S.

"A major contributor for the event was Mr. Sanborn. He wanted to do something for the brigade, since they're deployed, and offered a lot of support," Joiner said.

Sanborn will be on hand during the event to help celebrate and honor the Soldiers and families of the Schweinfurt military community.



News Briefs

Mardi Gras Party

Leighton Community Activities Center hosts a Mardi Gras party Feb. 28 starting at 4:30 p.m. Take part in one of America's biggest parties without leaving Germany! Celebrate with authentic New Orleans food, French Quarter music, fun, and prizes. Adults only, please. For more information, call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305.

Free beginner German language class

Schweinfurt ACS holds a free 5-week beginner German language class Mon., Weds., and Fri. starting Feb. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the yellow ribbon room. Learn basic German language in the classroom. For more information and to sign up, call 354-6933/6751 or 09721-96-6933/6751.

Bulk trash pick-up scheduled

Bulk trash pickups are scheduled for Feb. 27 in Askren Manor, Yorktown Village and all government leased housing. There are no pickups scheduled for Ledward Barracks, Conn Barracks or any of the training areas. Please have items outside prior to 7 a.m. but not earlier than Feb. 26. No regular trash, recyclables or organic waste will be picked up. Any questions please call the

SORT Coordinator Brad Posey at 354-6201 or 0162-2709403.

Mardi Gras Bingo

AFN Franconia sponsors Mardi Gras bingo at the Leighton Community Activities Center Feb. 23. Doors open @ 6 p.m. Games begin at 7 p.m. Bring 3 or more cans of cat food for the Tierheim for extra door prize tickets!

Visit to Easter market

Join the Arts and Crafts studio on a visit to the Easter market in Seligenstadt by Hanau on Feb. 25. Trips depart from the Crafts Studio at 8 a.m. and return around 6 p.m. Sign up fee \$5 per person. Call 354-6903 or 09721-96-6903 to reserve a seat.

Auditions being held

Auditions *And Then They Came for Me* by James Stills will be held Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at the Leighton Fitness Center, Würzburg. Male, female and youth cast members and production staff are all needed. For more information contact Garland Travis at 0162-296-2776 or Garland.Travis@us.army.mil

Knitting and crocheting for babies in need

Learn to knit and crochet for free at the Arts and Crafts Studio on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. or Fridays at 11:30 a.m. Women meet weekly to work on their own projects or

on the charity project. The charity project hopes to send hats, booties, and mittens for premature babies to hospitals in need.

Russian Circus comes to town

Come enjoy the circus at the "Volksfestplatz" in Schweinfurt that runs from Feb. 22 through 25. Performances are Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., Feb. 23 at 8 p.m., Feb. 24 at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. A world-famous clown celebrates 50 years of circus performances.

Stress management workshop

Schweinfurt ACS holds a stress management workshop Feb. 28 at Ledward ACS building 242 from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn to manage stress, become more productive, and enjoy life's challenges. This interactive class will include a stress survey, stress journals, relaxation exercises and question and answer sessions. To sign up or for more information, call 354-6933/6751 or 09721-96-6933/6751.

Deals on children's clothes and toys

Visit the flea market in Werneck for deals on children's clothes and toys at the Catholic Parish Hall Feb. 25 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call public affairs office for more information 354-1600 or 09721-96-1600.

Schweinfurt Dispatch



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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

- 22 FEB** --Dinner and Theater with the Würzburg High School PTA. This appreciation event is free for PTA members. Dinner begins at 6 p.m., and the Drama club will entertain afterwards. Come join the PTA for \$5 and enjoy the fun.
- 23 FEB** --Black History month celebration, Schweinfurt Middle School, 1:30 p.m.
--Mardi Gras bingo, Leighton Community Activities Center, beginning at 6 p.m.
- 24 FEB** --Czech Republic Shopping Trip. Passport required, call 354-6715 to sign up.
--Dodge ball tournament at Finney fitness center. Come watch the competition starting at 10 a.m. Call 353-8234 for more information.
- 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, 4:30 p.m. Call 350-6305 for info.
- 2 MAR** --Women's Histroy Month Tea, Leighton Community Activities Center, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 3 MAR** --Winter Fest, Finney Fitness Center, Conn Barracks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
--Family Friendly Trip to Wilhelma Zoo, free transportation, bring Euro for fees. Call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305 to reserve your seat.
- 8 MAR** --Federal Resume 101 at Schweinfurt ACSC, Ledward Barracks, 11:30 a.m.
- 9-11 MAR** --Leighton Spring Bazaar, Leighton Fitness Center
- 13 MAR** --"Putting Your Best Foot Forward," professional development class, Leighton ACSC. Call 350-7103 or 0931-889-7103 for more information.
- 16 MAR** --Luck o' the Irish Bingo, Leighton Community Activies Center, 6 p.m.
- 17 MAR** --St. Patrick's Day party, Leighton Community Activies Center, 4:30 p.m. Free admission.
- 20 MAR** --Women's History Celebration Luncheon, Conn Club, Conn Barracks, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Schweinfurt. guest speaker Carol Haager.
- 22 MAR** --Computer 101 basic skills class, Schweinfurt ACSC, Ledward Barracks, 11:30 a.m.
- 24 MAR** --USO Shopping express trip to Cheb. \$30 per seat. Call 354-6711 for more information.
--Family Friendly Trip, Polish Pottery shopping. Sign up in advance. Bring your passport. Call 350-635 or 0931-889-6305 for more information.
- 31 MAR** --Kinderfest, Askren Manor. Kick off the Month of the Military child!
--Family friendly sightseeing trip to Munich. Call 350-6305 or 0931-889-6305.



From Schweinfurt teacher to Venice Masquerader

by Sandra Wilson

Adorned in feathers, gleaming jewels, bangles, meters of fabric and toile, and wearing large ornamented hats, masked Schweinfurt Middle School (SMS) teachers stroll the streets of Venice, Italy, each year hoping to catch the eyes of onlookers or a photographer's lens.

In 1995 Karen Rose, sixth-grade social studies teacher, and Nancy Dauber, art and social studies teacher, took their first trip in costume with a friend to Venice.

Upon returning, they immediately began making costumes for the next year. About 20 meters of fabric is gathered, usually from Istanbul, for each costume. Accessories and trimming are found at craft stores and flea markets. Sometimes, they will even tear apart a fur coat or use formal attire off the discount racks as part of material.

Dauber and Rose say they both learned to sew from 4-H as well as their grandmas who took time to teach them. But when it comes to making Carnivale costumes, they break every rule in the book.

"Things are not supposed to fit because you have to wear clothes underneath. You're not looking at the seam, you're looking at the effect. People don't care that seams are crooked—they don't notice that," said Rose.

Those in costume will often take pictures of each other or approach a costume of interest to look at it in detail.

"I've had French people actually almost pull my hat off my head trying to figure out what I'd done and how I put things together," said Dauber.

Sara Maka, teacher of gifted education and reading at SMS, has attended Carnivale in costume for six years. One of her outfits

was built starting with a Japanese wedding kimono.

During the creative process, sometimes it comes together easily and other times, a costume may seem to be missing something. In those cases, it's put on the shelf until inspiration and the right accessories come along.

sometimes rent them out. The costumes are also modified and altered for future festivals.

They have returned to Carnivale in Venice each year since the first and have brought more people with them each time. Now, about 20-25 Department of Defense teachers dress up for the festival.



Beth Ann Myers

Sara Maka and Chris Bradford, foreground, stand near an alleyway canal in Venice while Murat Kale and Nancy Dauber pause on the bridge for a view of the scenery. Maka, Bradford, and Dauber are colleagues from Schweinfurt Middle School who travel to Carnivale each year.

"I've been working on a costume for four years now," said Dauber, explaining how she hasn't gotten the vision for it yet.

In the end, a costume and all of its accessories can cost \$300 to \$500. After they wear them at the festivals, they

"It becomes an addiction," Maka said. "It is fun having the crowds part for you when you're in costume."

They also go to Remiremont, France in the spring, Ludwigsburg in September, and Nurnberg to walk in the parade.

Some of their trips have even been paid for by groups who desire their attendance in costume at gallery shows.

Julia Vandall, resource teacher at SMS, has attended Venice's Carnivale in costume twice.

"The most fun is having people from all over the world wanting to pose with you for their private photos. They treat you like a celebrity and the children especially are just so in awe of you," she said.

Rose explained her enjoyment of the event and why she likes dressing up in mask and costume.

"Hiding is always fun, and you're not who you usually are. You can play another role. Half of [the fun] is making the costumes, working with other people and traveling to pick up things to use for the costumes," she said.

They have found photos of themselves in magazines, calendars, and books, and on television and ceramic tiles.

As far as future attendance goes, there is no question about it. They say they're hooked and plan to dress up and participate rain or shine.