



# Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

Sept. 4, 2008



## Blackhawk's rear detachment activates

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

The 172<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade marked the formal activation of its rear detachment,



Soldiers of the 172<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade stand behind the Blackhawks shield and salute during the playing of the national anthem.

Task Force Shield, with a ceremony today in the Finney Fitness Center on Conn Barracks.

Lt. Col. Eric Stetson, Shield's commander, unfurled the colors of the Blackhawk's Rear-D with a little help from his new command sergeant major, Master Sgt. William Fox, who hit the ground running last week, and hasn't stopped since.

"He's living out of a suitcase and demonstrating his versatility and dedication to this formation. He's not

even in-processed yet," Stetson said, praising Fox's willingness and flexibility, two traits absolutely necessary for a Soldier assigned to lead a rear detachment formation.

Stetson's Task Force Shield is comprised of "hand-picked, deliberately trained" men and women who will have the multi-faceted mission of caring for Soldiers and families here and in Grafenwoehr, aiding Soldiers transitioning in and out of the war zone throughout the deployment, and maintaining their own military training, bearing, and professionalism in what could be the most trying time of their military career.

"Only those who've been in the rear can truly appreciate" what the Soldiers of Shield will face, Stetson said.

**ACTIVATE, see page 7**

## Bestselling author on tour visits Schweinfurt

*Carroll encourages troops to put their deployment stories to paper*

IMCOM-E press release

HEIDELBERG, Germany – The Installation Management Command-Europe Library Program is presenting critically acclaimed author Andrew Carroll as part of his What's Your Story? tour, a series of discussions and readings planned at nine locations throughout Germany. He will visit Schweinfurt's library on Tuesday and Grafenwoehr's library Sept. 11, both at 7 p.m.

The tour is supported by IMCOM-Europe MWR and through the National Endowment for the Arts' ground-breaking program—Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience – which has preserved stories of U.S. servicemembers and their families since 2004.

Carroll, 38, is the editor of the New York Times best-sellers "Behind the Lines" and "War Letters," which was made into a PBS documentary. Carroll is founder and director of the Legacy Project, a national, all-volunteer initiative that works to honor and remember U.S. servicemembers and veterans by preserving their wartime correspondence. His efforts have been profiled on "Oprah," "NBC



Bestselling writer Andrew Carroll visits Schweinfurt's Ledward Library Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Courtesy photo)

Nightly News," FOX News, CNN, The History Channel, C-Span, National Public Radio, "CBS Sunday Morning," "The Today Show," "Good Morning America" and "Nightline." Carroll is also a regular columnist for WORLD WAR II magazine.

During his What's Your Story? tour, Carroll will discuss his involvement with NEA's Operation Homecoming, an unprecedented effort supported by Boeing Co. to send prominent writers to military installations, encouraging servicemembers and their families to write about their experiences and to share letters, e-mails, journals, short stories, poems and other writings.

To date, NEA has received more than 1,200 submissions, with approximately 100 of the most compelling works featured in the anthology Operation Homecoming: Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Home Front, in the Words of U.S. Troops and Their Families. The anthology, edited by Carroll, received critical acclaim and inspired a 2008 Oscar-nominated documentary.

**AUTHOR, see page 6**



# SPRECHEN SIE FUN?

## Events and activities in the local communities

### Tomorrow:

**Rock Night** at Fritz-Zeilein-Halle in Gochsheim at 9 p.m.

### Saturday:

**Farmers' market** at the market square in Schweinfurt 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Lots of fresh produce available.



**Flea market** at the animal shelter, Alfred-Gärtner-Platz 3 in Schwebheim – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Sunday:

**Fest at the "Wildpark"**



**A summer festival** at the "Wildpark" an den Eichen in Schweinfurt begins at 2 p.m. The "animal park" has more than 500 animals, several playgrounds, and refreshments available for all visitors.

### Sunday:

**Tour of Castle Mainberg** begins

at 2 p.m. Castle tours are offered the first Sunday of each month, or can be booked for individuals or groups, The cost is 3.50 euro per person. Call 09721-5010 Mon – Fri, 9 a.m. – 4p.m. for scheduling a tour.



### Wine and beer festivals



#### Gerolzhofen

Friday through Sunday Wine festival, Weinstube Am Markt

#### Michelau-Altmanndorf

Friday and Saturday, wine fest in Am Sonnenwinkel 6

#### Gochsheim, Am Plan and Sennfeld

Friday through Monday Parish/beer festival (traditional costumes and dances)

### Sept. 12

#### Youth Symphony Concert

by the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Lower Franconia at the "Stadthalle" in Gerolzhofen starting at 7:30 p.m.



### Sept. 13

#### Street Music Festival "Pflasterklang"

(the sound of cobble stones) downtown Schweinfurt – approximately 40 musicians and groups perform everything from Jazz & Folk to Classic and Rock, in 19 locations in the pedestrian area. Furthermore there will be jugglers, acrobats, mimes, street painters and much more.

### Shopping Sept. 13

#### Fleamarkets in:

**Sennfeld**, Meduna-di-Livenza-Platz, 7 a.m.

**Schweinfurt**, Wirsingstrasse 13, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Schweinfurt**, children's clothes – at Christus Kirche, Benno-Merkle-Str. 16 From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Schwebheim**, children's clothes – at the "Bürgerhaus" from 11 a.m. -1 p.m

**Grafenrheinfeld**, Children's clothes – at "Altmainstorthalle" from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

## 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 web site 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 e-mail: [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.



# News Briefs

## Bulk trash pick-ups

Bulk trash is scheduled to be picked up from Askren Manor, Yorktown Village, and government-leased housing Sept. 9 and 23. Please put bulk items out prior to 7 a.m. on day of pick-up but no earlier than the day before. Bulk trash is only those items too large to transport in your vehicle.

## PWOC kicks off

Come join Protestant Women of the Chapel Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. or Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Ledward Chapel beginning Sept. 10 and 11. Free childcare is provided. Call 0170-277-8980 or e-mail [pwoc.schweinfurt@googlemail.com](mailto:pwoc.schweinfurt@googlemail.com).

## Are you a Rising Star?

Operation Rising Star begins Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at Rohr's Diner on Ledward Barracks. Are you a Soldier or family member who dreams of being a musician? This could be your shot at earning a professional demo recording session. Must be 18 or older to participate. For more information, call 354-6225 or visit [www.OpRisingStar.com](http://www.OpRisingStar.com).

## This One's For You

The best Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) event in the Army, This One's For You, is back Sept. 11 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Finney Recreation Center. Come out and enjoy games, music, and friends.

## Community forum

Got questions? Get answers at the Schweinfurt Community Update Forum Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at Schweinfurt Elementary School. The community is invited and encouraged to attend.

## Get employed

Army Community Service (ACS) holds an employment readiness job fair at Kessler gym tomorrow from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Get employment education, volunteer information, and find out what jobs are available in Schweinfurt.

## Become a certified coach

Child and Youth Services youth sports holds a coaches certification clinic at the Ledward Gym Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, or to sign up, call 354-6822.

## Sport physicals

The Health Clinic offers a day for youth to get sport physicals. Call ahead to make an appointment for Tuesday between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 354-7901 or 09721-86-7901.

## 9/11 remembrance

The USAG Schweinfurt Chaplain's office will host a 9/11 Remembrance Prayer Breakfast Sept. 11 from 7 to 8:30 a.m. in the Conn Community Club. The community is invited to attend.

## Parent meeting

A Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meeting takes place at the Schweinfurt Elementary School's all purpose room, Wednesday beginning at 5 p.m. PTA, as well as non-members, are invited.

## Get fit this fall

Participate in Operation Walk 4 Freedom to exercise the distance to Iraq and back. Or join the Civilian Fitness Program to exercise during work hours. Registration is held at Finney gym Sept. 17, noon to 3 p.m. Call 354-6793 or e-mail [schweinfurthealthpromotion@eur.army.mil](mailto:schweinfurthealthpromotion@eur.army.mil).



Tonight-	7 p.m.	The Love Guru (PG-13)
Tomorrow-	7 p.m.	Star Wars: the Clone Wars (PG)
Saturday-	4 p.m.	Star Wars: the Clone Wars (PG)
Sunday-	7 p.m.	Wanted (R)
	4 p.m.	Star Wars: the Clone Wars (PG)
Monday-	closed	
Tuesday-	closed	
Wednesday-	7 p.m.	Star Wars: the Clone Wars (PG)

## Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.		P.M.	
	<b>Friday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain showers Lows 14 C / 57 F		<b>Friday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain showers Highs 21 C / 70 F
	<b>Saturday</b> Mostly cloudy Lows 18 C / 64 F		<b>Saturday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain showers Highs 23 C / 73 F
	<b>Sunday</b> Cloudy, rain showers Lows 15 C / 59 F		<b>Sunday</b> Partly cloudy Highs 19 C / 66 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- 11-12 SEP --Birth n' Babies I & II, Ledward ACS. Part I: 1-4 p.m. Part II: 9 a.m.-noon. Call 354-6933.
- 12 SEP --Schweinfurt Health Clinic closed. For emergencies, go to Leopoldina.  
--Rising Star, Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays through September. Call 354-6255.  
--FRG treasurer training, Ledward Yellow Ribbon Room, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 354-6933.
- 12-14 SEP --MWR Vendor Bazaar, Finney Fitness Center.
- 13 SEP --BOSS Go Kart Racing and Hooters victory party. Cost is 99 euro. Call 353-8476.  
--Super Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Call central registration 354-6517.  
--2008 Gospel Musical, Ledward Chapel, 6 p.m. Enjoy choirs, musicians, & soloists.
- 17 SEP --Pool Tournament at Finney Recreation Center. Call 353-8476 for more information.  
--FRG crash course for leaders, Yellow Ribbon Room 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call 354-6933.  
--Civilian Fitness Assessments, Finney Fitness Center, 1 to 3 p.m.
- 18-19 SEP --Rising Star, Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays through September. Call 354-6255.
- 19 SEP --Civilian Fitness Assessments, Finney Fitness Center, 1 to 3 p.m.
- 20 SEP --Outdoor Recreation trip to Europa Park, \$10 plus 31 euro entry fee. Call 353-8080.  
--Boys' and Girls' Club of America/CYS National Day for Kids, 9 a.m. to noon, Teen Center.
- 23 SEP --Celebrate Hispanic Heritage month at the Ledward Library, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
--Off The Wall, contemporary and R&B music, Askren Manor, 7 p.m.  
--Bulk Trash pick-up, Askren Manor, Yorktown, and leased housing areas.
- 24 SEP --Soldier and family appreciation day at Finney Fitness Center, noon to 8 p.m.
- 25 SEP --Rising Star, Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays through September. Call 354-6255.  
--Breast feeding support group, Ledward ACS, noon to 1 p.m. Call 354-6933.
- 26 SEP --Rising Star competition final. Come support your contestant at Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m.  
--Sign up deadline for Women's Recreational Volley Ball at Finney Fitness Center.  
--Asperger's and Autism support group meets, 10 a.m. to noon, Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933.
- 27 SEP --Free BOSS bus to Munich for Oktoberfest. For more information, call 353-8476.
- 28 SEP --Outdoor Recreation high ropes course, \$10, for more information call 353-8080.
- 28 SEP --ADD & ADHD support group meets, Ledward ACS, 10 a.m. to noon. Call 354-6933..
- 30 SEP --AAFES/DeCA forum, Ledward Barracks bldg. 206, garrison conference room, 9-11:30 a.m.
- 2 OCT --Halo XBOX 360 tournament, Finney Recreation Center, begins at 6 p.m. 353-8476.
- 3 OCT --Fall fest & community showcase, Kessler field, noon to 9 p.m.
- 4 OCT --Free transportation to the Holiday Park. Bring Euro for admission. Call 353-8476.
- 7-8 OCT --Fittest Male/Female Contest, Finney Fitness Center, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Register day of event.
- 16 OCT --"This One's For You" Boss event, Finney Fitness Center, 1 to 5 p.m. Music, food, games.

*Community 6 week outlook calendar*



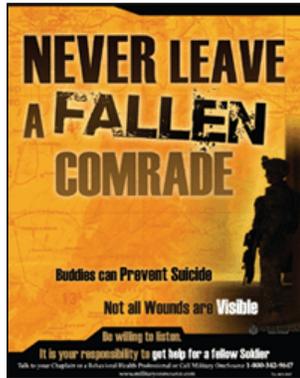
# 'No soldier stands alone'

WASHINGTON, DC— Underscoring its commitment to the safety and well being of its Soldiers, family members, and civilian personnel, the U.S. Army is joining the nation and the Department of Defense in observing National Suicide Prevention Week, Sept. 7 – 13, and World Suicide Prevention Day on Sept. 10.

“The loss of any American Soldier’s life is a great tragedy and a matter of concern, regardless of the cause, and in the case of suicide, as an Army, we are committed to providing prevention and intervention resources,” said Lt. Gen. Michael Rochelle, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, U.S. Army.

This year’s theme, “Shoulder to Shoulder: No Soldier Stands Alone,” reinforces that commitment and conveys multiple messages that tie into one overarching statement: “If we share our strength as an Army Family, together we can make it through the toughest times.”

The Army’s goal is to promote the idea that Soldiers are stronger together, especially when times are tough. It’s a reminder that



sometimes the toughest challenges occur off the battlefield: when the guns are quiet but doubts and troubling thoughts still linger.

“In the Army, we take care of each other,” said Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

As part of the effort to enhance its suicide prevention program, the Army is focusing more attention on education programs and creating greater awareness about the warning signs of suicide and the appropriate responses that can save a person’s life.

“The good news is suicide prevention works, but we must continue to make every effort to ... recognize suicide warning signs and enhance their ability to know what they should do to prevent a suicide,” said Walter Morales, suicide prevention program manager at Army G-1.

Army leaders are being empowered to plan and implement education, awareness, and training programs to enhance intervention skills. That way, Soldiers, family members and civilian personnel can better recognize stressors such as failed relationships, legal and financial problems, and occupational and operational issues that contribute to suicidal behavior.

Specific scenario-driven training and the ACE card (Ask, Care, and Escort) can be found at <http://usachppm.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/readiness/suicide.aspx>. Other resources are <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/> and [www.behavioralhealth.army.mil](http://www.behavioralhealth.army.mil).

## Donation links communities, aids YS program

**Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart**

The Schweinfurt Youth Sports program received a surprise boost Aug. 28 from the people of Weston, Conn.: 23 boxes of donated baseball supplies.

Jane Young-Anglim, who sent the supplies, is “an ardent supporter of the military and a member of the Weston Supports group,” said Lt. Col. Eric Stetson, rear detachment commander for the Blackhawk Brigade. Stetson received the boxes and insured their delivery to Daniel Jones, youth sports director for the garrison.

Weston Supports is a private organization which adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division during their deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08. When the brigade activated as the 172<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade (Separate), it lost no support from Weston, whose support extends beyond the brigade to the whole community of Schweinfurt with this equipment donation.

“(We) determined that the youth on

base could put (the supplies) to good use,” wrote Young-Anglim in an e-mail. The donation began with used equipment from a neighboring town’s little league and snowballed into a shipment which included new and used bats, gloves, helmets, and balls.

“After getting through it all, I realized much was missing, so I went out and bought gloves and balls ... I put out another favor request to friends here in Weston ... and that resulted in a big donation, also,” Young-Anglim explained.

Also tucked in among the catcher’s mitts and batting helmets were a stash of over 100 Beanie Babies, which Stetson says will be sent downrange with the Blackhawks to be distributed to children in the brigade’s area of operations.

The Schweinfurt Youth Sports program

will put the equipment to good use once the baseball season begins again, Jones said, but community members interested in helping need not spend money on equipment. They



**Daniel Jones, youth sports director, inventories the baseball equipment donated by Jane Young-Anglim and Weston Supports.**

can instead donate their time.

“We always need volunteers to help out and community youth to participate in our programs. If someone wants to help, they can stop by my office, and I’ll get them a volunteer packet,” Jones said.



# Youth end summer with Olympic fun

Story and photo by Lindsey Cole

This summer has been an exciting one for youth in Schweinfurt, with Child and Youth Services (CYS) offering grade school kids new activities daily.



From the right, Jalen Funches, Clajanique Thames, Larry Lyons, and Steven Fontenette participate in a relay race as part of the SAS Olympics.

To honor the 2008 Olympics, School Aged Services (SAS) held "Camp Olympus." Children were afforded the opportunity to prepare

and participate in their own Olympics.

"It's been fun doing our own Olympics. We learned about

sportsmanship and how to be a team player ... I also got to make a lot of new friends," said 8-year-old Daja Baker.

SAS received some help from the Camp Adventure workers, a program designed for college students to help with the youth.

"I've gotten much more out of this summer than I thought. Watching them improve and develop has been my greatest benefit," said Camp Adventure worker Amber Ilcisko.

Parents voiced their satisfaction as well.

"I thought the Camp Olympus program was great. The staff is so friendly and (made) my son feel welcome and comfortable. It helps get him prepared for the school year," said parent Gwen Fontenette.

The teens followed themes such as art, music, or sports. Field trips, events, and group discussions reflected this theme.

"It's great to see the teens and preteens happy— we're really thankful that summer camp was a safe and fun experience for them. We're already working on our winter break camp, which is coming up soon," said Donna Hilley, youth center director.

"It's been a fun summer ... I got to work as a summer hire and do activities with the teen center ... It beats sitting at home and doing nothing," said eleventh-grader Christina Walton.

## AUTHOR

This year, the NEA's Operation Homecoming program will host writing workshops for veterans and active-duty troops at 25 VA medical centers, military hospitals and affiliated centers in communities throughout the United States.

At every stop, Carroll will discuss his ongoing travels around the world – including treks to Iraq and Afghanistan – to seek out and preserve wartime correspondence for the Legacy Project.

"Nobody can tell stories about life in the military better than our troops and their families can," Carroll said. "I know many servicemembers and their loved ones feel that the 'real stories' about our armed forces are not being told. This will be a great opportunity to share them."

Carroll invites attendees to the What's Your Story? programs to share their own writings. He will hand out the NEA booklet Operation Homecoming: A Guide for Writers and discuss writing tips for those who want to begin writing their wartime experiences.

For more information on Andrew Carroll and the NEA Operation Homecoming program, visit <http://www.WarLetters.com> and <http://OperationHomecoming.gov>.

## Field artillery Rear-D helps at library



Pfc. Tony Willoughby, left, moves a stack of books as Pfc. Dorian Starks wheels a cart through the Ledward Library. Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery helped with the renovations at the library by moving furniture and books. Forty-five thousand dollars were appropriated for the library to upgrade the computer lab, replace the flooring, and buy new furniture. Additional furniture was also obtained from Giebelstadt, Kitzingen, and Wuerzburg military installations.

"We want to thank our customers for putting up with us and for keeping their kids nearby," said Christine Willis, librarian.

The renovations were completed while the library maintained its normal operating hours. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)



# Council provides youth perspective to command

Story and photo by Lindsey Cole

This year marks the third in which the Youth Advisory Council has played an active role in the USAG Schweinfurt. Council representatives from the teen center, School Age Services, Girl Scouts and other youth programs meet to advise the commander and deputy commander on community youth concerns.

One representative from the council is selected to attend the European Teen Council, where representatives from participating youth centers around Europe come together and discuss issues and solutions that will improve their 'hang out spots.' This year's representative was Dianna Bennett.

Upon returning from the conference, Bennett had the opportunity to brief Lt. Col Anthony Haager, USAG Schweinfurt commander and inform him of the goals and issues established during the meeting.

She then brought her insight to all the youth representatives in Schweinfurt.

"It's been a very interesting experience. I've got to meet a lot of new people, friends who will be friends for a lifetime ... I got

to hear things that will help my garrison become better ... I don't expect everything to get better all at once, maybe gradually, but in the future I believe everything will fall into place," Bennett said.

Other youth representatives brought their own issues to the table during the garrison meeting. Although issues are not always able

to be addressed directly by the command, community youth representatives are given help in addressing their concerns in the appropriate forum.

The staff that work with the youth and parents are constantly looking for ways to improve their experience here in Schweinfurt. Many issues have been resolved thanks to these meetings and enthusiasm shown by the young participants.

One example is the Schweinfurt skate park, located next to the Middle School. This project was the direct result of teen advisory council meetings and the persistence of representative Nick Heikennen. Haager's willingness to take

seriously the council and its concerns, brought the skate park to its completion in August of last year.

"It really shows that kids have some say. I used to think the adults thought our issues weren't important, but now I know ... Plus the skate park is awesome," Heikennen said.



**John McIntyre, Lt. Col Anthony Haager, and youth representative Dianna Bennett discuss and give solutions to the youth concerns.**

## ACTIVATE

They will not go it alone, however.

"The units to our left and right—1-91 CAV and 15E—as well as the garrisons in Schweinfurt have all been very supportive," Stetson said.

The USAG Schweinfurt, with a support network experienced in helping Soldiers deploy and families cope, is well-suited to aiding the Rear-D during the upcoming deployment, as well as helping during preparation and ramp-up operations, Stetson added.

"They let us know when we're on-track," he said.

Brigade Commander Col. Jeffrey Sinclair expects his Rear-D to "thrive in uncertainty," and has no doubt Task Force Shield will succeed. They have to succeed.

"The strength of the formation is tied to the strength of the families that stay behind," Sinclair said. Task Force Shield's duty is to ensure that strength survives, and thrives, while the Blackhawks swoop down upon Iraq later this year.

"We're a family," he added. "We have to take care of each other."



**The Task Force Shield color guard stands beneath the Blackhawks shield during today's activation ceremony.**