



Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

April 10, 2008



Length-of-service awards honors 39

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

Thirty-nine German employees were honored for 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of service and dedication to the U.S. Army in a ceremony and luncheon held in the Conn Club April 3.

“This ceremony gives the garrison the opportunity to recognize and thank the devoted local national employees, without whom our community would not function,” said John McIntyre, director of human resources for the garrison.

In remarks to the assembled honorees and their families, USAG Schweinfurt Commander Lt. Col. Anthony Haager extended thanks not only from the Army, but from himself personally.

“I know for a fact that we are lucky” to have such a great relationship with the German community of Schweinfurt he said. Haager went on to thank the honorees “from the bottom of my heart” for their selfless and long-lasting dedication to the Schweinfurt military community.

The spring ceremony is something of a change for the annual length-of-service awards, as they are called. The ceremony is usually held in the fall, honoring everyone who had, in the previous year, reached service milestones.

The consolidation of the Wuerzburg and Schweinfurt military communities led to such a large gathering last fall—158 individuals were honored—that the decision was made to hold two ceremonies this year, keeping each event smaller and more personal.



Command Sgt. Maj. Keith McMullen, left, Lt. Col. Anthony Haager, second right, and Lord Mayor Gudrun Grieser, right, offer their thanks to Hans-Erich Maier for his 40 years of continuous civilian service.

After speeches from Haager, Schweinfurt Lord Mayor Gudrun Grieser, and works council chairman Michael Doerfer, each honoree received certificates marking their service milestones.

“Your continued support keeps our community intact, healthy and vibrant,” Haager said. “Our community remains on the cutting edge of family programming and Soldier care thanks to dedicated individuals like yourselves.”

Memo can be used in replacing lost/stolen IDs



Two forms of ID, such as a social security card and a license, are usually required to replace lost government ID cards.

By Mark Heeter

A look at the USAG Schweinfurt military police statistics indicates one incident category as the consistent leader: the lost or stolen military identification card.

“One day we came in, and they had lost 21 cards over the weekend,” said Rhonda Hawes, chief of the military personnel division with the Directorate of Human Resources. Some Soldiers have lost a card two or three times apiece, she said.

While USAG Schweinfurt policy memorandum 1-15 prescribes the procedures for replacing lost or stolen ID cards, a recently upgraded computer system requires two forms of identification – a problem if all forms of identification are gone.

“It (the computer system for issuing ID cards) requires two forms of ID, including the current ID card if it’s still valid, and

another form of ID. And that could be a stateside driver’s license, social security card, official or tourist passport. For school-aged kids, it could be school records, something that will identify the person,” Hawes said.

“When a Soldier has lost everything, and we have had several of those, when they do not have a second form of ID, the commander can sign off on memo. Then they have to bring the report that they get from the military police, with the memo back to the ID card section,” and a new card can be issued, she said.

The memo can be obtained at the Soldier or family member’s unit, or the civilian personnel office which was authorized to issue the identification card.

“That’s for Soldiers, civilians, contractors, that’s for everybody,” who loses or all forms of identification, Hawes said.



News Briefs

Autism training offered

The Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS) is presenting a workshop to help community service providers develop hands-on training for working with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, at Bamberg Elementary School room 129, May 5, 7, and 12 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information email Chuck York at Chuck.York@eu.dodea.edu.

Retiree appreciation

The USAG Schweinfurt will host a Retiree Appreciation Day Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Conn bldg. 40. Representatives from the Defense Finance and Accounting System will be on hand to answer questions, dental and medical screenings will be available, and garrison offices will be opened. To RSVP, call 354-7033 or email rso.schweinfurt@cmtymail.98asg.army.mil.

Dodge ball tournament

Morale, Welfare & Recreation will host a dodge ball tournament at Finney Fitness Center, Saturday at 11 a.m., with a managers meeting at 10:30 a.m. Open to all ID card holders 18 years and older. For more information call 353-8234.

Attain fishing license

Morale, Welfare & Recreation is offering a fishing license class at the Conn club April 18 from 6 to 9 p.m., and on the 19 & 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants must pay \$65 and attend all three training sessions. For more information or to register call outdoor recreation 353-8080.

Teens learn how to dance

The Schweinfurt youth center offers salsa and hip hop dance classes for teens, at the youth center bldg. 241, every Monday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The classes are free for all registered middle school and high school teens. For more information call the teen center 354-6732, or 354-6308.

Learn Kinder Musik

Army Community Service (ACS) offers Kinder Musik, at Leighton's Child Development Center Friday, from 10 to 11 a.m. To sign up call ACS Schweinfurt 354-6933 or Wuerzburg 350-7103.

Enjoy the Opera

The ensemble of the Young Chamber Opera of Cologne will perform "Don Giovanni" at the Kurt Theater in Bad Kissingen April 18 at 7:30 p.m. This is a comical opera by W.A. Mozart, for tickets call 0971-8048444.

Learn self defense

Army Community Service (ACS) is offering a self defense 101 class at Finney Gym Monday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and April 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Learn the basics of self defense. For more information call ACS, 354-6933.

Children perform

Missoula children's theater presents the play "Robin Hood" auditions will take place at the School Age Services building on Askren Manor, on Monday at 4 p.m. For more information call 354-6974.

Parenting class

Army Community Service is offering a class for parents at Leighton's ACS Wednesday from 9 to 10:30 a.m., and at Ledward's ACS April 17 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Improve communication skills with young children. For more information call ACS 354-6933.

Delay of publications

The USAREUR Postal Operations team would like to inform customers of the delay in delivery of many publications that are printed weekly. Every effort is being made to correct this delay. Call your local Postmaster or USAREUR Postal Operations at 379-7837.

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.

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.



- 18 APR --WAHS parent/teacher conferences, Abrams Center. Bamberg & Graf registration available.
--Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 18-20 APR --Fishing license class, outdoor recreation, call for more information 353-8080.
- 19 APR --Missoula Children’s Theater performs “Robin Hood,” Abrams Center. Call
- 19-20 APR --B.O.S.S. Texas Hold ‘Em tournament, Finney Rec Center, 2 p.m. For more info., call 353-8476.
- 21 APR --Grafenwoehr ES and MS representatives at SES for early registration, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 22 APR --Bulk Trash pick up, Askren, Yorktown, and leased housing areas.
--Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 23 APR --Take Back the Night Walk, Askren Manor Commissary, 6 p.m. For more info., call 354-6933.
- 23-25 APR --Early registration, all schools. SES will take application Graf ES applications, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 24 APR --Ledward Library book club meets to discuss “Three Cups of Tea,” 5:15 p.m. Call 354-1740.
--“It’s Bunco Time,” Finney Sports & Leisure Center, 6 p.m. Open to all I.D. card holders over 18. Play for fabulous prizes. Call 353-8476 to sign up.
--Teen movie night: “Pirates of the Caribbean,” Abrams Center, 6:30-9 p.m. Call 354-6933.
--Sign-ups end for women’s recreational softball. Call Finney Fitness Center at 353-8234
- 25 APR --Garrison volunteer recognition ceremony, 10 a.m. to noon, Conn Club.
--Bamberg HS staff available for registration, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Schweinfurt Middle School.
--Community scrapbook crop, classroom 299 next to Conn CMR, 6 p.m. to midnight.
--Couples’ Game Night, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Schweinfurt Elementary School, call 354-6933.
- 25-27 APR --USO trip to Amsterdam/Keukenhof flower parade, 89 euro per person. Call 354-6711.
- 26 APR --Community Family Festival, noon to 4 p.m., Askren Manor.
--Little Miss and Mister Kinderfest pageant, noon to 3 p.m., Askren Manor. Call 09721-96-6141.
--Flea market, sponsored by Bavarian Red Cross, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz.
- 27 APR --Oldtimer Rally, classic car show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Prichsenstadt (south on B286).
- 28 APR --Spring community enhancement begins. Order supplies from DPW before April 14.
- 29 APR --Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 1 MAY --Wee Can Do It success series: hula dancing, Leighton CDC, 4 to 5 p.m.
--German holiday, stores will be closed.
- 2 MAY --Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 6 MAY --Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 9 MAY --“Keeping in touch” class, Leighton/Ledward teen centers, 4 to 5 p.m. Call 354-6933.
--Parenting with Love & Logic, 9 to 11 a.m., Askren Manor SAS. Call 354-6933 to register.
- 12 MAY --Unit level softball sign-up deadline. Season begins May 19. Call Finney Gym at 353-8234.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Get a handle on debt with ACS

By Sandra Wilson

Americans in today's society are continually racking up debt due to several key factors: spending more than what is earned, failing to establish a budget, spending on impulse, and purchasing wants instead of needs.

"Today, anybody will give you credit if you ask," said Darryl Jones, Army Community Service (ACS) financial readiness program manager in his class *Seven Steps to Getting Out of Debt*. Schweinfurt's ACS offers financial classes each month taught by Jones, and this one emphasizes the importance of learning to manage debt.

First, by acknowledging debt and admitting the financial struggle, a desire for change can be established. Step two requires creating a budget by listing routine monthly expenses and detailing debt, then measuring that against income.

"We (came) to get a better idea of what's the best way to spend our money ... We've got a little bit of debt, and we want to get out of it before the baby comes," said Natoshia Williams, who came to the financial class with her husband.

Step three entails learning how to maximize your income by taking advantage of reduced or free lunch programs or food stamps if you or your family qualifies. Now is also an opportune time to use tax refunds or the money received through the upcoming Economic Stimulus Package to reduce debts.

"Start paying yourself ... if you don't have savings right now, start with something as little as \$25 a month," Jones said.

Making cut-backs comes next. Learn to save on transportation by walking, riding bike, carpooling, or taking public transport. Eating out dramatically increases expenditures, and Jones recommends making a lunch each day instead. Taking advantage of the food and other product coupons supplied on base is an additional cost-cutter.

"Financially, I need to make myself better," said Spc. Malcolm Sheehe, member of the Schweinfurt Warrior Transition Unit, who also attended the class.

Steps five and six include prioritizing current debts and beginning to make regular payments to creditors. Jones suggests targeting the smallest debts to get rid of them so that more can be applied to

the larger debts.

"Don't ignore (your creditors). Send them something. It's better than nothing— even if it's only \$10," Jones said.

Some relief can be found for Soldiers through the Service Members Civil Relief Act. By writing a letter to the creditor, Soldiers may be eligible for the reduced interest rate of six percent on debt accrued pre-service.

The last step involves working out a long-term financial plan. Change your lifestyle, stay away from credit cards, and make only cash purchases.

"Start eliminating debt today. It starts with a commitment to change," Jones said.

Jones' next class will be about no-risk investing and will take place at Ledward ACS Tuesday at 9 a.m. For more information, or to sign up, call 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.



Jones

Former Soldier's visit renews Army bonds

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

When Darion Glover left Schweinfurt in 1989, it was with a broken back and little hope of ever seeing his first duty station again. Glover was injured during training in Grafenwoehr, and was



Rebecca Slatkin, Darion and Collen Glover, and Dana Lovik listen as Spc. Mike Bolin discusses life as a Soldier and the secrets of a making an authentic southern home made barbeque sauce.

medically separated from service.

Nineteen years later, Glover, a Veterans Administration employee, toured Ledward Barracks with his wife Colleen, best friend Dana Lovik, and sister-in-law Rebecca Slatkin.

"He's been excited for months. Can you imagine returning to a place that meant so much to you, after so many years?" Slatkin said as Glover pointed out his barracks and old dining facility, which is now the 9th Engineer headquarters.

Soldiers from 9E and 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, spotting Glover, invited him to join a barbeque, which provided an opportunity to compare notes about Soldier experiences. Glover had his own message to convey as well.

"I just want you to know that we back home in the States support you all, and we're proud of you," Glover said, shaking hands and asking for names and hometowns.

Soldiers from Alaska to Texas added their own flavor to the visit, trading opinions on barracks living and the new Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MREs)--beef stew is good hot or cold, but meal 8 is best.

"This visit has been wonderful. This garrison is doing great things for Soldiers. I'm ready to re-enlist," Glover said, laughing.

"But he's serious," his wife added. "He's tried before."



Children and teens wanted for play

By Mark Heeter

Though he might not be robbing any rich or donating to any poor, Robin Hood is coming to Schweinfurt. Actually, he is already here.

The Missoula Children's Theater (MCT) will hold auditions for its production of "Robin Hood," at the School Age Services building Monday at 4 p.m. Youth from kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to participate.

"Essentially, they run a performing arts school year-round for children," said Garland Travis, USAG Schweinfurt entertainment director.

Youth from kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to audition for the performance, which cast and crew will rehearse Tuesday through April 18, before performing April 19 at 2 p.m.

"There's about 60 kids cast normally; they try not to turn anyone away," Travis said, noting that the Missoula players will find a role or job for anyone who comes out Monday.

"From Broadway musicals and poignant comedies in our beautiful home theatre to original children's productions on gym floors and auditoriums around the world,

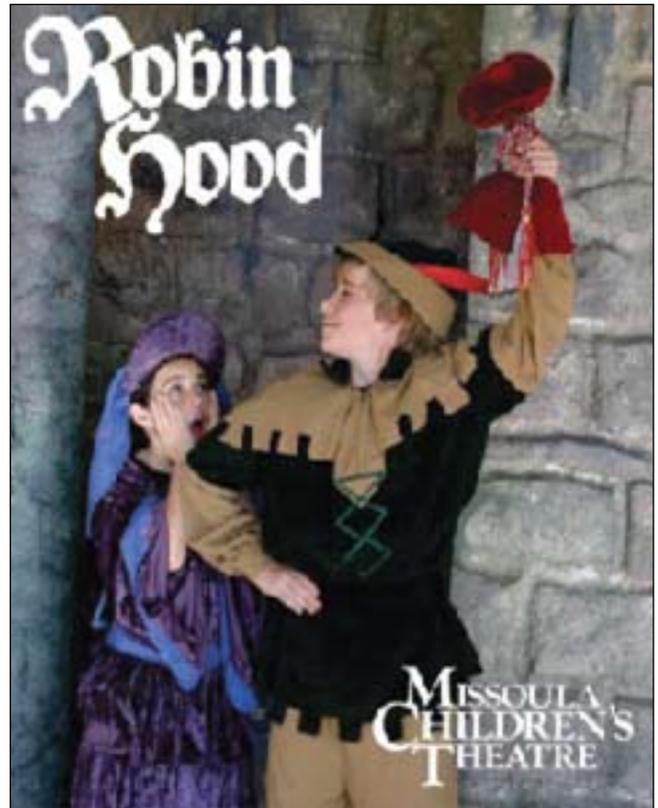
MCT performances have delighted and amazed audiences for nearly four decades," according to the MCT website at <http://www.mctinc.org/>

This is the sixth year that MCT has visited Schweinfurt, according to Travis.

"And it's not just memorizing," he said, explaining that social interaction is as important as nailing the script. "It allows for creating and play in a structured setting."

"We are going to be counting it as a SKIES (Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Education and Skills Unlimited) workshop in dramatic training," said Pamela Rio, Child and Youth Services outreach director.

"It's just a great learning experience to have them come over and have the children get good dramatic skills training," Rio said.



Tickets for the April 19 performance will be available at the Commons on Ledward Barracks next week, according to Travis.

Schools offer acceleration to support PCS

By Kimberly Gearhart

The school year ends in June for students in the USAG Schweinfurt. For some parents with Permanent Change of Station, or PCS orders, June may not be soon enough.

For those parents, and their children, the Department of Defense Dependent Schools has an answer: the acceleration program.

Families with PCS orders between May 15 and the last day of school may request their child's school year be accelerated. Students may then be removed prior to the last day of school and still receive full

credit for the year.

"The program helps families that are moving at the end of the school year by not requiring students to re-enroll at their new duty station. Because school districts have such varying year-end dates, this program offers some stability," said Damon McGibboney, school liaison officer.

Parents who wish to accelerate their child's school year must have PCS orders dated between May 15 and June 13 and complete a program application 30 days prior to the withdrawal date.

"We encourage parents to keep children in school for as

long as they can. May 15 is the earliest, but not the only, acceleration date," McGibboney said.

A final requirement for completion of the acceleration program mandates that the student must complete and submit all work assignments that would come due between the day of withdrawal and the end of the school year, as determined by the school and their instructors.

"The student will only receive credit for passing grades, of course," McGibboney said.

Only PCS moves falling within the school year qualify a student for accelerated

withdrawal, according to high school registrar Svetlana Tucker.

"We sometimes have parents who take leave and want to apply for accelerated withdrawal," McGibboney explained, noting that the program is designed to help families moving due to military needs.

Families who move before May 15 will be expected to complete a regular withdrawal and then enroll their children in school upon reaching their duty station.

For more information about the acceleration program, contact your school's registrar or the school liaison office.



Beat May deadline for camp enrollment

IMCOM-E PAO release

HEIDELBERG—Children of deployed service members have until May 2 to apply for a summer program that ranges from attending space camp to exploring a German coastal island.

The adventures are part of Camp A.R.M.Y Challenge, which provides for a select group of youth to participate in four events hosted by Installation Management Command-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge – the acronym stands for Adventure, Resilience, Memories, Youth – offers not only a welcome break from the family stresses of deployment, but also a chance for “kids to meet other youth facing similar challenges,” said Joe Marton, child and youth programs specialist for IMCOM-Europe.

“Deployments can be a very difficult time for some family members,” Marton said. “These camps are a way for these children to share and express their feelings, along with creating lasting memories of unique summer fun.”

Middle school and high school students in grades 6-12 (during the 2007-2008 school year) who have a active-duty parent currently deployed, will be deployed by March 1, 2009, or have deployed anytime since June 1, 2007, are eligible to apply.

Although the overall program is geared primarily for the

children of Soldiers, each CAC venue will have four spaces open to Air Force, Navy and Marines participants.

A sports and fitness camp will be the first venue available for middle school youth in grades 6-8. The camp will be held June 16-21 in Germany, followed by a July 5-12 island adventure session near the German coastline, focusing on environmental awareness.

For high school students in grades 9-12, a sports and fitness camp will be held June 16-21 in Germany. And in Belgium during Aug. 3-8, a space camp – including a simulated launch – will provide a hands-on “shoot-for-the stars” science and technology experience designed to challenge teenagers, Marton said.

To ensure as many youth as possible have the opportunity to attend Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge, participants can attend only one session.

A \$50 camp registration fee will be charged only when a camper is selected to attend. The fee, which is due May 31, reserves a slot in an assigned session. Refund of the registration fee will be given only if written cancellation is submitted at least two weeks prior to camp starting.

Central bus pick-up points will provide transportation to all camps.

Complete information details and application forms, which will be accepted only online, are available at <http://www.mwr-europe.com/>



CAV hosts visit from trio of U.S. Senators

1st Lt. Jason LeVay, of C Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry (Airborne), from left, briefs Senators John Kerry, Joe Biden, and Chuck Hagel at Camp Monti, Asmart District, Kunar Province, Afghanistan. LeVay showcased his Troop’s reconstruction efforts, stressing the need for continued funding.

“Had we been doing what you are doing now six years ago, we’d be home by now,” Biden noted, praising the CAV’s efforts in the war-torn area. (courtesy photo)

