



Sinclair takes command of brigade

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

Nearing the end of his remarks, Col. Jeffrey Sinclair, newly minted commander of the Dagger Brigade Combat Team, led the crowd in a 45-second message to Col. J.B. Burton, whom he had replaced moments earlier: a standing ovation honoring the former commander, his wife and son.

"See, J.B. and Cathy, that's your team. That's a Dagger standard, that's what you built," Sinclair said, as the applause came to rest Friday during the change-of-command ceremony in the Finney Fitness Center.

Sinclair assumed command of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, accepting the brigade colors from Lt. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker, V Corps commander.

"It seems like yesterday that I took the colors from Randy Dragon and handed it to J.B. Burton, and it was just two days prior to that when Jeff Sinclair left the field as Vanguard six," Hunzeker said of the June 2005 changes of command. Sinclair, whose previous assignment was

as a student at the Naval War College, commanded the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment from 2003 to June 2005, followed by an assignment with the 1st Infantry Division plans and operations division.

"You are the perfect command team to take on these challenging responsibilities," Hunzeker said, addressing Sinclair and his wife, Rebecca.

Burton called his time leading the brigade "the most challenging and, yet, most rewarding of my military career."

"To the magnificent patriot Soldiers of the Dagger Brigade, you have changed the



Col. Jeffrey Sinclair, left, accepts the colors of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from Lt. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker, V Corps commander, upon assuming command of the brigade at the Finney Fitness Center Friday.

world," Burton said.

Sinclair, a native of Grafton, W.Va., earned a regular Army commission into the infantry as a distinguished military graduate from West Virginia University in 1986.

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SKIES program offers horseback riding lessons

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

The SKIES the limit. There



Emily Linden, 5, grooms her pony during lessons provided through SKIES at the Seufert Ranch.

are no boundaries to the creative types of classes offered by the School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and Skills (or SKIES) Unlimited. The Schweinfurt community can now sign up through SKIES for horseback riding lessons at Seufert Ranch in Hambach.

For only

\$75 a month, participants between the ages of 3 and 18 are provided their own horse at the ranch for a two-hour lesson each week. Instruction ranges anywhere from beginner to advanced, depending on the level of previous experience brought in by each participant.

No previous experience is required—only "the gumption ... to sit on a horse," said Tom Williams, SKIES director. There is even an option to take the lessons twice a week for twice the monthly cost. Parents are not required to be at the lessons but are encouraged to attend when possible.

Karen Linden, who heard

about the horseback riding lessons through her children's SKIES karate class, signed up her 5- and 11-year-old girls right away.

"In the States it would probably be double what you pay here," said Linden, who was thrilled to get her children riding. "They've always loved horses ... this is the first time they've ridden on their own."

Linden used to show horses and holds a degree in horse training and breeding; she knows good instruction when she sees it.

"(The instructors) cater

SKIES, see page 4



News Briefs

IMCOM-E AFAP needs delegates

The IMCOM-Europe Army Family Action Plan Conference (AFAP), to be held May 12-16 in Heidelberg, is in need of volunteer delegates. In order to participate, you must first have served in a garrison-level conference. Those signed up for the Schweinfurt AFAP Conference to be held Feb. 26-28 are eligible, as are previous delegates. Those interested should contact Jennifer Litchfield by email at Jennifer.Litchfield@eur.army.mil or by calling 354-6933.

Single Soldier events scheduled

Participate in Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers (BOSS) events throughout the winter. All instruction, materials, and games are provided free of charge. Call the new BOSS telephone number 353-8476 or 0170-725-6464 for more information.

Bus cancellation

Effective Monday, all mass transit bus service (leased housing) and service from Schweinfurt to Landstuhl stops, in accordance with Army and IMCOM-Europe guidance on community bus services.

Passport fees change

The State Department has changed fees for issuing and renewing passports. New fees are as follows:

- Report of Birth (with Command Sponsorship) \$65.
- Report of Birth (without Command Sponsorship) \$150 .
- Initial Tourist over 16 years old \$100.
- Renewal/Initial under 16 years old \$85.
- Renewal Adult Passport \$75.

Bulk trash picked up

In support of the mass PCSing taking place during the month of February, there will be extra bulk trash pick-ups in the Schweinfurt area government housing and government-leased housing. The next pick-up date is Tuesday. Items must be out by 7 a.m. but no sooner than the night before. Only bulk items too large to fit in a car will be collected. For more information, call SORT coordinator Brad Posey at 354-6201 or 0162-270-9403.

Chapel celebrates Black History Month

In recognition of the contributions of black Americans in our past, present, and future and in honor of Black History month, the Ledward Chapel will hold a Black History celebration during the regular gospel service Sunday at 12:30 p.m. The community is welcome to attend.

SES PTA bingo

The Schweinfurt Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will host a bingo game Tuesday night in the Elementary School. Hot dog dinners will be available for \$3 beginning at 5 p.m., and the games will begin at 5:30 p.m. PTA members get their first card free! Come join the PTA and have some fun.

Health clinic closed

The USAG Schweinfurt Health Clinic will be closed Monday in observance of the President's Day federal holiday. It will be open regular hours tomorrow, however, for the training holiday. In case of emergency over the long weekend, Leopoldina should be your first option for care. The hospital has a large staff and the emergency room is open 24 hours. The number for Leopoldina is 09721-7200.

SCSC dinner and membership drive

Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler! ("Let the good times roll") with the Schweinfurt Community Spouses' Club (SCSC) Mardi Gras Madness and mid-year membership drive Thursday, Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. at Restaurant Brazil. Cost is 15 euro for a buffet-style dinner. Wear your favorite Mardi Gras or Fasching outfit and join SCSC for just \$5! RSVP by Wednesday at scscrsvp@gmail.com.

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.



- 22 FEB --Basic web design class, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Finney Gym. Call 354-6933.
- 23 FEB --B.O.S.S. paintball, Conn paintball field, 2 to 4 p.m. Call 354-6270 or 0170-725-6464.
--Dodgeball tournament, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Finney Fitness Center.
- 24 FEB --Easter market trip with Ledward Crafts Studio, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call for more info. 354-6903.
--Get your copy of "Pack it Up!" teen relocation assistance guide in The Commons 4-5 p.m.
- 25 FEB --Basic Excel I class, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab. Call 354-6933.
- 26 FEB --Basic Excel II class, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab. Call 354-6933.
--Anger Management (continued from Feb. 19) 3 to 5 p.m. at Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933.
--Seven Steps to Getting Out of Debt, 9 to 10 a.m., Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933.
--Pre-Separation briefing, 9 a.m. to noon, Ledward Yellow Ribbon Room. 353-8859 for info.
- 26-28 FEB --Army Family Action Plan, Conn Club, 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info, call 354-6933.
- 27 FEB --Power Point class, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab. Call 354-6933.
--Leighton ACS Lunch Bunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., meet at ACS. Call 350-7103.
- 28 FEB --Schweinfurt Community Spouses' Club Mardi Gras Madness/mid-year membership drive, Restaurant Brazil, 6 p.m. RSVP by Feb. 20 at sccsrsvp@gmail.com.
--Daddy Basic Training class, Ledward ACS, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Call 354-6933 to register.
--Access computer class, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab. Call 354-6933.
--Ledward ACS Lunch Bunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., meet at ACS. Call 354-6933.
--Ledward library monthly book club meeting, conference room 1, 5:15 p.m. Call 354-1740.
- 29 FEB --B.O.S.S. cosmic bowling, Kessler Bowling Alley, 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call 354-6270.
--Military Saves Campaign financial seminars, 10-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m., Ledward Theater.
- 2 MAR --Easter market trip with Ledward Art studio, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call for more info. 354-6903.
- 4 MAR --Kinder Musik, 10-11 a.m., Abrams Center. Registration limited to 10 3-4 year olds. 354-6933.
- 6 MAR --Final day of youth baseball registration. Call 354-6414 for more information.
- 7-9 MAR --Schweinfurt Community Spouses' Club spring bazaar, Finney Fitness Center, Fri. from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 11 MAR --Schweinfurt Community Update Forum, Schweinfurt Elementary School, 6 p.m.
- 12 MAR --Sign-ups begin for April 12 CYS Super Saturday respite care. Call 354-6517.
--Leighton Community Update Forum, Community Activities Center, 6 p.m.
- 20 MAR --B.O.S.S. "This one's for you" event, Finney Fitness Center. Call 353-8476 for information.
--Teen scrapbooking, Ledward Teen Center, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- 21 MAR --Leighton Parents' Night Out, 6:30-11 p.m. Cost is \$15. Register at Leighton CDC.
- 20-22 MAR --Wuerzburg High School play "Noises Off", high school auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Call 350-7230.
- 25 MAR --Bike and skateboard safety, 4-5 p.m., Leighton Skate Park.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Injured Soldiers find place to serve, heal

By Anne Torphy, BMEDDAC PAO

The United States Army has initiated a new way of helping injured soldiers: the Warrior Transition Unit (WTU). The unit enables Soldiers to focus on the mission to

require complex medical care for longer than six months, or reservists Soldiers on Active Duty Medical Extension (ADME) status are eligible for transfer to the WTU.

WTU Soldiers are supported by dedicated cadre support.

seriously and are using their past training to execute their mission – support the Wounded Warriors.

“Whatever it takes, we’re going to do it. They were fighting for our families, and now we need to help them heal. We wear two hats: With one we have a big heart; with the other, we’re big on discipline,” said 1st Sgt. Ron Quinn, of Schweinfurt’s WTU.

Rather than being a place to avoid Soldiering, the WTU is a true, disciplined Army unit. Soldiers must be present for 6:30 a.m. physical training, as well as at multiple accountability formations throughout the day.

Soldiers are still expected to behave professionally, regardless of injury, according to Col. Theresa Schneider, Commander, BMEDDAC and Bavaria WTU. She advises WTU Soldiers to follow three rules: Take care of yourself as a patient and heal, take care of each other, and live by the Army Values.

If a Soldier is eligible for reassignment to a WTU, unit commanders must submit a DA Form 4187 and a commander’s letter of justification to the local WTU commander. If you are interested in knowing more about the Warrior Transition Unit, please go to www.healthcare.hqusareur.army.mil.



1st Sgt. Ron Quinn addresses the WTU formation. Soldiers in the WTU continue to hold PT and formations, just like other Army units. (Photo by Kimberly Gearhart)

heal so that they may either return to their current MOS, re-class, or transition out of the military and reenter the civilian world.

In Europe, Soldiers that require a Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) review,

Cadre Soldiers in the WTU are a dedicated and veteran group, and many have served the majority of their careers in combat arms positions, such as infantry or tanker. They take this new challenge very

“The cadre makes sure you get to your appointment ... Now I’m getting all my medical issues taken care of, then I can move on with my career,” said Sgt. Timothy Conley.

Other cadre duties include handling administrative paperwork, housing arrangements, and job assignments for Soldiers as well as maintaining daily contact with WTU Soldiers—even on weekends.

SKIES

to each child’s need. They’re extremely professional and knowledgeable,” said Linden. “The instruction here is really great—probably some of the best I’ve seen.”

The instructors speak English, have passed background checks and are CPR certified. They teach both German and English commands to the children as they direct their horses.

“I have fun with the kids when we go in the riding arena. They get better and better each time,” said Christina Seufert, one of the German riding instructors.

“It’s very nice to ride different kinds of horses, and you can get over your fear of heights like I did,” said Emily Linden, 11.

But it’s not only about riding. The children also learn about equipment and how to groom their horses.

“They’re not just learning to sit on the saddle and ride out—they’re actually learning to care for the animals,” said Williams, adding that safety training is as important as learning to ride or saddle a horse.

For more information about SKIES classes, call 354-6460 or 09721-96-6460 or email Tom.Williams@eur.army.mil.

COMMAND

A veteran of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom, Sinclair served with the 2nd and 3rd Ranger Battalions, as well as the 82nd Airborne Division.

A few weeks prior to his return to Schweinfurt, Sinclair turned to a former battalion commander for advice.

“The first thing he told me was to keep it simple. The second bit of guidance was set high standards. The other bit of guidance was to be fair. And the most important guidance was serve something bigger than yourself,” he said.

Looking across the gymnasium floor and into the balcony bleachers, the new commander addressed his leaders and Soldiers.

“I will tell you I was never as good as you. I was never as dedicated as you. And I certainly was never as brave as you are. I thank you so much for your service,” he said.



Sinclair



New decal laws in effect for drivers in Europe

By Art McQueen
USAG Heidelberg PAO

German cities are beginning to establish environmental protection zones, called Umweltzone, where vehicles that do not bear a decal certifying acceptable emission standards will be prohibited from driving.

The cities of Berlin, Hannover and Köln implemented protection zones Jan. 1, and zones will go into effect in Mannheim and Stuttgart March 1. Officials predict a widening of the law in coming years.

“While I don’t see an immediate crackdown coming, there will be random checkpoints, similar to our ‘Click It or Ticket’ program, and drivers need to be prepared,” said Lt. Col. Matthew Coulson, U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg provost marshal. The new law requires that all privately-owned motor vehicles, including those with U.S. Army Europe license plates, bear an emissions decal on the lower right (passenger) side of their windshields to enter a protection zone. Failure to display a decal can result in a €40 fine.

The law outlines four emissions categories based on manufacturing date:

Category 1: Cars, trucks, vans and motor homes with diesel engines registered before Jan. 1, 1997, and those with gasoline engines registered before Jan. 1, 1993,

will be designated as Category 1. These vehicles get no decal, and cannot be driven in a protection zone.

Category 2: Diesel vehicles registered between Jan. 1, 1997, and Dec. 31, 2000, will be designated as Category 2 and will display a red decal. The red decal allows the vehicle to be driven for five years, during which time it must be converted to meet Category 3 or Category 4 emission standards.

Category 3: Vehicles with diesel engines registered from Jan. 1, 2001 to Dec. 31, 2005, will be designated as Category 3 and will display a yellow decal. They are unrestricted.

Category 4: Diesels registered on or after Jan. 1, 2006 and gasoline-engined vehicles registered after Jan. 1, 1993, will be designated as Category 4 and will display a green decal.

Motorcycles, three-wheeled vehicles, and street-legal, four-wheeled, open-seat vehicles without windshields are exempt from the statute, as are military vehicles – including local transportation motor pool vehicles with government plates, Coulson said.

Drivers whose vehicles have a lower rating than Category 4 can have their vehicles converted to meet higher standards and get a new emissions decal from an

approved repair or inspection facility.

Those repair and testing facilities will be on the German economy.

“Vehicle inspection points will not be offering emissions testing,” said Tom Lorenzini, U.S. Army, Europe chief of motor vehicle registration.

“However, since the stickers are based on the date of manufacture, USAREUR motor vehicle inspectors will check to see if the original catalytic converter has been removed, and if so, they will potentially remove the green stickers,” Lorenzini said.

USAREUR drivers can get the new decals free of charge at the vehicle registration offices in their communities right now, Coulson said. Drivers must fill out an AE Form 190-1AA, available online at: <http://rmv.hqusareur.army.mil/forms/190-1aa.pdf>.

“If they fill it out prior to coming in, that will save some time,” Coulson said, “and while the first one is free, additional stickers for the same vehicle will cost \$5.”

To keep waiting times down, Coulson recommends that those with two or more vehicles get stickers only for the vehicle most likely to travel in an environmental protection zone.

For more information, call the USAREUR RMV customer service office at 386-7289 or 0621-718-7279.

Go, speed daters! Go!

Singles gathered in Café Rohr Feb. 12 for the speed dating event sponsored by United Service Organization (USO).

At right, Sandra Valderrama (background) talks with Sgt. Christopher Stemple of 9th Engineer Battalion and Kristina Van Horn smiles as her date, Terence Lillis, answers her questions.

Each participating pair was given five minutes for a “mini-date” in order to ask each other questions and briefly get to know each other. At the end of each round, participants indicated on their secret ballot whether or not they’d like to meet with the person again.

“I got suckered into it. A buddy of mine’s wife signed me up and then called and told me I had to go ... (but) I’m ... open-minded. I don’t have any predetermined plans or anything,” said Stemple. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)





CAV kids donate their locks for love

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

Kari Updike knows she has a couple of great kids.

Cacie, 8, and Paige, 9, are old enough now to understand what “deployment”

Regiment.

“My girls have really been hit hard ... When Scott left, Paige’s grades started to drop,” Kari said. When 1-91 CAV started experiencing losses, it was particularly difficult. The Updike girls, however,



Annette Witas carefully severs Paige Updike’s ponytail for charity donation.

means, and their father, Sgt. 1st Class Scott Updike is currently deployed to Afghanistan with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry

responded with a desire to help others.

They decided to donate their hair.

Paige, an avid Oprah fan, saw an episode during which a celebrity had her hair cut and donated to

Locks of Love, a charity that uses the hair to make wigs for cancer patients.

“I saw a video, back in California, about

kids with cancer. There are a lot of people that don’t have any hair, and they’re sad,” Paige said.

Kari, whose grandfather suffers from cancer, agreed to let the girls donate their hair, and found two organizations which accept hair donation: Locks of Love and Wigs for Kids.

“We decided on Wigs for Kids, since they focus on children,” Kari said.

Yesterday, the Updike family took the leap, visited the Ledward Beauty Salon and had their ponytails severed for charity.

Paige, back on the honor roll and full of stories about school, home, and favorite musicians, was a little scared when it came time to sit in the chair but had the courage of her convictions.

Sister, Cacie, who had been wanting a short cut for some time, was thrilled that her missing hair would be put to good use.

“I just feel so great about donating my hair,” she said.

For those interested in following the Updikes’ example, donation requirements and forms can be found at <http://locksoflove.org/> or <http://www.wigsforkids.org>.

Schweinfurt boxers take gold in K-town

Schweinfurt’s Tyrone Lindsay punishes Horace Youson, of Kaiserslautern, with a powerful combination in the second bout of Kaiserslautern’s Main Event boxing tournament held Feb. 9 in the Miesau gym.

Lindsay delivered the first knockout of the tournament, taking out Youson in the third round to win the gold for the first middleweight, 152-pound, division.

Another Schweinfurt boxer, Jerry Estevez, secured the lightweight category gold, defeating Matt Melton of Baumholder in the first bout of the competition.

The next boxing event in Europe is at the Army Air Field in Wiesbaden Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. For details, call Jon Lacy or Kevin Ringgold at 337-5943. (Photo by Christine June, USAG Kaiserslautern Public Affairs)

