



CAV Soldier earns Bronze Star with Valor

*Story and photo by
Army Pfc. Christina Sindors
Regional Command-East PAO*

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — A Bronze Star with “V” device for valor, the fourth-highest medal awarded by the United States military, was awarded to Sgt. Ryan P. Inabnet of the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry (Airborne) on Fire Base Naray, Kunar province in Afghanistan April 24.

Brig. Gen. Mark Milley, Combined Joint Task Force-101 deputy commanding general of operations, awarded the medal to Inabnet and presented him with a coin for excellence.

Inabnet was recognized for his actions in combat July 27, 2007, when he saved more than a dozen Soldiers’ lives during a combat operation in Kunar province. His Quick Reaction Team (QRT) was called to support International Security Assistance Forces engaged in combat with insurgents.

“We first set out after receiving word

that four casualties on the ground were injured and two of them were serious,”



Brig. Gen. Mark Milley, Combined Joint Task Force-101 deputy commanding general of operations, pins a Bronze Star for Valor on Sgt. Ryan P. Inabnet of the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry (Airborne) April 24 at Fire Base Naray, Kunar province, Afghanistan.

said Inabnet, a wheeled vehicle mechanic. “Once we arrived we got the four injured in the vehicles and dropped them off at the (medical evacuation) site.”

Shortly afterward, Inabnet provided first aid to a wounded Soldier from his QRT.

“Once we had all the equipment and personnel, we started to head back,” said Inabnet. “That’s when we started taking (rocket propelled grenades) and small-arms fire.”

As the group tried to break contact, several Soldiers were wounded and moved to Inabnet’s vehicle.

“My main goal was to get these guys back to the helicopter landing zone so they could survive,” said Inabnet. “I ended up staying up for hours until we got all our guys back inside the (forward operating base).”

“That day will be with me for a long time,” he said. “I would like to thank the Lord above and all my brothers who were in that fight with me.”

Community celebrates volunteer work force

Story and photos by Sandra Wilson

Serving more than 92,000 hours, Schweinfurt community volunteers have contributed over 11,000 full days of work this past year toward making this community a better place to live, work, and play. Friday, Army Community Service honored those volunteers with a luncheon of appreciation at Conn Community Club.



Wendy Sledd, left, emceed the Army Community Service Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Friday as she announced Sara Dick, right, as Agency Volunteer of the Year. Dick receives her award from USAG Schweinfurt Commander Lt. Col. Anthony Haager.

The “groovy” 1970s theme shone through the decorations, music, and outfits of the attendees. Emcee, Wendy Sledd, rolled in on a pair of old-fashioned skates to give a welcome to all of the community’s volunteers before introducing USAG Schweinfurt Commander Lt. Col. Anthony “funkadelic” Haager.

Haager expressed gratitude to these key members who freely volunteered during a season of “enormous change.” With the departure of the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry (Airborne), the return of the brigade last fall, changes in commands and unit designations, and moves to Grafenwoehr, these volunteers nevertheless gave of their time in various ways.

“These changes affect us all, every day, and instead of spending time focused on the difficulties those changes cause you personally, each and every one of you volunteers has instead worked to make those difficulties less for others,” said Haager. “Your dedication serves as a model for us all.”

Recognition went to volunteers selected throughout the year for “Volunteer of the Month” and “Volunteer of the Quarter” for their excellent service. “Volunteer of the Year” was awarded only to six volunteers, according to their category of service.

“I like giving back,” said Sara Dick, who was awarded the title of Agency Volunteer of the Year. “I originally started because my husband was deployed, I didn’t have a job, and I was all alone. I don’t know what else I would have done.”

Dick gave her time to the American Red Cross, Schweinfurt Community Spouse Club, her family readiness group, girl scouts, and the Parent Teacher Association at the elementary school.

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News Briefs

SMS PTA flea market

Now that spring cleaning is finished, do you have a bunch of gently-used items that you don't need but hate to throw away? The Schweinfurt Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association will host a flea market in the middle school gym, Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and tables are available for your spring cleaning clean-up! For more information contact Diane Schmidt 09721-96-6815.

German events

A pottery market will be held in the Schweinfurt Marktplatz tomorrow from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In Bamberg, Volksmarches are planned for Saturday and Sunday between 7 a.m. and noon. Follow the "IVV" signs to the starting point. In Hammelburg, Saturday beginning at nine a large antique, farmer's, and flea market will be held at the Markthalle behind the Rathaus.

Dining room re-opening

Burger King and Anthony's Pizza will host a grand re-opening of their newly-refurbished combined dining room on Conn Barracks Friday. All customers will receive free coffee and cake, and a Whopper eating contest will be held from 11 a.m. to noon. Specials will be available all day starting at 10:30 a.m. Prizes include \$25 gift cards and two X-box 360s.

Learn to eliminate debt

Attend the next Army Community Service (ACS) money management class, "Eliminate Debt for Good" Tuesday at ACS from 9 to 10 a.m. This workshop will provide steps on how to gradually reduce your debt and take control of your money for good. For more information, call 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Crafts Studio trip

Join the Ledward Crafts Studio for a trip to a traditional crafts market Sunday. Transportation leaves at 8 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m. Reserve a seat at 354-6903.

Soup kitchen donations

The Schweinfurt Teen Center is accepting food donations to support a soup kitchen in Poland which feeds approximately 100 people per day. Items specifically needed include rice, dried beans, pasta, and canned corn. Donations will be accepted through Tuesday and can be dropped off at the Schweinfurt Youth Center or Ledward Chapel.

Parking area repairs

The parking lot next to Bldg. 252, which houses the Self-Help and housing offices, will be blocked off next week, beginning Monday, while pavement work is completed. The offices will remain open, and alternate parking is available. Work is expected to be complete by Friday, May 9.

New to Schweinfurt? Come to SNAPS!

Are you new to the community? Sign up for Army Community Service's (ACS) "Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program for Spouses" (or SNAPS). The five-day class starts Monday at ACS at 9 a.m. and will provide orientation to the Schweinfurt military community as well as the town. Explore the mass city transit, downtown stores, and historic landmarks. Also take a tour of the Army health clinic and St. Joseph's and Leopoldina hospitals. Free childcare is provided for the entire week. For more information, call ACS at 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Bulk trash collection

Bulk trash will be collected in Askren, Skyline, Victory Drive, Yorktown, and leased housing areas tomorrow morning. Make sure items are out by 7 a.m. Only bulk items too large for transport in a regular vehicle will be accepted. No recyclables. This special Friday pick-up is in support of spring community enhancement.

Love and Logic

Army Community Service will offer Parenting with Love and Logic classes at School Age Services on Askren Manor tomorrow and Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m. Come discover and improve your parenting style and learn. For more information, or to register, call ACS at 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Schweinfurt Dispatch



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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.



- 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.
 - Dinner & family movie night sponsored by PWOC, Ledward chapel, 5 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. movie. Free childcare for ages 4 and under. The community is invited to attend.
- 10 MAY**
 - Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., bldg 10, Leighton (old furniture store). Call 354-6715.
- 11 MAY**
 - Mother’s Day Brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Conn Community Club. Call 354-6715 to reserve.
 - Mother’s Day Dinner, 3 to 6 p.m., 172nd Brigade dining facility.
 - Vineyard hike with stop at local fish fest, \$10 for guide & transportation. Call ODR 353-8080.
 - Classic car show/rally, Schweinfurt Marktplatz, noon to 1:45 p.m.
- 12 MAY**
 - Unit level softball sign-up deadline. Season begins May 19. Call Finney Gym at 353-8234.
 - Pentacost, German holiday. German stores and some concessionaires closed.
 - Sign-up deadline for USO trip to Potsdam on May 17, leaves at 3 a.m. Call 354-6711.
- 13 MAY**
 - Patchwork quilting class, Ledward Crafts Studio, 6-8 p.m. \$35 for 6 sessions. Call 354-6903.
 - Bulk Trash pick-up in Askren, Yorktown, and leased housing.
 - Community Update Forum, Schweinfurt Elementary School, 6 p.m.
- 14 MAY**
 - Speed Dating with the USO, Rohr’s Cafe, 7 p.m. Sign up at USO by May 12.
 - Community Update Forum, Leighton Community Activities Center, 6 p.m.
- 16 MAY**
 - Fuel ration card overview briefing, 11 a.m., Ledward Theater.
- 17 MAY**
 - 1-77 FA chili cook-off, Kessler gym, noon. To sign up as a contestant, call 09367-982-688.
 - Granger Smith free country music concert, Finney Fitness Center, Conn Barracks, 7 p.m.
- 21 MAY**
 - Basket-making workshop, Ledward Crafts Studio, 6 p.m. Materials provided. Call 354-6903.
- 22 MAY**
 - The 2008 Army Soldier Show, Finney Fitness Center, Conn Barracks, 7 p.m.
 - Corpus Christi Day, German holiday. German stores and some concessionaires closed.
- 23 MAY**
 - CYS facilities closed for Memorial Day training holiday.
- 24-25 MAY**
 - Schweinfurt Commissary case lot sale during open hours.
- 26 MAY**
 - Memorial Day Ceremony, 172nd Brigade HQ flagpole, 11 a.m. Free food and drinks, Conn Community Club terrace available at noon.
- 27 MAY**
 - Bulk trash pick-up in Askren, Yorktown, and leased housing.
- 30 MAY**
 - Community scrapbook crop, 172nd classroom next to Conn Barracks CMR, 6 p.m.-midnight. \$10 for dinner, hourly door prizes, and instructional class. Call 09721-96-6141.
- 31 MAY**
 - D-Day Fun Run, Kessler field. Registration 7:30-8:30 a.m., run begins at 9 a.m.
- 1 JUNE**
 - Sign-ups begin for June 27 Parent’s Night Out from 6:30 to 11 p.m. Call 354-6517/6414.
- 2-6 JUNE**
 - SNAPS orientation for newcomers, Schweinfurt ACS, free childcare. Call 354-6933.
- 6 JUNE**
 - Rock im Park music festival, Nuremberg. Contact SatoTravel for ticket information.
- 14 JUNE**
 - Super Saturday opening at SAS and CDC. Sign-ups begin May 14. Call 354-6517/6414.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Wuerzburg High, German students learn politics

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

Thirty-five high school students traveled to Sambachshof near Bad Koenigshofen last week for a seminar sponsored by the Bavarian State Center for Political Education.

“Originally, back at the beginning, the seminars were meant as a way of expressing gratitude for the Americans who served in Bavaria. Bavarian state government is the only state government that did and does this,” said Andreas Kolitsch, an organizer of the event from the Bavarian Ministry of Education in Munich.

This year marks the 24th annual seminar and included participation from Wuerzburg American High School (WAHS), Ansbach American High School, Gymnasium Miesbach, and Otto-Schott-Gymnasium Jena. Of the 35 students who participated, eight were from WAHS.

The highlights of the seminar included a field trip out to Point Alpha in Rasdorf—what used to be a cold war border observation area and is now a museum and memorial place—and an all-day simulation of the North Atlantic Treat Organization (NATO) Council.

“The students take on the roles of ambassadors to NATO. They are faced with

a crisis and need to deliberate and come to a consensus of how NATO as a whole should react to the crisis,” said Tamir



Amber Manchester, right, senior at Wuerzburg American High School, represents the United Kingdom during the high school seminar NATO simulation last week, as a German student representing Norway presents his viewpoint to the council of students.

Sinai, developer and trainer for security simulations, as he described the students’ task for the day.

“During the simulation, they learn how to work out a problem, make up their mind, and defend their opinions ... and they gain

a lot of knowledge (and) details about history and politics,” said Kolitsch.

The 35 students, each representing a country, were presented with a simulated crisis and given approximately seven hours to come to a resolution.

“I really never knew what (NATO) stood for, who was involved, and what they did,” said Courtney Edwards, WAHS sophomore, explaining how participation in the simulation answered many of her questions.

“It’s really hard to get a compromise and respect each country’s opinion,” said 12th-grader Benedik Kirzeder, a German participant.

One aim of the four-day seminar was to teach the students about history and politics. Another goal was to provide an opportunity as well as encourage interaction between German and American students.

“The main point of the seminar is to promote friendships among the kids and get to know kids their own age,” said Nina Fortson-Leno, world history and German language teacher at WAHS.

“A week like this costs roughly between 6 and 7,000 euros. This is (German) taxpayers’ money, but it is well-spent,” said Kolitsch, explaining how the American students attend at no personal cost.

Scavenging up answers to family care, readiness



The 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment’s Family Readiness Group (FRG) Steering Committee met at the Ledward Yellow Ribbon Room April 2 and participated in an Army Community Service (ACS)-hosted scavenger hunt. The event familiarized FRG leaders, Family Readiness Liaisons, Commanders, and First Sergeants with community services offered by ACS. Lt. Col. Steven Miska, left, took the opportunity to introduce Capt. Josh Buchanan, center, Delta Company commander. Buchanan and Master Sgt. Billy Cook will be responsible for family care when the battalion begins training rotations in Grafenwoehr. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Patrick Purcell)



Schweinfurt celebrates at Family Palooza



Family Palooza-goers Saturday had a chance to conquer the climbing wall like Eloy Torres Jr., 6, top left, or have some family face painting fun like Sgt. Randy Taylor and his daughter Mariella, 3, top right.

Tiny Miss Kinderfest Ashley Faehr, 3, took a ride on Shannon the horse, with the aid of Anja Beckmann of Seufert Ranch, far left, while other pageant contestants awaited their results, left.

Ava Rebolledo, bottom left inset, was far more interested in Bell the Red Cross dog than she was in the M109A6 Paladin 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery had on display. Community youth were invited to climb aboard and investigate like toddler Logan Helm, who got a helping hand from Sgt. Tyson Zook.

A 1962 Euro motorcycle with a sidecar was on display, part of Auto Skills Center manager Tom Woditsch's collection, and Athea McKinney, 2, took an imaginary ride on the classic bike.

A tricycle race, inflatable slide, military police working dog and D.A.R.E. displays, and a parade completed the event, wrapping up another Month of the Military Child with free fun in the sun for all ages. (Photos by Kimberly Gearhart)





Summer Hire offers earning while learning

By Lindsey Cole

The Army Europe Summer Hire program begins June 23, and offers a variety of opportunities for community members ages 14 to 22 to make some money and build their resumes.

The ultimate goal of the Summer Hire Program is to present an opportunity for younger community members to gain meaningful job experience and prepare for future education and career goals while earning a paycheck.

"It's always been a great success, we love having our kids do this program," said Deborah Lawson, administrative services branch chief for the USAG Schweinfurt directorate of human resources.

Program applicants may choose from clerical, labor, or child development types of employment. Each requires a different skill set and so can appeal to a variety of

interests. Clerical work includes secretarial duties, labor involves physical work both in and outdoors, and child development involves childcare duties.

"Of course it's always nice to make money, but my employers also taught me great office skills and improved my computer abilities, which is very useful in my job ... now," said Pauliette Boateng, a 2004 summer hire.

Although space is limited, the Civilian Personnel Assistance Center, which processes the applications, makes every effort to place applicants into preferred employment.

"We try to accommodate everyone who applies with a job that they desire and fits their requests. We never turn (an applicant) away," Lawson said.

Parents whose children participate in the program often find that the benefits go beyond relieving summer boredom.

"It allowed (my son) Bryant financial independence and the opportunity to gain experience in areas of hospitality, landscaping, office administration and time management. It also expanded his knowledge of the 'working world'," said Monica McClendon, a family member with the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry.

Interested community members must complete the application online, and those requiring assistance in completing the application can see Lydia Richards the Abrams Center, room 318, or from the teen center's staff and computer lab. The program is open to unmarried family members ages 14 to 22 whose sponsor is an active duty service member or a Department of Defense civilian. Applications must be submitted by May 16 and are available at <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur/employment/index.htm>.

VOLUNTEER



Lt. Col. Anthony Haager, USAG Schweinfurt commander, and Jenn Litchfield, Army Community Service program manager and organizer of the ceremony, present the community with a symbolic check for more than \$1.5 million. The check is a representation of the number of hours worked by volunteers in the Schweinfurt community.

"I enjoy being able to be around the Soldiers. It's more rewarding than having a job, because I like what I'm doing," said Drexel Warner, named the Civilian Volunteer of the Year.

Warner spent most of his volunteer

time as a program assistant for the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program in Schweinfurt.

Youth Volunteer of the Year, 8-year-old Taelor Duncan, expressed her own reasons for volunteering.

"This is a small community and the more volunteering you do for the community, the more things get done," she said.

And Haager couldn't agree more.

"We could not accomplish half of what we do without the volunteers," said Haager. "It goes to show that our community has a bunch of big hearts in it."

Students make wish lists



From left, second-graders Taran Holmes, Ponce Cardenas Curry, Lea Daniels, and Brianna Downs looked at what was available at the Schweinfurt Elementary School book fair which took place in the elementary school gym last week. They walked around with clipboards and paper to jot down the books desired. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)