



Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

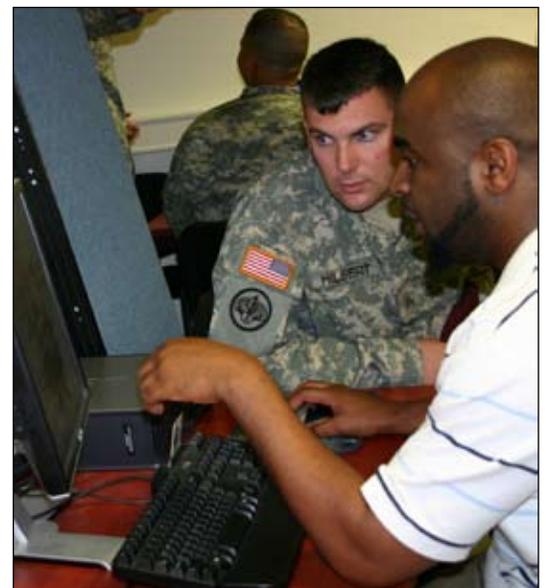
June 26, 2008



Airborne All the Way . . . *...Back to Schweinfurt*

Twelve Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment returned to Schweinfurt following their 15-month deployment to Afghanistan June 19. A brief welcome-home ceremony was held in the Finney Fitness Center on Conn Barracks for the Soldiers, who have already begun the process of reintegration and reset. The rest of the "Airborne Cav" is expected home in the next few weeks.

Clockwise from top right, Sgt. 1st Class Rodney O'Dell gets a "welcome-home-daddy" greeting from his 3-year-old son, Nathan; Jermaine Brown ensures Sgt. Mark Hilbert's personnel records are up to date during day four of reintegration; the banner hanging in the Finney Fitness Center says it all; Soldiers enter Finney Gym. (Photos by Mark Heeter)





News Briefs

Game On!

The Schweinfurt Youth Center's Camp Challenger summer continues into week three. "Game On." From Monday through next Friday youth will experience the week of games. With all types of games ranging from sports to video games. There's also a swimming trip on Tuesday and a parent barbeque at Kessler field next Thursday. For more information call 354-6732, or to sign up call 354-6517.

Vacation Bible School

Ledward Chapel holds the annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) camp during summer. This year's theme is "The Pirates Who Don't do Anything!" from the popular children's Veggie Tales movie. This program is designed for children ages 4 to 10 years old. All ages for volunteers needed! For more information or to sign up as a volunteer call 354-6860, or e-mail at vbsschweinfurt@yahoo.com.

Learn how to swim

Schools of Knowledge Inspiration Exploration and Skills (SKIES) program offers beginners swimming courses during the summer. For youth 5-18 years old, at the Schonungen Swimming Pool every Tuesday and Thursday until July 17. The cost is \$80. For more information or to sign up call Peter Potter at SKIES 354-6460.

Read during the summer

Ledward Library encourages youth and families to catch the reading bee this summer. The family is invited to meet at the library every Wednesday in July, from 1-2 p.m. Activities are offered that will encourage youth to keep up their reading skills while having fun. For more information call the library 354-1740 or 09721-96-6732.

Summer camp for kids

School Age Services (SAS) offers a themed Camp Olympus summer camp. Children may attend on a weekly or hourly basis, but must be registered with Child and Youth Services, and parents must attend a summer camp orientation. For more information, call SAS 354-6974.

Bulk trash

Bulk trash is scheduled to be picked up from Askren Manor, Yorktown Village, government-leased housing Tuesday. 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. For more information, call SORT coordinator Brad Posey at 354-6201.

Get Support

Army Community Service (ACS) holds an Asperger's and Autism Support group tomorrow from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information call ACS 354-6933.

Donate to Polish mission

The Youth Center continues to accept donations for the Elim Christian Mission in Poland until July 7. The soup kitchen in the facility feeds nearly 100 people per day and would appreciate any donations of pasta, beans, canned corn, or rice. Drop off donations at the Ledward Chapel or the youth center, building 241.

Celebrate Freedom Fest

Schweinfurt's annual July 4 Freedom fest takes place at Kessler Field beginning noon ending at 10 p.m. Food and drinks will be served. Many musical guests perform including Sevendust. There will be a large amount of entertainment and activities for all ages. Come out and celebrate!

Bowl for cheap

The Kessler Bowling Center offers June and July specials. On Sundays games are \$1.50 and shoes are free, Tuesday – Friday games are \$1.50 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cosmic Bowling takes place every Friday and Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. For more information call the Kessler bowling center 354-6332.

New Thrift Store hours

The Thrift Store is on block leave until July 8. When they return the new hours will be Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday Noon-5 p.m., and the first and third Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Schweinfurt Dispatch



Commander Lt. Col. Anthony Haager
Command Sgt Maj. CSM Keith McMullen
Public Affairs Officer George Ohl
Command Information Officer Mark Heeter
Writer/Editors Kimberly Gearhart
Elvira Gladwell
Sandra Wilson
Lindsey Cole

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.

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.



- 5 JULY** --Honky Tonk music festival, various locations, downtown Schweinfurt, begins 6 p.m.
- 6 JULY** --Flea market plus Heimat Museum, Arts and Crafts Studio field trip, call 354-6903.
- 7 JULY** --Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band in concert, 7 p.m., Kessler Field.
--Baseball skills clinic, 1st-5th grade, Kessler Field. Call 354-6414 for more information.
- 7-9 JULY** --For grades 6-9, Computer Basic & Windows XP, Basic Word I, Basic Web Design, and PowerPoint. Bldg. 206 room 316, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. Call ACS 354-6933.
- 7-11 JULY** --SNAPS orientation, newcomers awareness program. Call ACS 354-6933.
- 8 JULY** --BOSS council meeting, BOSS lounge, bldg. 64, Conn Barracks. Call 353-8476.
--Georg Schaefer Museum, part of Camp Challenger. Call the Teen Center 354-6732.
--Baseball skills clinic, 6th-12th grade, Kessler Field. Call 354-6414 for more information.
- 9 JULY** --Final day of service for Leighton Vet Clinic.
- 9-10 JULY** --Dramatization about John Wesley and St. Patrick by Roger Nelson, Ledward Chapel, 7 p.m.
- 10 JULY** --Bamberg High School orientation program. Call 354-6460 for more information.
--BOSS Halo 3/Slayer Xbox 360 Tournament, Finney Recreation Center, 6 p.m., 354-8476.
- 12 JULY** --Super Saturday Respite care, Call Child and Youth Services Registration 354-6414.
- 13 JULY** --Schweinfurt Commissary will close at 4 p.m. for shelving upgrades/installation.
--Flea market plus Levi Strauss Museum, Arts and Crafts Studio field trip. Call 354-6903.
- 15 JULY** --Schweinfurt Commissary closed for shelving upgrades/installation.
--Bulk Trash pick-up, Askren, Yorktown, leased housing. Put items out by 7 a.m.
--Smooth Move Seminar, Education Center, 9 a.m. to Noon. Call ACS 354-6933.
--Phantasia Land amusement park, part of Camp Challenger. Call the Teen Center 354-6732.
- 16-17 JULY** --BOSS Dog Days of Summer Festival, Kessler Field beginning at 3 p.m. Call 353-8476.
- 18 JULY** --Black Violins concert, 7 p.m., Finney Fitness Center.
--Daddy Basic Training, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Ledward ACS. Call 354-6933.
--Smooth Move Seminar, ACS building, 9 to 11 a.m., Wuerzburg ACS. Call 350-7103.
--Frankfurt Zoo, part of Camp Challenger. Call the Teen Center 354-6732.
- 21-23 JULY** --FRG/FRL Training, Yellow Ribbon Room, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call ACS 354-6933
- 22 JULY** --Warner Brothers Movie Park, part of Camp Challenger. Call the Teen Center 354-6732.
- 24 JULY** --Custom Made concert, 7 p.m., Finney Fitness Center.
- 27 JULY** --Bad Windsheim - Museum Fest, Arts and Crafts Studio field trip. Call 354-6903.
- 1 AUG** --Teen Summer Stress Buster, open to all teens, Kessler Field, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 4-8 AUG** --SNAPS orientation, new comers awareness program. Call ACS 354-6933.
- 8 AUG** --Holiday Park, part of Camp Challenger. Call the Teen Center 354-6732.
- 8-10 AUG** --Club Beyond High School camping trip to Little Switzerland. Call 01603321498.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Covenant continues to make a difference

By Mark Heeter

The Covenant remains in effect – and continues to save Schweinfurt families thousands.

The Army affirmed its commitment to Army families with the Army Family Covenant (AFC), unveiled in October 2007 and loaded with benefits and programs – especially for deployed Soldiers' families.

"Nothing has changed whatsoever to those benefits," said Michael Payne, USAG Schweinfurt Child and Youth Ser-

vices (CYS) coordinator.

Among the most popular offerings, according to Payne, are the free hourly care during mandatory deployment meetings, free respite care, and child care during family readiness group meetings.

USAG Schweinfurt, which has been a site of constant and overlapping deployments for nearly two years, has had plenty



of experience with the AFC.

"We continue to support Soldiers and families through the AFC every way we can," Payne said,

adding that 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment Soldiers will continue to receive deployment discounts and benefits for two months following their return.

"We're pretty much tied to the Covenant in terms of what

we offer as free programs," he said.

Across the Army, more than one billion dollars were allocated for the AFC, and the money has trickled down to garrisons around the world, in the form of fee eliminations, discounts and free programs for Soldiers and their families.

The AFC has saved Schweinfurt \$57,772.00 through free or half-price hourly care, free child care during FRG and memorial care services, extended care and reduced or eliminated fees, Payne said.

Forces come together during exercise

Soldiers and first responders from Schweinfurt and surrounding communities tend to mock victims in the Kessler Fitness Center during a consequence management exercise Saturday. The exercise demonstrated the partnership between the military and local communities on several levels. (Photo by David Coldwell)



Kids build communication skills with help from ACS

Story and photo by Lindsey Cole

Huh? Whad'ya say? and other mumbled contractions can often be heard when communicating with the younger members of society. Schweinfurt youth had the opportunity to learn more clear, effective ways of communicating, thanks to an Army Community Service (ACS) sponsored class called, appropriately, "Whad'ya say?"

Yesterday, class participants learned how to handle debates, the importance of proper name pronunciation, public speaking, and other areas in communication.

Class instructor Sarah Small tailored the

program to a young audience. For example, she had the kids practice interviewing for news about their favorite cereal.

"I do the best I can to make (learning) fun, so that they can stand on their own and make good choices," Small said.

When asked what she learned, participant Hailey Baker responded: "Umm... I learned you shouldn't say Umm!"

ACS encourages children and families to offer suggestions for new training classes. Whether it's adults, children, units, or families, many classes are offered each month, and you can help determine which ones they are. For more information about



Sarah Small, standing, has fun with the kids as they learn to deal with the media.

upcoming ACS classes, or offer suggestions call 354-6732, or 09721-96-6399.



Fun and learning go full-court press

Story and photo by Lindsey Cole

Although basketball season is over, it's never too late, or too early, to sharpen your skills. Schweinfurt teens were given that chance here June 19-21.

A visit from the Snow Valley Basketball School offered middle and high school students instruction in the essentials of the game and helped them improve their existing skills. Dribbling, passing, running, footwork and other exercise drills kept participants running, leading to an exhausting, but instructional weekend.

Charlie Sands, who retired after 42 years of coaching, and Clete Adelman, who retired after 38 years, are the co-owners and directors of the program and were on hand to personally lend their years of experience to Schweinfurt's youth.

"The biggest benefit is when you see a kid who thinks they can't get better, and then showing them ways to improve. We also try to teach them what we've taught them on the court to use in real life," Adelman said.

The basketball school is located in Santa Barbara, Calif., and traveling internationally to military installations is not very common, according to Sands and Adelman. Their visit to Schweinfurt was the result of coordination between the Child and Youth Services (CYS) program and the youth center sports program.

"They come with the expertise, and we provide the space. The skill level that's being taught to the kids is extraordinary," said Daniel Jones, Sports director.

"The entire experience has been great. The youth are excited to have the opportunity to work with professional coaches. We train our youth to achieve their own personal best and the coaches have the same philosophy," said Donna Hilley, youth center director.



Coach Clete Adelman gives Joshua Richardson and Ambreuna Brown tips on dribbling and footwork.

Participants spent their lunch breaks playing basketball, showing just how involved they were, Hilley added.

"The coaches are really cool and they are teaching me a lot. I hope the rest of the summer challenge (Youth Center's summer camp program) is fun like this," said 14-year-old Andrew Schyra.

I'll take that

Command Sgt. Maj. Keith McMullen, USAG Schweinfurt, joyfully accepts his certificate of retirement from Lt. Col. Anthony Haager, USAG Schweinfurt commander at McMullen's farewell and retirement dinner at the Community Club on Conn Barracks June 19. McMullen, who took over as the senior enlisted advisor to the garrison commander in July 2005, ends his 30-year Army career here. The garrison linebacker, as he has been affectionately called, was feted by leaders and friends from throughout the Schweinfurt community. (Photo by Mark Heeter)





Olympians bring messages of self-confidence, fitness

Story and photo by Kimberly Gearhart

Thanks to a partnership between the Olympics Council; the Boys and Girls Club of America (BGCA); Army Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR); and Child and Youth Services (CYS), children at Schweinfurt School Ages Services (SAS) had a chance to meet and work with two former Olympic athletes: Buddy Lee and Natalie Bartleson yesterday.

Lee is a former Marine, three-time world military wrestling champion, and inventor. Bartleson is a synchronized swimmer with multiple national and world titles and a gold medal from the 1996 Olympic games.

Though from disparate backgrounds, they came with two important messages: the benefits of becoming and staying fit for life, and the need to believe in one's self.

"We believe there is a champion in each and every one of you," Lee said.

Lee, known for his patented jump ropes as well as his wrestling, taught the children to jump rope as a fun way to get fit and challenge themselves to improve.

"Practice, practice, practice makes you better" not perfect, Lee stressed. It is important to understand that mistakes will hap-

pen. It's how you work through and learn from those mistakes that bring the out the champion.

"I believe in you. You have to believe in yourselves ... You can. You will. You must," he said.

Bartleson echoed Lee's assertions.

"We're here to support you," she said.

Competing against only themselves, children were encouraged to work toward continued improvement as a way to achieve life-long goals. Bartleson and Lee could point to themselves as examples.

So could Lt. Col. Tony Haager, USAG Schweinfurt commander.

"(Lee) is right. You can do anything that



Buddy Lee, former member of the U.S. Olympic team as a wrestler, guides children on proper jump roping technique during a visit here yesterday.

you choose to do. Ever since I was your age, my mom said all I ever talked about was doing what I'm doing right now" as a Soldier, he said.

Bartleson and Lee left Schweinfurt for Bamberg, two stops on their eight-garrison tour of Europe, but first presented Haager and the garrison with an Olympic flag as a reminder of their visit.

"This has truly been a brush with greatness," Haager said upon accepting the Olympic flag.

Schweinfurt info just a click away

The USAG Schweinfurt home page has a valuable resource that you, as a community member, may want to investigate.

The "Community Info Vault" is your one-stop-shop for information relating to community programs, event calendars, and even notes and minutes from community-centered meetings.

Did you miss the last Community Update Forum? Check out the Info Vault for a run-down of the information covered.

Wondering if it's okay to leave your sixth-grader in charge of his brother while you run to the commissary? The commander's policy letters are posted in the Info Vault.

The Community Info Vault is one way you can stay informed about what's going on in your community. Check it out on the Schweinfurt home page www.schweinfurt.army.mil.



From left, Victoria Richards, Christina & Nadina Walton begin the first day of summer hire by raking leaves, sweeping and watering the plants at the Teen Center. (photo by Lindsey Cole)