



BOSS series takes top Army honors

By Kimberly Gearhart

Schweinfurt is once again pulling in Army-wide recognition as a community on the forefront of family and Soldier programming. On the heels of a Department of the Army recognition for having



Soldiers participating in "This One's For You" event mixed business with pleasure during reintegration training. The concept earned the Schweinfurt program a Best in Army nod. (photo by Silvia Joiner)

the best recreation center, the Schweinfurt Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) program earned honors for best event during competition in the United States earlier this month.

The "This One's For You," or TOFU, event series was born of the need to help single Soldiers reintegrate upon returning from lengthy deployments.

"We teamed up with several community agencies ... to provide assistance and training in a fun, non-traditional way," said Silvia Joiner, recreation specialist and Schweinfurt BOSS advisor behind the TOFU event series.

For example, representatives from the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) conducted sessions about the dangers of substance abuse. TOFU paired the lesson with a mechanical bull ride and an apparatus known as "drunk goggles."

"We could show Soldiers how different levels of intoxication would affect them by challenging them to perform mundane tasks or with a bull riding contest," said Cathy Manos, ASAP prevention coordinator. The winner walked away with gift cards and a sobering lesson regarding their own abilities while under the influence of alcohol.

Soldiers returning from downrange face the reality of dealing with the aftermath of combat stress: trouble reconnecting with civilian life, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder. The Army is working to reduce the stigma attached to seeking help, and TOFU incorporated that goal.

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Kindergarteners prepare for first day of school

Story and photos by Sandra Wilson

Recognizing a familiar face, being able to open a milk carton, and knowing what the school looks like are a few of the simple factors that can help make a kindergartener's first day of school go smoothly.

Youth Education Support Services partnered with the School Liaison Office to offer the Kindergarten Readiness Camp once again this year to prepare kindergarteners for their new school experience which will begin Tuesday. The camp ran from Aug. 25-27 and included a walking tour of the elementary school.

"It doesn't matter what we get accomplished this week as long as the children are comfortable on that first day of school," said Damon McGiboney, school liaison officer.

Knowing their classmates is integral in creating that positive first experience.

"(Kindergarten Readiness Camp) is a neat little icebreaker to get the kids ready. Some of the kids were with my daughter in German kindergarten, and now they are going to be in the same class," said Darryl Jones who has already fathered three children through kindergarten and attended the camp this year for his fourth.

Almost half of the 74 kindergarteners registered at Schweinfurt Elementary School (SES) attended the camp. And for some of them, the camp was just as much for the student as for the parent.

"I'm excited to see him growing up. I know he's going to do good; he's a people person," said parent Alores Norris, 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery family

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Erin Worley and her group of students exit the nurse's office during their tour of Schweinfurt Elementary School.



News Briefs

Mixed bowling league

An adult mixed handicap bowling league will begin Sept. 4 at 6 p.m. at Kessler Bowling Center. The league is open to the community, with 3- to 4-person teams. The league will play through Dec. 18. For more information, call 354-6332 or see Bob at Kessler Bowling Center.

Schools open doors

Bamberg High School will host an open house tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. Schweinfurt Elementary will hold an open house Wednesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m., and Schweinfurt Middle School will follow with an open house Sept. 11 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Health Clinic closed

The Schweinfurt Health Clinic will be closed tomorrow due to a U.S. Army, Europe training holiday, and Monday due to the Labor Day holiday. In case of emergency, Leopoldina should be your first option, as they have a well-staffed, 24-hour emergency room. The number for the hospital is 09721-7200.

Unit-level soccer

Registration for a unit-level soccer tournament at Finney Fitness Center ends tomorrow. The tournament will be held Sept. 2-4 at 5:30 p.m. daily. Call 353-8234 or 09721-96-8234 for more information.

Fire alarm system

The fire station on Conn Barracks will be without power tomorrow between 11 a.m. and noon due to construction. During this time, automatic fire alarms will not function. In case of fire or other emergencies, please call 117 from DSN lines or 87711 from all other lines.

Library Wednesdays

The Ledward Library hosts a nutritional information class Wednesday mornings from 8 to 10 a.m. and a children's story time from 10 to 11 a.m. Both events are open to the community, and are just two of the many library offerings. For more information, call the library at 354-1740.

Visit Rothenburg

The historic city of Rothenburg offers daily guided tours in English departing from the Marketplatz at 2 p.m. Saturday, the Gasthof Spitaltor will host a public Knight's Dinner and show at 6:30 p.m., and Sunday festivals with singing and dancing for the children at the Burggarten and Marketplatz between 2 and 6 p.m.

AFCU appreciation day

Andrews Federal Credit Union will host a member appreciation day Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Ledward Barracks. The day promises games, food, financial education and much more.

Labor Day

Monday is a Federal Holiday, and garrison offices will be closed, as will Child and Youth Services such as School Age Services and the Child Development Center. Some AAFES concessionaires may be open. Check with individual providers for detailed schedules.

Road repair

The area surrounding the Department of Public Works and housing will be under construction through Sept. 4. Road and parking area repairs and improvements are underway, but in the interim, traffic disruptions may occur. We appreciate your patience.



Schweinfurt
REEL TIME THEATERS

Tonight - 7 p.m. Get Smart (PG-13)
 Tomorrow - 7 p.m. The Mummy (PG-13)
 Saturday - 4 p.m. The Incredible Hulk (PG)
 7 p.m. The Mummy (PG-13)
 Sunday - 4 p.m. The Incredible Hulk (PG)
 7 p.m. The Mummy (PG-13)
 Monday - Closed
 Tuesday - Closed
 Wednesday - 7 p.m. The Mummy (PG-13)

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.

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.



- 6 SEP --Single Soldier adventure day, bungee jumping, 100 euro. Call Outdoor Rec 353-8080.
--Outdoor Recreation high ropes course, \$10. For more information, call 353-8080.
- 8-12 SEP --Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program for spouses. Call ACS 354-6933.
- 9 SEP --Bulk Trash pick-up, Askren Manor, Yorktown, and leased housing areas.
--Halo 3 XBOX 360 tournament, Finney Recreation Center. Call 353-8476 to sign up.
--Club Beyond middle school resumes, Ledward Chapel, 5:30-7 p.m. Call 0160-332-1498.
--Community Update Forum, Schweinfurt Elementary School, 6 p.m.
--Andrew Carroll, author and editor, visits Ledward Library, 7 p.m.
- 10 SEP --Protestant Women of the Chapel kicks off, Ledward Chapel, 9-11:30 a.m. Call 0170-277-8980.
--Wednesday night potluck Bible study begins, location TBA, 6-8 p.m. Call 0170-277-8980.
- 11 SEP --9/11 Remembrance Prayer Breakfast, Conn Community Club, 7 to 8:30 a.m. Call 354-1370.
--BOSS This One's For You event, Finney Recreation Center, 1 to 7 p.m. Call 353-8476.
--Rising Star, Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays through September. Call 354-6255.
--Club Beyond high school resumes, Bamberg Chapel, 5:30-7 p.m. Call 0160-332-1498.
--PWOC Thursday night Bible study begins, Ledward Chapel, 5:30-7 p.m. Call 0170-277-8980.
- 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.
- 12-14 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.
- 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 --Off The Wall, Pink Floyd cover band, Askren Manor, 7 p.m.
--Bulk Trash pick-up, Askren Manor, Yorktown, and leased housing areas.
- 25 SEP --Soldier and family appreciation day with activities, food, music and more, Finney Fitness.
--Circus Busch opens in Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz. Runs through Oct. 6.
- 26 SEP --Rising Star competition final. Come support your contestant at Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m.
- 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.
- 30 SEP --AAFES/DeCA forum, Ledward Barracks bldg. 206, garrison conference room, 9-11:30 a.m.
- 3 OCT --Fall fest & community showcase, Kessler field, noon to 9 p.m.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Dress to impress: Job fair offers opportunities

By Sandra Wilson

Getting a foot into the world of work can sometimes be a discouraging challenge at times. When the marketplace in the States seems to offer such a wide variety, coming overseas can sometimes be a let down for those looking for the perfect job.



Lewis

It doesn't have to be that way, and that's why Schweinfurt

Army Community Service (ACS) is providing an opportunity for the community to explore employment possibilities at the job fair at Kessler Fitness Center Sept. 5 from 2 to 5:30 p.m.

"This is a great opportunity to fully engage (yourself) with all that is available," said Lew Lewis, employment readiness program manager at ACS.

Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC), the office that assists in the hiring process, will be available to provide

support and information to civilians. ACS's primary target is to assist military spouses in employment readiness. Army Career and Alumni Program, or ACAP, will provide information on employment when transitioning out of the army.

Numerous local supporting offices and agencies will be accepting resumes and applications for employment.

"Dress as if you're going to an interview, and have plenty of copies of your resume with you and ... bring a smile on your face," said Karla Lang, resource center coordinator in The Commons. "You can't portray yourself on a paper as much as you can face to face."

The job fair not only opens the job market to potential applicants, but it also provides essential skills in building a resume or offering critiques of your current resume. An interview panel will be on hand to conduct mock interviews. Attending just to make your face known in the community and to network is an essential ingredient to job hunting as well.

"While you're standing there in line take advantage of (networking)," said Lewis. "Sometimes there's a hidden market ... there are certain job positions out there

that are recruited by that fact that I know somebody that knows somebody."

Sometimes employment agencies opt to hire by way of networking to avoid the slow official hiring process, he said. Networking, or sharing what you're capable of doing regarding work experience, education, and training, can be enticing to potential employers.

"A lot of jobs you apply for online you don't get face time at the beginning," Lang said.

And sometimes, job fairs can be your only opportunity to represent yourself in person and make a lasting impression.

The job fair is for everyone with or without a stunning list of qualifications.

"You might not have the work experience. You might not have the training. You might not have the education, but there's nothing that prevents you from doing it or getting started here" at the Schweinfurt job fair, Lewis said.



Lang

FY09 transformation actions

HEIDELBERG, Germany— The U.S. Army, Europe announced today its Fiscal Year 2009 force structure changes. Changes affecting Schweinfurt are as follows:

Signal Command

- The 7th Tactical Theater Signal Brigade (TTSB) in Mannheim relocated to Schweinfurt.
- The 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) in Mannheim relocated to Schweinfurt.

Engineer

- The 596th Engineer Company (Horizontal) activates in Schweinfurt, completing the activation of the 15th Engineer Battalion which began in 2007.
- The 535th Engineer Company in Grafenwoehr relocates to Schweinfurt.

Military Police Actions:

- 522nd Military Police Augmentation Platoons will be activated to provide dedicated community military police support in Schweinfurt.

For the complete release, which details all of USAREUR's FY09 actions, visit www.hqusareur.army.mil.

BOSS

"We had professionals from Social Work Services at the events, just to get their faces out there. The fun environment helped take the edge off meeting and talking to someone" in behavioral health, Joiner said. According to Manos, the same held true for helping agencies such as ASAP and Community Health.

For Joiner, the event was a natural extension of the BOSS mission, although maybe not immediately obvious to everyone.

"It's exactly what everyone (in BOSS) should be doing right now: focusing on the single Soldier and reintegration. We were the only ones in the competition to grasp that concept," Joiner said. "This is really what BOSS is about: taking care of the single Soldier."

That unique insight is what earned Schweinfurt BOSS the Best Event in the Army honor.

TOFU events begin anew Sept. 11 at 1 p.m. in the Finney Recreation Center. Although designed to aid Soldiers returning from downrange, the event is open to all Soldiers.

"We really hope commanders get behind us and that everyone comes out. The life skills are valuable for everyone, and everyone is welcome," Joiner said.

For more information, call 354-8476 or 09721-96-8476 or stop by the BOSS offices located in the Recreation Center.



Citizens overseas can vote by absentee ballot

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
American Forces Press Service

With fall general elections approaching, U.S. servicemembers and civilians living overseas should now be thinking about obtaining absentee ballots to vote, the Defense Department's senior voting official urged today.

"What we want to do is make sure that all of our military members, their family members and all of our U.S. citizens residing outside the United States have an opportunity to vote," Polli Brunelli, director of DoD's Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), told Pentagon reporters.

Based at Arlington, Va., the FVAP carries out voting assistance throughout the Defense Department on behalf of the secretary of defense, who is delegated by the president to administer the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986. Brunelli said the law affects more than 6 million potential voters.

Servicemembers and overseas civilians can access information about absentee voting requirements by accessing www.fvap.gov, the newly designed FVAP Web site, Brunelli said.

"Absentee voting can be done by mail. There are also some alternatives that we've been working with ... for electronic alternatives for our voters," she said. "So many states have passed legislation that allows a voter to submit voting materials by fax or e-mail."

Many states also allow delivery of blank absentee ballots to voters via fax or e-mail, Brunelli noted.

The military is playing a significant role, Brunelli said, by instructing servicemembers how to cast absentee ballots. Military voting assistance officers assigned worldwide also can inform servicemembers and family members about absentee voting requirements, she said.

The mail, as well as fax and e-mail, are potential conduits where voters may cast absentee ballots, said Scott Wiedmann, the FVAP's deputy director.

"We want everyone to participate in the voting process: our servicemembers, their family members and all of our overseas citizens," Brunelli said.

Servicemembers and family members with questions on absentee voting requirements should see their unit voting assistance officer (see table at right) or

Voting Assistance Officers

- 172nd Brigade
 - 1st Lt. Margaret Moody
- 1-2 IN
 - 2nd Lt. Adam Seybert
- 2-28 IN
 - 1st Lt. Matthew McGraw
- 3-66 AR
 - 1st Lt. Michael Chun
- 1-77 FA
 - Sgt. 1st Class Mark Douglas
- 9th EN
 - 1st Lt. Mark Stanard
- 172nd SB
 - 2nd Lt. Stephen Looney
- 1-91 CAV
 - Sgt. Kevin Hegner
- 15th EN
 - 1st Lt. Jasmine Bailey
- Garrison
 - Deborah Lawson
 - James Reilley

read their state registration and voting procedures in the Voting Assistance Guide on the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site.

PREPARE

member.

"(The camp) gave me a lot of information that I didn't even think about like making sure you kiss them goodbye and telling them that you love them when they leave," she said.

Parents were invited to a workshop to learn the details of sending a child off to school and also to share their feelings about it.

"(I'm) nervous because he's my baby, and I'm not ready to send him off into the world," said parent Sunshine Vanmeter, family member from 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment. She also expressed excitement at seeing her son interacting well and having fun with other kids.

While parents attended the workshop, students in small groups learned about their teacher, played team-building games, learned names of fellow classmates, and practiced colors and shapes.

Many of the adult volunteers could see that the children were already adapting well after only the first day of camp.

"They're acting quite comfortable even if they're a little shy to begin with," said Pam Rio, Child and Youth Services outreach services director, who mentored a group of students.

One student even verified how confident she was about going to school for the first time.

"I'm not crying or nothing," said Naomi Huerta.



Kindergarteners Nicole Carpenter, Claire Flynn, Andrew Finch, and Isabelle Roman file out of the School Ages Services building while volunteer Barbara Adamiak holds the door open and chaperone JR Boeltner brings up the tail. The students took a tour of Schweinfurt Elementary School Tuesday as part of the Kindergarten Readiness Camp this week.



Players, coaches needed for youth soccer

By Sandra Wilson

Practice starts next week, but it's not too late to sign up your kid for an exciting season of soccer. Youth Sports and Fitness is also looking for assistant coaches that like to work with kids.

"We keep youth active. We provide them opportunities to



Soccer practice begins next week, but players and coaches are still needed.

explore where their interests are to figure out what they're good at," said Adio Toliver, Youth Sports program associate.

Registration for this season has tallied a total of 117 kids that are signed up to play which is down from last year's 395 participants.

Sign-ups began in June and is still going on, said Derek Walker, Youth Sports assistant director for Child and Youth Services. It will continue to go on as long as participants are needed.

Despite the low count, soccer will still happen for the younger groups, but the older teams, the 10- to 15 year-olds, that travel do require a minimum number of participants to start the season.

"The ones that travel to other communities ... have to have a certain amount to be able to travel," Walker said.

The program fee, \$25 for

3- to 5-year-olds and \$36 for 6- to 15-year-olds, includes the uniform, equipment, and seven games throughout the course of the seven-week season. Shin guards are not supplied but can easily be purchased on post. Registration also requires that the child have a physical completed at the health clinic by appointment.

When it comes time to play soccer, all participants are given the opportunity to be on the field a fair share of time during the games.

"Whether they're good or not, they are going to play; we're here to promote the fundamentals of the sport ... we don't cut kids from teams," Toliver said.

The participation rule entitles each child to play regardless of their abilities. Score is not kept for the younger kids because coaches focus on character development and the

basics of the sport instead of competition.

"(Playing sports) helps them build friendships, teamwork, and gets them out of the house," Walker said.

"A lot of them actually get to the point where they are mentoring each other," Toliver said.

These teachable moments happen both on the playing field and at practices. Teams practice once a week for children 9 and under on Askren Manor and twice for the older kids on Conn Barracks.

In addition to participants, assistant coaches are also needed for the season. No previous experience is necessary, and the only requirement is the completion of the certification clinic offered Sept. 6 in the Ledward Gym.

For more information call Youth Sports and Fitness at 354-6822 or 09721-96-6822.

New 2008 version of DD Form 93 in effect immediately

By Mark Heeter

The Department of Defense has unveiled a January 2008 version of the DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, rendering all previous versions obsolete.

The most significant change to the document is the option Soldiers now have to designate up to 10 beneficiaries for the death gratuity, according to Victor Roman, military personnel division (MPD) supervisor with the USAG Schweinfurt Directorate of Human Resources.



Rodriguez

"This (new form) also requires the Army to notify the spouses of married Soldiers who would like to give any portion of the death gratuity to anyone other than their spouse," he said.

"Soldiers can log into AKO My Forms portal to complete the January 2008 version of this form in a self-service mode," Roman said.

"All the commanders have been made aware of this, and they are supposed to disseminate this information down to the lowest private through the chain of command," Roman said. Soldiers in locations without computer support must be permitted to use hard copy pen-and-paper form.

Most Schweinfurt Soldiers, those in Personnel Services Delivery Redesign (PSDR) units, must see their unit personnel section to update their DD 93, Roman said.

The MPD has begun extracting data from Soldiers' older forms to transfer to the current form, said Salvadora Rodriguez, human resources technician with the MPD.

Rodriguez has noticed a problem with several of the older versions that she hopes the current scrub will correct.

"I think it's very important for them to put the correct address, and not just the CMR address in there. They need to put their physical address in there. That's the most important thing," Rodriguez said.



Roman

More than simply addresses, though, she said Soldiers need to be extremely careful with all the details on the form.

"I've been going through those files and have been surprised that some of the names have been spelled wrong," she said.

For questions about the new version of DD 93 or an explanation of beneficiary options, Soldiers should see their unit personnel section.