



Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the Military Community of Schweinfurt

April 3, 2008



Vanguard remembered in Conn Chapel service

By Kimberly Gearhart

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment gathered Friday to remember Pvt. Jeremiah Carmack, whose death March 14—three days before the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment became 1-2 IN—meant he died a Vanguard, but still at brother-in-arms of the Black Scarves.

“We will all end this life in some final setting. It is a natural human tendency to focus on the passing,” said Lt. Col. Steven Miska, battalion commander. “But I would argue that the real value of our lives comes when it is at its peak.”

Carmack was a prior-service Soldier who joined the Army for the second time in July and came to Schweinfurt as Vanguard

assigned to the rear-detachment. The brigade returned in the fall.

Having not served downrange with his battalion meant that Carmack was not well known, according to Miska.

“But we all mourn his loss,” he said.

At thirty years old, Carmack was a bit older than the average private and quiet. He made friends “in the army way,” by accident of association in the battalion, rather than by actively seeking them out, said Pvt. Steven Calnan.

“He was a good guy,” he said.

Carmack was a source of Army knowledge Calnan could tap into and a movie aficionado who seemed to know, within seconds, what flick was playing on the tube.

“It’s like he had seen every movie we could want to watch,” Calnan said.

Although he did not serve in Iraq with the battalion, Miska asserted that Carmack’s willingness to do so, as proven by his enlisting during a time of war, defined his character, and is worthy of honor and remembrance.

“He was a son, and a brother, and a nephew of whom his family will always be proud. He was also a Soldier,” and will always be a Vanguard, Miska said.



Carmack

Schweinfurt gets crafty for Month of the Military Child

By Lindsey Cole

April is the month of the military child. The crafts studio is partnering with School Age Services (SAS) and the youth center in offering new activities for military kids.

“Partnerships ... particularly with the crafts studio, allow our children the benefit of ... specialized knowledge. It allows us to do projects that might be more difficult ... (and gets) the children out of the building and into the community,” said Bobbie Jones, SAS director.

Wednesday, community youth are invited to participate in candle-dipping. Tie-dye T-shirts on April 16 and learn the craft

of melty beads on April 23. All events take place from 4-6 p.m. at the crafts studio on Ledward Barracks. The studio will also have a craft station in this year’s community family palooza April 26 on Askren Manor.

“This is a great social experience ... and great for families to reconnect,” said

David Haywood, arts and crafts program director.

Even beyond the special April events, the crafts studio offers activities for everyone. Whether you’re an adult, child, single Soldier, or an entire family, numerous programs, from beginning pottery to advanced quilting, appeal to crafters of all sorts.

“Instead of people going out and spending a huge amount of money on equipment for one thing they’re not even sure of, they can come to the crafts studio first and discover what they like and develop their skill,” Haywood said.

Crafting may serve as a much needed stress-reliever as well, especially during or after deployments. In addition, participants get a chance to interact.



The little Miss and Masters of Schweinfurt led children from School Age Services and the Child Development Center on a parade around the commissary parking lot Monday during a kick-off celebration for the Month of the Military Child.

“It’s a really great place to come and unwind. Everybody’s relaxed when they come in the doors,” said TiAuni Cruz-Waller, an employee at the crafts studio.

The majority of these programs are offered at little or no cost to the participant. There

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News Briefs

Bulk trash picked up

Bulk trash will be picked up in Askren Manor, Yorktown Village, and government-leased housing on Tuesday. Please put bulk items out before 7 a.m. the day of pick up but no earlier than the day before. Only items that are too large to transport in a vehicle are considered bulk trash.

Red cross training offered for babysitters

Schweinfurt's American Red Cross offers a babysitting course with infant and child CPR training in the Red Cross conference room, building 206 on Ledward Barracks April 10-11. The two-day class costs \$45 and runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. For more information, or to sign up, call 354-1760 or 09721-96-1760.

Tuition assistance temporarily inaccessible

The Education Center regrets to inform Schweinfurt Soldiers that the GoArmyEd Portal has been shut down until further notice. This affects Soldier accessibility to tuition assistance (TA). TA will not be available until the portal is back up and running again. For more information, call the education center at 354-6383 or 09721-96-6383.

Help feed the hungry

The Schweinfurt youth center is now collecting food donations for a mission in Poland. The mission's soup kitchen requests specific items: dried beans, rice, pasta and canned corn. The food drive has already begun and will run through May 7. Drop off your donations at Schweinfurt youth center or the Ledward chapel. For more information, call Donna Hilley, youth center director at 354-6308 or 09721-96-6308.

Free German language course offered

Schweinfurt's Army Community Service (ACS) starts a beginners German class in the Ledward Yellow Ribbon Room tomorrow. Classes run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will be held each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until April 30. Learn and improve the basics of your German communication in this free language course. To sign up, call ACS at 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Teens go to Paris Disney

The Schweinfurt youth center invites all teens to join in on the spring break trip to Disneyland Paris from Tuesday through Thursday. The cost is \$75 and includes transportation, entrance fees, snacks and fun! To sign up, call the teen center at 354-6732 or 09721-96-6732.

Italian opera performs

The downtown Schweinfurt theatre is showing an Italian opera performance of "Madame Butterfly" today through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Come enjoy this classic show and take pleasure in an event on the economy. Call 09721-510 or 09721-51475 for tickets.

Sexual assault seminar

Schweinfurt Army Community Service (ACS) offers a sexual assault risk reduction seminar at the Ledward theater Wednesday at 10 a.m. Identify risk factors, common trends and prevention tips. To reserve a seat, call ACS at 354-6933 or 09721-96-6933.

Visit wild park

Leighton Army Community Service (ACS) invites families to take a trip to the Sommerhausen wild park Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a lunch and euro for shopping and 3 euro entrance fees. To sign up, call Leighton ACS 350-7103 or 0931-889-7103.

Downtown stores open Sunday

Downtown Schweinfurt stores will be open for business on this special Sunday opening. Also, visit the flower and arts and crafts market at the market square from noon to 6 p.m.

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.



- 11 APR** --Sign-ups begin for May 10 CYS Super Saturday respite care. Call 354-6517.
--Kinder Music session, Leighton CDC, 10 to 11 a.m. Call ACS to sign up at 350-7103.
- 12 APR** --Retiree Appreciation Day, building 40, Conn Barracks, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
--Dodgeball Tournament, Finney fitness center, 10:30 a.m. Open to all I.D. card holders over 18.
- 14 APR** --Auditions for April 19 "Robin Hood" children's play, Askren SAS, 4 p.m. Call 354-6974.
--Spring enhancement deadline for DPW supply requests. Call (SHIP) 354-6853 or 350-7212.
--Free basic computer class, Ledward bldg. 206, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. Call 354-6933 to sign up.
- 15 APR** --No-risk investing financial class, Ledward ACS, 9 a.m. Call for more information, 354-6933.
--Anger management series part 1 of 3, every Tuesday, Ledward ACS, 3-5 p.m. Call 354-6933.
--Love & Logic series part 1 of 4, Askren Manor SAS, held April 15, 18, 22, 29. Call 354-6933.
--Schweinfurt Community Update Forum, Schweinfurt Elementary School, 6 p.m.
--Free basic MS Word class, Ledward bldg. 206, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. Call 354-6933 to sign up.
- 16 APR** --Wuerzburg Community Update Forum, Leighton Community Activities Center, 6 p.m.
- 17 APR** --National Prayer Breakfast, Conn Club, 7 a.m.
--Federal resume training, Ledward ACS, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Call 354-6933.
--Ledward library celebrates national poetry month with salad lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
--Free basic web design class, Ledward bldg. 206, 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. Call 354-6933 to sign up.
- 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.
- 23 APR** --Take Back the Night Walk, Askren Manor Commissary, 6 p.m. For more info., call 354-6933.
- 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** --Community scrapbook crop, classroom 299 next to Conn CMR, 6 p.m. to midnight.
- 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.
- 28 APR** --Spring community enhancement begins. Get supplies at DPW before April 14.
- 1 MAY** --Wee Can Do It success series: hula dancing, Leighton CDC, 4 to 5 p.m.
--German holiday, stores will be closed.
- 9 MAY** --"Keeping in touch" class, Leighton/Ledward teen centers, 4 to 5 p.m. Call 354-6933.
- 12 MAY** --Unit level softball sign-up deadline. Season begins May 19. Call Finney Gym at 353-8234.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Ladies head to U.S. Forces, Europe championships

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

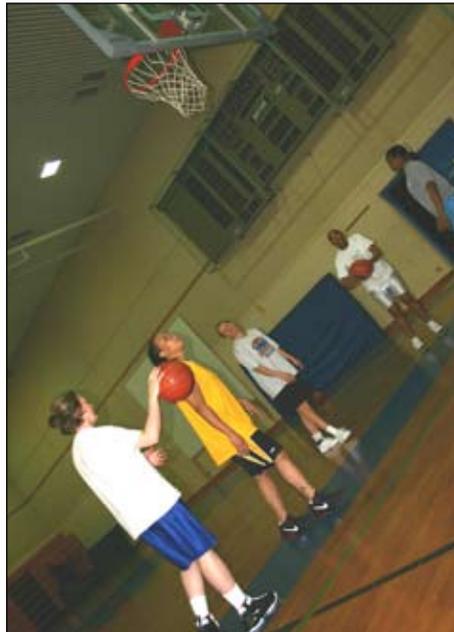
Following their second-place finish at the USAREUR championships, the Lady Magicians, the Schweinfurt community-level basketball team, are headed to Aviano, Italy, for the U.S. Forces, Europe, championship April 17-20.

Flexibility with a constantly changing roster was one of the team's keys to its successful season, according to coach R.J. Jones.

"They played together as a team. We had some players come and some go (throughout the season)," Jones said. Only four members of the team were there for the first practice and remain today, he said.

"With sports in general, you have to be flexible," he said.

Conversely, the high personnel turnover has caused Jones his greatest concern: a relatively shallow



Members of the Schweinfurt Lady Magicians practice at the Kessler Fitness Center.

bench and pool of reserve players. "That's where we hurt," Jones said.

Still, he said, the players stick together as a team.

"They work as a family, they cover each other and encourage each other," he said.

The Lady Magicians were unable to overcome Mannheim in the championship game.

"We beat them in the first game," said Patrice Jones, the team captain.

"We were expected to go out in the first round," Jones said, adding that they followed with a win over Baumholder, the pre-tournament favorite.

The team looks forward to Italy with a determination to win – and the chance to enjoy themselves. "As long as we come together as a team and have fun, we play hard," said player Cece McRae. "When we go to a tournament, we have fun."

State-of-the-art radiology facilities just outside your door *Just one more benefit of getting medical care in Schweinfurt*

By Kimberly Gearhart

Living overseas with the military often means having limited access to medical specialists on post. In Schweinfurt, this isn't such a big problem, because English-speaking host-nation providers in Schweinfurt can supply such a wide range of care options for American patients, including some of the most state-of-the-art diagnostic care available.

Prof. Dr. Jean-Michel Friedrich and his partners run the Radiologische Praxis Schweinfurt, with locations near St. Josef's and Leopoldina hospitals. Friedrich's clinic specializes in many forms of diagnostic testing including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), x-ray, sonograms, mammograms, and computerized tomography (CT) scans.

"We have an enormous demand for testing. Our clinic is the only certified screening facility in our area," Friedrich said.

The clinic next to Leopoldina was also one of the first clinics to employ what is known as a 3-tesla MRI scanner and is still the only such machine in the area.

"The machine is especially good for imaging joints. There is a great amount of fine detail to help in diagnostics," Friedrich said.

And the process is very fast, taking only about five minutes to scan, rather than 30 or more as can be the case with other imaging techniques. The shorter scan time means patients do not get restless and move, requiring repeated scans.

Patients undergoing diagnostic tests are counseled regarding findings and given

both a picture CD and print outs of imaging to take back to their primary care physician. Additionally, the clinic prepares English-language short reports regarding the diagnostic results for American physicians.

"Those reports help us quite a bit. When reports come in German, we sometimes have to wait weeks for an official translation," said Kevin Worth, nurse case manager in charge of host nation care with the Schweinfurt Health Clinic.

The short reports contain all of the essential information to help physicians interpret the diagnostic

images and best decide how to proceed with a care plan for the patient, Worth explained.

"We let the physician who referred the patient decide what to do after the testing," Friedrich said. "The absolute most fundamental part of good care is patient/doctor communication."



Kimberly Gearhart
Prof. Dr. Jean-Michel Friedrich, right, explains the benefits of high-resolution MRI scanning for joints, such as the knee, to Registered Nurse Kevin Worth, of the Schweinfurt Health Clinic.



Give input about overseas housing allowances

By Sandra Wilson

As the value of the dollar drops, the cost of living off-base may seem to be stealing money out of your wallet. Housing allowances may not cover all of the expenses incurred in private rentals anymore. For this reason, Per Diem Travel, Transportation and Allowance Committee is offering a chance for service members stationed in Germany to give their input through a short overseas housing allowance (OHA) survey.

“If the soldiers don’t do the survey, the people sitting in D.C. who calculate the allowance don’t know what’s needed,” said Master Sgt. Rhonda Thomas-Evans, sergeant major of finance operations for 266th Finance Command in Schweinfurt.

The survey is intended for all service members who receive OHA and live in privately-leased quarters. The data collected through this survey will be used to determine future overseas housing allowances, and participation is particularly important because of the current value of the dollar.

“What happened in the past is that if there is very little turnout, then the assumption is the OHA entitlement is just where it should be ... This is their opportunity to say that the current OHA rate is not an actual reflection of what they’re paying right now because of the (exchange) rate,” said Darryl Jones, Schweinfurt Army Community Service (ACS) financial readiness program manager.

The survey takes a mere 15 minutes to fill out, according to Jones, even though the website says to allow 30-40 minutes. And April 17, the final day to complete the survey, is right around the corner.

“A lot of Soldiers don’t pay attention to it until they don’t get the money— but then it’s too late,” Thomas-Evans said.

Having bills or records on hand to input actual euro paid is the best and most accurate way to respond, she explained, but if you don’t have records, fill out the survey anyway.

In the past, the survey had a paper format, but this year it is only accessible online.

“Responses can only be made via computer,” Thomas-Evans said in an Installation Management Command-Europe press release. “An unfinished survey can be saved and completed later. But the unfinished survey can be accessed only from the same computer from which it was started.”

Results of the survey will be used to calculate next year’s allowance and reimbursements to service members, she said.

“You have the opportunity to be a part of (a solution to) what we complain about,” Thomas-Evans said.

The survey can be accessed through USAG Schweinfurt’s home page at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/> or through a link on the 266th Finance Command’s home page at <http://266fincom1.hqsareur.army.mil/>.

UMUC hosts open house, registration through Wednesday



Professor Bob Mann, director of the Public Administration graduate program and instructor for the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) talks with prospective students during a UMUC open house Tuesday on Conn Barracks. Professors and administrators from the Heidelberg UMUC campus joined local field representatives in answering questions and offering guidance to students in the Schweinfurt military community.

Registration for Term 4 classes with UMUC will continue through Wednesday. Stop by the Ledward or Conn Education centers or call 354-6398 or 353-8661 for more information. (Photo by Kimberly Gearhart)



Martial arts tourney in Stuttgart

IMCOM-E press release

STUTTGART, Germany – Competitors of all ages are invited to an open martial arts tournament at U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart’s Patch Fitness Center May 17-18.

This tournament will qualify participants for the World Organization of Martial Arts Athletes World Championship tournament scheduled to be held at Castlebar, Ireland, August 16-17.

This is an open qualifier for all styles, all systems, all ages and all belt ranks. Athletes can be as young as 5.

The top four U.S. athletes in each division will qualify to represent Team USA at the annual WOMMA tournament.

Divisions include grappling, breaking, continuous sparring, point sparring, realistic self-defense, weapons forms, musical weapons forms, traditional weapons forms, traditional forms, creative forms and musical creative forms.

“Last year 13 athletes from USAG Stuttgart attended the 2007 WOMMA world championships and brought back nine gold, 15 silver and two bronze medals,” said Stefan McRae, tournament

organizer and Stuttgart SKIES taekwondo instructor. “Only one of the 13 had ever been to a tournament before.”

This is an opportunity for martial artists to compete on a world-class level that would not normally be provided to them, McRae noted.

“I’d like to see all martial artists with the skill set represent the U.S.,” McRae said. “What better reward can you have?”

Registration forms can be downloaded from www.bluewaveinternational-tkd.com/BWIT/Tourny.php.

The entry fee is \$20 for three events. Each competitor will receive a complimentary tournament T-shirt. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Child and Youth Services and mailed to: USAG Stuttgart, CYS, Unit 30401, APO, AE 09107.

Competitors must complete registration forms by April 21. Payment must be received by CYS no later than April 28.

For more information, contact Jeff Carpenter, the USAG Stuttgart CYS SKIES director, at jeff.carpenter@eur.army.mil or visit www.bluewaveinternational-tkd.com. More information on the WOMAA World Championship Tournament can be found at www.womaa.com.

New field artillery crest puts ‘Falcons First’



Pfc. Robert Ward, 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery, sketches out the unit’s new falcon crest on a wall at the unit headquarters on Ledward Barracks, Schweinfurt. 1-77 FA is part of 172nd Infantry Brigade (Separate), activated here March 17. Once the sketch is completed, Ward will paint over it with acrylic colors, which he anticipates finishing in a couple of weeks. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)



Come see Twista in concert



With a myriad of successful albums, singles, TV involvement, endorsements and movie appearances, entertainment phenomenon Twista has developed himself not only into a successful emcee but also into a brand in and of himself.

Twista has repeatedly sold gold and platinum in the U.S. and internationally and has produced singles that receive continuous play on radio and television outlets alike. In addition to his own hits, Twista has made appearances on tracks of other well known artists such as Sting, Jay Z, Diddy, Mariah Carey and Usher, reaching nearly 50 million fans in addition to his own core following.

Twista has also been involved with the movies, "Coach Carter" and "Mission Impossible III." He is a regular at big media events such as the Grammy's, BET Awards, Source Awards, MTV Awards, NBA Allstar and Billboard Awards annually where he is continually in the spotlight of the media.

Shredder available, widely used

Officials aim to reduce usage by outside units

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

Goopy clumps of waterlogged paper shreds drip off the metal chute into the bucket, completing the journey of what began as a pile of outdated training manuals for some piece of military equipment. This is the industrial-strength document shredder, authorized for the destruction of classified documents. The machine is located in building 147 at the hazardous waste storage facility and recycling center on Conn Barracks and is available for Schweinfurt-based units and organizations, said Tim Snyder director of the USAG Schweinfurt Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

"We pay for it. It's our money that pays for the maintenance, the operation," Snyder said, emphasizing the ongoing effort to reduce the machine's usage by units from outside Schweinfurt.

"We have many units from elsewhere. They call and say they have to use ours," said Lothar Rueckert, the chief of the DPW environmental division, which runs the shredder's operation.

"We pay for the trash removal," Rueckert said.

The shredder is approved for disposal plans, manuals, regulations and all types of classified material, Rueckert said,

adding that units should abandon the old practice of using burn barrels in the motor pool for this task.

Authorized users can take up to 50 kilograms of paper to the center Tuesdays without an appointment; all others must make an appointment, Rueckert said. For more information or to make an appointment, call 354-6795 or 09721-96-6795.



Pvt. Kurt Honicutt loads old manuals into the paper shredder at the recycling center on Conn Barracks Tuesday. This is the only facility authorized for destruction of classified documents.

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is the option of purchasing more items at the store located within the studio. However, Haywood made it clear that the programs themselves are provided solely for enrichment of community members— not to make a profit.

Several arts and crafts programs are available to fit every aspiration of each individual, including programs offered only here in Schweinfurt, such as mold ceramics. Because of the unique availabilities that are offered, many individuals come from all over Germany to use the facility. If interested in any of these opportunities, visit the crafts studio on Ledward Barracks in building 203 or call 354-6903 or 09721-96-6903. The studio's hours of operation are Wednesday and Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Month of the Military Child events

- April 8--Sommerhausen Wildpark, meet at Leighton ACS at 10 a.m.
- April 9--Candle-dipping at Ledward Crafts Studio, 4-6 p.m.
- April 11--Kinder Musik, 10-11 a.m., Wuerzburg CDC.
- April 14--Auditions for "Robin Hood," 4 p.m. at SAS, Askren Manor.
- April 16--Parenting the young child, 9-10:30 a.m., Wuerzburg ACS.
- Tie-dye T-shirts at Ledward Crafts Studio, 4-6 p.m.
- April 17--Parenting the young child, Schweinfurt ACS, 1-2:30 p.m.
- April 19--Missoula Children's theater performs Robin Hood.
- April 22--Schwanberg & Gummibear Factory, meet at Leighton ACS, 10a.m.
- April 23--Melly beads at Ledward Crafts Studio, 4-6 p.m.
- April 24--Teen movie night, 6:30 to 9 p.m., Abrams Center.
- April 26--Family Palooza, noon to 4 p.m., Askren Manor.
- April 26--Little Miss & Mister pageant, noon-3 p.m., Askren Manor