



## It's an Army family affair in Schweinfurt

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Andy Bryant and his brother, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. John Bryant, are separated by just more than a year in age – and only about 100 meters at their workplaces.

“They were 16 months apart in age, but they connected as if they were twins,” said their father, retired Army Lt. Col. Gary Bryant. “They were very, very close.”

Andy, 25, with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 77<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, and John, 23, with the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, even ended their deployment to Iraq the same day, both returning to Schweinfurt Nov. 15.

“They arrived on schedule, but I was banking on them being a day or two late,” said Gary, who spent five days with his sons upon their return, despite having missed their separate welcome-home ceremonies that day by only a few hours.

Upon arrival in Schweinfurt in March 2009, John was originally slated to be assigned to a different engineering unit but asked to be switched to the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers so he could be deployed with his brother.

“Scared mom a little bit,” Andy said, though Gary noted the Soldiers’ mother was somewhat relieved to have them serving together in Iraq.

The brothers, both of whom received commissions through the



From left, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. John Bryant, his brother 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Andy Bryant, and their father, retired Army Lt. Col. Gary Bryant were reunited for five days in Schweinfurt when the brothers returned from Iraq.

Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at the University of Miami, did not have the opportunity to link up until they were preparing to return to Schweinfurt a few weeks ago.

“I tried to get down there but the mission wouldn’t let it,” said Andy, whose platoon was adopted by some members of the

**FAMILY, see page 6**

## Blood drive to ring in New Year with the gift of life

Story and photo by Emily Athens



Amanda Williams, family member of 172<sup>nd</sup> Support Battalion, gives blood at the last Schweinfurt blood drive. All community members are encouraged to come out and donate blood Jan. 12, 2010 at Kessler Fitness Center.

A little can go a long way; especially when it comes to giving blood.

According to the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) Web site, just 80 units of blood can be used to help over 200 military members and their families, and for some, this means life.

Two units of the Schweinfurt community, the 44<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Signal Battalion and the 15<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, recognize the significance of blood donation and are sponsoring a blood drive Jan. 12, 2010 to ring in the New Year.

“I’m a big believer in donating blood. It’s been a while since Schweinfurt has done anything so I’m happy to hear we could do this,” said Kimberly Messer, family readiness support technician for the 44<sup>th</sup> ESB, emphasizing her excitement for being able to partner with another Schweinfurt unit, and sponsor what they hope to be a successful drive.

“Ever since losing a family member, I give as much blood as humanly possible,” said Spc. Robert Beggs, Headquarters Headquarters Company, 15<sup>th</sup> EN Bn,

**DRIVE, see page 6**

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving



# sprechen sie fun?

*Events and activities in the local communities*

for more information on local activities and events visit:  
[www.schweinfurtserver.de/user/tourismus/Neu/stadtplan\\_EN\\_Endversion\\_2008.pdf](http://www.schweinfurtserver.de/user/tourismus/Neu/stadtplan_EN_Endversion_2008.pdf)

**Christmas Markets**, or Christ-kindlemarkte, are a centuries-old holiday tradition in Germany giving locals and visitors the chance to shop for gifts, food, and decorations in the heart of the city.

**Schweinfurt Christmas Market**  
**Thu., Nov. 26 - Thu., Dec. 24:**

**Opening Hours:**

Mon.-Sat: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sun: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thu., Dec. 24: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Participate in a raffle at the Schweinfurt Christmas Market. Buy raffle tickets for 2 euro each at any of the booths and participate in a drawing held every day at 7 p.m. at the "Adventskalender," with 3 prizes – gift certificates worth 150, 100 or 50 euro. The grand prize is a Hyundai I classic, worth 10,575 euro. The grand prize drawing for the car will take place on Dec. 24 at noon in the market square.

## Highlighted Market Events:

**Thu., Nov. 26**

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. Free childcare provided by the city's youth office.

5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The "Turmblaeser" brass ensemble play advent music from the Rathaus tower.

5:30 p.m. Official opening by the Lord Mayor of Schweinfurt.

**Fri., Nov. 27**

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The brass band of Duerfeld plays Christmas music.

**Sat., Nov. 28**

2 – 3 p.m. The protestant trombone choir performs Christmas music.

3 p.m. The "Christkindl" from Nuernberg visits the Schweinfurt Christmas market, gives a speech and then distributes candies to the children.

**Sun., Nov. 29**

2 – 3 p.m. Saxophone ensemble plays Christmas music on stage.

4 – 5 p.m. Jazz Odyssey plays modern advent music on stage.

**Mon., Nov. 30**

3 – 4 p.m. Tour of the Schweinfurt Christmas Market. Meet at the Nativity scene.

## Other Schweinfurt events...

**Fri., Nov. 27**

**Candlelight swimming** at the indoor pool in Gochsheim, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

**Sat., Nov. 28**

**The choir "Liederkranz Schweinfurt"** performs an opera and operetta concert at the city theater, Rosssbrunnstrasse 2 in Schweinfurt, 7:30 p.m.

**The Brass Hoppers Big Band** performs a concert "Let's swing and funk" at the Kulturhalle in Grafenrheinfeld, 8 p.m. Tickets available at the entrance.

**Christmas market** at castle Mainberg

**Advent market** in Gochsheim, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Sun., Nov. 29:**

**Christmas market** in Hambach.

**Advent "Kirchgadenfest"** in Geldersheim, 10 a.m.

**Ice hockey game** - Schweinfurt Mighty Dogs vs. EV Regensburg at the Schweinfurt Ice Dome, 6 p.m. Tickets at the door.

**Thu., Dec. 3 - Dec. 24:**

**Christmas Tree market**, Schweinfurt, Martin-Luther Platz.

**Fri., Dec. 4**

**Uriah Heep**, a legendary English Hard Rock Band performs at the "Stadthalle" in Schweinfurt at 9 p.m. Tickets are available at the Schweinfurter Tagblatt, book store "Collibri", ticket hotline at 09721-548810 or [www.sw-concerts.de](http://www.sw-concerts.de).



## 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](mailto: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 354-1400/6381 or (09721) 961400/966381.



# This week...

## Ed Center class

The Schweinfurt Education Center offers a Leadership Skill Enhancement Instruction course, counseling practicum techniques on Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4 at 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 09721-96-6383.

## ASAP prevention event

The Army Substance and Abuse Program will conduct an awareness program, the "Save a Life Tour," Monday, Dec. 7 through Wednesday, Dec. 9 at Finney Recreation Center. Call 09721-96-1710 for details.

## Commissary closed

The Schweinfurt Commissary will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 26 for Thanksgiving. Regular hours will resume Friday.

## CMRs open Saturdays

To accommodate holiday mailing traffic, Schweinfurt community mailrooms and post offices are now open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through Dec. 19.

## Stars and Stripes welcomes brigade

The Stars and Stripes will feature a special welcome home section dedicated to the 172nd Infantry Brigade in the Friday, Dec. 4 edition. Pick up a copy of the paper to view the highlights of the Blackhawk Brigade as they complete another successful mission.

## G.U.T.S.

Teen newcomers are invited to Army Community Service's class "Giving Understanding to Teens in Schweinfurt," or G.U.T.S., at the Schweinfurt Middle School library Wednesday, Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Take a bus tour through town, learn basic German phrases, and more. Bring euro for lunch. To sign up, call 09721-96-6933 or 354-6933.

## Ledward Community Bank closed

The Community Bank on Ledward Barracks will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26. For teller services, go to the Community Bank on Conn Barracks, open from 9 a.m. to noon. Regular operating hours will resume Friday.

## Christmas markets

The Schweinfurt Christmas market begins Thursday, Nov. 26 and will run Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The market ends Christmas Eve at 1 p.m.

## Thanksgiving meal

The Schweinfurt dining facilities on Conn and Ledward Barracks will serve a Thanksgiving meal Thursday, Nov. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$5.95 for E-4 and below, and \$7 for E-5 and above and their family members.

## Video game tournament

Come test your skills at Rock Band at Ledward Library Saturday, Nov. 28 beginning at 3 p.m. Compete against others on the guitar, drums or singing.

## Crafts Studio trip

The Ledward Crafts Studio is taking a trip Sunday, Nov. 29 to the Hohenrother Advant Bazaar at Reineck. Transportation departs the crafts studio at 8 a.m. with a stop at a flea market on the way. Sign up now by calling 09721-96-6903.

Schweinfurt



Thu., Nov. 26-	7 p.m.	Closed
Fri., Nov. 27-	4 p.m.	A Christmas Carol (PG)
	7 p.m.	The Informant (R)
Sat., Nov. 28-	4 p.m.	A Christmas Carol (PG)
	7 p.m.	Halloween 2 (R)
Sun., Nov. 29-	4 p.m.	A Christmas Carol (PG)
	7 p.m.	Halloween 2 (R)
Mon., Nov. 30-	closed	
Tue., Dec. 1-	closed	
Wed., Dec. 2-	7 p.m.	Halloween 2 (R)

## Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.		P.M.	
	<b>Thu., Nov. 26</b> Mostly cloudy Lows 6 C / 43 F		<b>Thu., Nov. 26</b> Sunny Highs 9 C / 48 F
	<b>Fri., Nov. 27</b> Mostly cloudy Lows 6 C / 43 F		<b>Fri., Nov. 27</b> Mostly cloudy rain Highs 7 C / 45 F
	<b>Sat., Nov. 28</b> Partly cloudy Lows 5 C / 41 F		<b>Sat., Nov. 28</b> Cloudy rain Highs 8 C / 46 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- Thu., Dec. 3 --Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meet n' greet, Finney Rec Center, 1-5 p.m.  
 --Library book club meeting at 5:15 p.m. Coffee, tea and treats will be served. Call 354-1740.  
 --Family Readiness Group crash course for leaders 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Yellow Ribbon Room. To sign up, call 09721-96-6933.
- Fri., Dec. 4 --Last day for donations to the Combined Federal Campaign - Overseas. Call 09721-96-1770.  
 --Free movie showing of "Fireproof" at the Fire Station, Conn Barracks, 7 p.m. 09721-96-1370.  
 --Schweinfurt Middle School family fun night, 5-9 p.m. Come see a showcase of students' work, enjoy a chili cook-off, crystal bingo, a crafts fair, and more. Sponsored by SMS PTSA.
- Sun., Dec. 6 --Community tree lighting in the Andrus Garden, in front of bldg. 206, 4:30 p.m.  
 --Ledward Crafts Studio takes a trip to the Advent market at Kloster Seligenstadt. Transportation departs at 9 a.m. To sign up, call 09721-96-6903.
- Mon., Dec. 7-Fri., Dec. 11--Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program. To sign up, call 09721-96-6933.
- Tue., Dec. 8 --Parent education classes at the Child Development Center, 4:30-6 p.m. Call 09721-96-6281.  
 --Volunteer Management Information System training, bldg. 206 computer lab, 10-11:30 a.m. For more information or to sign up, call 09721-96-6933.  
 --Bulk trash pick-up for Askren Manor, Yorktown, and government-leased housing.
- Wed., Dec. 9 --Pre-Transition briefing at bldg. 40 on Conn Barracks, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 09721-96-8683.
- Thu., Dec. 10 --Boys and Girls Club of American fine arts exhibit at School Age Services, 5:30 p.m. 354-6974.
- Sat., Dec. 12 --Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers day trip to the Stuttgart Christmas market. Families are also welcome. Sign up by Wednesday, Nov. 18 by calling 09721-96-8476.
- Mon., Dec. 14 --Smooth Move Seminar at Army Community Service, 9-11 a.m. To sign up, call 09721-96-6933.
- Tue., Dec. 15 --Point of Contact training in the Yellow Ribbon Room, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 09721-96-6933.
- Wed., Dec. 16 --Pre-Retirement briefing at bldg. 40 on Conn Barracks, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 09721-96-8683.
- Sun., Dec. 20 --Children's Christmas Play at the Ledward Chapel, 6:30 p.m.  
 --Protestant Christmas service, Ledward Chapel, 9 a.m. 09721-96-1370.
- Mon., Dec. 21 --Microsoft Access class in Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 354-6933.
- Tue., Dec. 22 --Federal Resume 101 in the Ledward bldg. 206 computer lab, 1:30-3:30 p.m. 09721-96-6933.
- Wed., Dec. 23 --Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, BOSS, Christmas dinner at Finney Rec Center, 6 pm
- Thurs., Dec. 24 --Christmas Eve candlelight service, Ledward Chapel at 7 p.m. 09721-96-1370.  
 --Christmas Eve Catholic Mass, Ledward Chapel, 10 p.m. 09721-96-1370.
- Fri., Dec. 25 --Christmas Day Catholic Mass, Ledward Chapel, 10 a.m. 09721-96-1370.
- Tue., Dec. 29 --No-Risk Investing class at Army Community Service, 3:30-4:30 p.m. To sign up, call 354-6933.  
 --Playmorning at School Age Services, 10-11:30 a.m. For information, call 09721-96-6933.
- Thu., Dec. 31 --Gospel Watchnight service at the Ledward Chapel, 10 p.m. 09721-96-1370.
- Fri., Jan. 8 --Free movie showing of "Fireproof" at Schweinfurt Elementary School, 7 p.m. 09721-96-1370.
- Tue., Jan. 12 --Blood drive sponsored by the 44th ESB and 15th EN Bn, Kessler Gym, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



# Welcome home Blackhawk Brigade



The final groups of Soldiers from the 172nd Infantry Brigade (Separate), Blackhawks, arrived to Schweinfurt within the past week, completing their yearlong deployment in Iraq. Soldiers will complete the reintegration phase and will enjoy a Blackhawk Rendezvous Saturday, Dec. 5, 11 a.m. on Conn Barracks. All Soldiers and family members of the Blackhawk Brigade are invited to attend. (Photos by Emily Athens)



# Road rage leads to fines, prison in Germany

**By Robert Szostek**  
**USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal**  
**Public Affairs**

MANNHEIM, Germany -- Inconsiderate or even dangerous moves made by other drivers really gets on your nerves. But on the road in Germany it's best to keep your cool, as the German legal system frowns on road rage, insults and rude gestures in traffic.

German courts can issue fines and even prison sentences of up to one year to drivers who shout insults or make offensive gestures while driving, the German automobile association ADAC reported in its latest magazine.

The maximum prison term goes up to two years if the dispute gets physical, the ADAC article said.

"German authorities take a particularly hard line on motorists who insult police officers or traffic wardens," said Lt. Col. Shawn J. Kelley, chief of law enforcement at the U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal. This is because the

motorist is not only insulting the person as such; he is also offending a representative of the state.

ADAC printed a list of fines issued for various insults directed at German traffic cops. The fines ranged from 250 to 2,500 euro.

Rude gestures towards a police officer are also a bad idea. ADAC reported that sticking your tongue out at a German police officer has resulted in fines between 150 and 300 euro. More obscene gestures were punished with fines ranging from 600 to 4,000 euro.

ADAC reported that one driver made a rude hand gesture to a video camera measuring the distance between vehicles. A German court judged that he was showing disrespect to the officers monitoring traffic -- even though they were not present -- and fined him 1,200 euro.

The wide range of penalties reported is due to the German fine system, which takes into account both the offender's degree of guilt and income.



## FAMILY

Fort Myers, Fla. Rotary Club, of which the elder Byrant serves as president.

"I got a lot of care packages while I was downrange, some that I knew well and some that I had never met before, who just wanted to help out," Andy said.

"We wanted to be able to do something to show our Soldiers that we were behind them, that we support them, just to make life a little bit easier for them," the retired aviator said, noting the differences between the Cold War Army in which he served and today's Army.

"It is a different Army. When I was in the Army it was a conventional Army that trained and maneuvered in large formations," said Gary, who retired in 1994. "Now platoon leaders and squad leaders are fighting the war. So the decision level where the rubber meets the road, is at a much lower level of leadership than it was in the 70s and 80s and 90s." His sons, both platoon leaders during their deployment, learned this firsthand in Iraq.

"What I would tell a lieutenant heading down there for the first time is listen to your NCOs who have done it two or three times," John said of noncommissioned officers with whom he has served.

"The NCOs here in Germany, most of them have been here for three or four or five years, maybe more. They've had multiple deployments not only in the Army but in this unit. So my advice would be to listen to them, take their advice, they'll take care of their officers," John said. "That's what mine did."

## DRIVE

explaining how he donated bone marrow to a cousin until his passing.

According to Beggs, the donated blood is shipped to a National Marrow Donor Program donor center in the States where they look for a potential match for someone in need.

"We've had a quite a few matches in Schweinfurt. And the donations stay in (the Department of Defense). It's to help out our Soldiers and their families," said Sgt. Denise Rudolph, lab technician at the Schweinfurt health clinic.

All ID cardholders are encouraged to attend, and will be directed to answer questions to ensure eligibility requirements are met. Some disqualifying factors include having lived in Europe for more than five years, being pregnant, weighing less than 110 pounds, and having cold or flu symptoms. Travel to certain regions may also exclude individuals from donating. For a complete list of eligibilities, go to the ASBP Web site at <http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil/default.aspx>



The drive will be held Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010 at Kessler Fitness Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Snacks and juice will be provided

"Helping somebody live another day is worth it," Beggs said.

So make it your resolution to donate blood, and start out the New Year by saving a life.



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Mystery shopper

For information please contact your local FMWR Marketing Office, ACS Employment Readiness or Volunteer Coordinator

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**Seasonal Tree Lighting**

USAG Schweinfurt  
Ledward Barracks  
Andrus Garden  
December 6  
4:30 p.m.

MWR

For more info, call 09721-96-6762/DSN 354-4762.

**Holiday Bazaar**

Dec 5 Bonus: Community Winterfest Games + Door Prizes + More!

December 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
December 5, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
December 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Conn Barracks Air Field

For more info, call 09721-96-6762/DSN 354-6762.

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Boys & Girls Club of America  
**Fine Arts Exhibit**  
December 10, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

School-Age Services  
Askren Manor, Bldg. 575  
09721-96-6974/DSN 354-6974

Enjoy artwork by local children & youth!

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB