



## Engineeres prepare to go east

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

Twenty-three Soldiers from the 15th Engineer Battalion, including the unit commander, will soon head to Bulgaria to participate in Task Force East, a training, support and humanitarian mission expected to last about four months.

While Lt. Col. David Hurley has been tapped to command the headquarters element in Bulgaria, most of the Soldiers with the 500th and 902nd Engineer Companies will be involved in Humanitarian Construction Assistance (HCA) missions, according to 2nd Lt. Kimberly Jung, who is among those about to deploy.

"They're going to be going around different parts of Bulgaria fixing up schools and hospitals and town halls," Jung said, adding that they will work on projects with Navy Seabees and a directorate of public works.

"This is the first time this unit is doing it," she said, though other units have built the relationships in Task Force East with the militaries of Romania and Bulgaria over the past few years.

"We're going to be down there establishing and maintaining a training center down in Bulgaria," said SSG Steven Tirsell, heavy equipment supervisor with the 500th Engineer Company.

In addition to everything the Schweinfurt-based Soldiers put into the mission, they will also be looking to take away valuable lessons, according to Tirsell.

"A lot of these other countries have deployed to areas that we haven't been to, so we can pick up a little from their lessons learned, and we can share some of our lessons learned," he said. "It's good to see. Everybody does things different, and we can learn a lot from each other."

The Soldiers are looking forward to this learning experience, several said.

"It's going to be a cool learning experience to see how they do stuff," said Pvt. Will Clawson, who has been with the 15th EN Bn for about three months and is heading on his first deployment.

"I'm glad to see another country and be working with other forces," agreed Pfc. Spencer Symons, also a relatively new Soldier to the unit and, like Clawson, an electrician by military occupational specialty.

"I don't think anyone knows everything," Symons said.

Especially for the newer Soldiers, according to Jung, the next four months will be a valuable training event, offering them a chance to hone their skills.

"They'll be working with professional plumbers and electricians and carpenters,



**Pfc. Spencer Symons hammers a nail into a piece of wood supported by Pvt. Will Clawson before the Soldiers head to Bulgaria.**

so they'll be getting first-hand knowledge out of it, but they're going to be helping people at the same time," she said, before continuing to work with the Soldier preparing their equipment containers.

## Claims office does it again, picks up ninth excellence award

By Mark Heeter

New customers come and go, and the claims and concerns they bring are packed with variety.

"It's never been boring. You think you've seen it all," said Regine Stinson, claims examiner with the Schweinfurt legal center.

One constant remains, though.

Stinson and her colleague, Gerti Mathis, are very good at what they do – so good, in fact, that they were recently recognized with their ninth Judge Advocate General's Award for claim excellence, bestowed upon the best claims staffs around the Army.

"They're just the consummate professionals. They do whatever needs to be done," said Capt. Micah Davis, trial counsel and the acting officer in charge of the legal center.

"That's our face. That's the face of this office" Stinson said, when asked to define customer service.

Stinson and Mathis actively pursue opportunities to educate Soldiers about the claims process and the right a

"We have to do a good job up front in order for them to collect in the end," she said, describing the process of preparing Soldiers and families before moves and deployments, to better position them in the event they need to file claims.

The home-station claims office is responsible for taking care of deployed Soldiers' claims, said Stinson, who has a fresh case involv-



**Stinson**



# 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)

### Now until July 19:



**24th Kissinger Sommer** in Bad Kissingen. For four and a half weeks the city turns into a center of the international music world. Stars of the present and of the future for "Culture throughout Europe". This year's theme is Italy and Greece. For more information visit the web at <http://www.kissingersommer.de/kissingersommer/index.html> or call 0971-807-1110. E-mail to [kissingersommer@stadt.badkissingen.de](mailto:kissingersommer@stadt.badkissingen.de).

### Tomorrow:

**Watch swimming relay contest** at Silvana Schwimmbad, 5 p.m. Forty-two teams of six compete against the world champion Thomas Lurz. Participants include local VIPs, politicians, swimming club members and ordinary citizens.



### Now until Aug. 2:

**Special exhibition** of the works of the famous artist "Edouard Manet" at the Museum Georg Schäfer, Brückenstrasse 20 in Schweinfurt. Open hours are Tuesday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.



### Tomorrow - Monday:

**Parish/beer fest** at St. Kilian in Schweinfurt. Livemusicalentertainment with "Sistermoon" at 7 p.m.



### Saturday:



**Honky-Tonk festival** – 50 live bands and DJs playing Reggae, Ska, Pop, Soul, Blues, Funk, Beat, Flamenco, Salsa, Party music, House, Swing, Boogie Woogie, Rock and Folk and more on 35 stages in various locations downtown Schweinfurt. Visit the Web site at [www.honky-tonk.de](http://www.honky-tonk.de).

## LOOKING AHEAD...

### July 12:

**Band concert** performed by "The Temptations" in Wuerzburg, GVO Event Hall, Nuernberger Strasse 128, at 9 p.m. For tickets go to <https://www.getgo.de/gtg-tickets/Event-Tickets-B/The-Temptations-Wuerzburg.html>.



### July 22:

**Giseppe's Verdis' "Nabucco"** opera open air performance at the Weinfestplatz in Volkach, 8 p.m. For tickets call 09381-40112, 0931-600199859 or 09324-1594.

### July 24-26:

### 59th Rakoczy-Fest in Bad Kissingen

Southern flair music and parties on every street. Famous historical characters will visit: Sissi of Austria, King Maximilian II of Bavaria and his son the famous King Ludwig II of Bavaria, Sovereign Fürst (Prince) Rakoczy from Hungary and artists and architects such as Balthasar Neumann, who built historical buildings such as the Würzburg Residence. The historical parade and formal ball will take place Saturday.



## 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...

## No fireworks allowed

The USAG Schweinfurt Directorate of Emergency Services reminds patrons that they are not permitted to bring fireworks of any sort to the festivities at Kessler Field Saturday. A professional fireworks display will close out the celebration at 10:30 p.m.

## AAFES holiday hours

AAFES will adjust its hours of operation tomorrow and Saturday for the upcoming Independence Day holiday.

- PX and PXTRA: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Shoppette on Ledward: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Shoppette on Conn: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Ledward theater: open July 3 and closed July 4

## Orientation set for newcomers

Are you new to the Schweinfurt community? If so, then the five-day Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program is the fit for you from Monday

through July 10. Free childcare is available the entire week. Get acquainted with the military community as well as the German town of Schweinfurt. For more information or to sign up, call 09721-96-6933.

## Health clinic closed

The Schweinfurt health clinic will be closed tomorrow and Monday. During this time, Leopoldina hospital should be your first option at 09721-7200.

## Bamberg high school tour

Will this fall be your teen's first year attending Bamberg high school? Attend the Bamberg High School tour Wednesday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Community and downtown tour is also included. Depart from the Askren Manor late activity bus stop. To register, call 09721-96-6517.

## Babysitter's training

The Schweinfurt American Red Cross holds a babysitter's course July 9 and 10 for those interested in becoming certified in child and infant CPR. Class meets at Ledward bldg. 206 from 8 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. Call to reserve a slot at 09721-96-1760.

## Manage kids' behaviors

Army Community Services invites you to participate in the parenting class "1-2-3 magic: Managing difficult behaviors" Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. Learn how to deal with misbehavior in public, exercise self-control, and be an effective yet gentle disciplinarian. Call 09721-96-6933.

## Bulk trash pick-up

Bulk trash is scheduled to be picked up from Askren Manor, Yorktown Village, and 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 the SORT coordinator at 0162-270-9403.

## Birth and babies

Come to Army Community Service's "Birth-n-Babies" at Ledward ACS Wednesday and July 10 from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, or to sign up, call 09721-96-6933.



Tonight-	7 p.m.	Fighting (PG-13)
Tomorrow-	7 p.m.	The taking of the pelham 123 (R)
Saturday-	CLOSED	
Sunday-	4 p.m.	Fighting (PG-13)
	7 p.m.	The taking of the pelham 123 (R)
Monday-	closed	
Tuesday-	closed	
Wednesday-	7 p.m.	High voltage (R)

## Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.		P.M.	
	<b>Friday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain Lows 17 C / 63 F		<b>Friday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain Highs 24 C / 75 F
	<b>Saturday</b> Partly cloudy Lows 18 C / 64 F		<b>Saturday</b> Mostly cloudy Highs 24 C / 75 F
	<b>Sunday</b> Mostly cloudy Lows 19 C / 66 F		<b>Sunday</b> Mostly cloudy, rain Highs 23 C / 73 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- 11 JULY** --Strength though Separated seminar, Ledward Chapel, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 09721-96-6860.
- 12 JULY** --Trip to romantic winefest in Sommerach with Outdoor Rec. Call 09721-96-8080 for details.  
--Trip to Schlitz Trachtenfest with Crafts Studio. Depart 8 a.m., return 6 p.m. Call 354-6903.
- 13 JULY** --Community co-ed volleyball registration begins, travels on weekends. Call Finney 353-8234.
- 14 JULY** --Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) meeting at Finney Recreation Center, 2 p.m.  
--Registration deadline for the BOSS paintball tournament held July 18, 10 a.m. 353-8476.
- 15 JULY** --Summer reading program event ages 6-11, Ledward library, 1-2 p.m. Call 09721-96-1740.  
--Club Beyond swimming, Silvana Schwimmbad, 2-4 p.m. Call 0175-666-3339 for a ride.  
--Deadline extended for DA Arts and Crafts contest <https://artscrafts.fmwrc.army.mil/>.
- 21 JULY** --Bulk trash pick-up from Askren, Yorktown, and gov't-leased housing at 7 a.m.  
--"Lunch n' learn" at the Ledward Library, 12:15 p.m. Learn about the best European travel Web sites. For more information, call 09721-96-1740.
- 22 JULY** --Teen reading program at Ledward Library, 4-5:30 p.m. Open to all teens. Call 09721-96-1740.  
--Teen newcomer orientation "GUTS," Army Community Service, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 354-6933.  
--Summer reading program event ages 6-11, Ledward library, 8 a.m. Call 09721-96-1740.
- 22-25 JULY** --IMCOM-Europe flag football officials clinic, Schwetzingen. Call Finney gym 09721-96-8234.
- 26 JULY** --Street winefest in Stammheim with Outdoor Rec. Depart 1 p.m., return 5 p.m. Call 353-8080.
- 29 JULY** --Summer reading program event ages 6-11, Ledward library, 1-2 p.m. Call 09721-96-1740.
- 30 JULY** --Teen summer stress buster at Kessler Field, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Call 09721-96-6933.  
--Ledward library book club discusses "One Thousand Women" by Jim Fergus, 5:15 p.m.
- 31 JULY** --Club Beyond game or movie night, time to be announced, Conn Chapel. Call 0175-666-3339.
- 1 AUG** --Polish pottery shopping trip with Outdoor Rec. \$50. Depart 4 a.m., return 11 p.m. 353-8080.
- 2 AUG** --Winefest in Ziel am Main with Outdoor Rec. Depart noon, return 5 p.m. \$10. Call 353-8080.
- 5 AUG** --Club Beyond trip to the Silvana Schwimmbad, 2-4 p.m. For more information, call 354-8620.  
--Bamberg High School and community tour, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 09721-96-6517 for details.
- 7-10 AUG** --European Catholic Youth Conference. For details call Ledward Chapel at 09721-96-1370.
- 10 AUG** --Registration ends for community co-ed volleyball, travels on weekends. Call Finney 353-8234.
- 12 AUG** --Bamberg High School and community tour, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 09721-96-6517 for details.
- 14 AUG** --Operation Rising Star begins, Ledward Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m. Call 09721-96-6225.
- 17-21 AUG** --Vacation Bible School, Ledward Chapel, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for ages 4 years to fifth-grade.
- 18 AUG** --High-schooler rock climbing with Bamberg Club Beyond and Outdoor Rec. Call 354-8620.
- 18-19 AUG** --Auditions for "The Way of All Fish," Abrams Center, 1 p.m. & 6 p.m. Call 0162-296-2776.
- 18-21 AUG** --Eastern European football camp open to high school players. Info. packets in the Commons.
- 19 AUG** --Writing workshop with best-selling author Gary Shteyngart, Conn Community Club, 6 p.m.

**Community 6 week outlook calendar**



# Youth develop with summer hire program

By Emily Athens

Teens participating in the summer hire program have had the opportunity to not only further their work experience but to gain professional development training as well, according to participants and program organizers.

“Part of going into the workforce is getting the opportunity to obtain professional development training. So as part of our goals and objectives with summer hire, we ensure that they get trained in those skills that are important in the workforce,” said Lew Lewis, employment readiness program manager at Army Community Service (ACS).

Integrated into the “I can do it” success series for youth, the training touches on topics such as money management, career and interest assessments, computer training, good work ethics, and resume writing.

“One of the first things we offered right up front, before they get their paycheck, was an opportunity to learn how to manage the hard-earned money



Melissa Carr (left) and Markus Cuellar organize files at Army Community Service as part of their responsibilities during their commitment in the summer hire program (Photo by Sandra Wilson)

they’re going to get. Then, with the career and interest assessment workshop ... we’re going to give them a chance to assess what their interests are, their values and abilities, and hopefully that will lead them to a career path that will be in tune with what they believe about themselves,” Lewis said.

The summer hire program began June 22, providing administrative, labor, and child

care work experience for youth ages 14 to 22. Concluding July 31, the young workers will hopefully walk away with increased skills and an appreciation for the workforce.

“In the long run, it empowers them. They will have an advantage because they will have already learned some skills that they can put to use when they start working,” Lewis said.

According to Lewis, the goal of adding professional development training to the summer hire program is to further their experience, increase their knowledge, and instill work ethic that will stick with the youth when they become employees in the real world.

“There’s less investment, less training and less money that has to be spent on them to have to learn those skills once they get the job. They will come equipped to do the job,” he said.

Melissa Carr, 18, and Markus Cuellar, 19, both high school graduates from Schweinfurt and current summer hires, agree that the experience is priceless.

“It’s been a real learning experience. We’re in an actual working environment. Now, when I go to another job, I will know what to expect,” Cuellar said.

At the conclusion of the program, teens will enjoy a “stress buster” day of fun with their peers in a relaxed environment to reward them for their hard work.

## CLAIMS

ing some deployed Soldiers’ equipment that was recently destroyed.

“That’s an incident to their service,” she said, detailing the intent of the Claims Act. The examiners’ compassion for their customers makes them a special pair, Davis said.

“I think what they understand is that the people who come to them don’t come to them because things are going well,” Davis said. “I think they recognize how much of an impact of them putting a little extra work in will have on Soldiers or families who come into them for help.”

“I think they take all claims seriously and they really just go the extra mile,” he said.

## Cut it off

Users of government computers are reminded that, according to USAG Schweinfurt policy 1-17, government networked computers must be turned off at the end of the work day and before weekends.

Some computers are excepted, and the policy directs computers to be left on Wednesdays for updates. (Photo by Mark Heeter)





# Spur ride!

Story and photos by Emily Athens

Decked out in Army combat uniforms, face paint, and caps, spouses of the 1st Squadron 91st Cavalry Regiment (Airborne) came together Saturday to participate in the longstanding tradition of cavalry units: the Spur Ride.

According to Staff Sgt. Larry Gormley, spurs, in a sense, are a rite of passage in cavalry units, representing a Soldier's strength and dedication to the team.

"Silver spurs are awarded for those who complete the Spur Ride. If you've been in combat with a cav unit, you wear gold," Gormley said, explaining that a Spur Ride is a competition testing cavalry Soldiers' warrior knowledge and abilities.

For the spouses, the events of the day were an opportunity for them to show their Soldier what they were capable of accomplishing and were a chance to understand the physical and mental demands Soldiers

may face to accomplish the mission.

"It gives us a chance to do what the guys do on a daily basis— jumping out of airplanes or shooting a gun— it gives us an idea of what they go through," said Gina Feldt, a spouse of Troop B.

As Soldiers do, spouses underwent a series of six challenges including the assembly and disassembly of a weapon, a grenade toss, rank identification, an obstacle course, a simulated shooting range, and mock doors.

"Mock doors training is the mock-up of a C130. How they did it with the spouses is exactly what they do with Soldiers," Gormley said.

"It's great for the ladies because when the guys leave, that's all we have for each other. It gives us good team bonding, and we get to know each other better. When the guys are gone, this is where our team is," Feldt said.



Clockwise from top right: Julia Robinson, with the help of Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Condra, straps on a parachute prior to the mock jump. Rachel Rodriguez and Simone Colon of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop flip a tire down the field during the obstacle course event. Krista Kennaugh tosses the grenade with the hopes it reaches its target, while Staff Sgt. Edwin Rosales observes. Spouses of Troop A work to disassemble and reassemble an M9 during the Spur Ride Saturday.



# Local girl organizes drive to aid animal shelter as part of project for competition

By Sandra Wilson

People who have a love for animals may wonder how someone could leave their pet behind or abandon them to an uncertain fate. Nevertheless, it happens, and there are many unwanted animals that are picked up by shelters and rescues across the globe. One youth in Schweinfurt has made it her mission to help out the local animal shelter, or tierheim, as well as try to find a remedy for the problem.

"I've heard about (abandonment), but I've also gone to the tierheim. They still need a lot of help," said sixth-grader Heather Miska.

As part of her running for Miss Pre-teen Galaxy in Tampa, Fla., Tuesday through July 11, she chose her passion as a platform for the interview portion of the competition.

"My platform is to help save abandoned animals," Heather said. "I really love animals, and I've had them all my life."

Last week she passed out flyers in the neighborhood asking for

donations of animal treats, toys, and food for the local tierheim. She delivered the goods personally to the tierheim Thursday.

"I'm really proud of her. She decided she wanted to do this on her own," said her mother, Amy.

After the completion of the competition and return to Schweinfurt, Heather intends to visit the local veterinaries to inquire about the possibility of all treated animals being micro-chipped as a requirement.

"Americans can't even adopt" from the tierheim anymore, because they are the ones largely responsible for the number of abandoned pets in this area, Amy said. Owner accountability can more easily be monitored when pets have micro-chips implanted in them, she said.

In addition to her research with the vet clinics, Heather plans to organize a larger donation drive in August so that more people can participate in helping the local tierheim.

"She's always had a passion for animals," Amy said. "She's very responsible with them as well."



Miska

## Summer safety

The number of cases of melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer, is increasing faster than almost any other cancer, according to U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.



To learn about protecting yourself from the dangers of unprotected sun exposure, go to:

- "Protecting Yourself in the Sun," ([www.osha.gov/Publications/osh3166.pdf](http://www.osha.gov/Publications/osh3166.pdf))
- National Cancer Institute, <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/prevention/skin/patient>
- National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention, <http://www.skincancerprevention.org/>
- Skin Cancer Foundation, <http://www.skincancer.org/Skin-Cancer/2008-Skin-Cancer-Facts.html>

## Youth Input sought for teen magazine

By Sandra Wilson

Teen writers, artists, photographers, and designers are invited to offer their talents for the new teen magazine beginning at Ledward Library. It's a chance to "Express yourself"—the theme for the teen summer reading program.

"It's created by the teens for the teens," said Jason Lawor, library technician. "They can put any content they want in there as long as it's not R-rated. I'm going to sit there and supervise them and maybe toss some ideas."

The magazine is intended to highlight the talents in the community, whether it's through writing, drawing, comics, poetry, jokes, quizzes, or editing and design.

"It's good for teens to put on college applications," Lawor said, explaining how it will also be an opportunity for them to explore their interests.

Meetings will be set up weekly after the initial gathering Wednesday at 4 p.m. The first finished product is projected to be finished

by October, according to Lawor.

"It all depends on how motivated the kids are," Lawor said, explaining that the magazine will hopefully be published quarterly, but will remain flexible according to the teens working on it.

According to librarian Christine Willis, the project will incorporate the efforts of several Schweinfurt agencies to include Family Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Marketing and the Child, Youth, and School Services Hired! program.

"This could be part of (the teens') library job, too," Willis said of the teens who work in the library with the Hired! program.

"If we get the youth motivated and interested in this program, I believe we all will benefit from it," said Anthony Hickman, coordinator of the Hired! program.

Just bringing the teens into the library is one of the goals, Willis said.

"Since the library now is more than just a book, it's a media center ... this gives the opportunity of reaching out to them," she said.



# USAG SCHWEINFURT INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



## Events:

- 2/3/5/10K Family Fun Run 9 a.m.
- Food & Beverages for Sale 9 a.m.-11 p.m.
- Horseshoe Tournament 10 a.m.
- Live Country, Rock & Latin Music Begins 12 p.m.
- World of Wheels Car Show 12-7 p.m.
- Rides & Kids' Activities 12 p.m.-Dusk
- Softball Tournament 1 p.m.
- State Flags Ceremony 6-7 p.m.
- Live Music by Ying Yang Twins 9:30 p.m.
- Fireworks! 10:30 p.m.

# JULY 4

## KESSLER FIELD

Featuring

# YING YANG TWINS

Questions? Call 09721-96-6762/DSN 354-6762.

BRING BLANKETS, CANOPIES & LAWN CHAIRS.

Valid photo ID required for admission. No glass, bottles or pets. All bags subject to search.