



Schweinfurt Dispatch

Serving the military community of Schweinfurt

Aug. 27, 2009



Competition continues tomorrow for Schweinfurt singers



Nikki Brown, family member and contestant in this year's Operation Rising Star, performs "Reflection" by Christina Aguilera in Schweinfurt at Ledward Rohr's Diner during the second round of the singing competition Aug. 21.

The third elimination round is held tomorrow at the Rohr's Diner beginning at 7 p.m. The singers, Alielobret Lawson, Delisa Walker, Eleonor Crosby, Mary Jane Hicks, Nikki Brown, and Susanna Jenkins, will each have a chance to dazzle the audience with their talent.

At the end of the evening, the judges and audience vote will eliminate two contestants from the running.

The remaining four singers will participate in the final round Sept. 4 at Rohr's Diner at 7 p.m. which will conclude with a Schweinfurt winner who will receive \$500 and advancement to the States for the Army-wide finals.

Community members are encouraged to attend to show their support. The unit with the most participation will receive a \$300 cash reward. (Photo by Emily Athens)

Military police vie for Top Dog in local three-day competition

By Emily Athens

The 630th Military Police Company of Schweinfurt completed a three-day "Top Dog" competition Aug. 21 that tested the skills of seven teams of handlers and their military working dogs. The three-day competition challenged the training abilities of handlers and performance skills of the working dogs.

"The competition was for teambuilding. It created a healthy competition within kennels to be the best while also serving as training for the dog and training for the handlers," said Staff Sgt. Jeremy Pelkey, coordinator of the event.

The seven teams, two from Ansbach, two from Bamberg, and three from Schweinfurt, participated in seven different challenges including a written test, ruck march, a stress course, detection, the construction of a field kennel, and first aid for dogs for a possible total of 700 points. The competitor with the most points took home the honorary top dog plaque, explained Pelkey.

According to Pelkey, a dog is assigned to a Soldier like a weapon would be assigned. The dogs come after completing initial training, and it's up to



Sgt. Benjamin Webb and his military working dog, Ingo, from Schweinfurt finish up the ruck march and prepare for the obstacle course. (Courtesy photo)

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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

Today through April 18:

“Beautiful and Ugly” exhibition- 100 works at the Georg Schaefer Museum in Schweinfurt, Brueckenstrasse 20, Thursdays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m.

Tomorrow - Monday:

Parish fest at the festplatz Holderhecke in Bergtheim.

Parish fest in Niederwern at the sport field.

Friday through Sunday:

“Salinen Fest” in Bad Kissingen celebrating the end of summer in an idyllic court yard at the Oberen Saline, the most beautiful beer garden in town. Entertainment provides music for everyone’s taste. The highlight of the festivity is Saturday night with “The Jets” playing oldies. At nightfall the facade of the Salinen castle will be illuminated by Bengal fire and fireworks will lighten up the sky. For more information and details, visit www.volksfeste-in-deutschland.de/salinenfest-in-bad-kissingen.html.



Saturday and Sunday:

Park festival in the castle park of Gleisenau at 10 a.m. both days. Wine fest at 7 p.m.



Fest and oldtimer meeting at the hotel riding place in Stadtlauringen.

Wine tasting in Oberschwarzach at “Wagner”, Untere Ofengasse, and “Weinbau Ruppenstein” Hauptstrasse at 2 p.m.

Street wine fest in Waigolshausen-Theilheim.

Sunday:



“Nabucco” opera by Verdi at 7 p.m. in the recreation area Sennfeld. For tickets and information, call 09381-40112, 0931-600199859 or 09324-1594.

Tuesday:

Concert by “The Silhouettes” at castle “Hallburg” near Volkach at 8 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Sept. 5:

Farmers’ market at the Schweinfurt market square, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sept. 12:

Street music festival “Pflasterklang” – concerts, parties, events, exhibitions and much more at various locations downtown Schweinfurt, 8 a.m. – 11 p.m.



Sept. 12 - Oct. 2:

Nachsommer concert season, 10th anniversary. The trade mark of the festival is its “Crossover” program between classic, soul and jazz performed by national and international artists at SKF Hall 410 in Schweinfurt. Concert dates are: Sept. 12 and 17 at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 27 at 11 a.m., Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, visit www.eventim.de or call 01801-052052, 0951-9808220, or the ticket hotline at 01805-570070.



Schweinfurt Dispatch



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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 354-1400/6381 or (09721) 961400/966381.



This week...

No heat, hot water in Askren

Due to necessary maintenance work, there will be no heat or hot water from 6 p.m. on Sept. 1 to 5 a.m. Sept. 2 in all of Askren Manor and the general's house at Josef-Reuss-Strasse in Schweinfurt.

Gates, Mullen want your questions

Got questions you'd like to pose directly to Defense Secretary Robert Gates or Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen? The new Defense Department home page features a prominently placed "Ask the Secretary" section on <http://www.defense.gov> and "Ask the Chairman" by visiting <http://www.youtube.com/dodvclips>.

Dodgeball registration deadline

Registration for the unit-level dodgeball league ends Wednesday. The season begins Sept. 16 with games played Thursdays at Finney Fitness Center. For more information, call 09721-96-8234.

Physical health tips at PX

Health care benefits awareness month kicks off Wednesday in the Main Exchange lobby. Come by between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to learn more about physical health including how running shoes and bicycles should fit and proper position and posture at a work desk to prevent wear and tear on the body.

Memorial service

There will be a memorial service Tuesday at the Ledward Chapel for Spc. William Zachary VanOsdol of Company B, 172nd Support Battalion. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and everyone in the community is welcome to attend. The uniform for military attendees is duty (ACUs), and for civilian attendees it is business casual.

Magazine for teens

Ledward Library has started a new magazine dedicated to the teenage population. The library seeks teens between the ages of 13 and 18 to write, edit, design, and take photos for the magazine. The next meeting will be held at the library Sept. 3 beginning at 6 p.m. For more information, call 09721-96-1740.

Take caution with pet rabbits

Those living in Yorktown Village who own a pet rabbit are asked to be wary of allowing your rabbit to wander freely. Currently, a disease among rabbits, called myxomatosis, is spreading in the Yorktown area. Residents are assured that this illness will not affect humans or pets of any other sort. It will only affect rabbits. For more information, call the work order desk at the Department of Public Works at 354-6342.

Cub Scout recruitment

Cub Scout Pack 630 is looking for boys first- through fifth-grade to join in on the fun this fall. For more information about membership, email dscook95w5@hotmail.com.

CPR and first aid

The American Red Cross is conducting adult, child, and infant CPR and first aid courses for community members. The CPR class is held Wednesday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the first aid course is held Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$45 to complete both courses. For more information, call 09721-96-1760 or email labrijoy.corpuz@eur.army.mil.

Schweinfurt



Tonight-	7 p.m.	Year One (PG-13)
Tomorrow-	7 p.m.	G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra (PG-13)
Saturday-	3:30 p.m.	G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra (PG-13)
	7 p.m.	District 9 (R)
Sunday-	3:30 p.m.	G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra (PG-13)
	7 p.m.	District 9 (R)
Monday-	closed	
Tuesday-	closed	
Wednesday-	7 p.m.	G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra (PG-13)

Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.	P.M.
 Friday Sunny Lows 16 C / 61 F	 Friday Partly cloudy Highs 24 C / 75 F
 Saturday Sunny Lows 14 C / 57 F	 Saturday Sunny Highs 19 C / 66 F
 Sunday Sunny Lows 10 C / 50 F	 Sunday Sunny Highs 19 C / 66 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- 4 SEPT --Registration ends for youth sports soccer ages three to 18. Call 09721-96-6822.
- Registration ends for youth sports flag football and cheerleading ages ten to 15. Call 354-6822.
- 4-7 SEPT --Adventure in Austria, Outdoor Rec trip: canyoning, rafting, hiking and more. Call 353-8080.
- 5 SEPT --Splash Bash, Askren Manor, noon to 8 p.m. Concert and fun for kids and adults.
- 8 SEPT --Community update forum in the multi-purpose room at the elementary school, 6 p.m.
- Lunch 'n Learn, Ledward Library, 12:15 p.m. Bring own lunch & learn about Tumblebooks.
- Hired! 12-week teen apprenticeship program begins for ages 15-18. Call 09721-96-6970.
- Club Beyond kicks off for middle school, Kessler, 3 - 4 p.m.
- 9 SEPT --Career Status Bonus/Redux retirement briefing, Conn bldg. 40, 1-2 p.m. Call 353-8683/8693.
- Pre-transition briefing, Conn bldg. 40, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 09721-96-8683/8693.
- Community home Bible study kicks off with "Epic," 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 0170-277-8980.
- 10 SEPT --Teen magazine meeting, Ledward Library, 60 p.m. All teens invited. Call 09721-96-1740.
- Club Beyond kicks off for high school, Bamberg teen center, 5:30 - 7 p.m. Dinner and rides home provided. Call 354-8620.
- 11 SEPT --9-11 remembrance service, Ledward Chapel, 10 a.m.
- 12 SEPT --National video game day, Ledward Library, compete in Rock Band tournament, 3 p.m.
- 14-18 SEPT --Schweinfurt Newcomers Awareness Program for spouses. To register, call 09721-96-6933.
- 16 SEPT --Pre-retirement briefing Conn bldg. 40, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 09721-96-8683/8693.
- 16-18 SEPT --American Red Cross wilderness first aid 16-hour course. Call 09721-96-1760 for details.
- 17 SEPT --Teen magazine meeting, Ledward Library, 3 p.m. All teens invited. Call 09721-96-1740.
- 18 SEPT --Deadline to register for Super Saturday child care on Sept. 26, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for those with children ages six through fifth grade. Cost is \$16. Call 09721-96-6517.
- 19 SEPT --Munich Oktoberfest, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers trip, 6 a.m. Call 09721-96-8476.
- 20 SEPT --Trip to Lichtenfels basket market with Crafts Studio. Departs 8 a.m., returns 6 p.m. 354-6903.
- 22 SEPT --Lunch 'n Learn, Ledward Library, 12:15 p.m. Bring own lunch & learn about Tumblebooks.
- Registration ends for community basketball. Season starts Oct. 1. Call Finney 09721-96-8234.
- 22-23 SEPT --Auditions for community theater comedy and drama "Quickies!" Abrams Center, 1 & 6 p.m.
- 23 SEPT --Hispanic heritage month lunch, Ledward Library, 12-1 p.m. Free food.
- 24 SEPT --Library book club meeting, 5:15 p.m. Coffee, tea and treats served. Book TBA. 09721-96-6487.
- Stress management class class at Army Community Service, 11 a.m. to noon. 09721-96-6933.
- 26-27 SEPT --Commissary case lot sale. Come shop for items in bulk at discounted rates.
- 29-30 SEPT --Auditions for community theater comedy and drama "Quickies!" Abrams Center, 1 & 6 p.m.
- 5 OCT --Combined Federal Campaign kicks off, PX lobby, 11:30 a.m. cake cutting.
- 6 OCT --Coffee bar opens at the library. For more information, call 09721-96-1740.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Preparation is key for a PCS with pets

By Emily Athens

Each year, many Soldiers and families prepare for a move, undertaking numerous steps necessary for a proper permanent change of station (PCS). For pet owners, additional steps are involved and

families to consider before abandoning animals when they move. Of course the number one option is to take them with you," Brosig said.

According to Brosig, the main thing to know when it comes to shipping pets is to plan ahead by talking with them at the clinic. They are there to help the Soldier and family every step of the way.

"It's actually very simple. The bottom line is being proactive. As long as you make an appointment 30 days before the PCS for a quick exam and make an appointment ten days before you PCS to get the health certificate, you'll be set. Just call the vet, and they'll walk



Three kittens found on post were taken in by an animal lover of the Schweinfurt community and adopted later into new homes. Pet owners within the Schweinfurt community are encouraged to take the right action when preparing for a PCS. (Courtesy photo)

abandoning the animal is not one of them. Recently, the number of abandoned pets, especially cats, has increased and become a growing concern for many animal lovers of the Schweinfurt community.

"Pets are not a three-year deal. It's a commitment. What's happening is these (animals) are being left behind and come winter, we're finding them dead. These domestic animals can't make it in the wild," said Christine Willis, a community member who has taken in several cats in the past few months hoping to find them a home.

But despite her efforts, the problem continues.

Therefore, it is important potential owners understand the responsibilities that come with getting a pet, explained Dr. Sandra Brosig, staff veterinarian at the Schweinfurt Veterinary Clinic on Conn Barracks. According to Brosig, preparation and planning are the most important tools when getting a pet, especially when it comes to PCSing.

"We have many, many different solutions and options for Soldiers and

you through the whole process," said Capt. Rob McClelland, a Soldier of 172nd Support Battalion who just completed the procedures with his pet for his upcoming PCS.

For those considering not bringing their pets along, it is important they further understand what the best approach is to ensure their pets are safe and get adopted into a suitable home.

"There is an adoption book here. Or you can put an ad in to try and find the pet a home. We always have handouts and information available to help pet owners plan ahead for their PCS," Brosig said, encouraging community members to consider the alternatives and not abandon their pets.

"It's becoming a problem and it shouldn't be," Willis added.

Animals that don't find a home will end up in the nearby animal shelter, or tierheim. To contact the local tierheim, call 09723-7770. For more information on PCSing with pets, call the vet clinic at 09721-96-8359 or stop by and grab information handouts and brochures.

Soldier given German honor award



Staff Sgt. Michael Gal of 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, is congratulated by a soldier in the German army at a ceremony in his honor Friday at Weeratal Kaserne, Bad Salzungen. Gal was awarded the Bundeswehr Cross of Honor from the German army for his efforts in coordinating training events and ceremonies with the 391 Panzergrenadier Battalion for the past five years. (Courtesy photo)

DOGS

the Soldier to continue building basic training for the dog.

"The relationship between a working dog and a handler is based on trust and confidence in each other. ... This competition helped build that," Pelkey said, adding that it prepares the handlers and dogs for future missions.

"On a day to day basis, we're also training for our dogs. We train and do things to keep their senses up and keep it fresh in their minds what they're supposed to do," said Sgt. Nicholas Najera, Schweinfurt dog handler, who took first place overall in the competition with his dog, Fram.

"It's a different change of pace. It brings everyone close together for a fun challenge, but at the same time, everyone can share their knowledge," Najera said.

"It sparked interest in the handler to do the best, to be the best," Pelkey added.



Students must have required immunizations

DODEA news release

ARLINGTON, Va. – The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) reminds parents to review their child’s immunization record to ensure their vaccines are current prior to the start of school year 2009-2010.

Before enrolling in a DoDEA school, students are required to have immunizations that are outlined in the DoDEA Immunization Requirements Form, which is available at http://www.dodea.edu/foia/iod/pdf/2942_0_M_F1.pdf. While the immunization requirement is not a new policy, it is a standing procedure and one that will continue to be enforced.

DoDEA superintendents will be ensuring that school principals worldwide understand and comply with this policy.

When the school nurse notifies the principal that a student is not in compliance with immunization requirements, the school principal will send a letter to the student’s parents informing them of this situation.

Students will not be allowed to attend school until they are immunization compliant or the school has a written communication from the medical facility requesting a waiver until the vaccine is available or until there is a scheduled appointment for the student’s immunization.

Military treatment facilities (MTF) provide immunizations to students and parents and coordinate with their child’s physician to obtain the required immunizations prior to the start of the school year. In instances where required vaccines are not available, which can happen

temporarily, the school superintendent will receive a notification from the MTF, and the student will be allowed to attend school until the vaccine is available.

“Updating students’ immunization is an important part of back-to-school preparations,” said Mary Patton, Chief of DoDEA’s pupil personnel services’ branch. “School systems nationwide require immunization compliance before a student may enroll in school, and DoDEA follows the same procedures. Part of being ready to learn is being appropriately immunized against diseases that are preventable,” she added.



CYSS summer camp kids join German summer camp



John Ekstrom, 10, tries his hand at archery while Catara Martinez, 7, aims an arrow at the target with the assistance of a German instructor.

Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS) invited its middle school and School Age Services summer camp kids to join a German kids camp for a day of adventure at Trimberg Castle in Elfershausen Aug. 19. The Germany Infantry School of Hammelburg sponsored the German kids’ camp as well as the partnership event for American children to attend. Participants were given the opportunity to rope climb, rappel, learn archery, and a go on a scavenger hunt.

More than 80 children were in attendance with nearly 40 of them from CYS Services’ summer camp. (Photo by Daniel Jones)



Apprenticeships available for teens after school

By Sandra Wilson

It's not too late for teens to get Hired! during the school year. The new Hired! program sponsored by Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS) partnered with Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation offers teens ages 15 to 18 the opportunity to prepare for the workforce by working at an approved agency.

"I wish they had the program a long time ago. I've seen a lot of good kids come back from going to college ... that (weren't) ready for it," said Anthony Hickmon, CYSS workforce preparation specialist.

The 12-week term begins Sept. 14, but those interested have a lot of training to do before they can enter the program, Hickmon said. Teens must attend required classes such as financial management, what's beyond high school, and resume writing before they can be hired.

"We need to prepare our kids for the future," said Daniel Jones, CYSS youth sports director who took on two apprentices in July. "Life is more than bagging and fast

food."

Once teens are hired at the desired agency, they are obligated to complete 180 hours of service, averaging about 15 hours a week. At the end of a successful term, teens receive a \$500 stipend for their work.

"The program is not because of the money. It's so you can ... get workforce preparation," Hickmon said, explaining that they used to hold programs such as this one purely with volunteering, so now a small stipend is an added bonus.



"It was a great experience," said Dianna Bennet, 17, who participated in the Hired program in July. "I recommend it for anyone who's looking for work experience so they can get a better job in the future."

Hickmon advises kids to take a good look at their schedules before meeting with him. Because of the commute from Bamberg High School to Schweinfurt, most kids will have to work late evenings and

weekends to accrue the hours needed each week. The Hired program in Bamberg has offered to assist teens who wish to work at the facilities there, as an alternative, before commuting back home to Schweinfurt.

With all the hard work and training involved throughout the program, teens and the agencies alike will find the experience to be invaluable, Hickmon said.

"(The managers) are seeing a great difference in the kids' motivation and already of what they know before they walk in," Hickmon said.

Some agencies have also noticed that community participation has increased when teen workers are involved in planning the programming.

"They brought more kids in here," noted Ron Daniels, lead child and youth program assistant at the middle school/teen center.

The next training takes place tomorrow, but Hickmon encourages potential participants to call 09721-96-6970 so that he can schedule additional training opportunities before the term begins.

Protect your home, prepare for all emergencies

It is important to take precautions to protect your property before an emergency situation arises. There are a few things you may want to consider to ensure that your property survives an emergency in the best condition possible.

Preparing Your Home for an Emergency

- Do a home hazard hunt with your family to spot any potential hazards or dangers around the house
- Have a qualified technician repair any defective electrical wiring or leaky gas connections.
- Make sure shelves, pictures and mirrors are secure on the wall and away from beds.
- Place large heavy objects on the bottom shelf.
- Secure the water heater by strapping it to structural members.
- Repair any cracks in the ceilings or home foundation.
- Store any flammable liquids away from heat sources and possibly in metal cans to prevent fires.
- Make sure your chimneys, flue pipes, vent connectors and gas vents are clean.
- Get a family emergency kit, and determine the best location to store it.
- Make an emergency plan as a family.

Preparations for Specific Emergencies

Floods:

- Make sure that your fuse box/electric panel is located above average flood level for your area.
- Try to elevate appliances above average flood level.

Hurricanes:

- Install hurricane shutters.
- If you do not have hurricane shutters, have enough precut plywood and tape to cover your windows and doors.
- If you live in mobile housing, secure it to a foundation using chains or strong cables.

Wildfires:

- Create a 30-foot safety zone around your home by removing or limiting vegetation.
- Remove all debris in and around your property.
- Use fire-resistant siding on your home.
- Use safety glass for windows and doors if possible.

Tornados:

- Identify a place in your home to take shelter in case of a tornado: storm shelter, basement interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible.
- Have frequent tornado drills

For more information, visit www.redcross.org/services/prepare/0,1082,0_71_00.html or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) site at www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm.



You Tube Check out FMWR's videos!
 Our channel is FMWRSWFT

Askren Manor
Splash Bash
 September 5 1:2-8 p.m.

Musical Guest
Donny Vox Band
 3:30-4 p.m.

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Splash Pool

Kids Fun
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- Pimp this Ride (Grades 9-12)
- Theater 101 (Grades 6-8)

Sign up today! For details, call 09721-96-7057/DSN 354-7057.