

# THE GAZETTE

Published for members of the SHAPE/Chièvres, Brussels and Schinnen communities

## Benelux news briefs

### CAC closure planned

The Fitness Center, Library and Outdoor Recreation in the Chièvres Activity Center will be closed for the USAG Benelux change of command June 27 from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

### USNMR plans town-hall meeting

Hosted by the U.S. National Military Representative to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, the next U.S. town-hall meeting is scheduled for July 14 at the SHAPE Events Centre. The information fair will run from 3:30 to 3:55 p.m., and the question-and-answer session will start at 4 p.m.

Meet with community leaders and agencies to ask questions and receive information. American Forces Network, or AFN, will broadcast live from the event.

Open to all American service members, civilians and family members.

For any questions or concerns, call DSN 423-4032/4634 or civilian 065-444032/4634, or send the USNMR a private message on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/usnmrtoshape>.

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### 39th welcomes new leadership

Lt. Col. Nicholas E. Prisco (center), incoming commander of the 39th Signal Battalion, receives the battalion's colors from Col. Edward F. Buck, commander of the 2nd Signal Brigade, during a change-of-command ceremony on Caserne Daumerie Thursday, June 23, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Donovan Abrassart)

# Be good host/guest at Independence Day parties

## Special to the Gazette

USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program

Hosting an Independence Day celebration? Here are a few tips to keep you and your guests safe:

- Provide plenty of non-alcoholic beverages.
- Don't pressure guests to drink.
- Serve plenty of food; eating slows the rate of absorption of alcohol.
- Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the party will end.

If you'll be attending a

party as a guest and plan to celebrate with alcohol, follow these tips:

- Eat a meal before you consume an alcoholic beverage.
- Alternate between alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages.
- Be aware that mixed drinks, like margaritas or "Long Island Iced Tea," normally contain more alcohol than a standard drink of beer, wine or hard liquor.



- "Nurse" your drink. (Make it last.)
- Give your body time to process the alcohol by only

having one drink an hour to an hour-and-a-half.

"Before you attend a party or festival, set up a designated sober driver," said Leah Ellis of the USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program, or ASAP. "If you don't plan ahead and get intoxicated while you're out, make sure you call a cab, take a train or stay the night where you are."

See page 5 for Benelux Independence Day events.

## Plan ahead to make small gatherings, big events better

Don't take chances with your party, having to run to your local store at the last minute. The Defense Commissary Agency can put together special orders — like meat-and-cheese trays, fruit trays, crudités (veggie) trays or jumbo submarine sandwiches — for your special gathering.

It's best to put in your order two weeks in advance for holiday parties, such as Independence Day, Thanksgiving or

Christmastime; or one week ahead for other times of the year.

Birthday cakes and sheet cakes can also be prepared for family gatherings, cake-cutting ceremonies or other events for units or family-readiness groups.

Military units, family readiness groups and others who are planning big parties are encouraged to use the special-order process so that local commissary shelves aren't left bare for other customers in

the community.

Big-event organizers can special order mass quantities (meat, ice, plastic cups, paper plates, disposable eating utensils, etc.) and enjoy a 30-percent discount.

To special-order from the Chièvres Commissary, send an email message to [chievrescomsyorders@deca.mil](mailto:chievrescomsyorders@deca.mil).

To special-order from the Schinnen Commissary, just ask any store associate for help.

### Victim Advocate Hotlines

SHAPE/Chièvres and Brussels: +32 (0) 476-762264

Schinnen: +31 (0) 651-919119

DOD Safe Helpline: +49 (0) 611-143-537-SAFE (7233)

To submit or subscribe, email [usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil)

Col. Marty Vannatter.....Commander

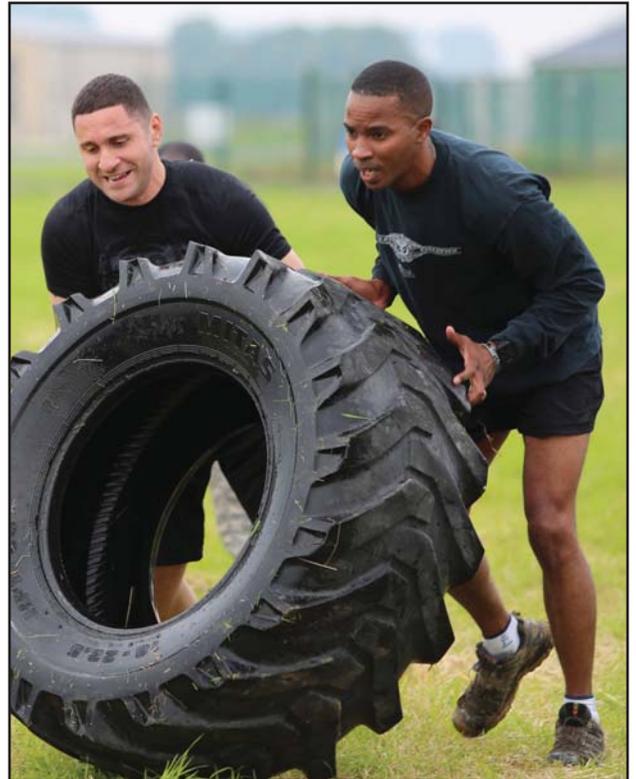
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# Teams demonstrate Warrior Ethos on Army Birthday Obstacle Course



(Clockwise from top left) Capt. David Clagg of Team Hard Work, 39th Signal, performs the low crawl beneath barbed wire during the Army Birthday Obstacle Course around the Chièvres Activity Center Saturday, June 18, 2016. To create a realistic obstacle course, event organizers played live-fire sound effects. • Team Hard Work members Sgt. William Diaz and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Birkhead flip a heavy-equipment tire. • Dustin Vance of Team Frisco Kid, a mixed-unit team, swings from the monkey bars. • Team Clinic members urge a teammate on at the finish line. Team Hard Work won first place, Team Frisco Kid won second place, and Team Clinic, which represented SHAPE Healthcare Facility, won third place. (U.S. Army photos by Bill Audretsch/FMWR)



## Army Ball will celebrate 241 years of service

The Army Birthday Ball will be held in the SHAPE Club ballroom June 25 to honor everything the Army represents. Social hour, which features an open bar, starts at 5 p.m. Members of the receiving line will greet guests at 6 p.m. The attire will be dress uniform with bow tie for the military or formal (black tie) for civilians. Contact your unit representative, or call DSN 361-5288 or civilian 068-275288.



Job-seekers talk with employers, corporate recruiters and motivational speakers during the Employment and Career Expo at the SHAPE Club Friday, June 17, 2016. • Charles D.A. Ruffolo of The NetworKing Corporation shares his perspective at the Employment and Career Expo at the SHAPE Club Friday, June 17, 2016. (U.S. Army photos by Pierre-Etienne Courtejoie/Training Support Center Benelux)

# Career Expo provides tips on how to land jobs

by **Andrea Wales**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Traveling with your Soldier half a world away can mean having trouble finding a job once you get there.

The Employment and Career Expo at the SHAPE Club June 17 was a gathering of motivational speakers, employers and recruiters (often called “headhunters”) offering their job-search expertise to service members who are close to separation/retirement, veterans, military spouses and others.

The expo was spearheaded by Derrick Ellis of USAG Benelux Army Community Service on SHAPE.

“Your first impression is your résumé,” said Stacy Perez, the acting director of USAG Benelux Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. “Focus on your strengths, and try to keep it to two pages.”

Perez encouraged job-seekers to get to know their field inside and out so they can be true assets to their organizations.

“Be the subject-matter expert in your field or the job you’re looking for,” she said. “What I’m looking for is problem-solving skills and who to go to for solutions. Always have a positive (spin) or a solution.”

Once you get your résumé polished, be ready to talk yourself up, and it’s not a bad idea to have a copy of your résumé with you at all times.

Perez reminded attendees that interviews aren’t just for employers to ask questions of you; you should ask

questions of them.

Don’t be afraid to ask questions because it shows employers that you’re interested and engaged with the organization, Perez said.

“This is your future. Don’t be afraid to ask the hard questions,” said Charles D.A. Ruffolo, founder of The NetworKing Corporation.

“You never know who you’re going to meet or who that person next to you is,” Perez said.

Networking should be an integral part of your job search.

“Everybody is born into a network. How it grows is through your values and norms,” Ruffolo said, cautioning, “If you don’t connect with your network, you’re not invited. In networking, it’s not who you know that counts; it’s who knows you.”

Volunteering for the same charities that your prospective employer supports on the corporate website can help you build your network, he said.

“Nurture your network. Feed it. Help it. Give to your network,” Ruffolo said. “The cardinal rule of networking is giving.”

Ruffolo said that job-seekers should write down the four key areas that will protect them in their job searches in what he called a “NetworKing Shield.” The four quadrants of the shield are My Strengths, My Development Points (education, training, etc.), My Best Results and My Fears.

“Be sure you build your shield: The world is not nice,” he said.

Although Ruffolo acknowledged that job-hunting and networking have their challenges, he left job-seekers with an optimistic message.

“Never give up hope,” he said, explaining that rejection will knock you down but you must get up and dust yourself off. “When you get up, the scenery changes.”

## Job openings

Several jobs are open in Benelux military communities.

• **AFCU.** Andrews Federal Credit Union is now hiring in its Brussels, Chièvres and Schinnen locations.

Chièvres and Schinnen have teller positions open while Brussels has a branch manager position open.

Interested applicants may apply online at <https://www.andrewsfcu.org>.

• **SHAPE/Chièvres post office.** U.S. citizens can apply at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/438917900>. Local-national vacancies are announced at <https://wu.acpol.army.mil/eur/employment/ln/index.htm>.

• **AAFES.** Army and Air Force Exchange Service is hiring. Visit <https://www.shopmyexchange.com>, and click on “Exchange Careers” under “About the Exchange” at the bottom of the screen,

• **Commissary.** Visit [http://www.commissaries.com/inside\\_deca/HR/employment\\_opportunities.cfm](http://www.commissaries.com/inside_deca/HR/employment_opportunities.cfm).

# Celebrate Independence Day with family, friends at Benelux events



Mark your calendar because the Benelux communities are planning lots of fun to celebrate Independence Day, America's 240th birthday.

**Brussels**

The Independence Day observance in Brussels will be held July 2.

- Firecracker Fun Run – Meet at the Brussels Fitness Center for the Firecracker Fun Run. Registration for this 5- to 10-kilometer run begins at 8 a.m. Run begins at 9 a.m. All NATO welcome. For registration or additional details, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

- Come out to Sterrebeek Annex in the Brussels community for the American Independence Day Celebration, and have fun with your friends and/or family from 4 to 11:30 p.m. Enjoy plenty of attractions for children and adults, including children's games, bouncy castles, food/drinks, live entertainment and fireworks.

The American Independence Day Celebration is open to all U.S., NATO and Embassy ID card-holders.

**Schedule of Events**

- 4 p.m.: WWII vehicle display begins
- 4 to 8 p.m.: Bouncy castles, children's activities, balloon-sculpture artist
- 4 to 11 p.m.: Disc jockey with variety of music, food and drink sales
- 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.: Live music
- 5:15 to 5:45 p.m.: Live music
- 6 p.m.: Opening remarks
- Color Guard presented by Boy Scouts
- Belgian national anthem, American national anthem and "God Bless America" presented by the Brussels American Community Chorus.
- 7 to 8:30 p.m.: Live music
- 7 p.m.: Children's relay races
- 9 to 10 p.m.: Live music
- 11 p.m.: Fireworks

**Schinnen/Brunssum**

JFC Brunssum sports fields will be where you can find Independence Day holiday fun July 2 from 4:30 p.m. to midnight. Enjoy live music, karaoke, food and fireworks. Open to U.S. and NATO ID card-holders and dependents; guests will be sponsored. Backpacks



*Fireworks displays like this one from Brussels' Independence Day celebration last year will end all three Benelux celebrations with a bang. Brussels and the Schinnen/Brunssum community will hold their celebrations July 2 while the SHAPE/Chièvres community will hold its celebration July 1. (Archive photo)*

will be subject to search. No pets. All fees will be in euro.

**Schedule of Events**

- 4:30 p.m.: Event starts with disc jockey, DJ Julie (fest-tent stage)
- 5 p.m.: Motown soul artist Fred Starks and Cosy band on the fest-tent stage
- 7 p.m.: DJ Julie with Karaoke (fest-tent stage)
- 8:30 p.m.: Armed Forces Entertainment rock cover band American Hitmen (on the main stage)
- 10:45 p.m.: Presentation to the band
- 11:15 p.m.: Fireworks.

Attendees can enjoy children's games, a clown and rides, thanks to the CYSS team and others.

Private organizations will have food available for purchase.

**Note:** Bring a change of clothes in case you get wet at one of the water attractions.

**SHAPE/Chièvres**

The SHAPE/Chièvres community invites you to grab your friends and family for some Independence Day fun at the SHAPE shopping area and fest tent July 1 from noon to 11 p.m.

**Schedule of Events**

- Noon to 11 p.m.: Children and adults can enjoy carnival rides, food, World War II vehicles, vintage cars, live entertainment and a mechanical bull.
- 4 to 5 p.m.: Blues Rock Karma
- 5 to 7 p.m.: NATO Jazz Orchestra
- 7 to 9 p.m.: Soul Factory
- 9 to 11 p.m.: Zenith Band
- Evening ends with a fireworks display.

**FRENGLISH PAGE**

**Interns help US community with French touch**

**Special to the Gazette**

Each week, English speakers will be in contact with French language in a friendly way. The interns' page is divided into three sections. The first one (Useful expressions) is dedicated to commonly used expressions translated into English and accompanied by a phonetic transcription. The second part (Word search) is a fun way to learn French words, along with their English translation. The last part (Dialog) is brightened up with a French dialog and its English translation.

**Useful expressions**

- I am allergic to ... Je suis allergique à ... /zhuh swee al air zheek ah/
- The after-dinner liquor is on the house. Le digestif est offert. /luh dee jeh steef eh off air/
- Where are the restrooms? Où sont les toilettes? /ooh soh leh twa let/
- See you soon. A bientôt. /ahb yant oh/

**Word search**

Here are some words in French related to the theme "viande/meat"/vee ahnd/ that you can find in the grid. In French the stress always falls on the last syllable of the word.

- rôti de boeuf: roast beef /roh tee duh buf/
- côte de porc: pork rib /coat ah loss/
- ris de veau: veal sweetbread /ree duh voh/
- escalope de dinde: turkey /dahd/
- brochette de poulet: chicken kebab /bro shet duh poo leh/
- confit de canard: confit of duck /con fee duh kah nar/
- gigot d'agneau: leg of lamb /zhee go dan yo/
- filet pur : fillet /fee leh pure/
- faux-filet : sirloin steak /foh fee leh/
- poitrine : brisket /pwa treeen/
- entrecôte : rib steak /uh truh coat/
- onglet : prime cut of beef /ongleh/

S	K	S	G	E	T	E	L	G	N	O	A	I	U	L	A
P	R	T	M	P	O	R	C	D	F	C	V	B	N	O	E
R	B	O	K	L	I	B	M	R	S	P	U	I	S	T	D
E	I	E	I	L	A	P	O	I	T	R	I	N	E	K	R
Q	F	E	R	E	T	R	Q	F	D	F	U	H	E	F	A
C	E	N	F	M	K	R	P	O	I	T	D	J	N	A	L
E	B	A	I	U	T	T	L	C	N	O	T	B	U	U	I
T	O	A	L	V	I	B	O	U	D	U	S	Y	M	X	R
O	E	I	E	E	E	N	L	D	E	R	E	A	F	F	P
C	U	H	T	R	C	M	O	C	D	E	R	T	T	I	G
E	F	O	B	F	A	F	B	A	G	N	E	A	U	L	E
R	P	O	M	O	N	S	C	R	U	L	D	F	A	E	R
T	N	I	J	K	A	P	O	U	L	E	T	I	J	T	U
N	R	J	A	N	R	I	E	R	A	T	A	E	V	L	E
E	G	I	N	A	D	R	J	U	V	E	A	U	X	I	I

**Dialog: Taking an order at the restaurant**

- C: Good morning, ladies. Have you chosen what you would like to eat?
- A: Hello. Yes, I would like to take a steak with green pepper sauce please. Will it be served with a salad?
- C: You have the choice for the sides between a salad, french fries, pasta or croquettes. Do you want your steak cooked rare, medium or well-done?
- A: Medium please. A salad will be enough. Thanks.
- C: Alright. And you, miss?
- B: I will take a plain omelet please, with french fries as a side.
- C: Very good. Thanks.

- C: Bonjour mesdemoiselles, avez-vous choisi ce que vous aimeriez manger?
- A: Bonjour. Oui, j'aimerais un steak, sauce au poivre vert, s'il vous plaît. Y a-t-il une salade en accompagnement?
- C: Vous avez le choix de l'accompagnement entre une salade, des frites, des pâtes ou des croquettes. Comment voulez-vous la cuisson, saignant, à point ou bien cuit?
- A: A point, s'il vous plait. Une salade, ça suffira. Merci.
- C: D'accord. Et vous, mademoiselle?
- B: Je voudrais une omelette nature, s'il vous plaît, avec des frites en accompagnement.
- C: Très bien. Merci.

**All USAG Benelux interns, Maréva Baudart, Roxane Rasneur, Jérémy De Leeuw, Pauline Chevalier, Adeline Durot, Julie Anicotte, Margaux Warnotte, Alessio Stinchettu and Gemma Tirabassi have contributed to this page.**

## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these camps, which run through Aug. 12, call Brussels CYSS at DSN 368-9535 or civilian 02-7179535.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take a class that is offered by Schinnen Army Community Service or SHAPE ACS by video-conference at Brussels ACS. To sign up, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783:
  - **Stress Management** - Learn how to manage your stress for a better, calmer, healthier life. VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **July 7** from noon to 1 p.m.
  - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **July 14** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

### Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read for the Win" is this year's theme for the Summer Reading Program. You can register at the Brussels Library on the first floor of Building 4.

### June 23, 24

- **Community Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, hosts free movies "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" (R) June 23 and "Brothers Grimsby" (R) June 24 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on the third floor of Building 1. Make your reservation soon at reservations3star@yahoo.com. Call DSN 368-9768/9819 or civilian 02-717 9768/9819.

### June 24

- **Pizza Fridays at the 3 Star** - Pick up a pizza to take home for dinner or eat in Fridays from 4 to 8 p.m. To place an order, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.
- **3 Star Recreation Night** - Join the USAG Benelux-Brussels community Fridays from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Recreation Night features games, cards, music and movies. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822, or DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

### June 29

- **Pizza Wednesdays at the 3 Star** - Eat in or take out pizza for lunch Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Traditional and personal pan pizza available. To place an order, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

### June 30

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - All-you-can-eat taco bar will be open from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Facility will be open until 10 p.m.) Cost: adults \$10, children, ages 12 and under, \$5. (Alternate children's menu available.) Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

### July 2

- **Independence Day celebration** - See page 5.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - Discover Europe with the School Age Center and Youth Center at JFC Brunssum through Aug. 12. Camp placement will be based on grade attended (first grade through 12th grade) during 2015-2016 school year. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. For more information about summer camp, call DSN 364-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.
- **Take VTC-projected class** - Take a class that is offered by Schinnen Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Brussels ACS by video-conference. To sign up, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500:
  - **Stress Management** - Learn how to manage your stress for a better, calmer, healthier life. Given in person at Schinnen ACS **July 7** from noon to 1 p.m.
  - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **July 14** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- **Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program** - Registration is now open for this SFL/TAP class, which is mandatory for separating and retiring service members:
  - **Personal Financial Planning for Transition** - Help ensure your family's financial future at this briefing in the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room **June 24** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get the tools and resources you need to get started. To register, call DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.
- **CYSS sports** - Participants must be registered with CYS Services with a valid health assessment. For more information about the CYSS sports programs below, call DSN 606-244-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195. Call +31 (0) 45-5264195. Register at the CYSS Parent Central Services at JFC Brunssum's Building H-602.
  - **CYSS Soccer** - Registration has begun for the September-to-October season. Cost: 3- to 5-year-olds, \$20; 6- to 15-year-olds, \$40.
  - **CYSS Flag Football** - Enrollment for fall flag football runs through July 8. Practice will start on or about Sept. 20. The program is for youths, ages 10 to 15. Cost: \$40.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY *continued*

### Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read for the Win" is this year's theme for the Summer Reading Program. You can pre-register at Brunssum Library. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders in the Tri-Border community.

### June 26 to 29

- **Family Vacation Bible School** - Family VBS Cave Quest invites entire families to enrich their faith by sharing a meal and faith-based activities during Family VBS Cave Quest at JFC Brunssum International Chapel from 5:15 to 8:15 p.m. (Sunday will be a potluck meal, and Monday through Wednesday the meal will be provided.) To register yourself and your family, visit <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/JFC2016>.

### June 29

- **"Tea Time with Toys"** - Parents with children, ages newborn to 3, are invited to share tea at Schinnen Army Community Service from 1 to 2 p.m. and find support while children play with toys. For more information call ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500

### July 2

- **Independence Day celebration** - See page 5.

## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these camps, which run through Aug. 12, call SHAPE CYSS at DSN 366-6839 or civilian 065-326839.
- **SHAPE Performing Arts School** - For details on classes for adults as well as children, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. Both camps will be held June 27 to July 31 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The final two weeks will include evening rehearsals and weekend performances. No class July 4 or 21.
  - **Summer Theatre Camp** - Children, ages 10 to 17, will learn the actor's craft from 1:30 to 6 p.m. in the classic Broadway musical "Once Upon a Mattress."
  - **Fractured Fairy Tales Camp** - Children, ages 7 to 10, will receive an innovative introduction to acting, singing and dancing from 10 to 12:30 p.m. and will perform "Disney's 101 Dalmatians."
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take a class that is offered by Brussels, Schinnen or SHAPE Army Community Service by video-teleconference at SHAPE ACS. To sign up, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824:
  - **Stress Management** - Learn how to manage your stress for a better, calmer, healthier life. VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **July 7** from noon to 1 p.m.
  - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **July 14** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

### June 25

- **Army Ball** - Celebrate the Army birthday in the SHAPE Club ballroom from 5 p.m. to midnight. See page 3.

### June 29

- **CAB Social** - Enjoy free food at Army Lodging on Chièvres Air Base while you meet with garrison leaders and formulate questions to ask them. Feel free to contribute to this potluck meal, which will feature Mexican food. Everyone is welcome to this informal group designed for those who are in- and out-processing. Contact the Relocation Program at DSN 423-7141 or civilian 065-447141.

### July 1

- **Independence Day celebration** - See page 5.

<http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil>

### Movies at SHAPE Cinema

Rates — 2D movies: adults, €6.50; children, ages 12 and under, €3.75. 3D movies: adults, €8.50; children, ages 12 and under, €5.75. Visit <http://www.shape2day.com>, and click "Cinema Schedule" icon. Ticket sales begin 30 minutes prior to each showing. Films will start promptly. Thrifty Thursday means half-price popcorn and free movies from the same film series (or related subject matter) as an upcoming film as well as half-price pizza and calzone at the Pizza Bowl.

### Movies at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

Rates — adults, €6.50; children, ages 11 and under, €3.75. For the movie schedule, visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Schinnen-1366146>.

# Travel the Benelux

## Walk on beaches, boardwalks of Belgium's North Sea coast

by **Gemma Tirabassi**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs intern

Fifteen resorts will welcome you to Belgium's 65 km of coastline on the North Sea, and each one has its own character and unique atmosphere. The Belgian Coastal Tramway connects the two ends of the coast and every North Sea town in-between.

### **De Panne and Koksijde**

Just next to the French border, De Panne (La Panne in French) is a beach favored by northern French tourists. In fact French is spoken more than Dutch there. On the long stretch of beach, children can build sand castles, fly kites and play in the sea. Travel the backstreets to visit plenty of shops and restaurants.

At this weekend's Shrimp Festival, you can see how fishermen catch shrimp on horseback.

On July 3, during the benediction of the sea, residents pay tribute to the sea and the fishermen by floating flowers on the water.

Belgian Coast greeters offer you free private walking tours. To learn more, visit <http://www.belgiancoastgreeters.com>.

During the week, you can also go and visit the military airfield, working since 1946.

Find out about summer activities in Koksijde and three other nearby towns at <http://visiteur.koksijde.be/product/5232/evenements-dete-2016>.

### **Nieuwpoort**

Completely destroyed during WWI, Nieuwpoort (Nieuport in French) is a fishing village reputed for its seafood. The city is also known as the "capital of fresh fish." The landscape and architecture of the city invites you to have a walk or a ride on the seawall watching the sea, the fine-sand beach, the dikes and the dunes.

Nieuwpoort's marina is the biggest one in northern Europe with almost 2,000 places. For all the summer activities, visit <http://www.nieuwpoort.be/nieuwpoort/view/en/nieuwpoort/tourism/brochures>.

Belgian Coast Greeters also welcome you in Nieuwpoort.

### **Ostend**

The main and only real city on the coast is Ostend (Oostende in Dutch, literally "East End," Ostende in French). Directly linked to Brussels by train, Ostend has kept its charm from the olden days, yet offers nightlife and museums. If you want to learn more about Belgian paintings, don't miss the Museum of Modern Art and the Museum of Fine Arts. A theater festival, Theater aan Zee, also takes place every year. Find out more at <http://www.visitoostende.be/en#>.

### **Blankenberge**

Blankenberge beach resort is always crowded. A good reason to come here with children is to visit

the Sea Life National Marine Park, one of the largest aquariums in Belgium. In the summer, Blankenberge hosts the Sand festival (next to Sea Life), where huge sand sculptures are built on a specific theme. Plan your trip to Blankenberge at <http://blankenberge.info/en>.

### **Zeebrugge**

Literally "Sea Bruges," Zeebrugge is the new port of Bruges, which had been cut off the coast after the natural Zwin canal silted in the 15th century. The new port was built between 1895 and 1907 (and is still expanding). By no means a beach, Zeebrugge is a huge artificial harbor with petrol tankers and ferries to Felixtowne and Kingston-upon-Hull in England. Also a fishing harbor, Zeebrugge has a fish market. Learn more at <http://zeebrugge.net/en>.

### **Knokke-Heist**

The most bourgeois town of the coast, Knokke-Heist is in fact made of five villages: Heist, Duibergen, Albert-Plage, Knokke and Het Zoute, next to the Dutch border.

Knokke-Heist is the greenest city of the coast.

Let pieces of art lead you along the beach during the 23rd annual Sculpture Link, which will be held this year from June 15 to Aug. 15.

Learn about tourism in the area at <http://knokkeheist.com/en>.

Outside the gate



Hot weather brings people to the fine-sand beach of Blankenberge, Belgium.

# Visit UNESCO sites in the Netherlands

by Fauve Altman

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office intern

Over the past 40 years, the UNESCO World Heritage Convention has become the first in rank as an international tool supporting the conservation of the world's cultural and natural heritage. To date, 191 countries (called States Parties) have settled the Convention, bringing about the set of principles and framework for action universally.

To be considered part of the World Heritage Convention, a site must respect the 10 criteria related to culture and nature. For example, a site has to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius, or to deliver a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition.

Since 1992, the World Heritage Convention has become the first international legal instrument to recognize and protect cultural landscapes. The protection, management, authenticity and integrity of properties are of important considerations.

The Netherlands joined Jan. 1, 1947, and have nine cultural sites, such as the "Defence Line of Amsterdam" extending 135 km around the city or the Mill Network



Part of a UNESCO historic area, Willemstad reflects the architectural styles of the Netherlands and the colonial towns with which it traded.

at Kinderdijk-Elshout, which is an exceptional man-made landscape demonstrating the human technological genius in protecting the area by developing hydraulic technology. In addition, one natural site is under the convention: the Wadden Sea, being the largest unbroken system of intertidal sand and mud flats in the world.

Learn about the other cultural sites in the Netherlands at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/nl>.

Outside the gate

## Upcoming organized trips

**Chièvres Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental**  
Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 361-6268 or civilian 068-276268.

- **Belgian Target Masters, July 9 (All NATO welcome.)**

### SHAPE Trips and Tours

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-443884.

- **London, June 25**
- **Disney Paris, June 29**
- **Legoland, July 1 to 3**
- **Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, July 5 to 9**
- **Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, July 9**
- **Durbuy and Namur with the Citadelle, July 13**
- **Paris, July 23**
- **Grottes de Han (Han Caves/Wildlife Park), July 27**
- **Xanten (Germany) with Archaeological Park, July 30**
- **Rhine River Cruise, Cable Car and Fortress, Aug. 6**
- **Rotterdam with Splashtour, Aug. 9**
- **Copenhagen (Denmark), Aug. 12 to 15**
- **Ghent with City Beer Discovery Boat trip, Aug. 20**
- **Notting Hill Carnival, Aug. 27 to 29**
- **Cochem, Germany, with medieval dinner in castle, Sept. 3**
- **Amsterdam with three-course dinner show, Sept. 17**
- **Paris with Secret Food Tour (optional), Sept. 24**
- **Carolus Thermen, Oct. 8**
- **Alsace, Oct. 15 to 16**

- **Flanders Field/World War I tour, Ieper (Ypres), Belgium, Nov. 12**
- **Lord of the Dance in Oostende, Nov. 19 (Purchase by June 29.)**
- **Crete (Greece), Spa and Middelkerke (Belgium), all year**
- **Discount tickets to local attractions**

### SHAPE Travel Group

Call civilian 0470-876369 for details.

- **Gouda and Kinderdijk, the Netherlands, Aug. 25**
- **Champagne in Epernay, France, Sept. 8**
- **Delft, the Netherlands, Sept. 15**
- **Blegny Mine and Liège, Sept. 29**
- **Lille, France, Oct. 6**
- **Monschau, Germany, and Spa, Belgium, Oct. 13**
- **Roermond, the Netherlands, Oct. 25**
- **Taste of Belgium, Nov. 15**

### Schinnen Trips & Tours

Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.

- **Berlin Express, Germany, June 25**
- **Weekend Trip to the D-Day Landing Beaches, Memorials & Battle Monuments in Normandy, France, July 15 to 18 (Pay when you register.)**
- **Dutch Day Trip: Alkmaar, Zaanse Schans, Volendam, July 29**
- **Amsterdam, Aug. 6**
- **Regular Season NFL Game Washington Redskins vs. Cincinnati Bengals, Oct. 29 to 31 (Pay by July 29.) Pickups at Schinnen and SHAPE.**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

**June 24**

- **Music Party in Ducasse**, located on Place de Meslin-Levêque. Open from 7 to 11 :30 p.m. Free admission.
- **Travel back in time in Ronquières**, located at La Chapelle de Verre at Rue Arthur Brancart 100. Discover the history behind the town glass factory. Watch a documentary directed by students. Costumes and glass arts will be on display. Open from 6 to 10:30 p.m. Free admission.
- **Manga Mania in Haine-Saint-Pierre**, located at Communale Library on the Grand-Place. Open from 4 to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- **Opening of the exhibition of Antoine de Vinck in La Louvière**, located at Ceramic Center at Place des Fours Bouteilles 1. Sculptures, pottery and drawing. Open from 8 to 10 p.m. Free admission.



**June 24 to 25**

- **Belgium Air Force Days in Florennes**, located at 2 Wing Tactique 191 on Route Charlemagne. Admission: €10 on presale or €15 at the door. Open from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For ticket packages, visit <http://www.belgianairforcedays.be/en/pages/bafd-days-tickets>.
- **Deco vintage in Charleroi**, located at Place Charles II 3. Browse through vintage furniture and decoration. Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**June 24 to 26**

- **Artists trail in Lens**, located on Place de la Trinité. Open Friday from 7 to 11:30 p.m., Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m., Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.



**June 25**

- **Flea market in Chièvres**, located at Grand Rue 5. Open from 2 to 8 p.m.
- **Flea Market for Thomas in Jemappes**, located at Rue du Marché 29. Proceeds will go to the care of Thomas, a young boy suffering from cancer. Open from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Farm party in Morlanwelz**, located at Rue Eugène Dufosse 3/a. Activities for adults and children, barbecue. Open from 9 a.m. to 11:55 p.m. Free admission, but some activities may require a fee.
- **Flea market in Naast**, near Soignies, located on Rue du Moulin Café Cercle St Martin. Open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Read about events near Brunssum and Schinnen (in the Netherlands unless otherwise indicated).

**Through June 25**

- **Vlaardings Loggerfestival in Vlaardingen** will be held at Van Sluis tot Buizengat. This cultural, naval and historic city fest will have historic boats and ships, water activities, a nautical and crafts market, shanty festival, demonstrations and more. Open June 22 from 1 to 10 p.m.; June 23 from 7 to 11 p.m.; June 24 from 8 p.m. to midnight and June 25 from 10 a.m. to midnight. Free admission.

**June 24 to 25**

- **Witch Festival in Oudewater** will be held in the idyllic center of town. The city will be overrun with witches and other magical figures. Enjoy music, dance, theater, fairy tales and magic acts all around the "Heksenwaag" (Witches Weigh House). Open June 24 from 6 p.m. to midnight, and June 25 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

**June 24 to 26**

- **Farm-and-country Fair in Aalten** will be held on Dinxperlosestraatweg. The fair combines entertainment and fun with many aspects of country life and farming. Open June 24 to 25 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and June 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €15; children, ages 4 to 14, €5.
- **Days of the Garden Fair in De Bilt** will be held on Vollenhoven Estate at Utrechtseweg 59. The private gardens of the 19th century Vollenhoven Estate can only be seen during this fair. Booths with all kinds of garden equipment, flowers, jams, art and more can be found around the park. Enjoy demonstrations and activities, and, near the main building, you can enjoy coffee, high tea or lunch. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €7.50; children, ages 11 and under, free admission.
- **Landpartie 2016 in Engelskirchen, Germany**, is a large Garden Fair held on Engels-Platz with more than 130 vendors displaying not only everything for your garden but fashion, jewelry and art. Have fun with children's activities, birds-of-prey shows and musical entertainment. Open June 24 from noon to 6 p.m.; June 25 to 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €8; children, free admission.
- **Harbor Days in Terneuzen** will take place in and around the harbor with lots of entertainment, demonstrations, naval show, games and more.

**Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

**June 25 to 26**

- **Flea market in Courcelles**, located on Place Franklin Roosevelt. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Beer fest in Jurbise**, located at the football court of Jurbise. This is the 15th anniversary of the beer fest with 80 different kinds of beer, music concerts will be going on as well. Free admission. Open Saturday from 6 p.m. to around 11:30 p.m., and Sunday from 4 to around 11 p.m.

**June 25 to 28**

- **Carnaval in Le Roeulx** located downtown. Music, food, creative activities for children. Open from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free admission.

**June 26**

- **Walking trail in La Louvière**, departs from Rue de la Grande Louvière 76. Organized by the independent kindergarten of Ecole Communale of la Grande Louvière, this walking trail has routes of 5, 10 and 20 km. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- **Walking trail by the water side in Blaton**, departs from the parking lot next to the church on Rue Emile Carlier. This hike will offer varied paths away from traffic: rural canals, former railways, sand pit, woods and the nature reserve of the sand sea. Admission: youths, ages 16 and older, €5. Starting time is 10:30 a.m.; end time is around 4:30 p.m. Make your required reservations through <http://www.proxirando.be>.

Ongoing



**Fridays through Sept. 9**

- **Roller Bike Parade in Brussels** – Rollers, bikes, longboards and freelines are invited to participate in this event. Departs from Place Poelaert, going to Hasselt and passing by Leuven. Open from 7 to 11:30 p.m. Free admission.

**Through October**

- **Treetop Adventure Trail in Tertre** will be held at Rue de la Hamaide 79. Three trails will be available for children, ages 7 and older, and for adults, too. Two trails will be available for children, ages 3 and older. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission: €9 to €19.



Read about events near Brunssum and Schinnen (in the Netherlands unless otherwise indicated).

**June 24 to 26 continued**

- **“Strohsemmelfest” in Lemgo, Germany**, will be held in the center of town. This festival is a combination of an art market and Italian wine village with wines and culinary delicacies. Open June 24 from 6 p.m. to midnight; June 25 from 10 a.m. to midnight and June 26 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- **Culinary festival in Remscheid, Germany**, will be held on Alleestrasse with snacks and drinks as well as entertainment.

**June 25**

- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Roermond** will be held at Kloosterwandplein in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**June 25 to 26**

- **Midsummer market in Balen, Belgium**, will be held on St. Andriesplein. This vacation market will host vendors from all over Europe. This colorful, authentic market has lots of delicacies.

**June 26**

- **Dutch TT in Assen** will take place at TT Circuit. For more information on these international motor races, visit [Caution-http://www.ttcircuit.com](http://www.ttcircuit.com).
- **International ceramic market in Maaseik, Belgium**, with more than 100 participants on Market Square in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Parkpop in The Hague** is Europe’s largest free pop festival held at Zuiderpark. The festival will host artists from all over the world. Starts at 1 p.m. Free admission. For more information, visit <http://www.parkpop.nl>.
- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Maastricht** will be held at Vismarkt on Boschstraat. Open from noon to 5:30 p.m.

Ongoing

**Through July 3**

- **Rose Festival in Arcen** will take place at Castle Gardens at Lingsforterweg 26. Visitors will see 250 kinds of roses as well as enjoy shows, workshops and demonstrations. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 pm. Admission: €15; children, ages 4 to 17, €7.50; children, ages newborn to 3, free admission.

**Through July 17**

- **Gallic Village in Liège, Belgium**, will take place on Place Saint Paul. This French-heritage village has about 40 booths offering local products, such as ham on the bone, spit-roasted ham, paella, grilled fillet of duck, Savoyard tart, homemade ravioli and more. Take them home or consume them on the spot on the covered terraces.

**Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.**