

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Customs forms must be completed online soon

Starting Oct. 1, handwritten customs forms will no longer be accepted at Benelux Army post offices. Postal customers will have to complete their customs forms online prior to presenting their packages to the mailing windows.

You may do this two ways:

1. From home: Use the U.S. Postal Service's online customs-form tool at <https://www.usps.com/international/customs-forms.htm> or Click-N-Ship at <https://reg.usps.com/login>.

2. From the APO: If you can't do it from home, use the new computer workstations in APO lobbies in Brussels, Chièvres, Schinnen or SHAPE to complete customs forms online on the USPS website.

Launderette closes for week

The Launderette on Chièvres Air Base will be closed Sept. 28 through Oct. 2 for construction on the roof of Building 20081.

During this time period, Building 20081's hot water will be connected to the Community Activity Center's solar-thermal panel system. The dry cleaner's, also located in Building 20081, will remain open.

Table of Contents

News.....	1-6
Inside the gate.....	7-8
Outside the gate.....	9-12



Benelux football kicks off at SHAPE

SHAPE Spartan Trey Kirklen heads upfield during the season-opening home football game for the Spartans Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015. Kirklen gained more than 200 yards in the 31-0 victory over the AFNORTH/Brussels team. SHAPE American High School's next home game will be its homecoming game against Rota (Spain) High School Oct. 10 at 1 p.m. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

See page 6.

Drives to help refugees continue in Tri-Border

Special to the Gazette

Company A, AFNORTH, Soldier and Family Readiness Group

AFNORTH Battalion's Alpha Company Soldier and Family Readiness Group has supported the efforts of helping refugees in the local area by working with other groups.

At the beginning of the month, Alpha Company joined forces with the German section of AFNORTH International School. The 10th-grade students from the school's German section created the "Yes, we care!" bake sale to raise money to assist refugees. All proceeds of this sale were earmarked for a local refugee camp. The students asked for volunteers within the German section to help bake cakes.

The Alpha Company Soldier and Family Readiness Group spread the word throughout the international community at JFC Brunssum, USAG Benelux-Schinnen and NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen through various online media channels, print and word-of-mouth. Soon, volunteers from various nationalities stepped up to the plate. Many baked; others — like the UK thrift shop at JFC Brunssum — donated money.

The "Yes, we care!" project is raising awareness of the refugee situation in the military community. For example, Cub Scout Pack 100 is now organizing a clothing drive. Clothing donations may be dropped off at Alpha Company in Building H307 on JFC Brunssum through Sept. 28.

In Memoriam

An employee with the USAG Benelux Directorate of Public Works passed away Sept. 20 at the age of 59 after losing his battle with cancer.

Luc Moulin hailed from Quaregnon, Belgium, and had served the U.S. Army in Belgium since July 28, 1975.

He dedicated his 40-year career as a painter to the Directorate of Public Works and its customers. Over the years, he became an expert in the drawing of the ground markings on the installation and the airfield runway.

Moulin is remembered by his friends and colleagues as an excellent professional and a cheerful, pleasant co-worker.

Moulin's funeral service was held in Quaregnon Sept. 23.



Continuing refugee crisis disrupts European travel

The ongoing refugee crisis in Europe continues to disrupt land crossings at borders. Official checkpoints may be set up on normally open border crossings, borders may be temporarily closed, or road and rail travel may be halted with little or no warning.

This may cause substantial delays and may inconvenience travelers who are entering or leaving European countries

via bus, car or train.

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin recommends that American citizens monitor local news for travel updates and be prepared to arrange alternate routes and modes of transport as needed.

Benelux security officials strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Europe enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler

Enrollment Program. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact you in an emergency.

If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the U.S. Embassy. Regularly monitor the State Department's website at <http://www.state.gov>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts and the Worldwide Caution.

<p>THE GAZETTE</p>	<p>To submit or subscribe, email usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil</p>
<p>Col. Marty Vannatter.....Commander</p>	<p><i>The Gazette</i> is an unofficial publication published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of <i>The Gazette</i> are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army or the USAG Benelux. <i>The Gazette</i> is a free weekly publication distributed via email every Thursday, except when that day is an American, Belgian or Dutch Holiday, then <i>The Gazette</i> is published on Friday. The editorial content of this publication is prepared, edited, provided, approved and published by the USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office, Unit 21419, APO AE 09708. Telephone (0032) 068-275419/DSN 361-5419. Everything advertised in this publication will be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher will refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army. Submit content or story ideas to usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil by Monday at 3 p.m.</p>
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Suicide Prevention Month

Know how to help a suicidal person

Special to the Gazette

USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program

September is Suicide Prevention Month.

"The important thing to understand is that feeling suicidal is not a character defect; it only means that the person has more pain than they feel capable of coping with," according to HelpGuide.org.

A suicidal person may not ask for help, but that doesn't mean that help isn't wanted. Most people who commit suicide don't want to die — they just want to stop hurting.

Suicide prevention starts with recognizing the warning signs and taking them seriously. If you think a friend or family member is considering suicide, you might be afraid to bring up the subject. However, talking openly about suicidal thoughts and feelings can save a life.

The World Health Organization estimates that approximately 1 million people die each year from suicide. To those not in the grips of suicidal depression and despair, it's difficult to understand what drives so many individuals to take their own lives, but a suicidal person is in so much pain that he or she can see no other option.

Most suicidal individuals give warning signs or signals of their intentions. The best way to prevent suicide is to recognize these warning signs and know how to respond if you spot them. If you believe that a friend or family member is suicidal, you can play a role in suicide prevention by pointing out the alternatives, and showing that you care.

John Lamb of the USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program enumerated the most common warning signs of suicide: talking about killing or harming oneself, talking or writing a lot about death or dying and seeking out things that could be used in a suicide attempt, such as weapons and drugs. These signals are even more dangerous if the person has a mood disorder such as depression or bipolar disorder, suffers from alcohol dependence, has previously attempted suicide, or has a family history of suicide.



Other warning signs that point to a suicidal mind frame include dramatic mood swings or sudden personality changes, such as going from outgoing to withdrawn or well-behaved to rebellious. A suicidal person may also lose interest in day-to-day activities, neglect his or her appearance and show big changes in eating or sleeping habits.

Talking to a friend or family member about their suicidal thoughts and feelings can be extremely difficult for anyone. But if you're unsure whether someone is suicidal, the best way to find out is to ask. You can't make a person suicidal by showing that you care. In fact, giving a suicidal person the opportunity to express his or her feelings can provide relief from loneliness and pent-up negative feelings and may prevent a suicide attempt.

If you, a loved one or friend could use a helping hand, contact your local health-care provider. The Department of Defense has developed a confidential Military Crisis Line where master-level stateside counselors stand ready to provide free, immediate assistance at DSN 118, or toll-free 00-800-1273-8255. In

addition, confidential chats are available online at <http://MilitaryCrisisLine.net>.

Assisting active-duty military and their family members developing actions plans to address problems is a key function of military family-life consultants. They deliver free, confidential, problem-solving counseling services to help with situations that occur within the military lifestyle.

Benelux Army Community Service locations are where you can normally find a military family-life consultant who works with adults:

- SHAPE/Chievres/Brussels: Civilian 0497-653738;

- Schinnen: Civilian +31 (0) 629-471920.

Some MFLCs work with children:

- Brussels American School: civilian 0472-285449;

- Schinnen CYSS at Brunssum: civilian +31 (0) 615-181036.

If you have further questions regarding suicide prevention, contact the ASAP office at DSN 423-2658 or civilians 065-442658.

HelpGuide.org has a link to host-nation crisis centers all over the world.

Stretch holiday \$\$\$ with fee-free layaway

'The Exchange makes it worthwhile for shoppers to give layaway a try.'

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service has brought back fee-free layaway, just in time for early holiday shopping, according to a press release from AAFES corporate headquarters in Dallas. The layaway program ensures military shoppers have plenty of time to pay for gifts while keeping them hidden from prying eyes.

The Exchange will waive the \$3 service fee for items that are placed on layaway and paid for by Dec. 24 — including toys and bikes. Purchases of \$25 or more are eligible for the layaway plan.

"The Exchange's layaway program is a convenient way for shoppers to stock up on gifts for the holidays while staying mindful of their budgets," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, the Exchange's senior enlisted adviser. "By waiving the service fee, the Exchange makes it worthwhile for shoppers to give layaway a try and keep gifts hidden from family members who love snooping."

A deposit of 15 percent is required to hold items on layaway at the Exchange. Shoppers can visit customer service for complete program details and eligibility information.



Starbucks comes to Chièvres

1st Lt. Rollin Nash of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade fixes himself a tall latte macchiato at the new Starbucks coffee kiosk in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, food court on Chièvres Air Base Monday, Sept. 21, 2015. Starbucks On The Go accepts credit cards and euro coins. Prices are in euros. Open Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Photo by Laurent "Gus" Elius)

POWs, MIAs remembered during Recognition Day



Joseph Schram

Display honors prisoners of war and the missing in action Saturday, Sept. 18, 2015.

Members of American Legion Post BE02 held a remembrance in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept. 18 at the Main Exchange on Chièvres Air Base for prisoners of war and the missing in action.

The symbolism of a table for one with its empty chair and inverted goblet gave community members an opportunity to remember the American service members who never came home.

A single rose in a vase signified the blood he may have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of the United States of America and is a reminder of the family and friends of those missing

comrades who keep the faith. A yellow ribbon on the vase represented an unyielding determination for a proper accounting of those comrades.

On a plate, a slice of lemon symbolized the POW/MIA's bitter fate, a sprinkling of salt symbolized the countless tears that have fallen as families wait on the home front.

A candle stands for the light of hope, an American flag is a reminder that many have made the supreme sacrifice to ensure freedom, and the flag of the American Legion symbolizes that it has pledged full accountability for all who haven't returned.



Preparing Army Communities Today for the Hazards of Tomorrow

BE INFORMED ▶ MAKE A PLAN ▶ BUILD A KIT ▶ GET INVOLVED

More than flashlight needed during power outage

September is National Preparedness Month.

As winter approaches and, with it, the possibility of severe storms and resulting power outages, Ready Army officials recommend that Army employees and their families prepare themselves and maintain a basic level of preparedness for all potential hazards.

Ready Army is the Department of the Army's emergency-preparedness campaign. It expands upon the national Ready campaign from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Ad Council to provide targeted information to support the unique needs of the Army community stationed around the world.

Every employee should always be prepared to manage without power for an extended period of time because the electricity can go out for various reasons, said John Hopper, the USAG Benelux-Schinnen emergency manager. During a power outage, your family's emergency preparedness kit can be critical to your comfort and survival.

An unexpected outage can have unforeseen consequences. Without electricity, shortages of food and clean water as

well as extreme temperatures can occur.

A home emergency-preparedness kit may already offer many items that will also be useful during power outages, such as flashlights (battery-driven and hand-crank), batteries and a hand-crank radio.

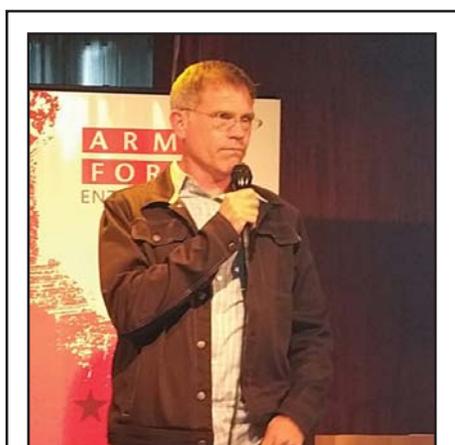
For guidance on how to make a kit and a printer-friendly emergency-kit checklist, visit http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/ra_get_a_kit.htm.

In the event of a power outage, remember to:

- Use flashlights instead of candles to minimize the risk of fire.
- Turn off the electrical equipment being used when the power went out.
- Try not to open the freezer or refrigerator frequently. A full freezer should safely keep food for 48 hours.
- Pack dairy products, meat, fish, eggs, refrigerated medicines and other items that can quickly spoil in a cooler surrounded by ice to extend their usability.

Obtain additional information from

- Ready Army <http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy>.



Comedy comes to Benelux

Bengt Washburn does his stand-up routine at the Armed Forces Entertainment Comedy of Champions Show in Brussels Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015. Washburn and two other comedians took their adults-only AFE show on the road and played to a Schinnen crowd the next night. (U.S. Army photo by David Coldwell)

Workplace charity campaign offers opportunity to give

The Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas began Sept. 21, so federal employees — both military and civilian — may make pledges to many of their favorite charities through CFC-O.

CFC is the only authorized solicitation of federal employees in their workplaces on behalf of approved charitable organizations, according to U.S. Army Europe's CFCO website at <http://www.eur.army.mil/CFC>. The campaign runs through Nov. 20.

Donations can be made by

- * completing a pledge card for a one-time payment by cash or check, or recurring monthly payments via payroll allotment, then submitting it to your unit's CFC-O representative (You may obtain a pledge card from your unit rep

or at <http://cfcoverseas.org>);

- * using MyPay to set up a payroll allotment for recurring monthly giving; or
- * using eGiving to set up a one-time payment or recurring monthly payments via credit card, debit card or electronic draft from a bank account.

Speak with your unit rep or go to <http://www.cfcoverseas.org>. Additionally, contributors can give to Family Support & Youth Programs (FSYP) to support programs in local military communities. Go to <http://cfcoverseas.org/> to make a contribution online.

Members of USAG Benelux communities who don't know the names of their CFC representatives or need additional assistance should contact DSN 361-5973 or civilian 068-275973.

SHAPE shuts out AFNORTH/Brussels 31-0

Story and photos by Tim Clark
USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

The SHAPE American School football team opened its DODDS-Europe Division II season Saturday with a shutout of the newly combined AFNORTH/Brussels team 31-0.

Leading the way for the Spartans was Trey Kirklen with 218 yards rushing and two touchdowns. Spartan Pablo Pereira kicked an impressive 48-yard field goal that easily cleared the crossbar. SHAPE dominated the time of possession with 40 minutes, 50 seconds, to AFNORTH/Brussels having the ball for just 18:03.

“A great effort by all, the offensive line did a very good job but must improve for next week’s challenge at Naples,” Spartan head coach Jay Bodine said.

Unviable roster sizes at both AFNORTH and Brussels American High School led to the decision to combine the two teams last week. The move was made to save both school’s football seasons. The teams had just one practice together before facing the Spartans.

“It’s about affording kids the opportunity to play football,” said the DODDS-Europe athletic director, Karen Seadore.

After games at Naples Saturday and Bitburg Oct.3, the Spartans return to their home field for homecoming Oct. 10 to take on the Rota Admirals. AFNORTH/Brussels faces Rota at home Saturday, followed by road trips to face Baumholder Oct. 2 and Ansbach Oct. 10.



The Spartans charge through a banner made by the cheerleaders to kick off the season.



(From left) Pablo Pereira slips past the AFNORTH/Brussels defensive line on his way to a touchdown Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015. • An AFNORTH/Brussels defender makes a tackle. • Cassidy Baugh cheers on the Spartans.



Upcoming games

SHAPE	AFNORTH/Brussels
at Naples Sept 26	Rota Sept. 26
at Bitburgh Oct. 3	at Baumholder Oct. 2
Rota Oct. 10	at Ansbach Oct 10

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Tonight

- **BOSS Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hosts " Max" (PG) from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on the third floor of Building 1. All movies are free. However, space is limited so make your reservation soon at reservations3star@yahoo.com. For details, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

Sept. 25

- **Concert at the 3 Star: Tom Murphy** - This evening's free concert from 7 to 9 p.m. features Tom Murphy performing vintage rock, blues and original compositions. His preference is for blues, rock, and tried and true hits from the 1960s to the 1990s.

Oct. 1

- **BOSS Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hosts "Jurassic World" (PG-13) from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on the third floor of Building 1. All movies are free. However, space is limited so make your reservation soon at reservations3star@yahoo.com. For details, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

Oct. 2

- **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: crispy chicken tenders, daily homemade soup, potato wedges and more. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Apply now

- **Fall Break Camp** - NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen's School Age Program hosts its Fall Break Camp in Building 134 Oct. 12 to 16, but the deadline to sign up is **Oct. 1**. Tuesday's trip includes SeaLife Oberhausen and LegoLand. Thursday's destination is Toverland. However, field trips will be subject to change based on weather and availability due to enrollment numbers. Fees are based on the income-adjusted scale of GK's child-care facilities plus a \$30 fee to assist in transportation and admission to the various amusement parks. Call DSN 458-6107 or civilian +49 (0) 2451-632280.
- **School Meal Program** - CYSS at JFC Brunssum is taking applications for free/reduced lunch for the 2015-2016 school year. Contact CYSS for the application form. U.S. ID card-holders only. For details, visit CYSS Parent Central Services in Building H-602, or call DSN 364-3121/2023 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121/2023.
- **CYSS Programs** - The USAG Benelux-Schinnen CYSS School Age Center has several programs for children in the community. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. For more information, visit CYSS Parent Central Services in Building H-602 at JFC Brunssum, or call DSN 364-3121/2023 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121/2023.
- **Before- and After-School Program** - This program is open to children in first through fifth grades.
- **CYSS half-day preschool** - A part-time preschool program (with morning and afternoon sessions) is available for children, ages 4 to 5. Children entering the program must be at least 4 by Oct. 1.

Sept. 30

- **Scream-Free Parenting** - Get some parenting skills and tips on how to raise your children by keeping your cool in the ACS Training Room from 1 to 3 p.m. To register, call DSN 360-7367 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437367.
- **Heinsberg Hospital Tour** - The New Parent Support Program through Army Community Service arranges for these tours. Meet at the front door of the hospital at 6 p.m. for this English-speaking tour. For details, call +49 (0) 2452-188501.

Oct. 1 to 3

- **2015 International Honor Jazz Festival** - AFNORTH International School on Brunssum will host students from around the world who were selected by audition for a prestigious jazz group under the auspices of the Association for Music in International Schools. They will be directed by Darmon Meader of New York Voices, an internationally acclaimed jazz-vocal ensemble. Enjoy three days of jazz during this free festival (no tickets needed). Open to ID card-holders and their guests. **Oct. 1:** The NATO Jazz Orchestra will perform in the AFNORTH cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. **Oct. 2:** The Honor Band will give two performances: The Honor Band and Vocal Jazz Ensemble will perform in a "teaser" concert for the students at AFNORTH in the school cafeteria at 2:30 p.m., and Honor Band and Vocal Jazz Combo Night — an evening of small-group jazz — will be held at the International Conference Center at 7 p.m. **Oct. 3:** The gala concert (featuring the Honor Band and Vocal Jazz Ensemble) will begin in the school cafeteria at 7 p.m.

Oct. 7

- **Hope 5K Walk/Run to end Domestic Violence** - The start will be at 9 a.m. from the Schinnen Fitness Center. Wear purple to say, "Abuse is NEVER OK!" Call DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437561.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY continued

Oct. 7 and 8

- **New Parent Support Home Visitor** - The New Parent Support Home Visitor will be available for office hours as well as hospital and home visits to all U.S. ID card-holders. To schedule an appointment, call Schinnen Army Community Service at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.

Oct. 9

- **US Military Retiree Appreciation Day** - All U.S. military retirees and their spouses are invited to attend the USAG Benelux-Schinnen U.S. Military Retiree Appreciation Day at the Community Activity Center in Building 38 on Schinnen from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions and provide information regarding TRICARE; health and wellness; banking services; dental; Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA, benefits; ID cards; and more. New this year will be a representative from Defense Finance and Accounting System, or DFAS, to answer retiree pay questions and audit retiree pay records. Also new, flu shots will be available as well as pneumonia vaccine for those age 65 and older, and shingles vaccine for those age 60 and older. If you would like to get any or all of the vaccines, phone in your name and age to civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475 so that the proper number of vaccines can be ordered.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now/Tickets available

- **Family portraits** - An Army & Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, contractor will be set up in the Chièvres food court from **Sept. 24 to Oct. 2** so that Benelux community members may make appointments for sittings for family photos. Only a limited number of appointments are available so don't delay.
- **SHAPE theater** - The SHAPE Performing Arts Centre in Building 207 has several offerings. To find out more about the programs below, call DSN 423- 3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.
 - **La Ronde** - The SHAPE Players present a play with mature themes, "La Ronde" by Arthur Schnitzler. The curtain goes up **Sept. 24, 25 and 26** and **Oct. 1, 2 and 3** at 7:30 p.m. The curtain goes up on Sunday matinees **Sept. 27 and Oct. 4** at 3 p.m. Tickets for this adults-only play are €16.
 - **Season tickets** - Subscription season has begun. This season, SHAPE Players present four plays, two of which are musicals. Season tickets include the adult play "La Ronde," the musical "Urine Town," "The Rose Tattoo" and the Disney musical "The Little Mermaid." Season tickets are €48 (full) and €27 (student/child) each.

Sept. 25

- **Family Game Night** - The SHAPE CYSS Youth Centre hosts this event from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Open to CYSS-registered youth in sixth through 12th grade and their parents. To register, call DSN 423-6039/6097 or civilian 065-446039/6097.

Oct. 3

- **Retiree Appreciation Day** - Military retirees are invited for an information exchange, services and cake at the SHAPE Healthcare Facility from 9 a.m. to noon. Starting at 8:30 a.m., retirees can come early for coffee and pastries, then take some time to "meet and greet." The following services will be available to retirees on site during this time: Medical, Dental, VA, Army Community Service, Legal, Army Substance Abuse Program, Andrews Federal Credit Union and American Legion Post BE02 "Flanders Field." The U.S. Community Services Center, once known as the American Central Processing Facility, or CPF, in Building 253 will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. to assist with renewals or replacements of identification cards as well as updates to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS. The IMCOM-Europe retirement services officer will also be available in Building 253 to check and update retiree records as needed.

Movies at SHAPE Cinema

Rates – 2D movies: adults €7.50 and children 11 and under €4. 3D movies: adults €9 and children 11 and under €6. Check <http://www.shape2day.com> under "Morale & Welfare (MWB)" for the movie schedule.

Theaters near SHAPE/Chièvres that play movies in English:

Only the British or American movies listed as VO (Version Originale or Originale Versie) will be in English.

Plaza Art - Rue de Nimy 12, 7000 Mons (next to the main square). Visit <http://plaza-art.be/index.cgi?p=Grille>.

ImagiBraine - Boulevard de France, 1420 Braine l'Alleud. Check the schedule and purchase your tickets at: <http://kinopolis.be/nl/bioscopen/kinopolis-imagibraine>.

Kinopolis - Boulevard du Centenaire 20, 1020 Bruxelles. Take a look at movie listings at <http://kinopolis.be/fr/cinemas/kinopolis-bruxelles>.

Movie at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

Adult admission is €6.5 (ages 12 and older) - Child admission is €3.75 (ages 11 and under). Check the web page at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Schinnen-1366146> for the movie schedule.

Travel the Benelux

Turbulent times define Gaasbeek castle

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

On the outskirts of Brussels, sits Gaasbeek castle in a park filled with lakes, forests and trails. Although it looks like it belongs in a fairy tale, the castle has a past worthy of a Gothic novel, battles, abandonment and a beheading.

Godfried of Leuven had the original castle built around 1240 to defend his duchy against the County of Flanders. In 1338, the people of Brussels destroyed the castle because of an assassination ordered by the Lord of Gaasbeek. Rebuilding went on for the next 150 years.

Acquired by Lamorral, Count of Egmond, in 1565, the castle is in his possession for only three years before his untimely death. Spanish Emperor Charles V and his son King Philip II ruled over the Low Countries at the time. Problems arose when Lamorral protested the persecution of the Protestants in the Low Countries. The rulers suspected the count, who was a lifelong Catholic, of having Protestant sympathies and arrest him for treason. After a year in prison, Lamorral was decapitated in Brussels' Grand Place to serve as an example for those seeking greater religious freedom.

The castle fell into disrepair and was bombarded by the Louis XIV's troops in 1696. The southeast wing of the castle was reduced to rubble and never repaired. Bought in the 1700s by Louis Alexander Scocckaert of Tirimont as a summer residence, the castle was to some extent restored during that time. The Visconti family from Milan inherited the property in 1795, but it remained dilapidated and empty for the next 100 years.

Marquise Paul Arconati Visconti left the castle to his

wife, Marie Peyrat, in 1876. She commissioned the Brussels architect Charle-Albert to carry out a complete restoration of the castle in 1887. Together they created the castle as it looks today: a mix of romantic, Gothic and Renaissance styles. Marie donated the castle and part of the household effects to the Belgian state in 1921 so that the castle could be made into a museum. Rather than being grand, the interior of the castle is intimate with numerous small rooms. Renowned for its collection of tapestries, many of which take up whole walls and the period furniture and art on display. Those with handicaps may not be able to negotiate the many stairs inside the castle.

Wildworks Theatre Company has taken the history and personal items of the three most prominent owners of the castle and created a theatrical experience called "Twice upon a Castle" in which actors in period costumes lend an aged atmosphere to some of the castle rooms. Some of the production may not be suitable for sensitive children.

A 125-acre park of verdant lawns and forests with narrow, winding trails surround the castle. The castle grounds also include three lakes. The park is open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with the exception of November to March when it closes at 5 p.m. A great place to take a hike or just enjoy the views of the picturesque castle, the park has many places where you can enjoy the outdoors.

Gaasbeek Castle is open from April 1 to Nov. 8, Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Outside the gate



From:
Mons: 50 km
Brussels: 22 km
Schinnen: 142 km

For your GPS:
Kasteelstraat 40
Gaasbeek
Belgium 1750



Belgian famous for revolutionizing navigation



by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Every map begins with a deception: The earth is flat. In the 1500s, Belgian Gerardus Mercator, a cartographer, mathematician and engraver came up with the Mercator projection, the first map to take into account the fact that the earth was round. He created a flat map that takes into consideration the curvature of the earth.

Even if you have never heard of Mercator, you have certainly seen his work. His Mercator projection map is the primary map that navigators have used for thousands of years. Remember those wall maps of the world in your classroom back in your school days, all based on the Mercator projection. Google maps, GPS maps, any phone app with a map, Mercator again. He coined the term "atlas" to stand for a book of maps.

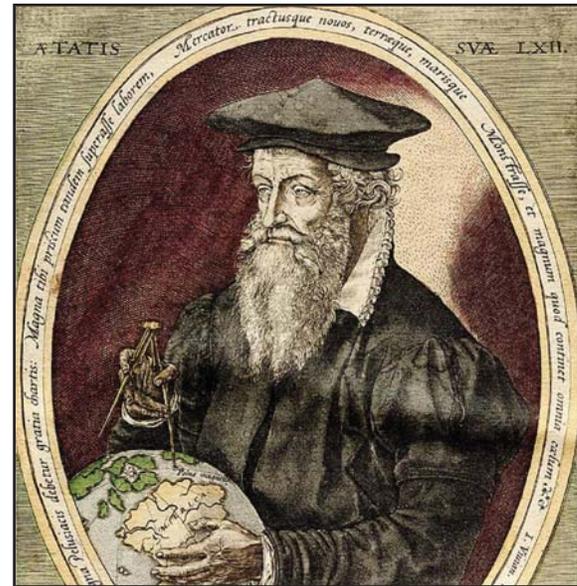
Born March 15, 1512, in Rupelmonde, Flanders (close to Antwerp), Mercator devised a map projection in 1569 that kept the latitude and longitude lines at consistent 90-degree angles. The resulting maps revolutionized navigating the Seven Seas and became an essential tool for sailors venturing into unknown areas in search of wealth, knowledge and adventure.

Early explorers had to constantly recalculate their bearings to stay on course while sailing. With a Mercator projection map, sailing a course of constant bearing became a straight line. Mercator's map gave sailors a practical means for exploring the world.

The downside was the distorted size of the landmasses; objects closer to the poles look larger than they should.

China looks smaller than Greenland when really it's not. Regardless of the maps shortcomings, it was made as a navigational tool for sailors and remains extremely useful for that purpose.

Now a museum moored in Ostend harbor, the sailing ship Mercator is named after him to honor his contributions to naval navigation. The Gerardus Mercator Museum in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium, traces the history of cartography and houses two original globes by Mercator.



Outside the gate

Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **London, Oct. 3**
- **NASCAR championships at Circuit Zolder in Belgium, Oct. 4**
- **Alsace Wine Route, Oct. 10 to 11**
- **Amsterdam with optional guided tour of Van Gogh Museum, Oct. 17**
- **Rotterdam, Oct. 24**
- **Harry Potter studio tour, Nov. 4**
- **Flanders Field WWI Tour of Ypres, Belgium, Nov. 7**
- **Carolus Thermen spa in Aachen, Germany, Nov. 14**
- **Paris: Moulin Rouge, Nov. 21**
- **Snow & Ice Sculpture Festival and medieval dinner in Brugge (Bruges), Nov. 28**
- **German Christmas markets overnight, Dec. 5 to 6**
- **Alsace Christmas markets overnight in Triberg**

im Schwarzwald (Black Forest), Dec. 12 to 13

- **Aachen and Monschau, Dec. 20**
- **Paris in winter, Dec. 28**
- **London New Year's, Dec. 30 to Jan. 1, 2016 (Register by Nov. 16.)**

SHAPE Travel Group - Call civilian 0470-876369.

- **Belgian Trappist and Countryside Tour, Oct. 6**
- **A Day in Rotterdam, Oct. 20**
- **Antwerp and Red Star Line Museum, Nov. 19**
- **Cologne Christmas markets, Nov. 24**

Schinnen Trips & Tours - Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.

- **National Liberation Museum 44-45, Sept. 26**
- **NFL Games at Wembley Stadium in London, Book your tickets now for Oct. 3 to 5 (Jets vs. Dolphins), Oct. 24 to 26 (Bills vs. Jaguars) and Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 (Lions vs. Chiefs).**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Sept. 25

- **After-work aperitif and snacks in Soignies** - Get together from 5 to 10:30 p.m. at Etangs de la Cafenièrre on Rue du Marais Tiria.



Sept. 25 to 27

- **Small animals fair in Court-Saint-Etienne** - Some 1,300 animals will be present and for sale. Also pony and donkey rides for the children. At parc à Mitrailles, Chaussée Provinciale Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sept. 26

- **Evening flea market in Soignies (100 booths)** - On Chaussée de Mons (parking lot of the train station) from 2 to 9 p.m.
- **Local products market in Peruwelz** - In the center of town, Rue Albert Ier with some 25 booths from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Free market in Brussels** - Everything at this market is free. You can bring your items starting at 1:45 p.m. or you can take whatever you like from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Quai à la Houille 9. You will have to take back the items that you brought and weren't taken.

Sept. 26 to 27

- **Open house at the scrapbooking workshop in Masnuy-Saint-Pierre** - Come and discover new scrapbooking techniques at the "Scrapothèque" at Rue des Déportés 123 Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to noon.

Sept. 27

- **Volksmarch in Thuin (5, 10 or 20 km)** - Departs from Rue Cromboully 45 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Chastre (5, 10, 15 or 20 km)** - Departs from the school at Rue de la Poste 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Soignies (5, 10, 15 or 20 km)** - Departs from Rue du Chanoine Scarmure 15 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in st Symphorien (6, 12, 20 or 30 km)** - Departs from "Salle Calva" at Chaussée Roi Baudouin 39 from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Small participation fee.



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

Through Sept. 26

- **French Gourmet market in Bochum, Germany**, will be held on Dr. Ruer Platz.
- **Saint-Jazz-Ten-Noode in Saint-Josse-Ten-Noode, Belgium**, is a major jazz event with numerous free jazz concerts held at Place Saint-Josse.

Sept. 24 to 27

- **National Tattoo in Rotterdam** will be held at Ahoy at Ahoyweg 10 featuring top-quality Dutch and international military and show bands. Get details at <http://www.nationaletaptoe.nl>.

Sept. 25 to 29

- **Fleuramour in Bilzen, Belgium**, will be held at Castle Alden Biesen at Kasteelstraat 6. "Passion for Flowers" is a large international flower event held annually. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €15.

Sept. 26

- **European Show Band Championships in Kerkrade** will be held in Parkstad Limburg Stadion at Roda JC Ring 1 with top show bands from all over Europe. Visit <http://www.ekshow.nl>.
- **Irish Folk Festival in Hoogeveen** will have traditional music, dance, whiskey and more at De Tamboer at Hoofdstraat 17. Opens at 8 p.m. Admission: €24.50.
- **Antique and curiosa market in Roermond** will be held on Kloosterwandplein in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sept. 26 to 27

- **Fall Market in Bad Laasphe, Germany**, will be held on Wilhelmsplatz. This annual market will offer plenty of attractions and other entertainment.
- **Meroder Kürbismarkt in Langerwehe, Germany**, at Kriegers Gärtnerhof at Schlossstrasse 2 has more than 50 booths with regional products and many culinary specialties. The pumpkin is the center of attention of this market. Open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **"Lekkodagen" in Wijk bij Duurstede** gives attendees the opportunity to visit more than 70 historic ships in the harbor and enjoy shows, demonstrations, live music and more. Free admission. Opens at 10 a.m.

Sept. 26 to 29

- **October Market in Büren, Germany**, will be held on the market square in the center of town. Starts Saturday at 3 p.m., Sunday at 11 a.m., Monday at 2 p.m., and Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Sept. 27 continued

- **Flea market in Bon-Secours (80 booths)** - On Rue de la Forêt from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Nivelles (150 booths)** - On Parking Saint Roch from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jemappes (200 booths)** - At Avenue Maréchal Foch 873 from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Hornu (200 booths)** - On Route de Mons (Cora) from 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Flea market in Herchies (150 booths)** - In the center of the village from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Casteau (110 booths)** - On Place des Castellais and Chaussée de Bruxelles from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Jogging in Horrues** - Departs from Place du jeu de Balle. Free children's run for children, ages 3 to 12, departs at 1:30 p.m. Adults' run for distances of 5 and 10 km departs at 3 p.m. Participation fee: €6. On-site registration starts at noon.
- **Procession honoring Notre-dame de Tongre in Tongre-Notre-Dame (Chièvres)** - Procession will leave after the 10 a.m. religious service at the collegiate church.
- **Thread, quilt, patch and accessory fair in Nivelles** - At Rue Sotriamont 1 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with various workshops. Admission: €3.

- **Second Life Festival in Brussels** - Fair for everything that is vintage. Various booths with vintage items, such as purses, jewelry, accessories, posters, decorations and more at Hotel Le Berger at Rue du Berger 24 from 3 to 8 p.m. Free admission.



- **Boat ride on the Charleroi Canal** - Boarding will be at Quai Béco at Avenue du Port 1 in Brussels.

Cost: €13 per person. Prior registration is mandatory and no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Friday before via <http://www.lafonderie.be>.

- **Family day at the Cultural Center in Evere** - Circus, dance, theater, magic show for young and old on Place de la Paix from 11:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. Various demonstrations will also be held (guitar, yoga, dance, zumba, hip-hop, tango and more from 10 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- **Music Fair in Woluwe Saint Pierre** - Fair for everything that relates to music at Boulevard de la Woluwe 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Sept. 27

- **Sunday Fair in Den Bosch** will be held at Pettelaarse Schans. You'll find a mix of more than 150 lifestyle companies, food trucks, workshops, live music and many activities. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €8, children, 12 and under, free.
- **Farm and regional products market in Eeklo, Belgium**, will be held at Provinciaal Streekcentrum Huysmanhoeve at Bus 1, where you will find authentic and regional delicacies and products. Open from 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission.
- **Fall Fair in Kerkrade** offers traditional delicacies, regional products, fall decorations, curios, antiques, plants, flowers and more at Botanische Tuin at St. Hubertuslaan 74. Free admission.
- **Farmers market and Harvest Fest in Ratingen, Germany**, in the town center on the market square will be where you'll find lots of music, culinary highlights, regional products and culture. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Chocolate festival in Zutphen** puts chocolate at the center of attention. Held in the town center, this festival will host all kinds of activities and demonstrations. Open from noon to 5 p.m.

Sept. 29 to Oct. 4

- **Home-and-living fair in Amsterdam** at RAI will offer you new ideas on changing your home interior. Open most days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission: €19; children, 11 and under, €7.

Oct. 1 to 3

- **Relief of Leyden Festivities in Leiden** will be held the center of town. These festivities will take place as a remembrance of the city's relief from the Spanish siege in 1574. The program includes a parade, traditional food, fireworks and more.

Oct. 1 to 4

- **Selections '15 in The Hague** will be held at Grote Kerk at Rond de Grote Kerk 12. This Antique and Classic Art Fair hosts more than 50 national and international dealers who display their collections. Open Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Ongoing

Through Oct. 10

- **British Curiosa Fair in Zeijen** will be held at De Oranjerie at Noorderstraat 1. Open from 1 to 6 p.m. Free admission.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.