

THE GAZETTE

Benelux news briefs

AAFES has openings

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Chièvres Main Store needs senior store associates. Brussels is looking for a shift supervisor.

Apply online at <https://www.applymyexchange.com>. If you have questions about positions in Chièvres, call DSN 361-5337 or civilian 068-275337.

Credit union has jobs

Andrews Federal Credit Union is now hiring in its Brussels and Schinnen locations.

Schinnen has a teller position open while Brussels has a branch manager position open.

Apply online at <https://www.andrewsfcu.org>.

Gazette submission

Send your requests for publication to usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil by Monday at 3 p.m.

Story submissions sent to the Gazette should be in a format that allows the staff to edit them, such as Microsoft Word or PowerPoint.

Benelux Flickr account

Download photos of the last event or ceremony from the USAG Benelux Flickr account at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/135840597@N02>.

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Trying out new hardware

Members of USAG Benelux Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Directorate of Emergency Services and the Provost Marshal Office train and qualify with brand-new M4A1 rifles at the Chièvres Air Base range, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016. Now with a fully automatic setting, the rifles are manufactured by FN Herstal, an American subsidiary of Belgian weapon manufacturer Fabrique Nationale. They also invited Soldiers assigned to NATO and to the Brussels and SHAPE dental clinics. (U.S. Army photo by Pierre-Etienne Courtejoie/Training Support Center Benelux)

Federal life insurance offers first open season in more than 10 years this September

Open season for the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program will be held from Sept. 1 to 30.

The first FEGLI open season in 12 years, the 2016 open season doesn't reflect any changes like the 1999 and 2004 open seasons did (introducing Option C coverage on the lives of eligible family members and changes in optional FEGLI rates, respectively).

The 2016 open season offers an opportunity for federal employees who

are eligible for FEGLI to elect any coverage that FEGLI offers. Employees don't need to be currently enrolled in FEGLI to elect coverage during open season. Open-season elections have no medical exam required and no health questions to answer.

Elections that are made during the FEGLI open season have a one-year delayed effective date. Coverage elected in the September 2016 open season will be effective on the first day of the

first full pay period on or after Oct. 1, 2017, as long as the employee meets pay and duty-status requirements.

Outside of an open season, eligible employees can enroll in FEGLI by taking a physical exam or within 60 days after a "qualifying life event," such as the birth or adoption of a child, according to the Office of Personnel Management website at <https://www.opm.gov/life>.

For details, visit the website or talk to your human-resources representative.

Parents can set up school-lunch accounts at AAFES

When parents visit the customer-service counter at their local Army & Air Force Exchange Service to set up a lunch account for their children, they must bring along each child's student ID number.

This 10-digit number can be obtained from the school registrar's office or from GradeSpeed, an online portal that allows parents to check on how their students are doing in school, under "Manage Students" in the navigation tree. (Don't confuse this number with the old Exchange lunch-account number, sometimes called a Horizon account number.)

Families on the Free or Reduced Meal Program will need lunch accounts as well.

Horizon is the software that AAFES uses to manage the Student Meal Program, according to Ruth C. Ploeger, region school liaison officer. It tracks payments, eligibility for the Free or Reduced Meal Program and assigns each student a

six-digit personal identification number to make purchases using the pre-paid lunch account. Parents don't have access to view information on Horizon, however.

MyPaymentsPlus, or MPP, is a system that is linked to Horizon on which parents can track and view their children's lunch accounts, Ploeger said. Through MPP, parents can also make payments into the student's Horizon lunch account for a small fee. (Free deposits can be made at Exchange customer service and the cafeteria.)

"A great feature is MPP can be set to send parents a trigger email when lunch accounts are getting low, allowing parents to replenish the prepaid account before the child runs out of lunch money," she said.

For more information on lunch, menus, prices and more, visit <http://www.aafes.com/about-exchange/school-lunch-program>.

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

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USAG Benelux employees help US Army save money

Story and photos by **Donovan Abrassart**
USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

USAG Benelux employees put the garrison on the map and received a Secretary-of-the-Army Energy and Water Management Award during a ceremony held Aug. 11 in Providence, Rhode Island.

The team, represented by Mélanie Chaballe, Energy Manager, won in the Small Group Category in Renewables/Alternatives for its Energy Conservation Investment Program 451-kilowatt solar panel array.

Though Chaballe was in the spotlight during the ceremony, she insists on the fact that other people significantly contributed to the success of the project.

"This couldn't have been successful without the help and knowledge of our Directorate of Public Works, Operations and Maintenance, electrical team, as they made sure from the design phase to the construction phase that the equipment selected by the Corps of Engineers and the contractors was adequate and then installed correctly in order to get a fully operational system at the end," Chaballe said.

Bernard Leturcq, Chief Electrical Branch and electricians Michel Delhaise, Olivier Hannecart, Jacques Jennart, Sylvain L'Hermite and Willy Pestiaux who couldn't make it to the ceremony were key players in the awarded project.

"As members of DPW, we serve as a bridge between different actors such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, electricity distribution companies, network managers and end users," Leturcq said. "Our challenge was to integrate a new system without altering the existing installations. We managed to do it thanks, among others, to the knowledge of experienced electricians who are familiar with the existing electrical installations."

The solar array, which has been operational since September 2014, has helped the garrison save about

\$60,000 annually.

"Since September 2014, the array has produced more than 900,000 kilowatt-hours, Chaballe said. "It corresponds to the energy consumption of one of the garrison's houses in Attre over 160 years."

Chaballe is also trying to obtain an exception to policy to benefit from the green certificates program, which would add "an extra \$60,000" in energy savings, she said.

The solar-array project was first put on the table in 2009 by Chaballe's predecessor, Dorothée Dupuis.



Mélanie Chaballe, Energy Manager, checks the solar panel inverters on Chièvres Air Base Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016.



(From front to back) Sylvain L'Hermite, Olivier Hannecart, Willy Pestiaux, Bernard Leturcq stand by the solar panels on Chièvres Air Base, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016.

"I took over the project and resubmitted it year after year in the Energy Conservation Investment Program until it got selected for funding in fiscal year 2013," Chaballe said.

Chaballe took advantage of that delay to exploit more favorable market conditions, which allowed the team to build a 451-kw array instead of the 187 kw originally planned for.

The solar array not only helps the garrison save thousands of dollars every year but also has a significant impact on its environmental footprint.

"One of the best achievements of this project was the integration of the solar array system into the existing high-voltage electricity loop that supplies all facilities on Chièvres Air Base," Chaballe said. "Therefore, all the green electricity produced by the solar panels is distributed to any base facility and lowers the intake from the electricity supplier."

The resulting decrease in electric power consumption helped the garrison reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 317 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually.

The success of the solar array has paved the way for more ideas and projects.

"There are so many projects I would like to achieve," Chaballe said. "I would love to have smart meters for electricity, gas/fuel and water in every building, connected to the network to be able to analyze the consumption data, highlight water leaks quicker, check heating fuel or gas consumptions."

The data collected could help the team spot energy or water wastes and implement projects to reduce energy and water consumption.

"In parallel, I would like to investigate the possibility to install a combined heat and power system, and also extend our renewable energy production on our different installations, based on our current Transformation," Chaballe said.

American Legion plans '40s dance, needs help with adoption ceremony

If you like to cut a rug to the sounds of the Andrews Sisters' "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree" or listen to toe-tapping tunes like Glenn Miller's "In the Mood," then "An Evening Dance With Music from the 1940s" is the place for you.

American Legion Post BE02 and the USO have joined forces to bring you this special event Sept. 10 from 9 to 11 p.m. at the Pachthof in Borlo, which is located in the Flemish province of Limburg. Free admission.

Earlier that afternoon, re-enactors will recreate the battle between the Germans and the Americans during the liberation of Borlo in September 1944.

Sunday morning, Sept. 11, the city of Borlo will host its annual liberation ceremony at the Pachthof.

Representatives of American Legion Post BE02 will participate by laying a wreath. All members are welcome to join them at this ceremony.

For information on the dance and more, contact the event organizers at civilian 0479-178539 or, via email, at flanders.fields.post.be02@gmail.com.

In related news, the American Legion Post BE02 needs

volunteers from its membership or new "recruits" to help put on its Second Annual Adopter Appreciation Day in Waregem, Belgium, Sept. 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Those who have adopted graves through the American Legion's Grave Adoption Program at Flanders Field American Cemetery as well as their family and friends are invited to the Adoption Ceremony at Flanders Field American Cemetery at 11 a.m. and the reception afterward at OC Nieuwenhove cultural center at Kerkhofstraat 30 at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Menu for reception: hot ham with fries. Cost: €15 paying in advance in writing through Sept. 9.

While you're there, take a look at research exhibits by adopters and socialize at fringe events provided by a Boy Scout coed group, Venture Crew 511.

For additional information on American Legion Post BE02's Second Annual Adopter Appreciation Day, send an email message to adoptappreciationday@gmail.com or go to <https://www.facebook.com>, and use the search engine to look up "Adopters Appreciation Day."

Share meal celebrating Women's Equality Day

The USAG Benelux Equal Opportunity Office will host the Women's Equality Day Breakfast in the SHAPE Club's Pathfinder Room Monday from 8 to 9 a.m. Open to the public.

Commemorating Aug. 26, 1920, Women's Equality Day marks the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote.

Many abolitionists were also suffragists.

Guest speaker will be Tashina S. Collins, the program site director of The University of Oklahoma at USAG Benelux Education Center on SHAPE.

The breakfast buffet will be €13. Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended.

For tickets sales, contact

Chièvres

USAG Benelux Equal Opportunity Office at DSN 361-5235 or civilian 068-275235;

SHAPE

SHAPE Headquarters (Building 101) at DSN 423-7830 or civilian 065-447830;

Allied Forces North, or AFNORTH, Battalion, U.S. Army NATO Brigade, (Building 101) at DSN 423-7824 or civilian 065-447824; or

AFNORTH Battalion (Building 220 near Education Center) at DSN 423-7642 or civilian 065-447642, or

AFNORTH Battalion (Building 305 behind SHAPE Main Gym) at DSN 423-4409 or civilian 065-444409.



An education professional, Tashina "Shina" Collins, will speak at the Aug. 29 event. (Courtesy photo)

Americans can vote. Wherever they are.

Find out about absentee voting at DSN 361-5973 or civilian 068-275973

<https://www.fvap.gov>

SHAPE Club workshop helps EFMP parents to navigate systems to obtain best care

Special to the Gazette

Parents with an interest in special education are invited to attend Specialized Training of Military Parents, or STOMP, at the SHAPE Club Sept. 15 to 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The workshop will provide information about parent rights and responsibilities in achieving special-education services for military children whether located in the United States or overseas. STOMP also assists military families in gaining access to resources for their children by enabling them to navigate a variety of educational and medical systems/programs, both military and civilian, regardless of their current duty station/location.

STOMP is a parent-directed program that exists to empower military parents, individuals with disabilities, and service providers with knowledge, skills and resources so that they might gain access to services to create a collaborative environment for family and professional partnerships.

The STOMP workshop provides in-depth information about parents' rights and responsibilities, including those involving

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA;
- Educational plans governed by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;

- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA;
- Individualized Education Program, or IEP; and
- individualized family service plans, or IFSP.

The STOMP workshop will also show parents who attend how to

- gain access to educational and medical records, and develop a comprehensive home file;
- gain access to resources in both current duty stations and future assignments enabling expedient transition to new services;
- make informed decisions with respect to overseas assignments and the Department of Defense Education Activity, or DoDEA; and
- work effectively with military systems, such as TRICARE; the Exceptional Family Member Program, or EFMP; and Exceptional Children Have Opportunities, or ECHO.

Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. Children are welcome to attend.

To ensure a place for you and your family, register at <http://stomp-benelux.eventbrite.com>. If you have questions about STOMP, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

ACS, CYSS work together to put on seminar for parents, children new to SHAPE/Chièvres

Special to the Gazette

SHAPE Army Community Service and Child, Youth and School Services, or CYSS, are working in partnership to make newcomers feel at home through their transition workshop for those undergoing permanent change of station into the SHAPE/Chièvres community on the second floor of Building 318 (accessible

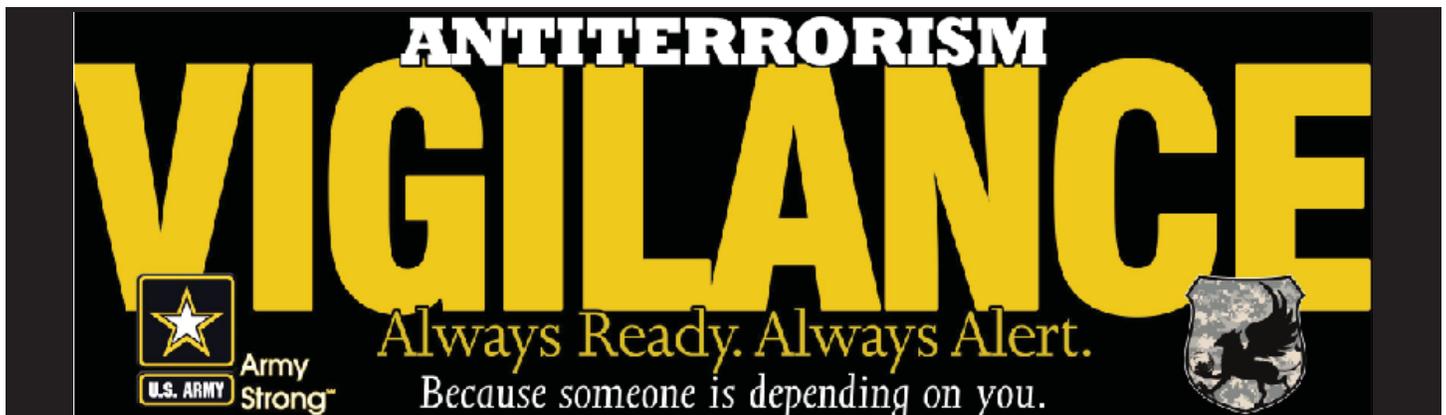
to the disabled) Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m.

ACS and CYSS staff members bring you "Transition," a workshop to support parents and children during the PCS season and help them make a smooth transition into the community.

They'll address coping with moving

stress, how to find a new school for your children, CYSS and its programs and activities. Information about Student Ambassador Training, Teen and School Age Youth Sponsorship, Teen Resiliency Training will also be shared.

To register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.



FRENGLISH PAGE

US community can have fun with French touch

Each week, English speakers will be in contact with French language in a friendly way. This 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 (Dialogue) is brightened up with a French dialogue and its English translation.

Useful expressions

- We're moving back to the States Nous retournons aux Etats-Unis/"noo hreh toohr noh(n) oh zay tah-zyoo nee"
- bulky waste encombrants/"ah(n) koh(n) brah(n)"
- recycling center parc à conteneurs/"park ah koh(n) tuh noohr"
- get rid of se débarrasser de/"say day bahr hrah say duh"
- a trailer une remorque/"oon ray mork"
- to help out (lend a hand) donner un coup de main/"doh nay ah(n) koo duh mah(n)"

Word search

Here are some words in French related to the theme "Moving back to the States" that you can find in the grid.

- remorque/"ruh mork"/trailer
- emprunter/"ah(n) prah(n) tay"/borrow [Note that "en" before "p" or "b" is written "em" but pronounced like en "ah(n)."]
- conteneurs/"koh(n) tuh noohr"/containers
- déménager/"day mayn ah zhay"/move
- encombrants/"ah(n) koh(n) brah(n)"/bulky waste
- adresse/"ah dress"/address
- horaire/"oh hrayhr"/schedule
- meubles/"muh bluh"/furniture
- matelas/"maht lah"/mattress
- électroménager/"ay lek troh mayn ah jhay"/appliance
- transporter/"trahns pohr tay"/carry

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

Dialogue: Moving back to the States

B: Hi! What's going on? Are you leaving?
 A: Hi! Yes, we are. We are moving back to the States at the end of the month.
 B: I thought you were not leaving until next year...
 A: That's what I thought, too, but the date changed.
 B: If you need help, let me know.
 A: Thank you! I've noticed that you have trailer...Could I borrow it?
 B: No problem! What do you need it for?
 A: I would like to go to the recycling center to get rid of an old mattress, a few pieces of furniture and old household appliances.
 B: When do you want to borrow it? By the way, if you need help to carry heavy things, let me know.
 A: Thank you so much! I am planning to go next weekend, and I'll be glad to have the help!

B: Bonjour ! Que se passe-t-il ? Vous partez ?
 A: Bonjour ! Oui, nous partons. Nous retournons aux Etats-Unis à la fin du mois.
 B: Je pensais que vous ne partiez pas avant l'année prochaine...
 A: C'est ce que je pensais aussi mais la date a changé.
 B: Si vous avez besoin d'aide, dites-le moi.
 A: Merci ! J'ai remarqué que vous aviez une remorque... Est-ce que je pourrais l'emprunter?
 B: Pas de problème ! Pourquoi en avez-vous besoin ?
 A: J'aimerais aller au parc à conteneurs pour me débarrasser d'un vieux matelas, de quelques meubles et de vieux électroménagers.
 B: Quand voulez-vous l'emprunter ? Au fait, si vous avez besoin d'aide pour transporter des objets lourds, dites-le moi.
 A: Merci beaucoup ! Je prévois d'y aller le weekend prochain et je serai ravi d'avoir un coup de main !

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by Brussels Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Schinnen ACS by video-conference. To sign up, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783:
 - **Investment plans** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 31** from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
 - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join the ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Sept. 8** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Stress Management." VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **Sept. 8** from noon to 1 p.m.

Aug. 25, 26

- **Community Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers sponsors free movies "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows" (PG-13) Aug. 25 and "The Nice Guys" (R) Aug. 26 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on Building 1's third floor. Make your reservation at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

Aug. 26, Sept. 2

- **Pizza Fridays at the 3 Star** - Pick up a pizza to take home for dinner or eat in 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 from 5:30 to 11 p.m. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822, or DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

Aug. 27

- **American Legion meeting** - A general meeting for the American Legion family (American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Riders) will be held in the USAG Benelux-Brussels compound at 10:30 a.m. Members will discuss American Legion events coming up in the next four months.

Aug. 29

- **Armed Forces Entertainment** - Country music and a resiliency tour, presented by Armed Forces Entertainment, is coming to the Brussels community.
 - **Hope for the Day**, a motivational-speaker resiliency tour, will give a presentation at Brussels Chapel at 3:30 p.m. to bring community members together to shed light on depression and suicide.
 - **The Ayla Brown concert** will be held at USAG Benelux-Brussels Top Parking at 6 p.m.

Aug. 31

- **Pizza Wednesdays at the 3 Star** - Eat in or take out pizza for lunch 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.



SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Register now

- **5K Back-to-School Family Fun Run/Walk** - This fun run will be held Aug. 27 and will start at 10 a.m. from the Schinnen Fitness Center. To register, call Schinnen Fitness Center at DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437561.
- **Parents Night Out** - Plan a special evening for just the two of you **Sept. 17** and drop off the children for CYSS fun from 5 p.m. to midnight. Child care will be provided by JFC Brunssum Child Development Center for \$4 an hour; School Age Center and Youth Center are free. Register by Aug. 31. Call DSN 606-244-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.
- **Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program** - Registration is now open for SFL/TAP classes. To register or for more information, call DSN 606-244-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475. SFL/TAP classes are mandatory for separating and retiring service members:
 - **Department of Labor Employment Workshop** - Learn the skills needed to make your transition to civilian life successful at the JFC Brunssum Library's Multipurpose Room **Sept. 26 to 28** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DOLEW includes effective job search, résumé-writing and interviewing techniques. Be sure to bring a laptop computer or electronic tablet to all three days.
 - **Veterans Affairs I and II briefings** - VA Benefits I and II briefings are part of VA's portion of Transition Goals, Plans, Success, or GPS, which is designed to help military members make the transition to civilian life. Find out the latest on VA policies, benefits and eligibility from the people who know at JFC Brunssum Library's Multipurpose Room **Sept. 29** from 2 to 4 p.m. Read more about what's in these briefings at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/tap>.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY *continued*

Register now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes offered by Schinnen Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Brussels ACS by video-teleconference. To register, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500:
 - **Investment plans** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 31** from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
 - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join the ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Sept. 8** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Stress Management." Given in person at Schinnen ACS **Sept. 8** from noon to 1 p.m.

Make your appointment now

- **Transition Assistance Program/Veterans Affairs** - A VA overseas military service coordinator visits JFC Brunssum Library **Sept. 15 to 16**. Ask questions about disability, home loans, health care, survivor and burial benefits, and claims. To schedule an appointment, call DSN 606-244-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.

Aug. 30

- **Armed Forces Entertainment** - Country music and a resiliency tour will be coming to Schinnen/Brunssum.
 - **Hope for the Day**, a motivational-speaker resiliency tour, will be at Brunssum's Alliance Theater at 2 p.m.
 - **Ayla Brown** will perform at the Schinnen Community Recreation Center in Building 38 at 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.)
 - **Pay-as-you-go barbecue dinner** will be brought to you by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, or F&MWR, at the CRC at 6 p.m. if you'd like dinner before the concert.



SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Dogs' Day Out** - The Chièvres Kennel invites all of the dogs in the Benelux community — and their people — to an afternoon of canine and human fun at the SHAPE Fest Tent **Aug. 27** from noon to 4 p.m. Owners must register their dogs if they want them to compete in the dog show. Other activities include working-dog demonstration, agility course, activities for children and "kissing booth" for photos. All activities are free. Food (for humans) will be available for purchase.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by SHAPE Army Community Service, Schinnen ACS or Brussels ACS by video-teleconference. To sign up, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824:
 - **Investment plans** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Aug. 31** from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
 - **Dress for Success Workshop** -Join the ACS Employment Readiness staff for an informative workshop on dressing appropriately. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Sept. 8** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Stress Management." VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **Sept. 8** from noon to 1 p.m.

Aug. 29 to 30

- **Host-Nation Orientation** - Army Community Service invites all service members, civilian employees and their family members to learn about the SHAPE/Chièvres community. During the two-day orientation, you will learn about Belgian customs and basic French. You will also go on a cultural city tour and tour a Belgian hospital as well as sample traditional Belgian cuisine and learn how to shop on the economy. Learn how to use public transportation and visit the Ste. Waudru Collegiale in Mons. Meet at the ACS conference room 15 minutes earlier than the start time of 8:30 a.m. Call ACS at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

Aug. 31

- **PCS Transition workshop for newcomers** - See page 5.

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

Tanks in Town rolls into Mons

Outside the gate

The annual Tanks in Town, an assembly of World War II tanks in Mons, Belgium, Aug. 26 to 28 will involve more than just tanks.

There will be re-enactors, period vehicles, a military flea market, parades, thousands of spectators, tank rides and an amphibious vehicle operation.

To commemorate the liberation of the city in 1944 by the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion of the 3rd Armored Division, Tanks in Town brings a large concentration of armored vehicles to the historic center of Mons.

For some, it's the fun of collecting and driving the WWII-era vehicles, for Pierre Deghaye, president of Tanks in Town and vice president of Royal Mons Auto Moto Club, the sponsor of the event, it goes much deeper than that.

"My family suffered from the oc-

cupation; my father was a prisoner of war. For them, the liberation was both a moral and physical liberation. I participate for them," Deghaye said.

For Deghaye the most touching thing is when he sees people crying as the tanks pass by "because those who are crying, lived the liberation," he said.

Tanks in Town started with a Stuart tank, No. 3047787, under the command of Maj. John Tucker. The tank entered Mons Sept. 2, 1944, at around 5:30 p.m., as a part of the liberation of Belgium.

The commander received a welcome by city officials, and Tucker signed the city's visitor book. An alert city official noted the registration number of the tank.

After the war, the city of Mons sent a letter to the 3rd Armored Division with the hope of getting the tank returned to the city. The hope came true in 1946 when the tank, No. 3047787, was brought back to the city. The tank was displayed near city hall until 1984 when the city of Mons authorized the Borinage Jeep Club, now the Royal Mons Auto Moto Club, to restore the tank.

After completing the restoration in 1989, the city invited Tucker to return to Mons. He accepted the invitation and took the same route into town, on the same tank, as he had taken in 1944.

In 1994, the city again invited Tucker, this time



People check out a tank in Mesvin at Tanks in Town. (Photo by Tim Clark)

to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Mons. Because of his age and health, Tucker declined. From this an idea was born, if he couldn't come to Mons, Mons would go to him.

Finally in 1999, after years and many ideas later, the city of Mons received an official invitation to take the tank to the United States and participate in the Fourth of July 2000 parade in Washington, D.C.

On Saturday is the military flea market from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tank rides will also be available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At 3 p.m., amphibious vehicles will take to the water in the Grand Large.

Sunday, the vehicles will retrace the route of the 3rd Armored Division into Mons with stops in Cuesmes for a static display and in Mesvin where a mock attack will take place, before arrival on the Grand Place in Mons at around 5:30 p.m.

Tanks in town takes place on the Bois Brûlé, Route de Wallonie (N552), 7100 Ghlin, Belgium.

For more information on this event and to see a map of the locations, visit http://www.tanksintown.be/En/Accueil_EN.html.



Amphibious vehicles navigate on the waters of the Grand Large in Mons during Tanks in Town, Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015. (Photo by Tim Clark)

For your GPS: Mons, Belgium 7000	From: Brussels: 84 km Schinnen: 183 km
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City of Soignies puts culture on stage at festival



Ever since 2005, the city of Soignies has offered a free "multifestival" on the last Saturday of August.

This years, Soignies is hosting the 12th edition of *Août en Eclats* Saturday, Aug. 27.

What was originally meant to be a series of free concerts on the Grand'Place has become a true cultural happening.

The event has grown since its creation and now offers about 20 shows and concerts, a village for children, an international market and street entertainment.

On that day, the whole family can have fun in the historical center of Soignies as there are activities for all age groups.

All activities will take place on and around the Place Verte in the city center.

There will be also a lot of other activities and entertainment around the Place Verte, including shows, circus groups, theater, street arts and more.

For more information and the program for the day, visit the official website at <http://www.aouteneclats.be>.



Outside the gate

Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **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 spa, Oct. 8**
- **Alsace, Oct. 15 to 16**
- **London, Oct. 22**
- **Portugal (Lisbon, Sintra, Evora and Sesimbra), Oct. 30 to Nov. 4 (school break)**
- **Amsterdam with Madame Tussauds, Nov. 5**
- **Flanders Field/World War I tour, Ieper (Ypres), Belgium, Nov. 12**
- **Lord of the Dance in Oostende, Nov. 19 (Pay by end of August.)**
- **German Christmas markets (Rothenburg, Frankfurt/Main and Aachen), Dec. 3 to 4**
- **German Christmas markets (Bonn and Cologne), Dec. 10**
- **German Christmas markets (Dortmund, Berlin and Potsdam), Dec. 16 to 18**
- **Paris in winter, Dec. 27**
- **Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year**
- **Discount tickets to local attractions, such as Walibi, Aqualibi and Bellewaerde.**

SHAPE Travel Group

For details, visit <http://www.facebook.com/groups/SHAPETravelGroup>.

- **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**
- **Cologne Christmas markets, Nov. 22**
- **Valkenburg, the Netherlands, Nov. 29**
- **Canterbury, Dec. 8**
- **Paris Lights, Dec. 15**
- **London sales, Jan. 19, 2017**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Family Day Trout Fishing, Sept. 10**
- **Largest Wine Festival in the World at Bad Durkheim Wurstmart, Sept. 17**
- **National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 and Battle of Arnhem (Operation Market Garden, "A Bridge Too Far"), Sept. 24**
- **Washington Redskins vs. Cincinnati Bengals, Oct. 29 to 31 (Full payment due at registration.) Pickups at Schinnen and SHAPE.**
- **Paris, Nov. 19**
- **Malgrat de Mar, Spain, April 14 to 23, 2017**



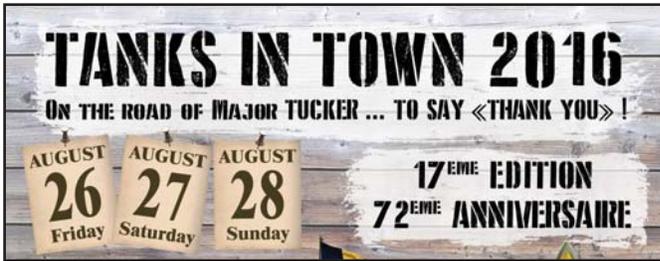
Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Aug. 26

- **Mons Museums by night** - Enjoy an opportunity to visit participating museums from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Find more information on participating museums at <http://www.polemuseal.mons.be/en>.
- **Flea market in Hoves (400 booths)** will be held on the square and its surroundings from 1 to 8 p.m.

Aug. 26 to 28

- **Tanks in Town in Mons** - Read about this event on page 9.



Aug. 26 to 29

- **Ath giants and Ducasse of Ath** - Friday kicks off with an archery contest on the town square at 4 p.m., followed by a band concert at 7 p.m. The burning of the giant Goliath's pants takes place at 10 p.m. Saturday starts with a wedding and ends with a fight. Goliath ("Gouyasse" in French) takes his fiancée from the city hall to the St. Julien Church to be married at 3 p.m. The newlyweds return to city hall where Goliath is confronted by David, who is always played by a young boy, at about 5 p.m. The big parade on Sunday starts at 9:45 a.m. from the train station and processes through the city. For the full schedule, visit <http://www.ducasse-ath.be>. Read the full story about Ath giants on page 9 of last week's Gazette at <http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/GazetteArchive/18AugGazette2016.pdf>.

Aug. 27



- **Aôût en Eclats in Soignies** - Enjoy free concerts on the Grand' Place. Read more about this event on page 10.
- **Flea market in Erbisoeul (120 booths)** will be held on the square and its surroundings from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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

Through Aug. 28

- **Preuvenemint in Maastricht** will be held at Vrijthof in the city center. Taste the specialties of renowned restaurants based in Maastricht. Open Aug. 25 from 8 p.m. to midnight; Aug. 26 from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Aug. 27 from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Aug. 28 from 12:30 p.m. to midnight.
- **Zomerparkfeest in Venlo** will fill Julianapark with performances and fashion. Open Aug. 25 to 26 from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Aug. 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Aug. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Aug. 26 to 28

- **"ProefPark Haarlem" in Haarlem** will be held at Kenaupark, where international street food will be sold from mobile kitchens/food trucks and children's activities will be available. Open Aug. 26 from 5 to 11 p.m.; Aug. 27 from noon to 11 p.m. and Aug. 28 from noon to 8 p.m.
- **'Drank & Trucks' food festival in The Hague** will be held at Bink36 at Binckhorstlaan 35. with food trucks, children's activities and an official Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) barbecue contest called RegahFest. Open Friday from 4 p.m. to midnight; Saturday from noon to midnight and Sunday from noon to 11 p.m.
- **Brueghel Festival in Losser** will be held in the center of town where visitors will be taken back to the times of master painter Pieter Brueghel with a year market, actors, acrobats, shows, demonstrations and a parade on Sunday. Open Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Aug. 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Aug. 28 from noon to 5 p.m.

Aug. 27

- **Culemborg Blues in Culemburg** will be held on several stages in the historic center of town. It's one of the largest free blues festivals in the Netherlands. Open from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Aug. 27 to 28

- **Days of Art and Antique in The Hague** will be held on Lange Voorhout with antiques, art, curiosities and ceramics. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Home and Garden Mega Fair in The Hague** will be held on Malieveld at Koningskade 1. Participants from all over Europe will offer garden decorations, interior design and delicacies. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €10.
- **Mussel festival in Philippine** will be held in the town center with plenty of activities revolving around mussels, traditional crafts, demonstrations and art market. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Aug. 28

- **Family bike ride in Mons** - Discover Mons by bike and have fun with your family during a 15-km bike ride. Departs from the Waux-Hall on Avenue Reine Astrid at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Free admission.
- **Flea market in Hyon (400 booths)** will be held in the town center from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Brugelette** for 4, 8, 12, 20 and 30 km - Departs from the sports center on Avenue G. Petit from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Gougnies** for 5, 10 and 20 km - Departs from Rue rue de l'Escuchau 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Marcq** for 5, 10, 15 and 20 km - Departs from Rue du Village from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Ongoing

Through Aug. 28

- **Bouglione Circus in Mons** is located at the Imagix parking lot. Admission: €15 to €25. For more information, visit http://www.bouglione.mobi/fr_tarif_mons.php.

Through Sept. 4

- **Visit the Royal Palace in Brussels** - Visits are free of charge Tuesday through Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Access is from Place des Palais.

Fridays through Sept. 9

- **Roller Bike Parade in Brussels** invites rollers, bikes, longboards and freelines 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.

Through Sept. 11

- **Harry Potter exhibit in Brussels** - Open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Brussels Expo on Place de Belgique at Palais 2. Since 2009, the exhibit has traveled to Chicago, Boston, Toronto, Seattle, New York, Sydney, Singapore, Tokyo, Paris and Shanghai and drawn more than 3.5 million visitors. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://ticketmaster.be>.

Through October

- **Treetop Adventure Trail in Tertre** is being 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).

Aug. 27 to 28 continued

- **Puur Genieten Fair in Hillegersberg-Schiebroek** near Rotterdam is a luxurious lifestyle fair for the whole family. This "total enjoyment fair" will be held at Bergse Voorplas on Weissenbruchlaan. The fair offers art, fashion, beauty products, jewelry, interior and exterior design, garden merchandise and delicacies. Open Aug. 27 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Aug. 28 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: adults, €12.50; youths, ages 12 to 18, €5; children, ages 11 and under, free admission.
- **Castle festival in Manderscheid, Germany**, in the Eifel region brings the Middle Ages to life at the lower castle (Niederburg) and tournament field (Turnierwiese). Open Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight; Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission: €10; children, ages 12 to 17, €4.
- **Brothers of Limburg Festival in Nijmegen** will be held in the center of the historic city. The largest medieval festival in the Netherlands, it will have parades, knights, falconers, tastings, dance, music, a medieval market and re-enactors.
- **Spiriosa Festival in Simpelveld** will be held at Loreto Klooster (Abbey) at Kloosterstraat 68. Attend workshops on subjects like numerology and visit special booths with good food and music. Open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission: €15; children, ages 15 and under, free admission.

Aug. 28

- **Montmartre Market in Doesburg** is a Parisian-style market with antiques, curiosities and many French products. Go to the town center for this shopping experience. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **International art market in Kessel** will be held around Castle "de Keverberg." Open from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Admission: €3.50 (includes admission to castle); children, ages 11 and under, free.
- **LieFair in Lieveren** will be held in the center of town. This country fair will combines regional products, art and culture, country life, demonstrations and amusement. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission.

Ongoing

Through Sept. 2

- **Cheese market in Alkmaar** is famous worldwide for its cheese, which has been weighed in Alkmaar since 1593. See cheese carriers in action every Friday between 10 a.m. and noon.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.