

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Vendors wanted

The second annual Chièvres American Festival will be held June 3 to 5.

Although food will be available each day, Chièvres will have a market with food and nonfood booths June 5.

If you want to sell your wares or need more information, call the USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office at DSN 361-5694 or civilian 068-275694.

Troop Store changes hours of operation

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, Troop Store at Schinnen will change its operating hours Feb. 29. It will be open Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Express only); Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

USNMR hosts town hall

Mark your calendar: The U.S. national military representative, or USNMR, will sponsor a U.S. Town Hall and Information Fair at the SHAPE Events Centre March 10.

Information fair starts at 3:30 p.m. and town hall at 4 p.m., followed by a question-and-answer session.

Table of Contents

News.....	1-4
Inside the gate.....	5-6
Outside the gate.....	7-10



39th Signal Battalion welcomes new senior enlisted leader
 Command Sgt. Maj. Joe C. Birkhead IV (right) inspects the noncommissioned officers sword as he assumes responsibility as the new senior enlisted leader for the 39th Signal Battalion during a change-of-responsibility ceremony between outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. Oscar Campos (left) and incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Joe C. Birkhead IV on Chièvres Air Base Friday, Feb. 19, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Donovan Abrassart)

Girl Scout inspired by refugee crisis

'Help end hunger one step at a time'

by **Andrea Wales**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

A local Girl Scout has been working toward her Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouts, by organizing a food drive to help stock a food pantry in Maffle, Belgium, near Chièvres. Gold Award projects must have the potential to be self-sustaining.

Liz Morrow, a sophomore at SHAPE American High School, will set up a food-collection bin in the Fellowship Hall of the SHAPE International Chapel Centre, starting Feb. 28. You will also see donation boxes elsewhere in the SHAPE/Chièvres community.

"When I found out about the Syrian refugees from the war, it got me researching homelessness, particularly homelessness in Belgium," she said.

Morrow, 15, talked to the people at International Chapel Charities Council,

or IC3, on SHAPE because they help charities in Belgium. She visited the Société Saint-Vincent de Paul, what in America is known as the St. Vincent de Paul Society. While interviewing the manager of the facility, Morrow found out that the facility in the Ath suburb helps 205 families every week, and they always need more donations.

The boxes will be collecting healthy, nonperishable food items as well as diapers. St. Vincent de Paul staff members requested diapers because it's their most-needed item, Morrow said.

"We can help end hunger one step at a time," she said. "We're not giving them a handout; we're giving them a hand up. Even though these people have to ask for help, they still deserve to be treated with dignity."



Liz Morrow, 15, works on a food-drive box Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016. (Photo by Debbie Morrow)

AER kicks off fundraising campaign

Army Emergency Relief will hold kickoff events for its 2016 campaign in the Benelux soon.

Hosted by Army Community Service's Financial Readiness Program staff, the kickoffs are designed to provide training for AER representatives; however, interested commu-

nity members are welcome to attend.

AER campaign materials will be distributed to unit representatives at these kickoffs.

Brussels: Brussels ACS will host an event, which includes a cake-cutting, in its conference room Feb. 26 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Schinnen/Brunssum: Schinnen ACS will host its event, which will include a free breakfast, in Building 39 March 2 from 9 to 11 a.m.

SHAPE/Chièvres: SHAPE ACS will hold its kickoff in Building 30's auditorium on Caserne Daumerie in Chièvres March 4 from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

The U.S. Army's emergency financial-assistance organization since 1942, AER has as its motto, "Helping the Army Take Care of its Own."

For details about AER, call your rep or the USAG Benelux AER manager at DSN 366-6804 or civilian 065-326804, or visit <http://www.aerhq.org>.

To submit or subscribe, email usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil

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TASP Rodeo draws leaders, newcomers

by Andrea Wales

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Although the Total Army Sponsorship Rodeo was decorated with leather saddles Feb. 19, the focus of the event soon became the speakers lining the SHAPE Club ballroom. They referred to the visuals on their booths' big-screen TVs and talked about the ways sponsors can help their newcomers get the best Benelux experience possible.

The visual displays increased the professional presentation of each subject area, said Richard Smith, the TASP Rodeo organizer for U.S. Army Garrison Benelux. Combined with the other aesthetic elements provided by U.S. Army Europe G-1 and the SHAPE Club, the environment was designed to foster a personalized learning environment at each station.

Situated next to the saddles, Belgian interns from a local university handed out "passports" to more than 70 attendees to get stamped at each station. A full passport meant a chance at winning an attendance prize. The interns also gave attendees an opportunity to complete a survey about the newcomer-sponsorship process, which can sometimes be difficult.

Military spouse Erin Guerra-Mowry said newcomers shouldn't let moving around keep them from making friends and exploring what Europe has to offer.

Although newcomers were welcome at the event, they



Navy Petty Officer 2 James Yap speaks with Melissa Lutz about newcomer concerns at the Total Army Sponsorship Rodeo at the SHAPE Club Friday, Feb. 19, 2016. Lutz traveled all the way from Brussels, where she works at Brussels American School, to go to the event. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)

weren't the targeted audience.

"The Sponsorship Rodeo provided the community with many valuable lessons that should prove invaluable to leaders when selecting and assisting sponsors as they welcome newcomers to the Benelux," Smith said.

Black History Month

History, culture come alive at February observances

Three events will observe Black History Month the rest of the month, celebrating African-American culture and accomplishments.

Feb. 25 Enjoy a free Black History Month Movie Marathon in the Alliance Auditorium (SHAPE Cinema) through 6 p.m. Open to all SHAPE ID card-holders and to the public. Show times are:

2 p.m.: "A Soldier's Story" with Howard E. Rollins Jr., Denzel Washington and Patti LaBelle;

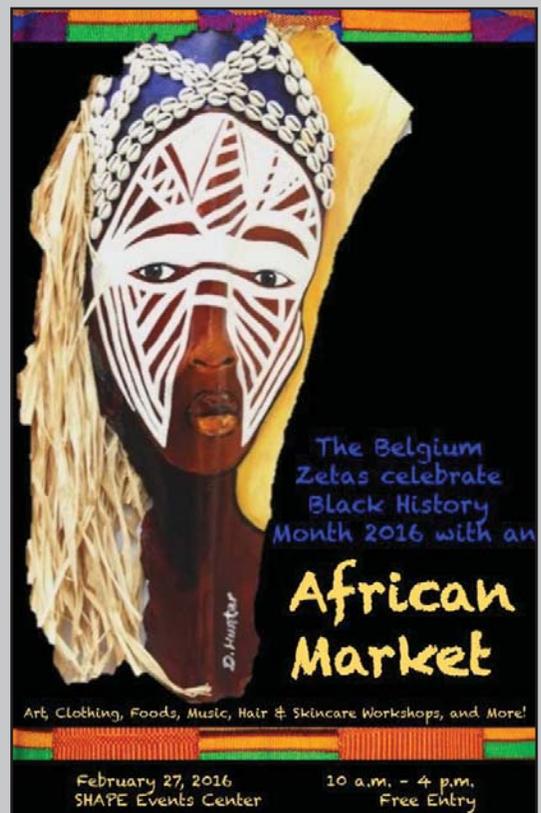
4 p.m.: "42" with Chadwick Boseman and Harrison Ford.

Feb. 26 Experience Gospel Explosion by Word Of Truth International Christian Ministries at 7 p.m.

Feb. 27 The Belgium chapter of

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., will create an atmosphere reminiscent of an African marketplace in the Events Centre from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Amid the sounds of African music, you can experience original African art, jewelry and fashion shows featuring original African designs. Fresh, organic food items will be available for purchase throughout the day. Hair and skin-care workshops will also be offered. Hair-braiding appointments will be available. Free admission.

For more information on these Black History Month events, call the USAG Benelux Equal Opportunity adviser at DSN 361-5235 or civilian 068-275235.



SHAPE Seals International Swim Team wins 2016 Benelux Divisional Championship

by **Susi Romar**

SHAPE Seals International Swim Team

The SHAPE Seals International Swim Team was named the 2016 Benelux Divisional Champions Feb. 7 with a crushing win over its closest rival by more than 300 points.

This team event is the penultimate meet in the European Forces Swim League calendar. The Benelux Division is made up of five teams: SHAPE Seals (975 points); second-place Geilenkirchen Orcas (667); the hosts this year, third-place Lakenheath Barracudas (615); the NATO Marlins (545); and the European Schools of Brussels Octopus (311).

The Seals were determined to win the title back from the GK Orcas who had beaten the Seals by around 70 points in 2015. The key to success this year was the Seals' overall strength and depth of swimming and athletic talent throughout the age groups that range from 6- to 18-year-olds. This gave the head coach, Marty Yorton, his pick of swimmers to enter in a wide variety of events, especially the long-distance races.

The team is representative of the SHAPE/Chièvres community and is a close-knit group encompassing 15 different nationalities coming together to form a successful swim team.

This selection process is tactically significant and sets the Divisional meet apart from other swim meets where the children and parents decide the races to swim, depending on their individual standards and goals.

Prior to the Divisionals, Yorton said he was hopeful for success and was pleased with the team members' commitment to the championship meet with virtually a full squad from which to choose, despite the event being held in the United Kingdom at the beginning of the half-term week.

All of the swimmers played a part in the win and collected points for the team, based on their final position within their age groups. Each swimmer could only be entered into three races, and first place was awarded 10 points, second place, eight points, third place, seven



Members of the SHAPE Seals International Swim Team pose for this team photo at Lakenheath Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016. (Photo by Benjamin Adoux)

points and so on in decreasing numbers through sixth place.

Across the entire team, there were very impressive performances and many new "personal best" times set. This was particularly significant as the pool temperature was higher than normal competitive swimming conditions. Indeed, it was SHAPE's younger swimmers who made the most progress with Tessa Larson (Girls, 9 to 10) taking 28 seconds off her seed times; Frantisek Buban (Boys, 8 and under) reducing his 50 Fly by 27.37; Daniel Heath (Boys, 8 and under) shaving 30 seconds off his 200 individual medley; and Arturo Sabando (Boys, 11 to 12 years old) reducing his times by 22 seconds.

With so many improvements, it is not surprising that there were 11 more swimmers who achieved the important "qualification times" for the European Forces Individual Championship to be held in Eindhoven, Netherlands at the end of February. It was an extra special moment for Sasha Lacy and Adrian Gunderson who have been working hard to achieve their first qualification time

of the season. Liliana-Joy Romar, age 7, also added another qualification bringing her total to seven out of the possible eight, a significant achievement in the 8 and under age group.

Overall, the team members can be very proud of their sterling performances and excellent conduct when representing the SHAPE community. The three team captains, Fillipo di Gennaro, Jacob Conine and Anna Keniston were quick with their encouragement and support of the younger swimmers and led by example with strong personal performances. They have been ably guided by Yorton, Erin Stevens and Caroline Adoux.

A full list of results can be found on the Shape Seals website at <http://www.shapeseals.com> under the Statistics tab.

Final preparations for the European Forces Swim League Individual Championships are underway with swimmers focusing on strengthening their technique and fitness. These championships will be held Feb. 27 to 28 at The Netherlands National Swim Centre in Eindhoven, with top swimmers from across the EFSL, totaling more than 450 swimmers.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Make reservations now

- **Comedy Force Five** - This adult comedy show is brought to the Brussels community by Armed Forces Entertainment. Doors open **March 1** at 5:30 p.m. Show time is 7 p.m. Admission to the show at the 3 Star is free. A \$5 party-snack buffet will be available for purchase from 5:30 to 7 p.m. RSVP for show and food via email at reservations3star@yahoo.com by Feb. 26. Child care is available at CYSS from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost (non-refundable): \$12 per child. Reservations/payment must be made by Feb. 29. Call DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-7179651.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - You can now take classes that are offered by Schinnen Army Community Service or SHAPE ACS by video-teleconference at Brussels ACS. For more information or to sign up, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783. Now being offered:

The 3 R's of Volunteering: Recruiting, Re-warding and Retaining - **Feb. 29** from 10 a.m. to noon.

Feb. 26

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 and potato wedges. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

March 3

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Enjoy the Asian ribs, chicken adobo, rice and salad greens from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adults \$10; children, ages 12 and under, \$5. (Alternate children's menu: hotdogs or chicken fingers.) Reservations are required. Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - You can now take classes that are offered by Brussels Army Community Service or SHAPE ACS by video-teleconference at Schinnen ACS. For more information or to sign up, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500. Now being offered:

The 3 R's of Volunteering: Recruiting, Re-warding and Retaining - **Feb. 29** from 10 a.m. to noon.

- **Mandatory transition classes** - Several classes offered through the Soldier for Life/Transition Assistance Program, which are open for registration, are mandatory for separating and retiring service members. To register or for more information about SFL/TAP, call DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.

Department Of Labor Employment Workshop (DOLEW) - In this three-day workshop at the JFC Brunssum Library **March 7 to 9** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., learn the skills needed to make your transition to civilian life successful, including effective job search, résumé-writing and interviewing techniques.

Veterans Affairs (VA) and Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) Briefings - Find out the latest on VA policies, benefits and eligibility from the people who know at the JFC Brunssum Library **March 10**. VA Briefing is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and DTAP Briefing is from 2 to 4 p.m.

Personal Financial Planning for Transition - Help ensure a strong financial future by gaining financial-management tools at the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room **March 11** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- **Baseball/Softball Officials Clinic** - CYSS Sports Office offers a free certification class for baseball/softball officials and scorekeepers in Building H602 on JFC Brunssum **March 19** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All coaches are welcome to attend this class, which is designed for anyone who wants to learn more about these sports and those who are pursuing a position as an official or scorekeeper for CYSS. Sign-up deadline is March 17. To reserve your spot, call CYSS Sports and Fitness at DSN 364-4195/4191 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195/4191.

Feb. 26

- **CYSS sports programs** - Open enrollment ends soon for two sports programs offered by CYSS. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders, but spaces are limited. These programs are offered starting about April 12 with play running through June 4. Youths must be registered with CYSS (free) and have a valid health assessment (that will remain valid throughout the season) at the time of enrollment. Youths must meet age requirements by March 15. For details, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195. To register, stop by Parent Central Services in JFC Brunssum's Building H-602, or call DSN 364-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.

Baseball - Cost: boys, ages 3 to 5, \$20; boys, ages 6 to 15, \$45.

Softball - Cost: girls, ages 10 to 15, \$45.

Feb. 27

- **Volleyball team/league** - The Fitness Center is interested in having a volleyball team/league within the Tri-border communities, but sign-ups end soon. Players from the Brunssum, Geilenkirchen and Schinnen communities (who are U.S. and NATO ID card-holders) are welcome to participate. The season begins on or about March 7, with a coaches meeting at the Schinnen Fitness Center March 1. If you love volleyball and friendly competition, sign up in an effort to establish teams/league. For more information, stop by the Schinnen Fitness Center or call DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437561.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY continued

March 1

- **VA representative** - A VA rep will be at Schinnen Army Community Service from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to meet one-on-one with anyone who wishes to discuss their VA benefits. To schedule an appointment, send an email message to germany.va.rep@gmail.com or contact ACS at DSN 360-7269 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437269.

March 1 to 4

- **Re-registration for the new school year** - Parents can re-register their children for U.S. elementary, middle and high school at AFNORTH International School's Room B1.1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to have current shot records; updated orders that list extension for sponsor's date eligible for return from overseas, or DEROS (if applicable) and passports for those entering ninth grade and prekindergarten through first grade. Registration for new pre-k and kindergarten students will also be accepted. For details, contact the elementary-school registrar at civilian +31 (0) 45-5278261 and middle-/high-school registrar at civilian +31 (0) 45-5278263.

March 2

- **Comedy Force Five** - This adult comedy show is brought to the Schinnen community by Armed Forces Entertainment. Show time at the Schinnen Memory Lanes Lounge is 8 p.m. Free admission. For more information, call DSN 360-7370 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437370.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Tickets now available

- **"The Lucky Spot"** - The SHAPE Players present Beth Henley's play "The Lucky Spot" at the SHAPE Performing Arts Center in Building 207 **Feb. 25, 26 and 27** as well as **March 3, 4 and 5** at 7:30 p.m. The curtain goes up on matinee performances **Feb. 28 and March 6** at 3 p.m. This play is rated PG-13 for some thematic elements and language. The tag line is "I still believe in love!" Cost: adult, €16; student, €8. For tickets or more information, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

Sign up now

- **Shamrock Shuffle** - This 5k event for St. Patrick's Day, **March 17**, starts behind SHAPE Main Gym at 4:15 p.m. (The free children's fun run around the track near the Green Gym starts at 4:20 p.m.) 5k finishes at the track. Come a little early, and warm up at the track. Wear your favorite St. Paddy's Day garb for a chance at the "best-dressed" prize. All proceeds will go toward making prom affordable for our SHAPE High School students. Race T-shirts will be available for the first 150 people to preregister. Obtain a registration form by calling SHAPE American High School at DSN 366-6930 or civilian 065-446930. Cost: 5k, €10, includes T-shirt.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - You can now take classes that are offered by Brussels, Schinnen or SHAPE Army Community Service by video-teleconference at SHAPE ACS. For more information or to sign up, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824. The following classes are VTC-projected to all Benelux communities: **The 3 R's of Volunteering: Recruiting, Re-warding and Retaining - Feb. 29** from 10 a.m. to noon.

Feb. 29

French story time - SHAPE Library hosts a toddler event at 10:15 a.m. and a preschool event at 4:15 p.m.

March 5

- **Spring Bazaar, Craft Fair and Flea Market** - This event will offer merchandise and food for sale in the International School Cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds go to SHAPE American School's sophomore class. For more information, including how to become a vendor, call DSN 366-6930 or civilian 065-326930.

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/Chievres that play movies in English

Only the British or American movies listed as VO (Version Originale or Originele 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>.

Movies 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

Discover Magritte's surrealist universe

Story by Roxane Rasneur

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Intern

Born in Lessines (in Hainaut Province) in 1898, René Magritte was a Belgian world-famous surrealist painter and the most important Belgian painter of the 20th century. In 2009, a museum bearing his name opened at the Place Royale in Brussels. The Magritte Museum owns the most important collection of Magritte's work. Exhibited over a surface area of 2500 square meters, more than 200 paintings, drawings, gouaches, sculptures, posters, photographs, scores, films



Le retour (The Return) by Magritte, 1940, Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique.

and objects retrace Magritte's artistic life as time goes by. Through an interactive and audiovisual tour on three levels, visitors discover the artist but also the man hiding behind.

Magritte's life was not all roses and his works were heavily influenced by his private life. When Magritte was a child, his father's business wasn't doing well and the family was constantly on the move. In 1912, his mother could not bear it anymore and killed herself by throwing herself into the Sambre river. When she was found, her dress was covering her face. This tragic image affected Magritte for the rest of his life. Hiding the character's face became characteristic of his work. For example in his paintings "Le Fils de l'homme" ("The Son of Man") and "Les Amants" ("The Lov-

ers"), an apple hides the man's face and a cloth hides the two lovers' faces.

Later on, Magritte was influenced by events like the war or communism but also by Georgette Berger who became his wife and muse.

Three key words depicting Magritte's style are simplicity, clarity and mystery. Magritte painted everyday life objects in a realistic style. Several objects are characteristic of the artist and often appear in his paintings: apples, clouds, pipes, sleigh bells, rocks, curtains or bowler hats. What makes his paintings interesting and surrealist is how he combined and hypertrophied



Le fils de l'homme (The Son of Man) by Magritte, 1964, Private collection.

these objects to create a completely unreal and mysterious universe. Magritte also enjoyed playing with the relations between words and pictures. The most famous example is undeniably "Ceci n'est pas une



La trahison des images (The Treachery of Images), by Magritte, 1929, Los Angeles County Museum.

pipe" ("This is not a pipe") which represents the painting of a pipe and not the object itself. The purpose of all these mysterious works is to unsettle thoughts and trigger people's imagination.

If you want to learn more about Magritte's life, you can also visit the René Magritte House Museum in Brussels. The museum is located in the house where the artist lived with his wife for 24 years and contains a lot of paintings, pictures, objects, personal documents and letters.

Address:

Magritte Museum
Place Royale, 1
1000 Brussels

Opening hours:

Closed on Mondays
Tue - Fri: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Weekend: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tickets:

- Regular entrance fee: 8 €
- Children and youth(6-25): 2 €
- Free entrance every first Wednesday of the month from 1 p.m.

Travel the world with the Belgian reporter Tintin

Story by **Marêva Baudart**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office Intern

For many people, the Adventures of Tintin have been a way of discovering the world at a time when television did not exist. From Tibet to Peru through the Congo and Scotland, the Adventures of Tintin depict a world full of surprises and pitfalls. The 24 albums of Tintin have been published in more than 70 languages.

Tintin is a young Belgian reporter with a round face and quiff hairstyle. He travels around the world with his fellow traveler Snowy, a little white dog. Tintin is described as an intelligent, honest, kind, helpful and determined man who likes to solve mysteries. The comic series combines mysteries, fantasy, humor, politics and culture.

Georges Rémi, the creator of The Adventures of Tintin, best known under the pen name Hergé – reversing his initials, “R.G.,” as pronounced in French – was born in Etterbeek, Belgium on May 22, 1907. Hergé was a Belgian cartoonist, illustrator, graphic designer, caricaturist and storyteller.

In 1925, Hergé was hired by the newspaper 'Le



Vingtième Siècle'. Three years later, he was appointed chief editor of 'Le Petit Vingtième', a youth supplement to the Belgian newspaper in which he first published The Adventures of Tintin in 1929.

Hergé died in 1983, yet his stories remain popular and have even been adapted into cartoons and into a movie in 2011 'The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn.'

If you are interested in learning more about Tintin and Hergé's life, visit the Hergé Museum, Rue du Labrador, 26 in Louvain-la-Neuve.

Outside the gate

Upcoming organized trips

Chièvres Equipment Rental

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 361-6268 or civilian 068-276268.

- Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany, **March 26 to April 2 (All NATO welcome.)**

SHAPE Army Community Service

Trip designed for SHAPE/Chièvres community. Call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

- Mons Memorial Museum, **March 3**

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- Reims and the Champagne Region, **March 5**
- Cooking class in Lille, **March 12**
- Oostende with Soul Legends, **March 19**
- Paris, **March 26**
- Croatia with Venice and Slovenia, **March 28 to April 6**
- Medieval Dinner in Brugge (Bruges), **April 2**
- Efteling amusement park, **April 5**
- Versailles, **April 9**
- Paris with Moulin Rouge, **April 16**
- Berlin, **April 29 to May 2**

- Keukenhof gardens and Gouda, **April 23**
- Amsterdam, **April 30**
- Poland: Polish pottery, Auschwitz, Krakow and Wroclaw, **May 5 to 10**
- Monet's House and Gardens, **May 21**
- Paris, **June 11**

SHAPE Travel Group

Call civilian 0470-876369 for details.

- Lace, masks and spirits, **March 2**
- Trier, **March 10**
- Beer, Cheese and Chocolate, **March 22**
- Highclere Castle, **April 4**
- Veuve Clicquot Champagne, **April 14**
- Paris in the Spring, **April 27**
- Keukenhof and Scheveningen, **May 3**
- Versailles, **May 19**
- Honfleur & Calvados, **May 26**
- Arnhem, **June 7**
- Canterbury, **June 23**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- Express Trip to Paris, **March 19**
- Keukenhof gardens, **April 23**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Feb. 25

- **Jazz Music Evening in Etterbeek** will offer a free live concert of rhythm and blues jazz at Place Jourdan 1 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Feb. 25 to 27

- **Tournai Jazz Festival** will be held at the Esplanade George-Grard at Boulevard des Frères-Rimbaut 2. Get more information at <http://www.tournaijazz.be>.

Feb. 25 to 28

- **Garden fair in Liège** will offer everything you need for your garden Thursday to Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fair will take place at Avenue Maurice-Denis 4B. Admission: €6; children under 12, free.

Feb. 26 to 28

- **Flanders Horse Expo in Gent** will be held at Flanders Expo at Maaltekouter 1. The largest event of its kind in Belgium, this exposition will have exhibitions, demonstrations, competition, shows and more. Open Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission: €18.

Feb. 26 to 29

- **Affordable Art Fair in Brussels** will be held at Tour & Taxis at Halenlaan 86C. Open Feb. 26 from noon to 10 p.m.; Feb. 27 to 28 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Feb. 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €13; children 15 and under, free admission. Get more information at <http://affordableartfair.com/brussels>.

Feb. 27

- **Volksmarch in Thuillies for 4, 6, 12, 20 and 30 km** - Departs from Rue de la Cour from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Feb. 27 to 28

- **Antiques and Curiosa Fair in Wieze** will take place in Oktoberhallen at Schroverstraat 18. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €3.
- **Flea market in Ath (80 booths)** held at the Zoning des Primevères from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Feb. 27 to March 6

- **Batibouw fair in Brussels** - International fair for building, renovation and decoration at Place de Belgique 1. Open Feb. 27 to 29 and March 4 to 6 from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and March 1 and 3 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Visit <http://batibouw.be/en/practical-info>.

Feb. 28

- **Flea market in Soignies (40 booths)** - Held at the sports center on Chemin Tour Lette from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Soignies for 5, 10, 15 and 20 km** - Departs from Place Van Zeeland 33 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Willaupuis for 5, 10, 15 and 20 km** - Departs from Rue de la Forge 31 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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

Through Feb. 28

- **"Tuinidee" in Den Bosch** will take place in Brabanthallen at Diezekade 2. Vendors at this large "Garden Idea" fair offer the newest trends for home interior and garden. Open Feb. 25, 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission: €16.50; children 12 and under, free.

- **Home Fair in Amsterdam** will be held at the RAI. At this annual fair, visitors will find a variety of exhibitors, artists, workshops, new products and sales. Admission: €19.50; children €5.50. Open Feb. 25 to 26 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Feb. 27 to 28 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Feb. 26 to 29

- **Antiques & Art Fair in Hasselt, Belgium**, will take place in Grenslandhallen at Gouverneur Verwilghensingel 70. This fair attracts more than 12,000 visitors each year. For details, visit <http://www.hasselt-artanticfair.com>.

Feb. 27

- **Farm Court Curiosa and Vintage Market in Aalten** will be held at De Lindert Farm at Velsdijk 10. Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **International Antiques and Curiosa Market in Deventer** will be held in Lebuïnuskerk (church) in Grote Kerkhof. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €3; children 14 and under, free admission.

Feb. 27 to 28

- **Easter Market in Düren, Germany**, will be held at Haus der Stadt at Stefan-Schwer-Strasse 4 with all kinds of spring and Easter decorations and other related items. Open Feb. 27 from 1 to 5 p.m.; Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Free admission.



- **Easter Art Market in Nümbrecht, Germany**, will be held in the center of town. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.

- **Tattoo, Body Art & Street Art Convention in Maastricht** will take place at MECC at Forum 100. This international event will have tattoo artists from all over the world. Open Feb. 27 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission: €15.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Feb. 28 continued

- **Volksmarch in Maffle for 5, 10 and 20 km** - Departs from Place de Maffle 4 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Through Feb. 26

- **Mons International Love Film Festival** - The festival will be held in three locations in Mons: Theater, Plaza Art and Imagix. Movies will be shown in their original version. The United States is competing with the movie "Dixieland" directed by Hank Bedford. To check the schedule, visit <http://www.fifa-mons.be>.



Through Feb. 28

- **Glory and Gratitude to the United States display in Liège** - The display tells the story of the relief for Belgium that started in October 1914. Tons of food were dispatched to Belgium, saving the lives of a million people. This free display is being held at "Grand Curtius" at Feronstrée 136. Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Display of letters and drawings of gratitude from Belgian children to Americans in Liège** - The letters were written in 1915 by Liège children between 9 and 10 years old to thank the United States for the food relief during World War I. Display is held at the Library at Feronstrée 118. Open weekdays from 2 to 5 p.m. Display is free of charge. The English translation of all the letters can be purchased at €2.

Mark your calendar

March 4

- **"Contact" event in Attre** held at "La Grange aux Vins" in Attre at 6:30 p.m. for wine tasting and meal. While enjoying some good wines and food, you will have the opportunity to get to know one another. After the aperitif, make your choice between smoked salmon (150 g) with salad and sauce with toast, or fried duck foie gras (2 x 50 g) with gingerbread and honey sauce. The wine tasting will include a Chardonnay and a Sauvignon white wine as well as a Côte du Rhône and Bordeaux red wine. Other wines will also be available. The meal is €18 per person, drinks (€2 or €3 per glass) not included. The event is open to all; newcomers are more than welcome. If interested, contact the USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office by Feb. 25 with payment of your meal. For any questions, contact the USAG Benelux Public Affairs office at DSN 361-5419 or civilian 068-275419.



Feb. 27 to 28; March 3 to 5

- **Historic year market in Bochum, Germany**, will be held at Jahrhunderthalle. Europe's largest indoor year market offers what seems to be a trip back in time with all kinds of nostalgic rides, attractions, food and more. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission: €12.50 (includes rides and attractions all day); children who are 80 cm and up, €9.50; children smaller than 80 cm, free admission.

March 4 to 6

- **Spring Easter Market in Bielefeld, Germany**, will be held at Ravensberger Spinnerei at Listerstraße 21. Many vendors will be offering all kinds of decorations, art, ceramics, fashion, jewelry and more. Open March 4 from 1 to 6 p.m.; March 5 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; March 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €3.

Ongoing

Through March 13

- **David Bowie display in Groningen** has an extended run at the Groningen Museum at Museumeiland 1. The display showcases more than 300 items from David Bowie, a musical performer who changed the face of modern music. These items include handwritten songs, costumes, photos and albums. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., plus late-night Fridays from 6:15 to 10 p.m. Admission: €23; students, ages 17 to 18, €15; children, ages 6 to 16, €3.



Register now

March 26

- **Kennedy Mars in Sittard** started as a way to prove that the townspeople still had what it takes. In a 1963 speech, President John F. Kennedy said that, as a result of modern affluent society, "nobody can walk 50 miles within 20 hours anymore." After this statement, many people all over the world walked 50 miles/80 km to prove him wrong. In Sittard, this volksmarch has become an annual event named the Kennedy Mars, which starts and finishes in Sittard. Visit <http://www.kennedymars.org>.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.