

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Celebrate West Point Founders Day

The West Point Society of the Benelux invites fellow graduates, former cadets, parents of cadets and special friends of the U.S. Military Academy to join in the traditional commemoration of West Point's 213th anniversary at a Founders Day celebration.

The annual Founders Day dinner will be celebrated in the Regimental Club des Guides in Brussels March 7, starting at 6 p.m.

For details and to RSVP by Feb. 28, contact WPFDDBenelux@gmail.com, or call 0473-570589 or 065-822231.

SATO closes Mondays

The CTO-SATO Travel Agency Office at USAG Benelux-Brussels will be closed Mondays instead of Fridays, starting March 2.

It will be open Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

Gazette submissions

Send submissions to usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil by Monday at 3 p.m.

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Children visit MP station

Sgt. Allen L. Slade, McGruff the Crime Dog, Nicolette Del Sarto and children from the Brussels Child Development Center dance to "The Ants Go Marching" during their visit to the Brussels Military Police desk Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015. (U.S.Army photo by Donovan Abrassart)

See page 5.

Wildlife needs help as winter continues

Leave out appropriate food

by **Valentin Wallers**

Natural resources manager, USAG Benelux Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division

This time of year, many forms of wildlife begin to encounter difficulties in feeding themselves. You can be a friend to nature by helping local wildlife overcome these hard times until spring is here.

'Hungry' Birds

Several bird species migrate, escaping the cold season by heading south. You can help the courageous ones that stay behind by providing them with delicious nutritive food.

A plate will be considered a good manger if placed in a calm and dry area that is sheltered from predators like cats.

Birds love suet balls (a seed mixture or other food that is rolled into a ball using fat). They are available in stores, but you can make them yourself. Wild-bird seed mix and pieces of fruits work well.

A shallow saucer of water will ensure proper digestion.

I found a wounded bird...

First of all, evaluate if the bird really needs to be rescued. Usually, it's not abandoned, and parents aren't far off. If it truly needs to be rescued and it is weak, catch it and gently place it in a cardboard box. Be careful because some birds can become aggressive when injured, such as heron and birds of prey. Provide the bird with food while it is recovering its strength, but don't force-feed it.

In the case you find a dead banded bird, contact the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division at DSN 361-6369 or civilian 068-276369 so the band/ring (if metallic with an opening only) can be retrieved.

Bats and batrachians

Most of the time, the best way to save animals is to stay away from them. During the winter, when they hibernate, waking them up can kill them so don't disturb them.

However, a temperature rise can make them look for food earlier in the season. Surprised by the cold and realizing their mistake, they can get lost in your home or your garden while looking for a warmer place. To give them the best chance of survival, release them in a sheltered place at nightfall if it isn't freezing.

Rule of thumb

Be aware that some species, such as all bat species, are protected by Belgian law. The law forbids holding them in captivity. If you find one that is badly injured, take it quickly to a wildlife rehabilitation center. You can look up the one closest to your home at <http://protectiondesoiseaux.be/liste-des-centres-de-revalidation>.

The one closest to Chièvres Air Base is the non-profit organization "Le Clos de l'Olivier" at Rue du Bourrelrier 21



Thierry Votquenne, who is a volunteer for the association Noctua, bands a kestrel chick on Chièvres Air Base Monday, June 4, 2012. Kestrels are small falcons. Noctua focuses on the activity of birds of prey, in particular the little owl (whose scientific name is *Athene noctua*). Banding allows bird populations' demography and movements to be monitored. (U.S. Army photo)

in Masnuy-Saint-Jean near Jurbise. It is what is commonly abbreviated as CREAVES, which stands for "Centre de Revalidation des Espèces Animales Vivant à l'Etat Sauvage," or "Rehabilitation Center for Animal Species Living in the Wild."

You can reach its staff by calling 065-235975 or 0475-675537.

THE GAZETTE

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

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Military Saves Week

Make dreams come true

by **Andrea Wales**
USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

If you have dreams of exploring Europe but find it hard to scrape together enough euros to travel much farther than to and from work, you could benefit from the insights offered by the manager of Army Community Service's Personal Financial-Readiness Program in the Benelux.

"Military Saves is a social-media campaign to get America -- specifically military members -- to think about their financial futures," Kathryn Seymour said. "It is part of the America Saves campaign, and it includes civilians and family members."

Seymour gives classes and command briefings on financial matters and is also available for private consultations, but she cautions that true success is 80 percent behavior modification and only 20 percent knowledge.

"What I can give you is a life skill," Seymour said. "The

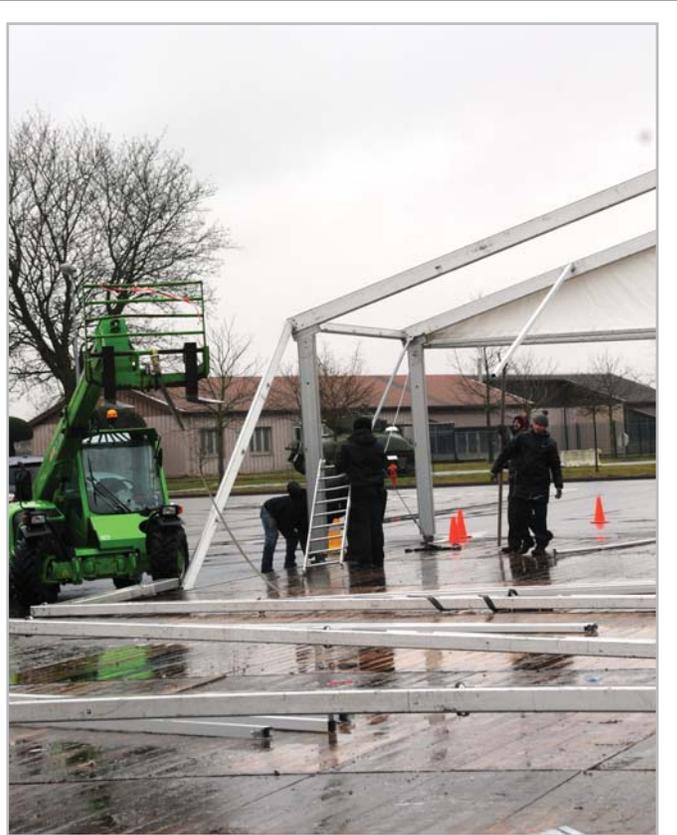
way we spend is emotionally driven. Once you tap into that, you learn more about why you spend the way you do."

Seymour is convinced that making your dreams real to you in a visual way -- such as writing them down or cutting pictures of dream vacations out of magazines -- is the secret to doing something about them.

"When you leave it in the gray matter, you can talk yourself into buying anything instead of saving for that car or your child's education," she said.

Planning is critical to attaining your financial goals, Seymour said.

"Budget. We don't like to use the word 'budget' because no one wants to budget their money, but they like to *spend* their money," she said. "I can make developing a spending plan fun because that spending plan will help you attain those goals."



PXtra tent goes up in Main Exchange lot

Workers erect a 600 square-meter tent (approximately 6,500 square feet) in the parking lot of the Chièvres Main Exchange Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015. It will temporarily house the PXtra so that the vacated building can be renovated into office space to facilitate the return of Caserne Daumerie to the host nation. Operations will be conducted from the tent until the new PXtra annex is completed later this year. (U.S.Army photo by Keith Houin)



Diplomat visits Schinnen, JFC Brunssum

U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands Timothy Broas and USAG Benelux commander Col. Marty Vannatter listen to a command brief presented by Kimberly Wayland, the deputy garrison manager at USAG Benelux-Schinnen, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. The ambassador was visiting the military bases in Limburg to include Joint Forces Command Brunssum and USAG Benelux-Schinnen. He remarked that he was really looking forward to participating in this year's Memorial Day ceremony at the American Cemetery in Margraten. Broas has been in the position less than a year. He officially took up his duties as ambassador after presenting his credentials to King William-Alexander March 19, 2014. (U.S.Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels)

New high school shines at open house

by Andrea Wales

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Parents and students flowed into SHAPE American High School's new building during the Feb. 24 open house and were greeted by JROTC cadets offering tours. Boosters were busy selling school-spirit wear, and strains from a distant piano wafted down the corridors.

Music teacher Cary Sand will split his time between the piano lab in the new complex and the music section of Building 711 (in the same building as the gym). All other classroom space is in the new complex.

"Traveling from here to there, I'm going to lose 10 pounds," he said, smiling.

Sand expressed appreciation for the piano lab. The new room has a gleaming grand piano and row after row of electronic keyboards.

With the exception of Building 711, the old school will be demolished.

"The old school was falling apart," said Brigitte Blanchard, a senior at the new school. "It's in temporary buildings from the '60s."

After the old buildings have been razed and a quadrangle with benches and green space, rimmed with additional international school buildings, take their

place, "It'll be a prized possession within DoDEA," said Todd Mitchell, a chemistry teacher.

The Department of Defense Dependent Schools, or DODDS, system is part of the Department of Defense Education Activity.

The high school is just one of three new buildings in the SHAPE American School complex. The middle and elementary schools opened in time for the first day of school. The three schools make up the American section of SHAPE International School campuses.

Theoretically speaking, teachers can teach and students can learn in almost any environment, but there's something special about a new school.

"You can instruct anywhere, but this facility is uplifting. It's inspiring. It's brighter," said Albie Clemmer, an English teacher whose classes are called language arts nowadays.

Although it's lacking in what real-estate agents call "character" -- the beautiful detailing that often graces older structures, the new school embodies the word "modern" with its clean lines. Faculty and staff are working hard to make it a

warm and inviting environment.

For example, the principal said that extra large bulletin boards will soon be installed so that teachers can display student work, educational posters and the like.

Moving from the old building to the new complex has compelled the faculty to make a lot of decisions on what to move, Clemmer said.

"It's helped us decide which things we need and which things we don't," Clemmer said.

It wasn't easy for teachers to get the classrooms just the way they wanted during the two days after pre-Lenten recess during which students were off from school and the move took place.

Although most teachers were happily settled in their new digs by the time the open house rolled around, some teachers with extra equipment were still unpacking.

The spacious rooms with their large windows and state-of-the-art technology, including permanently mounted white-boards, haven't always been in this state of near perfection.

See next page.



Garrett Slosson



Marina Slosson

(Clockwise from bottom left) During SHAPE American High School's open house Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015, students enjoy one of four "green rooms," whose tables have popup power-strip towers. • Students can view the atrium lobby from the second floor. • Wedge-shaped tables can be moved into circles or placed in a traditional array. • The media center dwarfs the entrance, which is located to its right. (U.S. Army photos by Andrea Wales unless otherwise indicated.)

High-school open house I continued

Several of instructor John Arias' ideas for improvements to the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, or JROTC, suite were incorporated into the design, for example.

Planners were sometimes able to accommodate requests for changes if teachers got them in early enough, Arias said.

Arias' office, which is right next to the JROTC classroom, now has a door that gives him easy access to the classroom and a generous interior window that gives him a wide view of it. Before his ideas were adopted, the plan was for the teacher to have to walk around the classroom and enter from the school hallway.

Not all of the school's up-to-the-minute facilities will be used right away.

Due to staffing issues, Principal Chuck Fannin predicts that the culinary-arts

suite with its restaurant-grade facilities won't be used for classes until next year or the year after.

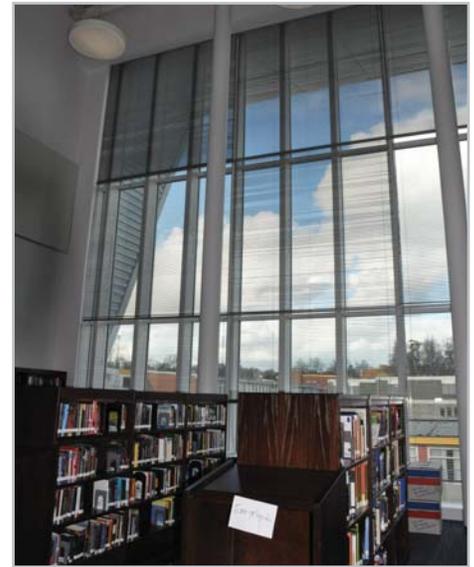
However, it's being put to good use in the meantime, serving as a place to store items like popcorn and snow-cone machines, which had been crammed into places they didn't belong at the old school.

Despite the lack of cooking classes, all in all, students seemed to be in good spirits about the facilities.

"We are the first class to graduate from the new building," senior Nora Henry said, beaming.

Parents shared their students' enthusiasm.

"It gives them everything they need to be successful," said Lynda Richard, parent of a sophomore. "It's what we need to help our children move to the next level — to be competitive with everyone else."



Natural light fills the media center, or library, during the open house of SHAPE American High School's new facility Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)

Brussels MPs welcome young visitors



Eight children from the USAG Benelux-Brussels Child Development Center visited the Brussels MPs as part of a Safety Day Field Trip Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015. The group started the visit at the MP desk where the children had their fingerprints taken. Then the group played and messed around with the different gadgets of an MP patrol car. (Clockwise from top left) Sgt. Autumn I. Gebolys takes the fingerprints of Evelyn Smith. • Charles Larsen plays with the steering wheel of the patrol car while sitting on the knees of Sgt. Allen L. Slade. • At the end of the visit, the group posed for a group photo in front of the MP patrol car. • Aron Vili talks on the walkie-talkie. (U.S. Army photos by Donovan Abrassart)

Trenches to Foxholes

Next week in World War history (March 1 to 7)

World War I

1915

March 4 - The Russian government sends circular telegram to Entente governments laying claim to Constantinople.

- S.S. "Thordis" is rammed and sunk by a German submarine.

1916

March 6 - During a punishing snowstorm, the German army launches a new attack against French forces on the high ground of Mort-Homme, on the left bank of the Meuse River, near the fortress city of Verdun, France, on this day in 1916. The Battle of Verdun began Feb. 21, 1916, with a German bombardment on the symbolic city of Verdun, the last French stronghold to fall during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71. The French stubbornly hold onto Fort Douaumont, Verdun's major protective strongpoint, despite a speedy German advance begun Feb. 25. The resulting stalemate led to heavy casualties on both sides. On the night of Douaumont's capture, Gen. al Philippe Petain took over the French command of the Verdun sector, vowing to hold the fort at all costs and inflict the maximum number of German casualties in the process. The German objective was similar: In the words of Gen. Erich von Falkenhayn, chief of the general staff, they aimed to bleed the French white.

March 7 - Germans capture Hills 360 and 265, and Fresnes (southeast of Verdun).

1917

March 1 - The text of the so-called Zimmermann Telegram, a message from the German foreign secretary, Arthur Zimmermann, to the German ambassador to Mexico proposing a Mexican-German alliance in the case of war between the United States and Germany, is published on the front pages of newspapers across America.

In the telegram, intercepted and deciphered by British intelligence in January 1917, Zimmermann instructs the ambassador, Count Johann von Bernstorff, to offer significant financial aid to Mexico if it agrees to enter any future U.S.-German conflict as a German ally. If victorious in the conflict, Germany also promises to restore to Mexico the lost territories of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

March 2 - Barely a month before the United States enters World War I, President Woodrow Wilson signs the Jones-Shafroth act, granting American citizenship to the inhabitants of Puerto Rico.

March 5 - Turks abandon strong positions west of Shalal (Sinai Peninsula).

1918

March 3 - In the city of Brest-Litovsk, located in modern-day Belarus near the Polish border, Russia signs a treaty with the Central Powers ending its participation in World War I.

March 7 - Four days after Russia signs a humiliating peace treaty with the Central Powers at Brest-Litovsk, the newly declared independent state of Finland reaches a formal peace settlement with Germany.

World War II

1940

March 5 - The Soviet Politburo declares the Polish officers in captivity "enemies of the Soviet Union" and orders death sentences for all of them, fearing that, if released back into the population, they would organize resistance movements against the Soviet occupation.

1941

March 1 - The southeastern European nation of Bulgaria joins the Axis powers by signing the Tripartite Pact.

March 4 - The British navy raids a German position off the coast of Norway and inside the Arctic Circle — the Lofoten Islands. The raid, code name Operation Claymore, proved highly destructive of its target — an armed German trawler — but ultimately a failure in achieving its objective, the capture of an Enigma decoding machine.

1942

March 7 - British and Indian troops on Christmas Island mistake the latest heavy naval bombardment as a precursor to an invasion and hoisted white flags to indicate surrender. The warships departed, however, and the troops lowered the white flags and sent British flags back up poles.

March - U.S. 8th Pursuit Squadron, flying P-40 fighters, is sent to Melbourne, Australia.

1943

March 2 - U.S. and Australian land-based planes begin an offensive against a convoy of Japanese ships in the Bismarck Sea, in the western Pacific.

1944

March 4 - Having already suffered heavy losses during day raids of various German industrial centers, the Americans had been cautious in pursuing night raids. However, with the British Royal Air Force exhausted, the U.S. Eighth Air Force pursues night bombing and makes Berlin its primary target. Fourteen U.S. bomber wings take off for Germany from England; only one plane reaches Berlin. (The rest drop their loads elsewhere.) The initial American attack is considered "none too successful" (as recorded in the official history of U.S. Army Air Force). Subsequent attacks in March are more effective.

1945

March 3 - Finland, under increasing pressure from both the United States and the Soviet Union, declares war on its former partner, Germany.

March 6 - Members of the Dutch Resistance who were attempting to hijack a truck in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, ambush Lt. Gen. Hanns Rauter, an SS officer. The following week, the German SS executed 263 Dutch in retaliation.

The Dutch Resistance was one of the fiercest of all the underground movements in Nazi-occupied Europe. "The Dutch never accepted the German contention that ... the war was over," wrote the Dutch foreign minister in a postwar account of life under Nazi occupation. "Their acts of resistance and sabotage grew more audacious as time passed."

"Next week in World War history" is compiled from various sources by Keith Houin, USAG Benelux Public Affairs.



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Through Feb. 27

- **Mons International Love Film Festival** - At the Ciné-Village of Lotto Mons Expo at Avenue Thomas Edison 2. For more information and to make a reservation, visit <http://www.fifa-mons.be/en>.

Through Feb. 28

- **Book fair in Brussels** - This annual book fair, featuring more than a thousand publishers, continues to attract tens of thousands of book-lovers. It features encounters, readings, talks, awards, signing sessions, films and other activities. Get more information at <http://flb.be/en>.



Feb. 28

- **Volksmarch in Thuillies** for 4, 6, 12, 20 and 30 km. Departs from Rue de la Cour from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Led Zeppelin concert by cover band in Lens** - Concert is in Cercle Saint-Martin at Rue de l'Eglise 19b from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Cost: €12.

Feb. 28 to March 1

- **Flea market in Mons** at the Mons Lotto Expo on Avenue Thomas Edison. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (90 booths)

Feb. 28 to March 5

- **Batibouw in Brussels** - International fair for building, renovation and decoration at Place de Belgique 1. Get more information at <http://batibouw.be/en/home>.



March 1

- **Volksmarch in Peronnes-Lez-Antoing** for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 km. Departs from Rue du Centre 57 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Small participation fee.
- **Volksmarch in Soignies** 5, 10, 15 and 20 km. Departs from Place Van Zeeland 33 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Maffle** for 5, 10 and 20 km. Departs from the square from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Nivelles** for 5, 10, 20 km. Departs from Rue Saint-Jean from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jemappes** on Avenue Maréchal Foch 873 from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. (100 booths)



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

Through March 1

- **Home Fair in Amsterdam** will be held at the RAI. At this annual event, visitors will find a variety of exhibitors, artists, workshops and new products. Open Feb. 21 to 25 and Feb. 28 to March 1 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Feb. 26 to 27 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission: €19.50; children €5.50. Learn more at <http://www.rai.nl/nl/agenda/Pages/Huishoudbeurs-2015.aspx>.
- **TuinIdee in Den Bosch** is a large garden fair held in the Brabanthallen at Diezekade 2. Participants offer the newest trends for home interior and garden. Open Feb. 26, 28 and March 1 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission: €16; children 12 and under, free.

Feb. 27 to 28

- **Whisky at the Meuse in Maastricht** is a lifestyle event for whisky enthusiasts held at MECC. Open Feb. 27 from 7 to 11 p.m. and Feb. 28 from 1 to 5 p.m. and again from 7 to 11 p.m. Admission: €35.

Feb. 27 to March 1

- **Flanders Horse Expo in Gent, Belgium**, will be held at Flanders Expo at Maaltekoeter 1. It is the largest and most diverse event focused on horses in the Benelux. Experience the exhibitions, demonstrations, competition, shows and more. Open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €18; children (6 to 12), €10. Visit <http://www.flanders-horse-expo.be/welcome>.

Feb. 27 to March 3

- **Antiques and Art Fair in Hasselt, Belgium**, will be held in Grenslanndhallen at Gouverneur Verwilghensingel 70. Hasselt's Antiques and Art Fair attracts more than 12,000 visitors every year. To find out more, visit <http://www.hasselt-artanticfair.com>.

Feb. 28 to March 1

- **Historic Year Market in Bochum, Germany**, will be held at Jahrhunderthalle. It's Europe's largest indoor annual market and is open Saturdays and Sundays only. It is a trip back in time with all kinds of nostalgic rides, attractions, food and more. Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission: €12.50 (includes rides and attractions all day); children €9.50; children smaller than 80 cm, free.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



March 1 continued

- **Repair bar in Soignies** - Take your broken computer, phone, bike, clothes, etc., to the repair bar and get it repaired for free at the Cité des Jeunes at Rue Henri Leroy 15 from 2 to 6 p.m.

Ongoing

Through March 16

- **Carnaval** - Festivities are still going on in Belgium. For a list of events, visit the Carnaval page at <http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/Carnaval2015.html>.

Through May 17

- **Van Gogh exhibition in Mons** - While in the Walloon coal-mining area of Mons from December 1878 through October 1880, Vincent Van Gogh abandoned his career as an evangelist and decided to become an artist. This exhibition takes you through this crucial period, during which the artistic ideas Van Gogh developed largely set the course of his work. At the Beaux-Arts Mons at Rue Neuve 8 Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €15; children under 12, €3. (A family rate is also available.) For details, visit <http://www.bam.mons.be>.

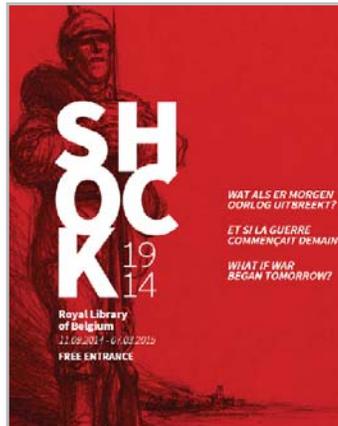
Through May 25

- **Modern dance classes in Chièvres** - At the cultural center on Rue de l'Eglise in Huissignies. Classes are Mondays from 5 to 6 p.m., Fridays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. Classes are open to children ages 2 to 12. Cost: €45 per quarter.

Trenches to Foxholes

Through March 7

- **SHOCK! 1914 ... What if the war starts tomorrow? in Brussels** - The Royal Archives, the CEGESOMA historical-research society and the Royal Library present a day-by-day reconstruction of the chaotic weeks of the summer and autumn of 1914. Visitors will be able to learn about those traumatic times from official records, press accounts and personal testimonies. Visit <http://www.shock1914.be/en/profile>.



Through Nov. 4

- **Exhibition in Tournai "Animals and War"** - The exhibition takes place at the Natural History Museum at Rue Saint-Martin 52 and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 5 p.m.; and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. Cost: €2.60.



March 1

- **Knights Training in Limbricht** is where you can learn how to be a knight. At Limbricht Castle



at Allee 1, the Knights of the Four Quarters will show you what it takes to become a knight and will tell you all you want

to know about the Middle Ages. The knights invite children to come and learn what knights do and train with them. Open from noon to 4 p.m. Participation and admission are free.

Ongoing

Through May 10

- **Frick Collection in The Hague** can be experienced in Mauritshuis at Korte Vijverberg 8. The works in the collection at Mauritshuis are normally on display in a museum adjoining Central Park in New York, which was originally built as steel magnate Henry Clay Frick's residence. Although the foundation only lends to other museums works of art that were acquired after its founder's death, never before has the foundation allowed such a big part of its world-famous collection to be on display elsewhere. The exhibition "A Country House in New York: Highlights from the Frick Collection" includes works from Jan Van Eyck, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, Cimabue and Jean-Etienne Liotard. Very few Dutch museums exhibit works by these artists. You will also be able to admire drawings, sculptures and applied art from the Frick Collection. To learn more about the Frick Collection in Maritshuis, visit <http://www.mauritshuis.nl>.

Mark your calendar

April 4

- **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>. Register now.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.

SHAPE Trips & Tours

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE

For information on the trip below,
call DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-443884.

Belgian Beer Tour, March 7- Join SHAPE Trips and Tours for a true taste of Belgium. Discover for yourself why Belgium is known for creating what are often touted as the best beers in the world. The group begins its brewery adventure at the Abbaye du Val-Dieu Brewery and Monastery, where you will have a brewery tour and see firsthand how the brews are carefully crafted. You can choose to taste either its blond, brown or triple-blond beers. Afterward, the group will lunch on the property. The next stop is La Brasserie du Bocq, where the group will enjoy a guided tour and a tasting of its beers, which have been brewed since 1858. The day's final destination is La Brasserie Des Fagnes. The group will visit the old brewery museum followed by a guided tour of the modern brewery. Each tour member will sample a special hand-made beer and then be presented with a gift to take home. After the tour, the group will have a light dinner before being driven home. Invite all your friends to come along for this unforgettable Belgian beer experience. Cost: €93. Adults only.

Schinnen Trips and Tours

For information on the trip below,
call DSN 360-7561 or civilian
0031-(0)46-4437561.

Day trip to Paris, March 14 - Whether you know it as "the City of Lovers" or "the City of Light," you will have hours of free time to explore Paris, whether it's seeing the view from the Eiffel Tower, strolling along the Seine or sitting at a sidewalk café. Included in tour price: round-trip coach transportation. Assigned seating on a "first come and pay" basis. Register with full payment at the Trips and Tours office in Schinnen. Cost: \$79 per person.

SHAPE Travel Group

For information on the trip below,
call civilian 0470-876369.

Netherlands: Volendam/Edam/Marken, March 5 - SHAPE Travel Group will explore Marken, which was separated from the mainland after a storm in the 13th century. A long period of isolation followed for the community, which earned its living with fishing. Marken is known for its characteristic houses and traditional costumes. Volendam's day-to-day life is centered around its harbor. Since fresh water gradually mixed in with the seawater of what was once the "Zuiderzee," Volendam's trade today is mainly smoked eel and tourism. Next stop: Edam, which is, of course, associated with the cheese of the same name. Here, you will discover Edam's authentic 17th-century architecture. The group will also visit a cheese farm and a clog maker. Cost: €45.

Upcoming trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

- **Dover Castle and Canterbury by Ferry, March 14**
- **Maastricht, Dutch Fruit Pie-Baking Workshop (optional), March 21**
- **Château de Versailles, March 28**
- **Movie Park Germany, April 4**
- **Croatia with Venice and Slovenia, April 6 to 15 (10 days' round-trip)**
- **Giverny, France: Monet's Home and Gardens, April 25**
- **Polish Pottery and Czech Crystal Shopping Trip, May 1 to 4**
- **Berlin City Tour, May 14 to 17**
- **Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, June 20**
- **Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, Belgium, Aug. 8**
- **Medieval Dinner in Bruges, Aug. 22**



Romy Siegel

Schinnen Trips & Tours

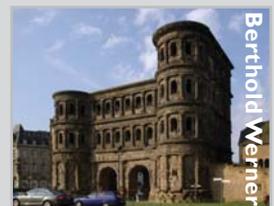
- **Bruges Day Trip, March 21**
- **Family Day "Trout Fishing," April 11**
- **Keukenhof Gardens, April 25**



Chris Benoist

SHAPE Travel Group

- **Reims, France, and Champagne Tasting, March 19**
- **Trier with Winery Tour, April 15**
- **Polish Pottery and Giethoorn, April 24**
- **Giverny, France (Painter Claude Monet's home and gardens), May 7**
- **London and Chelsea Flower Show, May 21**
- **Amiens and Les Hortillonages (Floating Gardens), June 2**
- **Provins Medieval Festival, June 13**
- **Paris, June 18**
- **Hampton Court Palace and Gardens, June 30**



Berthold Werner

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Feb. 28

- **Flanders Field Post meeting** - The American Legion Post BE02 will conduct a general meeting in the Community Conference Room in the USAG Benelux-Brussels compound at 10 a.m. The public is invited to attend. To find out more, contact flanders.fields.post.be02@gmail.com.

March 2

- **Four Day Weekend AFE Show** - The 3 Star hosts Four Day Weekend, a critically acclaimed comedy group, for a free, 18-and-older show (buffet optional) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. (Arrive at 5:30 for the buffet.) Show time is at 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$7 for an optional buffet of heavy hors d'oeuvres. (Make your reservations at reservations3star@yahoo.com.) For details, call DSN 368-9680 or civilian 02-7179680.

March 4, 11, 18 and 25

- **Children's Story Time** - The Brussels Library in Building 4 welcomes all preschoolers and their parents to join the library staff for stories and crafts Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. In March, the library will be celebrating the birthday of children's author Theodor Geisel, otherwise known as Dr. Seuss. March 4: "The Cat in the Hat." March 11: "Green Eggs and Ham." March 18: "Fox in Socks." March 25: "Horton Hears a Who."

March 6

- **3 Star Recreation Night** - Join the USAG Benelux-Brussels community Fridays from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Recreation Night features games, cards, music and movies. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Mark your calendar

- **Slant (Rock) AFE Show and St. Patrick's Day Party** - Don't miss this free rock concert at the Schinnen Community Activities Center March 19 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Call DSN 360-7370 or civilian +31 (0) 464-437370.

Feb. 27

- **Hearts Apart** - Schinnen Army Community Service offers a support group for youth separated from a loved one, whether through a deployment or a family situation. Attend the next meeting at AFNORTH International School from 2 to 3 p.m. For details, call DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437269/7500.
- **American Spouses Club Fifth Annual Auction** - The American Spouses Club holds this charitable event at the ICC in Brunssum. Open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets to this fund-raiser are €20, which includes a gourmet meal at 7 p.m. Get your ticket at the Schinnen Thrift Store or via AmericanSpousesClub@yahoo.com.

March 2

- **Veterans Affairs briefing and Disabled Transition Assistance Program briefing** - Find out the latest on VA policies, benefits and eligibility from the people who know. The VA briefing is in the JFC Brunssum Library Multipurpose Room from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and the DTAP briefing is from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program, or SFL/TAP, classes are mandatory for separating and retiring service members. To register for the briefings, call DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.
- **Meditation Monday starting up again** - Relieve the stress and enjoy 30 to 45 minutes of relaxation and reflection with Schinnen Army Community Service Mondays at noon.

March 3 to 5

- **Department Of Labor Employment Workshop** - DOLEW is being held in the JFC Brunssum Library Multipurpose Room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. In this three-day workshop, learn about effective job search, résumé-writing, and interviewing. Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program, or SFL/TAP, classes are mandatory for separating and retiring service members. To register, call DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.

March 4

- **First-Term Financial Briefing** - This mandatory briefing for all first-term Soldiers is offered at Schinnen Army Community Service from 9 a.m. to noon. Learn about the practical approach to financial management. For more information or to register, contact ACS at DSN 360-7450/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437450/7500.
- **High-School Girls Self-Defense Seminar** - JFCBS Martial Arts and Self-Defense offers its High-School Girls Self-Defense Seminar at AFNORTH School from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for students and from 4 to 5 p.m. for students and parents. Contact jujitsuamericas@gmail.com, +31 (0) 65-2368426 or <https://facebook.com/jujitsuamericas>.

March 5

- **Family Readiness Group Training** - This training in the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. is for FRG volunteers and active-duty Soldiers and their family members who want to learn more about family readiness groups. Learn the latest policies and about how FRGs assist Soldiers and their families. Community and military agency representatives will provide updates on FRG topics, including fund-raising. To register, contact ACS at DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437269/7500.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY continued

March 6

- **Personal Financial Planning for Transition** – This briefing will help prepare you and your family with the financial-management tools and resources. Help ensure your family's strong financial future by attending this seminar at the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program, or SFL/TAP, classes are mandatory for separating and retiring service members. To register or for more information, call DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.
- **Gracie JiuJitsu Seminar** - Roy Marsh, a Royce Gracie black belt, will conduct a jiuJitsu seminar at the JFC Brunssum Gym during two time slots: children at 6 p.m. and adults at 7 p.m. Cost: adults €40, children €35. To register, contact jujitsuamericas@gmail.com, or call +31 (0) 65-2368426 or +31 (0) 45-5268426.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Bowling For Babies** - Part of a sorority-alumnae organization, the Belgium Zetas are sponsoring a Bowling For Babies Bowling Tournament March 14 at the SHAPE Pizza Bowl at 6 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to the March of Dimes to support research to prevent premature births. Teams may register by March 7 by sending an email message to Belgianzetas@gmail.com. Find out more at <https://www.facebook.com/belgiumzetas>.

Get your ticket now

- **Tickets on sale for Scenes from American Life** - The SHAPE Players present this A.R. Gurney production at the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre. It runs March 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee performance March 15 at 3 p.m. Admission: adult €16, student €9, child €7. Call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. For details, visit <http://www.shapeplayers.net>.

Feb. 27

- **Black History Month** - The 424th Air Base Squadron and USAG Benelux will host the African-American/Black History Month observance in the USAG Benelux auditorium in Caserne Daumerie's Building 30 in Chièvres Feb. 27 from noon to 2 p.m. Learn about the Wereth 11. See page 7 for details.
- **Fun for Kids** - Take your bikes, trikes, scooters or skates and join other children at the Chièvres Community Activity Center from 5 to 8 p.m. You can also play basketball or play on bouncy castles. This free event is open to those who have access to Chièvres Air Base. Call DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-275643.
- **Kids Movie Night** - Chièvres Library hosts this free event at its facility in the Community Activity Center from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Join the library staff and watch an animated children's movie about time travel. (Contact the librarian at DSN 361-5767 or civilian 068-275767 for the title of the film.) Popcorn and juice will be served. Children age 9 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

March 3

- **Lunch and Learn** - Lunch and Learn meets Tuesdays in the SHAPE Army Community Service Training Room from noon to 1 p.m. The military family-life consultant presents "Military Spouse: Commander in Chief of the Home Front." Brown-bag it, and join the discussion group. To register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

March 5

- **EFMP PCS Transition Workshop** - Attend this class at SHAPE Army Community Service from 10 to 11 a.m. to get resources and checklists that will help to prepare you to make a permanent-change-of-station move with someone in the Exceptional Family Member Program. To register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.
- **Newborn Network** - Newborn Network is facilitated by a licensed marriage-and-family therapist who is also a Music Together teacher. Meet other parents of children ages newborn to 12 months, discuss making the transition to parent and bond with your baby through music in the ACS Playroom in SHAPE's Building 318 the first Thursday of the month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. To register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

Movies at SHAPE Cinema

Rates — 2D movies: adults €7 and children 11 and under €4. 3D movies: adults €9 and children 11 and under €6. Check <http://www.shape2day.com/cinema.aspx> 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 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>.

Movie at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

Adult admission is €5 (ages 12 and older) - Child admission is €3 (ages 11 and under). Check the new web page at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Schinnen-1366146> for the movie schedule.