

THE GAZETTE

Benelux news briefs

Intermediate driving class offered soon

The Benelux Safety Office will host an Intermediate Driver Training Course, or IDC, at Transportation Division on SHAPE in Building 220's Room 113 Aug. 10 from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The target audience for this one-time training requirement is Soldiers who are under 26 years of age.

Space is limited. Register soon.

This training is designed to reinforce a positive attitude toward driving, individual responsibility, correct response to routine and emergency driving situations, and sharing the road safely with other road users.

To register, contact the USAG Benelux Installation Safety Office at DSN 361-6114 or civilian 068-276114.

AAFES has job openings

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Chièvres Main Store needs senior store associates in the Power Zone and stock-room workers in the Warehouse. Apply online at <https://www.applymyexchange.com>, or call DSN 361-5337 or civilian 068-275337.

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MPs, Belgian Federal Police work together on base

Belgian police officers check the speed of a vehicle passing the radar on Chièvres Air Base, Tuesday, July 26, 2016. Chièvres Military Police made an agreement with the Belgian Federal Police of Hainaut to use the airstrip once a year to calibrate the speedometers of both American military and Belgian police vehicles. The vehicles pass the radar at stabilized speeds with increments of 10 kph, and the radar provides the real speed. (U.S. Army photo by Henri Cambier/Training Support Center Benelux)

Next phase of SHAPE International School begins

by **Jennifer Aldridge**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District Public Affairs Office

Ten years ago, SHAPE International School was short on space. It was growing and existing buildings were aging, so NATO members decided it was time to invest in the future and build a new campus.

After a decade of planning and design, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District awarded a \$30 million bid-build contract to Galere SA - Wayss & Freytag Ingenieur-bau AG in March to construct three new school buildings at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe near Mons.

The project will be executed in phases, according to Mark Workman, USACE Europe District project manager. The U.K./Canada and German buildings will be constructed first and are scheduled to open in spring 2018. Two years later, work is expected to wrap up on the combined school for Norway, Turkey, Poland and Italy, known as the Four Nations building. Lastly, the Belgian school building is in design, and construction will be awarded under a separate contract.

“When all the buildings are complete, they will create an oval-shaped campus with the American elementary and



Artist's rendition of phase II of SHAPE International School. (U.S. Army image from USACE)

middle schools at one end and the American high school at the other side with a giant courtyard in the middle, where students from all nations can interact,” Workman said.

Children from all over the world – 40 countries including NATO members and Partnership for Peace nations – attend SHAPE, said José Pittellioen, SHAPE International School’s director general.

“We have an average of

2,500 children here, and they are the ambassadors of their countries. They come with what they have – their background, their culture, their knowledge – for the benefit of everyone,” he said. “One of the challenges is to try to integrate them.”

While the school works to integrate students, USACE works to assimilate stakeholders. With seven nations involved in funding the proj-

ect, this is one of the most unique and complex schools ever executed by the district, Workman said.

“We’ve had to incorporate each country’s individual teaching styles and required room setups into the design,” he said. “Each school layout is different because it has to be tailored to the individual nation’s needs.”

Project stakeholders include **See next page.**

SHAPE International School | continued

the contributing nations, SHAPE, U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, USACE and its designer and contractor.

“We are really trying to make sure that the U.K./Canada building, for example, has uniform specifications for classrooms and playgrounds,” said Rachel Popp, a Europe District project engineer. “Each nation has its own requirements — finishes are different, fire protection is different — so it’s pretty complex.”

When the project was conceived 10 years ago, USACE offered to take the lead and build a campus to replace buildings that have been in use since the 1960s, Pittellioen said.

“The facilities that we use today were built in a hurry,” he said. “When France dropped out of NATO’s integrated military command structure, SHAPE moved from Paris to Belgium in 1967 and the school was built with materials that were prefabricated and semi-prefabricated. At the origin, the buildings were meant to last 10 years, and now they have been here much longer.”

The existing campus had more than a dozen disparate buildings. The Canadian school is housed in a renovated apartment building, and the Belgians are in temporary facilities. In its end state, the international campus will include six primary structures, and common gym and cafeteria buildings, U.S. officials said.

In 2014-15, Department of Defense Education Activity-Europe opened new American elementary, middle and high schools at SHAPE. These projects, also managed by USACE, marked the completion of the first phase of this state-of-the-art campus, Workman said.

“We’ve had experience



building the American schools and can take those experiences and lessons learned forward with the nations in the international school buildings,” he said. “They are designed to be lighter and brighter and much better learning environments.”

The modernization of SHAPE International School is a major part of improving the entire NATO base. SHAPE school is a microcosm of SHAPE headquarters, Pittellioen said.

“The existence of our school is very important. If we want to attract very competent people to this headquarters, we need to provide adequate support for their families and their children. Our school is one of the reasons people apply for an assignment at SHAPE. Thanks to our school, they

come here,” he said.

Before joining USACE, Workman was assigned to SHAPE as an Air Force engineer. During his five years in Mons, he learned that other nations rewarded outstanding officers and enlisted personnel with an assignment at SHAPE. It was one of the few incentives offered to strong performers.

“In the past, the facilities were a negative, rather than a benefit to the assignment,” he said. “Now, not only do they get an assignment in an international community, but their children come and learn, and interact with kids from other nations in beautiful new facilities.

“Both my kids went to SHAPE schools and there really is an international feel when 40 percent of the students in the U.S. schools

The new high school (above) and elementary/middle schools (in the background at left) — part of a site visit Friday, June 17, 2016 — make up the American section of SHAPE International School. The Department of Defense Education Activity-Europe facilities were the first to open as part of a multinational-funded effort to build a state-of-the-art SIS campus by 2020. The U.K./Canadian and German buildings are scheduled to open in spring 2018. (U.S. Army photos by Jennifer Aldridge/USACE)

are non-American. It’s just an experience most other kids will never have.”

After 20 years with the school, Pittellioen looks forward to seeing the facilities complete and bringing all 14 independent schools back onto one campus.

“Our children are here for a limited time, and some of them could become important people of influence in their countries,” he said. “If the students return home sharing our common values, then even at our modest level, we participate in such a way to building peace in the world.”

In August, the demolition of old facilities is set to begin to make space for the final campus buildings.

The project is on track, Pittellioen said.

Ed centers help you reach goals

Create a plan with the help of your education-center staff. They can connect you with representatives of the four educational institutions here — University of Maryland University College-Europe, University of Oklahoma, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Central Texas College.

Brussels Education Center

To talk to a counselor, call DSN 368-9704 and civilian 02-7179704 weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Geilenkirchen Ed Center

Get help with your goals;

call DSN 458-6094 or civilian +49-2451-632244 Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and first Thursday of the month from 8 a.m. to noon.

Schinnen Education Center

Stop by the ed center or call DSN 360-7641 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437641 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

SHAPE Education Center

To talk to local educational professionals, call DSN 423-3466 or civilian 065-443466 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Back-to-school fun planned

Back-to-school season is fast-approaching, and Benelux communities are planning for the new school year and the weeks leading up to it.

SHAPE/Chièvres

Students go back to school Aug. 16.

• Back-to-School Bash

The Benelux Community Gospel Service will sponsor the Back-to-School Bash at the Chièvres Community Activity Center **Aug. 6** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children can enjoy bouncy castles, face-painting, crafts, games, snow cones, free food and drinks. Free backpack with school supplies will be given to first 25 children per grade for kindergarten through fifth grade. Open to all NATO ID card-holders. If you have questions, call Chapel Staff at DSN 361-5381/5270 or civilian 068-275381/5270.

• CYSS events

CYSS will host two mixers for students in grades 6 through 12 at SHAPE Youth Center. Parents must register their children before the students may attend. Registration is free, and you can stop by ahead of time

or call DSN 366-6813 or civilian 065-326813 and ask for a registration packet to be sent via email.

- New Student Meet-and-Greet - Newcomers and those who would like to welcome them are invited to a New Student Meet-and-Greet pizza party. Dig into a pizza pie **Aug. 12** from 6 to 8 p.m. and meet someone new.

- Back 2 School Dance - Have fun with friends, old and new, **Aug. 19** from 6 to 10 p.m. Young people can enjoy food, drinks, dancing and games.

Schinnen/Brunssum

Students return to school Aug. 18. For details about CYSS, call DSN 606-244-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.

Brussels

Students go back to school Aug. 29. CYSS staff invites any newcomers (in kindergarten through 12th grade) and their parents to its special open house every Thursday during summer camp to introduce new children to CYSS activities. Call Brussels CYSS at DSN 368-9535 or civilian 02-7179535.

Contact local schools

The application deadline for military tuition assistance is one week before each school's term start date.

CTC

Central Texas College offers many programs. (Cost: \$235.92 per credit hour.)

<http://europe.ctcd.edu>

Email: shape@europe.ctcd.edu

Phone: DSN 423-7447 or civilian 065-447447

Fall dates for vocational-technical, or VoTech (CDEC2307/Math and Science for Early Childhood): Sept. 12 to Nov. 6.

Registration deadline is 10 days prior to term start.

Embry-Riddle

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide offers numerous programs in the classroom and online.

<http://worldwide.erau.edu/euromilitary>

Email: geilenkirchen@erau.edu

Phone: DSN 458-6097 or civilian +49-2451-632246

Term I: Aug. 8 to Oct. 9

Term II: Oct. 17 to Dec. 18.

Registration deadline is the first day of the course.

UMUC

University of Maryland University College Europe offers various programs. (Cost: \$224 per credit hour for undergraduate and \$298 per credit hour for graduate. UMUC announced a \$2,000 Spouse of Servicemember Scholarship for fall and spring semesters. UMUC's \$50 back-to-school application-fee waiver for new students will be in effect through July 31.)

<http://www.europe.umuc.edu>

Email: afnorth-europe@umuc.edu; geilenkirchen-europe@umuc.edu; shape-europe@umuc.edu

Phone: DSN 360-7620 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4430292, DSN 458-6106 or +49-2451-64510/632247, DSN 423-5173 or civilian 065-445173

Fall Session 1: On-site and online courses: Aug. 22 to Oct. 16. Online seminar: Aug. 22 to Sept. 18.

Registration deadlines are

- online classes: Aug. 17;
- online seminars: Aug. 17;
- on-site and hybrid classes: Aug. 21.

Fall Session 2: On-site: To be announced. Online: Sept. 12 to Nov. 6. Online seminar: Sept. 19 to Oct. 16.

Registration deadlines are

- online classes: Sept. 7;
- online seminars: Sept. 14;
- on-site classes: To be announced.

OU

The University of Oklahoma has continuous registration. (Cost: \$350 per credit hour.)

<https://www.ou.edu/content/outreach/ap/europe.html>

Email: apgeilenkirchen@ou.edu; apshape@ou.edu

Phone: DSN 458-6098 or civilian +49-2451-632208, DSN 423-3654 or civilian 065-443654.

FRENGLISH PAGE

Interns help US community with French touch

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

Useful expressions

- My Belgian neighbor
- The owner of the house
- Empty the mailbox
- Maintain the garden
- Water the plants
- Feed the cat

Mon voisin belge/"moh(n) vwah sah(n) beljh"
 Le propriétaire de la maison/"luh proh pree ay tayr deh lah may zoh(n)"
 Vider la boîte aux lettres/"vee day(r) lah bwaht oh let (ruh)"
 Entretien le jardin/"ahn truh ten eer luh zhahr dah(n)"
 Donner de l'eau aux plantes/"doh nehr duh loh oh plahnt (eh)"
 Nourrir le chat/"noo eer luh shah(t)"

Word search

Here are some words in French related to the theme "my neighbor/mon voisin" that you can find in the grid.

- voisin/neighbor/"vwah sah(n)"
- maison/house/"may zoh(n)"
- jardin/garden/"zhahr dah(n)"
- chien/dog/"shee en"
- chat/cat/"shah(t)"
- pelouse/lawn/"puh looz (uh)"
- tondeuse/lawn mower/"tahn dooz (uh)"
- haie/hedge/"ay"
- clôture/fence/"kloht choor"
- arbre/tree/"ahr bruh"
- buisson/bush/"bwee soh(n)"
- porte/door/"pohrt"
- fenêtre/window/"fuh net (ruh)"
- facteur/postman/"fahk toor"

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

Dialog: Conversation with the neighbor/Conversation avec le voisin

B: Good morning! How are you this morning?
 A: Good morning! Very well, thank you. It is a beautiful day today.
 B: Yes. I hope this nice weather will continue. We are organizing a barbecue on Saturday and would like to invite you.
 A: That is very nice. Thank you for inviting us. What shall we bring?
 B: Nothing. We will take care of everything.
 A: Can I bring your spouse something? Chocolate or flowers?
 B: She loves chocolate! Thank you, and see you Saturday at noon.

B: Bonjour! Comment allez-vous ce matin?
 A: Bonjour! Très bien, merci. Il fait beau aujourd'hui.
 B: Oui. J'espère que le beau temps va se maintenir. Nous organisons un barbecue ce samedi et souhaiterions vous inviter.
 A: C'est très gentil. Merci pour l'invitation. Que peut-on amener?
 B: Rien. Nous nous occupons de tout.
 A: Je peux amener quelque chose pour votre épouse? Des chocolats ou des fleurs?
 B: Elle adore le chocolat! Merci et à samedi midi.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these weeklong camps, which run **through Aug. 26**, call Brussels CYSS at DSN 368-9535 or civilian 02-7179535.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by Brussels Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Schinnen ACS by video-teleconference. To sign up, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783:
 - **Couples Finance** - Learn how to effectively manage money matters for your household. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 3** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Personal Finance** - You can have what it takes to be an effective money manager for your household. Learn about basic budgeting, buying insurance, optimizing your retirement plan, increasing savings and living within one's means. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 10** 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 **Aug. 11** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Emotional Regulation: Learn to Manage Anger and Frustration More Effectively." VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **Aug. 11** from noon to 1 p.m.

Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - Read books and earn prizes in the Summer Reading Program's "Read for the Win." Join the Brussels Library staff for Story Time and crafts Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

July 28, 29

- **Community Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, sponsors free movies "Zootopia" (PG) July 28 and "Huntsman: Winter's War" (PG-13) July 29 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on the third floor of Building 1. Make your reservation soon at reservations3star@yahoo.com. Call DSN 368-9768/9819 or civilian 02-7179768/9819.

July 29

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

Aug. 3

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

Aug. 4

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Facility will be open until 10 p.m.) For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822, or DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819. Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - Discover Europe with the School Age Center and Youth Center at JFC Brunssum **through Aug. 12**. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. Call DSN 606-244-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.
- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by Schinnen Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Brussels ACS by video-teleconference. To sign up, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500:
 - **Couples Finance** - Learn how to effectively manage money matters for your household. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 3** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Personal Finance** - You can have what it takes to be an effective money manager for your household. Learn about basic budgeting, buying insurance, optimizing your retirement plan, increasing savings and living within one's means. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Aug. 10** 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 **Aug. 11** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Emotional Regulation: Learn to Manage Anger and Frustration More Effectively." Given in person at Schinnen ACS **Aug. 11** from noon to 1 p.m.
- **GK Chapel Vacation Bible School** - Geilenkirchen Chapel will hold its Vacation Bible School **Aug. 1 to 5** from 9 a.m. to noon. Register at <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/GKchapel2016>.

Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read for the Win with Froggy" at HQ JFC Brunssum Library **through Aug. 14**. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. To register, call DSN 364-2469 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5262469.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY *continued*

July 30 to 31

- **Healthy Lifestyle Festival** - "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival" weekend at the Schinnen Commissary will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food demonstrations will be offered. Greek and grilled-food trucks will also be on the installation. Schinnen Fitness Center will have a bouncy castle for children as well as circuit training from 11 a.m. to noon and again from 2 to 3 p.m. Line dancing will be held in the Community Activities Center, too. Schinnen's Army and Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, store will also be participating with games and special sales all weekend as well as roving concessionaires with special deals Saturday. Attendance prizes will be given away. (ID card-holders/authorized shoppers may sign up at the commissary entrance.)

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these camps, which run **through Aug. 12**, call SHAPE CYSS at DSN 366-6839 or civilian 065-326839.
- **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:
 - **Couples Finance** - Learn how to effectively manage money matters for your household. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Aug. 3** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Personal Finance** - You can have what it takes to be an effective money manager for your household. Learn about basic budgeting, buying insurance, optimizing your retirement plan, increasing savings and living within one's means. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Aug. 10** 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 **Aug. 11** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - **Lunch and Learn** - Learn about "Emotional Regulation: Learn to Manage Anger and Frustration More Effectively." VTC-projected from Schinnen ACS **Aug. 11** from noon to 1 p.m.
- **Summer Reading Program** - Chièvres Library and SHAPE International Library will host a range of free activities for children **through Aug. 11**. Activities based on the theme, "Read for the Win!" will be held at Chièvres Library Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m. Story Time and Craft is geared toward school-aged children, but all children are welcome. For details on SHAPE Library's program Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

July 28, 29, 30 and 31

- **"Once Upon a Mattress" with "Disney's 101 Dalmatians"** - SHAPE Performing Arts Centre presents the SHAPE Performing Arts School's production of the classic Broadway musical "Once Upon a Mattress" with the Summer Theatre Camp troupe and "Disney's 101 Dalmatians" with the Fractured Fairy Tales Camp troupe. The curtain goes up **July 28, 29 and 30** at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee **July 31** at 3 p.m. To find out more, stop by Building 207, or call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

Aug. 1 to 2

- **Host-Nation Orientation** - Army Community Service invites all service members, civilian employees and their family members to learn about the SHAPE/Chièvres community and all it has to offer. 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. The group will also 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. 6

- **Back-to-School Bash** - See page 5.
- **Corn Hole Tournament** - Meet new people and provide fun for the whole family at the Corn Hole Tournament at Chièvres Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental from 2 to 4 p.m. Corn Hole is a happy marriage between a bean-bag toss and horseshoes. If you've never played, you can use this as an opportunity to familiarize yourself with the game.

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

Now is the opportunity to visit the Royal Palace in Brussels

Outside the gate



Veronique Nazet

One of the huge chandeliers in the throne room which was built under the reign of King Leopold II (1865-1909). Make sure to look up during your visit of the palace in order to admire the ceilings and various chandeliers.

Every summer, the Brussels Royal palace opens to visitors. This year, the Royal Palace on Place des Palais can be visited until September 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday, free of charge.

The Royal Palace is the King's administrative residence and workplace. This is also where he received the representatives of political institutions, foreign heads of state and ambassadors.

In addition of being the offices of the King, the Queen and their administrative staff, the palace holds reception rooms where various lunches, concerts and meetings are held.

(Below) The Marshals' room was originally the audience room of King William I of the Netherlands and was refurbished in 2010. The desk was initially in the office of King Albert I.



Veronique Nazet

The large anti-chamber dates from the Dutch period when the North and South of the Netherlands were united into one kingdom after the battle of Waterloo with the accession of King William I to the throne (1815-1830). On the wall is the portrait of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg (future Leopold I).



Veronique Nazet

Origins of fries: never-ending debate

by Fauve Altman

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

The origins of the, some might say, wrongfully called french fries have fostered a never-ending debate.

Are fries from Belgian, French or German "descent"? Who is the inventor of fries? That is the question!

If you refer to a manuscript dated from 1781, the fries have been mistakenly attributed to France for years ...

According to the 1781 text, poor inhabitants from Namur, who were used to frying small fishes, first started to use fried sticks of potatoes as a substitute.

Since they couldn't fish in winter time, they started to cut potatoes in the shape of fish and fry them to compensate for the lack of fish.

True story or urban legend? The debate is not over. There're doubts about the veracity of the story because oil was considered an expensive good that poor people could probably not afford...

The same existential question remains, then ... Who invented the fries?

Another explanation is that a German, a certain

Mr. Fritz, invented the fries and set up the first stand fries at the fair of Liège in 1838. The fries were then created by a German? In Liège? Hum ...

Other countries claim the invention of fries, such as France.

Why are they called "French fries" then and not "Belgian Fries" or "German Fries." The debate is still open!

The Museum of the Fries in Bruxelles can be an interesting outing to understand and decipher the obscure origins of these fried potato sticks that we all love, wherever they come from.

Musée de la frite Bruxelles: <http://www.homefrithome.com/musee/>



Outside the gate

Upcoming organized trips

Chièvres Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental

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

- **Dinant Kayak Trip and Brewery Visit, Aug. 13**

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Rhine River Cruise, Cable Car and Fortress, Aug. 6**
- **Copenhagen (Denmark), Aug. 12 to 15**
- **Ghent with City Beer Discovery Boat trip, Aug. 20**
- **Cochem, Germany, with medieval dinner, Sept. 3**
- **Amsterdam with dinner show, Sept. 17**
- **Paris with Secret Food Tour (optional), Sept. 24**
- **Carolus Thermen spa, Oct. 8**
- **Alsace, Oct. 15 to 16**
- **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 Aug. 1.)**
- **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**
- **Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year**
- **Discount tickets to local attractions.**

SHAPE Travel Group

Call civilian 0470-876369 for details.

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

- **Dutch Day Trip: Alkmaar, Zaanse Schans, Volendam, July 29**
- **Family Day Trout Fishing, Sept. 10**
- **Largest Wine Festival in the World at Bad Durkheim Wurstmarkt, 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.**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

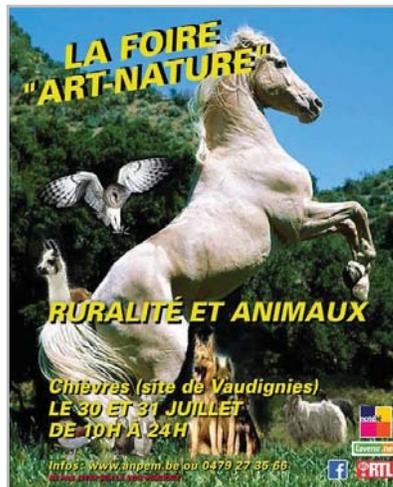
July 30

- **Flea market in Baudour (250 booths)** - On Rue du Parc from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Brussels (100 booths)** - At Quai des Matériaux from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Soignies (100 booths)** - Held on Rue P.J. Wincqz from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Leval-Trahegnies (150 booths)** - On Place de Trahegnies from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Warquignies (120 booths)** - Held on Pavé de Warquignies from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- **"La Ronde des Gargouilles" (The round of gargoyles) in Vaudignies (Chièvres)** - Family sound & light show held on Rue du Trieu as of 10 p.m. Other activities on site starting at 2 p.m. (see also here under). Admission: adults, €6; children under 12, free admission.
- **"Most Beautiful Mutt" contest in Vaudignies (Chièvres)** - Contest will start at 3 p.m. Admission: adults, €6; children under 12, free admission. If you want to participate with your dog, you must register. To do so, visit the website at <http://www.anpem.be>.
- **Run & Bike in Blaton** - Event starts at 9 a.m. on Place de Feignies. Participating teams pay €12. Pre-registration is recommended but not mandatory. Find out more at civilian 0499-166325.



July 30 and 31

- **Flea market in Nivelles (100 booths)** - Held at Quartier Saint Jacques from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Art Nature fair in Vaudignies (Chièvres)** - Numerous activities for everyone, horse show, small farm, arts and crafts, local products and more. "La Ronde des Gargouilles" and the "Most Beautiful Mutt" contest are two events that are part of this fair. (See separate entries above.) Event will be held on Rue de Trieu from 10 a.m. to midnight. Admission: adults, €6; children under 12, free admission.



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

Through July 30

- **Mussel Festival in Middelburg** will be held on Vlasmarkt with live music, street artists and plenty of mussels as well as other seafood.
- **Rotterdam Unlimited in Rotterdam** is a cultural festival with music, dance, theater and carnival parades in the city center. For more information, visit <http://rotterdamunlimited.com>.

July 28

- **Coriotropical in Heerlen** will be held in the center of town. This city fair will have lots of summer entertainment. Open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

July 28; Aug. 4, 11, 18

- **Nostalgic market in Barneveld** will seem to take you back to Grandma's time. Go to the town center for traditional crafts, costumes and regional food as well as national and international folkloric dance groups. Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

July 29 to 31

- **Sparrenburgfest in Bielefeld, Germany**, is a medieval festival held in the scenic surroundings of Castle Sparrenburg with acrobats, re-enactors, traditional crafts, demonstrations, music and more. Open July 29 from 1 to 10 p.m.; July 30 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and July 31 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission: €5; children smaller than 1 meter and 20 centimeters (the height of a sword), free admission.
- **Foodstock Sittard 2016 in Sittard** will be held at Maaslandpark on Walramstraat. This culinary festival will have food, drinks and music from different parts of the world. Open Friday from 4 p.m. to midnight; Saturday from noon to midnight and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. Free admission.

July 29 to 31, Aug. 5 to 7

- **Milan Summer Festival in The Hague** will be held at Zuiderpark. The largest Hindu open-air festival in Europe, this multicultural manifestation will have varied forms of culture, sports and entertainment, a theme tent, rides and attractions, and fireworks. Open July 29 and Aug. 5 from 4 to 11 p.m.; July 30 to 31 and Aug. 6 to 7 from 1 to 11 p.m.

July 29 to Aug. 7

- **"Bloem & Tuin 2016" in Nuenen**, the most versatile and blooming garden event in the Benelux, will be held at Gulbergen Estate near de Schoutse Vennen. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €12; children, ages 13 and under, free.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



July 31

- **Flea market in Jemappes (500 booths)** - In the center of town from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Flea market in La Louvière (120 booths)** - On Rue de Longtain (Between Tivoli and Jolimont hospitals) from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Montignies-sur-Roc (130 booths)** - On Place Masson from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Besonrieux (La Louvière) for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue Vandervelde 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Haut-Ittre for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue les Haus du Ry-Ternel 13 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Sart-Risbart (Incourt) for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from the soccer club on Rue Alphonse Robert from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Tourpes for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Place de Tourpes from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Ongoing

Through Aug. 15

- **Bouglione Circus in Mons** will be located at the Imagix parking lot. Come and watch a real circus with acrobats, clowns, tricks, animals and more. Admission: €15 to €25. For more information, visit http://www.bouglione.mobi/fr_tarif_mons.php.
- **Tournai les bains (beach in the city)** - Various activities free for everyone at Quai Donat Casterman.

Through Sept. 4

- **Visit the Royal Palace in Brussels** - See page 8. 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** will be held at Rue de la Hamaide 79. Three trails will be available for children, ages 7 and older, and for adults, too. Two trails will be available for children, ages 3 and older. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission: €9 to €19.



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

July 30

- **Prosit Sommerfest in Vaals** will be held at Prins Willem Alexanderplein. This fest will have tents, lederhosen, dirndls, wurst and music. Open at 8:30 p.m. Admission: €13.50.
- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Roermond** will be held at Kloosterwandplein in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 30 to 31

- **Home & Garden Mega Fair in The Hague** will be held at Malieveld at Koningskade 1. Hundreds of participants from the Netherlands and Europe will offer ideas, samples and demonstrations to help your garden as well as culinary delicacies. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €10.

July 31

- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Maastricht** will be held at Vismarkt on Boschstraat. Open from noon to 5:30 p.m.
- **All American Day in Tegelen** will be held at Plein (square) 1817 in the town center will have American cars, hot rods, live music and barbecue. Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Free admission.
- **Birds of Prey Show in Valkenburg** will be held at the castle ruins at Daalhemmerweg 27. Shows start at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Admission (includes admission to the Velvet Cave): €10; children, ages 4 to 12, €7.50.
- **Montmartre Market in Doesburg** will be held in the center of town. This antique-and-curiosa market will be done in the style of Montmartre in Paris. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 31 to Aug. 2

- **Fiesta Europe in Zeebrugge, Belgium**, will be held at Seafront NV on Vismijnstraat. This international market will have all kinds of specialties and regional products. Open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Aug. 5 to 7

- **“Lepeltje Lepeltje Eindhoven” culinary festival in Eindhoven** will be held at Anne Frankplantsoen. It will have food, culture, a market, live cooking, music and more. Open Aug. 5 to 6 from noon to midnight and Aug. 7 from noon to 10 p.m.

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.