

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

AFCU now hiring

Andrews Federal Credit Union is looking for individuals to fill the following positions: full-time position for head teller at the Chièvres branch as well as one full-time teller and one part-time teller (20 hours a week) at the Brussels branch. For the job listings, visit the AFCU website at <http://www.andrewsfcu.org>, click on the "Careers" link at the bottom right of the screen, then click on "Employment Listings."

AAFES has job opening

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Brussels retail store is looking for a shift supervisor. The position has a regular, part-time work schedule. Call DSN 361-5337 or civilian 068-275337.

PXtra closes for good

The PXtra will be closed starting May 30 and won't reopen.

"Please be patient as we transition the rest of the merchandise from the PXtra to the new addition," said Joe Escobar, the manager of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, Chièvres Main Store.

The PXtra will be converted to office space.

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Children provide touching moments at Memorial Day event

Children from Waregem, Belgium, place flags on the graves of American Soldiers during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Flanders Field American Cemetery Sunday, May 24, 2015. (U.S.Army photo by Tim Clark) **See page 4.**

Toll-free hotline now available overseas

Americans stationed all over Europe can now use a toll-free number to connect to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Military Crisis Line.

Most active-duty military, civilians, family members and contractors can reach the lifeline by dialing this toll-

free European number: 00800-1273-TALK (8255).

The lifeline can also be reached from any Army garrison DSN phone at DSN 118.

The telephone number can be dialed from fixed-line telephones as well as

most cell phones in Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Anyone calling the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Military Crisis Line can speak confidentially with a trained Master's Level crisis counselor.

ASIST

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training

Caserne Daumerie Chapel

June 3 to 4

from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians are invited to attend. (Participants must attend all training.)



To register, call DSN 361-6302 or civilian 068-276302.

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

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New leader assumes command of AFNORTH Bn

by Andrea Wales

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Three flags billowed in the wind during a change-of-command ceremony on the Chièvres Air Base field May 21: the Belgian flag, the American flag and the unit guidon of Allied Forces, Northern Europe, Battalion.

Incoming battalion commander Lt. Col. Michael Minaudo comes to AFNORTH Battalion from the University of Nevada-Reno, where he was department chair and professor of military science.

Outgoing battalion commander Lt. Col. Sean Barrett goes to Washington, D.C., where he will attend the U.S. National War College.

On a day perfect for a parade-field ceremony, the commander of the U.S. Army NATO Brigade, headquartered in Sembach Kaserne, Germany, addressed the crowd.

Acknowledging that changes of command can be bitter-sweet, Col. Karolyn Hooper said that Barrett and Minaudo

were two excellent leaders who had a daunting mission.

Barrett led AFNORTH Battalion expertly and the battalion performed superbly, she said, overseeing and executing direct support of more than 1,500 Soldiers, civilians and family members across Europe in 15 locations in eight countries. Barrett and his battalion enabled NATO to execute its missions every day.

“Barrett has guided the battalion through enormous change and major accomplishments: merging two battalions — AFNORTH and the former SHAPE battalion; realigning missions while providing seamless support and supporting the brigade headquarters through transitions and relocations,” Hooper said.

The brigade commander said that, although Barrett laid the groundwork, Minaudo assumes command of the battalion during a critical time of NATO growth and expansion, changing support structures, and a reliance on USANATO and European-based Soldiers not seen since the Cold War.

“AFNORTH has been charged to keep pace and continue to provide expert support to our Soldiers assigned to NATO’s many corps, commands, headquarters and rapid-reaction forces,” Hooper said.

NATO has seen the evolving threats to its south and east, and is responding — developing new operational headquarters and efforts in locations many Americans have never heard of, she said.

Stepping outside of military tradition for an outgoing



Outgoing commander Lt. Col. Sean Barrett talks about his leadership of AFNORTH Battalion during the change of command on Chièvres Air Base Thursday, May 21, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

commander, Barrett kept his remarks brief.

“Our mission has doubled, and OPTEMPO has gone through the roof,” Barrett said, alluding to an increased operational tempo due to recent events in Europe.

Always requiring his subordinates to rise to the challenge, Barrett made it clear that he, too, had worked hard supporting NATO and taking care of Soldiers. He didn’t want his Soldiers to forget that.

“I hope you remember that I gave you my heart, my all,” Barrett said.

The incoming commander took his turn at the podium.

“This is a critical time in AFNORTH history, and I’m ready for the challenge,” Minaudo said.

He looked out onto the parade field at the Soldiers in formation.

“I look forward to leading you and to the challenges that lie ahead,” he said.



Incoming commander Lt. Col. Michael Minaudo returns the unit guidon to Command Sgt. Maj. Travis Childers during the AFNORTH Battalion change of command on Chièvres Air Base Thursday, May 21, 2015. This symbolizes the transfer of the unit’s allegiance to the new commander. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)



Crosses are decorated with Belgian and American flags at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery Saturday, May 23, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

Poignant Memorial Day ceremonies held

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Thousands of pristine white crosses on manicured green grass, each marked by flags, each the final resting place of a service member who made the supreme sacrifice.

People move down the rows of crosses reading the names of the fallen, some with fresh flowers to decorate graves of loved ones or graves that they have adopted.

"I met this man's daughter a number of years ago when she visited the cemetery, I made a promise to her that I would always come here on Memorial Day and leave flowers on her father's grave," a Belgian woman said.

Ceremonies with tributes by generals, politicians and school

children, color guards, the laying of wreaths, honor platoons and 21-gun salutes, it's the children that touch the heart.

"Thanks to them, we live in freedom and peace," the children of Plombières said in unison as they held cards that spelled out "T H A N K Y O U !" at the ceremony at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Hombourg, Belgium.

For 80 years at Flanders Field American Cemetery, the schoolchildren of Waregem have sung "The Star-Spangled Banner" to honor the Americans buried there, a moving tribute to America that brought tears to many Americans attending the ceremony.



Schoolchildren from Plombières say thank you at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery ceremony Saturday, May 23, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)



The fly-over at Flanders Field American Cemetery. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)



USAG Benelux Color Guard marches at Ardennes American Cemetery Saturday, May 23, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

Memorial Day I continued



Waregem schoolchildren wave Belgian and American flags at Flanders Field American Cemetery as they sing "The Star Spangled Banner" Sunday, May 24, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)



Two World War II vets are guests of honor at the Henri-Chapelle ceremony Saturday, May 23, 2015. (U.S. Army Photo by Tim Clark)



Memorial Day ceremonies were held in 16 locations around Europe. Taps is played at the Somme American Cemetery in Bony, France, Sunday, May 24, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Kathy Garrity-Cantwell)



A total of 77 wreaths were laid at the Memorial Day ceremony at Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, the Netherlands, Sunday, May 24, 2015. More than 6,000 people attended. (U.S. Army photo by Nino Antonacci)



After placing a rose on one of the graves adopted by USAG Benelux, Col. Marty Vannatter and Master Sgt. Nicole Morris salute at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery Saturday, May 23, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

Two ceremonies honor war dead

Two ceremonies associated with Memorial Day are still upcoming. Attendance is free and open to the public.

- The Memorial Day ceremony in Bastogne, Belgium, will take place at the Mardasson Memorial Friday, May 29, at 2:30 p.m.

Bastogne was at the center of the Ardennes offensive, commonly known as the Battle of the Bulge, during World War II.

- The Memorial Day ceremony at Aisne-Marne American Cemetery in Belleau, France, will take place Sunday, May 31, at 9:45 a.m. This cemetery has many of the war dead of the Battle of Belleau Wood in World War I.

To learn more about American cemeteries overseas, visit the American Battle Monuments Commission website at <http://www.abmc.gov>.



Students bring history to life

Avery Gabavics gives her presentation as Mexican painter Frida Kahlo to her father, Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, at the SHAPE American Middle School Living Museum Wednesday, May 20, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Keith Houin)

American Legion national commander visits Benelux

The American Legion national commander and the American Legion Auxiliary president will be visiting U.S. military bases in Belgium June 4.

Community members can ask Michael Helm and Janet Jefford questions – including how the American Legion is helping service members, their families and the American communities abroad – at three events that day.

The members of Flanders Field Post BE02 would like to invite the community to those events:

11:30 a.m.: Lunch at the SHAPE Club (R.S.V.P. to flanders.fields.post.be02@gmail.com by today.)

3:30 p.m.: American Legion town-hall meeting, open to all USAG Benelux employees, at the Building 30 auditorium on Caserne Daumerie in Chièvres

6 p.m.: Dinner/Meet-and-Greet at the 3 Star Lounge in USAG Benelux-Brussels. Make your required reservation for Thursday Family Dinner by close of business June 2 at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

About the Legion

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness, according to its website at <http://www.legion.org>. Also founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary was organized to assist AL but has achieved its own identity while working side-by-side with veterans who belong to the American Legion. Like the Legion, the Auxiliary's interests have broadened to encompass the entire community.



Michael Helm (Courtesy photo)

Belgian-American social offers chance to make friends

Belgian American Contact is organizing its Premier Community Social for Belgians and Americans to meet and socialize at Café Au Faubourg at Grand' Rue 24 in Chièvres June 5 at 5 p.m.

Belgian American Contact is an informal initiative to bring Belgian and American families or individuals

together to promote greater interaction, understanding and friendship.

Interested people should register so that organizers will know how many people to expect at the social gathering. Belgians and Americans who make contact at the gathering will decide on any future events, such as sharing

a meal, to help establish a friendship.

Each month, a group social gathering will be held in a local business establishment where new contacts will be made.

To register, contact usbecontact@gmail.com or Chièvres Tourist Office at civilian 068-645961.

Daylong fun run raises \$40,000 for charity

The SHAPE community raised \$40,000 for the Make-A-Wish foundation during the annual 24-hour fun run at the SHAPE track May 22 and 23. (Clockwise from right) Staff Sgts. Christopher Massengale and Zecharia Engwall, 424th Air Base Squadron fire department, carry the U.S. flag in full fire-fighting gear for their leg of the run. • Quest Eperjesi leads step aerobics in the track center Saturday morning. • Roberto Berry, SHAPE International Cycling club, rides his bike on a set of rollers. The club logged 1,200 km in 24 hours. • Daniel Howarth rounds the track during the 24-hour fun run. (U.S. Army photos by Keith Houin)



Doudou festivities in Mons about to start

Mons will be celebrating its Doudou Festival from May 28 through June 7. In last week's Gazette, you read about the history of the festival. This issue lists the main activities going on throughout the Doudou Festival:

Friday, May 29

- 8:30 p.m. - Concert by the Norwegian Military Band in Harmignies
- 8:45 p.m. - Concert by the Greek Military Band in Ghlin
- 9 p.m. - Musical entertainment on Marché-aux-Herbes, Mons
- 10 p.m. - Free concert on the Grand'Place, Mons

Saturday, May 30

- 11 a.m. - Concert by the Polish Military Band at the Mons University (Faculté Polytechnique)
- 11 a.m. - Concert/parade by the Albanian Military Band in St-Denis
- 11 a.m. - Concert/parade by the Danish Military Band in Saint-Symphorien
- 11 a.m. - Concert/parade by the Greek Military Band in Mesvin
- 3 p.m. - Concert by the Greek Military Band in Harveng
- 7:30 p.m. - Concert by the Albanian Military Band in Spiennes
- 8 p.m. - Descent of the St. Waudru's Shrine - Official ceremony during which church officials entrust the protection of St. Waudru's shrine to civilian authorities for next day's procession.

8:30 p.m. - Concert by the Danish Military Band in Le Roeulx

9 p.m. - Concert by the Polish Military Band in Villers Saint-Ghislain

9 p.m. - Musical entertainment on Marché-aux-Herbes, Mons

9:15 p.m. - Concert by the Norwegian Military Band in Jemappes

10 p.m. - Torch parade in Rue de Nimy

Sunday, May 31

- 7:45 a.m. - Mass at St. Waudru Collegiate Church
- 9:30 a.m. - Procession of the Golden Carriage starting at St. Waudru Collegiate Church

Noon - Golden Carriage will be pushed by locals to make sure it arrives at the top of Rampe Sainte Waudru in one go.

12:30 p.m. - The "Lumeçon" Battle - St. George will fight the dragon on the Grand'Place. Be careful not to

be in the front rows as people try to grab the tail of the dragon, which supposedly brings good luck. Also, if you are in the crowd on the Grand'Place, be careful as the crowd will have to split in order to let St. George and the dragon pass. If you are with children, consider avoiding the Grand'Place for their security.

9 p.m. - Musical entertainment on Marché-aux-Herbes, Mons

Monday, June 1

Throughout the day: Braderie (annual sales) - The pedestrian area is the place for good deals.

11:15 a.m. - Concert by the Belgian Military Band at the "Conservatoire Royal de Musique" on Rue de Nimy, Mons

2:30 p.m. - Concert by the Danish Military Band on Place du Parc

3 p.m. - Concert by the Polish Military Band on Marché-aux-Poissons, Mons

3 p.m. - Concert by the Belgian Military Band at the Mons Hospital

3:30 p.m. - Concert by the Albanian Military Band in Havré

8:30 p.m. - Military Bands parade on the Grand'Place, Mons (Order of parade will be: Belgium, Poland, Greece, the Netherlands, Albania, Norway, Denmark.)

9 p.m. - Musical entertainment on Marché-aux-Herbes, Mons

Tuesday, June 2

Throughout the day: Braderie (annual sales) - The pedestrian area is the place for good deals.

3 p.m. - Concert/parade by the Belgian Military Band at the "Barrière" in Ghlin

3 p.m. - Concert/parade by the Albanian Military Band at Parc du Bois in Mons

3 p.m. - Concert/parade by the Greek Military Band at Bonne Maison de Bouzanton in Mons

7 p.m. - Concert by the Polish Military Band in Flénu

8:30 p.m. - Military Bands parade on the Grand'Place, Mons (Order of parade will be: Albania, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Belgium.)

9 p.m. - Musical entertainment on Marché-aux-Herbes, Mons

10:30 p.m. - Final show by all military bands on the Grand'Place, Mons

10:45 p.m. - Fireworks on the Grand'Place, Mons



Trenches to Foxholes**Next week in World War history (May 24 to 30)****World War I****1915**

June 5 - The Italian fleet bombards lighthouses and stations on the islands of the Dalmatian Archipelago, and Monfalcone.

1916

May 31 - Just before 4 p.m. a British naval force commanded by Vice Adm. David Beatty confronts a squadron of German ships, led by Adm. Franz von Hipper, some 75 miles off the Danish coast. The two squadrons opened fire on each other simultaneously, beginning the opening phase of the greatest naval battle of World War I, the Battle of Jutland.

June 1 - As German and British naval forces clash in the North Sea during the Battle of Jutland and the French resist the German siege at Verdun, German troops launch a major attack on British lines in the Ypres Salient.

June 3 - American President Woodrow Wilson signs into law the National Defense Act, which expands the size and scope of the National Guard — the network of states' militias that had been developing steadily since colonial times—and guaranteed its status as the nation's permanent reserve force.

June 4 - The Battle of Lutsk marks the beginning of the Brusilov Offensive, the largest and most successful Allied offensive of World War I.

1917

June 2 - Brazil revokes her neutrality between the United States and Germany, and seizes German ships in Brazilian waters.

June 4 - Gen. Aleksei Brusilov succeeds Mikhail Alekseiév as Russian commander in chief.

June 5 - A German daylight air raid on the Thames estuary and Medway kills 13 and injures 34; at least six enemy machines are destroyed while returning.

June 6 - Ala es Sultaneh is again appointed Persian prime minister and foreign minister.

1918

June 6 - The first large-scale battle fought by American Soldiers in World War I begins in Belleau Wood, northwest of the Paris-to-Metz road.

In late May 1918, the third German offensive of the year penetrates the Western Front to within 45 miles of Paris. U.S. forces under Gen. John J. Pershing helped halt the German advance, and on June 6 Pershing orders a counteroffensive to drive the Germans out of Belleau Wood. U.S. Marines under Gen. James Harbord lead the attack against the four German divisions positioned in the woods and by the end of the first day suffer more than 1,000 casualties.

For the next three weeks, the Marines, backed by U.S. Army artillery, launch many attacks into the forested area, but German Gen. Erich Ludendorff is determined to deny the Americans a victory. Ludendorff continually brings up reinforcements from the rear, and the Germans attack the U.S. forces with machine guns, artillery and gas. Finally, the Americans prevail June 26 but at a cost of nearly 10,000 dead, wounded or missing in action.

World War II**1940**

June 3 - The German air force bombs Paris, killing 254 people, most of them civilians. Determined to wreck France's economy and military, reduce its population and, in short, cripple its morale as well as its ability to rally support for other occupied nations, the Germans bombed the French capital without regard to the fact that most of the victims were civilians, including schoolchildren.

1941

May 31 - The mayor of Baghdad surrenders to British Ambassador Sir Kinahan Cornwallis at the Washash Bridge in Baghdad. An armistice is agreed upon.

1942

June 4 - Japanese Adm. Chuichi Nagumo, commander of the fleet that attacked Pearl Harbor six months earlier, launches a raid on Midway Island with four aircraft carriers and hundreds of escort and support vessels. The goal is to conquer Midway as a base to further strike Pearl Harbor and draw the U.S. Pacific Fleet into decisive battle. As a feint, a second Japanese fleet including two aircraft carriers attacks U.S. military installations farther north in the Aleutians and lands invasion forces on three small islands — Attu, Kiska and Agattu (the only U.S. soil to be occupied by the enemy in World War II). Nagumo's plans for Midway turn to disaster as an unexpected American naval force of three aircraft carriers (Enterprise, Hornet and Yorktown) under Adm. Raymond Spruance quickly sink three of the four Japanese carriers and cripple the fourth. Aircraft from the fourth Japanese carrier sink the USS Yorktown, but the remaining enemy carrier is eventually sunk by U.S. planes the next day. Midway is the turning point of the Pacific War as the expansion of the Japanese Empire is halted. The battle is often considered by military historians as the most decisive naval engagement in history. Midway costs the Japanese four of their largest aircraft carriers, 322 planes, and many of their most experienced pilots. (Midway Airport in Chicago is named for the battle.)

1943

June 1 - British and American authorities begin to formulate the Pointblank Directive — a combined air-bombing campaign against the air production facilities of the German Luftwaffe.

1944

June 2 - American bombers of the Fifteenth Air Force launch Operation Frantic, a series of bombing raids over Central Europe, alighting from air bases in southern Italy but landing at air bases in Poltava, in the Soviet Union, in what is called "shuttle bombing."

1945

June 5 - Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery and Gen. Dwight Eisenhower are awarded the Order of Victory, the Soviet Union's highest award.

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

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Adult CoEd Softball League** - The action starts at the Sterrebeek Annex Compound **June 15** from 7 to 10 p.m. and runs through end of season, July 29. Mondays and Wednesdays are game days. Coaches meeting will be held at Brussels Fitness Center **June 10** at 1 p.m. Open to all U.S. military, civilians, family members and Support Agreement personnel. Participation has been extended to NATO military and civilians employees on a space-available basis. To register, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667.

May 29

- **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. You can even cheer on the competitors in the darts tournament from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Snacks and beverages available for purchase: crispy chicken tenders, daily homemade soup, potato wedges and more. Call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

June 1 to 12

- **Rowing Regatta** - Brussels Fitness Center puts on this 12-day event during which the first competitor to row the equivalent of 100,000 meters wins a prize. Competitors may use the gear and vent setting of their choice, but neither may be changed during the race. Damper rings may not be used. To register, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667.

June 4

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Enjoy Steak and Chicken Night at the 3 Star Lounge from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Alternate children's menu: hotdogs or chicken fingers.) Cost: adults \$15; children, ages 12 and under, \$7. Reservations are required. Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Today

- **Overseas VA Military Service Coordinators at ACS** - Meet with the experts at Schinnen Army Community Service in Building 39 on Schinnen. They will be available to you one-on-one to answer questions regarding your Veterans Affairs disability benefits, medical-records reviews, appeal questions or questions in regard to a pending claim and more. These coordinators specialize in disability benefits but can also provide information on other VA benefits such as GI Bill or home loans. They will address any VA-related question.
- **Kickoff for Open Indoor Wall Climbing** - Enjoy Open Indoor Wall Climbing at the Schinnen Activity Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person (payable at Outdoor Recreation across the street in Building 46). The climbing wall offers great routes for beginners and experienced climbers alike. Climbing equipment and instruction are available. (After the kickoff, Open Indoor Wall Climbing will be held Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m.) For details, contact the Schinnen Outdoor Recreation at DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560, or via email at usarmy.schinnen.imcom-europe.list.dfmwr-crd@mail.mil.

May 29

- **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, at AFNORTH International School from 2 to 3 p.m. Call the ACS Deployment Readiness Office at DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437269/7500.

May 31

- **Nine-Pin No-Tap Tournament** - Knock down nine pins on your first ball, and it counts as a strike. Bowl three games. Check-in at the Bowling Center starts at noon. Tournament begins at 1 p.m. Entry fee: \$20. For more information, contact the Schinnen Bowling Center at DSN 360-7270 or civilian +31 (0) 46-44372700, or via email at usarmy.schinnen.imcom-europe.list.dfmwr-crd@mail.mil.

June 1

- **CYSS Soccer Season** - Enrollment starts for the September-to-October soccer season. Open to all U.S./NATO ID card-holders. Cost is \$20 for 3- to 5-year-olds and \$40 for 6- to 15-year-olds. Your child must be registered with CYS Services and have a valid health assessment at the time of enrollment. For more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.

June 2

- **CYSS Flag Football** - Enrollment gets underway for fall flag football. Practice will start Sept. 19. The program is for youths ages 10 to 15 registered with CYS Services and with a valid health assessment. Cost: \$40. For more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.

June 3

- **First-Term Financial Briefing** - This mandatory briefing for all first-term Soldiers will be held at Schinnen Army Community Service from 9 a.m. to noon. Learn about the practical approach to financial management and how to use the tools to handle money wisely. For more information or to register, contact ACS at DSN 360-7450/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437450/7500.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY continued

June 4 or 11

- **The 5 Love Languages for Children** - The Family Advocacy Program/Victim Advocate offers this class at the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room from 1 to 3 p.m. Choose one of the two dates to learn about the 5 Love Languages for Children, and add another tool to your parenting tool kit. If you want more information or wish to register, call DSN 360-7367 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437367.

June 5

- **Personal Financial Planning for Transition** - This training will be held at the Schinnen Army Community Service Conference Room in Building 39 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Personal Financial Planning for Transition will equip you and your family with financial-management resources and covers topics like budget creation, retirement, cost of living and relocation analysis as well as tax and legal considerations during and directly after transition. For more information or to register, contact ACS at DSN 360-7450/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437450/7500.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Get tickets now

- **Encore presentation of SHAPE Players "Detachments"**- This mature-themed play will be performed at the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre **June 11 to 13** at 7:30 p.m. The play is rated PG-13 for language. Admission: adults €16, students €9, children €7. To find out more, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.
- **U.S. Army Ball** - Get your tickets now for the U.S. Army Ball to be held **June 27** from 6 p.m. until midnight at the SHAPE Club Ballroom. The guest speaker is Lt. Gen. John Nicholson, the commander of Allied Land Command. Tickets are €55 per person and include a meal and an event memento. Contact your unit ticket-sales representative. For USAG Benelux, call DSN 361-5587 or civilian 068-275587.
- **SHAPE Summer Concert** - The Bruocsella Symphony Orchestra will perform at SHAPE Alliance Auditorium **June 7** at 7 p.m. The SHAPE Band under the direction of David Miller will also perform. The highlight of the evening will be a tribute to the 1815 Battle of Waterloo. Contact DSN 423-8340/8341 or civilian 065-448340/8341 for details. See page 12 to learn about the Battle of Waterloo.

Register now

- **Registration open for Summer Theater Camp** - Children in third through ninth grades will bring the musical "HONK Jr." to the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre during Summer Theater Camp. HONK! is a musical adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen story "The Ugly Duckling." The book and lyrics are by Anthony Drewe, and music is by George Stiles. The theater camp session begins **June 29** and runs through Aug. 1. To find out more, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

May 29

- **New Trips Launch Party and Open House** - SHAPE Travel Group hosts a social gathering to introduce its new trips to the SHAPE/Chièvres community at its lounge in the Rendezvous on SHAPE from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

June 3 to 4

- **ASIST suicide-prevention training** - USAG Benelux hosts an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training event at Caserne Daumerie Chapel from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. All Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians are invited to attend. (Participants must attend all training.) To register, call DSN 361-6302 or civilian 068-276302.

June 5

- **Belgian American Contact** - Read more about its first community social gathering on page 2.

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> under "Morale & Welfare (MWB)" for the movie schedule.

Theaters near SHAPE/Chièvres that play movies in English:

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

Travel the Benelux

Climb Lion's Mound for panoramic battlefield views

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

The site of one of history's best-known battles, Waterloo has come to mean decisive and complete defeat. The Battle of Waterloo, fought just half an hour south of Brussels, ended Napoleon Bonaparte's political and military career, ushering in almost 500 years of peace in Europe.

June 18, 1815, more than 300,000 soldiers fought there with 10,000 men dead and 30,000 wounded in just a few hours. The Allied (Brit-

ish, Dutch, Belgian, German and Prussians) victory led to Napoleon's abdication four days later.

The Lion's Mound, or Butte du Lion in French, was ordered constructed in 1820 by King William I of the Netherlands on the spot where his son, the Prince of Orange, later King William II, was hit in the shoulder with a musket ball and knocked from his horse. The monument was completed in 1826.

The more than 120-foot artificial hill, topped by a 28-ton cast-iron lion, is dedicated to the soldiers who died that day on the field of battle. A lion was chosen because it symbolizes bravery and courage. Climbing 226 stairs will lead to the top, which offers a panoramic view of the battlefield.

To celebrate the bicentennial, a major re-enactment of the battle will take place in two parts June 19 and 20. If you don't have a ticket, you are out of luck because the 200,000 tickets are sold out. However, it's worth making the trip to Waterloo to climb to the top of Lion's Mound and to visit the museums.



The Lion's Mound rises above the battlefield in Waterloo, Belgium. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

For your GPS:
Route du Lion 252
Braine-l' Alleud 1420
From:
Mons: 55 km
Brussels: 24 km
Schinnen: 120 km

Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Normandy Beaches, May 29 to 31**
- **London, June 6**
- **Stonehenge with Salisbury & Oxford, June 13 to 14**
- **Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, June 20**
- **Phantasia Land, Bruehl, Germany, June 27**
- **Pamplona Running of the Bulls, July 6 to 9**
- **Disney Paris, July 15**
- **Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, the Netherlands, July 23**
- **Prague with Heidelberg & Nuremberg, July 26 to 29 (Register by June 26.)**
- **Bluewater Mall, July 31**
- **Rhine River Cruise, Aug. 4**
- **Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, Belgium, Aug. 8**
- **London, Aug. 15 to 17**
- **Medieval Dinner in Bruges, Aug. 22**
- **Wurstmarkt in Bad Dürkheim, Sept. 19**
- **Thailand, Dec. 20 to Jan. 2, 2016 (Register by June 20)**

SHAPE Travel Group

For more information, call civilian 0470-876369.

- **Amiens, France, & Les Hortillonages (Floating Gardens), June 2**
- **Provins, France: Medieval Festival, June 13**
- **Paris, June 18**
- **Hampton Court Palace and Gardens, June 30**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Luxembourg & American Cemetery, May 30**
- **Disney Paris, June 6**
- **Berlin Express, June 13**
- **Canoeing and Biking, June 27**
- **Dutch Day, July 31**
- **Bernkastel-Kues, Germany: Wine Festival, Sept. 5**
- **National Liberation Museum 44-45, Sept. 26**
- **NFL Games, Book your tickets now for Oct. 3 to 5 (New York Jets vs. Miami Dolphins), Oct. 24 to 26 (Buffalo Bills vs. Jacksonville Jaguars) and Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 (Detroit Lions vs. Kansas City Chiefs).**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

May 28 to 31

- **Flashback Festival in Brussels** - Largest vintage festival in Europe includes legendary live musicians and groups as well as a selection of the best vintage and tribute artists (Chris De Burgh, Murray Head, The Temptations, Former Ladies of The Supremes and more). Event will be held at the Brussels Expo on Place de Belgique 1. A giant vintage market (vintage clothing, design, jukeboxes, vinyl records and more) will also be open Thursday from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. with disco party until 2 a.m.; Friday from 2 to 9 p.m. with concert until 2 a.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with concert until 2 a.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with concert until 11 p.m. For a complete schedule and ticket information, visit <http://www.flashback.brussels>.

May 29 to 31

- **Annual sales in Binche** - On Rue de Robiano, Avenue Wanderpepen, Rue des Récollets, Rue de la Gaieté and Rue Louis Buisseret Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Provence market in Soignies** - Choose from among various products from southern France: wine, olive oil, lavender and more. Open Friday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

May 29 to June 2

- **Doudou festivities** - See page 8 for complete schedule.

May 30

- **Flea market in Ath (100 booths)** - On Rue d'Angleterre from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.



- **Flea market in Brugelette (50 booths)** - At Avenue Gabrielle Petit 6 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Rebecq-Rognon (100 booths)** - On Rue Haute from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Grand Opening of the Provence display in Soignies** - See the display at the tourist office at Rue du Lombart 2. Grand opening is at 11 a.m., but the display will be accessible through June 14.



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

Through June 7

- **Tong Tong Fair in The Hague** at Malieveld is the largest Eurasian festival in the world. The fair is laid out like a town with streets, squares and theaters. Admission: weekdays €13.50; weekends €16.50; children 11 and under, €4.50.

May 29

- **Fest Market in Hoboken, Belgium**, a southern district of Antwerp, held in the center of town will have more than 70 booths with a wide variety of products, such as clothes, jewelry, candy, leather and delicacies. Open from 4 to 10 p.m.

May 29 to 31

- **Garden Fair in Grefrath, Germany**, at Nieder-rheinisches Freilichtmuseum will have more than 80 participants displaying their wares for the garden and home, and demonstrating crafts, falconry and more. Open May 29 from 1 to 6 p.m., and May 30 to 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €8; children 15 and under, free.
- **Italy Event 2015 in Haaruilens** will be held in the surroundings of Castle de Haar at Kasteellaan 1. Enjoy Italian fashion, music, food, activities and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €15; children 12 and under, free admission.
- **Food truck festival "TREK" in Maastricht** transforms Stadspark into a large open-air restaurant with many small, mobile kitchens and where food, drinks, live music, theater and art are combined. Open from 4 to 10 p.m. Free admission.

May 30

- **Japan Day in Düsseldorf, Germany**, will be held on Burgplatz. All day, everything in the city revolves around Japan. For information, visit <http://www.japantag-duesseldorf-nrw.de>.

May 30 to 31

- **Herbs and Spices Garden Fair in Bedburg-Hau, Germany**, will be held in the park of Castle Moyland. Besides herbs and spices, the fair includes works of art and merchandise for your garden. Open May 30 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and May 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €5.
- **Brunssum International Art Event in Brunssum** will take place in Schutterspark at Heidestraat 20. In addition to all sorts of art, you'll find a historic village, live music, entertainment for children and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



May 30 to 31

- **Western Festival in Erquelinnes** - Camp (on Rue des Viviers) will be set up to show American life during the period 1800-1890 with various activities related to country & western. Visit free Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11:30 on and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Boat ride in Ath** - For the official opening of the Ath marina, the city and the tourist office have scheduled free boat rides departing from Quai de l'Entrepôt at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Make your mandatory reservation for the hour-and-a-half tour at the Ath Tourist Office or call civilian 068-265170.



May 31

- **Volksmarch in Ath for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue Maria Thomée 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Bierges for 4, 8, 12 or 21 km** - Departs from Rue des Combattants from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Small participation fee.
- **Volksmarch in Horrues for 5, 10, 15, 22, 30 or 42 km** - Departs from Place d'Horrues 8 from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Small participation fee.
- **Volksmarch in Ronquières for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue de Nivelles 32 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Thieu for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Place Hardat from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Ath (100 booths)** at Zoning des Primevères 1 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Bassilly (250 booths)** - On Rue des Ecoles, Rue Thabor and Place communale from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Binche (450 booths)** - Downtown from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Hornu (200 booths)** - On Route de Mons from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jemappes (200 booths)** - At Avenue Maréchal Foch 873 from 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- **Food and taste market in Evere** - Market offers all kinds of organic and regional products at the Brussels Mill and Food Museum at Stuckensstraat 11. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Family bicycle ride in Soignies** - Discover the local area during the 16-km bicycle ride starting at 2:30 p.m. on Place Verte. Register for the ride as of 2:15 p.m. at €3.50 per person. Estimated return at 5 p.m.
- **Cruise from Brussels to Zemst** - Visit the city on a three-and-a-half hour boat ride. Departs from Quai Béco at Avenue du Port 6 at 10 a.m. Fee ranges from €8 to €10 round-trip. Make your mandatory reservations at civilian 02-2036406.



May 30 to 31 continued

- **Scottish Event 2015 in Molenhoek** will be held at Castle de Mookerheide at Heumensebaan 2. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €10; children €5.
- **International Gypsy Festival in Tilburg** celebrates the culture of the Romani community bands, music groups and dancers from all over Europe in Interpolistuin at Spoorlaan 298. Open May 30 from 2 to 10:30 p.m. and May 31 from 2 to 9:30 p.m. May 30: free admission. May 31 admission: €25; children 11 and under, free.
- **Antiques and Curiosa Fair in Valkenburg** will be held at the inner court of Castle Schaloen at Oud Valkenburg 5. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

May 31

- **Swan Market in Antwerp, Belgium**, will take place at Grote Markt. This lifestyle market offers vintage jewelry, fashion and interior design. Free admission.
- **Sunday Funday in Eindhoven** in Kapelbeemd industrial area on Leemkuil combines vintage automobiles, mopeds and motorbikes with Rock 'n' Roll and Rockabilly music. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Sheep Shearers Fest in Venray** in the center of town will have a historic market and traditional crafts. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Air Show in Volkel** will take place in the center of town and include more than 30 aircraft, a static show, music, a fair and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Cultural historic festival in Geleen, Schinnen and Sweikhuizen** celebrates a secret band of robbers named "De Bokkerijders" (goat riders) who made their homes there. Biesenhof at Biesenweg1 in Geleen, Castle Terborgh at Heisterbrug 119 in Schinnen, and Gasterie "De Bokkereyer" at Bergstraat 1 in Sweikhuizen are linked by a 5.5 km walking path, lined with eight stations where the lifestyle and history of the bandits come alive. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free admission.
- **Spring Fair in Kerkrade** will take place at Botanische Tuin at St. Hubertuslaan 74. Decorated booths in the English-landscape garden will offer plants, flowers, food and lifestyle items. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €4; children 12 and under, free.

June 3

- **Fest Market in Deurne, Belgium**, on Wim Saerensplein will offer a wide variety of products. Open from 4 to 10 p.m.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.