

# THE GAZETTE

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

## Brussels clinic

The Brussels Army Health and Dental Clinic will be closed for a training holiday April 4. No service will be provided on that day.

## Spring forward, fall back

At 2 a.m. on March 30 the clocks will move forward to 3 a.m.

## Motorcycle Basic Rider Course

The two-day (15-hour) course will be held April 29-30 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Chièvres Air Base, Bldg. 134. Registration is required ten working days prior to the class. You can register on <https://imc.army.mil/airs/default.aspx>.

## Central Issue Facilities

The CIF at Chièvres Air Base, Belgium and at JFC Brunssum, the Netherlands will be closed today to conduct USAREUR CIF staff refresher training on CIF-ISM system software. Central Issue Facilities will resume normal operational hours respectively March 31 at JFC Brunssum and April 1 at Chièvres Air Base.

## Call for bloggers

The USAG Benelux is looking for bloggers for an upcoming historical program. For more information email [usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil) with 'interested in blogging' as the subject line.

## Gazette submissions

Send your requests for publication to [usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil).

## ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

# USAG Benelux welcomes new command sergeant major



Donovan Abrassart

Col. Marvin G. Vannatter Jr. (right), Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, passes the noncommissioned officer sword to Command Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Carter (left), incoming USAG Benelux command sergeant major during an assumption of command ceremony, Friday, March 28, 2014 at Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres, Belgium. Carter then passed the sword back to 1st Sgt. Alejandro Romar (center), USAG Benelux Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

**See also page 3**

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# C-130 lands on Chièvres Air Base during NATO mission



A C-130 Hercules landed on Chièvres Air Base, Monday, March 24, 2014. On a NATO mission, the four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft coming from Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy, made a short stop on Chièvres Air Base to pick up a delegation from SHAPE prior to heading back to Sigonella. (U.S. Army photo by Cis Spook)

**Did you know that . . .**



**The Women, Infants, and Children program will provide temporary relief to families who are nutritionally deprived?**

Federally funded, this program provides nutrition education to help improve eating habits and supplemental food vouchers to buy specific foods important to good health. Women must be pregnant, breastfeeding, or have children under

five years of age. Participants must meet health and income guidelines.

Contact your local WIC office if you think you qualify for assistance under this program. For immediate needs, contact your local AER office.

**Soldiers Helping Soldiers for 72 Years**  
**[www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org)**

**AER Campaign runs through May 15**

# THE GAZETTE

To subscribe, email [usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil)

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# Assumption of Responsibility I Continued



1



2



3



4

Members of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux welcomed their new senior enlisted advisor during an assumption of responsibility ceremony Friday, March 28, 2014 on Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres, Belgium. Command Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Carter assumed responsibility as the Command Sgt. Major of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux. Carter replaces Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III, who assumed responsibility Jan. 31 as command sergeant major of Installation Management Command Europe. First Sergeant David Hobbs served as acting command sergeant major during the transition period. Carter (picture 4) joins our community after more than 25 years in the Army and accepted his new role with pride. "I am proud to be standing here today as the Benelux Garrison command sergeant major. I am humbled and honored to serve with you," he said. Col. Marvin G. Vannatter Jr. (picture 3), Commander USAG Benelux thanked Montez "for making such a difference while he was assigned to the Benelux." "Command Sgt. Major Montez, you have set a high standard for those to follow but your legacy will make Command Sgt. Maj. Carter's job easier," he said. As he welcomed Carter and his family, the commander also described the very special relationship between a commander and a command sergeant major as "one of trust and respect." "You and I have a fundamental obligation to take care of our service members, civilians and families," he said. (Picture 1 and 2) Col. Marvin G. Vannatter Jr. (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Carter salute the colors during the play of the Belgian and American national anthems.

(U.S. Army photos by Donovan Abrassart.)

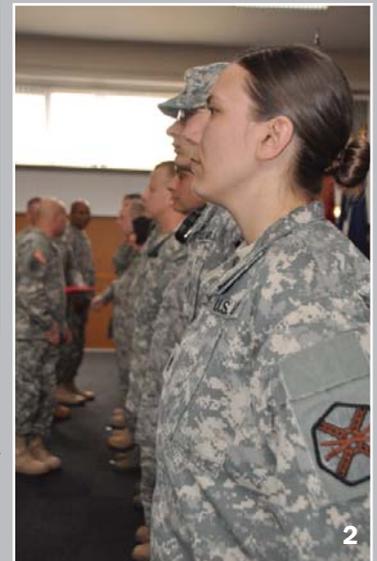
## U.S. service members are rewarded



1

Thirteen service members from the USAG Benelux, the Shape International Band and the 424th Air Base Squadron played a role during a ceremony held at Flanders Field, the U.S. military cemetery in Waregem, Wednesday, March 26, 2014. King Philippe of Belgium and Belgian Prime Minister Elio Di Rupo joined President Barack Obama during his official visit to Belgium.

(Pictures 1 and 2, from left to right) Staff Sgt. Justin Monty, Sgt. John Webb, Staff Sgt. Tanner Atwood, Sgt. Joseph Quirarte, Sgt. Gregory Roberts, Master Sgt. Kimberly Lively, Tech. Sgt. Eric Proper, Master Sgt. Ryan Fritz, Sgt. Michael Bailey, Tech. Sgt. Vincent Hess, Spc. Devlin R. Trefethen and Staff Sgt. Schramm stand in line as they are congratulated and awarded by Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Carter and Col. Marvin G. Vannatter Jr. for the role they played in the ceremony. First Sgt. Alejandro Romar, who does not appear on the pictures, also took part in the ceremony as the non commissioned officer in charge. (U.S. Army photos by Donovan Abrassart.)



2

# Foreign Bank Allotment Program

**Special to the Gazette**

In February and March 2011, the Benelux Finance Office successfully conducted testing for the allotment program which allows Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Army civilians to allot U.S. dollars directly into a foreign bank account. The method is a direct mirror of that used in the DFAS Retirement and Annuitant program, Social Security and the Veterans Administration. The test was successfully completed and implemented by all services. Since the start of the program, the U.S. Treasury has converted more than \$26.5 million dollars into one of many foreign currencies for the Benelux region.



How does the program work? A DoD personnel member initiates the process by visiting the Finance Office and completing the required forms. Afterwards, customers go to their bank and get documentation verifying their account information. These documents are used to process a foreign bank allotment within the respective pay system of the personnel and simultaneously the Finance Office will create a profile within the U.S. Treasury for the member's foreign bank account information. The funds are sent by DFAS to the U.S. Treasury and the account numbers are verified. Once verified, the U.S. Treasury purchases the foreign currency and deposits the funds into the member's foreign bank account on pay day or the next business day.

You may ask, why should this program be used? Members save time and money by using this program. The money is deducted from the member's pay, then deposited into the member's foreign bank account in the foreign currency of that country. The members will gain anywhere from 1.5 to 2.5 percent more in foreign currency on pay day versus

purchasing the funds at the conversion rate used by all military Disbursing offices overseas. Participants save approximately 400 to 500 euro a year on a \$2,000.00 foreign bank allotment. Members don't have to physically deposit funds into their foreign bank account. Also, they can go on leave without the worry of how they will get funds into their accounts to pay their rent and utilities. It's already there.

If you are going down range or TDY, you wouldn't have to worry about making sure you have the money in your foreign bank account to pay your rent and utilities while you are gone! You would be assured that it's there on pay day or the next business day.

How do I sign up?

If you are Army, go see your S-1 or the BENELUX Finance Military Pay section located in SHAPE, Brussels or Brunssum.

If you are Air Force, contact your Air Force Element located at SHAPE.

If you are Navy/Marine Corps, contact the Navy Element.

If you are an appropriated fund employee, contact the Benelux Finance Office Cash cage.

## SHAPE community gathers for lunchtime concert



On Friday, March 21, 2014 from 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m., more than 200 people (picture 1) from the SHAPE community gathered at the SHAPE Chapel Center, East Chapel to enjoy a lunchtime concert. Lunchtime concert is a monthly activity which invites people to sit down, relax and listen to classical music performed by musicians from SHAPE. Among the performers were (picture 2) Tom McTaggart, SHAPE International Band Trumpet, (picture 3) Capt. Courtney Fox and (picture 4) Kim Lively. (U.S. Army photos by Shirley Houin).

# Two scouts honored with Arrow of Light



Two local Cub Scouts were presented the Arrow of Light Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at a ceremony following the Pack 325 meeting where all the Pack dens come together. William Barker and William Houin received the highest honor a boy can achieve in Cub Scouts. After completing a variety of badges and challenges to become Webelos, the boys had to earn an additional five achievement badges beyond what it took to earn the Webelos badge to receive this honor. Badges achieved must include Fitness, Citizenship, Outdoorsman and Readyman as well as a badge for the mental skills group and the technology group. William and William far exceeded the minimum requirements. Earning the Arrow of Light is a very special event. The award is the only Cub Scout award that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform and it carries a special insignia if they become an adult volunteer with scouting to wear on their uniform when their scouting days are over. On March 22 the pair bridged into Boy Scouts during a camp out on Chièvres Air Base. Despite high winds, hail and rain the ceremony took place to bring the Williams into Boy Scouting.



(Top) Chris Papaioannou presents the Arrow of Light badge to the boys and their mothers during the Arrow of Light ceremony. (Middle Left) Chris Papaioannou fires William Barker's arrow to honor his achievement. (Middle Right) DeQuan Payne presents knives to the boys as parting gifts from the Webelos den. (Bottom Left) Richard Wampler leads the Webelos in the Scout Oath. (Bottom Right) William Houin crosses the bridge March 22 at the Boy Scout bridging ceremony officially making him a Boy Scout. (U.S.Army photos by Shirley and Keith Houin).



60+  
EARTH  
HOUR

USE YOUR POWER BACK A PROJECT

Join millions of people across the world who will switch lights off for an hour on March 29 at 8:30 p.m. to raise awareness for the planet.

Find more information on <http://www.earthhour.org/>

# THE PIETERPAD

## A long distance walk across the Netherlands

*Special to the Gazette*

Joe and Trudy Wheatley are both part of the USAG Benelux-Schinnen workforce. In their younger years they were avid runners. Joe ran over 40 marathons including the Boston Marathon five times. Now in their older age they have resorted to walking together and are very familiar with many of the trails in Limburg. Their most ambitious endeavor, however, was the Pieterpad, a well known and marked trail starting south of Maastricht and going all the way to the North Sea, a distance of approximately 500 kilometers.

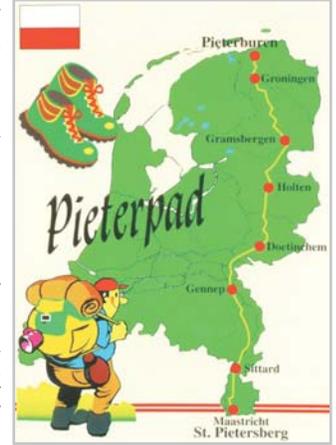
Walking home from work one night Wheatley was asked by a Dutch if he was walking on the Pieterpad. Having no idea what he was talking about, the next day he asked one of his co-workers and found out that it is the most known of the long distance trails in the Netherlands, starting in the most southern part of the country and ending at the most northern part. He and his wife decided to start off the Pieterpad adventure. In August, they headed down to Maastricht and found the trail head. As it turns out it's directly about the cave where the annual Christmas Eve Memorial service is held for the WW II Soldiers. At the time, all they knew about the trail markings was that they were supposed to follow a white on red marker that looked like the Polish Flag, they had no idea what all the other markings meant, so when they got into the center of Maastricht they stopped at the local tourist office and found two Pieterpad trail books containing maps, photos of sites along the trail, information about the local area, public transportation, places to stay and an explanation of the trail markings. "Although these books are in Dutch we found that you almost certainly have to have them to complete the walk."

said Wheatley. The books break the entire Pieterpad into segments of individual hikes varying in distance of 20 to 30 kilometers. Once they got started they were hooked, every available Saturday or holiday. On two occasions they even took a week of leave, staying overnight in hotels or bed and breakfasts, each time covering distances well over a hundred kilometers. "We had a rule that we

wanted to enjoy every minute on the trail so we only hiked when the weather permitted" Wheatley explained. During the entire hike, they were only caught in the rain once. They started in August and by the first week of November they had made it almost half way. At that point, they decided to close down and pick up the trail again in the spring. They got back on the trail in April and finished in early October.

You can walk the trail in either direction but the couple chose to start in Limburg because they live near Valkenburg. The trail starts or ends in St. Pietersberg in the south and Pieterburen in the north, hence the name "Pieterpad". The trail runs mostly through the Dutch countryside, often through small villages and passing by the village church. "We're not sure if this is because you might want to pray or take a break; most of the time the churches were

open," they said. In the southern part the trail nears the German border crossing over onto the other side at least five times. The only cities of any size that the trail goes through are Maastricht, Sittard, Roermond, Venlo, and Groningen in the far north. The Wheatleys often used a combination of trains, buses and car for transportation. "A normal scenario would include driving our car and parking at a train station, walking a kilometer or two to match up with the trail, hike on the trail for 20 to 25 kilometers, and then find the nearest train station to return to where our car was parked," they explained.



"As you walk the trail you encounter many interesting sites. The Dutch countryside is beautiful, most of the trail was easy walking, but as we found out, the Netherlands isn't all flat," they added. The trail goes over the Sint Servaas bridge in Maastricht, passes by the Kasteel Terborgh close to the back side of the garrison in Schinnen. Between Sittard and Roermond, you see a scenic church in Sint Odilienberg. After Venlo, you cross over the Maas River for a second and third time on small river ferries. There is plenty of farm land and farm yards, wet lands, heath, forests and woodlands, along with canals and windmills. At one point you walk on the ridgeline of a hill looking down upon Germany on one side and the Netherlands on the other. The trail goes through three national parks and several forests. Near Millingen a/d Rijn you cross over the Rhine on a small bicycle and hiking ferry, climb up a steep hill into Germany and then into a breath taking forest with huge oak trees. North of Vorden you pass by five castles in the distance of 15 kilometers.



Trudy and Joe Wheatley on the Pieterpad.

Courtesy photo

"Overall, walking the Pieterpad was one of the most enjoyable things we've ever done. Often times we met and chatted with other people walking in the opposite direction. You could always tell who was walking the trail because they had the Pieterpad book. The day the Pieterpad finally came to a finish was one of mixed emotions and great satisfaction because we had walked the entire distance, coupled with sadness at the end of an adventure that we had become obsessed with. There was no band or welcoming committee to greet us when we arrived at a sign on the side of a restaurant in Pieterburen that marked the end of the trail, just a bunch of people eating lunch on the terrace who could care less about our moment of victory. We embraced and gave each other a congratulatory kiss and it was all over, except for the memories," they said.

## community briefs - community briefs - community briefs

### Paid internships with CYSS

If you are a U.S. citizen between 15 and 18 years old, currently attending high school, if you possess and maintain a C grade-point average or better and are subject to the satisfactory completion of local police background checks, you are eligible to apply for a paid internship with CYSS Sports & Fitness. CYSS will offer a paid internship for 12 continuous work weeks once all goals are met with 15-18 hours of work during school weeks and a maximum of 40 hours during non school weeks. CPR training, First Aid and child abuse prevention class will be offered. If interested, call CYSS at DSN 423-5611 or civilian 065-44-5611.

### Alliance Players

Today from 1 to 3 p.m. will be the last audition for the play *Murder at Café Noir*, a comic homage to 1940's Bogart movies. The AP are going to try something out of the box with dinner theater. They are looking for three women and four men: Madam, who has seen it all and done it all; Sheila, rich girl who has had a hard life; Marie, 1/2 Creole fortune teller; Rick, a private eye; Van Guilden, a shady lawyer; Thursby, a black marketer and one male who will have two small roles. Auditions will be held at the Afnorth School cafeteria. Show dates are planned for the last weekend in July and the 1st weekend in August.

### Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness Program

The Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness program (CSF2) launched a new social media platform, ArmyFit, for Soldiers, Army families and Army civilians to use in building their resilience and enhancing their performance. This online, self-development platform offers members of the total Army an opportunity to access tools and resources that will help them improve their physical and psychological strength in the areas of social, emotional, spiritual, family and physical fitness. For information go to <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-131521>.

### CYSS Schinnen

**Archery/Blow Darts Clinics for age group 10 to 18** - Enrollment is open through April 18. Clinics are held Wednesdays May 7 through June 11 from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at the Rocca Indoor Facility, Gulpen, the Netherlands. Cost is \$100 and includes transportation to the facility, six two hour sessions of professional instruction and snack. For more information or to register call DSN 364-4195 or civilian 045-526-4195. You must be registered with CYSS and have a valid health/sports assessment at the time of enrollment.

### AFCU \$1,500 scholarship

Andrews Federal Credit Union is now accepting applications for one of the eight \$1,500 non-renewable scholarships for higher education and books. Any AFCU member or member's

dependent pursuing a degree from an accredited college or university is eligible. Application forms are available online and in branches through April 25. All applicants have to be members or members' dependents with an Andrews Federal account in good standing as of Feb. 1. (If student is a member's dependent, the student does not have to have an account; parent/guardian must be the account-holder). Scholarship applications must be received no later than April 25 at Andrews Federal Credit Union, 5711 Allentown Road, Suitland, Md. 20746 by 4 p.m. via mail, 5 p.m. via branch-delivery or 11:59 p.m. via email. The 2014 scholarship application form is available at any branch or online at <http://www.andrewsfcu.org/scholarship2014>. Judges will not know the identities of applicants during the selection process.

### WIC Overseas Program

The U.S. Department of Defense offers the Women, Infants, and Children Overseas Program to eligible overseas beneficiaries. The WIC Overseas Program provides participants with benefits, including:

- Nutrition and health screenings
- Nutritious foods
- Tips on how to prepare balanced meals
- Access to other resources that help you and your family to lead healthier lives

The WIC Overseas Program is available to eligible participants living overseas, including:

- Members of the uniformed services and their family
- DoD civilian employees and their family members
- DoD contractors and their family members

For more information contact WIC Overseas USAG Benelux at DSN 423-5971 or civilian 065-44-5971, or WIC Overseas USAG Benelux-Schinnen at DSN 360-7489 or civilian 046-443-7489.

### Brussels Fitness Classes

**Yoga** - Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m. and Tuesday at 5 p.m.

**Power Yoga** - Tuesday at 10 a.m.

**Shred** - Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

**Indoor Cycling** - Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

For more information on those classes, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-717-9667.

### SHAPE Arts and Crafts Center

Quilling exhibition April 1-30 at the SHAPE Club

**For more information, stop by the Arts & Crafts Center on SHAPE, Bldg. 307, e-mail [artsandcraftsshape@gmail.com](mailto:artsandcraftsshape@gmail.com) or call DSN 423-6049 or civilian 065-44-6049.**

### Brussels Education Center

The USAG Benelux-Brussels Education Center has changed its hours of operation to Mon-Thu 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., closed on Fridays. Reason for change is to better accommodate customers during lunch hour.

This column includes events within close distance to Chièvres, SHAPE, Brussels

**28 March**

- **Classical music concert in Mons** - By musicians of the Orchestre royal de chambre de Wallonie (the Royal Walloon Chamber Orchestra), concert will be held at the Mons city hall, Grand Place 22 starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are at €11, under 25 years old get free entrance.
- **Jazz concert by "Lucky Bob Jazz Orchestra" in Harmignies** - Profits from the concert will go to the Télévie (in support of cancer research). Concert is held at the church on Chaussée de Beaumont starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are €8.

**29 March**

- **Flea market in Forest (100 booths)** - Outside flea market if weather allows or inside market otherwise on Rue Timmermans 53/55 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Cuesmes (50 booths)** - On Avenue Joseph Wauters from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Evening flea market in Soignies (100 booths)** - Held on the parking lot at the train station on Chaussée de Mons from 3 to 10 p.m.
- **Secondhand market for toys and children's clothing in Tertre** - Held at the school on Rue du Petit Villerot 26 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Boat trip on the Blaton-Ath canal** - Departure is from Quai de l'entrepôt in Ath at 8:30 a.m. The boat trip will go up to Beloeil (2 to 2.5 hours), return will be by bus. Prior registration is required at 0483/043477. Boat trip is free of charge. Children must be 3 years old to participate.
- **Spanish jazz concert in Binche** - Concert held at Salle le Star on Avenue Wanderpepen 39. Concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are €14.



En concert le samedi 29 mars 2014

**29-30 March**

- **Women's Fair in Ath** - Various booths on health, beauty, family, work, relations and possibility to attend workshops from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days at l'Entrepôt, Quai de l'Entrepôt. Entrance is €6.

**29-31 March**



- **Carnaval of the Laetare in Stavelot** - The highlight of this carnival celebration is the *Blancs Moussi*. Beginning on Sunday, the *Blancs Moussi* wander the streets of the town. In the afternoon, they step out of the parade, shower the crowd with confetti and flog them

This column includes events within close distance to Brunssum and Schinnen.

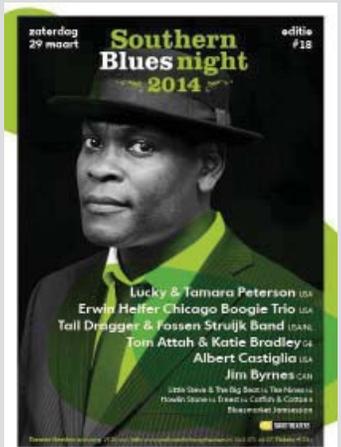
**28-30 March**

- **Krefelder Gartenwelt 2014 in Krefeld (GE)** is a large garden fair held at An der Rennbahn 4. In many white tents visitors will find everything to beautify their gardens. Open March 28 from 2 to 6 p.m. and March 29-30 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



**29 March**

- **International Boogie & Blues Festival Holland in Ermelo** is one of the world's largest boogie woogie and piano festival with many international musicians, such as Don Papadon Washington and Fabrice Eulry participating. The festival is held at Hotel Heerlijkheid van Ermelo on Staringlaan 1 and starts at 8 a.m. To reserve tickets call 0031 (0)341-568585. More information on <http://www.boogiepromotionsholland.nl>.
- **Southern Blues Night in Heerlen** at Parkstadtheater is one of the Netherlands best known indoor Blues festivals. For more information, go to <http://www.southernbluesnight.nl>.



**29-30 March**

- **Gourmet market in Amay (BE)** held at the Abbey of La Pax-Dieu. It has all kinds of regional products to offer. Open March 29 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and March 30 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Entry is €4, children 16 and younger get free entrance.
- **Easter Market in Bad Oeynhausen (GE)** held in the garden of Museumshof on Schützenstrasse. Open March 29 from 1 to 5 p.m. and March 30 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Design & Art Market in Grevenbroich (GE)** held at Altes Schloss from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participants display all kinds of artwork and design made of glass, stone, metal, wood or ceramic.
- **Annual Easter Market in Kleve (GE)** at Landwirtschaftszentrum Haus Riswick is a must to visit when you are looking for traditional Easter products, art and culture. Open both days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



30 March

- **Spring Concert "Happy Birthday Mr. Sax" in Moulbaix (Ath)** - Concert is held at the Ste Sulpice Church on the square from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tickets are €12, children under 12 get in free of charge.
- **Flea market in Binche (50 booths)** - All profits will go to the Make-a-Wish association. On Route de Mons 259 from 1 to 7 p.m.
- **Flea market in Wezembeek-Oppeem (80 booths)** - On Chemin au Bois 9-11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Flea market in Nivelles (50 booths)** - At the parking Carrefour from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jurbise (30 booths)** - At the school on Rue du Moustier from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Harmignies for 1, 10 or 20 km** - Departure is from Salle Calva on Rue Vieille Eglise 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Enghien (130 booths)** - On Avenue Elisabeth from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Erbisoeul for 5, 10, 15 and 20 km** - Departure is from "La Ferme du Prince" on Chemin du Prince from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Ecaussines-Lalaing for 5, 10 or 20 km (and orientation march for 8 km)** - Departure is from Rue de la Grande Ronce, 17 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Flobecq for 5, 8, 14, 20 or 30 km** - Departure is from Rue Abbé Pollart 4 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Flea market with the theme "a child's world" in Uccle (100 booths)** - With games and children's activities from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Rue du Doyenné 68.



30 March - 1 April

- **Carnaval in La Louvière** - On Sunday, the parade starts at 12:30 p.m. and the fireworks will end the activities at 9 p.m. on the Place Communale. On Monday, parade starts on Place Maugrétout -Albert 1er at 5 p.m.



and ends at Place Mansart with fireworks at 10 p.m. On Tuesday, the burning of the bumps will be as of 9:45 p.m. all through the city at various times. For additional information, go to <http://www.carnavallalouviere.be>.



30 March

- **Local Limburg Spring Walk in Brunssum** starts at the Scouting de Landgraaf Building on Wieënweg 6. At the start and along the walk you will be able to taste all kinds of local traditional cultural delicacies. The cost for the 8K or 12K walk is €15 for adults or €7.50 for children (only first two pay) and that includes all the food tasting, a drink and a main meal at the end of the walk. Registration is required to take part in the walk by sending an email to [Limburgselentewandeling@gmail.com](mailto:Limburgselentewandeling@gmail.com).

2 April

- **Flea & Ware Market in Neuss (GE)** held on Market Square, Freithof and Muensterplatz.

3-6 April

- **Affordable Art Fair in Maastricht** in the Timmerfabriek, Boschstraat 5-9. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the artwork the galleries will have to offer, as well as, fun workshops, coffee, or even a glass of wine before leaving with some fabulous new art. Open April 3 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., April 4-6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are €10, children under 16 get free entrance.

4-5 April

- **Spring Market in Krimpen aan den IJssel** at "Streekmuseum Krimpenerwaard" on IJsseldijk 312) - All the buildings, farms and courtyards are filled with beautiful curiosa, antiques, handmade items and more. There will be shows and old crafts as well. Open April 4 from 1 to 5 p.m. and April 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entrance is free.

Through 19 April

- **Easter market in Essen (GE)** - Held in the center and on Kettwiger Strasse with lots of art, decorations, traditional Easter pastries and more Easter delicatessen. Open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed on April 18.

Through 18 May

- **Keukenhof Gardens near Lisse** opens its gates again to show floral displays planted in endless varieties among works of art. Keukenhof is open daily from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ticket office closes at 6 p.m. Entry is €15, children ages 4 to 11 pay €7.50. More information at <http://www.keukenhof.nl>.

Mark your calendar

19 April

- **Kennedy Mars** - Register now for the Kennedy Mars held April 19 in Sittard. To register go to <http://kennedymars.org>. In a 1963 speech, John F. Kennedy said as a result of the modern affluent society, "nobody can walk 50 miles within 20 hours anymore". After this statement, people around the world walked 50 miles/80 km to prove he was wrong.

## SHAPE Trips & Tours

For information on the trips below,  
call DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-44-3884

- **Maastricht, March 29** - Go to Maastricht and have a drink at a cafe in one of the beautiful squares and watch the people go by, go shopping, or visit the city's old town fortifications. Price is €42. Departs SHAPE at 6:30 a.m., departs Brussels at 7:45 p.m. Returns to SHAPE at 9:15 p.m. and to Brussels at 8 p.m.

## Schinnen Trips and Tours

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

- **Trout fishing, March 29** - Included in the \$35 fee is transportation to and from the fishing location plus cleaning of the fish. No rods or reels included. All trout will be collected and evenly divided. Space is limited so book early for this popular trip. Register with full payment.

## SHAPE Travel Group

For information on the trip below  
call civilian 0486/56.53.71



- **Champagne in Epernay, April 24** - Join for a trip into Epernay, the Champagne capital of France. Epernay is best known as the main warehouse for champagne wines, which are bottled and kept in large cellars tucked into the chalk rock on which the town is built. You will taste some of the finest champagne Epernay has to offer. Upon arrival on Avenue de Champagne in Epernay, we will explore the legendary cellars at the Champagne House of Moët & Chandon, followed by a tasting where you will enjoy a glass of their champagne. Before heading to the next champagne house, we will have time to have lunch in town. After lunch, we will meet back up for our final stop, the Champagne House of Collard-Picard. Here we will partake in a tour of the cellars and a tasting session of three of their champagnes, which is valued at over 100 Euros. You will not want to miss this champagne experience.



## Upcoming trips

### SHAPE Trips & Tours

- **Monet's Home and Gardens, April 12**
- **Keukenhof and Gouda, April 18**
- **Han's caves and safari park, April 19**
- **King's Day Amsterdam, April 26**
- **Rhine in Flames, May 3**
- **Champagne, May 10**
- **Paris, May 17**
- **Versailles, May 24**
- **Polish pottery, May 29 - June 1**
- **Normandy Beaches, May 30 - June 1**
- **Dutch Day, June 7**
- **London, June 21**
- **Stonehenge with Salisbury, June 28**
- **7 Night Mediterranean Cruise, July 4-11**
- **London, August 15-17**
- **Peru, October 24 - November 3**

### Schinnen Trips & Tours

- **Keukenhof Gardens, April 12**
- **Trip to Malgrat De Mar, Spain, April 18-27**
- **Canoeing and biking, May 10**
- **Amsterdam, May 24**
- **Disneyland Paris, June 7**
- **Express trip to Berlin, June 28**
- **Miami Dolphins VS Oakland Raiders in London, 27-29 September**
- **Cowboys VS Jaguars in London, November 8-10**

### SHAPE Travel Group

- **Keukenhof & The Hague, April 29**
- **Strasbourg, May 8**
- **Versailles Palace & Gardens, May 22**
- **Tongeren & the antiques market, June 1**
- **Fontainebleau Palace, June 5**
- **A day in Paris, June 19**

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## BRUNSSUM/SCHINNEN COMMUNITY

### 31 March

- **Women of the World Inspiring Change** - Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the E3A-Club, Geilenkirchen Airbase, Germany, in honor of International Women's Day and Women's History Month, a group of women residing within the Tri-Border community (Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands) are hosting a "women's History Month" luncheon to honor, celebrate and recognize women globally. To register, call +49 (0)2451-63-3791 or send an email to [womenshistorymonth@yahoo.com](mailto:womenshistorymonth@yahoo.com).

### 2 April

- **First Term Briefing** - This is a mandatory briefing for all first term/initial term soldiers. Learn about the practical approach to financial management, tools to handle money wisely, ability to make informed purchasing decisions and many more from 11 a.m. to noon at ACS. For more information or to register, contact ACS at DSN 360-7450/7500 or civilian 046-443-7450/7500.

### 3 April

- **Tri-Border annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - Celebrate service volunteers changing life and communities from noon to 2 p.m. at the JFC Conference Center, Brunssum. Lunch is provided for volunteers. Registration is required. For more information or to register call DSN 360-7500 or civilian 046-443-7500.

### 4 April

- **CYSS party** - Party to kick off the Month of the Military Child from 3 to 6 p.m. There will be numerous activities going on including bounce castles, face painting, carnival games, sports, a dunk tank and food. The party is open to all NATO ID card holders. For information contact CYSS at DSN 364-4192 or civilian 045-526-4192.

### Get your ticket/register now

### 24 May (Registration needed by April 30)

- **Country Line Dance Evening** - The event will be held from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen, Lilienthalallee 100. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Entrance is free. Prior registration is required by April 30. Component members and their guests are also required to register. For more information or to register send an email at [Linedancers\\_for\\_fun@hotmail.com](mailto:Linedancers_for_fun@hotmail.com)

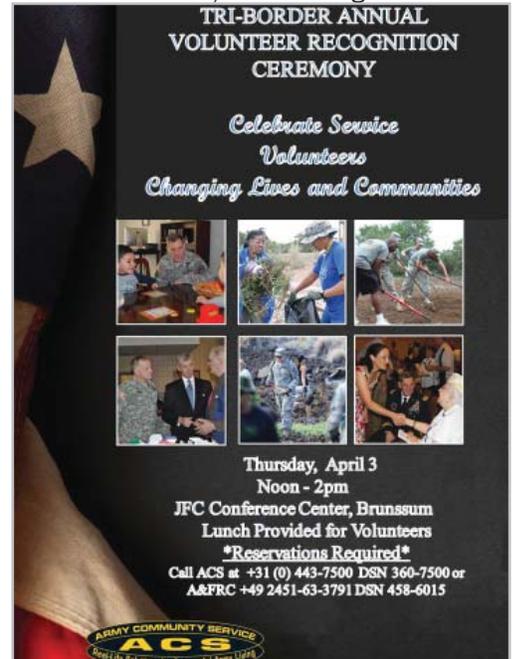
## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

### 28 March

- **Hot Cherry Karaoke** - at the Sports Bar from 10 p.m. to 2 am.

### 29 March

- **Discover the Province of Hainaut** - Enjoy a special day with aqua golf, information about WWI and WWII commemorations and the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo, slacklining, music and cinematography, creation of nautical knots and bath salts, pottery making, sampling of chocolate, etc. The event will take place at the SHAPE Events Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information and a detailed program, go to <http://www.shape2day.com/eventscentre/discover-the-province-of-hainaut.aspx>.



Community Roundup



**KEEPING YOU CONNECTED**

The Official Website of the American Forces Network Benelux

Brussels: 101.7 FM – Chièvres 107.9 FM – SHAPE 106.5 FM and 104.2 FM

[benelux.afneurope.net](http://benelux.afneurope.net)

## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY CONTINUED

- **Eggstravaganza** - Children's games at 10 a.m. and egg hunt at noon on Chièvres Air Base. For more information call DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-27-5643. Open to all SHAPE and U.S. ID cardholders.

### 29-30 March

- **Spring Bazaar** - Held at the SHAPE American School Cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 29 and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 30. There will be more than 35 vendors at this event from traditional crafters, local artists, food and more. Proceeds from this event go to the SAHS Scholarship Fund which gives numerous scholarships each year to deserving Seniors at SAHS.

### 1 April

- **Lunch and Learn** - Bring your lunch and join the group to discuss "Building Resiliency in Children" from noon to 1 p.m. in the ACS Training Room, SHAPE, Bldg. 318. For more information or to register call ACS at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-32-6824.

### 2 April

- **PCS Workshop** - Prepare your family for the next move from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Army Community Service, SHAPE Bldg. 318. For more information call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-32-6804.

### 3-4 April

- **French Wine Festival** - held at the SHAPE Events Center from noon to 10 p.m. April 3 and from noon to 8 p.m. April 4. Entrance is free.

**Get your ticket/register now**

### 13 April

- **Easter Brunch** - Enjoy an all inclusive buffet from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Price is €28 for adults and €14 for children. Tickets are on sale until April 9. Limited quantities available. For more information, call DSN 423-4133 or civilian 065-44-4133.

## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

### 28 March

- **The American Club of Brussels - Final Friday Cocktails** - Held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Boulevard Anspach 30, Brussels. Cash bar open to all. Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome. No reservation is required and you can bring up to two guests.

### 2 April

- **The Five Love Languages** - Learn to recognize which love language your relationship partner is speaking and to communicate more effectively. The class is held in the ACS Conference Room, Bldg. 4, second floor, room 4-320. For more information or to register call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-717-9783.

### 3 April

- **3 Start Lounge Family Dinner** - Join the Brussels community to enjoy a dinner for the whole family from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information and reservations call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-717-9822.
- **The Child Light Ceremony** - Join to honor the children from around the world who have died due to child abuse during the past year, as well as to thank the parents who make the difference, through music, art, and poetry presentations by students at the Brussels American School and members of the Brussels Community. The ceremony is held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Brussels American School Multi-Purpose Room, Sterrebeek Annex. For more information, contact ACS at DSN 368-9721 or civilian 02-717-9721.

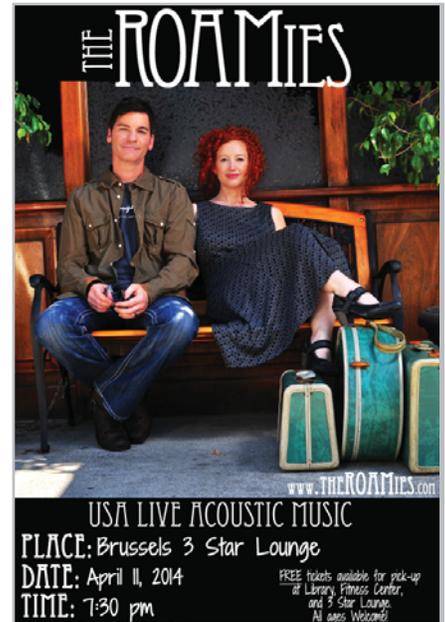


## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY CONTINUED

Get your ticket/register now

11 April

- **The ROAMies concert** - Enjoy a night of music and fun at the 3 Star Lounge as of 7 p.m. The ROAMies are stopping in Brussels on their Spring Acoustic Tour around Europe. Free tickets are now available at the Library, the Fitness Center and the 3 Star Lounge. Doors open at 6 p.m. with a dinner for homemade chicken enchiladas served with rice and beans. Price is \$6. For more information and reservations contact DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-717-9822.



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our USAG Benelux-wide Community

**YOUR VOICE**  
MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.

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Community Roundup

### Movie schedule at the SHAPE Cinema

Rates: 2D movies are €7 for adults and €4 for 11 years and under; 3D movies are €9 for adults and €6 for 11 years and under. Movies are subject to change. Check <http://www.shape2day.com/cinema/february-movie-schedule.aspx> for updates.

<b>March 28</b>	4 p.m.	The Muppets Most Wanted	PG	112 min
	6:45 p.m.	Divergent	PG-13	143 min
	9:45 p.m.	About Last Night	R	98 min
<b>March 29</b>	4 p.m.	The Muppets Most Wanted	PG	112 min
	7 p.m.	Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club	PG-13	98 min
	9 p.m.	12 Years a Slave	PG-13	134 min
<b>March 30</b>	3 p.m.	Son of God	PG-13	95 min
	5 p.m.	Divergent	PG-13	143 min
<b>April 2</b>	4 p.m.	Divergent	PG-13	143 min
	7 p.m.	Non Stop	PG-13	95 min

**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). Check the schedule at: <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. Check the schedule at <http://kinopolis.be/fr/cinemas/kinopolis-bruxelles>.

### Movie schedule at the JFC HQ Alliance Theater

Adult admission is €5 (ages 12 and older) - Child admission is €3 (ages 11 and under). Check <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ReelTimeTheatres/Movies-Brunssum.htm>.

<b>March 28</b>	7 p.m.	Endless Love	PG-13	90 min
<b>March 29</b>	4 p.m.	The Muppets Most Wanted	PG	112 min
	7 p.m.	Divergent	PG-13	143 min

Have Something for the Gazette?

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