

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Easter Monday

April 6, Easter Monday, is a Belgian holiday. Therefore, most of the Belgian stores, post offices and banks will be closed.

Païri Daïza

As the park is reopening April 4, traffic on N56 (Mons-Ath) will increase. Drive carefully.

Acute Care Clinic on SHAPE

During the Easter weekend, the SHAPE Healthcare Facility Acute Care Clinic will be open April 3 and 6 from 8 to 10 a.m., both days.

Library closures

The USAG Benelux-Brussels Library will be closed April 5.

Job openings - AFCU

Andrews Federal Credit Union is looking for a full-time (40 hours) teller for its Chièvres Branch. A part-time position is also open at the Brussels Branch. For more information and to apply, visit the AFCU website at <https://www.andrewsfcu.org>.

Job openings - Commissary

The Chièvres and Schinnen Commissaries are looking for food service workers. Positions may be full-time, part-time or intermittent work schedules.

The Chièvres Commissary is also looking for U.S. baggers.



Isaiah Davis races to find eggs at the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Eggstravaganza Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Chièvres Community Activity Center. Hundreds of children played games, played on bouncy castles and participated in the egg hunt. (U.S. Army photo by Keith Houin)

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Army Emergency Relief is about "Making a Difference"

Special to the Gazette

Army Emergency Relief, or AER, opened the 2015 campaign with the theme: "Army Emergency Relief - Making a Difference." The campaign runs from March 1 to May 15 with the goal of creating greater awareness of the benefits of AER as well as providing Soldiers the opportunity to donate to their fellow Soldiers.

USAG Benelux-Schinnen kicked off this year's campaign Friday, March 13. Guest speaker Conrad Payne, a retired Army and a former AER Officer, took pride in explaining AER throughout the years and how much it has changed to the benefit of the Soldier. He also reminded the audience of how important it is to put 'Soldiers First' and to help take care of them in times of financial need. Asked why he thought AER is important he mentioned:

- **Importance** - Soldiers and their Families know they can call their own and can receive assistance without all the embarrassment associated with requesting and receiving assistance.
- **Awareness** - Soldiers and their Families need to know that this is an organization established primarily to assist them in their time of need. It is about Soldiers helping other Soldiers to share their financial load/burden through annual campaigns and donations.
- **Necessity** - AER is the one place where a Soldier can go knowing other Soldiers are looking out for him through their donations.

AER is a private non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to Soldiers on active duty and retired, and their Families. Since it was founded in 1942, AER has provided more than \$1.7 billion to more than 3.6 million Soldiers, Family members and retirees. Last year, AER provided nearly \$74 million dollars in assistance to more than 51,000 Soldiers and Families which includes \$8.8 million for 3,500 scholarships to spouses and children of Soldiers.

The USAG Benelux-Schinnen community celebrated the 2015 AER Annual Campaign kick off "Bowl-A-Thon," with the support of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) as well as Better Opportunities for Single Service members (BOSS).



Rita Hoefnagels

Guest speaker Conrad Payne, retired Army and a former AER officer at the kickoff event held in Schinnen, the Netherlands, Friday, March 13, 2015.

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Celebrating Sgt. 1st Class Walter Stuckert's life

By Cis Spook

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

"We are not here to commemorate Sgt. 1st Class Walter Stuckert's death, we are here together to celebrate his life," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William A. Sager, U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Command Chaplain at the beginning of the memorial service honoring Stuckert, March 18 at the Caserne Daumerie Chapel in Chièvres. Having his memorial service inside a military chapel was one of his last wishes before he passed, March 12 at the age of 83.



Stuckert was one of the 300 U.S. military retirees living in Belgium but he is probably the only one who spent over 90% of his entire U.S. Army career in Europe.

Born February 12, 1932, in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Stuckert was the eldest son in the family. In line with the traditions at the time, he started to work at the age of 14 to contribute to the family's cost of living. "He was totally devoted to his family and that is the way he has been until his last breath," said Gretel, Stuckert's youngest daughter.

At the age of 20, he decided to try his luck in the United States. "He had an uncle and aunt living in New York and my dad traveled to the U.S. to visit them," Gretel said. "He soon found a job at the Waldorf Astoria New York, where he worked in the restaurant while staying with his uncle and aunt."

It is unclear as to what made Stuckert join the U.S. Army but soon after basic training, the Army sent him to Germany to attend a chef school.

"My dad told us that while in school, General Alfred Gruenther, then Supreme Allied Commander Europe, who was stationed in Paris, wanted the best student of that chef school as his personal chef," Gretel continued. "My dad was chosen as the best."

Stuckert thus started a long career as personal chef for various SACEUR's. He served for Generals Alfred Gruenther, Lauris Norstad and Lyman Lemnitzer until the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe moved from Rocquencourt near Paris, France to Casteau near Mons, Belgium in 1967.

While Stuckert worked as SACEUR's Chef de Cuisine in France, he met his wife-to-be, Dolores (Dolly) Guarnieri who was Italian. "My dad only spoke English and German, my mom only spoke Italian, so they decided to learn French together. In the beginning, they were using a dictionary to understand each other." They married and founded a family with three daughters, Marilisa, Katherine and Gretel. At that time, he officially became a U.S. citizen.

In 1967, the Stuckert family followed the headquarters' move to Belgium and he started working at a temporary residence while Château Gendebien in Mons was being

rehabilitated. He served for two additional SACEUR's, General Andrew Goodpaster and General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

"We (Gen. and Mrs. Lemnitzer) have always considered you as one of the most able, experienced and finest chefs in the U.S. Armed Forces or anywhere," one can read on Gen. (Ret.) Lemnitzer's letter of appreciation written on the occasion of Stuckert's retirement, March 1, 1977. "In addition to your outstanding expertise in the culinary arts, we very much admired your loyalty, cheerfulness, dependability and ever-ready acceptance of the long overtime and the inconvenient hours required of you by your very important assignment."

After having served as personal cook for a total of five SACEUR's and ending his military career as the manager of the SHAPE Mess Hall, Stuckert retired from the U.S. Army upon twenty years of service.

But that did not make him stop serving the U.S. community at SHAPE. In 1977, he started working at the U.S. Housing office, wandering the local community to visit houses to be rented by U.S. community members.

At the age of 50, Stuckert retired for the second time, this time as a civilian. He and his wife opened a restaurant



Gretel Stuckert shows a picture of her dad, Sgt. 1st Class Walter Stuckert (right) receiving an award from General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., Supreme Allied Commander Europe from 1974 to 1979.

in Mons until they decided it was time to enjoy retirement together, which they did until Dolly passed away in 2002.

Lately, Stuckert lived in Havré and spent his time on his additional passions: collecting stamps, antiques and shopping at the grocery store. He is survived by his three daughters and five grandchildren.



In her position as the USAG Benelux sexual-assault response coordinator, or SARC, Angela Taylor's job is to take care of victims' advocacy needs. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)

Preventing sexual assault starts with communication, respect

by Andrea Wales

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

On their first date, a young man and a young woman sat on a bench looking out to sea as they talked. He inched closer, and she moved away. The scenario replayed itself until she caught herself from falling off the bench.

It is a classic example of one person being insensitive to non-verbal cues that say, "no."

Over the years, the focus of sexual-assault prevention has changed from staying out of harm's way to encouraging battle buddies to step in, said Angela Taylor, the USAG Benelux sexual assault response coordinator, or SARC. Some types of training cover what consent "looks like."

USAG Benelux will conduct training during the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, stand-down this month. (See companion story this page.)

Mutual consent

"Consent is, to me, the most important topic in sexual-assault prevention because that's the key: Without consent from both parties, it is sexual assault," Taylor said.

A partner's willing removal of articles of clothing shouldn't be considered consent because a change of heart can happen at any time, Taylor said.

"Consent can be taken away at any time. You can always change your mind," Taylor said. "You can consent to kissing and touching, but not to intercourse."

Long-standing couples often develop shorthand for initiating intimacy, using non-verbal cues or code words, Taylor said.

"If you're in a new relationship, you should definitely wait for or ask for verbal. You should definitely wait for or ask for a 'yes,'" she said.

Although many people think that sounds unromantic or impractical, Taylor said that making communication part of intimacy could help prevent sexual assault.

"We've got to change the culture," Taylor said. "Even in long-term relationships, there has to be communication about what's acceptable and what's not."

It comes down to dignity and respect, she said.

"If you respect your partner and you're reading the signs that the person's saying 'no,' you're going to stop," Taylor said. "If there is no dignity and respect, the other person is simply an object to dominate."

Taylor said she wanted to clarify one important point.

Sexual assault is not about sex: It's about power and control," she said.

Benelux holds SHARP events, stand-down

April is the Department of Defense's Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. The theme is "Eliminate sexual assault: Know your part. Do your part."

USAG Benelux will put on the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, stand-down this month.

The Army's SHARP program is part of the network of sister-service programs under the Department of Defense's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, or SAPRO.

The following training sessions will be held:

- USAG Benelux will conduct round-robin training at Chièvres Community Activity Center (Chièvres Gym) April 15 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Modules include Bystander Intervention; SHARP Reporting Options; Teal Hash/Court-Martial Reports; Army Substance Abuse Program, or ASAP ("diminished capacity"); and Purple Belt Self-Defense. (Alternate training date: April 30 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at SHAPE Healthcare Facility.)

- USAG Benelux-Schinnen will conduct Phase I training at the Schinnen Army Education Center April 15 from 9 a.m. to noon.

- USAG Benelux-Brussels will conduct Small-Group Bystander Intervention Training in the Community Conference Room April 16 from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Community events observing Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month are as follows:

- Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, SHARP potluck at the Single Soldiers Quarters April 23 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., including meet-and-greet with victim advocates.

- Take Back the Night 5k run at SHAPE April 24, starting at the SHAPE Gym. Commands sign a Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month proclamation at 3:30 p.m. Run starts at 4 p.m.

Benelux community enjoyed Easter activities



David Coldwell



Keith Houin



Rita Hoefnagels

(Clockwise from top left) The Easter Bunny was the special guest at the Spring Fling held at USAG Benelux-Brussels, Saturday, March 28, 2015. • Six to nine year old children from the USAG Benelux-Schinnen community start their egg hunt, Saturday, March 28, 2015 on JFC Brunssum. • Also on JCF Brunssum, this two year old tries to get an egg from the field reserved for the three to five year old children. • Children wait for the official start of the egg hunt on the USAG Benelux-Brussels compound, Saturday, March 28, 2015. • Souat Yanis plays a game at the USAG Benelux Eggstravaganza Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Chièvres Community Activity Center. Hundreds of children played games, played on bouncy castles and participated in the egg hunt.



David Coldwell



Rita Hoefnagels

April marks 29th Alcohol Awareness Month

Special to the Gazette

Each April since 1987, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD) has sponsored Alcohol Awareness Month to increase public awareness and understanding, reduce stigma and encourage local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues.



With this year's theme, "For the Health of It: Early Education on Alcoholism and Addiction," the month of April 2015 will be aimed at educating people about the treatment and prevention of alcoholism, particularly among our youth, and the benefits of providing early education to give kids a better understanding of the impact that alcohol can have on their lives.

Alcohol use by young people is extremely dangerous—both to themselves and to society, and is directly associated with traffic fatalities, violence, suicide, educational failure, alcohol overdose, unsafe sex and other problem behaviours, even for those who may never develop a dependence or addiction.

Adolescence is a time of heightened risk taking and young people may not be fully prepared to anticipate all the consequences of drinking alcohol, such as swigging drinks to "celebrate" a special occasion, or being in a car with a driver who has been drinking.

Alcohol is the number one drug of choice for America's youth, and is more likely to kill young people than all illegal drugs combined.

Reducing underage drinking is critical to securing a healthy future for our youth and requires a cooperative effort from parents, schools, community organizations, business leaders, government agencies, the entertainment industry, alcohol manufacturers/retailers and young people themselves.

"Underage drinking is a complex issue," says Andrew Pucher, President and Chief Executive Officer of NCADD, "one that can only be solved through a sustained and cooperative effort. As a nation, we need to wake up to the reality that for some, alcoholism and addiction develop at a young age and that intervention, treatment, and recovery support are essential for them and their families," says Pucher. "We can't afford to wait any longer."

An integral part of Alcohol Awareness Month is Alcohol-Free Weekend (April 3-5, 2015), which is designed to raise public awareness about the use of alcohol and how it may be affecting individuals, families, and the community. During this seventy-two-hour period, NCADD extends an open invitation to all Americans, young and old, to participate in three alcohol-free days and to use this time to contact local drug and alcohol agencies to learn more about alcoholism and its early symptoms.

For more information about NCADD, underage drinking, Alcohol Awareness Month and Alcohol-Free Weekend, visit the NCADD website at: <http://www.ncadd.org>. Or call the USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program at DSN 423-2658, civilian 065-442658.

Signs and symptoms of alcohol abuse include:

Alcohol abuse is a pattern of drinking that results in harm to one's health, interpersonal relationships, or ability to work, including:

- **Repeatedly neglecting responsibilities:** Because of drinking, repeatedly neglecting responsibilities at home, work or school.
- **Alcohol use in dangerous situations:** The use of alcohol in situations where it can be physically dangerous, such as drinking and driving.
- **Legal problems due to drinking:** For example, getting arrested for fights, drunk and disorderly conduct, domestic disputes, driving under the influence.
- **Continued drinking despite relationship problems:** Alcohol is causing or making problems worse in your relationships with your friends, family or spouse, and you continue to drink.
- **Drinking to de-stress:** Many drinking problems start when people use alcohol to relieve stress.

Signs and symptoms of alcoholism include:

Alcoholism involves all the symptoms of alcohol abuse, but also involves another element: physical dependence- tolerance and withdrawal.

- **Tolerance:** Tolerance means that, over time, you need more alcohol to feel the same effect.
- **Withdrawal:** As the effect of the alcohol wears off you may experience withdrawal symptoms: anxiety or jumpiness; shakiness or trembling; sweating, nausea and vomiting, insomnia, depression, irritability, fatigue or loss of appetite and headaches.
- **Loss of control:** You are losing control when drinking more than you wanted to, for longer than you intended, or despite telling yourself that you wouldn't do it this time.
- **Desire to stop but you can't:** You have a persistent desire to cut down or stop your alcohol use, but all efforts to stop and stay stopped, have been unsuccessful.
- **Neglecting other activities:** You are spending less time on activities that used to be important to you because of the use of alcohol.
- **Alcohol takes up greater time, energy and focus:** You spend a lot of time drinking, thinking about it, or recovering from its effects.
- **Continued use despite negative consequences:** You drink even though you know it's causing problems. As an example, you realize that your alcohol use is interfering with your ability to do your job, is damaging your marriage, or causing health problems, but you continue to drink.

Chièvres PSC 490 Post Office is temporarily relocating

Special to the Gazette

Due to the ongoing renovations that will be made to the current PX-tra, the Chièvres PSC 490 Post Office will be moving to Building 8 on Caserne Daumerie effective May 8.

The Postal Finance Window and the Official Mail Section will be closed on this day and the Personal Mail Delivery Section will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to allow personnel to move the mail and equipment from one facility to the other. The Personal Mail Delivery Section will then re-open from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Building 8 on Caserne Daumerie to allow customers to pick up any mail they may have.

Addresses and receptacle numbers will not change, but combinations of the mailboxes will. You may come to see us May 8, between 12:30 and 5:30 p.m. at Bldg 8 on Caserne Daumerie to receive your new combination. This information will not be given over the phone.

The lobby in the new facility will, just like in the old facility, be open 24/7 to check your mail.

On May 11, the move will be completed and all postal services will be offered out of Building 8 on Caserne Daumerie.

A letter mail dropbox will be located near the laundrymat on Chièvres Air Base as well as near the postal facility on Caserne Daumerie.

For additional information, contact the postal facility at DSN 361-5472 or 068-275472.

Ensuring readiness



Sgt Robert Rynearson, USAG Benelux Headquarters and Headquarters Company, has his photo taken at the Soldier Readiness Program (SRP) event, Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at the SHAPE Healthcare Facility. The basic concept of SRP is to maintain individual preparedness for deployment. The process involves representatives from various staff agencies, to include personnel, medical, dental, military pay, security and legal. (U.S. Army photo by Keith Houin)

Religious services for Holy Week, Passover, Easter

April 2

Noon: Protestant Maundy Thursday Service at JFC Brunssum International Chapel (second-floor Interfaith Room).

12:05 p.m.: Holy Thursday/Maundy Thursday ecumenical (non-denominational) meditation/light lunch at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

6 p.m.: Catholic Holy Thursday Mass at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel, followed by Adoration.

7 p.m.: Catholic Holy Thursday Mass at Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base Chapel.

April 3

Noon: Protestant Good Friday service at JFC Brunssum Chapel (2nd Floor Interfaith Room).

12:05 p.m.: Ecumenical (non-denominational) Good Friday meditation/

light lunch at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

3 p.m.: Catholic Good Friday service at Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base Chapel.

6 p.m.: Catholic Good Friday service at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

6:30 p.m.: Jewish "First Night" Passover Seder hosted by the International Jewish Center of Belgium, led by its new American rabbi. For location and other details, contact info@ijc.be.

April 4

6:30 p.m.: Jewish "Second Night" Passover Seder hosted privately by a SHAPE family in Mons. Call the SHAPE/Chièvres Jewish community liaison at DSN 423-4938 or civilian 065-444938.

7 p.m.: Catholic Easter Vigil Mass at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

7 p.m.: Catholic Holy Saturday Easter

Vigil at Geilenkirchen Chapel.

April 5

7 a.m.: Protestant Sunrise Easter service at the JFC Brunssum sports fields in the barbecue area. [Call DSN 364-2940 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5262940.]

9 a.m.: Catholic Easter Sunday Mass at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

10 a.m. Resurrection Sunday gospel service at Caserne Daumerie Chapel.

10:15 a.m. Anglican Easter Sunday service at SHAPE ICC's East Chapel.

10:30 a.m.: Protestant Easter service at Brussels American Chapel.

11:30 a.m.: Catholic Easter Sunday Mass at JFC Brunssum Chapel.

11:45 a.m.: SHAPE Contemporary Protestant Easter Sunday service at SHAPE International Chapel Centre.

Practice safe social media activities to protect identity

Special to the Gazette

The self-proclaimed "Islamic State Hacking Division" released a list of 100 military members March 20, which it claimed to have obtained via hacks of several military servers, databases, and E-mails. The list included a picture of each military member, rank, home address, and military assignment. It appears the list specifically targeted military members who are pilots or aircraft crew members in retaliation for airstrikes in Iraq and Syria.

Both the Army Threat Integration Center and Naval Criminal Investigative Services have assessed that the service member information was likely obtained through exploitation of social media websites and not military servers or databases. Therefore, service members and their families are reminded and encouraged to practice safe social media activities.



Army.mil

Social Media Precautions:

- Think before you post. Always assume everyone in the world will be able to see what you are posting, or tweeting, even if the site limits your posts to your friends and family.
- Do not allow others to tag you in images they post. Doing so makes you easier to locate and accurately construct your network of friends, relatives, and associates. You are not anonymous on the Internet.
- Be cautious about the images you post. What is in the photos may be more revealing than who is in them. Images posted over time may form a complete mosaic of you and your family.
- Once something is posted on a social networking site, it can quickly spread. No amount of effort will erase it.
- Review privacy settings and limit who can view your social media sites; but do not trust these settings as absolute.
- Avoid posting your home or work address and phone numbers.
- Limit any reference, current or former, to military, Government or law enforcement employment/affiliation on social media.
- Avoid providing detailed accounts of your day (e.g., when you leave for or return from work).
- Do not use "check-ins". If they are enabled, disable them.
- Never allow applications to geolocate your location.
- Do not post personally identifiable information on social media.
- Do not arrange meetings with people you meet online.
- Do not use your social networking site to login to other sites. Create another user account on the new site instead.
- Use strong, unique passwords. Consider using pass-phrases for an additional level of safety.
- Keep your anti-virus software current.

Physical/Home Security Precautions:

While most of the measures below are primarily geared toward preventing home burglaries, when implemented these same measures can help protect you and your family while you are at home:

- Always lock doors, windows and garages.
- Make sure home entrances are well-lighted, and minimize bushes where intruders can hide before their ambush.
- Use the peephole before opening the door to anyone.
- Don't use the chain latch to open the door part-way.
- Don't open the door to solicitors or strangers.
- Hold a family meeting to work out home security plans.
- Establish a safehaven.
- Be alert to any suspicious mail or packages delivered to your home or mailbox.

In order to limit their potential of being targeted, service and family members should consider taking the following actions:

- Review AT/FP level I training available to all service members and their families at the Joint Knowledge Online web site, <https://jkodirect.jten.mil>, course number JS-US007-14.
- Discuss basic personal security measures with family members and possible ways to reduce social media presence and physical signatures.

For more information about computer security and other computer related scams, we encourage readers to visit the CCIU website at <http://www.cid.army.mil/cciu.html> to review previous cyber crime alert notices and cyber crime prevention flyers.

You can also go to <https://www.facebook.com/StaySafeAntiterrorism> for more security tips.

Trenches to Foxholes

Next week in World War history (April 5 to April 11)

World War I

1915

April 7 - First Indian units of Indian Expeditionary Force "G" sail from Egypt for the Dardanelles.

April 9 - Gen. Sir John Nixon relieves General Sir Arthur Barrett as Commander-in-Chief Indian Expeditionary Force "D" Mesopotamia.

April 11 - British troops in Mesopotamia fend off a large attack by the Turks against Basra.

1916

April 9 - The Germans attack again at Verdun, now along a 20-mile-wide front on both the east and west banks of the Meuse River. Once again the attack only yields partial gains in the face of stiff French resistance.

1917

April 6 - Two days after the U.S. Senate votes 82 to 6 to declare war against Germany, the U.S. House of Representatives endorses the decision by a vote of 373 to 50, and the United States formally enters the First World War.

April 9 - Early in the morning 20,000 Canadian Soldiers attack in the first wave of fighting at Vimy Ridge. By the afternoon, the two front lines are taken by the Canadian Corps. By April 12 the entire ridge is under Allied control. When Hill 145 is captured, the operation is considered a resounding success. The ridge remains in Allied hands for the duration of the war.

1918

April 5 - General Erich Ludendorff formally ends "Operation Michael," the first stage of the final major German offensive of World War I.

Operation Michael produces the biggest gains of territory on the Western Front by either side since 1914. The Germans advance almost 40 miles, inflict some 200,000 casualties and capture 70,000 prisoners and more than 1,000 guns.

The Germans suffered nearly as many casualties as their enemies and lacked the fresh reserves and supplies the Allies enjoyed following the American entrance into the war. Still, Ludendorff would launch four more similar operations that spring of 1918, as the Germans staked everything on a last, desperate offensive on the Western Front.

April 9 - German troops launch "Operation Georgette" the second phase of their final, last-ditch spring offensive, against Allied positions in Armentières, France, on the River Lys.

After a four-and-a-half hour long bombardment of British forces in Armentières, 14 German divisions attack along a 10-mile front to begin the Battle of the Lys. The ferocious German advance quickly drives the British back, punching a hole 3.5 miles wide through the British line. They also make quick and bloody work of a Portuguese division taking part in the battle, sending four divisions against the single Portuguese unit and take some 6,000 prisoners. To make matters worse, the Germans unleash 2,000 tons of poisonous gas—including mustard and phosgene gas—against the British at the Lys, incapacitating 8,000 (of whom many were blinded) and killing 30.

World War II

1939

April 7 - In an effort to mimic Hitler's conquest of Prague, Benito Mussolini's troops, though badly organized, invade and occupy Albania.

Although the invasion of Albania was intended as but a prelude to greater conquests in the Balkans, it proved a costly enterprise for Il Duce. Albania was already dependent on Italy's economy, so had little to offer the invaders. And future exploits in neighboring nations, in Greece in particular, proved to be disastrous for the Italians.

1940

April 9 - German warships enter major Norwegian ports, from Narvik to Oslo, deploying thousands of German troops and occupying Norway. At the same time, German forces occupy Copenhagen, among other Danish cities.

1941

April 6 - The German air force launches Operation Castigo, the bombing of Belgrade, as 24 German army divisions and 1,200 tanks drive into Greece.

1942

April 9 - Major General Edward P. King Jr. surrenders at Bataan, Philippines against General Douglas MacArthur's orders—and 78,000 troops (66,000 Filipinos and 12,000 Americans), the largest contingent of U.S. Soldiers ever to surrender, are taken captive by the Japanese.

The prisoners were at once led 55 miles from Mariveles, on the southern end of the Bataan peninsula, to San Fernando, on what became known as the "Bataan Death March."

1943

April 5 - USAAF 325th Fighter Group receives orders to move two of its P-40 squadrons to the airfield at Montesquien, Algeria.

1944

April 8 - Russian forces led by Marshal Fedor Tolbukhin attack the German army in an attempt to win back Crimea, in the southern Ukraine, occupied by the Axis power. The attack would result in the breaking of German defensive lines in just four days, eventually sending the Germans retreating.

1945

April 7 - The Japanese battleship Yamato, ostensibly the greatest battleship in the world, is sunk in Japan's first major counteroffensive in the struggle for Okinawa.

Weighing 72,800 tons and outfitted with nine 18.1-inch guns, the battleship Yamato is Japan's only hope of destroying the Allied fleet off the coast of Okinawa. But insufficient air cover and fuel curse the endeavor as a suicide mission. Struck by 19 American aerial torpedoes, it sinks, drowning 2,498 of its crew.

April 11 - The American 3rd Army liberates the Buchenwald concentration camp, near Weimar, Germany, a camp that will be judged second only to Auschwitz in the horrors it imposed on its prisoners.

Next week in World War history is compiled from various sources by Keith Houin, USAG Benelux public affairs.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY**Sign up now**

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Luncheon** - All volunteers in the Brussels community who are registered with Brussels Army Community Service are invited to attend the USAG Benelux-Brussels Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and luncheon at the 3 Star **April 30** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided for registered volunteers. Reservations are required. To register for the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and luncheon, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783.
- **Adult Flag Football** - Join the adult league and start playing flag football at USAG Benelux-Brussels' Sterrebeek Annex, **April 13** from 7 to 9 p.m. Season runs through May 20. Games will be played Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 and 8 p.m. To register, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667.

April 2

- **Family Dinner at 3 Star** - Family Dinner is normally offered Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a buffet of chicken adobo, stir-fried beef, rice and chop suey. Make your (required) reservation at reservations3star@yahoo.com. Cost: Adults \$10, children 12 and under, \$5.

April 3

- **3 Star Recreation Night** - Join the USAG Benelux-Brussels community Fridays from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Recreation Night features games, cards, music and movies. Snacks and beverages available for purchase: crispy chicken tenders, daily homemade soup, potato wedges and more. Call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY**Sign up now**

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Luncheon** - All volunteers in the Schinnen/Brunssum community who are registered with the Volunteer Corps at Schinnen Army Community Service are invited to attend the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and luncheon at the Community Activity Center in Schinnen **April 14**. Doors open at 11:45 a.m. with check-in/registration. Lunch will be served at noon. The award ceremony will begin at 12:30 p.m. To register for the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and luncheon, call Schinnen Army Community Service at DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437269/7500, or send an email message to usarmy.schinnen.imcom-europe.list.acs@mail.mil. To register in the Volunteer Corps, you must first be trained in the Volunteer Management Information System, or VMIS, so that you may track your hours. To schedule VMIS training, call DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437269/7500.
- **Flea-market booths** - Schinnen Outdoor Recreation hosts a flea market **May 23** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Schinnen Activity Center. Setup at 9 a.m. Cost per table is \$10. For registration or more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.
- **CYSS Archery/blow darts clinics** - Enrollment for ages 10 to 18 is open through **April 17** with program starting April 30. For more information, call DSN 364-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.

April 3

- **Good Friday** - The Community Bank will be closed.

April 3 and 6

- **Easter weekend** - The following agencies will be closed: CYSS, Brunssum Library, PAO, Safety Office. Also, no U.S. services will be available at the Netherlands Law Center.

April 6

- **Easter Monday** - The following agencies will be closed: DPW/Housing, IACS

April 8

- **Newborn Network: Newborns, Parental Support and Music** - This support group for parents of children, ages newborn to 12 months, meets in the JFC Brunssum Child Development Center's Room Y006 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Offered through the New Parent Support Program, Newborn Network is a fun way to meet other parents, discuss parenthood and bond with your baby through music. To register or for more information, call DSN 360-7335/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437335/7500.

April 8 to 10

- **Spring and Easter fun** - From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Bowling Center and Schinnen Activity Center with dodge ball, wall climbing, soccer, obstacle course, and much more. Entry fee is \$5 per person per day payable at the Schinnen Bowling Center. For more information, call DSN 360-7370 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437370.

April 9

- **Pregnancy and Prenatal Support Group for Expectant Parents** - This support group for expectant parents meets in the JFC Brunssum Child Development Center's Room Y006 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The group is a safe place to discuss pregnancy, labor and delivery, and parenthood. Informational material regarding the physical and psychological changes that occur while making the transition into parenthood will be available. To register or for more information, call DSN 360-7335/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437335/7500.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - The SHAPE/Chièvres community will hold its annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at the SHAPE Club Ballroom **April 17** from 10 a.m. to noon. This free event celebrates the effort and support that volunteers provide to the SHAPE/Chièvres Community. Volunteers will be recognized for their myriad of contributions to the community. All volunteers who are registered in the Volunteer Management Information System, or VMIS, are welcome to attend, but reservations are required. To make a reservation, call SHAPE Army Community Service at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.
- **Registration open for Summer Theater Camp** - Children in grades 3 through 9 can bring the musical "HONK Jr." to the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre during Summer 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.
- **CYSS Colorful Run** - For ages 5 to 18, the run will be held on the SHAPE track, **April 16** from 2 to 6 p.m. Registration is open until April 15. Children 5 to 11 must be accompanied by their parents at the event. For more information, call DSN 423-6039 or civilian 065-446039.

April 3

- **First Term Financial readiness Workshop** - From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 318, this mandatory briefing is for all first term/initial term Soldiers. Learn about the practical approach to financial management, tools to handle money wisely and more. For more information, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

April 6 to 17

- **Spring Break Fun** - CYSS offers spring break activities for elementary-school, middle-school and high school students. Get details on the camps and trips at DSN 423-6104 or civilian 065-446104.

April 8

- **Sponsorship Training** - From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at ACS, Bldg. 318, find out what the responsibilities of being a good sponsor are and the local information that will make your job stress free. For more information or to register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

April 9

- **Dress For Success** - This employment class will be held in the SHAPE Army Community Service Conference Room from 9 a.m. to noon. The lesson will allow students to see various examples of dress and to determine the standard for dress in an interview, for a day on the job, and then to discuss alternatives, such as "business casual," accessories, tattoos and piercing. For information or to register, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.
- **Hearts Apart** - From noon to 1 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 318 for families residing in the area who are living separately from their military sponsor due to mission requirements. Meet, share information and experiences and discuss strategies to manage time and cope with stress. For more information, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

April 10

- **Sergeant Morales Club Induction** - Newest members will be inducted at 10 a.m., Auditorium, Bldg. 30, Caserne Daumerie. Sergeant Morales Club members exemplify a special kind of leadership characterized by a personal concern for the needs, training, development, and welfare of Soldiers. Membership is exclusive and is gained through a rigorous and competitive process. Event is open to all.



Inside the gate

Movies at SHAPE Cinema

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

Theaters near SHAPE/Chièvres that play movies in English:

Only the British or American movies listed as VO (Version Originale or Originele Versie) will be in English.

Plaza Art - Rue de Nimy 12, 7000 Mons (next to the main square). Visit <http://plaza-art.be/index.cgi?p=Grille>.

ImagiBraine - Boulevard de France, 1420 Braine l'Alleud. Check the schedule and purchase your tickets at: <http://kinopolis.be/nl/bioscopen/kinopolis-imagibraine>.

Kinopolis - Boulevard du Centenaire 20, 1020 Bruxelles. Take a look at movie listings at <http://kinopolis.be/fr/cinemas/kinopolis-bruxelles>.

Movie at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

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

'Travel the Benelux'

Mons 2015 - European Capital of Culture

As European capital of culture, the goal for the city of Mons is to provide architectural and cultural resources and make as many people as possible benefit from them.

To do so, the city is opening five new museums and a new concert hall:

1. Artothèque (Art Library)

Research, restoration and study center of the Mons heritage, the Artothèque will also host art collections that are not displayed on a permanent basis in other museums.

Location: Chapel of the former convent on Rue Claude de Bettignies, 1.

Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. *Fee:* €6

2. Neolithic Flint Mining in Spiennes

Visit these 6,000 year old mines that have been recognized by the Unesco.

Location: Rue du Point du Jour in Spiennes (7032).

Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday from April through November. *Fee:* €9



courtesy photo

3. Mons Memorial Museum

Learn about the day-to-day life of Soldiers

and civilians in wartime through personal accounts, letters and interviews.

Location: Boulevard Dolez (near Machine à Eau).

Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. *Fee:* €9

4. Doudou Museum

All you want to know about the famous fest in Mons called Doudou.

Location: Jardins du Mayeur (go through the City Hall porch on the main square).

Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. *Fee:* €9

5. The Belltower

The only belltower in baroque style in Belgium dates from the 17th century. It reopens in July with a panorama lift.

Location: Parc du Château and Rue des Gades.

Open (as of July) 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. *Fee:* €9

6. Concert hall "Arsonic" (meaning 'Cure by Music')

The old fire department has been totally redesigned to host a concert hall for acoustic music and holds 250 seats. The concert hall will be accessible free of charge on April 4 and 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with musical entertainment.

Location: Rue de Nimy 138.

Good to know:

- Next weekend, April 4 and 5, the first four museums listed on the left will be open free of charge.
- Every first Sunday of the month (next is April 5), many museums are free of charge, among which the Van Gogh display at the Beaux-Arts Mons on Rue Neuve, 8. For a listing of the participating museums in Brussels and Wallonia, check <http://artsetpublics.be/media/GUIDE-AVRIL2014.pdf> (although the year mentioned is 2014, the listing is still up-to-date).
- If you are living in Mons, you received the Mons Mag (magazine) in the mail. On page 11 and 12, you will see four coupons for one free access to the first four museums listed on the left.

Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-443884

- Dutch Day including lunch and visit to cheese farm/wooden shoe factory, **April 3**
- Movie Park Germany, **April 4**
- Croatia with Venice and Slovenia, **April 6 to 15**
- London and Harry Potter Studio Tour, **April 15**
- Keukenhof Gardens and Gouda, **April 18**
- Giverny, France: Impressionist painter Claude Monet's Home and Gardens, **April 25**
- Polish Pottery and Czech Crystal Shopping Trip, **May 1 to 4**
- Normandy Beaches, **May 29 to 31**
- Stonehenge including Salisbury and Oxford, **June 13 to 14**
- Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, **June 20**
- Mediterranean Cruise, **July 4 to 11**
- Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, **Aug. 8**
- Medieval Dinner in Bruges, **Aug. 22**

SHAPE Travel Group - Civilian 0470-876369.

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

Schinnen Trips & Tours

DSN 360-7561 or civilian 0031-(0)46-4437561

- Family Day "Trout Fishing," **April 11**
- Keukenhof Gardens, **April 25**
- Day Trip to Delft, **May 9**
- Berlin Express, **June 13**
- "Get Outdoors Day" Canoeing & Biking, **June 27**
- D-Day landing beaches, **July 17 to 20 (register by May 15)**
- Dutch Day Trip, **July 31**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

April 3

- **Flower market in Tournai** - This traditional flower market has been held in Tournai since the beginning of the 19th century. The market has grown ever since and now covers Rue Royale and the Scheldt quays as of 6 a.m., all day.

April 4

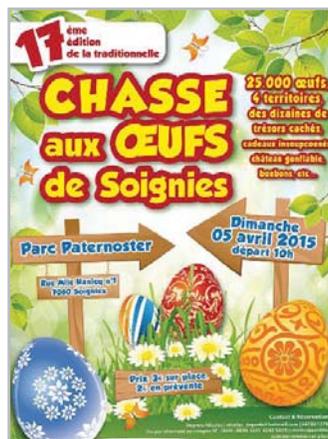
- **Easter egg hunt in Ath** - At the Esplanade with registration starting at 1:30 p.m. for five categories: 0 to 3 years old at 2 p.m., 4 to 5 years old at 2:30 p.m., 6 to 9 years old at 3 p.m., 10 to 12 years old at 3:30 p.m. and for the parents at 4 p.m. Participating fee is €1.
- **Easter egg hunt in Enghien** - At the park on Avenue Elisabeth 1 starting at 10:30 a.m. for children 2 up to 12 years old, divided over separate fields.
- **Flea market in Stambruges (20 booths)** - On Rue Hecquet 73 from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Lessines (40 booths)** - On Rue des 4 Fils Aymon from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

April 4 and 5

- **Open house at four new museums in Mons** - The Artothèque (art library), the Neolithic Flint Mining (in Spiennes), the Mons Memorial Museum and the Doudou museum will be open free of charge from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. (see page 12 for additional information)

April 5

- **Easter egg hunt in Jurbise** - At the city park, Rue du Moustier, 8, starting from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children up to 12 years old.
- **Easter egg hunt and pony rides in Erbisoeul** - At the horse riding club La Balade on 35, Chemin du Prince with egg hunt and various activities for children 1 to 15 years old, including pony and carriage rides, crafts and other activities. Participating fee is €7 per child.
- **Secondhand baby clothing sale in Ghlin** - On Place de Ghlin 5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entrance is free of charge.
- **Easter egg hunt in Soignies** - Some 25,000 eggs will be hidden in 4 separate fields per age category for children 0 to 12 years old at Parc Paternoster on Rue Melle Hanicq starting at 10 a.m. Participating fee is €3 per child.
- **First Easter market in Isières** - From 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the center of the village.



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

April 3

- **Year Market in Deventer** is a large, traditional annual market held in the historic center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 3 - September 4 (every Friday)

- **Cheese market in Alkmaar** - Cheese has been weighed in Alkmaar since 1593. Cheese carriers carry thousands of kilos of cheese from 'Waagplein' square to the weighing house. They can be seen in action every Friday between 10 a.m. and noon until the first Friday of September.

April 4

- **Kennedy Mars in Sittard** is a 50-mile/80-km annual volksmarch sparked by President John F. Kennedy's 1963 speech, which stated that, as a result of modern affluent society, "nobody can walk 50 miles within 20 hours anymore." To register for the 52nd annual Kennedy Mars (march), visit <http://www.kennedymars.org>.
- **Easter market in Essen (GE)** - Large market with lots of art, decorations, traditional Easter pastries held in the center and on Kettwiger Strasse. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Antiques and curiosa market in Roermond** - Held at Kloosterwandplein from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

April 4 to 6

- **Garden fair in Bacte Maria Leerne (BE)** is held at the Park of Castle Ooidonk on Ooidonkdreef 9 with more than 90 vendors offering flowers, plants, garden furniture and decorations, homemade products and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Entry: €8; children free.
- **Easter egg market in Dormagen (GE)** is held at Kreismuseum Zons on Schlosstrasse 1 and artists will display their artistically decorated Easter eggs. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €4; children €1.50.
- **Medieval festival in Dortmund-Syburg (GE)** is held in and around the castle Hohensyburg ruin on Hohensyburgstrasse 200. The festival is open on April 4-5, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on April 6, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Entry: €10; children €5. Families pay for only one child.



Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



April 5 Continued

- **Volksmarch in Isières for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departure is from the school on the square from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Naast for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departure is from Rue de la Place 21-25 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Peissant for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departure is from "Maison Villageoise" on Place Mozin et Libotte from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Repair Café in Soignies** - Every first Sunday of the month from 4 to 6 p.m., you can take your appliances to be fixed, your clothes that needs alteration, a bicycle to be repaired, etc. to the Repair Café on Rue Henri Leroy 15, to have it repaired or to help you repair it. No entrance fee.
- **Flea market in Petit-Enghien (130 booths)** - On the square from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Naast (25 booths)** - On Rue de la Place 21-25 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. (closed from noon to 1 p.m.)
- **Flea market in Soignies (40 booths)** - On Place Joseph Wauters from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jemappes (200 booths)** - On Avenue Maréchal Foch 873 from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flower market in Quiévrain** - On Place du Ballodrome and neighboring streets from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

April 6 (Belgian Holiday)

- **Flower market on the leper square** - Market is from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flower market in Roisin** - In the center of the village from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

April 7 to 19

- **33rd Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival** - The festival is held at the Center for fine arts, main entrance on Rue Ravenstein. For detailed program, check <http://www.biff.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Programme2015.pdf>.



April 8

- **Egg hunt in Mons** - At Mons Imagipark on Rue du Grand Large, 1 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. for children 1 to 12 years old. Participating fee is €8.50 per child including games, face painting and snack.

Ongoing

Throughout the year

- **Mons is 2015 European Capital of Culture** - Many events will take place though the year in Mons and its partner cities. For the program and more information, visit its website at <http://www.mons2015.eu/en>.



April 4 to 6 Continued

- **Easter market in Scheveningen** is held at Palaceplein with all kind of goodies from lady bags to jewelry. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the entry is free.

April 5

- **Antiques, art and curiosa market in Maas-tricht** is held at Boschstraat from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

April 5 and 6

- **Indoor flea market in Den Bosch** is held in Brabanthallen. Open both days from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Entry: €5; children 10 and younger - free entrance.
- **Traditional Easter market in Den Haag** is held on Lange Voorhout in the center of town. Open both days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

April 5 to 12

- **Art Breda** is an inspiring fair for art, design and antiques held on Chasséveld. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Apr. 8 from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Entry: €15; youth 12-17 years of age €10; children 11 and younger have free entrance.

April 6

- **Big Band Festival in Goor** is held from noon to 6 p.m. in the center and on Grote Straat with as theme: "Blues and Swing" - music from the '40-'50. No entrance fees.
- **Historic Festival in Raalte** at Manege 'de Hooge Weg' on Hogeweg 8 has a knight's tourney, medieval market and many actors displaying life in the middle ages. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €6; children 11 and under - €2.50.

Through May 17

- **Keukenhof Gardens near the town of Lisse** opens its gates again to show an unprecedented wealth of spectacular floral displays planted in endless varieties among beautiful works of art. This year, the international flower exhibition has chosen "Vincent van Gogh" as its central theme. Open daily 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ticket office closes at 6 p.m. Admission: €16; children, ages 4 to 11, €8. Visit <http://www.keukenhof.nl/en>.

