

# THE GAZETTE

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

## Benelux news briefs

### Postal ops relocates

Due to a required window renovation, postal operations at Brunssum is relocating to the Schinnen Postal Service Center through Aug. 10.

Customers may pick up their mail at Schinnen Mondays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Customers will be required to pick up their own mail unless they have provided written authorization (PS Form 3801).

Customers who are planning a vacation during that time should inform postal services to prevent accidental return of mail.

### TSC VI closes for training

The Training Support Center Benelux Visual Information section will be closed July 13 to 21 because its staff will be attending training.

VI provides the following services: photo studio, graphics printing and events/training documentation.

Plan accordingly, and be sure to schedule your appointments through the Visual Information Ordering Site at <https://www.vios-europe.army.mil>.

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*Happy birthday, America!*

Community members are invited to celebrate the nation's birthday at Independence Day events at installations in the Benelux. (Archive photo) **See page 3.**

# IMCOM COMMAND TEAM

## Play it safe Independence Day

July Fourth is a great occasion in our country to celebrate with patriotism.

John Adams, the first vice president and second president of the United States, helped write the Declaration of Independence.

"I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival," he said. "It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other."

Independence Day remains a national celebration just as Adams predicted. Celebrate in the spirit of independence and patriotism that has endured for 239 years. As Army professionals who protect our freedom, we must remain aware of the risks at July Fourth festivities.

Outdoor activities are a source of

sunburn and heat injuries. Drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks when working or playing in hot weather.

Water activities are also popular during the July Fourth weekend. Wear life jackets while boating, swim only in supervised areas and obey posted signs. Get out of the water at the first sign of bad weather.

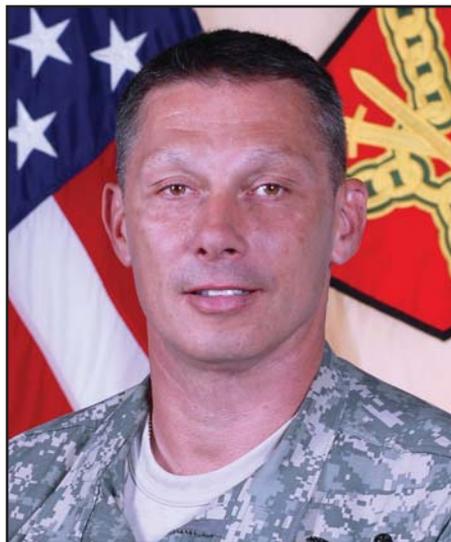
Alcohol doesn't mix with boating, swimming or driving. Watch your consumption, and don't drink if you will operate any type of vehicle. Give a responsible person details on where you will be and how long you will be gone.

Enjoy Independence Day as you celebrate with family and friends. Be safe. Our nation needs each one of us to support and defend this great country.

Once a Soldier, always a Soldier. Soldier for Life!



Lt. Gen. David Halverson



Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Hartless

## Be good host/guest at July Fourth parties

Hosting an Independence Day celebration? Here are a few tips to keep you and your guests safe:

- Provide plenty of non-alcoholic beverages.
- Don't pressure guests to drink.
- Serve plenty of food; eating slows the rate of absorption of alcohol.
- Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the party will end.
- If guests drink too much, have them stay the night, call a cab or arrange a ride with a sober driver.

If you'll be attending a party as a guest and plan to celebrate with alcohol, follow these tips:

- Eat a meal before you consume an alcoholic beverage.
- Alternate between alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages.
- Be aware that mixed drinks normally contain more alcohol than a standard drink of beer, wine or hard liquor.
- "Nurse" your drink. (Make it last.)
- Give your body time to process the alcohol by only having one drink an hour to an hour-and-a-half.

"Before celebrating the Fourth of July holiday, decide whether you'll drink or you'll drive," said Angela Wainwright of the USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program, or ASAP. "You can't do both."

See page 3 for Independence Day festivities and holiday hours.

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- Col. Marty Vannatter**.....Commander
- Marie-Lise Baneton**.....Public Affairs Officer
- Editor**.....Andrea Wales
- Staff Writers**.....Donovan Abrassart  
Tim Clark  
Rita Hoefnagels  
Keith Houin  
Cis Spook

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# Benelux celebrates Independence Day Saturday

## USAG Benelux-Brussels

Join the USAG Benelux-Brussels community for the 2015 Independence Day Celebration to be held at the Sterrebeek Annex. The event starts at 3 p.m. and will be a fun-filled day including barbecue food, music, water slides, bouncy castles, ice cream, games, activities for all ages and more. Fireworks are scheduled at 10:30 p.m. For more information contact DSN: 368-9768 or civilian 02-7179768.

### Schedule of events

- Throughout the afternoon: World War II vehicle display and parade, kids activities, bouncy castles, food and drinks
- 4 p.m.: Balloon-sculpture artist
- 5:30 p.m.: Brussels American Community Choir
- 6 p.m.: Color Guard
- 6:05 p.m.: Opening remarks
- 6:15 p.m.: Country music
- 7:30 p.m.: SHAPE Band
- 9 p.m.: DJ Variety music
- 10:30 p.m.: Fireworks display



*Fun for everyone*

*Fourth of July celebrations offer activities for people of all ages, including Uncle Sam, Commissary director Mario Caputi, who plays cornhole at the 2014 SHAPE event. (Archive photo)*

## USAG Benelux-Schinnen

The 2015 Independence Day celebration will be held on the Brunssum Sports Field starting at 2 p.m. and continuing until 1 a.m.

### Schedule of events

Throughout the course of the afternoon, attendees can enjoy a display of classic cars, clowns, dunk tank, obstacle courses, children's jungle gyms, food and drinks.

- 3 p.m.: Birds of prey show
- 3:30 p.m.: Music4Vets
- 4:30 p.m.: Birds of prey show
- 5 p.m.: Music4Vets
- 6 p.m.: Birds of prey show
- 8:15 p.m.: Mystic Roots five-piece pop-reggae fusion band
- 11:15 p.m.: Fireworks

**Note:** Bring a change of clothes in case you get wet.

No glass bottles, personal coolers, baskets and dogs (except guide dogs) are allowed on site.

Open to NATO and U.S. card holders.

## USAG Benelux

The 2015 Independence Day celebration will be held in the fest tent on SHAPE.

### Schedule of events

- All Day: DJ Crowd Entertainment
- All Day: World War II Vehicles, Police and Fire Department display, Vintage Vehicle exhibition, balloon animals.
- noon to 4 p.m.: Planche a Jazz
- 4 to 6 p.m.: Beatles Cover Band
- 6 to 7 p.m.: Blues Rock Karma
- 7 to 9 p.m.: Zenith
- 9 to 11 p.m.: DJ Lineup
- 11 p.m.: Fireworks



# Take note of Fourth of July hours, closures

Several agencies will modify their hours to observe the Independence Day holiday or to serve customers who need to pick up last-minute party supplies.

**AAFES**

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service will be open during following holiday hours of operation Saturday, July Fourth:

Chièvres Main Store will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Chièvres Food Court: Burger King will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Anthony's Pizza closed.

Normal operating hours resume July 5.

Brussels Shoppette will be open July 3 and 4 from 11

a.m. to 4 p.m., and will return to normal hours July 5.

Schinnen Shoppette and Gas Station will be open Friday, July 3, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Main Store will be closed.

Schinnen Exchange facilities will be open Saturday, July 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Normal operating hours of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume Sunday, July 5.

**ACS**

Army Community Service will be closed Friday, July 3, to celebrate the federal holiday observance related to Independence Day.

**Commissary**

The Defense Commissary Agency will adjust its hours

in the Benelux in celebration of Independence Day.

Schinnen Commissary will be open Friday, July 3, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and closed Saturday, July Fourth. Schinnen Commissary returns to normal hours Sunday, July 5, when it will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Chièvres Commissary will be closed on the Fourth of July.

However, it will be open regular hours on July 3 and 5.

Commissary manager Mario Caputi will be dressed as Uncle Sam July Fourth and will be available on SHAPE to take pictures with Commissary patrons and other SHAPE community members.

**Finance**

Cash cage will be closed Friday, July 3.

**SHAPE clinic**

The SHAPE Healthcare Facility will be open as follows: Friday, July 3, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Medical Officer on Duty/Walk-in Clinic only.

Saturday, July Fourth, from 8 to 10 a.m.: MOD/Walk-in Clinic only.

Sunday, July 5, from 8 to 10 a.m.: MOD/Walk-in Clinic only.

Monday, July 6, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Full clinic services.

A description of "Medical Officer on Duty" denotes a reduced staff but that a doctor will be on site. On MOD days, appointments aren't available, but walk-in visits are.

## Schinnen's legal office will close temporarily soon

The Netherlands Law Center will be closed for all legal-assistance services July 13 to 31.

- For claims assistance, call the Northern Law Center on SHAPE, Belgium, at DSN 423-4061 or civilian +32 (0) 65-444061.
- Most other legal assistance requirements can be handled at the Geilenkirchen Legal Office on Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base at DSN 458-6058 or civilian +49 (0) 245-163-2235 to speak to a paralegal in the Geilenkirchen Legal Office.

Additionally, the Geilenkirchen Legal Office provides the following information to assist with Powers of Attorney at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/lass/lass.html>

At this website, clients are able to draft General and/or Special Powers of Attorney, as needed. Once the draft is complete, clients can send an e-mail with the tracking number to the following e-mail address: 470abs.ja@us.af.mil.

Office hours for the GK Legal Office are:

- Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding this announcement, contact the Netherlands Law Center at DSN 360-7688 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437688 by July 10.

## Concessionaires move

Stripes Alterations and Laundry/Dry Cleaning recently moved from the PXtra. Alterations is now located inside the PX mall, next to the barber shop. LDC is now located next to the launderette (by the Chièvres Community Activity Center).

- Laundry/Dry Cleaning in Building 20081 has the hours below:
  - Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  - Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Closed Sundays and Mondays.
- Stripes Alterations in Building 20150 is currently under the following temporary hours:
  - Mondays from 2 to 5 p.m.
  - Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
  - Saturdays from 12:30 to 6 p.m.
  - Closed Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays.



**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  
<http://benelux.afneurope.net>

# Use precautions to thwart heat-related illnesses

by **Nino Antonacci**  
Schinnen Installation Safety Officer

This week the Benelux is encountering extremely hot weather. Preventing heat injuries is one of the USAG Benelux's important goals.

To prevent heat injuries, consider the following actions:

## Sunburn and Heat Illnesses

While we might enjoy working outside in the sun, too much sun exposure can lead to sunburn and other skin problems. Sunburns can be harmful and, in certain cases, can result in a recordable injury.

Employers are required to protect employees against overexposure to the sun's radiation. With the potential for sunburn, a shirt would be considered personal protective equipment just the same as goggles, hard hats, or respirators. Employers can be cited for failure to enforce the use of personal protective equipment including shirts as protection against sunburn injuries.

Some recommendations for protection from the sun and preventing heat injuries include:

- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting, breathable clothing— (cotton).
- Drink small amounts of water frequently.
- Work in the shade.
- Wear a hat to protect the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose and scalp. A hard hat with a 360-degree brim is effective.
- Use a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher to block out at least 93 percent of the UV rays. Sunscreen should be applied at least 15 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours
- Wear sunglasses that block UV rays.
- Eat smaller meals before work activity.
- Limit direct sun exposure, and seek shade whenever possible.

Employees become more vulnerable to heat-related injuries and illnesses with rising summer temperatures. Personal characteristics — such as age, weight, fitness, and medical condition — can affect an employee's ability to deal with excessive heat.

Some explanations about heat-related illnesses:



*Stay cool this summer to prevent heat injuries.*

## Heat rash

Also known as prickly heat, heat rash may occur in hot and humid environments where sweat isn't easily removed from the surface of the skin by evaporation. Often, it occurs in areas where clothing presses or rubs against the skin. Heat rash interferes with the body's ability to sweat, thereby reducing the ability of the body to handle heat.

## Heat cramps

Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms caused by heat, dehydration and the body's salt loss. Tired muscles — those used for performing the work — are usually the ones most susceptible to cramps.

## Heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion could result from loss of fluid through sweating when a worker has failed to drink enough fluids. If heat exhaustion isn't treated, the illness may advance to heat stroke. Symptoms include:

- Paleness
- Dizziness
- Weakness
- Pale, clammy skin
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Muscle cramps

## Heat stroke

Heat stroke is caused by the body's failure to regulate its core temperature. Sweating stops and the body can no

longer rid itself of excess heat. Unless treated promptly, victims of heat stroke will die. Symptoms include:

- Dry, pale skin (no sweating)
- Hot, red skin (looks like a sunburn)
- Mood changes (irritable or confused)
- Headaches
- Rapid pulse, and
- Unconsciousness

## Prevention

To prevent heat-related illnesses, train your employees to do the following:

- Drink cool water in small amounts frequently—one cup every 20 minutes. Avoid alcohol, coffee, tea and caffeinated soft drinks, which cause dehydration.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing, and change clothing if it gets completely saturated. Use sunscreen and wear a hat outdoors. If possible, avoid having employees work outside.

• Use short, frequent work-rest cycles when it's hot. Alternate work and rest periods with longer rest periods in a cooler area, and schedule heavy work for cooler parts of the day.

• Realize that some medical conditions, such as heart conditions and diabetes, and some medications can increase the risk of injury from heat exposure.

Other steps employers can take to prevent heat-related illnesses include:

• Have good general ventilation, as well as spot cooling, in work areas of high heat production. Good air flow increases evaporation of sweat, which cools the skin.

• Monitor workplace temperature and humidity, and be alert to early signs of heat-related illness. Allow employees to take a rest break if they become extremely uncomfortable.

• Use common sense when determining fitness for work in hot environments. Lack of acclimatization, age, obesity, poor conditioning, pregnancy, inadequate rest, previous heat injuries, medical conditions and medications are some factors that increase susceptibility to heat stress.

Use these hints to battle the heat and sun. Keep in mind that you have to do a risk assessment on all your operations.

# US Army celebrates 240th anniversary at SHAPE



Cis Spook



(Clockwise from top) The 39th Signal Battalion Color Guard members act as the guardians of the Colors during the U.S. Army Birthday Ball on SHAPE June 27, 2015. • Guest speaker Lt. Gen. John W. Nicholson, Commander, Allied Land Command, Izmir, Turkey, gives his address at the event. • Maj. Gen. Gordon "Skip" Davis, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations and Intelligence, SHAPE, hosts the ball. • World War II artifacts and uniforms on display. • Staff Sgt. Jose Lopez and his wife pose near the WWII display. • Head table during Nicholson's speech. (Photos by Eric Daniel unless otherwise indicated)



The 39th Signal Battalion presented the U.S. Army Birthday Ball on SHAPE June 27, 2015. Founded June 14, 1775, the Army marks its 240th anniversary this year.

Under the new Constitution enacted in 1789, it became a military department of the federal government, a hierarchical bureaucratic institution.

Many decades later, by the early 1900s, generations of foresighted Army leaders slowly transformed the Army into the modern professional entity it is today.

The Army family celebrates 240 years of selfless service to the nation. Selfless service is at the core of what it means to be a Soldier – putting the welfare of others ahead of your own welfare. The willingness of America's Soldiers to place themselves in harm's way and to protect the nation's freedoms is what makes the U.S. Army the premier all-volunteer force.

The Army has served proudly, faithfully and selflessly for 240 years, and its Soldiers remain steadfast in their commitment.



# IMCOM starts Voluntary Placement Program

## Special to the Gazette

HQ IMCOM Civilian Personnel Branch

SAN ANTONIO (June 24, 2015) – The Installation Management Command's new Voluntary Placement Program will give first consideration to internal employees wishing to move overseas or return to the continental United States from an overseas position.

Beginning June 30, 2015, eligible permanent IMCOM GS-9 and above (or wage grade equivalent) employees have been able to apply for available positions posted on an AKO portal on a weekly basis. The goal of the program is to give current employees an opportunity to volunteer for career-broadening assignments within the command before considering outside applicants.

At this time, the program doesn't include opportunities for CONUS-to-CONUS or OCONUS-to-OCONUS movement, and doesn't extend to Non-appropriated Fund, or NAF, employees due to regulatory issues.

Employees may apply for multiple positions but are limited to using a single résumé during any given week.

In accordance with Department of Defense Priority Placement Program policy, valid job offers made under the IVPP will be considered legitimate for IMCOM OCONUS employees registered in PPP. Declining an IVPP valid job offer may result in removal from PPP and may subject the employee to adverse action. OCONUS PPP registrants should submit résumés only for positions they are prepared to accept.

### IVPP – Frequently Asked Questions

**Q1.** What is IMCOM Voluntary Placement Program?

**A1.** IVPP is a program created to enhance career-broadening opportunities and incentives for employees to remain within IMCOM. IVPP will enable IMCOM CONUS employees to receive first consideration for OCONUS assignments and IMCOM OCONUS employees to receive the same consideration for CONUS assignments. Available opportunities will be posted on AKO portal on a weekly basis. (New jobs will be posted every Tuesday.)

## Declining an IVPP valid job offer may result in removal from PPP and may subject the employee to adverse action.

**Q2.** How is the IVPP different from the IMCOM Enhanced Priority Placement Program/Priority Placement Program?

**A2.** IMCOM employees in both OCONUS and CONUS will be able to participate in IVPP and apply for consideration to IMCOM vacancies. IEPP is only available for IMCOM OCONUS employees registered in PPP and enhances the placement opportunities of IMCOM PPP registrants against IMCOM CONUS positions. IEPP isn't available for CONUS IMCOM employees.

**Q3.** Who is eligible to enroll in the IVPP?

**A3.** Permanent IMCOM OCONUS employees GS-9 and above [and wage grade (WG) equivalents] are eligible for consideration for IMCOM CONUS assignments. Permanent IMCOM CONUS employees GS-9 and above [and wage grade (WG) equivalents] are eligible for consideration for IMCOM OCONUS assignments. At this time, it doesn't include opportunities for CONUS-to-CONUS or OCONUS-to-OCONUS movement and doesn't extend to Nonappropriated Fund, or NAF, employees.

**Q4.** How does the application process work?

**A4.** IMCOM employees will be required to submit a résumé and application using AKO. Employees will be allowed to submit one résumé a week and submit applications to multiple opportunities using the same resume. Résumés may only be revised and resubmitted during the new posting cycle.

**Q5.** How will I know the status of my application?

**A5.** HQ IMCOM G-1 will provide applicants updates to their application status through AKO.

**Q6.** How does the selection process work?

**A6.** Hiring managers will receive a list of eligible candidates, they will have two weeks to review and make a selection determination. Hiring managers may contact the employees and interview unless the bargaining agreement or local merit promotion plan requires interviews as part of the candidate assessment process. In those cases, the requirements of the labor agreements/merit promotion plans will be met. Hiring managers are encouraged to vet candidates by obtaining references to verify satisfactory performance and conduct before making a decision.

Upon receipt of selection decision from hiring manager, HQ IMCOM G-1 will coordinate the selection with the servicing civilian personnel advisory center, or CPAC). The selectee will receive an official offer through the CPAC.

**Q7.** What happens if an employee declines a job offer through the IVPP?

**A7.** In accordance with DOD PPP policy, job offers made under the IVPP may be considered valid for IMCOM OCONUS employees registered in PPP. Such declination may result in removal from PPP and may subject the employee to adverse action. OCONUS PPP registrants are cautioned to submit résumés only for positions they are prepared to accept.

Other employees who decline firm job offers under the IVPP will receive no further consideration under this program. Only region directors for garrison and region employees, and deputy commanding generals for HQ and AEC employees, may approve exceptions to this provision. For exceptions, employees must submit a written request through command channels to the appropriate approving official who will forward the decision to the HQ IMCOM G-1 POC.

Forward any questions to [usarmy.jbsa.imcom-hq.mbx.voluntary-placement-program@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jbsa.imcom-hq.mbx.voluntary-placement-program@mail.mil).

# Remain vigilant while traveling this summer

Terrorists may strike anywhere and violence may come from anyone.

Here are some measures you can take to protect yourself and your family while traveling:

- Travel in small groups and vary routes.
- Carry a card with key phrases in the local language to assist you in asking for help.
- Let your unit, family and/or battle buddy know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- As current EUCOM policy prohibits uniform wear off military installations, avoid civilian clothes with American or Department of Defense affiliation.

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Avoid large gatherings and demonstrations.
- Know emergency numbers and carry a cell phone with you.
- Monitor news and government websites for information while traveling.
- Use extra caution in public places, such as lobbies and nightclubs.
- Register your trip with State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) to receive alerts and messages.

Take into consideration other factors that could influence your local environment, such as civil unrest, significant anniversaries and politically charged issues.

### Significant dates and events

- July 7: Anniversary of 2005 London transportation bombing.
- July 18: Anniversary of 2012 suicide-bomber attack on tourist bus in Burgas, Bulgaria.
- July 22: Anniversary of 2011 lone wolf attack in Oslo and Utøya, Norway.
- Sept. 4: Anniversary of 2007 arrest of three in Oberschedorn, Germany, as German authorities foil terrorist plot to attack U.S. and other targets.
- Sept. 11: Anniversary of 2011 Benghazi attack and 2001 attacks on American soil.

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS, SAY SOMETHING**

not sure what to report? want to make a report?  
go to [www.eur.army.mil/eureport](http://www.eur.army.mil/eureport)  
or use the link at right found on all U.S. Army garrison and U.S. Army Europe unit home pages in the European theater

**iWATCH ARM iSALUTE TERRORISM**  
CLICK TO MAKE A REPORT

## SHAPE/Chièvres shuttle changes schedule

Shuttle Dispatch has released a new schedule, which took effect July 1.

The new schedule fills in all of the no-service slots on the old Route 1 (SHAPE-to-Chièvres) schedule and fills in many of the no-service slots on the old Route 2 (Chièvres-to-SHAPE) schedule.

As before, the shuttle runs weekdays; shuttle service isn't offered weekends or on Belgian or SHAPE holidays.

All but one of the start times for the SHAPE-to-Chièvres shuttle have been shifted earlier or later. The earliest shuttle

from SHAPE's Building 220, the start of the route, is now 6:15 a.m. instead of 6:30 a.m. The latest shuttle from SHAPE's Building 220 remains unchanged at 5:15 p.m.

Only one of the start times for the Chièvres-to-SHAPE shuttle has been shifted. The second run now leaves the Chièvres Air Base Lodge, the start of the route, at 7:15 a.m. instead of 7:30 a.m.

To get a copy of the new schedule or to have your questions answered, call Shuttle Dispatch at DSN 361-6342 or civilian 068-276342.

## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camp** - This day camp has a different theme every week and runs through Aug. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Brussels Summer Camps offer a wide variety of activities, clubs, service projects, field trips, special events and daily snacks. School Age Camp offers activities for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Middle School/Teen Camp serves youths in sixth grade through 11th grade. CYSS also provides before-camp care from 7 to 8:30 a.m. and after-camp care from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Find out more or register by stopping by Parent Central Services in Building 3 or call DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-7179651.

### Through July 22

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read to the Rhythm" is for children ages 3 to 14. Read books, log your reading and earn prizes. For more information, call DSN 368-9791 or civilian 02-7179791.

### July 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.

### July 4

- **Independence Day** - To learn more about planned festivities, see page 3.

### July 9

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Enjoy chicken-filet sandwich, hamburger, fries and salad at Family Dinner at the 3 Star Lounge from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost: adults \$10; children, ages 12 and under, \$5. Reservations are required. Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

### July 10

- **Mystic Roots Concert** - Listen to this five-piece pop-reggae fusion band during a free concert at the USAG Benelux-Brussels Complex Top Parking Lot from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be available for purchase near the fest tent, starting at 5:30 p.m. Find out more at DSN 368-9768 or civilian 02-7179768.

### July 11

- **American Legion Auxiliary social** - The American Legion Post BE02 Auxiliary will hold its new-member potluck social from noon to 2 p.m. New members are invited to bring a friend, and anyone interested in the American Legion Auxiliary is welcome. Enjoy food, fun and games. Call civilian 048-3639765 for more information.

### July 14 to 17

- **Welcome, newcomers** - Brussels Army Community Service invites all service members, civilians and their families to participate in free newcomers events next week. July 14: Supermarket Guided Tour is conducted from 8:30 to 11 a.m. July 15: The deputy garrison manager's welcome and USAG Benelux-Brussels site brief start at 9 a.m. and are followed by a cultural acclimatization (information on local customs as well as basic French and Dutch), which ends at 12:30 p.m. July 16: Hospital Guided Tour is conducted from 9:30 a.m. to noon. July 17: Metro Madness (in which newcomers learn to use public transportation) runs from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Meet in the ACS conference room in Building 4 half an hour before start time to get settled, get a snack or get ready to leave as a group for a tour, if applicable. Register by calling DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783.

### July 15

- **Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families** - Sesame Street and the USO are bringing the furry, fuzzy and friendly Muppets to Brussels American School from 4:30 to 7 p.m. At this free show, you'll watch Elmo, Grover, Rosita, Cookie Monster and Honker as they help Katie, a military kid moving to a new base. First come, first served: Seating is limited. To learn more about the Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families and for tour information, visit [www.sesamestreet.org/TLC](http://www.sesamestreet.org/TLC) and [USO.org](http://USO.org). Locally, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 027-179822.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **CYSS Soccer** - Register now for the September-to-October season. Cost is \$20 for 3- to 5-year-olds and \$40 for 6- to 15-year-olds. For more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.
- **CYSS Flag Football** - Register now for practice starting Sept. 19. Cost is \$40 for youths ages 10 to 15. For more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.

### Through Aug. 26

- **Summer Reading Program** - School-age children and teens will register for the "Read to the Rhythm" program at the library, check out and read books from the JFC HQ Brunssum Library, and earn a variety of prizes for the number of books read. Preschool children, ages 3 and older, may earn prizes by having books read aloud to them. For more information, call +31 (0) 45-5262669/2469.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY continued

### July 4

- **Independence Day** - To learn more about planned festivities, see page 3.

### July 7, 8, 21, 22

- **New-Parent Support Home Visitor** - Based at SHAPE, Belgium, the New Parent Support Home Visitor is coming to Schinnen and Brunssum. If you are interested in classes, materials, home visits, support or education on topics relating to pregnancy, newborns or toddlers, contact Army Community Service at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.

### July 8

- **Newborn Network** - Meet other parents, discuss parenthood and bond with your baby through music at the Child Development Center's Room Y006 on Brunssum from 10 to 11:30 a.m. To register or for more information on this support group for parents of children ages newborn to 12 months, call DSN 360-7335/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437335/7500.

### July 9

- **Pregnancy and Prenatal Support Group for Expectant Parents** - Discuss pregnancy, labor and delivery, and parenthood at the Child Development Center's Room Y006 on Brunssum from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This support group for expectant parents also provides informational material on the physical and psychological changes that occur while making the transition to parenthood. To register or for more information, call DSN 360-7335/7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437335/7500.

## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

### Register now

- **Vacation Bible School 2015** - SHAPE International Chapel presents "Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power" **Aug. 8** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. An event for the entire family, this Saturday VBS allows parents to participate with their children. Sign up or volunteer at <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/SHAPEKidsVBS/gpgs/home.aspx> or find "SHAPE International Chapel VBS" on Facebook.
- **Experienced Rider Course** - Registration is open for the Course that will be offered at the MSF Range and a classroom portion on Chièvres Air Base in Building 20134's Room 119 **July 9** from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. To register, visit [https://imc.army.mil/airs/usg\\_disclaimer.aspx](https://imc.army.mil/airs/usg_disclaimer.aspx).

### Through Aug. 6

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read to the Rhythm" encourages reading throughout the summer months for patrons of all ages. Stop by the SHAPE International Library or Chièvres Library to learn more or call SHAPE at DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-445631, or Chièvres at DSN 361-5767 or civilian 068-275767.

### July 4

- **Independence Day** - To learn more about planned festivities, see page 3.

### July 13 and 14

- **Host-Nation Orientation** - Army Community Service invites all service members, civilian employees and their family members to learn about the SHAPE/Chièvres community and all it has to offer. During the two-day orientation, you will learn about Belgian customs and basic French. You will also go on a cultural city tour and tour a Belgian hospital as well as sample traditional Belgian cuisine and learn how to shop on the economy. The group will also learn how to use public transportation and visit the Ste. Waudru Collegiale in Mons. Meet at the ACS conference room 15 minutes earlier than the start time of 8:30 a.m. Call ACS at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

### Movies at SHAPE Cinema

Rates – 2D movies: adults €7 and children 11 and under €4. 3D movies: adults €9 and children 11 and under €6. Check <http://www.shape2day.com> under "Morale & Welfare (MWB)" for the movie schedule.

#### Theaters near SHAPE/Chièvres that play movies in English:

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

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

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

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

### Movie at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

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

# Tour de France comes to Belgium July 7

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

The Tour de France, the most prestigious race in cycling and the largest annual sporting event in the world will be coming soon to a town near you. If you have ever wanted to see the Tour de France in person, this is your chance to experience this world-class competition.

July 7's Stage 4 will run across Belgium from Seraing, Belgium, to Cambrai, France.

From the start in Utrecht, the Netherlands, July 4 to the finish in Paris July 26, the 102nd Tour de France will have 21 stages and cover 2,087 miles. Stage 4 will be the longest of the race at 138 miles.

It won't be hard to follow the American riders in this Tour de France. Only three Americans are expected to be in the race, the smallest number since 1996. Tejay van Garderen of BMC racing, Andrew Talansky of Cannondale-Garmin and Tyler Farrar of MTN-Qhubeka will make up the sparse American contingent.

Garderen is America's top hope for a high finish. Favorites to win are defending champion Vincenzo Nibali, 2013 winner Chris Froome and Nairo

Quintana who finished second in the 2013 Tour de France.

The start of Stage 4 in Seraing (near Liège) will be the best bet for readers in the Schinnen area. The race will start at noon after the sponsors parade starting at 10 a.m.

For readers in the Mons and Brussels areas, Binche might be the closest place to view the race with the parade at around 12:30 p.m. and

the racers following two hours later.

The best tip to see the race: Get there very early. Large crowds and many road closings mean parking won't be easy. Officials at the Binche tourism office suggest that you be there by 8 a.m. to park anywhere near the race route.

For more information, visit the official website at <http://www.letour.com>.



Tour de France 2014 has rain for the racers in Ieper (Ypres), Belgium. (U.S. Army photo by Tim Clark)

Outside the gate

## Upcoming organized trips

### SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Disney Paris, July 15**
- **Amsterdam, July 18**
- **Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, the Netherlands, July 23**
- **Paris, July 25**
- **Prague with Heidelberg and Nuremberg, July 26 to 29 (Register by July 23.)**
- **Bluewater Mall, UK, July 31**
- **Rhine River Cruise, Aug. 4**
- **Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, Aug. 8**
- **Fécamp - Etretat, Normandy, Aug. 12**
- **London, Aug. 15 to 17**
- **Medieval Dinner in Bruges, Aug. 22**
- **Wurstmarkt in Bad Dürkheim, Sept. 19**
- **London, Oct. 3**
- **Alsace Wine Route, Oct. 10 to 11**

### SHAPE Travel Group - Call civilian 0470-876369.

- **Tongeren Antique Market, Aug. 30**
- **The Best of Luxembourg City, Sept. 10**
- **London & Buckingham palace, Sept. 18**
- **Belgian Coast by Tram, Sept. 24**
- **Belgian Trappist and Countryside Tour, Oct. 6**
- **A Day in Rotterdam, Oct. 20**
- **Antwerp and Red Star Line Museum, Nov. 19**
- **Cologne Christmas markets, Nov. 24**

### Schinnen Trips & Tours - Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.

- **Dutch Day, July 31**
- **Bernkastel-Kues, Germany: Wine Festival, Sept. 5**
- **National Liberation Museum 44-45, Sept. 26**
- **NFL Games, Book your tickets now for Oct. 3 to 5 (New York Jets vs. Miami Dolphins), Oct. 24 to 26 (Buffalo Bills vs. Jacksonville Jaguars) and Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 (Detroit Lions vs. Kansas City Chiefs).**

# Travel the Benelux

## Vianden charms visitors in Ardennes

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office



A fairy-tale castle set in the stunning landscape of the Ardennes, Vianden Castle sits on a hill overlooking the quaint town of Vianden, Luxembourg.

The castle was built between the 11th and 14th centuries for the counts of Vianden. From the 12th to the 15th century, the counts were the most powerful nobles in the region of the Rhine, Mosel and Maas rivers. Connections with the Royal Family of France and the German imperial court enhanced their influence.

The castle passed out of the family of the Counts of Vianden in the 16th century.

Over the centuries the castle slowly deteriorated. The low point came in 1820 when William I of the Netherlands sold the castle to a local merchant who then sold off the contents and masonry piece by piece. The castle fell into ruin.

Restoration of the castle began in 1962. The family of the Grand Duke of Luxembourg transferred ownership of the castle to the state of Luxembourg in 1977.

Restored to its former glory by the state, it now stands as a monument to its glorious past. It is one of the largest feudal castles of the Romanesque and Gothic periods in Europe.

Vianden, a charming small town that can easily be seen on foot. Small shops and restaurants line the main street with the river Our running right down the middle of town. The Trinitarian church, built in 1677, has beautiful stained glass windows.

The winding roads and pathways in and around Vianden are popular with bicyclists, hikers and bikers. Be sure to take a drive around area for some wonderful views of the castle and spectacular panoramic views of the Ardennes.

Vianden has a number of annual events, including the popular medieval festival, this year from July 25 to Aug. 2. The nut market in October – when local walnuts are on sale along with all manner of things made from walnuts – always draws a large number of visitors.

Outside the gate



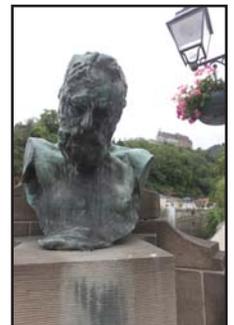
For your GPS:  
Luxembourg  
Vianden L-9416  
From:  
Mons: 215 km  
Brussels: 220 km  
Schinnen: 163 km



### The Hugo connection

Victor Hugo, the French author of “Les Misérables” and “The Hunchback of Notre-Dame,” lived in Vianden several times between 1862 and 1871.

He documented the area in prose, poetry and sketches, doing much to promote the attractions of Vianden to the outside world. The house where he stayed in 1871 is now a museum with a few letters written in his hand, his furniture and some personal documents as well as some reproductions of drawings he made there. A bust of Hugo by Rodin, a gift to the city from the French senate, stands on the bridge next to the museum.





Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

**July 3**

- **Orientation trail in Braine-le-Comte** - Trail is 3 to 6 km and departs from Drève du Long Jour. Participation fee is €3 per adult and €1 per youth. Event is from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

**July 4**

- **Late opening and summer market in Mons** - Starting at 10 a.m. and going through 10 p.m. with summer market, paella, barbecue, wine bar and musical entertainment to celebrate the start of the annual sales in the Mons pedestrian area, Rue de la Chaussée.
- **Book fair in Brussels** - At the Army Museum at Parc du Cinquantenaire 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission.
- **Volksmarch in Wodecq for 4, 7, 14 or 25 km** - Departs from the school at Vieux Moulin 4 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Small participation fee.
- **Flea market in Hainin (120 booths)** - On Rue Gia Séhour from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Thoricourt (100 booths)** - At Rue de Silly 33 and Vieille Place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Hennuyères (150 booths)** - On Rue de la Butte and Place C. du Bois d'Enghien from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Roux-Miroir (300 booths)** - On Rue de Chaumont from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Estinnes (150 booths)** - On Place de Peissant from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**July 4 and 5**

- **Evening flea market in Jemappes (200 booths)** - At Avenue Maréchal Foch 873 from Saturday at noon through Sunday at 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Mons (100 booths)** - On Avenue des Guerites 1 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days.
- **Summer Dance Festival in Mons** - From 5 p.m. through 2 a.m., come and dance ragga, salsa, bachata, merengue and more on the main square. No participation fee.

**July 5**

- **Secondhand baby clothing and equipment sale in Braine-l'Alleud** - From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Rue de la Goette.
- **Visit the windmill in Ostiches** - Watch how bread was made in the old days, or visit the mill, local product market, smithy and cutlery from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Repair café in Soignies** - Get your broken items fixed or learn how to fix them free at Rue Henri Leroy 15 from 2 to 6 p.m.
- **Food trail from farm to farm in Ecaussines d'Enghien** - The 13-km walk starts at the castle farm on Rue de Seneffe, then breakfast at the Dechief farm at Closière du Fy 14, aperitif at the Boitequin farm on Rue Waugénée and barbecue at the Mestdagh farm at Rue Triboureau 6. Cost: €25 per adult; €10 for children under 13. Reservations required. Call 067-493252.



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

**Through July 5**

- **Amsterdam Roots Festival in Amsterdam** sets the tone for world music with music, solo artists and bands from all over the globe. Performances are all over the city center.
- **Wine/Winzer Market in Soest, Germany**, is being held at Theodor-Heuss-Park, where about 17 local vintners offer their wares. Open July 2 to 3 from 4 to 11 p.m.; July 4 from noon to midnight; and July 5 from noon to 8 p.m.

**July 3 to 5**

- **Pasar Malam Asia in Eindhoven** is an annual Asian market that will be held at Beursgebouw with shows, demonstrations and food. Open July 3 from 1 to 10 p.m.; July 4 from 1 to 11 p.m. and July 5 from noon to 8 p.m. Admission: €7; children, ages 6 to 12, €1.50.
- **Wine Fest in Essen, Germany**, will be held at Dionysiuskirchplatz (square). Open July 3 from 2 to 11 p.m.; July 4 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and July 5 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Hippie Festival in Gorinchem** will let you relive the 1960s with vendors, music and more at Buiten de Waterpoort. Open July 3 from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.; July 4 from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. and July 5 from 1 to 8 p.m. Free admission. Learn more at <http://www.hippiefestival.nl>.

**July 4**

- **Conincx Pop in Elsloo** is a free-admission pop festival held along the river Maas. Opens at 2 p.m.
- **Sheep Festival in Langbroek** will take place in the Oranjebuurt area on Marijkelaan. The festival offers traditional crafts, vendors, demonstrations and plenty of sheep. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**July 4 to 5**

- **Art & Antique Fair in Gent, Belgium**, will be held in Sint-Niklaaskerk on Korenmarkt. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- **Afrikafestival in Hertme** will take place in the open-air theater on Hertmerweg and has an extensive lineup. Artists will give a mix of African music, Afrobeat and jazz. Between shows, you can visit the African market and taste African food. Find out more on Facebook or at <http://www.afrikafestivalhertme.nl>.

**July 4, 11, 18, 25**

- **Antique & Curiosa Market in Roermond** will be held at Kloosterwandplein in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



**July 5 continued**

- **Horse carriage ride in Horrues** - Discover the village while on a carriage from 2:30 to 5 p.m. starting on the square. Reservation is mandatory at 067-347376. Cost is €15 per adult and €7.50 for children 3 to 12.
- **Volksmarch in Saintes for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue de la Cure from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Casteau for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue Saint Antoine 5B from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Peissant for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Place Mozin et Libotte from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Pommeroeul (200 booths)** - On Place des Hautchamps from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Flea market in Enghien (150 booths)** - In the center of town from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Binche (150 booths)** - On Rue d'Hurtebise from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Flea market in Auderghem (600 booths)** - On Place Edouard Pinoy from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Flea market in Aulchin (450 booths)** - In the center of village from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Through July 12**

- **Pick your strawberries from the field in Presgaux** - At the Briquet Jacques farm at Rue de la Naïe 13 from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1:30 to 6 p.m.

**Through July 31**

- **Annual sales in Belgium**

**Trenches to Foxholes**

**July 9**

• **30,000th Last Post at Menin Gate in Ieper** - Five World War I battles were fought around Ieper (known to English-speakers by its French name, Ypres). As a symbol of the Allies' sacrifice, the Last Post has been played under the Menin Gate memorial at 8 p.m. since 1928. A bugle call played in the British army, the Last Post marks the end of the day's labors and the onset of the night's rest. At the Last Post ceremony, the bugle call (played by a Last Post Association volunteer from the local fire brigade) represents a final farewell to the fallen at the end of their earthly labors and at the onset of their eternal rest. The public will be able to follow the 30,000th Last Post ceremony on a big screen on Grote Markt (the market square). The British Band of the Royal Engineers will also perform on Grote Markt from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. The Last Post will be broadcast on VRT (<http://www.canvas.be>) at 8 p.m. The ceremony will also be transmitted live by online media and commemorated simultaneously in fire stations around the world.



Courtesy Photo



**July 5**

- **Crazy Car Crash in Bentelo** will take place on Hagmolenweg/Bentelosestraat. Experience a car-rodeo and a banger race (similar to stock-car racing but without extra "armor"). Starts at 11 a.m. Admission: €7.
- **Starcom Convention in Gent, Belgium**, will be held at Congrescentrum ICC Ghent at Van Rysselbergheedreef 2. This new convention is designed for the fans, collectors and cosplayers (a word from "costume" and "play" that describes convention attendees and others who dress up as fictional characters). Go crate-digging for comics; look for that favorite toy, gadget or shirt; talk to collectors who share the same passion and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €10.
- **Oud Limburgs Schuttersfeest in Maasniel** is the largest meeting of marksmanship clubs (Schutterijen) in both the Belgian and Dutch provinces of Limburg. More than 160 clubs participate in this folkloric and traditional event. Admission: €5; children 12 and under, free. Starts at about 11 a.m.

**July 5, 12, 19, 26**

- **Antique, Art & Curiosa Market in Maastricht** will be held on Boschstraat. Open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**July 7**

- **Lekkerbekkenmarkt in Peer, Belgium**, is a food-tasting event in the center on Market Square. Browse the booths, which offer all kinds of delicacies. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m..

**July 7, 14, 21, 28**

- **Historic Market in Veere** will take place on the Historic Market Square in the center of town. Enjoy actors dressed in historic costumes, traditional crafts, antiques, jewelry, regional products and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**July 8**

- **Antique & Year Market in Enniger, Germany**, is an annual market. Enniger is part of Ennigerloh.

**July 8 to 9**

- **Culffair in Goes** will take place in the town center on Grote Markt (market square) where visitors can enjoy culinary delicacies and entertainment. Open from noon to 11 p.m. Free admission.

**July 9 to 12**

- **Culinary Festival "Arnhem Proeft" in Arnhem** will be held at Musispark. Enjoy food from more than 25 participating restaurants, a food market, cooking demonstrations and music. Open July 9 to 10 from 5 p.m. to midnight; July 11 from noon to midnight and July 12 from noon to 10 p.m.

**Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.**