

THE GAZETTE

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

Community health survey

Your community health promotion council wants to provide you the best services possible and can only do so with your input. The council is trying to get a better picture of what people in the community think needs improvement or is great as it is. Is it good education or low crime? Your opinion is important. Go to <http://go.usa.gov/Z7D9> to fill out the survey. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.



Off-post housing update

The Department of Defense no longer sponsors the Automated Housing Referral Network. Installation Management Command Europe housing officials want to remind customers that the Off-Post Housing website at <http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/OPH> has an accurate list of available private rental housing listings that are managed by the local housing offices. The units listed on AHRN may no longer be available or customers may be liable for paying a finder's fee. For more information about finding off-post housing, contact your local housing office.

Baby Signs cancelled

Baby Signs held on Thursdays in Schinnen from 10 to 10:30 a.m. is cancelled until further notice. There is no change for Play mornings. For more info contact ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian 046-443-7500.

Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III assumes responsibility at IMCOM-E



The Installation Management Command Europe Region Director, Kathleen Marin, passes the unit's guidon to Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III as a symbol of his assumption of duties as her senior enlisted advisor during a ceremony at Sembach Kaserne, Germany, Friday, January 31, 2014. (U.S. Army photo by Troy Darr).

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Flanders Field Post BE02 awards contest winners



Courtesy photo

Members of “Flanders Field” Post BE02 conducted the post level High School Oratorical Scholarship Program, “A Constitutional Speech Contest” at the Brussels American High School, Saturday, January 25, 2014. Lead by Vice Commander John DuBose and assisted by members from the local chapter of the American Legion Riders, the contest was the Post’s first large endeavor. Winning first place and a prize of \$250 was Ruth Alvarez (front row, left) a senior from the Brussels American High School. Alvarez will now be moving on to the next round in the competition, hosted by the American Legion - Department of France in Stuttgart, Germany. Alvarez now moves closer toward an opportunity to win that \$18,000 scholarship at the national competition in Indianapolis, Indiana. Coming in second place and receiving a prize of \$100 was Faith DuBose (front row, right), a senior from the SHAPE American High School. Judged by a panel of six professionals, the contestants spoke on their prepared oration (8-10 minutes) and later on the assigned topic (3-5 minutes) regarding the thirteenth amendment. Serving as the contest judges were, Dr. Jerome Sheridan, Professor, American University of Brussels, Master Sgt. Rhonda Lawson, Station Manager, AFN Benelux, Ann Smith, Security Manager, USAG Benelux-Brussels, U.S. Army Retired Col. Charles Westpheling, Melanie McFeeters, CLO, Tri-Mission and Maj. Starria Haigood, U.S. Army, SHAPE.

Visit them on Facebook:

American Legion "Flanders Fields" Post BE02





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THE GAZETTE

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IMCOM Europe welcomes new senior enlisted advisor | Continued

By Troy Darr
IMCOM Europe

Installation Management Command Europe welcomed a new senior enlisted leader during an assumption of responsibility ceremony Jan. 31 at Sembach Kaserne, Germany.

Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III assumed responsibility as the sixth command sergeant major of Installation Management Command Europe since its founding on Oct. 7, 2002.

Montez replaces Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Hartless, who was selected to serve as the senior enlisted advisor to the Installation Management Command Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, in San Antonio, Texas.

Montez comes to IMCOM Europe from his previous position as command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux in Chièvres, Belgium.

During the ceremony Montez said he was deeply humbled by the opportunity to serve the Army's Soldiers, NCOs, officers, civilians and family members.

"Your service matters. It protects and promotes the democratic values we hold dear," he said. "Your service to our Nation and our Allies keeps a promise to American citizens and our transatlantic partners that our values are worth defending together.

The IMCOM Europe Region Director, Kathleen Marin, passed the unit's guidon to Montez as a symbol of his assumption of duties as her senior enlisted advisor.

"As the Army's home in Europe, Installation Management Command is entrusted by the American people to provide



Command Sgt. Maj. Montez III during the assumption of responsibility ceremony, Friday, January 31, 2014.

caring support and stability to Soldiers and their families," said Marin. "We make a difference in the lives of service members and their families as they serve to make a difference for the security of our Nation and that of our allies.

"In carrying out the IMCOM Europe mission, only the best leadership will do, from our uniformed officers and NCOs, to our civil servants," she said.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Montez has an impeccable record of selfless service around the globe that spans nearly 30 years," said Marin. "Indeed, he has mastered the art of Soldiering and installation management as few others have.

"As a quartermaster expert, he's spent the majority of his career sustaining our Army around the globe. From Korea to Kentucky and Germany to Iraq, Command Sgt. Maj. Montez brings with him a global perspective to our critical mission," she said.

Montez has an Associate's Degree in General Studies from Central Texas College, Bachelor's Degree in Management from Excelsior University, and a Master's Degree in Education from Trident University. Montez has numerous awards and is a member of the Army's prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.



Kathleen Marin, IMCOM-E Region Director, addresses attendees during the ceremony. (U.S. Army photos by Troy Darr).

Northern Tax Centers to open on 3 February

Special to the Gazette

The filing season for 2013 tax-returns is upon us. Below are yearly reminders and a summary of important tax changes that took effect in 2013. Northern Law Center will provide tax-preparation and electronic filing services at three locations from Feb. 3 through April 15 in Chièvres, June 13 at SHAPE and June 16 in Schinnen.

Filing Requirements - If you are a U.S. citizen or resident alien, the rules for filing income, estate, and gift tax returns including paying estimated tax are generally the same whether you reside in the United States or abroad.

Filing Deadlines - U.S. income tax returns are due on April 15. Overseas resident have an automatic two-month extension to file. Any tax due though, must be paid by April 15 to avoid paying interest and, possibly, penalties. This also applies if you are in military service on duty outside the United States and Puerto Rico, except if you are serving in a combat zone.

Social Security Number - You must list the Social Security Number of any person for whom you claim an exemption on your individual income-tax return. If your dependent or spouse is not eligible to have a Social Security Number, you must list an Individual Taxpayer Identification number instead. You can apply for a Social Security Number for a dependent at a Social Security office or a U.S. consulate. To apply, you must provide original or certified copies of documents to verify the dependent's age, identity, and citizenship.

Combat Zone Participants - You are allowed extra time to take care of your tax matters if you are a member of the Armed Forces who served in a combat zone, or if you served in the combat zone in support of the Armed Forces. If you were a civilian who served in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area in support of the U.S. Armed Forces, you can get certain extensions

of deadlines for filing tax returns, paying taxes, filing claims for refund, and doing certain other tax-related acts.

Foreign Earned Income Exclusion Amount - For those who file Form 2555, Foreign Earned Income, the maximum foreign earned income exclusion is adjusted annually for inflation. This does not include military and civilian salaries paid by the U.S. government. For 2013, the maximum exclusion has increased to \$97,600. If you claim the foreign earned income exclusion, the housing exclusion, or both, you must figure the tax on your nonexcluded income using the tax rates that would have applied had you not claimed the exclusions.

Housing Expenses - The computation of the base housing amount (line 32 of Form 2555) is tied to the maximum foreign earned income exclusion. The amount is 16 percent of the exclusion amount (computed on a daily basis), multiplied by the number of days in your qualifying period that fall within your 2013 tax year. For 2013, this amount is \$42.78 per day (\$15,616 per year). The amount of qualified housing expenses eligible for the housing exclusion and housing deduction has changed for some locations.

Mandatory Reporting of Foreign Financial Assets - If you had foreign financial assets in 2013 with an aggregate value exceeding \$50,000 (including money on deposit on foreign bank accounts), you must file Form 8938, Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets, with your federal income tax return. All Americans living overseas, including those on military orders and on civilian assignments of whatever duration, should also be aware of the separate requirement to file the FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts, if they had \$10,000 on deposit in any foreign banking institution during the preceding calendar year. The FBAR must be filed on

or before June 30 of the year following the calendar year being reported. Effective July 1, 2013, the FBAR must be filed electronically at <http://bsaefiling.fincen.treas.gov/main.html>.

Earned Income Credit - The maximum income you can earn and still claim the earned income credit has increased. You may be able to take the earned income credit if you earned less than \$46,227 (\$51,567 for married filing jointly) if you have three or more qualifying children; \$43,038 (\$48,378 for married filing jointly) if you have two qualifying children; \$37,870 (\$43,210 for married filing jointly) if you have one qualifying child; and \$14,340 (\$19,680 for married filing jointly) if you do not have any qualifying children.

Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Limitations for 2013 - The 2013 contribution limit to an IRA has increased to \$5,500 (\$6,500 if aged 50 or older). You may be able to take an IRA deduction if you were covered by a retirement plan and your 2013 modified adjusted gross income is less than \$69,000 (\$115,000 if married filing jointly or a qualifying widow or widower). If your spouse was covered by a retirement plan, but you were not, you may be able to take an IRA deduction if your 2013 modified adjusted gross income is less than \$188,000.

Net Investment Income Tax - Since 2013, you may be subject to Net Investment Income Tax. The NIIT is 3.8% of the smaller of your net investment income or the excess of your modified adjusted gross income over \$125,000 if married filing separately, or \$250,000 if married filing jointly or qualifying.

Additional Medicare Tax - Since 2013, a 0.9% Additional Medicare Tax applies to Medicare wages, railroad retirement compensation, and self-employment income exceeding \$125,000 if married filing separately, \$250,000 if married filing jointly, or \$200,000 for any other filing status.

Volunteers and hires needed for tax preparation assistance

The Northern Law Center is looking for military spouses or family members to assist as volunteers or hires during the upcoming tax season. This is a great opportunity to gain technical and practical experience in tax prepara-

tion. Best of all, the training is conducted by an IRS representative and it is free. Space is limited. For more information, please contact the Northern Law Center at DSN 423-3903 or Civilian 065-44-3903.

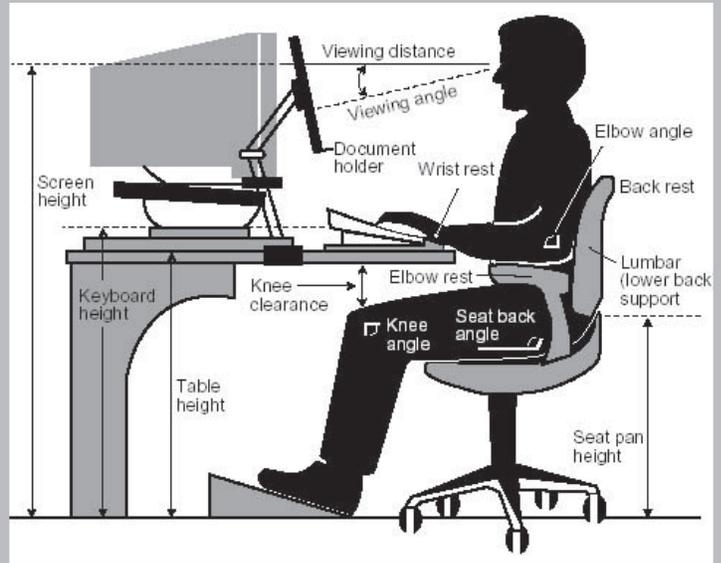
Locations and operating hours:

- SHAPE Bldg. 318, Room 207 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Chièvres PX Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. For an appointment at SHAPE/Chièvres call DSN 423-4906 or civilian 065-44-4906.
- Brussels: Building 4, Room 316. Open on Tuesday. For an appointment at Brussels call DSN 423-4868 or civilian 065-44-4868.
- Schinnen: Building 37. Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Simple returns may be done on a walk-in basis. Complex returns may be dropped off with a follow-up appointment. For information or appointment call DSN 360-7688/7691 or civilian at 046-443-7688/7691.

Ensure to adopt the right working posture

A properly set-up office workstation helps workers maintain a neutral body posture. This is a comfortable working posture, in which the joints are naturally aligned, reducing stress and strain on the muscles, tendons, and skeletal system, and minimizing the risk of developing musculoskeletal disorders. To achieve a right working posture, consider the following ergonomics recommendations:

- Head and neck to be upright, or in-line with the torso (not bent down/back).
- Head, neck, and trunk to face forward (not twisted).
- Trunk to be perpendicular to the floor (may lean back into backrest but not forward).
- Shoulders and upper arms to be in-line with the torso, generally about perpendicular to the floor and relaxed (not elevated or stretched forward).
- Upper arms and elbows to be close to the body (not extended outward).
- Forearms, wrists, and hands to be straight and in-line (forearm at about 90 degrees to the upper arm).
- Wrists and hands to be straight (not bent up/down or sideways toward the little finger).
- Thighs to be parallel to the floor.



- Lower legs to be perpendicular to floor (thighs may be slightly elevated above knees).
- Feet rest flat on the floor or are supported by a stable footrest.



Did you know that . . .

Army Emergency Relief has provided more than \$1.5 billion in assistance to Soldiers and families since 1942?

That assistance has been provided to more than 3.5 million Soldiers and families in the form of no-interest loans and grants, as well as scholarships to children and spouses of Soldiers.

Each case is evaluated on its own merits and there is no "boiler-plate" answer. AER should be the first stop when a Soldier is confronted with a financial emergency.

Please contact AER for further information. Let them know how they can be of assistance.

AER: Soldiers Helping Soldiers
<http://www.aerhq.org>

Register now for the Crossage

The golf-like sport of Crossage takes place March 5 starting at noon in the streets of Chièvres and surrounding villages. The city of Chièvres will be closed to all traffic and no parking will be allowed. Teams compete with each other as they try to hit the kegs with their wooden mallet and chòlette in as few as possible hits. The entire course covers a total of 29 kegs. Cost is €32 for a wooden mallet and ball and €3 for insurance. The payment and registration deadline is Feb. 25. Call DSN 361-5433 or civilian 068-27-5433 or 0496-87-6983 to register.



community briefs - community briefs - community briefs

U.S. Army libraries

As of Feb. 1, U.S. Army libraries in Europe will modernize their magazine service by replacing print magazines with e-magazines available anywhere with an internet connection. With the new Zinio digital magazine service, authorized patrons will no longer have to wait for the latest editions of approximately 470 popular magazines like *Women's Health*, *Newsweek* and *National Geographic* to arrive from the United States. Those without internet access will also be able to access the new e-magazines at their local library at a computer terminal. Non-U.S. magazines currently available in print at the SHAPE International Library will continue to be available in print. For more information, go to <http://www.library.eur.army.mil/services/econtent>.

GEICO-Main Gate Insurance Office

GEICO-Main Gate Insurance Office is continuing business at a temporary office in Casteau (near the BMW Garage - GD Sport), following a fire that destroyed their premises opposite SHAPE. The office is located on 35 Chaussée de Bruxelles in Casteau. You can reach them by phone at 065-728533 and 065-728374 or by email at main.gate@skynet.be.

Ration cards

The purchase of TVA-free wine, sparkling wine and Champagne in the RIS and Carrefour will not be possible without a ration card, effective immediately. Ration cards are provided by the RGN Section. All entitled sponsors (Green SHAPE ID card with number ending in "00") or their dependents are required to pick up their wine ration cards from Bldg. 210 Room 105. Operating hours are Mon-Thu from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m. and Fri from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information contact DSN 423-8350/5405 or civilian 065-44-8350/5405.

Sembach Soccer Officials Clinic

Officials classroom Instruction - Feb. 19-21 at 10 a.m. at IMCOM-E Headquarters, Sembach Kaserne, Bldg. 111, Room 153. To register for the clinic contact DSN 475-7576 or civilian 09641-837576.

Soccer Practicum Tournament - Feb. 22 at 9 a.m. at Sembach Fitness Center, Bldg. 105. To register for the tournament contact DSN 493-2087 or civilian 0631-3406-2087.

Free entry for the first six teams. Open to ID cardholders aged 18 and over and not in high school. If possible, bring a whistle, a uniform and a set of cards on first day of clinic.

Command Climate Survey

The survey targets exclusively the USAG Benelux workforce and gives the opportunity to provide opinions on where Col. Marvin G. Vannatter Jr., USAG Benelux Commander should focus attention to improve the human relations climate of

the USAG Benelux. The deadline to complete the survey has been extended to Feb. 7 and can be found at <https://www.deocs.net/user4/login/login.cfm>. An access code is required to gain access to the survey. If you're part of the USAG Benelux workforce, you received an email with the code. If you have questions concerning the assessment or the survey, contact DSN 361-5235 or civilian 068-27-5235.

COLA survey

The COLA is evaluated on a regular basis. In order to determine where and at what percentage service members purchase goods and services on the local economy, they are invited to fill out the COLA survey. To do so, go to <https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/lps-belgium.cfm>. The survey will be available until early February.

Community Chorus

The Brussels American Community Chorus is meeting every Monday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Singers from any country are welcome, including both adults and students 12 years and older. No experience or audition is needed. For more information, email fa044226@skynet.be.

CYSS Schinnen

Rock Climbing Clinics (limited spaces) - Enrollment is open through Feb. 14 for age group 10-18. The classes will be held on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 8 p.m. from Feb. 26 through April 30 at the Rocca Indoor Facility. Participation fee is \$130. Enrollment is at CYSS Parent Central Services, JFC Brunssum, Bldg. H 602. For more information call CYSS at DSN 364-4195 or civilian 045-526-4195.

Baseball - Enrollment for 3-15 years old opens Feb. 3 - 28 for the April 15 to June 3 season at CYSS Central Parent Services in Brunssum. For details call civilian 045-526-4195. There are limited spaces and you must be registered with CYSS and have a valid health/sports assessment at the time of enrollment. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID Card Holders.

American Legion

The American Legion family will be conducting a membership campaign Feb. 1 at the AAFES PX on Chièvres Air Base from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. They are also seeking new members for the American Auxiliary, The American Legion Riders, and the Sons of the American Legion. If you are interested in the American Legion in your community contact flanders.fields.post.be02@gmail.com or visit the PX Feb. 1.

Postage increase

Effective Jan. 26, USPS will increase its first class postage price from .46 cents to .49 cents. Forever stamps automatically change to the new price if you bought them before Jan. 26. Other prices have also increased. For more information check USPS.com.

Have Something for the Gazette?
Email usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil

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Benelux News is a compilation of translated news stories from regional media sources

Dutch nuclear summit

The nuclear summit to be held in The Hague in March will be the tightest ever in the Netherlands. In total, 58 world leaders and 5,000 delegates will be in The Hague for the two-day meeting to discuss methods to prevent nuclear terrorism. The main advice from the police organizing the operation to commuters who travel by car from Amsterdam to The Hague and Rotterdam is 'don't do it', the transport ministry's roads department said. The security measures mean large stretches of motorway will be totally or partially closed off from the afternoon of Sunday, March 23 to the early morning of Wednesday March 26. There will also be road closures and delays for commuters in Wassenaar, Leiden, Katwijk, Noordwijk and Haarlemmermeer. Instead, Dutch railway company NS is putting on extra trains for commuters. The conference itself will be policed by 13,000 officers - four times as many as were on duty for last year's investiture of king Willem-Alexander. Some 3,000 Soldiers and 3,000 military police officers will also be involved in the security operations. Surveillance at border controls with Belgium and Germany and at Schiphol airport are also being stepped up. Part of the airport will be closed to allow world leaders to land and there will be extra monitoring of shipping. In addition, the Valkenburg former marine base near Katwijk is to be reopened for a five-day period. Performances of the Soldier of Orange musical at the base have been cancelled for those five days.

Belgian economy

After declining for two consecutive years, the number of unemployed people in Belgium went up again in 2013, with a total of 432,500 people without a job, which is a 3.6 percent increase compared to 2012. The increase is more significant in Flanders than in Wallonia and in Brussels. As opposed to the past when the increase was due to young people leaving school and not finding a job, this time the increase is with people having a full time job and losing it.

91 year old shoots neighbor

A man has been left injured after a shooting in the Walloon village of Tamines (Namur province). He was shot by his 91-year-old neighbor. The incident happened in the center of the village. The police were called on site at about 6:30 a.m. last Tuesday as a 91 year old local resident had fired several shots at his neighbor. After the shooting, the elderly gunman locked himself up in his home. He surrendered and was arrested a few hours later.

Visitor knocks over vase in Museum

A visitor to the Groninger Museum in the Netherlands has knocked over and smashed a heavy vase by Spanish ceramics maker Jaime Hayon. The man was taking photographs in the museum's information center when he banged into the vase, said to weigh 80 kg, and knocked it over. The vase smashed into pieces on the museum's marble floor. Hayon made the vase for the museum in 2010 when he developed the interior of the information center. The museum authorities

have not yet put a value on the piece but will ask the artist to make a new one.

Dutch traffic fine appeals go digital

Since Monday, people who want to protest about being fined for speeding or driving through red lights can make their complaints online. The government's collection agency has launched a special website which can be accessed using your national identification number or Digid. The agency says going digital will allow it to process protests more efficiently. Each year, approximately 10 million traffic fines are issued. Last year 450,000 people made a formal appeal against the fine. Of them, around 10% had their fines torn up immediately. Another 6,700 people won their cases in court.

One in six Flemings has foreign roots

According to figures released by the Flemish Local Assimilation and Integration Monitor around one in three children under the age of five has foreign roots. This is one in six for the population as a whole. For the first time second-generation immigrants are included in the migrant tally. Second-generation migrants were born here and are Belgian citizens, but have parents that came from abroad. Previously, they had not been included in the figures. It is believed that the number of Flemings with foreign roots will continue to rise, as the percentage of infants with foreign roots is considerably higher than the percentage of people with foreign roots as a proportion of the population as a whole. The percentage of households in which Dutch is spoken within the family was also measured. In Ghent (East Flanders), Dutch is not used as a means of communication within a third of all households. In Antwerp this is 41%. Genk in Limburg is the only town in Flanders in which people with foreign roots form the majority of the population (54%).

Number of prisoners per country

Figures collected by the International Center for Prison Studies in 2011, show that Lithuania has the highest number of prisoners with 329 per 100,000 inhabitants. Belgium is well below the European average with 108. Finland has the best behaving residents, at least judging by the statistics. Finland is bottom of the list with only 58 prisoners per 100,000 citizens. Sweden is second-from-bottom with 67, followed by Slovenia and Denmark (68) and Germany (80). On the other hand, Lithuania's 329 prisoners is almost six times as much as Finland. Latvia (304), Estonia (245) and Poland (219) make up the rest of the top-4. The U.K. boasts a number of 157 and has almost 100,000 prisoners. While in neighboring countries - except France - the number of prisoners is going down, their number is up in Belgium. Belgian prisons are overcrowded with 130 prisoners for 100 places on average. Almost four in 10 prisoners don't have the Belgian nationality, a number which is only exceeded in Luxemburg, Greece, Cyprus and Austria. Belgium is building three new prisons to cope with the problem of overcrowding. Four other prison buildings will be renovated and extended.



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

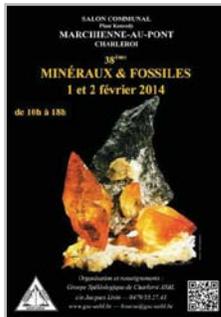
1 February

- **Volksmarch in Mons for 4, 6, 12, 20, 30, 42 or 50 km** - Departure is as of 6 a.m. (50 km), as of 9 a.m. (42 km), as of 10 a.m. (30 km), as of noon (20 km), as of 1 p.m. (6 and 12 km) until 3 p.m. from Athénée Jean d'Avesnes on 1, Avenue Gouverneur Cornez. Participating fee is €0.75.
- **World tour in 80 minutes in Binche** - Discover 80 minutes of world music by the Royal Band of Binche at the City theater starting at 7 p.m. Entrance fee is €10 per person.



1-2 February

- **34th International fair of minerals and fossils in Marchienne-au-Pont** - Some 60 exhibitors from Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Germany will be selling minerals and fossils from throughout the world at the city hall on Place J.F. Kennedy 1. Open both days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee is €3 per person.



1-3 February (and 7 to 9 February)

- **Batimons** - Fair to get information on building, renovating, decorating at the Lotto-Expo on Avenue Abel Dubois in Mons from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. all three days. Entrance fee is €4 (free if registered via website <http://batimons.be>).

2 February

- **Flea market in Mons (100 booths)** - Held at the school on Rue Valenciennoise/ Avenue du Tir between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Laplaigne for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departure is from the school on Ruelle du Couvent 4bis from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Oeudeghien for 5, 10 or 20 km**. Departure is from Rue Petit Dieu 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

7 through 9 February

- **Antiques market in Kain (Tournai) (150 booths)** - At Rue du Follet 2b from 2 to 7 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Through 2 February

- **Wow is Wow exhibition in Brussels** - Wow is Wow is an exhibition that looks back on the World Fair organized in Brussels in 1958. Heiress of a certain vision of the future focused on science and modernity, the Atomium being the best representation of this futuristic vision today in Brussels. More information on <http://www.atomium.be/ExpoCurrent.aspx>.



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

Through 2 February

- **The Motorcycle Event in Zwolle** at IJsselhal-



len on Rieteweg 4 has many activities besides new and second hand motor bikes and accessories such as spectacular stunts, shows and demonstrations. Open on Friday from 6 to 10 p.m. and in the weekend from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry is €10.

- **Dutch National Art Deco Fair in Den Haag** with art and design from the period 1880-1980 is held at Grote Kerk on Onder de Toren 10. Open Jan. 31-Feb. 1 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry is €12.50.
- **Winter Efteling in Tilburg** at Efteling Amusement & Fairy Tale Park in Kaatsheuvel on Europalaan near Tilburg offers good old-fashioned winter fun. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Entry is €35.
- **Wonen 2014 in Mechelen (BE)** is Flanders largest home and living fair and it is held at Nekkerhal, Boeimeerstraat. The fair has many fun ideas for your interior and exterior and the newest of the newest concerning building and renovating. Entry is €6. The fair is open Mondays-Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m.; Fridays from 1 to 10 p.m. and in the weekends from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



February 1-2, 8-9 and 15-16

- **The Historic Year Market in Bochum (GE)** held at Jahrhunderthalle is Europe's largest indoor year market and open only on Saturday and Sunday. It is a trip back in time with all kinds of nostalgic rides, attractions, food and more. Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Entry: €12.50 (includes rides and attractions all day); children €9.50. Children smaller than 80 cm have free entrance.



Through 2 February Continued

- **Brussels antiques and fine art fair** - If you are looking for old books, photographs, ancient and modern paintings or other antiques, or if you just like to walk in the aisles filled with antiques, it is the place to be for both curious and collectors. More information on <http://www.brafa.be/>.

BRAFA 25 JAN-02 FEB 2014
ART FAIR TOUR & TAXIS
 BRAFA.BE/BRUSSELS
 GUEST OF HONOUR: ROYAL MUSEUM FOR CENTRAL AFRICA / TERVUREN

Through 9 February

- **Brussels Ice Magic** - Following a successful stop in Paris, the International Festival of Ice Sculptures 'Ice Magic' will be visiting Brussels for the first time, in the Place des Palais. Open every day from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. For more information and to book tickets online, go to http://visitbrussels.be/bitc/BE_en/minisite_brusselsicemagic/content/21811/brussels-ice-magic.do.
- **Brussels Skyliner** - A 85 meter high steel tower will be installed in Brussels. It will give you a full panorama of Brussels, stretching as far as 12 km in every direction with a trip lasting five, seven or nine minutes. The price is €8 for adults, €5 for children and €24 for a family pack (two adults and two children). More information on http://visitbrussels.be/bitc/BE_en/culture/67510/brussels-skyliner.do.

Through 2 March

- **Will Eisner, from the spirit to the graphic novel** - Retrospective of American artist Will Eisner (1917-2005), the creator of "The Spirit" (1940). More information on <http://www.comicscenter.net/en/exhibitions/the-great-temporary-exhibitions/will-eisner-from-the-spirit-to-the-graphic-novel>.



Through 9 March

- **The Gille going topsyturvy in Binche** at the International Carnival and Mask Museum on Rue du Saint Moustier 10. The exhibition presents the history of the Gille; it shows the Gille today, in Binche but also elsewhere. The exhibition presents objects of art which give the Gille the status of an icon. More information on <http://www.museedumasque.be/en/page.php?pageId=577>.



February 2

- **Volksmarch in Neeritter** de Grensstapperstocht plaats for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is on Bosstraat 10 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the 5 km route, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the 10 km route and from 8 a.m. to noon for the other routes.



Retro game fair in Deurne

- **Volksmarch in Doenrade** for 12 and 27 km. Departure is on Kerkstraat 23 at 9:30 a.m. for both routes.
- **Retro Game Fair in Deurne** held at "Den Draai" on Blasiusstraat 2. Find everything from MSX, Atari and Nintendo to Playstation, Sega and Neo Geo at more than 230 booths. Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entry is €5.
- **The indoor Miniature Train Fair in Venlo** at "t Ven" on Straelseweg 359 is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entry is €2.
- **Knights training at Limbricht Castle** - The Knights of the Four Quarters will train all interested from noon to 4 p.m. at Allee 1. Knights will give explanations on archery and sword fights using wooden swords. Entrance and participation is free of charge. For additional information check <http://www.kasteellimbricht.eu>.

February 5

- **The Chinese New Year Festival in Rotterdam** held in the Westkruiskade area from 1 to 7 p.m., starts with a spectacular opening ceremony and has many artists, demonstrations, stands and fireworks. More information on <http://www.chinafestivalrotterdam.nl>.

February 6-9

- **Book Festival in Maastricht** - If you like books or crafts, visit the festival at the MECC, Forum 100 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. No entrance fee.

Mark your calendar

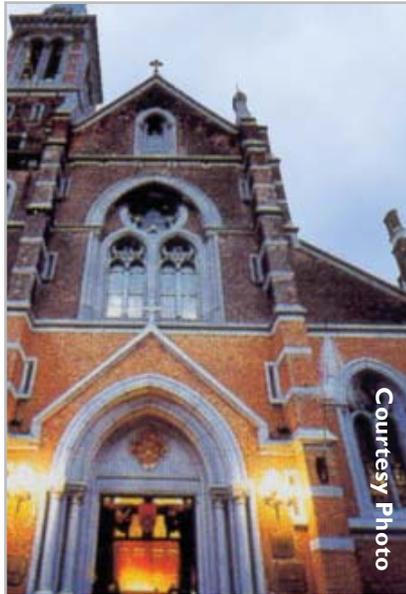
Register now for the Kennedy Mars held April 19 in Sittard. To register go to <http://kennedymars.org>. In a 1963 speech, John F. Kennedy said as a result of the modern affluent society, "nobody can walk 50 miles within 20 hours anymore". After this statement, many people all over the world walked 50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

SHAPE Trips & Tours

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

- **Brugge Medieval Dinner, February 1** - A glittering festive banquet in a grandiose setting,

a dozen lively attractions, medieval costumes and music, food and drinks. Charles the Bold and Margaret of York bid you welcome to the wedding feast. You will feast in a former church surrounded by dozens of other revelers. The meal is a four-course dinner, washed down with as much beer and wine as you can drink. There is also sword fighting, falconry, flame swallowing, a witches' dance, jousting, archery and more. Price is €95 per adult, €65 for children (11-14). €47 for children (4-10) €35 for children (0-5) Departs Brussels at 12:30 p.m., departs SHAPE at 1:30 p.m. Returns to SHAPE at 1 a.m. and returns to Brussels at 2 a.m. at 10:30 p.m.



Schinnen Trips and Tours

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

- **The ski and snowboard trip to Winterberg scheduled February 1 has been cancelled due to warm weather conditions.**

SHAPE Travel Group

For information on the trips below call civilian 0486/56.53.71

- **TROCing in Hainaut and Namur, February 6** - Just a short distance from SHAPE lies a world of formerly owned treasures to explore. You will visit two trocs in the Namur province: Profondeville and then, Bonnine. After loading our treasures onto the bus, you will stop in downtown Jambes for lunch. There is a lovely Italian restaurant, *Au Jardin d'Italie*, which can accommodate our group and there are also options for other eating possibilities close by. After lunch, you will head to the final troc in La Louvière. Leave the driving to us and enjoy a day of window shopping and/or fun purchases. Price is € 20.



Upcoming trips

SHAPE Trips & Tours

- **Paris, February 15**
- **Belgian Beer Tour - Sold out**
- **Vietnam, February 28 to March 9**
- **London, March 1**
- **Disneyland Paris, March 3**
- **Amsterdam with canal tour, March 15**
- **Dover Castle and Canterbury, March 22**
- **Maastricht, March 29**
- **Benidorm, Spain, April 5-15 (Deposit is due by February 10)**
- **Keukenhof and Gouda, April 18**
- **Hans caves and safari park, April 19**
- **King's Day Amsterdam, April 26**
- **Rhine in Flames, May 3**
- **Champagne, May 10**
- **Paris, May 17**
- **Polish pottery, May 29 - June 1**
- **London, June 6**
- **Stonehenge with Salisbury, June 28**
- **7 Night Mediterranean Cruise, July 4-11**
- **London, August 15-17**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

- **Paris, March 15**
- **Trout fishing, March 29**
- **Trip to Malgrat De Mar, Spain, April 18-27**

SHAPE Travel Group

- **London & Phantom of the Opera, February 13**
- **Breendonk Memorial, February 20**
- **Creativa Craft Fair, Brussels, March 14**
- **Polish Pottery Outlet & Utrecht, March 21**
- **Nivelles & St. Feuillien, March 25**
- **Champagne in Epernay, April 24**
- **Keukenhof & The Hague, April 29**
- **Strasbourg, May 8**
- **Versailles Palace & Gardens, May 22**
- **Tongeren & the antiques market, June 1**
- **Fontainebleau Palace, June 5**
- **A day in Paris, June 19**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BRUNSSUM/SCHINNEN COMMUNITY

31 January

- **Hearts Apart** - Schinnen ACS offers a support group for youth separated from a loved one, whether through a deployment or a family situation. The meeting is from 2 to 3 p.m. at AFNORTH International School. For questions or more information, call the ACS Deployment Readiness office at DSN 360-7269/7500 or civilian 046-443-7269/7500.

31 January and 1, 2 February

- **Narnia** - The Alliance Players presents Narnia at JFC Brunssum Theater: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, dramatized by Joseph Robinette from the story by C.S. Lewis at 7 p.m. Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 and at 4 p.m. Feb. 2. Entrance fee is €8 per adult, €5 for children.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

31 January

- **80's Night** - From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the B3's Bar at SHAPE.

4, 11, 18, 25 February

- **Great Dates Connect** - If you are looking for a fun and meaningful way to connect with your spouse or partner, join for a series of four Great Dates from 6:30 to 8:30 at SHAPE Chapel Annex. Date one includes a free Italian dinner and date four includes a free salsa dancing lesson. Registration is required at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-32-6824.

7 February

- **MWR Bingo** - As of 7 p.m. at the SHAPE Club, Pathfinder room. For more information, call DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-27-5643.

8 February

- **Valentine's Day** - From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., create jewels, key rings, heart puzzles, buy presents for those who are dear to your heart at the SHAPE Events Center.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

31 January

- **Cinderstein** - presented by the Brussels American School at 7 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. A pre-show meal will be available for purchase to support the Friends of the Arts. To order pre-show meals contact praa4usaf@yahoo.com.

2 February (register by 31 January)

- **Super Bowl XLVIII** - Join the American Club of Brussels to enjoy the game, commercials, half time show, food and good fellowship starting at 7 p.m. with tailgating games and food and lasting until the game is over at the Big Game, Rue Henri Maus 5. Cost is €10 for ACB members, DAB members and Brussels Tigers and €15 for non-members. Sign up by Jan. 31 via email at info@americanclubbrussels.org.

7 February

- **Women Self Defense Seminar** - From 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the USAG Benelux-Brussels Fitness Center. For more information or to register, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-717-9667.
- **School age Sweetheart Dance** - Enjoy food, music and entertainment from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the School Age Center, Sterrebeek Annex. Book today at USAG Benelux-Brussels CYSS at DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-717-9651.

SHAPE Cinema

Rates: 2D movies are €7 for adults and €4 for 11 years and under; 3D movies are €9 for adults and €6 for 11 years and under. Ticket sales begin 30 minutes before film time. Movies are subject to change. Check <http://www.shape2day.com/cinema.aspx> for updates.

Jan. 31	4 p.m.	Ride Along	PG-13	120 min
	6:45 p.m.	American Hustle	R	129 min
	9:15 p.m.	The Wolf of Wall Street	R	180 min
Feb. 1	4 p.m.	The Nut Job 2D	PG	120 min
	6:45 p.m.	Ride Along	PG-13	120 min
	9 p.m.	American Hustle	R	138 min
Feb. 2	3 p.m.	Saving Mr Banks	PG-13	125 min
	5:45 p.m.	The Hunger Games: Catching Fire	PG-13	146 min.
Feb. 5	4 p.m.	Saving Mr Banks	PG-13	125 min
	6:45 p.m.	The Hunger Games: Catching Fire	PG-13	146 min

Theaters near SHAPE/Chievres that play movies in English: Only the British or American movies listed as VO (Version Originale or Originele Versie) will be in English.

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

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

Kinopolis - Boulevard du Centenaire 20, 1020 Bruxelles. Check the schedule at <http://kinopolis.be/fr/cinemas/kinopolis-bruxelles>.