

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Chièvres Fitness Center undergoes renovations

The Chièvres Fitness Center is making some improvements to its locker rooms through Oct. 10. One men's and one women's locker room will be available to patrons during this time.

If you have questions, call DSN 361-5643 or 068-275643.

405th/LRC closes for Organization Day

Many 405th/LRC facilities will be closed Oct. 7 for Organization Day: Central Issue Facility, Hazardous Material Control Center, Maintenance, Personal Property Processing Office, Property Book Office, Supply Support Activity, Transportation Motor Pool (Schinnen) and all LRC Brussels operations.

For details, call DSN 361-5141 or civilian 068-275141.

US/Belgian Contact Club sponsors 'trunk'

The U.S./Belgian Contact Club will decorate a trunk for the Trunk or Treat event on Chièvres Air Base Oct. 31. If you would like to co-host a trunk with a couple of Belgian citizens to promote the Contact Club, call DSN 361-5694 or civilian 068-275694.

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Spartans hold homecoming games

SHAPE Spartan Faith Andrews competes in women's cross-country Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, during SHAPE American High School's homecoming sports. Football, volleyball and tennis were also played. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)

ACS hosts well-known motivational speakers at upcoming resiliency seminar on SHAPE

Steadman Graham, longtime partner of media powerhouse Oprah Winfrey, will be the headliner of the Army Community Service Resiliency Seminar “It’s All About You” in the SHAPE 100 Area Auditorium in Building 102’s Room 115 Dec. 2 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Open to all SHAPE ID cardholders, this seminar will also present motivational speaker Joseph Oubelkas of the Netherlands and Charles Ruffolo of NetworKing.

These three dynamic speakers will teach the secrets of

success in an inspirational seminar supported by ACS program managers, according to ACS director Yvette Castro. This once-in-a-lifetime motivational event is designed to propel you to new heights in your personal and professional life.

To register for this event, contact

- SHAPE ACS at DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824
- Brussels ACS at DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783
- Schinnen ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.



'It's All About You'
SHAPE Auditorium
Dec. 2 at 12:30 p.m.

AAFES brings back fee-free layaway for holidays

Special to the Gazette

Once again, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is offering fee-free layaway for Soldiers, Airmen, families and retirees who want to get a jump-start on their holiday shopping and keep gifts hidden safely out of sight from prying eyes.

The Exchange will waive the \$3 service fee for items that are placed on layaway and paid for by Dec. 24 — including toys and bicycles.

Purchases of \$25 or more are eligible for the AAFES fee-free layaway plan.



EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

“By waiving the service fee, the Exchange is giving military shoppers extra incentive to consider layaway, both as a budgeting tool and as a way to keep

snooping loved ones from finding their gifts before the big day,” said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, the Exchange’s senior enlisted adviser. “With a few months to go before the holidays, shoppers can start checking off their gift lists — and keep those presents safely hidden.”

A deposit of 15 percent is required to hold items on layaway at the Exchange. Shoppers can visit customer service at their local Exchange for complete details on the fee-free layaway program as well as eligibility information.

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

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Benelux celebrates Retiree Appreciation Days

Communities under USAG Benelux will be holding Retiree Appreciation Day soon.

Schinnen/Brunssum

U.S. military retirees of all branches of service and their spouses are invited to attend the U.S. Military Retiree Appreciation Day at the USAG Benelux-Schinnen Community Activity Center in Building 38 Friday, **Oct. 21**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free flu shots will be available at this event, as well as pneumovax vaccine for attendees, ages 65 and older, and shingles vaccine for attendees, ages 60 and older. If you would like to get any or all of the vaccines, phone in your name and age to DSN 606-244-3848, or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263848 to RSVP as soon as possible so that the proper number of vaccines can be ordered in time.

This event is an opportunity for retirees to update their retired-pay records, bring a list of their medical prescriptions to verify if the pharmacy at the USAF Clinic at Geilenkirchen carries them, and meet one-on-one with representatives from TRICARE; Department of Veterans Af-

fairs; Defense Finance and Accounting Service, or DFAS; USAF Dental Clinic at Geilenkirchen; Military legal office; Military ID cards office; U.S. banking facilities; Army Community Service; Veterans Education; Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, or FMWR; the Association of the U.S. Army, or AUSA; the Geilenkirchen Airman & Family Readiness Center, and many others.

SHAPE/Chièvres/Brussels

"Retirees are truly what has made this country great; I am honored to serve them and have an opportunity every year to show appreciation of their service and sacrifice for our nation," said the retirement-services officer for the Benelux, Dawn B. McCarty, who is the RAD project officer.

USAG Benelux invites military retirees to a Retiree Appreciation Day program at the SHAPE Healthcare Facility Saturday, **Oct. 22**, from 9 a.m. to noon. Starting at 8:30 a.m., retirees can come early for coffee and pastries, then take some time to "meet and greet."

The event features an Information exchange and services.

The following services and representa-

tives will be available to retirees on site:

- Medical (flu shots, general wellness screening);
- Dental (exams, appointments); Veterans Affairs;
- Defense Finance & Accounting Service, or DFAS;
- Army Community Service; Legal;
- Army Substance Abuse Program;
- Andrews Federal Credit Union and
- American Legion Post BE02 "Flanders Field."

The U.S. Community Services Center, once known as the American Central Processing Facility, or CPF, in Building 253 will be open until 1 p.m. to assist with renewals or replacements of identification cards as well as updates to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS.

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service will make a sheet cake for the event as a thank you for retirees' service.

"They continue to serve proudly in this community, and I am always humbled by their presence," McCarty said. "We all should find a way to thank them daily and never forget their legacy of service."

BOSS needs event volunteers

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers is looking for volunteers to help support "Life Skills Project," which will be held on Caserne Daumerie in Chièvres inside Building 30's auditorium during the duty day Nov. 2 to 3, starting at 8 a.m.

The medical staff from SHAPE Healthcare Facility will train military members on maintaining resiliency as well as first aid and the prevention and identification of cold-weather injuries.

Service members who are single can get the tools and the know-how to enjoy activities safely and responsibly, according to BOSS president Sgt. Pamela Hill.

"Life Skills Project" will be followed up at a later date with one day of Life Skills application at an indoor ski resort.

To volunteer, call DSN 361-6820 or civilian 068-276820.



'Play your part, help save energy'

October is Energy Action Month. The Energy team under the USAG Benelux Directorate of Public Works had some of these signs made up to get the word out in the community. "Lead by example" is the Federal Energy Management Program's slogan for federal agencies to show positive action toward energy awareness, conservation and efficiency, according to its EAM website at <http://energy.gov/leerel/femp/energy-action-month>. Learn what you can do to save energy in next week's Gazette. (U.S. Army photo by Melanie Chaballe)



Fire Prevention Week Campaign focuses on replacing old detectors

Special to the Gazette

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire that occurred Oct. 8 to 9, 1871. The two-day blaze killed more than 250 people; left 100,000 more homeless; and destroyed more than 17,000 buildings.

That tragedy inspired reform across America, spurring new fire safety codes and public awareness campaigns. Each October, the National Fire Protection Association, or NFPA, serves as the official sponsor of a United States nationwide fire-prevention campaign to highlight the importance of fire-safety education.

This year's theme focuses on the importance of replacing smoke detectors in time.

A few U.S. facts and figures:

- Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep.
- Three out of five home fire deaths happen from fires

in homes with no smoke detectors or no working smoke detectors.

- When smoke detectors fail to operate, it is usually because batteries are missing, disconnected, or dead.

Smoke detectors are subject to aging. The detection components inside a detector become soiled overtime and materials gradually deteriorate making a detector less reliable. By and large manufacturers advise replacing detectors every 10 years to ensure that you have a reliable detector watching over your home. Does your detector need to be replaced? Check the date.

For more information, visit the NFPA Fire Prevention Week website at <http://www.fpw.org> or call your community Garrison Fire Prevention Office at DSN 361-5401 or civilian 068-275401 in Chièvres, or DSN 360-7230 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437230 in Schinnen.

Columbus Day causes some closures

Many offices in the Benelux will be closed for the American federal holiday, Columbus Day, Oct. 10, including:

SHF plans for reduced staffing for holiday

SHAPE Healthcare Facility will operate with reduced staffing for Columbus Day (observed), Oct. 10:

- Acute Care Walk-In Clinic will operate with Medical Officer of the Day, or MOD, coverage only from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- All other services will be closed.

USCSC closed for holiday

The U.S. Community Services Center in SHAPE's Building 253 will be closed Monday, Oct. 10, in observance of Columbus Day.

Post offices closed for holiday

Postal services will be closed for the federal holiday, Oct. 10, Columbus Day (observed).



In most states, voter registration must be postmarked by Oct. 12 to be processed in time for voting in the presidential election.

Questions? Call DSN 361-5973 or civilian 068-275973.



Men 'walk a mile in her shoes'

A member of the USAG Benelux community participates in the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event on the SHAPE track Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Created in 2001 by Frank Baird, "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" first consisted of a "small group of men daring to totter around a park," according to the official website at <http://www.walkamileinher shoes.org>. Since then, it has "grown to become a worldwide movement with tens of thousands of men raising millions of dollars for local rape crisis centers, domestic-violence shelters and other sexualized-violence education, prevention and remediation programs." The Schinnen community will take part in the "Hope 5K Walk/Run to end domestic violence" Oct. 14 to show support during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Schinnen will also put on the "Strike Out Domestic Violence" bowling tournament at the Schinnen Bowling Center Oct. 21. See page 8. (U.S. Army photo by Donovan Abrassart)

CFC invites Benelux communities to 'Show Some Love'

Serving overseas often provides a unique opportunity to see firsthand the hardships people face around the world such as poverty, lack of educational opportunities, limited access to medical care, and environmental exploitation, according to the Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas website at <http://www.cfcoverseas.org>.

CFC-O gives you the opportunity to "Show Some Love," its 2016 theme, — to change lives, locally and internationally, by giving to your favorite charities, the website said.

CFC-O, which began Monday, is the annual workplace giving campaign for the five overseas unified combatant commands. In 2015, the campaign raised nearly \$7 million to help those in need, demonstrating the selfless generosity of the overseas Department of Defense uniformed and civilian work force.

"Everyone has something they care about — whether it be people, places or things," said Richard Smith, the USAG Benelux CFC officer. "The Combined Federal Campaign gives us a location to search for what we feel connected to and donate to the one we personally feel will help out the most."

By contributing to one of the thousands of charities through the CFC-O you will touch the lives of those most vulnerable. Here are just a few of the ways your donation can help:

- \$10 provides two vaccines for a puppy or kitten.
- \$20 provides a hot meal to a struggling military family.
- \$58 teaches a child or adult to read.
- \$75 sends eight exam tables to establish remote medical clinics.
- \$100 provides two tool kits that help families rebuild their lives.

Contributors may make their pledge in one of three ways:

- Electronic payroll allotments through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, or DFAS, myPay automated system;
- eGiving payments using a credit card, debit card or electronic bank transfer; and
- Traditional hard-copy pledge cards.

Pledging through Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas carries on the proud military tradition of giving help and hope to those in need, according to the CFC-O website.



Visit the USAG Benelux Flickr page at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/135840597@N02>

FRENGLISH PAGE

US community can have fun with French touch

Each week, English speakers will be in contact with French language in a friendly way. This page is divided into three sections. The first one (Useful expressions) is dedicated to commonly used expressions translated into English and accompanied by a phonetic transcription. The second part (Word search) is a fun way to learn French words, along with their English translation. The last part (Dialogue) is brightened up with a French dialogue and its English translation.

Useful expressions

- underground parking
- tourist office
- parking prohibited
- commercial area
- main square
- public transportation
- parking souterrain/"pahr king soo tuh hrah(n)"
- office de tourisme/"oh feess duh toohr ees muh"
- interdiction de stationner/"een tayhr deek see oh(n) duh stah shohn nay"
- centre commercial/"sah(n) truh koh mayhr see ah!"
- grand'place/"grah(n) plahs"
- transport en commun/"trans pohr ah(n) koh mah(n)"

Word search

Here are some words in French related to the theme "In town" that you can find in the grid.

- gare/"gahr"/train station
- carrefour/"kahr foor"/crossroads, intersection
- piétonnier/"pyay toh nyay"/pedestrian area
- église/"ay gleez"/church
- parc/"pahrk"/park
- magasin/"mahg a zah(n)"/shop
- musée/"myoo zay"/museum
- étalage/"ay tahl ahzh"/shop window
- embouteillage/"ahm boo teh yahzh"/traffic jam
- trottoir/"troh twah"/sidewalk
- cinéma/"see nay mah"/movie theater
- ouvert/"oo vayhr"/open
- fermé/"fayhr may"/closed
- poussez/"poo seh"/push
- tirez/"tee hray"/pull

X	E	T	R	Z	P	Y	Q	E	T	U	S	P	C	E
F	U	G	X	X	E	J	A	D	G	J	F	I	V	L
G	C	A	R	R	E	F	O	U	R	S	U	E	V	E
S	K	R	D	O	M	K	Z	C	B	M	I	T	T	C
P	N	E	R	T	I	R	E	Z	N	E	U	O	S	I
O	F	P	T	Y	R	M	A	G	A	S	I	N	U	N
U	M	Q	O	P	T	E	R	L	L	K	M	N	H	E
S	Y	P	C	T	R	O	T	T	O	I	R	I	O	M
S	U	A	V	U	E	M	E	G	L	I	S	E	R	A
E	I	R	G	J	K	L	L	R	T	K	E	R	A	N
Z	O	K	Y	A	O	U	V	E	R	T	L	T	I	F
A	D	R	E	S	S	E	K	M	U	S	E	E	R	E
E	M	B	O	U	T	E	I	L	L	A	G	E	E	R
E	N	C	O	E	T	A	L	A	G	E	L	O	P	M
R	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	J	T	E	R	F	D	E

Dialogue: In town

B: Excuse me, could you please tell me where the train station is?
 A: Yes, you continue straight until the end of the road, and you make a right turn. You will see the train station to your left.
 B: How long will it take to get there?
 A: I would say it is a 15-minute walk.
 B: Thank you very much. Will I go by a bookstore where I can buy a newspaper?
 A: Yes, at the next intersection, there is a bookstore on your right.
 B: Thank you, and have a nice day.

B: Excusez-moi, pourriez-vous me dire où est la gare?
 A: Oui, vous devez continuer tout droit jusqu'au bout de la rue et ensuite tourner à droite. Vous verrez alors la gare sur votre gauche.
 B: Il faut combien de temps pour y arriver?
 A: Je dirais 15 minutes à pieds.
 B: Merci beaucoup. Est-ce que je passerai devant une librairie pour acheter le journal?
 A: Oui, au prochain carrefour, il y a une librairie sur votre droite.
 B: Merci et bonne journée.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Trunks needed for Autumnfest's Trunk or Treat** - Join the Brussels community at this free event **Oct. 28** from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy "trunk-or-treating," a haunted clinic, games and activities as well as food and beverages. Open to U.S., NATO and U.S. Embassy ID card-holders. To register your trunk, call DSN 369-9768 or civilian 02-7179768.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Trunks needed for Trunk or Treat** - Be part of what makes Trunk or Treat fun for the whole family **Oct. 28**: Register your trunk, decorate it and hand out candies to little monsters. Find out more by calling Outdoor Recreation at DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560. Trunk or Treat will take place on Schinnen that night from 6 to 8 p.m. Trunk or Treat will feature the classic Trunk or Treat Trail, the Scary Trail through the haunted forest, Children's Activities with CYSS (from 5:30 to 8 p.m.) and Spooky Bowling with door prizes and a costume contest. Dutch guests are asked to register at DSN 360-7331 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437331.

Mark your calendar

- **Geilenkirchen events** - Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base will host several Halloween-themed events. Open to all citizens of NATO countries. You must show a valid passport to enter the base.
 - **Haunted House** - E-3A Component Services Branch presents the Haunted House in Buildings 92 and 93 **Oct. 21 and 28** from 7 to 11 p.m. and **Oct. 29** from 6 to 11 p.m. Cost: €5 per person.
 - **Foggy Fields Bazaar** - The Foggy Fields Bazaar will take place in Hangar 4 **Oct. 28 to 30** as a means for the American Spouses of Geilenkirchen club to raise money for scholarships for military family members.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Trunks needed for Trunk or Treat** - Trunk or Treat will take place between the Chièvres Army Lodge and the old PXtra on Chièvres Air Base on Halloween, **Oct. 31**, from 4 to 9 p.m. Families will be able to trick or treat along the Trunk Trail, visit the Haunted Woods, and have fun with carnival rides and other activities at this rain-or-shine event. Read up on it at <http://chievres.armymwr.com/europe/chievres/chievres-events/trunk-or-treat?eID=545068>. For this free event to be successful, a significant number of trunks must be hosted. All members of the SHAPE/Chièvres community are welcome to host a trunk. Register your trunk at <http://chievres.armymwr.com/europe/chievres/chievres-events/trunk-or-treat-2?query=trunk>. If you prefer, contact DSN 361-5589 or civilian 068-275589, or stop by Outdoor Recreation in Chièvres Community Activity Center.

Oct. 14

- **Zombie Run** - Adults as well as teenagers, ages 16 and older, can join the Halloween fun as "human survivors" or "zombies," starting behind the gas station on SHAPE. Register at Chièvres Fitness Center or SHAPE Fitness Center, or online at <http://chievres.armymwr.com/europe/chievres/chievres-events/zombie-run-2?eID=544997>.
- **Kids Zombie Run** - CYSS plans to kick off Halloween with its own version of the famous SHAPE/Chièvres Zombie Run. Children get to run a course while trying to avoid the volunteer zombies who are out to get them. Costumes must be suitable for running. Open to CYSS-registered youths, ages 5 to 15. Children must be registered (free) by Oct. 13. To find out more, call DSN 366-6839/6797/6812 or civilian 065-326839/6797/6812.

Oct. 15 to 16

- **SHAPE Fall Bazaar** - The SHAPE Fall Bazaar will be held in the old elementary-school cafeteria in Building 710 **Oct. 15** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and **Oct. 16** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The bazaar will raise money to support the charitable work of the SHAPE Parent-Teacher-Student Organization, or PTSO.

Oct. 20

- **"Heroes vs. Villains" Youth Dance** - Celebrate Halloween at the SHAPE Youth Centre. Open to CYSS-registered youths in sixth through 12th grades. In order to participate, youths must be registered. (CYSS registration is a free process.) Come in costume for a chance to win the costume contest. To find out more, call DSN 366-6839/6797/6812 or civilian 065-326839/6797/6812.

Mark your calendar

- **Haunted Clinic** - SHAPE Healthcare Facility presents two Halloween events **Oct. 21 and 22**. Enter at the Haunted Clinic's back entrance (weekend clinic). Performers break scheduled from 8 to 8:30 p.m. Combination ticket available for €7. Volunteers needed. Call DSN 566-5252 or civilian 065-325252.
 - **Grimms Garden-Fantasy Kingdom** from 6 to 10 p.m. Admission: €3.
 - **CarnEVIL** from 6 to 11 p.m. Admission: €5.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by Brussels Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Schinnen ACS by video-teleconference. To sign up, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783:
 - **Relationship and Intimacy Skills Workshop** - Learn valuable skills to help make your relationships better. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 1 to 2 p.m.
 - **Basic Investments** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. Learn about basic principles used in investing like "Tolerance for Risk" and "Time Horizons." VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 2 to 3 p.m.
 - **Stress Management** - Explore techniques to reduce stress and improve your quality of life. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 13** from 10 a.m. to noon.
- **Breast Cancer Awareness Run** - Think pink, and participate in the run to observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month **Oct. 15** from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Run begins at 9 a.m. Register ahead by calling DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667.

Oct. 6,7

- **Community Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers sponsors free movies "The Jungle Book" (PG) Oct. 6 and "Ghostbusters" (PG-13) Oct. 7 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on Building 1's third floor. Make your reservation at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

Oct. 7

- **Pizza Fridays at the 3 Star** - Pick up a pizza to take home for dinner or eat in from 4 to 8 p.m. To place an order, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.
- **3 Star Recreation Night** - Join the USAG Benelux-Brussels community from 5:30 to 11 p.m. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822, or DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

Oct. 12

- **Pizza Wednesdays at the 3 Star** - Eat in or take out pizza for lunch Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Traditional and personal pan pizza available. To place an order, call DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

Oct. 13

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Enjoy all-you-can-eat pizza and salad from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Facility open until 10 p.m.) Cost: adults \$10, children, ages 12 and under, \$5. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822. Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Sign up now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes offered by Schinnen Army Community Service, SHAPE ACS or Brussels ACS by video-teleconference. To register, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500:
 - **Relationship and Intimacy Skills Workshop** - Learn valuable skills to help make your relationships better. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 1 to 2 p.m.
 - **Basic Investments** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. Learn about basic principles used in investing like "Tolerance for Risk" and "Time Horizons." VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 2 to 3 p.m.
 - **Stress Management** - Explore techniques to reduce stress and improve your quality of life. VTC-projected from SHAPE ACS **Oct. 13** from 10 a.m. to noon.
- **Hope 5K Walk/Run to end domestic violence** - Show your support during Domestic Violence Awareness Month by participating in this run **Oct. 14**. Wear purple to say, "Abuse is NEVER OK!" To find out more about this event, call Schinnen Fitness Center at DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437561.
- **"Strike Out Domestic Violence"** - Sign up to play in a bowling tournament that "takes aim" at domestic violence at the Schinnen Bowling Center **Oct. 21** from 5 to 7 p.m. Event organizers encourage participants to wear purple.
- **Questions about VA benefits?** - Servicemember and veterans can make one-on-one appointments with a Department of Veterans Affairs staff member at JFC Brunssum Library Conference Room **Oct. 24 and Nov. 21 to 22** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have any questions about your VA benefits, now or in the future, schedule an appointment by calling DSN 606-244-3848 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263848.

Oct. 12

- **Parent Child Connection Group** - Families who are expecting or have a child under the age of 3 can get Monthly Parent Support at Schinnen Army Community Service from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 12 to 13

- **New Parent Support Home Visitor** - U.S. ID card-holders can schedule appointments for office hours as well as hospital and home visits by calling Schinnen ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Tickets available now

- **SHAPE Performing Arts Centre** - For details on ticket sales for "All the King's Men," a play of politics and society, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312 Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. The curtain goes up at 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 6, 7 and 8.** Matinee performances will be at 3 p.m. **Oct. 9.**

Register now

- **Take VTC-projected classes** - Take classes that are offered by SHAPE Army Community Service, Schinnen ACS or Brussels ACS by video-teleconference. To sign up, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824:
 - **Relationship and Intimacy Skills Workshop** - Learn valuable skills to help make your relationships better. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 1 to 2 p.m.
 - **Basic Investments** - This workshop will present basic investment principles with a focus on the various products investors use. Learn about basic principles used in investing like "Tolerance for Risk" and "Time Horizons." Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Oct. 12** from 2 to 3 p.m.
 - **Stress Management** - Explore techniques to reduce stress and improve your quality of life. Given in person at SHAPE ACS **Oct. 13** from 10 a.m. to noon.

Oct. 7

- **Hispanic Heritage Month** - The USAG Benelux Equal Opportunity adviser will host a Hispanic Heritage Month food-sampling at SHAPE International Library from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to recognize and celebrate the contributions of these Americans. If you'd like to prepare a dish, call DSN 423-7830 or civilian 065-447830.

Oct. 14

- **Stuffed Animal Sleepover** - Join the staff of SHAPE International Library at 6 p.m. for story time with your favorite stuffed animal, then tuck it in for a library sleepover. When you return the next morning, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to noon, you can enjoy a muffin while you look at photographs of your stuffed animal's antics at the Stuffed Animal Sleepover.

Inside the gate

Movies at Events Centre during SHAPE Cinema renovations

The Events Centre dinner theater will open sometime after the second week of October. SHAPE Cinema is expected to reopen in February. Rates — 2D movies: adults, €6.50; children, ages 12 and under, €3.75. 3D movies: adults, €8.50; children, ages 12 and under, €5.75. Visit <http://www.shape2day.com>, and click "Cinema Schedule" icon. Ticket sales begin 30 minutes prior to each showing. Films will start promptly. Wild Wednesday and Thrifty Thursday mean half-price popcorn and free movies as well as half-price pizza and calzone at the Pizza Bowl. Wednesday movies will be for teenagers and older. This month: Horror. Thursday movies will be from the same film series (or related subject matter) as an upcoming film.

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>.

Movies at JFC HQ Alliance Theater

Rates — adults, €6.50; children, ages 11 and under, €3.75. For the movie schedule, visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Schinnen-1366146>.



KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

The Official Website of the American Forces Network Benelux
AFN BENELUX 360 Internet Radio <http://benelux.afneurope.net>

Brussels: 101.7 FM – Chièvres 107.9 FM – SHAPE 106.5 FM –
Tri-Border Area 99.7, 96.9 FM

Travel the Benelux

Make vacation plans to visit Luxembourg City

by **Andrea Wales**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

No military tour in the Benelux would be complete without a visit to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Only about two-and-a half hours away from Brussels, Chièvres or Schinnen, the city of Luxembourg — nestled amid Belgium, Germany and France — makes a great destination for a day trip or a weekend getaway.

Although French and German are the official languages, the spoken language of the residents is Luxembourgish, but you might also hear Portuguese, the largest non-Luxembourgish community.

A visit to the Bock Casemates (Montée de Clausen 10) shows visitors that Luxembourg's military history dates much further back than World War II's Gen. George S. Patton. His U.S. Third Army had its headquarters in Luxembourg City's Fondation Pescatore (now a retirement home).

Rising high above the River Alzette, the rocky cliff known as the Bock is a natural fortification. The first ruler of Luxembourg, Siegfried, Count of the Ardennes, used it to his advantage by building his castle there in 963.

The casemates were excavated starting in 1644. About 15 miles of tunnels were filled with bakers, barracks and beasts of burden — everything that an army would need to defend the city from invaders. With every successive regime, the casemates were reinforced and otherwise improved, earning Luxembourg City the titles "Most Fortified City in Europe" and the "Gibraltar of the North."

Narrowly avoiding war between France and Germany in 1867 (Luxembourg was the prize), Luxembourg was

declared a neutral state by the Treaty of London and the Bock defenses were ordered demolished. Although 90 percent of the defenses were demolished, the casemates proved impossible to demolish without endangering the city. The superstructure was razed and tunnels closed off, but the section of the casemates open to tourists still offers an idea of daily life for the men stationed there.

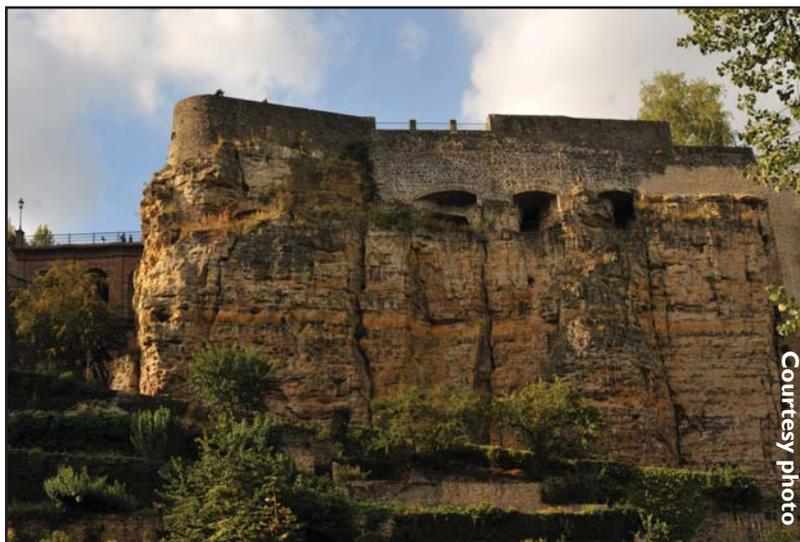
Open daily March 1 to 31 and Oct. 1 to Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (5 p.m. last entrance). Open daily April 1 to Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. (8 p.m. last entrance). Cost: adults, €4; students and group rate, €3; children, €2.

Gëlle Fra, or Golden Lady, on Place de la Constitution embodies the bravery of the Luxembourgish who volunteered to serve in the French military during the Great War, or "The War to End All Wars" — World War I. During World War II, the statue was dismantled during the German occupation of the neutral nation. The Golden Lady was restored to her former glory in 1985.

Pick up a brochure with a self-guided walking tour of the city center, which highlights several important WWII sights, from the tourist office at Place Guillaume II 30.

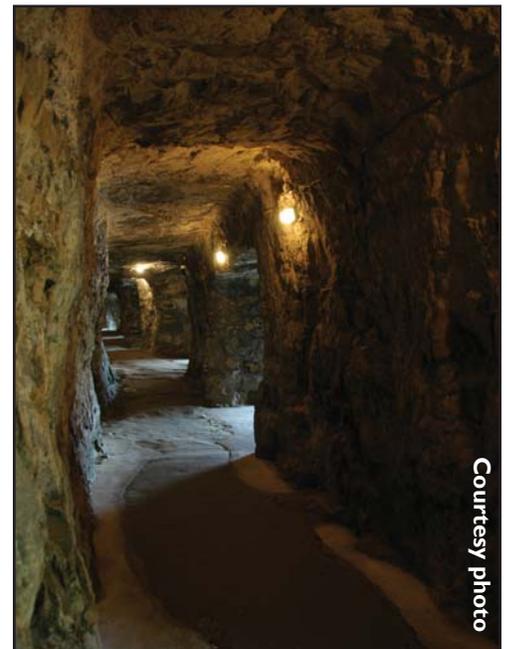
While you're in Luxembourg City, visit Luxembourg American Cemetery at Val du Scheid 50 in Hamm, where Patton was laid to rest Dec. 24, 1945. The final resting place of almost 5,100 Soldiers (many from the Battle of the Bulge), it is administered by the American Battle Monuments Commission (<http://abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/luxembourg-american-cemetery>).

Outside the gate



Courtesy photo

Above, the location and fortifications of the Bock ("Bockfiels" in Luxembourgish) give Luxembourg City its status as the "Gibraltar of the North." • At right, tunnels of the Bock are open for exploration through Nov. 6.



Courtesy photo

Celebrate Simpélourd in Soignies

Outside the gate

Don't miss Soignies' Simpélourd for a nighttime parade, fireworks and more.

A folkloric celebration that revolves around a cobbler helps define Soignies, Belgium, and is always held the Saturday before the third Sunday in October. This year, the festivities — which include a parade, a carnival and fireworks — will take place Oct. 15.

At 7 p.m., as if returning from travel, a top-hatted gentlemen playing the cobbler, nicknamed "Simpélourd" by mocking friends, will be welcomed by the authorities and the large crowd at the Soignies train station. He will climb into his convertible and throw out carabibis (caramel candies).

Marching bands, giants and folkloric groups (including Gilles from the Society of Lighthearted Friends with their white caps and ostrich-feather headdresses) will

escort Simpélourd through the city and then take him to the balcony of the city hall at Place Verte 32.

The giants Dudule (representing a Soignies stonecutter from the quarry at the end of Rue Gregory Wincqz) and Josephine with their daughter, Charlotte, will also be in the Simpélourd procession.

After the procession, a fireworks display will light up the sky.

Taking advantage of the inattention of onlookers, Simpélourd will retire and be replaced by a dummy. The effigy will be set out the following three days until it's burned Tuesday night at 8 p.m. The effigy will be taken to the gallows on the Grand-Place where, soaked in gasoline, it will dangle and then be set alight.

Fairgrounds with amusements for all ages will be located on Place Verte and Place van Zeeland.



This statue of Simpélourd on Place Verte in Soignies, Belgium, embodies jubilation. (Archive photo)

How it all began

Instead of consoling the cobbler after his wife betrayed him with another then left him, his friends teased the cobbler, calling him "Simpélourd," which comes from the French words for "simple" and "slow-witted."

Simpélourd proved to be the opposite of that nickname. Responding to a dinner invitation, his friends

entered the cobbler's home, breathing in the aroma of a freshly baked ham. When they sat down to dinner, his friends tried to dig into what they thought was a juicy ham, but it ended up being a realistic but wooden ham. After his prank, Simpélourd served them a real ham, and the meal ended happily.

However, it wasn't enough that each side had gotten its licks in; Simpélourd's friends wouldn't let it go at that. The battle was on.

They made a dummy that looked like the cobbler from a broomstick, trousers and a shirt. Laughing and shouting, they took it out into the street. The commotion brought out the townspeople, who thought a real parade must be going on, and the festival was created.

Read more about Simpélourd festivities in Soignies at http://www.soignies.be/fr/evenement.html?cmp_id=24&news_id=289.

Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Carolus Thermen spa, Oct. 8**
- **Alsace, Oct. 15 to 16**
- **London, Oct. 22**
- **Oldest Halloween extravaganza in Germany: Castle Frankenstein with stage shows in Darmstadt, Oct. 29**
- **Portugal, Oct. 30 to Nov. 4 (school break)**
- **Amsterdam with Madame Tussauds, Nov. 5**
- **Flanders Field/World War I tour, Ieper (Ypres), Belgium, Nov. 12**
- **Lord of the Dance in Oostende, Nov. 19**
- **German Christmas markets (Rothenburg, Frankfurt/Main and Aachen), Dec. 3 to 4**
- **German Christmas markets (Bonn/Cologne), Dec. 10**
- **German Christmas markets (Dortmund, Berlin and Potsdam), Dec. 16 to 18**

- **Paris in winter, Dec. 27**
- **Crete (Greece), Spa and Middelkerke (Belgium), all year**

SHAPE Travel Group

For details, visit <http://www.facebook.com/groups/SHAPETravelGroup>.

- **Monschau, Germany, and Spa, Belgium, Oct. 13**
- **Roermond, the Netherlands, Oct. 25**
- **Taste of Belgium, Nov. 15**
- **Cologne Christmas markets, Nov. 22**
- **Valkenburg, the Netherlands, Nov. 29**
- **Canterbury, Dec. 8**
- **Paris Lights, Dec. 15**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Paris, Nov. 19**
- **Cologne Christmas Markets, Dec. 3**
- **London Express, Dec. 17**
- **Malgrat de Mar, Spain, April 14 to 23, 2017**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Oct. 6

- **Concert by the Belgian National Orchestras in Soignies** - Concert is held at the Saint Vincent Church starting at 8 p.m. Admission: €20. Presale tickets can be bought at the bookstore Cordo Vero, at the Espace Culturel Victor Jara or at the Record Bank. For additional information, call the tourist office at 067-347376.

Oct. 7

- **Local products market in Soignies** - Held on Place Van Zeeland from 6 to 10 p.m. with workshop on cooking with quinoa, cocktail bar, etc.

Oct. 7 to 9

- **Garden Days in Beervelde** - Garden fair held at Beervelde Domain and Park. Besides the many plants and flowers, fair will also offer decorations and antiques for your garden. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €10.

Oct. 8

- **Gourmet bicycle trail in Soignies** - Departs at 9 a.m. from the Tourist Office, first stop at the "Le Bailli" farm for cheese tasting, lunch at the micro brewery "L'Art d'en Brasser" and afternoon stop and chocolate tasting at "Le Manon d'Hor." Participation fee: €25. Registration is mandatory at 067-347376 or via email tourisme@soignies.be.
- **Flea market in Soignies (100 booths)** - Held on Rue P.J. Wincqz from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Retro games market in Baudour** - Games from the 1960s, '70s and '80s will be for sale at the "Salle Polyvalente" Rue du Parc, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- **Local products market in Boussu** - Mostly fruit and vegetables on the square from 2 to 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 8 to 9

- **Antique fair in Ciney (450 booths)** - At the Ciney Expo on Rue du Marché Couvert from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days. Admission: €8; parking is free.
- **Medieval fest in Ecaussines** - With medieval archery, artillery, parade, arts and crafts, horse show at 3 p.m. and re-enactment of a battle and parade at 4:30 p.m. Event is held at Château Cousin at Parc du Gai Logis on Rue Bel'air from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €7; children, ages 6 to 12, €3; children under 6, free admission.
- **Inter Celtic meeting in Tertre** - On Saturday, starting at 3 p.m. with the Somme Battlefield Pipe Band, Celtic Seven and M'Zef; Sunday starting at 11 a.m. with Somme Battlefield Band, Luna Moon and Clifden Ramblers and Realtance. Held at "Hall de Maintenance" on Rue de Chièvres. Admission: €8 per day. For details, visit <http://www.interceltiquesaintghislain.be>.



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

Through Oct. 8

- **Relief of Alkmaar in Alkmaar** is being held in the center of town. Festivities marking the liberation of Alkmaar from the Spaniards in 1573 include demonstrations, fair, games, parades, fireworks and more. Free admission.
- **British Curiosa Fair in Zeijen** is being held at De Oranjerie at Noorderstraat 1. Open from 1 to 6 p.m. Free admission.

Through Oct. 9

- **Beethoven Festival in Bonn, Germany**, with its "Revolutions" theme brings you internationally renowned musicians. Ludwig von Beethoven was a revolutionary composer, and music from the French Revolution and the Russian Revolution will be spotlighted. With more than 60 concerts and performances at 25 locations, the festival will also offer panel discussions, jazz, cross-overs, world music and an outreach program. For information, visit <http://en.beethovenfest.de>.
- **Military Boekelo in Usselo** near Enschede, an equestrian event with the world's top equestrians, will be held on Boekmaatweg. Its Military Fall Fair is one of the Netherlands' largest country fairs. Open Oct. 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Oct. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Oct. 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Oct. 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details, visit <http://www.military-boekelo.nl>.

Oct. 7 to 8

- **SensationKaas 2016 (Cheese Sensation) in Gouda** will be held on market square. Sensation Cheese is one of the top cheese fairs in the Netherlands. From noon to 4 p.m., visitors can eat, drink and taste the many cheeses, and in the evening the market will be the scene of a large party. Free admission to cheese-tasting.

Oct. 7 to 9

- **Jeker Jazz Festival in Maastricht** will be held at several locations in the city center. Opens at noon.
- **Culinary fish festival in Scheveningen** will be held at Visafslagweg 19 with food trucks, demonstrations and more all centered around North Sea fish. Open Friday from 5 to 10 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. Free admission.

Oct. 8

- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Roermond** will be held at Kloosterwandplein in the center of town. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Oct. 8 to 9 continued

- **Harvest your vegetables in Ecaussines** - Held at "A l'Orée du Bois" at Chemin aux Loups 7. If you harvest your own vegetables, you get a 20 percent discount. Donkey rides for the children on Sunday afternoon. Open from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Oct. 9

- **Volksmarch in Neufvilles for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue de la Gage 64 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Nivelles for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Rue de Sotriamont from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Petit-Enghien for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from the square from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Hornu (200 booths)** - On Route de Mons (Cora) from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jemappes (200 booths)** - Held on Avenue Maréchal Foch from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jurbise (10 booths)** - Held on Rue du Moustier from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Flea market in Mons (350 booths)** - Held at the Grand Large from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Secondhand children's clothing, toys and baby equipment in Tournai** - at Rue Duquesnoy 53 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission: €5.
- **Discover the local heaps in Colfontaine (5, 10 or 15 km)** - Heaps are accumulated waste rock removed during coal mining. Bike or hiking trail starts at the police station at Avenue Schweitzer 60 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participation fee: €5; children, ages 6 to 12, €4.
- **Farmers market in Saint Ghislain** - On Place des Combattants from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **"All Free" day in Ath** - With a repair café, workshop where volunteers will repair small items, a free library where you can pick a book or drop off books you no longer need, a seed-and-plant market where you can exchange your seeds/plants. You can drop off your seeds and plants from 10 a.m. to noon; event is from 2 to 5 p.m. at the school at Rue Hennepin 12. Free admission.



Ongoing

Through Nov. 6 (Exhibit has been extended)

- **Harry Potter exhibit in Brussels** - Open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Brussels Expo on Place de Belgique at Palais 2. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://ticketmaster.be>.



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

Oct. 8 to 9

- **"Kulinarisches Wochenende" (culinary weekend) in Burscheid, Germany**, will be held on market square in the center of town, where culinary specialties will be at the center of attention. Open Saturday from 4 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Historic traditional-crafts market in Kempen, Germany**, will offer demonstrations and activities in the center of town.
- **Fall market in Rösrath, Germany**, will be held at Schloss (castle) Eulenbroich at Zum Eulenbroicher Auel 19. Visitors will find decorations, art, flowers, plants, regional specialties and more. Open Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: €3; children, ages 13 and under, free admission.

Oct. 9

- **Mill fest in Brüggen am Niederrhein, Germany**, will be held in and around the Brachter Mill on Brüggener Strasse. Visitors will find a filled program with lots of things to do and see. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Marina market in Duisburg, Germany**, will be held on Johannes-Corputius-Platz at the city harbor. Marina market is a combination of week market, art market and culinary market. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Art market in Düsseldorf-Eller, Germany**, will be held at Gertrudisplatz. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Crafts-and-flea market in Kalkar, Germany**, will be held on market square in the town center.
- **Römermarkt in Lengerich, Germany**, will be held in the town center. This market will be a mix of art, action, food and drinks. Open from 1 to 6 p.m.
- **Harvest fest in Nettetal, Germany**, will be held at Naturschutzhof "Sassenfeld." Visitors will find all kinds of natural products, such as juices, liqueurs, honey, fruits and herbs. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Fall fair in Rozendaal** will be held in the garden of Castle Rosendaal at Rosendaal 1. It will offer regional products, curiosities, lifestyle products, live music and more. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €6; children, ages 4 to 12, €3.
- **Flea market in Velden** will be held at Manegehal Zeldenrust at Molendijk 23. Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: €2.50; children, ages 12 and under, free admission.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.