

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

USNMR plans town-hall meeting

Hosted by the U.S. National Military Representative to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, the next U.S. town-hall meeting will be held July 14 at the SHAPE Events Centre. The information fair will run from 3:30 to 3:55 p.m., and the question-and-answer session will start at 4 p.m.

Americans can meet with community leaders and agencies to ask questions and receive information. American Forces Network, or AFN, will broadcast live from the event.

For any questions or concerns, call DSN 423-4032/4634 or civilian 065-444032/4634.

Time to go shopping

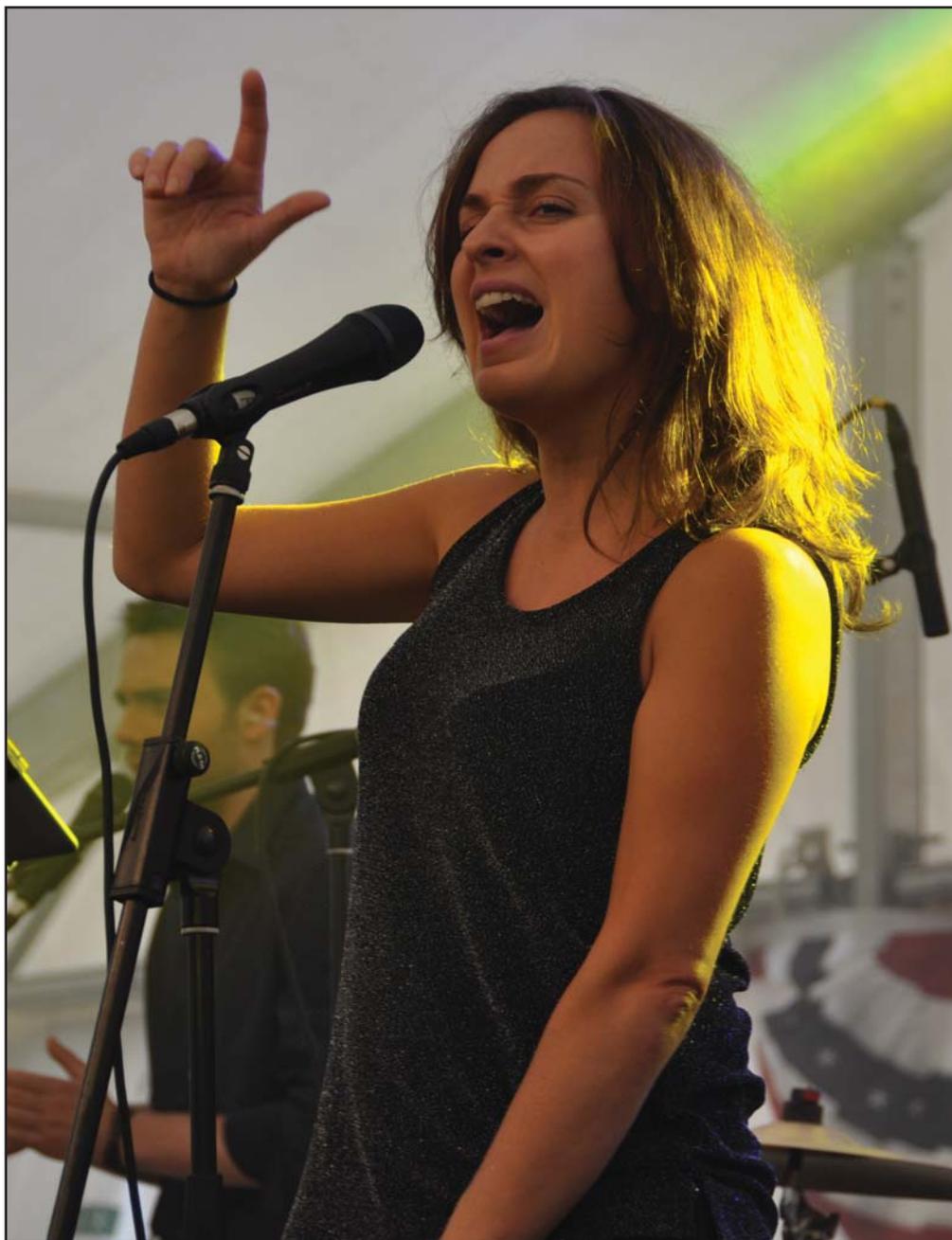
Official sales time in Belgium runs July 1 through 31. Get your shopping done early for a better selection. Keep in mind stores are most often closed Sundays.

AAFES has job openings

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Chièvres Main Store needs senior store associates in Customer Service, Hardlines and Softlines. Apply online at <https://www.applymyexchange.com>, or call DSN 361-5337 or civilian 068-275337.

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Benelux communities celebrate America's birthday

Soul Factory's lead singer belts out a rock song at the Independence Day celebration on SHAPE, Friday, July 1, 2016. The SHAPE event was one of three Independence Day celebrations in the Benelux communities to celebrate America's 240th birthday. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)

See page 2.

Benelux ends Independence Day with bang



(Clockwise from bottom left) Re-enactors survey the World War II U.S. military camp they helped set up at the Independence Day celebration in Schinnen, Saturday, July 2, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels) • Skylar Duque, 3, navigates a wading pool in a water ball, which functions like a gerbil ball, at the Independence Day celebration on SHAPE, Friday, July 1, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales) • Fireworks end the Independence Day celebration in Brussels, Saturday, July 2, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by David Coldwell)

See page 3.

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

Commander..... Col. Kurt Connell
Public Affairs Officer..... Marie-Lise Baneton
Editor..... Andrea Wales
Staff Writers..... Donovan Abrassart
Rita Hoefnagels
Cis Spook

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Independence Day | continued



Jerrett Solven launches his son Emmett Solven, 3, in the assisted-trampoline ride at the Independence Day celebration on SHAPE, Friday, July 1, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)



A game of lawn checkers occupies attendees of the Independence Day celebration in Brussels, Saturday, July 2, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by David Coldwell)



Lucy Lee, 18 months, takes a look at vintage vehicles at the Independence Day celebration on SHAPE, Friday, July 1, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Andrea Wales)



A child is enthralled with a clown making something out of a balloon at the Independence Day celebration in Schinnen, Saturday, July 2, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels)



A little time relaxing with a friend at a picnic table can be the perfect way to enjoy what's offered at the Independence Day celebration in Brussels, Saturday, July 2, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Bill Audretsch)

AFNORTH Bn welcomes new enlisted leader

by Andrea Wales

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

In a change-of-responsibility ceremony on Chièvres Air Base June 30, Allied Forces North Battalion of the U.S. Army NATO Brigade bid farewell to its senior enlisted leader and welcomed a new one.

Command Sgt. Maj. Travis R. Childers goes on to teach at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

Command Sgt. Maj. Alan J. Cline comes to AFNORTH Bn from Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he was division G-1 (administration) sergeant major at 3rd Infantry Division.

The AFNORTH Battalion commander called Childers

his “right-hand man and trusted adviser” who kept him on the right track.

Lt. Col. Michael Minaudo mentioned how AFNORTH and USANATO Brigade expanded Multinational Corps Northeast in summer 2015 and fully prepared them for initial operating capability, that is, a state of readiness to deploy, in June 2016. This year alone, AFNORTH Soldiers were stationed at the emerging NATO force-integration units in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania and Poland in support of alliance-assurance and deterrence measures. AF-

NORTH Soldiers have continually deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

“Operating in this complex multinational environment can be both challenging and rewarding. CSM Childers has excelled in this environment,” Minaudo said. “His care and concern for Soldier welfare and training will be CSM Childers’ legacy. He dedicated his time and efforts to ensuring that Soldiers and family members were taken care of and prepared to execute the mission.”

Minaudo said that being on the road was a big part of the

command team’s job.

“Over the past year, we have spent countless days traveling in planes, trains and automobiles to ensure we were in the right place to most effectively lead this organization,” Minaudo said, adding his appreciation for the frankness and camaraderie that Childers provided.

On behalf of the entire AFNORTH family, Minaudo extended a warm welcome to Cline, confident that Cline will have a rewarding experience and European adventure.

“You are the right man for the job,” Minaudo said. “AFNORTH has a bright future with you as its enlisted adviser.”

Many people help accomplish the mission, the outgoing command sergeant major said.

“You don’t get to this point in your career without dedicated professionals helping you along the way,” Childers said.

He outlined the many achievements of the four AFNORTH companies, who fulfilled an underlying principle that Childers made clear when he first arrived two years ago.

“I asked for one thing: commitment over compliance,” he said. “At the end, I couldn’t be more pleased with the amazing accomplishments of our Soldiers. I have witnessed the dedicated and committed Soldiers of AFNORTH continue to enable the alliance and build a strong Europe.”

After pledging his support to his new battalion commander, the incoming command sergeant major thanked the Soldiers of AFNORTH Battalion.

“My door is always open,” Cline said. “I look forward to leading, mentoring and coaching all of you.”



(Clockwise from above left) The official party — Command Sgt. Maj. Alan J. Cline, incoming senior enlisted adviser; Lt. Col. Michael Minaudo, battalion commander; and Command Sgt. Maj. Travis R. Childers, outgoing senior enlisted adviser — during the Allied Forces North Battalion change of responsibility in Chièvres, Belgium, Thursday, June 30, 2016. • Lt. Col. Michael Minaudo passes the noncommissioned officer sword to Command Sgt. Maj. Alan J. Cline, signifying his trust and confidence in the incoming senior enlisted adviser to lead the unit, in Chièvres, Belgium, Thursday, June 30, 2016. • Representatives of the four companies of AFNORTH Bn salute in formation as the American flag is posted before the change of responsibility between Command Sgt. Maj. Travis R. Childers, outgoing, and Command Sgt. Maj. Alan J. Cline, incoming, in Chièvres, Belgium, Thursday, June 30, 2016. (U.S. Army photos by Pierre-Etienne Courtejoiel Training Support Center Benelux)

Commissary hosts Healthy Lifestyle Festival

Two Benelux communities will host weekend events as part of a monthlong military partnership, "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival," dedicated to supporting nutrition and healthy lifestyles for military members, retirees and their families.

The Defense Commissary Agency campaign runs the entire month of July and is DeCA's biggest sales event of the year. Its theme this year is "Live Healthy and Save Big!"

This annual event will feature discounted prices on produce at commissary farmers markets and often features savings on workout equipment and apparel at exchanges, health screenings at local clinics, and fitness events hosted by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, according to a press release from DeCA's headquarters in Fort Lee, Virginia.

Chièvres

Start your day with free, fresh-squeezed orange juice at "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival" at Chièvres Commissary July 16 to 17 starting at 9 a.m. (OJ served until 10 a.m.)

Activities will include

- farmers market
- watermelon-eating contest
- coloring contest with prizes
- free samples throughout store
- balloons for all
- attendance-prize giveaway.



A commissary shopper drives her cart through the produce section for some healthy choices. Military grocery stores celebrate their annual event, "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival," this month. (Department of Defense photo)

For more information, call DSN 361-6480/6488 or civilian 068-276480/6488.

Schinnen

Mark your calendar: "Your Healthy Lifestyle Festival" weekend at the Schinnen Commissary will take place July 30 and 31 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Activities will include a bouncy castle for children as well as circuit training at Schinnen Fitness Center from 11 a.m.

to noon and again from 2 to 3 p.m. Line dancing will be held in the Community Activities Center, too.

Attendance prizes will be given away. (ID card-holders/authorized shoppers may sign up at the commissary entrance.) Food demonstrations will be offered, and Greek and grilled-food trucks will also be on the installation.

For details, call DSN 360-7514/7721 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437514/7721.

AFAP's new format means year-'round input

The USAG Benelux Army Family Action Plan process, which allows community members to assist leaders in solving problems, was revamped last year, changing from a once-a-year submission process to year 'round.

Through this process, members of America's military family express their quality-of-life concerns directly to senior leadership and work together to find solutions. Taking part gives you a chance to be part of the solution.

AFAP issues can be submitted by sending an email message to usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.mbx.dfmwr-acs@mail.mil or you can drop them off at your local Army Community Service. For more information on AFAP, contact your local ACS representative at

- Brussels: DSN 368-9735 or civilian 02-7179735
- Schinnen: DSN 360-7452 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437452
- Chièvres/SHAPE: DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326833.



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

Local teens enhance leadership skills stateside

by **Joseph Schram**

Commander of American Legion Post BE02

Three students from SHAPE American High School developed their leadership potential in the United States in late June as part of the Boys State program and the Girls State program.

All three will be seniors this coming fall.

Shamus Phelan and Andrew Morrison, whose family was in the midst of a permanent change of station, completed the weeklong American Legion Boys State program at McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland.

Josie Whitaker attended the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program at Salisbury University, Maryland.

These programs that teach how govern-

ment works while developing leadership skills and an appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

In this leadership program, delegates can run for office, learn public speaking, draft and debate legislation, and actively participate in all phases of creating and running a working government.

"The motto for the Maryland Boys State program was 'A Week That Shapes a Lifetime,' and it certainly lived up to its name," Phelan said. "It offered a very hands-on approach to American political procedures and even offered a political simulation that allowed us to run and participate in various offices

at the state level."

Morrison said some delegates weren't willing to compromise so less got done.

"I hope my generation's future politicians try to compromise more so they can make positive changes in our society," he said.

Whitaker said that Girls State is an incredible program.

"Girls State has taught me so much about the American government that I did not know before," Whitaker said. "I have learned a lot, made some amazing friends, grown confidence in my public speaking skills, and overall had an amazing week."



At left, Josie Whitaker (circled) takes a photo with other delegates to Girls State. Above, Shamus Phelan and Andrew Morrison spend a week at Boys State. (Courtesy photos)

'Hotel Rwanda' speaker shares leadership secrets

The man whose actions were the basis of the movie "Hotel Rwanda" will speak at a spiritual-fitness luncheon at the SHAPE Club Ballroom July 13 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Paul Rusesabagina is a Rwandan who has internationally honored for saving more than 1,000 civilians during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide, which is the basis of the Academy Award-nominated film. Because of his actions and leadership during the crisis, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush in 2005.

Spiritual-fitness luncheons are designed to bolster the heart and spiritual resiliency of military and civilians and to build esprit de corps. Rusesabagina's message will especially target today's leaders who are called to lead during difficult times and cover what people expect from their leaders.

To find out more, contact the AFNORTH Battalion Unit Ministry Team at DSN 423-8121 or civilian 065-448121.



President George W. Bush talks to Paul Rusesabagina at the White House in 2005. (White House photo)

FRENGLISH PAGE

Interns help US community with French touch

By Gemma Tirabassi

USAG Benelux Public Affairs intern

Each week, English speakers will be in contact with French language in a friendly way. The interns' 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 (Dialog) is brightened up with a French dialog and its English translation.

Useful expressions

- I have a green thumb. J'ai la main verte. /zheh la mah vairt/ (I have a green hand)
- To weed its vegetable plot Désherber son potager /deh zair beh sohn po ta zheh/
- Pesticides are forbidden. Les pesticides sont interdits. /leh pes tee seed sohn tah tehr dee/
- The rake is in the shed. Le râteau est dans l'abri de jardin. /luh rah to eh dah lah bree duh zhar dah/

Word search

Here are some words in French related to the theme "jardinage/gardening"/zhar dean ahzh/ that you can find in the grid.

- cisaille : hedge clippers /seas-i/
- brouette : wheelbarrow /broo ette/
- tondeuse : lawn mower /tohn duz/
- tuyau d'arrosage : hose /twee yo/
- arrosoir : watering can /ah rose war/
- engrais : fertilizer /ahn greh/
- terreau : loam /teh ro/
- graine : seed /grehn/
- bulbe : bulb /bewlb/
- fleur : flower /flur/
- arbre : tree /arbr/
- plante : plant /plahnt/
- pelouse : grass /puh lose/
- serre : greenhouse /sair/
- semmer : to sow /sum eh/

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

Dialog: At the gardening center

A: Hello. Do you sell daffodil, daisy and lilac bulbs?

B: Good morning. Yes of course. We also have hyacinth, peony and lily-of-the-valley bulbs.

A: Thank you. Do you take care of lawn mowers? I would like to get the blades sharpened.

B: Yes, we do.

A: All right. Thanks

A: Bonjour. Vendez-vous des bulbes de jonquille, pâquerette et lila?

B: Bonjour. Oui, bien sûr. Nous avons aussi des bulbes de jacinthe, pivoine et muguet.

A: Merci. Réparez-vous des tondeuses? J'aimerais faire aiguiser les lames.

B: Oui.

A: Très bien. Merci

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these camps, which run through Aug. 12, call Brussels CYSS at DSN 368-9535 or civilian 02-7179535.

Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - Read books and earn prizes in the Summer Reading Program's "Read for the Win." Join the Brussels Library staff for Story Time and crafts Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

July 7, 8

- **Community Movie Night** - Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, sponsors free movies "Miracles from Heaven" (PG) July 7 and "Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice" (PG-13) July 8 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the BOSS Movie Area on the third floor of Building 1. Make your reservation soon at reservations3star@yahoo.com. Call DSN 368-9768/9819 or civilian 02-7179768/9819.

July 8

- **Pizza Fridays at the 3 Star** - Pick up a pizza to take home for dinner or eat in Fridays 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 Fridays from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Recreation Night features games, cards, music and movies. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. For details, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822, or DSN 368-9819 or civilian 02-7179819.

July 13

- **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.

July 14

- **3 Star Dinner Special** - Barbecue chicken and ribs, salads and baked beans will be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Facility will be open until 10 p.m.) Cost: adults \$12, children, ages 12 and under, \$6. (Alternate children's menu available.) Reserve by close of business the Tuesday before at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

July 14, 19, 20

- **Welcome, newcomers** - Brussels Army Community Service invites all service members, civilians and their families to participate in free newcomers events next week. July 14: Hospital Guided Tour is conducted from 9:30 a.m. to noon. July 19: Supermarket Guided Tour is conducted from 8:30 to 11 a.m. July 20: The deputy garrison manager's welcome and USAG Benelux-Brussels site brief start at 8:45 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. 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 368-9783/9729 or civilian 02-7179783/9729.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Fun at the Multi-Purpose Room Theater** - Sponsored by the Geilenkirchen School-Age Program, Missoula Children's Theater presents a week of theater camp, culminating in a production of "Sleeping Beauty." Children and youths, ages 5 to 18, are encouraged to participate in this theater opportunity, which is free if accompanied by an adult. For details or to pre-register, call DSN 458-6017 or civilian +49 (0) 2451-632216.
 - **Auditions** - Tryouts for "Sleeping Beauty" will be held at the Multi-Purpose Room **July 11** at 9:30 a.m. Rehearsals will also take place there July 11 to 15. The tentative rehearsal schedule will be July 11 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.; July 12, 13 and 14 from 12:30 to 5:15 p.m.; and July 15 from 9 a.m. to noon.
 - **Theatrical production** - The curtain goes up on "Sleeping Beauty" at the MPR **July 15** at 1 p.m.
- **CYSS Summer Camps** - Discover Europe with the School Age Center and Youth Center at JFC Brunssum through Aug. 12. Camp placement will be based on grade attended (first through 12th) during 2015-2016 school year. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders. To find out more about these weeklong adventures, call DSN 606-244-3121 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263121.
- **CYSS sports** - Participants must be registered with CYSS with a valid health assessment. For details about the CYSS sports programs below or becoming a volunteer coach, call DSN 606-244-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195. Register at CYSS Parent Central Services at JFC Brunssum's Building H-602 through **July 8**.
 - **CYSS Soccer** - Registration has begun for the September-to-October season. Cost: 3- to 5-year-olds, \$20; 6- to 15-year-olds, \$40.
 - **CYSS Flag Football** - Enrollment for fall flag football runs through July 8. Practice will start on or about Sept. 20. The program is for youths, ages 10 to 15. Cost: \$40.
- **GK Chapel Vacation Bible School** - Geilenkirchen Chapel will hold its Vacation Bible School **Aug. 1 to 5** from 9 a.m. to noon. Register at <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/GKchapel2016>.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY *continued*

Going on now

- **Summer Reading Program** - "Read for the Win with Froggy" at HQ JFC Brunssum Library **through Aug. 14**. This program is open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders in the Tri-Border Community. For more information and to register, call DSN 364-2469 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5262469.

July 13

- **"Tea Time with Toys"** - Parents with children, newborn to 3, are invited to share tea and find support while children play with toys at Schinnen Army Community Service from 1 to 2 p.m. For more information, call ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.

July 13 to 14

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

July 14

- **Pregnancy Information Session** - Basic information and support for expectant parents who are preparing for labor will be provided at Schinnen Army Community Service from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, call ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437500.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now

- **CYSS Summer Camps** - To register for these camps, which run through Aug. 12, call SHAPE CYSS at DSN 366-6839 or civilian 065-326839.
- **Summer Reading Program** - Chièvres Library and SHAPE International Library will host a range of free activities for children through Aug. 11. Activities based on the theme, "Read for the Win!" will be held at Chièvres Library Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m. Story Time and Craft is geared toward school-aged children, but all children are welcome. For details on SHAPE Library's program, call DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-445631.

July 11 to 12

- **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.

July 13

- **CAB Social** - Enjoy free food at Army Lodging on Chièvres Air Base from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. while you meet with garrison leaders and formulate questions to ask them. Everyone is welcome to this informal group designed for those who are in- and out-processing. Those who attend are encouraged to contribute a dish to this "all-American barbecue" potluck, but it isn't mandatory. To find out more, call DSN 423-7141 or civilian 065-447141.
- **"Hotel Rwanda" speaker** - See page 6.
- **Writers Write Benelux** - This prompt group encourages spontaneous writing, reading aloud of that writing (if you wish) and positive feedback about elements of the writing that "work" for the listeners. Meets at SHAPE International Library from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

July 15

- **Mobile Center Grand opening** - Chièvres Exchange hosts the grand opening of its Mobile Center during business hours. Enjoy free food, attendance prizes and a virtual-reality demonstration. Face-painting for the children. American Forces Network, or AFN, Benelux will broadcast from the event.



Movies at SHAPE Cinema

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. Thrifty Thursday means half-price popcorn and free movies from the same film series (or related subject matter) as an upcoming film as well as half-price pizza and calzone at the Pizza Bowl.

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>.

Travel the Benelux

Artificial pond has become a major natural site

By Fauve Altman

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Intern

The area of Virelles is part of the Belgian city Chimay, located in Wallonia's Hainaut province. One of the distinctive features of Virelles is its pond that takes up most of the site, being one of the largest natural free-standing bodies of water in Wallonia, covering an area of 80 hectares. However, it cannot be considered completely natural, as it did not always exist. The Virelles pond is a mill pond that was created in 1580. Around 1750 a second forge was built, hence expanding the pond to its present 80 hectares.

In 1981, the site was placed on the market, plans for parcelling up the site and expanding tourist facilities were the reason for this potential sale. Because the initiative was threatening to the natural environment of the pond, three nature conservation societies stepped in: WWF (the Worldwide Fund for Nature), Aves (ornithological research society), and RNOB (Belgian nature reserve and ornithological society) joined forces to lease the site and the creation of a board of management was set up.

Aquascope was a major project the site launched in April 2004, by restoring the banks of the pond and setting up a Nature Learning Center. The previous concrete banks constructed for tourist activities were not hospitable for the flora and fauna of the reserve, therefore the edge of the pond was completely reshaped for creating a "fringe effect", with lagoons and little islands and steep banks. The natural changes that were made helped increase the number of species observed as a result of a better natural environment.

The beauty of the Aquascope project



The artificial pond of Virelles

is available where it is possible to "dive" into the aquatic world, with large screen showings and various temporary exhibitions (nature photographs, paintings and more). Guides offer tours or real-time displays of the pond, nesting and feeding sites.

The outside walk offers an observation tower with telescopes for watching birds, a "Moses crossing" (parting of the waters) to discover the life underwater, a treetop walk and an instructive trail on the theme of sustainable development. It is a true natural experience and an ingenious environmental project.

For more information on the access to the park and guided tours, the web page can be consulted at <http://www.aquascope.be/activites/aquascope.html>.

is to combine environmental protection with tourism, by keeping the site as a tourist attraction and being an educational tool to raise awareness of nature, and diminishing the impact on the natural environment. Aquascope is built of glass and wood, and is there to show you nature as it really is, no animals are in captivity, no artificial displays are in place. Inside the building, interactive discovery space



Animal and nature observation point

Find treasures for antique and food lovers at the market

by Fauve Altman

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office intern

Antique fairs, flea markets and locally grown food markets have always been a passion in Belgian culture.

For many years, antique fairs have exposed the contents of entire houses all over Belgium. Their appeal is that, large or small, it feels as if being transported back in time, surrounded by tangible objects of daily lives of previous generations. A real treasure hunt in a world that does not exist anymore. Every village and big city in Belgium will hold their own "brocantes" (as said in French), it is a good option for decorating

or furnishing an apartment or house. Additionally, markets are held once a week, offering organic or specialized products, such as locally grown fruits and vegetables, pies and jams, and arts and crafts, or even exotic products from all over the globe brought back by the vendors. The star of all markets is located in Brussels: the marché du midi. It is the biggest of Brussels and actually of Belgium, and the third biggest in Europe. Sundays from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Boulevard du Midi, around 450 vendors display their items.

For a listing of the local



"Vieux Marché," a daily market on Place du Jeu de Balle in Brussels

flea and food markets, usagbenelux.eur.army.mil check the USAG Benelux website at <http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil> under "News/Info" and "Get out in the Benelux."

Outside the gate

Upcoming organized trips

Chièvres Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 361-6268 or civilian 068-276268.

- **Dinant Kayak Trip and Brewery Visit, Aug. 13**

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Durbuy and Namur with the Citadelle, July 13**
- **Paris, July 23**
- **Grottes de Han (Han Caves/Wildlife Park), July 27 (Pay by July 13.)**
- **Xanten (Germany) & Archaeological Park, July 30**
- **Rhine River Cruise, Cable Car and Fortress, Aug. 6**
- **Rotterdam with Splashtour, Aug. 9**
- **Copenhagen (Denmark), Aug. 12 to 15**
- **Ghent with City Beer Discovery Boat trip, Aug. 20**
- **Notting Hill Carnival, Aug. 27 to 29**
- **Cochem, Germany, with medieval dinner in castle, Sept. 3**
- **Amsterdam with three-course dinner show, Sept. 17**
- **Paris with Secret Food Tour (optional), Sept. 24**
- **Carolus Thermen, Oct. 8**
- **Alsace, Oct. 15 to 16**
- **Flanders Field/World War I tour, Ieper (Ypres), Belgium, Nov. 12**
- **Lord of the Dance in Oostende, Nov. 19**
- **German Christmas markets (Rothenburg ob der**

Tauber, Frankfurt/Main and Aachen), Dec. 3 to 4

- **Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year**
- **Discount tickets to local attractions**

SHAPE Travel Group

Call civilian 0470-876369 for details.

- **Gouda and Kinderdijk, the Netherlands, Aug. 25**
- **Champagne in Epernay, France, Sept. 8**
- **Delft, the Netherlands, Sept. 15**
- **Blegny Mine and Liège, Sept. 29**
- **Lille, France, Oct. 6**
- **Monschau, Germany, and Spa, Belgium, Oct. 13**
- **Roermond, the Netherlands, Oct. 25**
- **Taste of Belgium, Nov. 15**
- **Cologne Christmas markets, Nov. 22**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Weekend Trip to the D-Day Landing Beaches, Memorials & Battle Monuments in Normandy, France, July 15 to 18 (Pay when you register.)**
- **Dutch Day Trip: Alkmaar, Zaanse Schans, Volendam, July 29**
- **Amsterdam, Aug. 6**
- **Family Day Trout Fishing, Sept. 10**
- **Largest Wine Festival in the World at Bad Durkheim Wurstmarkt, Sept. 17**
- **Regular Season NFL Game Washington Redskins vs. Cincinnati Bengals, Oct. 29 to 31 (Pay by July 29.) Pickups at Schinnen and SHAPE.**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

July 8 to 9

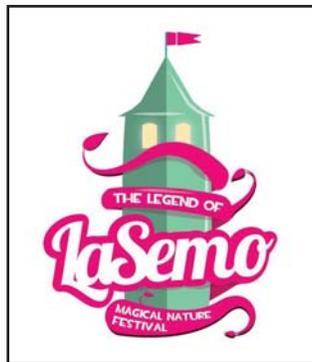
- **Summer Festival in Mons** will be located at Géothermia at Avenue du Fort Corbeau in Ghlin. With more than 80 artists and four stages, there are plenty of genres of music to please your ears. Open from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission: €35.



July 8 to 10

- **World War II military encampment in Herselt** will be held at Blaubeerg on Witputstraat. During this live event, visitors will learn what it was like in a military encampment during World War II. In addition to authentic U.S. and British heavy and light vehicles, there will be demonstrations, a USO show and a militaria fair. Open Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.

- **Magical Nature Festival in Enghien** will be located in the Parc d'Enghien on Avenue Elisabeth. Enjoy circus activities and shows as well as electro-swing music. Open Friday from 3 to 11:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Admission: €10 to €38.



July 9

- **Beer-tasting in a brewery in Horrues** will be located at Chaussée de Lessines 361. Come and taste three new beers brewed locally. Open from 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free.
- **Flea market in Ath** will be located on Grand rue des Bouchers. At least 40 booths are expected at this outdoor market. Open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 9 to 10

- **Artists Trail in Lessines** will be located all around Lessines. Come and discover 55 artists showcasing various forms of art, such as paintings, sculptures, photographs, ceramics and music. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free.
- **Arts-and-crafts market in Bouillon, Belgium**, will take place at the foot of Castle Bouillon on Quai des Saulx (on the water side). Open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



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

July 7 to 10

- **Food Truck Festival in Den Bosch** will offer many mobile kitchens, plenty of food, live music and amusement at Bossche Paleiskwartier at Hugo de Grootlaan 82. Open July 7 to 8 from 4 to 11 p.m.; July 9 from 2 to 11 p.m. and July 10 from 2 to 10 p.m. Free admission.

July 8 to 10

- **North Sea Jazz Festival in Rotterdam** is one of the most renowned jazz festivals in the world and will be held at Ahoy. For more information, visit <http://www.northseajazz.nl>.
- **Dutch Open Sheepdog Trials in Geijsteren** will be held at the grounds of Castle Geijsteren on Maasheseweg with participants from all over Europe. Open 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Free admission.
- **Culinary Festival in Minden, Germany**, will be held on market square in the town center. Visitors can enjoy many culinary specialties from restaurants and other local gastronomic businesses for a small fee.

July 8 and 10

- **Coronation Celebrations in Tongeren, Belgium**, are held every seven years in Belgium's oldest city. They include historic processions with a Madonna-and-child carved out of walnut circa 1475 and several relics as well as an open-air theatrical production depicting the life of Christ and highlighting Mary's role of being at his side at every major event in his life. More than 3,000 of the townspeople of Tongeren are involved. Processions take place July 8 at 7 p.m. and July 10 at 3 p.m. Nighttime performances of the open-air play will be on Grote Markt (main square) at the foot of the Basilica of Our Lady and are on the same dates at 10:30 p.m. The procession and the play can be viewed for free; however, you must buy tickets for seats. For tickets, visit <http://www.kroningsfeesten.be/en>.

July 9

- **Open Air Music Festival in Grevenbicht** will be held at Beeg Open Air Festivalterrein on Burgemeester Kotenplein with a free mix of pop, rock, Balkan, blues, jazz, salsa and more. Open from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m.

July 9 to 10

- **Bospop in Weert** will be held at Stienestraat/Rivierestraat. This pop, rock and blues festival attracts national and international bands. Learn more at <http://www.bospop.nl>.

July 9, 16, 23 and 30

- **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.

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

July 9 to 10 continued

- **Monster Mania in Courcelles** will give you cascadeurs/stuntmen on wheels at Place Franklin Roosevelt. Attractions include dueling monster trucks, motorcycles jumping cars and a blazing wall of fire. The human torch is only one of the many stunt professionals performing at this event Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.; Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. Admission: adults, €15; children, ages 3 to 13, €10; children under 3, free. For details on this monster-truck show, visit <http://xtrem-production.com> or <http://www.quefaire.be> where you can use the search engine to look for "Monster Mania" in Hainaut.



July 10

- **Green stops walking trail in Chimay** departs from in front of Secretariat la Boulaie at Rue Jericho 10. Choose from 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-km trails. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free.
- **Family Bike trail in Ladeuze** departs from Grande Drève Ladeuze located at Rue Grande Drève and Liberté from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and 10 to 11 a.m. Reservations recommended. Call civilian 0495-541916. Participation fee: €13 for the trail and meal, and €2 for the trail only.
- **Walking trail in Dour** departs from the Administration communale at Grand Place 1. Reservations recommended. Visit <http://www.sport-adepts.be/index.php?id=5945>. Free.
- **Flea market in Jemappes** will be located at Avenue Maréchal Foch 873. Open from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in La Louvière** will be held on Place Maugretout. Open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Flea market in Mons** will be located at Imagipark at Rue du Grand-Large 1 in Ghlin. Open from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ongoing

Fridays through Sept. 9

- **Roller Bike Parade in Brussels** invites rollers, bikes, longboards and freelines to participate in this event. Departs from Place Poelaert, going to Hasselt and passing by Leuven. Open from 7 to 11:30 p.m. Free.

July 9 to Aug. 15

- **Bouglione Circus in Mons** will be located at the Imagix parking lot. Come and watch a real circus with acrobats, clowns, tricks, animals and more. Admission: €15 to €25. For more information, visit http://www.bouglione.mobi/fr_tarif_mons.php.



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

July 10

- **Marina market in Duisburg, Germany**, will be held on Johannes-Corputius-Platz at the city harbor, combining a week market, art market and culinary market. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Open Fortress Day in Groenlo** will be held in the center of the fortified town with lots of historic entertainment, art market and more. Open from noon to 5 p.m. Free admission.
- **English Fair in Kerkrade** will be held in the Botanische Tuin (botanical garden) at St. Hubertuslaan 74. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €4.
- **Magic fair in Limbricht** will be held at Castle Limbricht at Allee 1 with 60 booths, music, theater, knights, witches and magic. Open from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: €6.50; children, €2.50.
- **"L'île Artistique" art market in Stevensweert** will be held in the town center on Jan van Steffenswertplein with art, live music and more. Open from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 10, 17, 24 and 31

- **Antique-and-curiosa market in Maastricht** will be held at Vismarkt on Boschstraat. Open from noon to 5:30 p.m.

July 12, 19 and 26

- **Historic market in Veere** will take place on the historic market square in the town center with re-enactors in costume, traditional crafts, antiques, jewelry, regional products and more. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ongoing

Through July 17

- **Gallic Village in Liège, Belgium**, will take place on Place Saint Paul. This French-heritage village has about 40 booths offering local products, such as ham on the bone, spit-roasted ham, paella, grilled fillet of duck, Savoyard tart, homemade ravioli and more. Take them home or consume them on the spot on the covered terraces.

Through Sept. 2

- **Cheese market in Alkmaar** is famous worldwide for its cheese, which has been weighed in Alkmaar since 1593. Cheese carriers carry thousands of kilos of cheese from "Waagplein" square to the weighing house. See them in action every Friday between 10 a.m. and noon until the first Friday of September.



Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.