

THE GAZETTE

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

Organizational Day

Due to USAG Benelux Org Day Oct. 12 from noon to 4 p.m the Postal Official Mail Section and the Postal Finance Windows on SHAPE and Chièvres will be closed for the day. The parcel pick-up window for personal mail will remain on normal operating hours for both locations. The ISO will also be closed on that day. Other offices might also be closed depending on personnel participating.

Chièvres DPW

The Chièvres DPW Self-Help store will change its operating hours as of Oct. 15. New hours will be Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Closed Wednesdays. For more information call DSN 361-5383 or civilian 068-27-5383.

Winter Driving Training

Mandatory training Oct. 11 for all Government Driver's Licenses holders. Sessions will be held at Daumerie Caserne, Bldg. 30 in the Auditorium at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. respectively for English and French classes.

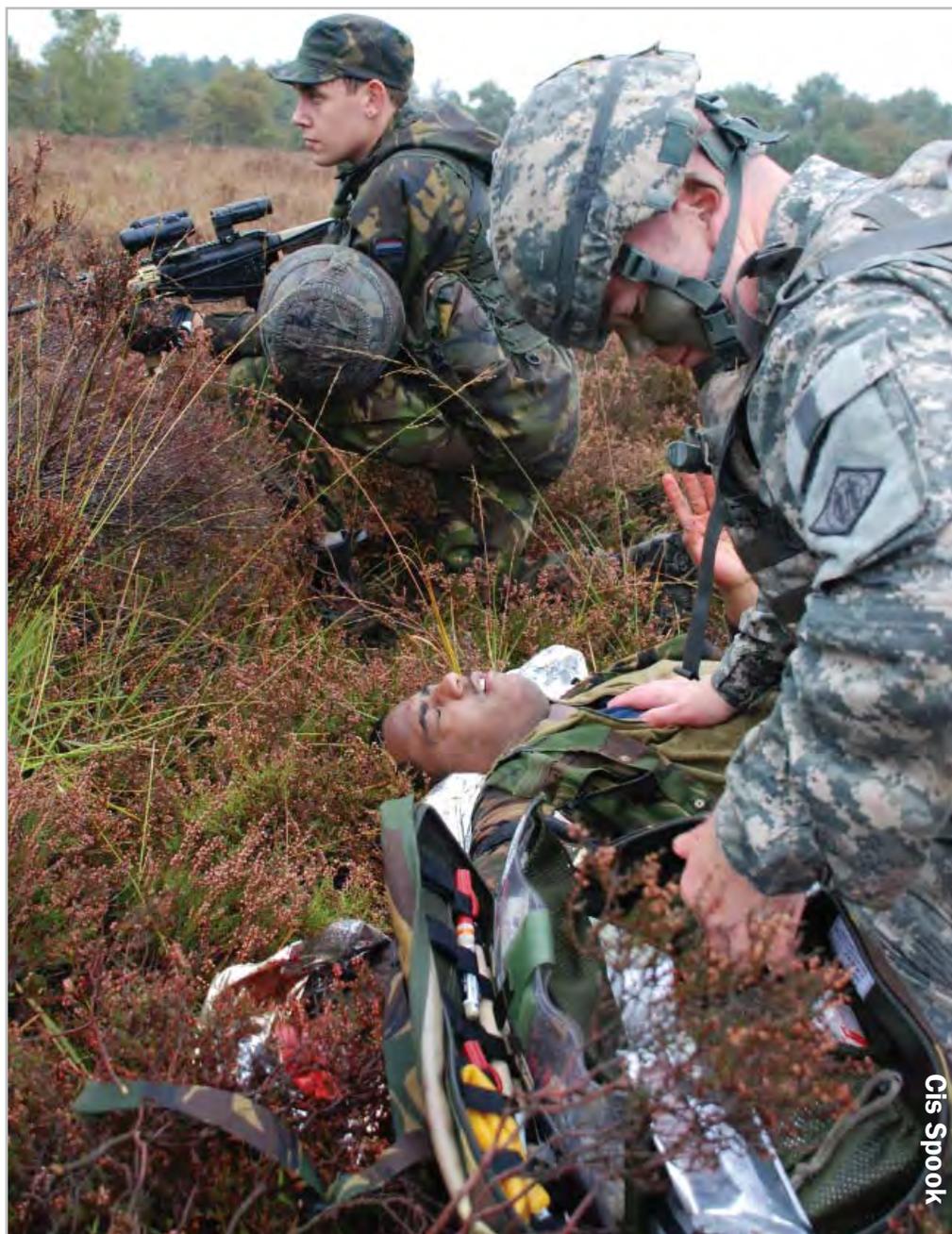
SHAPE DTTS

The SHAPE Drivers Training and Testing Station will be closed from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 11 to provide annual mandatory winter drivers training at Daumerie Caserne in Chièvres. Normal operating hours will resume at 1 p.m.

Table of Contents

News.....	1-8
Benelux news.....	9
Events & Happenings.....	10-12
Community Roundup.....	13

U.S. and Dutch share their skills



Gis Spook

Spec. Jeff Tucker provides medical assistance to Petty Officer 2nd Class Jaron Reid while Sgt. Niels Kneppers secures the area during a joint U.S./Dutch training in Oirschot, the Netherlands, hosted by the Dutch 13th Mechanized Brigade Tuesday, October 2 to Thursday, October 4, 2012. **See also page 2 and 3**

U.S. and Dutch share their skills, learn from each other



Cis Spook

(From left to right) Cpl. Ryan Smith, Sgt. Renzo Derksen and Sgt. Alexandros Brownlee move forward to locate the enemy.

By Cis Spook

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Some 20 U.S. Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors from the SHAPE/ Chièvres area headed to Oirschot, the Netherlands, Oct. 2 where the Dutch 13th Mechanized Brigade hosted the group for a three-day training on their installation. This joint multinational training was scheduled by the Dutch Forces to simulate a condensed pre-deployment schedule.

In an effort to prepare the service members stationed at SHAPE and Chièvres to future combat zone deployments, Capt. Michael Quigg, USAG Benelux, Headquarters Headquarters Company (HHC) Commander, contacted the Operations Officer of the Dutch brigade to submit his request for joint tactical training. The Dutch brigade leadership responded in favor to his request which initiated the partnership with

the 13th Mechanized Brigade.

“The Netherlands being one of our host nation countries and counterparts, why not train together and strengthen the NATO partnership,” was Quiggs’ motivation to contact the Dutch. “ For most members of the 13th Mechanized Brigade, this was also the first opportunity to work with U.S. Forces,” he added.

“The program of the three day training was specially set up for both armies to cross train and be able to show what their (U.S.) skills and drills are and what our skills and drills are and to evaluate if they are really different or not,” commented 1st Lt. Jelle Bruinekoel, Commander Second Platoon, 13th Mechanized Brigade.

THE GAZETTE

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U.S. and Dutch share their skills | Continued

On the first day of the training, U.S. and Dutch participants learned the tasks that would be conducted throughout the following two days. On day two, the U.S. fired with a Colt, the weapon the Dutch Soldiers usually carry, while their hosts learned to shoot with a M9 and a M16 with a maximum range of 100 meters. The training at the firing range was followed by physical training and a barbecue during which service members socialized and got to learn about each other. On the last day, participants were confronted with simulated combat on the Dutch training area.



A headquarters base was set up in the middle of the field and from there, teams made up of four to five U.S. service members and an equivalent number of Dutch Soldiers, participated in turn in three scenarios:

- Scenario one involved medical operations. Teams encountered wounded service members and had to provide first aid, secure the area and if needed bring the wounded to safety.
- The second scenario focused on the reaction to a contact mission while overcoming an enemy surprise attack.
- In the third scenario, teams had to search a vehicle and a detainee.

Before going on one of the scenarios, participants discussed the operating tactics with the newly formed team members. "Although most of our Soldiers speak English, one of our learning goals was also to force our Soldiers to speak English. The Americans had to speak up and talk a little slower to make themselves understandable," Bruinekool mentioned.

The three day training enabled the group to observe the different ways of reacting to a combat situation. "We were put in the situation to experience what happens in the field," said Sgt. Tucker after going through the medical operations post. One of the differences Tucker noticed was that the U.S. Forces usually take care of their wounded as quickly as possible in the field, move them to safety and have them evacuated. The Dutch Forces seem to want to treat the injured as much as they can while they are in the field and then possibly move them out.

For the Navy participants, the experience was totally different. "I've seen a whole different side of the military that

we don't normally operate in," mentioned Petty Officer 1st Class Christopher Sandy, stationed at SHAPE. "It is a true eye opener. Navy people don't normally run around in the forest, doing these exercises and military missions," Sandy added.

"The main thing that came out of this training was learning to know each other and for us, to evaluate whether it is possible to mix up. In the future, it will be possible to train together in Afghanistan and today, we try how this works out," stated Bruinekool at the conclusion of the training.

Both parties hope to renew the experience and have the Dutch come to Belgium to train on U.S. training grounds. The newly established partnership can only get stronger to benefit both the U.S. service members and their Dutch counterparts.



(Picture left) Sgt. Jonathan Ellis wears the 13th Mechanized Brigade shoulder patch as he exchanged his unit patch with one of the members of the Dutch Forces at the conclusion of the three day training.

(Picture right) On day three of the training, teams made up of Dutch and U.S. service members had to react to a surprise attack. Sgt. Marc Meuleners (left) and his U.S. teammate try to locate the enemy who ambushed them.(U.S.Army photos by Cis Spook)

Don't turn your back on domestic violence

Domestic violence is an issue which impacts everyone in the community, service and family members, colleagues, peers, friends and neighbors, even those who are unknown to you. The threat that domestic violence presents to military families cannot be overstated. The statistics for domestic violence demonstrate that incidents have increased and the level of violence has also increased. This is due to several factors, including multiple deployments, financial uncertainties, family stressors, and drug and alcohol usage. When family problems are ignored or minimized, violence is likely. Abuse and violence can escalate, become habitual and tragedy can follow. Interrupting this sequence is critical, and all levels of the military community must be prepared and willing to become involved.

Silent witnesses tell their story

My name is Jennifer Wright (32). I am one of the four military wives from Fort Bragg, murdered by our husbands within a six-week period in 2012. While going through a divorce, my estranged husband, Master Sgt. William Wright, came to my home and brutally beat and strangled me while our boys (5, 8, and 13 years old) were in the home. He then wrapped and buried my body and then took our boys fishing...

My name is Colette MacDonald. I died on February 16, 1970 when my husband struck and stabbed me and our two little girls, Kimberly (5) and Kristen (2 1/2) to death. I was pregnant at the time. He was in the Special Forces and was a doctor. He claimed that some hippie cult did this, but he was convicted of our deaths and is currently serving a life sentence for our murders. He is currently trying to have the conviction overturned on appeal. My husband wasn't convicted for over a decade for our murders.

My name was Sgt. Erin Edwards. I died on July 22, 2004 when my husband, Sgt. William Edwards, shot me to death. He killed himself next. This happened even though there was a no-contact order and he was barred from leaving the base. Nobody was escorting him at the time he left the base.



Col. Sergio M. Dickerson, USAG Benelux Commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Romeo Montez III, sign the proclamation to help prevent domestic violence, Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at the booth set up by the Family Advocacy Program in the food court, Chièvres Air Base.

2012 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

DON'T
TURN YOUR BACK ON
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

My name is Air Force Cpt. Marty Theer (31). I was shot/murdered by my psychologist wife and the man she was secretly seeing as I went with her to her office one evening. The details were unclear as to who actually killed me.

My name is Jordan Peterson. I was eight years old when I died on April 11, 2007. I weighed 52 pounds. I died from being beaten to death by my stepfather. I had lots of injuries. My mom was in the Air Force and was stationed at Kadena Air Force Base in Japan when I died. We lived off base. My stepdad wasn't in the military.

My name is Cordale Wickware. I was eight months old when I died, on October 30, 2010 of a brain injury. My dad, Airman 1st Class Horace Wickware, shook me. I also had broken limbs and a burn. He was sentenced to twenty two years in prison. My mom, Jennifer, was sentenced to five years in prison because the German authorities thought that she should have done more to protect me.

Early intervention key to treating depression

Sabrina Dennis

U.S. Army Public Health Command

October is National Depression Education and Awareness Month. When feelings of sadness, anxiety or depression linger for long periods of time, it's possible that a person could be clinically depressed. Depression is a very common condition affecting more than 20 million adults in the United States each year.

The Army's suicide rate has increased significantly over the past five years. A diagnosis of depression is a risk factor that can contribute to suicidal thoughts, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Therefore, it is important to be attentive to signs of depression in others as well as oneself.

Depression is defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, as having five or more specified symptoms occur during the same two-week period of time and representing a change from the previous level of functioning. As part of the criteria, at least one of the symptoms has to be depressed mood or loss of interest or pleasure. The remaining symptoms are listed below:

- Difficulty concentrating, remembering details, and making decisions
- Energy levels are decreased or feelings of fatigue
- Persistent aches, pains, headaches, cramps, or digestive problems
- Running into feelings of hopelessness and or pessimism
- Experiencing feelings of guilt, worthlessness, and or helplessness
- Suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts
- Sleeping excessively, early morning wakefulness or insomnia
- Irritability, restlessness
- Overeating or loss of appetite
- No interest in activities or hobbies once pleasurable, including sex

Issues such as loneliness, financial strain, lack of social support, relationship problems, unemployment, trauma, death of a loved one, alcohol or drug abuse, childhood abuse, family history of depression, health problems or a recent stressful life experience can place a person at risk for depression. Though everyone may experience one or more of these issues, not everyone will respond to them in the same way. The same is true for depression; not everyone experiences or exhibits depressive symptoms in the same manner. The following

are common symptoms of depression for various groups:

- Men: fatigue, irritability, sleep problems, violence, reckless behavior and substance abuse.
- Women: feelings of guilt, excessive sleeping, overeating and weight gain.
- Youth: Irritability, hostility, quick temperedness, unexplained aches and pain. If left untreated, these symptoms can lead to problems at home and school, or drug abuse.

Depression is treatable and beatable. Treatment for depression should be sought as early as possible so the individual can return to a healthy lifestyle and minimize the risk of greater illness. Treatment for depression includes the use of antidepressant medications, psychotherapy or a combination of both.

If you or someone you know is in a crisis, seek help immediately:

- Call 911.
- Visit the emergency room or speak to a healthcare provider.
- Call 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255); TTY 1-800-799-4TTY (4889) to speak with a trained counselor. This is a 24-hour toll-free hotline provided by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

If you are not sure if you or your loved one is experiencing depression, private screening tools are available online that provide immediate feedback. Screening tools, tips and more information about depression can be found at:

- Militarymentalhealth, www.militarymentalhealth.org
- Help Yourself.Help Others, www.helpyourselfhelpothers.org
- Screening for Mental Health, www.mentalhealthscreening.org
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov/Features/Depression/
- Helpguide, www.helpguide.org

Boy Scout sings at commemorative concert



Courtesy Photo

Freddy Townsend, SHAPE High School sophomore, accompanied by his father Marty Townsend on guitar perform the U.S. and Belgian National anthems at a concert in Henri-Chapelle Saturday, September 22, 2012. The concert culminated a three-day Remembrance Day commemoration celebrating the liberation of the eastern part of Belgium annexed to Germany during WWII. The concert featured the SHAPE International Band in presence of Belgian, French, British and U.S. dignitaries and veterans.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Special to the Gazette

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month across the nation. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer in women. One out of every eight women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.

According to Gail Whitehead with the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (MRMC), "This year, approximately 226,870 women in the U.S. will receive a diagnosis of invasive breast cancer and 63,300 women will be diagnosed with in situ breast cancer." She added, "In addition, although male breast cancer is rare and accounts for less than 1 percent of all breast carcinomas in the U.S., about 2,190 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year." Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women in the United States. Approximately 39,510 women and 410 men in the U.S. are projected to die from breast cancer this year.

The Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP) was established in 1992 as a result of the powerful effort of breast cancer advocates. Their continued efforts, in concert with the program's successes, have resulted in more than \$2.6 billion in congressional appropriations through fiscal year 2011 executed by the Congressionally directed Medical Research Programs of MRMC. The BCRP vision is adapted yearly to ensure that the program remains responsive to what is currently happening in the research community. Over the years, the BCRP has created

and introduced unique funding mechanisms to support a broad portfolio of research and training awards that have transformed the breast cancer field. The BCRP challenges scientists to pursue high-risk, high-reward research that has the potential to make major leaps to eradicate the disease. The program is committed to supporting new, innovative ideas that reflect new discoveries and could lead to breakthroughs. The BCRP also promotes synergistic collaborations across disciplines and integrates scientists and consumers in unique research partnerships.

During the past 20 years, the DoD Breast Cancer Research Program has funded over 6,100 research awards and brought forward new diagnostics, therapeutic drugs, mammography registries for surveillance, improved website information, advances in identification of genetic bio-markers, and therapeutic development using nanotechnology.

Early detection of the breast cancer can provide early treatment for the service member and or their beneficiaries. For those women diagnosed with localized (stage 1) breast cancer there is over a 98% probability that they will survive 5 or more years. Lowering the risk of death from breast cancer for service members and their beneficiaries contributes to the readiness and well being of those who serve.

For more information visit: <http://cdmrp.army.mil/bcrp/default.shtml>.



Air travel must be approved 72 hours in advance

Due to a new policy, authorization that includes air travel must be approved within 72 hours in advance of the trip start date to avoid airline reservation cancellation. Always keep the following tips in mind if you don't want your airline reservation to be cancelled.

- **Monitor authorization**

If your trip is approaching and your authorization hasn't been approved, contact your Approving Official (AO) immediately. If your AO is not available, contact your Organization Defense Travel Administrator (ODTA).

- **Ensure your DTS Profile is current**

Often, travelers forget to update their profile with Electronics Funds Transfer (EFT) information or Government Travel Credit Card (GTCC) expiration date if they received a new card. Without a current card in your profile, a reservation cannot be purchased.

- **Check the status of your GTCC**

Some organizations deactivate a traveler's GTCC if he/she is not scheduled for any travel. It is important to ensure that your card is reactivated so your airline ticket can be purchased upon travel authorization approval.

- **Cancel reservations as soon as you know the trip is cancelled**

This opens up inventory to those that may need that seat.

- **Take your travel itinerary with you to the airport**

If your reservation has been cancelled, the itinerary will provide contact information for assistance, as well as, reservation details to help you rebook.

U.S. community celebrates Hispanic American Heritage Month



During the celebration of Hispanic American Heritage Month, Lt. Col. Manuel Pozo-Alonso, SHAPE Dental Clinic Commander compared the U.S. to a soup of culture to which the Hispanic community and culture bring their own spice. He then surprised the audience by playing four songs from four different Hispanic countries to demonstrate the variety but similarity of Hispanic music. The celebration was held at SHAPE Event Center, Friday, Oct. 5, 2012. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. First Class VeShannah Lovelace).

USAG Benelux RSO Normandy Spiritual Fitness Training

The training will be held from Nov. 1 through 3. Open to all U.S. Servicemembers

Registration

Servicemembers must submit their name along with a DA 31 "Permissive TDY" Leave Form (or USAF or Navy equivalent) to the USAG Benelux RSO (kevin.pies@us.army.mil or thomas.mitchem.mil@mail.mil) or RSO Offices DSN 361-5381 by Oct. 12 at noon. The RSO must be notified immediately of any cancellations. Stand-by personnel will be given opportunity to go as soon as cancellations are identified and confirmed.

Qualification

This training is primarily for the servicemembers assigned to the USAG Benelux. However, additional servicemembers may register and will be added to the attendee roster on a first come first served basis. Allocation of Slots available are:

Sequence of events

- Day 1 - Pegasus Bridge "Where it all began..."
- Day 2 - Pointe du Hoc, Sainte-Mère-Eglise, Omaha Beach, Normandy American Cemetery (Wreath Laying)
- Day 3 - Return to Home Station via Mont Saint Michel



Lodging

Projected accommodations are twin bed rooms. The hotel will provide the Thursday and Friday evening meals, the Friday and Saturday morning breakfasts. Lunches are an individual expense.

Training sessions

The USAG Benelux chaplains and a qualified historian will conduct the training each day. This training is mandatory for all participants. The focus is "Moral, Ethical and Spiritual Dimensions in the midst of Battle". The historian will provide the expertise for a high-caliber trip.

Proposed sites

Battlefield visits will include museums, landing beaches, other key sights and the American Cemetery complete with a wreath laying ceremony/ memorial.

For more information contact Chaplain (Maj.) Leo Mora at DSN 314-361-6670, or civilian 32(0)68-27-6670.

Have Something for the Gazette?

Email usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil

community briefs - community briefs - community briefs

Donation to women shelter

USAG Benelux-Brussels ACS is accepting donations for the Battered Women's Shelter in Brussels until Oct. 16. This shelter serves women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. Gently used clothing for women and children, toys, household goods, non-expired canned or packaged food, small electronics and household goods will be accepted except for donations requiring heavy lifting. Bring your donation items to Brussels ACS and ACS will take them to the shelter in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. For information call DSN 368-9693 or civilian 02-717-9693.

Job opportunities

CYSS and Community Recreation have the following job opportunities in the Benelux:

Chièvres

- Recreation aid, <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/326820000>
- Child and Youth program assistants, <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/321705000>

Brussels

- Recreation assistant, <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/327101100>
- Bartender, <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/327231500>

Brussels

- Lead Child and Youth Program Assistant, <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/320774100>

For more information on these job opportunities or to apply, use the link provided with the job title you are interested in.

Charity clothing donations

To donate "out of season" clothing that can go directly into Tommy Temple's Charity garage on SHAPE, you can sign out the public key at the SHAPE Chapel, UK Chapel office, Monday through Friday mornings, or call 065-44-5693 or email the IC3 at shape.ic3@gmail.com to arrange a "garage door" meeting at another time during the work week.

CYSS

Schinnen CYSS

CYSS is looking for volunteer coaches for tennis, rock climbing, skateboarding, swimming, skiing/snowboarding, archery, and basketball. Enrollment for Basketball for age group 13-15 both boys and girls is open from Oct. 22 to Nov. 30. For information call DSN 364-4195 or civilian 0031(0)45-526-4195.

Brussels CYSS

Brussels CYSS is looking for volunteer coaches for baseball, basketball, cheerleading, flag football, soccer and wrestling. If you are interested, call Youth Sports & Fitness at DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-717-9651.

Registration for wrestling, basketball and developmental basketball is open from Oct. 22 through Nov. 30. For more info call CYSS at DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-717-9651.

SHAPE/Chièvres CYSS

- SHAPE/Chièvres CYSS is looking for volunteer coaches for racquetball, cross country and table tennis. If you are interested, call Youth Sports & Fitness at DSN 423-6143 or civilian 065-44-6143.
- Paid Internships with CYSS and Fitness are available. You must meet the following criteria to be eligible: Be a U.S. citizen between 15 and 18 years old, be currently attending high school, currently possess and maintain a 2.0 (C) grade-point average or better, be subject to the satisfactory completion of local police background check in accordance to Army Regulation (AR) 215-3. If you are interested call DSN 423-5611 or civilian 065-44-5611.

SKIES Unlimited

Session II for piano, ballet, gymnastics, French, Karate, Tae Kwon Do, and Swim classes will run from Nov. 5 through Jan. 18. Re-registrations are until Oct. 12 and new registrations from Oct. 15 to 26.

- Enrollment for Spanish classes fall session is now open until full. Session is for 6-12 and 13-18 years old. Parents are welcome to enroll with their child. Price is \$120 for 12 classes.
- Enrollment for cheerleading open Nov. 5 through 30. For age group 6 to 12. Fee is \$40.
- Enrollment for basketball open Nov. 5 through 30. For age group 6 to 15. Fee is \$40.

For more information, contact Parent Central Services at DSN 423-5612 or civilian 065-44-5612.

Trunk or treat

Brussels - If you are interested in setting up a trunk at the USAG Benelux-Brussels to be held Oct. 26, you can register at the USAG Benelux-Brussels Consignment Shop open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Chièvres - If you are interested in setting up a trunk at the Chièvres Air Base Trunk or Treat to be held Oct. 31, you can register at the Chièvres Fitness Center or FMWR Chièvres facebook or by calling DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-27-5643.

Schinnen - If you want to reserve your spot on the Trunk or Treat trail to be held Oct. 31, stop by the Schinnen Fitness Center or call DSN 360-7561 or civilian 0031(0)46-443-7561.

Army digital photography contest

Submission dates for the Army digital photography contest is running from Oct. 15 through Nov. 30. For more information contact your local Arts and Crafts, Community recreation office or got to www.armymwr.com/recleisure/artsandcrafts

Education

University of Maryland University College Europe (UMUC Europe) early registration for Fall 2012 Session 2 is open, with online and on-site courses starting on Oct. 22. More information on <http://webapps.umuc.edu/soc/europe.cfm>.

BENELUX NEWS **BENELUX NEWS**

Bankruptcies rise in the Netherlands

In September, 553 companies went bankrupt in the Netherlands, which is 40 more than in August and 26 more than last year. The transport sector is particularly hit with a number of bankruptcies that more than doubled through July and August whereas the sector still registered a 36% growth in the first half the year. The construction sector was badly hit too with a number a bankruptcies 58% higher in the same period whereas it also register a 45% growth in the first half of 2012. However, the number of new companies also increased with 200,000 new companies between 2008 and 2011.

Kenyan wins Brussels marathon

Joash Mutai was the fastest man on the 42.195km course through the streets of Brussels. His finishing time of 2 hours 16 minutes and 41 seconds was 2 minutes 42 seconds faster than his compatriot Noah Kosgei who came in second for the second year running.

Soccer player crashes his Porsche into shop

One man was injured after Jonathan Legear crashed his car into the shop of a petrol station in the Limburg town of Tongeren. The Liège-born former Sporting Anderlecht player was returning home after an evening out when the accident happened. Around 20 people were in the shop at the time of the accident. One person couldn't get out of the way quick enough and was slightly injured. A thousand cans of soft drink went flying through the air. This isn't the first driving-related incident involving the 25-year-old soccer player. Legear, who was transferred from Sporting Anderlecht to Terek Grozny in 2011, had to turn in his driving license.

New Brussels parking regulations

Motorists will have to pay when parking their car in the city of Brussels. The new regulations will apply to all the Brussels city districts but also to the Heizel site, a location which is now often being used by those visiting the city. At present, there is free parking at the Stade Roi Baudouin and around Bruparck. The parking space is being used by commuters and also by those visiting the city, who from there, take public transportation. Under the new plans, a day ticket to leave your car behind at these Heizel sites could cost up to 75 euros. Some 300 complaints from commuters have already been filed.

Coffee shops to be closed near schools

Because of their proximity with schools, 164 of the 650 coffee shops might have to close in Jan. 2014. The outgoing government is planning to close any coffee shop selling cannabis for personal use if within a 350 meters area of a

secondary school. Many councils already use a 250 meters limit. However, these new restrictions might well be dropped by the next government

At almost 300 km/hr on Belgian highway

The Dendermonde court has sentenced a driver of a Aston Martin who reached a speed of 292 km/hr on the E17 highway last year. The judge has suspended his driving license for two years and eight months and imposed a fine of 4,400 euros. The driver also has to do 30 hours of community service in a rehabilitation center for victims of traffic accidents. The case soon became a hot news item because his passenger, a 16-year-old boy, caught the speeding live on video and put it on YouTube. The footage enabled investigators to identify the driver: it turned out to be a 47-year-old property developer from Dendermonde (East Flanders).

Belgian diplomat suspected of spying for Russia

The diplomat allegedly maintained secret contacts with the Russians for 25 years. The diplomat worked at a number of places including Tokyo, Lagos, Algiers, New York and Copenhagen. The Belgian State Security Service discovered that the man had frequent contacts with Russian spies at these different locations. The man has now been suspended and the federal judicial authorities started an investigation. The diplomat is facing charges of spying, passive corruption and breach of the duty of professional confidentiality. The suspect denies the charges, saying he never leaked any information to the Russians. It's not often that Belgium has a case of possible spying. Spying is often associated with the Cold War, but intelligence services claim that there are as many spies in Brussels nowadays as before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Flemish farmers earn 25% less

Farmers in Flanders have seen their earnings drop 25 percent compared to five years ago. This also means that at present, their average earnings on a yearly basis, are only 50 percent of what an average employee in Flanders is earning, according to the organization representing the Flemish farmers.

Dutch green party has a new leader

Bram van Ojik has been chosen to replace Jolanda Sap at the head of the Dutch green party, GroenLinks. The former leader of the party resigned last Friday after it turned out that she had lost the support of the party's board. GroenLinks support collapsed at September's general election as it only kept four of its ten seats in the previous parliament. GroenLinks has been damaged by its support for the Dutch police training mission in Afghanistan, the spring budget agreement and internal divisions over the leadership.



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

11 October

- **Jazz concert by Tricycle in Ath.** Concert will start at 8 p.m. at the Château Burbant. Entrance fee is €15 per person.

11-14 October

- **Book Fair at the Brussels Expo** from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Free of charge.

12-14 October

- **Flea market and Antiques Fair in Ciney** at the Ciney Expo on Rue du Marché Couvert, 3 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For additional information, check www.cineyexpo.be.
- **“Côté Campagne” Country Fair in Jodoigne.** Fair on decoration, country items, ideas for the house and the garden and also a farmers’ products market. Numerous activities for the children. Event is held at the Abbaye de la Ramée on Rue de l’Abbaye 19 and is open from 2 to 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Entrance fee is €7 per person, free of charge for children under 12 years old.



13 October

- **Flea market in Etterbeek** (100 booths) on Avenue des Casernes and Rue Nothomb from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **25th Beatles Day in Mons** at the Lotto Mons Expo, Avenue Thomas Edison. Various Beatles cover bands, to include “Jay Goepfner Karma USA” from Chicago. Event also includes a display and a fair on all items pertaining to the Beatles. Entrance fee is €15 per person, free of charge for children under 12 years old. For additional information, check www.beatlesday.be.
- **Inside flea market in Houdeng-Goegnies** (70 booths) at the school on Chaussée Houtart from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

13-14 October

- **Flea market and annual sales in Laeken** (225 booths) on Boulevard E. Bockstael from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Food fair “La Halle Gourmande” in Tournai** at the Halle-aux-Draps from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. During the two days, some 30 restaurants will be represented with two honor guest: France and Spain. Entrance fee is €3 per person (tasting included) or €5 per person for both days.



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

9-10 October

- **Fantasy Jewelry Fair in Wilrijk (BE)** held on Eg-lantierlaan 106-108. Entry is free. Open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

11-14 October

- **Military Boekelo in Enschede** on Boekmaatweg is an equestrian event with participation of the world top equestrians. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 13.

11-14 October

- **Military Fall fair in Enschede** on Boekmaatweg Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 13.

11-14 October

- **Tuindagen van Beervelde in Beervelde (BE)** is an attractive Garden Fair held at the Beervelde Domain and Park with besides many plants and flowers also decorations and antiques for your garden. Open: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €10.
- **Jeker Jazz Festival in the center of Maastricht** starts at noon.



12-17 October

- **October Fest in the center of Sittard** and in tents with parade (Oct. 14 at 2 p.m.), fair, fireworks, live music and lots more. Tents have entrance fee.

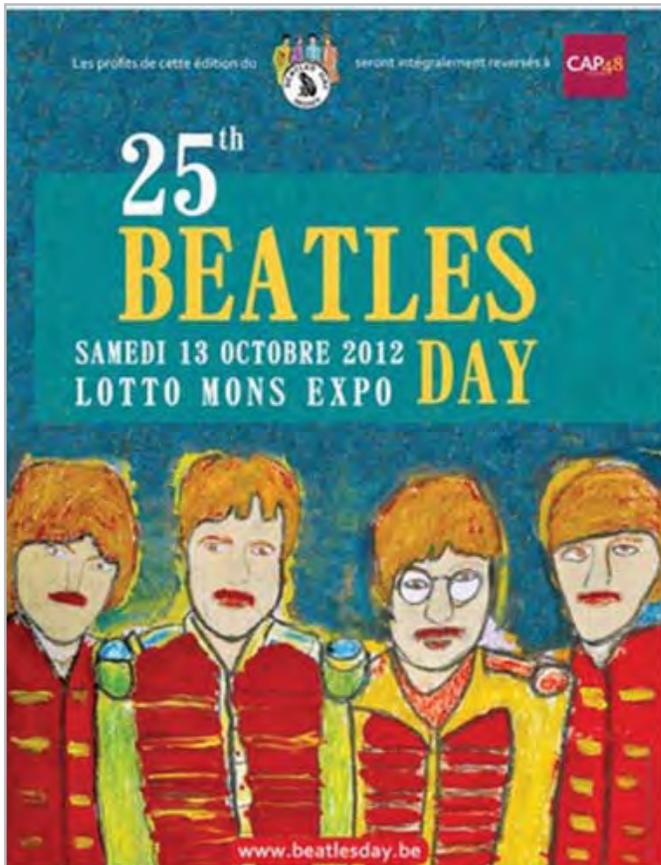
13-14 October

- **Shepers Fair in Balloo** on Crabbeweg 2 with all kind of products made from the wool of sheep such as plaids, sweaters, jewelry and more, also delicatessen. Open both days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €5; children 12 and younger – free entrance.
- **Historic Old Crafts Market in Kempen (GE)** with demonstrations and activities in the center.
- **Antique & Flea Market in Maastricht** at MECC from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Entry: €3.50.
- **Halloween Fair in Onderdijk** held at Pumpkin Farm on Dirk Bijvoetweg 19. Meet witches, vampires and other creepy creatures. There is also a flea market and curiosa, demonstrations, shows and lots of surprises. Open both days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



14 October

- **Volksmarch in Neufvilles** for 5, 10 or 20 km. Departure is from "Vieux Semoir" on Rue de Gage 66 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Petit-Enghien** for 5, 10 or 20 km. Departure is from the school on Place 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Hautrage** for 5, 10 or 20 km. Departure is from "Maison Villageoise" on place d'Hautrage 44 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Meslin-L'Evêque** for 5, 10 or 20 km. Departure is from the former city hall on the square from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m..
- **Volksmarch in Nivelles** for 5, 10 or 20 km. Departure is from the IPET cafeteria on Rue de Sotriamont from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Farmers' market in St Ghislain** (25 booths) on Place des Combattants from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Arts & Crafts and annual sales in Antoing** in the center of town (150 booths) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Antiques Fair in Gent** (50 booths) at Nemrodhuis on W. De Beersteeg 20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee is €2.
- **International Coin Fair in Hasselt** (35 booths) at the cultural center on Kunstlaan from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Entrance fee is €1.



Beatles Day in Mons, Oct. 13

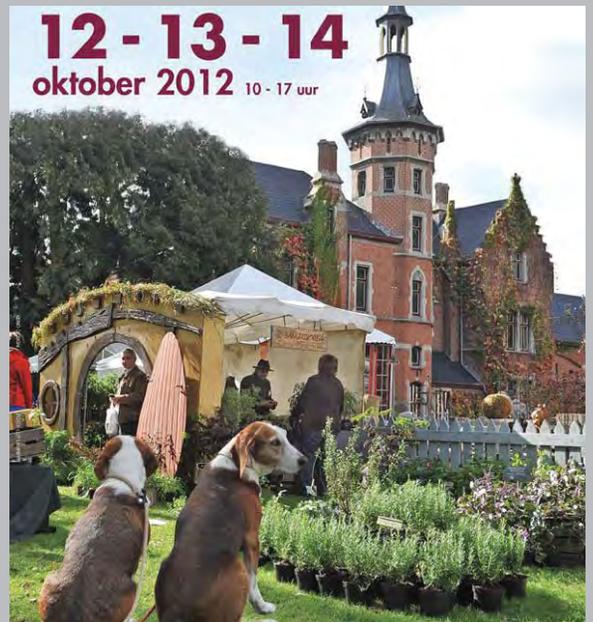


14 October

- **Amsterdam Marathon** is one of two largest-running events in the Netherlands. Thousands of professional and recreational runners from over 50 countries participate in this annual marathon. Start and finish is always the Olympic Stadium in Amsterdam. More info on www.tcsamsterdam-marathon.nl.
- **Crafts & Flea Market in Kalkar (GE)** in the center on Market Square
- **The Römermarkt held in the center of Lengerich (GE)** is a mix of art, action and food & drinks.
- **BAZOUQ Tilburg in Tilburg** is a multi-cultural bazaar held at NS Plein 3 with all kinds of shows, food tastings, music and more.
- **The Bokkemert in the center of Valkenburg** is a traditional year market held. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

14 October

- **Harvest Fest in Nettetal (GE)** held at Naturschutzhof "Sassenfeld" visitors will find all kind of natural products such as juices, liqueurs, honey, fruits and herbs. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Garden Fair in Beervelde (BE), October 11-14

Ongoing Events & Happenings

Through 20 October

- **The Golden Age of China – Treasures from the Tang Dynasty Exhibition** at the Minderbroederskerk on Boomgaardstraat 10 in Maaseik (BE). Displays treasures and art from the Tang Dynasty, a period in China, named the Golden Age which was known for its culture and wealth. Open Tuesdays-Sundays and holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €15. More info: www.degoudeneeuwvanchina.be.

SHAPE Trips & Tours

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

- **Amsterdam with Hermitage tour, October 20** - A unique Amsterdam adventure with the option to tour the Hermitage Amsterdam Exhibit. The exhibit will showcase the world famous Impressionist paintings from the vast collection of the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg or spend a leisure day in Amsterdam and visit the various museums, the Anne Frank house or stroll through the winding canal lined streets. Prices are €50 per person (without Hermitage). Prices are €70 adult with Hermitage, €50 Child*(0-16) with Hermitage. Departs SHAPE at 6:30 a.m., departs Brussels at 7:30 a.m. Returns Brussels at 11 p.m., returns SHAPE at midnight.
- **Flanders field - WWI Tour, November 10** - Visit the Ypres Museum at your own pace. You will also have free time to explore the city. Be sure to walk to Menem Gate to see the archways that hold the British Memorial to the Missing. After spending the morning on your own, you will receive a professional guided tour by bus of Ypres which will end at the original WWI trenches. Prices are €55 Adults, €50 Youth (3-17 years.), €45 Children (0-2 years) Departs Brussels at 7:30 a.m. and SHAPE at 8:45 a.m. Returns SHAPE at 7 p.m. and Brussels at 8 p.m.
- **Medieval Dinner in Brugge, November 17** - Experience a festive banquet in a grandiose setting, a dozen lively attractions, medieval costumes and music, food and drinks. You will be transported from the 21st century back to July 3, 1468. Charles the Bold and Margaret of York bid you welcome to the wedding feast. Everything is different: celebrating, eating, the way food is served and etiquette. You will feast in a former church surrounded by dozens of other revelers. The meal itself is a four-course dinner, richly washed down with beer and wine. Apart from the meal, you'll also enjoy the entertainment and atmosphere. The wedding feast will be enlivened by jesters, minstrels and dancers. There is also sword fighting, falconry, flame swallowing, a witches' dance, jousting, parrot shooting and more for your enjoyment. You will be close to all the action and if you want, you can even ask to take part. Prices: € 92 Adults. € 65 Youth (11-14 years.) 45 Children (6-10 years) €35 Children (0-5) Departs Brussels at 11:45 a.m. (Saturday). Departs SHAPE at 1 p.m. (Saturday) Returns SHAPE at 1 a.m. (Sunday) Returns Brussels 2 a.m.



Schinnen Trips and Tours

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

- **No trips planned at the moment**

SHAPE Travel Group

For information on the trips below call civilian 065-336560
Travel Group members are available every Wednesday and Friday
from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Foyer of the SHAPE Library, Bldg. 307.

- **Blegny Mines, October 11** - Visit a heritage site of Belgian industrial history at a genuine coalmine in Blegny, near Liège. We put on mining helmets and take a mining cage down into the pit for a tour in English about the “black rock,” mining equipment, and working life in the “black hole.” Next we will enjoy lunch in the mine restaurant which is included in the price. Finally, a 45-minute train ride through the Basse-Meuse countryside with an overview of the mine. Price is €40.
- **Bonn and Birkenstock, October 16** - Visit the Birkenstock Factory Outlet in Bad Honnef, just outside Bonn. Then you have six hours to tour the city of Beethoven. Stroll along the Rhine to discover the “Path of Democracy”, follow the self-guided tour to walk in Beethoven’s footsteps, explore the Museum Mile with several museums to choose from, have a “Rheinish” lunch and enjoy the many coffee shops and unlimited shopping opportunities in this former German capital city. Price is €50.

For recurring events check on www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/sites/local/pages/gazette/GazetteExtra.pdf.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BRUNSSUM/SCHINNEN COMMUNITY

October 11-12

- **Army Family Team Building Level I Training** - Open to all the services, active duty, military families and civilians will learn about the military lifestyle and how to maneuver successfully through its challenges. Classes are 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Schinnen ACS. For information or to register call 0031(0)46-443-7482.

October 12

- **Hispanic Pot Luck Sampler and Chili Cook Off** - From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Schinnen Community Activity Center. To reserve your table for chili or a special dish, call 31(0)46-443-7533/7226.
- **Safety Stand Down Day** - From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Throughout the day and open to the community, watch fire safety demonstrations hosted by the local fire safety office in conjunction with the local fire department, for personal vehicles the MPs are offering vehicle safety checks, and for the employees the safety office is offering a variety of safety classes. Additionally, there will be winter safety driving class offered. For more information, contact our Safety office at DSN 360-7242. Open to U.S. and JFC NATO ID card holders.

October 13

- **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes** - Men, demonstrate your commitment to October 2012 Domestic Violence Prevention Month by walking a mile in high heel shoes for the women you love. Walk starts in front of Schinnen Community Activity Center 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Don't turn your back on domestic violence. Call civilian 31(0)46-443-7367. Women and children are welcome too, to walk.

October 16

- **Veteran Affairs (VA) Briefing** - From 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Schinnen ACS Conference room. Learn the latest on VA policies and benefits followed by information on the Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information or to register call 0031 (0)46-443-7269/7500.
- **Heinsberg Hospital Tours** - Touring of the maternity/obstetrics ward of local hospitals. Tours address admitting procedures and your childbirth concerns. The meeting place is the Heinsberg Hospital lobby at 6 p.m. For more information contact the New Parent Support Program at ACS at 0031(0)46-443-7335.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

October 9

- **Financial class - Credit scores, reports and repairs** at the ACS conference room. For more information or to register call ACS at DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-717-9783.

October 10

- **Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation Signing** - at the 3-Star Community Club from noon to 1 p.m. Guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Johnson. Event open to the Benelux community members. Lunch will be available for purchase and will consist of a baked potato, soup, and a salad bar. For information call DSN 368-9693 or civilian 02-717-9693.

October 11

- **Conflict resolution class - Part I, Acknowledging conflict** - at the ACS conference room from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information or to register call ACS at DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-717-9783.
- **The Brussels Health Clinic** - have limited services. No patient care but there will be pharmacy and tricare service.

October 12

- **The Brussels Finance office** will close early at 2 p.m. to upgrade its systems. For information call DSN 368-9732.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

October 10

- **Bingo** at the Warrior zone, Caserne Daumerie. Doors open at 5 p.m., early birds at 6:15 p.m. and play begins at 6:30 p.m. Open to all U.S. and SHAPE (green) ID Card Holders 18 years and older.

October 11

- **Financial class - Credit scores, reports and repairs** - Learn how they work, how you get them for free and how you can improve yours. Session held at SHAPE ACS from 1 to 2 p.m. For more information call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324.

October 13

- **Breast Cancer Awareness Run** - Starting at the community Recreation Center on Chièvres Air Base from 9 to 11 a.m. Wear pink to show your support.