

THE GAZETTE

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

Belgian Heritage Days honor U.S.

Car Free Brussels - Sep. 16

Between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Sep. 16, cars will not be allowed into the city. Public transportation will be free through the day. See the community briefs section for more information.

Chièvres Self-Help Store

The USAG Benelux Self Help Store on Chièvres Air Base will be closed Sep. 10-28 in order to conduct an inventory.

Chièvres Work Reception

The USAG Benelux Work Reception Desk will be closed Sep. 17-28 in order to transition to the General Fund Business Enterprise Solutions (GFEBS). Only emergency on-call services will be provided.

PXtra New Hours

Monday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

U.S. holiday hours will be 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at both the PXtra and the Exchange. Regular hours are applicable on Belgian holidays.

Brussels IACS Office

The USAG Benelux-Brussels IACS office is now open 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. For additional information, call DSN 368-9635 or civilian 02-717-9635.

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Vincent Pediean

This year's theme for the Belgian Heritage Days was "Stones and people that marked the history of Belgium." As part of the Heritage Days, the city of Sily decided to honor the U.S. crewmembers of the B17 Royal Flush that crashed in Fouleng in 1944 and the resistance fighters who were very active in the area, during a ceremony held in Fouleng, Saturday, September 8, 2012 at which members of the 309th Airlift Squadron participated.

See also page 2

Belgian Heritage Days

SHAPE Fest draws crowd



Vincent Pedican

Lt. Col. Tracy W. Patterson stands next to Christian Leclercq, Mayor of Silly, as they pay tribute to the crewmembers of the B17 Royal Flush that crashed in Fouleng, April 13, 1944. The ceremony was held to honor all those who were able to change the outcome of World War II and build the history of Belgium as we know it today. "I am very moved by the city's initiative to honor the crewmembers of the Royal Flush as part of this year's Heritage Days," said Patterson in his speech. "They are indeed our heroes. Without the courage and selfless service from all allied world war II veterans, in which we include the resistance fighters, the outcome of World War II would have been very different," he continued.

"The actions taken by the resistance in the area, have been numerous and efficient," mentioned Paul Dumont, an alderman in Silly. "Their acts of sabotage have allowed to slow down the enemy but also to save a lot of lives". One of the crewmembers of the Royal Flush, Lt. Ashman, navigator, was very blessed to benefit from the local resistance's help when he touched ground after he bailed out of the B17 airplane above Fouleng.

"It was a true challenge for the resistance to beat the Nazis on the spot, but they succeeded many times and are true heroes and friends of our grateful nation," Patterson added.



(Picture above) With more than 20 food booths to choose from, SHAPE Fest provided the opportunity to try food and beverages from throughout Europe.

(Picture right) McKayla Gunnerson cools down with some water after playing in the kid zone.

(Picture below) The SHAPE International Band provided some of the musical entertainment at the fest. (U.S. Army Photos by Keith Houin)



THE GAZETTE

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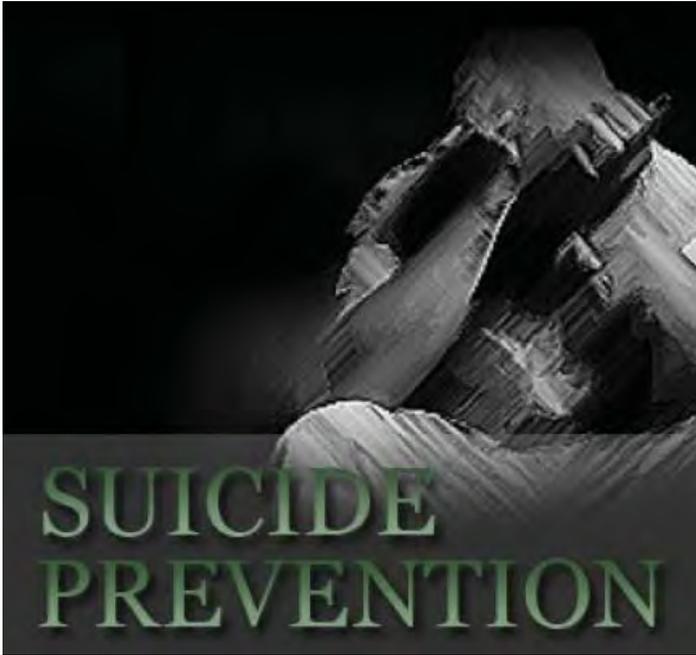
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SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

Ending the stigma of seeking help in the Army

By James W. Cartwright, Ph. D., Social Worker
U.S. Army Public Health Command



“Stigma refers to a cluster of negative attitudes and beliefs that inadvertently motivate Soldiers and leaders to fear, reject, avoid, and discriminate against military and civilian personnel with mental illnesses,” according to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2003) fact sheet entitled “Discrimination & Stigma.” Stigma is still widespread in the Army.

Research about stigma indicates that it manifests itself in many ways and through various constructs. The roots of stigma are anchored in stereotypes—generalizations that are perceived to be accepted by the population at large—such as “Soldiers who seek behavioral health care are weak.” A Mental Health Advisory Team report indicates that “among Soldiers who screened positive for depression, anxiety, or PTSD, many reported that their unit leadership might treat them differently, and reported that they would be seen as weak.” Such evidence suggests that in spite of education and training, Army personnel continue to sanction the stigma of “help-seeking,” which ultimately acts as a barrier for access to preventive and stabilizing care. Imagine the scenario that is written below. Do the problems sound familiar? They should, because they are based on common experiences.

Problems with his marriage relationship were nothing new for Sgt. Allen. He expended considerable energy to contain his relationship struggles so that they would not negatively affect his military mission, duties and job performance. Allen loved his wife in spite of their marital problems and could not imagine his life without her. When his wife finally announced that she wanted to call it quits and requested a divorce, Allen felt ambushed and emotionally unarmed. Contrary to his stoic character, he became preoccupied by and distracted with his confused thoughts and feelings as he confronted his personal

crisis. Allen was uncharacteristically late for formation several days in a row, and his work performance noticeably deteriorated.

Allen felt tense, even angry, as he was counseled by his immediate supervisor. When asked why the change in behavior, Allen simply stated that he had family issues that he would get under control. His supervisor suggested that he speak with someone about the matter. This sounded all too familiar to Allen. On numerous occasions, he had counseled his own Soldiers concerning their personal problems, suggesting that they “seek help.” As he confronted his current predicament, Allen barely gave any consideration to the advice of his supervisor.

So, why was Sgt. Allen reluctant to seek help? Reluctance to seek help with personal problems is embedded in the values, beliefs and culture of America and its military. Help-seeking can be perceived as a sign of individual weakness in a culture that values physical, mental and moral fortitude. Many Soldiers believe that help-seeking can negatively affect the progression of a military career or future employability if there is documentation of a behavioral health problem, diagnosis and/or treatment. This belief is reinforced when there is any evidence in practice that Soldiers do, in fact, suffer negative consequences when they seek help.

Allen was caught up in a personal and professional dilemma. He often counseled his own Soldiers to seek the help that could possibly alleviate their suffering, while retaining his own prejudices and believing that in truth, stigma still exists. His personal situation placed him in the most uncomfortable circumstance of having to face his true convictions and awareness that overwhelming life events can present to anyone, not just someone else.

To squarely address stereotypes, prejudice and stigma, it is necessary for Army leaders to ensure that Soldiers can freely seek help without jeopardizing their personal integrity, reputations, work status, career goals and opportunities. Leaders must practice fair treatment in the workplace. Leaders must understand that public service announcements and leadership policy statements will not necessarily change a Soldier’s internal feelings about seeking help when needed. It requires compassion, understanding and persistent dedication to truly help Soldiers who need supportive counseling or behavioral health care.

Leaders also should be encouraged to address their own problems by seeking help as a demonstration of their commitment to ending the shame and stigma of “help-seeking.” Army leaders must share the truth that anyone can be victimized by life events. Leaders should continuously promote awareness that seeking help with a medical or behavioral health problem shows the resilience and maturity of character that contributes to a strong and effective leadership and military force. Then with the evidence of a supportive leadership, Soldiers can learn that seeking help leads to good recovery and positive outcomes for individuals, families and the military force.

USAG Benelux-Schinnen changes solid waste policy

Special to the Gazette

USAG Benelux provides trash dumpsters and recycling containers on all installations for the disposal of waste and recyclables generated by official activities of the U.S. Forces. Since a government-paid contractor performs the removal of these containers, the disposal of household waste and recyclables from outside of the garrison imposes additional costs to the U.S. government. Since September 1, individuals living off base are no longer allowed to dispose household waste or recyclables at the Separate or Recycle Trash (SORT) center at USAG Benelux-Schinnen. This also means that the SORT Center will be closed on Saturdays completely. The recycling island currently in front of the SORT center will be removed as well. Scrap metal/metal cans is the only waste stream that you will still be able to dispose of at the recycling island.

Disposal of your household waste and recyclables, including household hazardous waste (flammable, corrosive, reactive, irritant or toxic items) should occur through the trash service provided by the local municipality. Below is an overview of the waste disposal in the local area. Most common is the curbside pickup service. Besides every municipality has

a SORT center for its inhabitants. Some objects may be reused by local thrift shops or the USAG Benelux-Schinnen thrift shop.

Pick-up service

The municipal pickup service is picking up waste every week or in some cases every two or three weeks. The regular day of the week may differ per community or per quarter. The municipality you're living in will inform you about the schedule. Put your container outside before 7:30 a.m. on the day of pick up. Most municipalities have regulations for picking up refuse, biodegradable waste, paper/cardboard, and plastic. Waste containers are belonging to the house you're living in. When you move, leave the container(s) in a clean and neat condition. It's not allowed to incinerate waste yourself in your backyard.

Drop-off points

Every municipality has a municipal drop-off point. Besides of some local drop-off points every municipality has one or more SORT centers for all types of waste.

Each local SORT center has its own regulation and opening hours. Most relevant issues to keep in mind are:

- Only residents from the local municipality are allowed to dispose their waste:
 - Keep your ID with you to show you're from the local municipality. We advise Americans to make a copy of the page listing address and name from their rental agreement and just keep it in the car.
 - As commercial waste is prohibited, in most cases (borrowed) company vans and tractors are not allowed.
- For specific types of waste, a fee may be asked. These fees differ per type of waste and per municipality. Only digital payments (PIN) are possible, cash is not.

Charity shops

If you consider your used objects could be reused, you may give them to a charity shop. Especially furniture, clothes, books, toys and electronics can be collected.

You can find an overview of charity shops in your neighborhood at www.kringloopnet.nl/kringloopwinkels.html.

For further information please contact USAG Benelux-Schinnen DPW Environmental Division at DSN 360-7238.

Overview of Municipal sort centers.

Municipality	Sort center	Address	Times
Brunssum	RD4	Milieuweg 1, Brunssum	Mon-Fri 9.00 - 12.30 & 13.30 - 17.30, Sat 8.00 - 16.00
Echt-Susteren	Wwaste center Echt	Maasbrachterweg 3, Montfort	Mon-Thu 12.30 – 16.30, Fri 12.30 – 18.00, Sat 9.00 – 13.00
Gulpen	RD4	You can use any RD4 center	
Heerlen	RD4	Huibergerstraat 250, Heerlen	Mon-Fri 9.00 – 12.30 & 13.30 – 17.30, Sat 8.00 – 16.00
Kerkrade	RD4	Ir. Wintgensstraat 2, Kerkrade	Mon-Fri 9.00 – 12.30 & 13.30 – 17.30, Sat 8.00 – 16.00
Landgraaf	RD4	Marconistraat 28, Landgraaf	Mon-Fri 9.00 – 12.30 & 13.30 – 17.30, Sat 8.00 – 16.00
Maastricht** (including Meerssen)	Waste service Maastricht, Eijsden and Meerssen	Fregatweg 32, Maastricht Watermolen, Maastricht Frontensingel, Maastricht	Mon-Sat 10.00 – 18.00 Mon-Sat 10.00 – 18.00 Mon-Sat 10.00 – 18.00
Margraten	RD4	Fremme 25, Margraten	Mon, Thu, Fri 9.00 – 12.00 & 13.00 – 17.30; Tue 13.00 – 17.30; Sat 9.00 – 16.00
Nuth	RD4	You can use any RD4 center	
Onderbanken	RD4	You can use any RD4 center	
Schinnen (including Beek)	Sort center Schinnen	Breinderveldweg 16, Schinnen	Thu-Fri 13.30 – 17.30, Sat 8.30 – 12.30
Simpelveld	RD4	You can use any RD4 center	
Sittard-Geleen	Waste service Sittard	Milieuparkweg 11, Sittard*	Mon-Fri 8.30 – 12.00 & 13.00 – 16.30, Sat 8.30 – 12.00
Stein	Waste service Stein	Stadhouderslaan 245, Stein	Mon-Fri 9.30 – 11.30 & 13.00 – 15.30, Sat 8.00 – 12.00
Vaals	RD4	Selzerbeeklaan 9, Vaals	Tue & Fri 8.00 – 12.00, Sat 9.00 – 12.30
Valkenburg a/d Geul	Wwaste service Maastricht, Eijsden and Meerssen	Valkenberg 13, Valkenburg a/d Geul	Thu & Fri 13.00 – 19.00, Sat 9.30 – 16.30
Voerendaal	RD4	You can use any RD4 center	
*There are other (smaller) sort Centers in this municipality as well			
** Large amounts of waste should be brought at Stadsbeheer Maastricht (Ankerstraat 275, Maastricht)			

SHAPE hosts Save A Life Tour



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn A. Riley, SHAPE Battalion HHC, tries his hands at the wheel of the drunken driver simulator, during the Save A Life Tour traveling through the Benelux. The simulator starts out on a setting representing a sober driver's response time and is gradually increased to simulate the lag in response time after drinking different amounts of alcohol. The steering wheel is as responsive as any regular car and just like a real car reacts to any minor adjustment.

In addition to the simulator, the audience heard a live testimony of the impact drunken driving had on SALT host Andrew Tipton's life and watched videos of the results of drunk driving. In other videos people affected by drunk drivers and drunk drivers themselves talked about the impact on their lives.

Speaking to a primarily military audience at SHAPE Alliance Auditorium, Tipton, said "You joined the military to protect lives. For you to drink and drive is hypocritical." He also said the drunk driving is a choice and not an accident.

Ten steps to a federal job application



USAG Benelux Army Community Service hosted "Ten Steps to a Federal Job, Navigating the Federal Jobs System", Monday, August 27, 2012 on SHAPE. Twenty participants, military and civilian, attended the seminar which was taught by Trudy Wheatley, Employment Readiness program manager at USAG Benelux-Schinnen. During the three hours, participants received an overview of the ten steps of the federal job application process, including exploring opportunities at different federal agencies, analyzing job announcements, using keywords, and understanding KSAs (Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities). The next federal jobs seminar will be held October 29 from 9 a.m. to noon in Building 318, SHAPE. For information and to register, call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324. You can also request information and/or register online by visiting the USAG Benelux FMWR website <http://usagbeneluxfmwr.wordpress.com/army-community-service/army-community-service-activity-registrationinformation-page/>.

City water disruptions



If you are living in Brugelette, Mévergnies, Attré and on Grand'Rue in Chièvres, be aware that the city water distribution will be disrupted from September 11 at 8 p.m. until

September 12 at 8 a.m. Caserne Daumerie and part of Chièvres Air Base will also be affected.

The Belgian water company has to work on the main water pipe that goes from Neufvilles to Lessines. The residents in the above mentioned locations will therefore not be supplied with water during the period mentioned.

Residents in Cambron Casteau, Lens (center only), Ath, Lessines and Chièvres (all but Grand'Rue) will have limited water distribution. It is highly recommended for these residents to only use the water supply when essential. Don't waste any water on September 11 and 12 and avoid using any if not really needed. The water supply in these areas will be very limited and if water runs out, the company will not have the option to provide any until September 12 at 8 a.m. when the works will be completed.

In the morning of September 12 when the water distribution will be operational again, the water may have a brown color. Although the water will be to standard from a bacteriological point of view, it is not recommended to drink it. The brown color is due to the disruption and it should become clear in the next few hours. In Lessines, because of its location at the far end of the water pipe, this may take a little longer compared to the other cities.

The Belgian water company should have sent a letter in all mailboxes of those that will be involved by this water disruption. Unfortunately, not being able to locate the U.S. community members, they have sent the letters in French.

Wereth 11 to be honored at ceremony, September 22

By Major Lawanda D. Warthen, USA

The African American Soldiers killed by the German SS during the Battle of the Bulge will be honored at 11 a.m. on September 22, 2012 in Wereth, Belgium.

These 11 soldiers were part of a unit that was reactivated in the regular Army as a 155-mm howitzer battalion a year before their deployment. In their first six months of combat, they were separated from their unit while evading the Germans. While looking for food and shelter, they approached the Mathias Langer house in Wereth, and the family took them in.

About an hour later, a German patrol approached the house. The Americans surrendered, were taken out, and were shot and dumped into a ditch where their bodies remained until mid-February. The official report noted they had been brutalized, with broken legs, bayonet wounds to the head, and fingers cut off.

These 11 Soldiers from Alabama remained unknown to the world until 1994 when Herman Langer, son of Mathias, erected a small cross in the corner of the pasture where they had been murdered. On the cross were listed the names of the Soldiers.

In 2001, three Belgians took on the task of creating a more prominent memorial to them as well as to honor all African American GIs of World War II. The dedication of the new memorial was held in May 2004; road signs now indicate the location of the memorial, and the Belgian Tourist Bureau lists it in its "Battle of the Bulge" brochures. These African American men, like so many others, paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

The Wereth Massacre documentary premiered February 19, 2011 at the World War II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana among those in attendance was Dr Regina Benjamin, the 18th Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service. On May 17, 2011, 'The Wereth Eleven' was honored with the Founders' Choice Award at the Fifth Annual GI Film Festival at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. Learn more about the documentary on Facebook: <http://robchild.blogspot.com/2011/05/wereth-eleven-wins-founders-choice.html>

For more information, go to <http://themoderatevoice.com/13097/the-alabama-eleven-the-black-gis-of-wereth-belgium-memorial-day-2007/>.

Wereth 11 Ceremony

This year's ceremony will be held September 22 at 11 a.m. at the U.S. Memorial Wereth, Hauptstrasse, 4770 Wereth.

The GPS coordinates are: 50° 20'45.143N - 6° 13'55.37° E - the road in front of the monument will be closed as of 10 a.m.

Ceremony will be attended by Mrs. Els Pritchett, daughter of William E. Pritchett (one of the Wereth 11) and Mrs. Sandra Green, niece of Robert Green (also one of the Wereth 11).

The names of the Wereth 11 are:

- Adams, Curtis - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Bradley, Mager (no picture available) - Buried at Fort Gibson national Cemetery, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma
 - Davis, George - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Forte, Thomas J. (no picture available) - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Green, Robert - Buried at Highland park Cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio
 - Leatherwood, James (no picture available) - Buried at College Hill Cemetery, Pontotoc, Mississippi
 - Moss, Nathaniel (no picture available) - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Moten, George W. (no picture available) - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Pritchett, William E. - Buried at Mc Castar Cemetery, Wilcox, Alabama
 - Stewart, James A. - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium
 - Turner, Due W. (no picture available) - Buried at U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium.
- USAG Benelux adopted the graves of the seven Soldiers who are resting at the U.S. Military Cemetery in Henri-Chapelle, Belgium.



James A. Stewart



Robert Green



Curtis Adams



William E. Pritchett



George Davis

community briefs - community briefs - community briefs

Education

University of Maryland University College Europe (UMUC Europe) announces registration for Fall 2012 Mid-Session. Registration for online courses is available now through Sep. 16 with classes beginning on Sep. 17.

Also, early registration for Fall 2012 Session 2 is open, with on-line and on-site courses starting on Oct. 22. Students can plan ahead and view the hundreds of classes available on our online schedule at <http://webapps.umuc.edu/soc/europe.cfm>.

This fall, hands-on learning can be taken to a new level by exploring fascinating cities in the United Kingdom while earning university credit with UMUC Europe's field study program. In Cultural Studies: Cambridge, students will visit one of the oldest and most famous university cities in Europe and walk the grounds where ideas that have revolutionized our world were born. In Dublin, Ireland: A Brief Literary History, students will discover the Irish novelists, playwrights, and poets who have forged one of the greatest bodies of literature in the English language, while experiencing the historical and contemporary cultural center of Ireland. Both courses start Oct. 13 and registration is open now until Sep. 30. For details, visit www.ed.umuc.edu/fieldstudy. For more information on registration, field study, contact a local UMUC Europe field representative, visit www.ed.umuc.edu, or call DSN 370-6762 or civilian +49-(0)6221-3780.

SHAPE Thrift Shop

SHAPE Thrift Shop is closed for the summer. It will open Sept. 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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 ic3@gmail.com to arrange a "garage door" meeting at another time during the work week.

Andrews Federal Credit Union

Andrews Federal Credit Union is looking for individuals who want to advance their careers with a progressive full-service local financial institution.

Andrews Federal offers a full-range of financial and lending services for its members. European branches are located in Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

Brussels Branch, Belgium

Senior Teller (Full-Time) / Teller (Full-Time) / Member Service Representative (Part-Time)

Schinnen Branch, the Netherlands

Branch Manager (Full-Time) / Member Services Representatives (Full-Time)

Chièvres Branch, Belgium

Two Teller positions (Full-Time)

Chièvres Air Force Base and Benelux Region

Member Services Representative/Teller Floater (Full-Time)

To apply online, visit andrewsfcu.org. All applicants must have a U.S. Passport with logistical support.

Car Free Sunday in Brussels

The highlight of mobility week will be Sunday, Sep. 16 as the entire city of Brussels and the Brussels region territory will be car free. The only vehicles allowed to drive on this day are taxis, police and emergency vehicles, busses and persons with a special permit. The purpose is to promote alternative ways to access Brussels. Public transportation of the STIB and De Lijn will be free all day. The ring of Brussels will be open to traffic as well as the following roads: Chaussée Romaine / Rampe Gauloise / Avenue de Madrid (between Avenue de l'Atomium and Avenue de Miramar) / Avenue de Miramar / Avenue du Tyras / Drève Saint-Landy Avenue de Béjar / Avenue Antoon Van Oss / Chaussée de Vilvorde (between the border of Brussels Region and the Buda Brdige) / Digue du Canal / Chaussée de Buda / Rue du Dobbelenberg / Rue du Bruel / Hamweg / Rue du Witloof Rue de la Fusée (between the border of Brussels Region and the Albert I barrack) / Boulevard Léopold II (between the border of Brussels Region and the NATO entrance for traffic leaving Brussels) / Avenue du Bourget (between the border of Brussels Region and the NATO entrance). If you are coming into Brussels on Sunday, park your car at the designated area by following Parking C signs from the ring. Parking cost will be €5/day. See also the Events & Happenings section for the specific Car Free Sunday activities.

Chièvres kennel

Effective Oct. 1, the daily boarding fees at the Chièvres Kennel will change. The new fees will be: \$18 for one dog, \$14 for one cat, \$5 each additional cat or dog in the same kennel, \$4 a day small pet (gerbil, hamster, guinea pig, ferret, rabbit, bird), \$1 each additional small pet in the same cage.

IACS Office

The IACS office at the U.S. in/out processing center on SHAPE has ceased operations. Customers requiring IACS support can report to Bldg. 134, room 104 Chièvres Air Base. The operating hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Fridays are 8 to noon and 12:30 to 3 p.m. For appointments, call DSN 361-5433/5805 or civilian 068-27-5433/5805. The Brussels community members can get IACS support at the Brussels IACS Office, Bldg. 4, room 311 on USAG Benelux- Brussels. The new operating hours are Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. For appointments, call DSN 368-9835 or civilian 02-717-9835.

Unit Transportation Officer Training

Mandatory Unit Transportation Officer training will be held:

- Sept. 12 and 19 at 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. 105 on Chièvres Air Base
- Sept. 13 and 20 in Bldg. 220, Rm 113 on SHAPE
- Sept. 25 in Bldg 1, DTS classroom in Brussels. For information call DSN 361-6309.

Coaches needed at Brussels

USAG Benelux-Brussels CYSS and Fitness is looking for volunteer coaches. If interested, call DSN 368-9651 or civilian 02-717-9651.

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Dutch Armed Forces offer bonus

The Dutch Armed Forces are offering new Soldiers with a technical background an extra payment of €10,000 if they agree to sign up for four years. The Army, Navy and Air Force are so short of technicians that the defense ministry has been forced to approve the extra cash.

Early releases from jail

Belgian ministers have come to an agreement for tougher conditions to grant early release from jail. Detainees who have committed murder, rape or child abuse, will have to serve half of their sentence to be eligible for early release, while dangerous criminals with repeated offenses will need to serve three quarters of their sentence to be eligible for early release.

Terrorist Trabelsi to remain in jail

An Antwerp court has ruled that the convicted terrorist Nizar Trabelsi must remain in jail. The 42-year-old former professional soccer player has already served a ten-year sentence for his part in a plan to attack the Kleine Brogel military airbase in Limburg province. As he has already served his time, Hasselt magistrates ruled that he should be released. However, the federal judicial authorities didn't agree and an appeal was filed. It is possible that Nizar Trabelsi could be extradited to the United States. The U.S. authorities want to put the Tunisian on trial on charges of planning an attack on American citizens abroad. His legal team is currently fighting the extradition request at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Trabelsi will remain in custody awaiting a ruling from Strasbourg.

U.S. Embassy in Brussels evacuated

The U.S. Embassy in Brussels and the office of the Belgian Defense Minister were evacuated for a while last week after a suspect delivery van was spotted outside the premises on the Regentlaan in Brussels. Police cordoned off the entire area and imposed a security perimeter. The security alert was lifted after a thorough examination of the suspect van. The suspect delivery van had no license plates. The Belgian Army's bomb disposal squad DOVO examined the delivery van using a robot. DOVO established that the vehicle did not contain any explosives. The blue delivery van drew attention after it was noticed that it contained a number of electric wires in places where you would not expect them. The incident caused great disruption to traffic on the Madou intersection of the inner Brussels orbital ring road.

Coca Cola restructures Belgian operation

Coca Cola called a works council at its Anderlecht plant on Wednesday to announce restructuring plans. A total of 51 jobs in the financial department are to disappear of the overall 600 jobs in Belgium. The restructuring plan is part of a wider operation across Western Europe. Several departments are being moved to cheaper locations in Bulgaria.

New European school in Brussels

The fourth European school in the Belgian capital is located in former Army barracks not far from the Royal Palace in Laken. Children will be taught in five different languages. The school can welcome 3,000 students. Most of them are children of people working for the European Commission and the European Parliament. The school includes a kindergarten, a primary and a secondary section.

Paralympics

Belgium has won a total of seven medals at the Paralympic Games in London, of which 3 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze medals. The Netherlands has won 39 medals, ten gold, ten silver and 19 bronze medals. The United States won 98 medals of which 31 gold, 29 silver and 38 bronze medals.

8,000 Dutch men asked to provide DNA

In an effort to solve the 1999 murder of a teenage girl, some 8,000 Frisian men have been asked to give DNA samples in the hope of finding a link to her killer. The DNA project is the biggest of its kind ever undertaken in the Netherlands. Marianne Vaatstra, 16, was murdered in Friesland (North of the Netherlands) 14 years ago and her body was dumped in a field. Despite a thorough police investigation, her killer has never been found.

Rotterdam to teach 9 years old on alcohol

Rotterdam city council plans to begin experimenting with lessons about the dangers of alcohol for nine-year-olds. The lessons have been prompted by statistics which show one in three children have tasted alcohol by the time they reach the age of 12. Dutch teenagers are among the heaviest drinkers in Europe. The information sessions are meant for children and their parents but the council has not yet worked out how they will be organized. Currently, 16-year-olds are allowed to buy beer and wine in the Netherlands but there is pressure to increase the age to 18. In May, new legislation came into effect which makes it a criminal offense for children under the age of 16 to be caught with alcohol.

The Netherlands is fifth in competitive ranking

The Netherlands has overtaken Germany and the U.S. to reach fifth place in the latest edition of the World Economic Forum's ranking of the most internationally competitive economies. Switzerland tops the overall rankings for the fourth consecutive year. Singapore remains in second position with Finland, in third position, overtaking Sweden in 4th. The improvement in the Dutch position reflects a 'continued strengthening of its innovative capacity as well as the heightened efficiency and stability of its financial markets', the organization said. Although the country has registered fiscal deficits in recent years, its macro-economic environment is more stable than that of a number of other advanced economies, the report concluded.



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

13 through 16 September

- **Eat! Brussels** – First Brussels Restaurant Festival, part of the Year of Gastronomy in Brussels. For four days, in Bois de la Cambre across from the Chalet Robinson pond, more than 30 chefs will meet and share their passion with the public. Discover traditional dishes as well as modern cuisine. Entrance is free and tasting prices are low. From 5 to 10 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. For additional information, check http://visitbrussels.be/bitc/BE_en/minisite_eatbrussels/horaires-et-programme.do (in English).

14 September

- **Evening market in Tournai** (60 booths) on Plaine des Manoeuvres from 6 to 10 p.m.

15 September

- **Flea market in Bauffe** on the square (120 booths) from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Saint-Gilles** (300 booths) on Place Van Menen from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Watermael-Boisfort** (150 booths) at Quartier Arcades Visé from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Family Bicycle Ride in Maisières** – Starting at 10 a.m. on the square near the fest tent, the ride will be 30 km going through the neighboring villages. Free of charge.
- **Local products market in Maisières** (30 booths) on the square from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Second hand market at the Ath Music Academy** – From 9 to 11 a.m. at the academy on Rue Léon Trulin, 2 in Ath, second hand instruments, partitions, books and more.
- **Fest at the Pater Park in Soignies** with various activities among which: bouncing castle, free pony rides, face painting, hot air balloon launching and fireworks at 10 p.m.

15 and 16 September

- **Heritage Days in Brussels** – This year's theme is the art of construction. There is a host of activities you can choose from, including guided tours and exhibitions. For a detailed list of monuments that you can visit on these days, check www.monument.irisnet.be/nl/download/omd2012/JEP_2012_NL_WEB.pdf (website is only in French and Dutch).
- **Passion for Animals in Mons** – Domestic animal and pet fair in Mons, at the Lotto Mons Expo on Avenue Thomas Edison, 2. Entrance is €4. Discover dogs, cats, chicken, birds, donkeys, horses, reptiles, mice, rats, hamsters, chinchilla, ferret, iguanas, turtles, lizards, snakes. Nutrition booths, accessories and education tips will also be available.
- **Flea market in Brussels** (100 booths) on Rue de Flandre from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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

Through 11 September

- **Europe Festival in the center of Aalsdorf (GE)** with traditional and cultural activities and products, shows and specialties from all over Europe.

13-16 September

- **Attractive Summer Fair in Doorn** held on the grounds of Castle Maarten Maartenshuis. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €12.50; children 11 and younger – free entrance.

14-15 September

- **Saint-Jazz-Ten-Noode in Saint-Josse-Ten-Noode (BE)** is a major jazz event with numerous free jazz concerts held at Place as of 2 p.m.

14-16 September

- **Country & Pumpkin Fair in Nieuw-Weerdinge** is an attractive outdoor fair with stylish products for home and garden. Open: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €6.50; children 11 and younger – free entrance.

14-17 September

- **Wine Fest in Remagen (GE)** on the Market Square. Have fun but don't drink and drive!

Through 15 September

- **17th Rotterdam Philharmonic Gergiev Festival**



This year's theme is the Sea and You. This classical music festival has a rich program of opera, symphonic music, happenings and musical pearls with world famous artists. For more information go to: www.gergievfestival.nl.

15 September

- **Irie Vibes is a Reggae Festival in Lochem** held at the Open Air Theater in Lochem (NL) with participation of four reggae bands and two sound systems. Starts at 1:30 p.m. Entry: €20. For more info call 0031 (0)6 109 32 773.



15 and 16 September Continued

- **Medieval Fest in Quevaucamps** with a medieval village, a display on medieval times in Beloeil, games, arts & crafts, knights combat, country dancing and various musical entertainment from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Entrance is €7 for both days or €5 for one day (children under 12 years old get in free of charge).

14 through 16 September

- **Medieval Fest in Forest** on Place St Denis from 5 to 11 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

16 September

- **Bruxelles Champêtre and Car free Sunday in Brussels**

– Place des Palais will turn into a real countryside from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. There will be farm animals, entertainment, activities for young and old. Thematic villages will exhibit different booths and activities. The idea is to raise public awareness of the benefits of sustainable food.



Farmers and craftsmen will share their know-how while kids will enjoy the merry-go-round and pony rides. No entrance fee.

- **Flea market in Horrues** (80 booths) on Rue du Tram from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Leernes** (600 booths) on the square and neighboring roads from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Maisières** (250 booths) on the square from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Strepv-Bracquagnies** on Rue J. Wauters from 1 to 8 p.m.
- **Flea market in Zaventem** (200 booths) on Tuiwijnkstraat from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Garden day in Quévy-le-Grand** on Rue de la Fontaine from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Exchange and sale of seeds, flower bulbs, fruit and vegetables, bushes. Soup bar will be available at noon. As of 2 p.m. creative workshop for kids from 6 years old on how to build a bird nest.
- **Flea market in Ormeignies (Ath)** – Part of the local fest, the flea market will be held as of 8 a.m. in the center of the village.
- **Concert by the local band in Ormeignies (Ath)** – Part of the local fest, the band will perform starting at 11:30 a.m.

16 and 17 September

- **Heritage Days at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Brussels.** During two days the Museum of Natural Sciences in Brussels on Rue Vautier 29, presents the theme "Building Arts". Free entrance to see the incredible architecture space of the museum. Free Guided Tour all weekend from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and free entrance to the museum from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



15-16 September

- **Elf Fantasy Fair in Arcen,** a fantasy weekend with lots of magic, rattling of swords, witches and lots more in the gardens of Castle Arcen near the town of Arcen (NL). More info on opening times and entry: <http://arcen.elf-fantasyfair.com>.



- **Apple Fest in the center of Bad Waldliesborn (GE),** the apple in all its varieties is in the center of attention. This traditional festival has lots of activities and entertainment. Open: Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **The Ienie Minie Late Summer Fair in Hilvarenbeek** on Groot Loo 8 is all about enjoying life. The fair has food and cooking accessories; antiques & curiosa; wines; regional products; furniture for the inside and outdoors; garden decorations and lots more. Both days open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.50; children 12 and younger – free.
- **The "Vlietdagen" in Leidschendam** is a large nautical event located along the Rhine-Schie Canal. It has a nautical market, nautical crafts, many water activities, culinary activities and lots more. Open both days from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **"Living the good life" Lifestyle Fair in Sittard** held at Castle Limbricht, Allee 1. Open: Saturday, 1 to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €7.50.

16 September

- **Sanicole International Airshow in Hechtel (BE)** at



The United States Air Force is participating with a B-52

Hechtel Airport, Kamperbaan 165 with this year the participation of a great parachute team from the UK: the RAF Falcons. This formation

is one of the best military parachute teams in the world. Besides this team, groups from Spain, Belgium, France and other countries will also participate with new and old airplanes and there will be static displays. Open: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €25; children 8-14 years €10. Info: www.sanicole.com.

- **The Ladies Day & Recreation Fair in Kortesseem (BE)** at Cc Mozaiek on Kerkplein 14 is a fair with a varied and extensive display of gifts, jewelry, fashion, flowers and more. Open: 1 to 6 p.m. Entry is free.



Ongoing Events & Happenings

Through 14 September

- **Klara Festival in Brussels** - The KlaraFestival is a distinguished international music festival that, from the historically informed practice, strives for an original alternative for the performance of classical, romantic, modern and contemporary music. More information on www.klarafestival.be/en/about-us.

Through 16 September

- **Summer of photography in Brussels** - During the International Biennial Exhibit of Photography and Visual Arts, 160 artworks by 40 contemporary photographers from the 27 member states will be on display. More information on www.bozar.be/home.php?lng=en&bozar=home&.

Through 30 September

- **Sand Magic Dinant** - With just sand and water, artists from around the world create a fantasy world. Celebrating the 20th anniversary of Disneyland® Paris. More info on www.sandmagic.be.
- **Visit the garden of the Château d'Havré** - On Chaussée du Roeulx 1101 at Havré from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 2 to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Entrance fee is 1,25 Euro per person.

Through 16 October

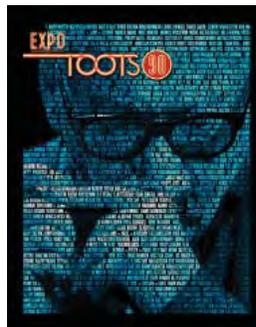
- **International sound arts festival in Brussels** - For more information go to www.citysonic.be/2012/EN/. Site available in English.

Through 28 October

- **The Château of Attre** dating back to the 18th century. Open Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. in July and August. Price is €6.50 for the parc and the Château and €4.5 for the parc only. More info on www.infoinfo.be/chateau-attre.htm.

Through 6 January

- **Expo Toots 90 exhibition in Brussels** - For his 90th birthday, discover the career of one of the greatest Belgian jazzmen. In this exhibition, Toots shares his memories and a part of his life. From Belgium to New York City, this great jazz musician will give you chill and emotion. More information on www.toots90.be.agenda.



Through April 2013

- **Golden Sixties exhibition in Liège** - Those were the times when a wind of change swept across people's vision of life and the world around them: the Nasa landed on the Moon, Jimi Hendrix performed in Woodstock, Mao wrote his little red book, Martin Luther King had a Dream, Kennedy was killed, women gained freedom, hippies and so much more.



Through 16 September

- **Steam! in Utrecht** - This interesting Exhibition



Courtesy Photo

at Spoorwegmuseum (Railway Museum) on Maeliebaanstation tells the history of the railway. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €14.50. More info: www.spoorwegmuseum.nl.

Ongoing Events & Happenings

Through 7 October

- **Floriade 2012 in Venlo** - 'World Horticultural Expo'. This large horticultural fair takes place every 10 years. This year the fair/show can be found in Venlo (NL) and has, besides Europe's largest indoor flower exhibition, more than 100 participants from all over the world. More info: www.floriade.com.



Courtesy Photo

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

- **Adventure Parc, September 15** - Adventure Parc was first created in France 12 years ago by Denis Payan, a former paratrooper who wanted to open a commando obstacle course to members of the general public so that they could experience it firsthand. Adventure Parc has numerous courses designed for every skill level. Price: €50 Adults (over 10 yrs), €48 Youth (8-9 yrs), €46 Child (6-7 yrs), €35 under 5 yrs. Departs SHAPE at 9 a.m., returns SHAPE at 5 p.m. Departs Brussels at 10 a.m. and returns Brussels at 4 p.m.
- **Leeds Castle, September 22** - Listed in the Domesday Book as a Saxon manor, the castle has also been a Norman stronghold, home to six of England's medieval queens and a preferred residence of Henry VIII. Castle is surrounded by 500 acres of parkland. Cost is €130 Adults, €125 Children (4-15 yrs), €105 Children (0-3 yrs).
- **October Fest in Munich, September 29-30** - **Sold out - Waiting List only** - One of the world's largest fairs and famously popular Bavarian event. Price: € 220pp Single, € 175pp Double/ Twin, € 170pp triple, € 155pp quad. Departs SHAPE at 2 a.m. (Sat), returns SHAPE at 11:30 p.m. (Sun). Departs Brussels at 1 a.m. (Sat), returns Brussels at 00:30 a.m. (Sun).
- **Book now: Southern India, October 26 - November 4 - Only a few spaces left** - Ten days of 'All inclusive' trip. Stop by the office for a complete itinerary. A Visa is required for this trip. Price per person is €2885 Double/ Twin, €3540 Single, €2270 Child (0-11 yrs with two paying adults in triple room).
- **Book now: Moulin Rouge, Paris, November 3 - Only 15 tickets left for dinner/show.** Price is €205 for trip, three course dinner, half a bottle of champagne and the show. Adults only for the show.



Courtesy Photo

Leeds Castle

Schinnen Trips and Tours

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

- **No trips planned for the rest of this month**

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.

- **Buckingham Palace and London, September 18** - Buckingham Palace is the official residence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in London, and is open for visitors only in August & September of each year. We have time-allocated entrance tickets for 12:30, these include entry into the Palace and part of the gardens, with an audio guide. Afterwards, you have time to explore some of London on your own. Price is €60.
- **A Day in Gent, September 25** - Guided tour of the city followed by free time to see the Van Eyck Brothers' *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* in St. Bavo's Cathedral, the Castle of the Counts, visit the top of the Belfry, take a canal tour or visit a tapestry shop with Shapian discounts. Price is €25.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BRUNSSUM/SCHINNEN COMMUNITY

12 September

- **Wednesday Night League Bowling** - League gets underway at 6:30 p.m. Bowling season runs for 28-32 weeks. For more information, call 31(0)46-443-7207.
- **Infant Massage** - offered by ACS from 10 to 11 a.m.

13 and 14 September

- **Stephen Covey's Seven Habits of Highly Effective People** - This training will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (lunch is provided). There are only 20 slots available. U.S. and NATO ID holders have first priority, others welcome if slots are available. For more information or to register, call DSN 364-2940.

14 September

- **Cultural Awareness Tour** - Tour of the Canissus Factory (next to USAG Benelux-Schinnen) begins at Schinnen ACS and is open to US and NATO ID cardholders. The tour runs from 10 a.m. until noon. You'll see how our neighbors produce a variety of delicious fruit spreads. To reserve a spot call 31(0)46-443-7500 or 49(0)2451-63-3791 in Germany.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

14 September

- **Bingo Friday** - At the 3 Star Recreation Center from 6 to 8 p.m. - \$5 bingo cards. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-717-9822.

16 September

- **Pancake Brunch** at the 3 Star Recreation Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$8 per adult, \$6 per child age 3 to 12. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-717-9822.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

11 September

- **09/11 Freedom Run/Walk** - If you want to participate in the Freedom Run/Walk starting at 9:11 a.m., you can register online at <http://usagbeneluxfmwr.wordpress.com/community-recreation/chievresshape/freedom-runwalk-2012-registration-page/>.

12 September

- **Bingo** at the Warrior Zone on Caserne Daumerie. Doors open at 5 p.m., play begins at 6:30 p.m. jackpot is a 52" Led television; mini jackpot is an Apple I-Pad 2. For more information, call DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-27-5643.
- **What is resilience?** - Learn how to grow and thrive in the face of challenges and bounce back from adversity. This is the first session of a total of six held at ACS, Bldg. 318 from 10 to 11a.m. Pre-registration is required by calling DSN 423-5324/8217 or civilian 065-44-5324/8217.

18 September

- **Child Development Information Fair** at the SHAPE Child Development Center from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Come play, meet and learn more about the resources that are available to help you raise healthy and happy kids. Get information on healthy eating, challenging behavior, kids and sleep, potty training and much more. For more information, call DSN 423-5970 or civilian 065-44-5970.

Open to all U.S. NATO & (Broad) SHAPE ID Card Holders

09/11 FREEDOM RUN
11 September 12
CRC Chievres Air Base

Registration: NOW !!!!
SHAPE Main Gym and Chievres Fitness Center.

9.11 KM Run/4 KM Walk starts at 09:11

Awards: Medals for the top 10 finishers and T-shirt for the first 2000 to register.
For details call DSN 364-443-7500 (Chievres Fitness)
or DSN 423-5324 (SHAPE Main Gym)

Community Roundup