

# THE GAZETTE

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

**Gazette**

April 30 being a Dutch holiday and May 1 being a Belgian holiday, the next Gazette will be published May 2.

**Free Wi-Fi at Schinnen**

Visit us in the Yellow Ribbon Room during working hours. When ACS is closed, just step next door to the Bowling Center to get the same free Wi-Fi service. ACS is now open Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 31 (0)46-443-7500.

**Brussels Auto Skills Center**

Brussels Auto Skills Center is re-opened for business and will continue to operate Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, contact the USAG Brussels Auto Skills Center at DSN 368-9743 or civilian 02-717-9743.

**Driving Class**

An intermediate driver's class for Soldiers under 26 years of age will be held April 25 from 1 to 3:30 p.m., Bldg. 220, room 113 on SHAPE.

**POV Orientation Class**

Due to the lack of staff at the Driver Training Testing Station Brussels, the Brussels community is invited to take the POV Orientation class at SHAPE. For information, call DSN 366-6603/6175 or civilian 065-32-6603/6175.

## BOSS members visit kids in hospital



Cis Spook

(From left to right) Technical Sgt. Dawn Dean, Technical Sgt. Christina Chislom, Sgt. Christa Baron and Technical Sgt. Richard Stowe presented Alicia with a gift. Fourteen members of the Better Opportunities for Single Service members (BOSS) program, led by Technical Sgt. Christina Chislom, visited the children in Ath Hospital, April 17, 2012. Loaded with gifts, U.S. Air Force, Army and Navy Service Members visited the seven hospitalized children, aged 11 months to 14 years old. BOSS members collected gifts from the community, sorted them by age and made sure they were able to present each and every child in the hospital with a gift.

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# Garrison commander honors volunteer

**By Cis Spook**  
*USAG Benelux Public Affairs*

Gerald Racz, a volunteer at the Chièvres Library, was presented the Certificate of Appreciation for Patriotic Civilian Service by Col. Rick Tillotson, USAG Benelux Commander, April 17.

Over the past six years, Racz has volunteered his time every Tuesday and Thursday at the library. Not only does he help putting returned books on the shelf, he is also the one training new library staff members.

“It is amazing how many people use this library,” said Tillotson during the presentation. “We won’t be able to do this without you,” he told Racz.

Upon his retirement from the U.S. Air Force, Racz worked for 25 years in Customs Quality Control. “When I retired in January 2006 from my civilian job, I wanted to do something else, not finding another job but helping out in the community,” Racz explained. “I like to read and I like to meet people.”

Racz is not officially part of the USAG Benelux Volunteer Program as he never bothered inputting the time that he worked as a volunteer into the system.



Cis Spook

(Picture above) Since he started volunteering six years ago, Gerald Racz has seen and trained many librarians at the Chièvres Library. (Picture left) Col. Rick Tillotson presents Gerald Racz with a Certificate of Appreciation for Patriotic Civilian Service, April 17, 2012.



Cis Spook

## THE GAZETTE

To subscribe, email [usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.list.pao@mail.mil)

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# IMCOM Europe names "Best Warriors"

**By Troy Darr**

*IMCOM Europe Public Affairs*



Spc. Shaquana S. Taylor from USAG Stuttgart and Staff Sgt. Robert C. Donovan from U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Wuerttemberg are the Best Warrior Soldier of the Year and Noncommissioned Officer.

Installation Management Command Europe announced the winners of the 2012 Best Warrior Competition in a ceremony in Heidelberg, Germany, April 17.

Staff Sgt. Robert C. Donovan from U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Wuerttemberg Directorate of Emergency Services and Spc. Shaquana S. Taylor from USAG Stuttgart Religious Support Office are the Best Warrior Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year.

The Best Warrior Competition, held in Grafenwoehr April 2-5, consisted of a number of warrior tasks and drills including an Army Physical Fitness Test, marksmanship, an essay and written examination, a 12-mile foot march with a 35-pound rucksack, warrior tasks and drills, day and night land navigation, and an appearance before a board of brigade command sergeants major.

"This has been a long and grueling competition, one that has tested both these Soldiers physical and mental strength and endurance," said Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Maieritsch, IMCOM Europe. "I commend all of you for your efforts during this competition."

During the ceremony both winners were awarded Army Achievement Medals by Kathleen Marin, IMCOM Europe region director.

"The Best Warrior Competition brings together the best of the best... those for whom good enough is never enough," said Marin. "You Soldiers and noncommissioned officers have strived not just to excel, but to inspire, understanding that leading by example is not only the right thing to do, but essential to a strong Army family. I am inspired by meeting you all here today, and I want to personally thank you for that."

Donovan and Taylor will represent IMCOM Europe at the National Capital Region Competition in San Antonio, Texas, April 22-26.

Representing the other garrisons at the Europe-level competition were:

- Staff Sgt. Ryan J. Barnard, USAG Grafenwoehr
- Staff Sgt. Stephen B. Cribben, USAG Wiesbaden
- Staff Sgt. Victor M. Ortiz Jr., USAG Stuttgart
- Staff Sgt. Francisco Sandoval, USAG Ansbach
- Staff Sgt. Howard Woodberry III, USAG Vicenza
- Sgt. Anthony C. Oddo, USAG Benelux
- Spc. Jonathan S. Ellis, USAG Benelux
- Spc. LaJaune A. Scott, USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg

# Chièvres Air Base welcomes former Belgian Airmen



Former members of the Belgian Air Force Training Center who were stationed at Chièvres during the period 1964-1967, visited the Air Base and Caserne Daumerie, April 20, 2012. The visit included a briefing on the American Belgian relationships, a briefing on Americans in Chièvres and a tour of the Air Base and Caserne Daumerie.

(Picture top left) Staff Sgt. Tommy Haswell (left), 309th Airlift Squadron Air Traffic Controller explains his day-to-day job to members of the group.

(Picture top right) Maj. Christian Van Wassenhove, Headquarters Support Group Host Nation Liaison (left), joined the group at a luncheon held at the conclusion of the visit.

(Picture above) Two former members of the Belgian Air Force Training Center show the building on Caserne Daumerie where they used to work.

(Picture left) To honor those who were stationed here until the arrival of the Americans in 1967, a wild cherry tree was planted on Caserne Daumerie, next to Bldg. 12 by Mr. Fernand Magnée, Chairman of association of the former Belgian Air Force members, Lt. Col. Alain Lebrun, Belgian Supervisor of Chièvres Air Base, USAG Benelux Command Sgt. Maj. Allan K. Fairley and Col. Rick Tillotson, Commander USAG Benelux. (U.S. Army Photos by Cis Spook)

# Check before shipping

By Scott Sanner

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Before you depart for the United States, you should be aware of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) guidelines for bringing agricultural items into the United States. USDA restricts or prohibits many of these items from entering the country because they could carry pests or diseases that could threaten human health or devastate the environment, crops, agricultural animals,



Courtesy Photo

Make sure you are allowed to ship items such as Belgian specialties to the United States.

ornamental plants and community landscapes. Items including fruits and vegetables, meat and dairy products, plant and plant products and seeds are among the items that USDA regulates.

Officers or agriculture specialists with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) may inspect your baggage when you first arrive in the United States to ensure that the agricultural items you are carrying are allowable under USDA regulations. It is important that you declare all items that you are bringing into the U.S. as stated on the CBP declaration form.

Individuals who fail to declare non-commercial agricultural items may be subject to penalties of up to \$1,000 or more per violation. These penalties are based on authorities granted to USDA through the Plant Protection Act and the Animal Health Protection Act.

The following food items are generally allowed entry:

Condiments such as oil, vinegar, mustard, ketchup, pickles, syrup, honey without honey combs, jelly and jam.

Foodstuffs such as bakery items, candy and chocolate.

Hard cured cheeses without meat, such as parmesan or cheddar.

Canned goods and goods in vacuum-packed jars (except those containing meat or poultry products) for personal use.

Fish or fish products for personal use.

Powdered drinks sealed in original containers with ingredients listed in English.

Dry mixes containing dairy and egg ingredients (such as baking mixes, cocoa mixes, drink mixes, instant cake mixes, instant pudding mixes, liquid drink mixes containing reconstituted dry milk or dry milk products, potato flakes and infant formula) that are commercially labeled, presented in final finished packaging, and require no further manipulation of the product.

Remember, you must declare all food and agricultural products, including those listed above, to a CBP agriculture specialist or officer when you arrive in the United States.

Additionally, we encourage you to visit the Web sites below because these Federal agencies may also have regulatory authority over certain items arriving in passenger baggage:

- U.S. Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service ([www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov))
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))
- Food and Drug Administration ([www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)).

## Medical Protection System changes

Special to the Gazette

Commanders and supervisors will be better able to tell why their Soldiers are non-deployable because of changes taking place in the Army's online reporting system.

A new ratings system now being used in the Medical Protection System (MEDPROS) removes both the Medically Non-Deployable (MND) and Limited Duty Profile ratings, replacing them with new Deployment Limiting (DL) ratings that specify more clearly how long the limitation will last, said Lynette Tatsch, MEDPROS readiness coordinator in Europe Regional Medical Command's Force Health Protection Office.

"In the past, MEDPROS users could not easily identify the reason a Soldier was non-deployable. With the conversion to the DL ratings, they will now have total visibility, including seeing all the reasons those Soldiers who have multiple DL ratings are considered non-deployable," Tatsch said.

Now, LDP ratings will be removed from Soldiers' records and Soldiers who have no other deployment limiting conditions will convert to a new rating dictated by their current condition.

The new ratings run from DL1 through DL6. DL1 through 5 ratings mean the underlying medical condition will take more than 30 days to correct, while DL6 means the Soldier should be medically ready within 30 days. The DL5 rating is only for Soldiers who are pregnant so they are not counted twice – as could happen in the past – in the non-deployable population.

Medical providers also use eProfile, an online system for documenting medically limiting conditions. The new MEDPROS changes make it even more critical to ensure that eProfile inputs are done properly, Tatsch said.

"It's important for commanders and medical staff to understand that all future documentation of pregnancy be done using the pregnancy template in eProfile since this is the only way the automated system can separate this population from others with temporary profiles greater than 30 days," Tatsch said.

Other changes to MEDPROS include a task force build capability in MEDPROS Web Data Entry that allows for users to build an individual task force based on unique requirements, and a modification to the Commander Profile Report that allows identification of the profile's origin.

# 773rd CST conducts joint training with Belgian partners

By Spc. Glenn M. Anderson,  
221st Public Affairs Detachment

Army Reserve Soldiers with the 773rd Civil Support Team, 7th Civil Support Command, based out of Kaiserslautern, Germany, participated for the third straight year in an annual joint training exercise with the Zaventem fire department, April 9-14.

In addition to the fire department training, the 773rd CST also participated in a U.S. Army Garrison Brussels joint anti-terrorism force protection exercise at the Department of Defense Brussels High School.

"We're having a great time and a lot of good lessons are being learned here," said Lt. Col. Leslie Dillard, the commander of the 773rd CST. "The integration with the Belgian forces along with our forces has just been exceptional."

The training scenario at the high school required several emergency responders to work together such as the fire department, the Red Cross, medical agencies, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the 773rd CST. In the training scenario, a chemical agent was released into a classroom resulting in casualties and creating chaos due to the toxic nature of the chemical.

"The training here went very well as we were able to do some training that we normally do not get to do," said Capt. Jennifer Gross, the survey team leader of the 773rd CST at the end of the exercise. "We did some confined space rescue training along with mitigation techniques that the fire department here implements and we were able to learn from them."

Once the 773rd received the call to respond, the unit went into action by testing for contaminants in the classroom.



Spc. Glenn M. Anderson

Staff Sgt. David Eagan and Sgt. David Larkin, survey specialists with the 773rd Civil Support Team, 7th Civil Support Command, based out of Kaiserslautern, Germany, enter a decontaminated building during a U.S. Army Garrison Brussels joint anti-terrorism force protection exercise, April 12, 2012.



Spc. Glenn M. Anderson

Army Reserve Soldiers with the 773rd Civil Support Team, 7th Civil Support Command, work alongside Zaventem fire fighters, April 11, 2012. During the joint training exercise, the 773rd CST, along with the fire department, the Red Cross, medical agencies and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, responded to a training scenario where a chemical agent was released into a classroom.

"All in all it was an awesome time this past week," said Gross. "Being able to learn from another outside team, especially from another country and a fire department like this, we were able to really grasp firsthand how someone else does their job."

"It was really good training for me," said Sgt. David Larkin, a survey member with the 773rd CST. "I was lucky enough to be able to get suited up and partake first hand in the exercise here, which is always a good feeling."

"Yes we know that this is a training environment, but had this been a real event, even though the substance was toxic and may have been very harmful, I am confident that our entire team to include the participants would have done a great job, and the fire department was top notch as they have always been," said Larkin.

"I think all of this training including the ride along on a mission with the 773rd CST went very well and everyone gave it 100 percent," said Sgt. Maj. Stef Vandersmissen, the senior non-commissioned officer in charge of the fire station, HAZMAT specialist, and primary planner of the training event.

"I love working with the 773rd CST and over the past three years they have become a part of my family," said Vandersmissen. "Every time we train with each other, both teams win because we learn new things from each other every time."

At the conclusion of the exercise, both teams knew that if a real world situation were to occur, they could count on working together to mitigate a possible dangerous situation dealing with HAZMAT.

Vandersmissen concluded by saying, "vis unita fortior," which translated into English means, "united strength is stronger."

# National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day observed April 28

By Chanel S. Weaver,  
U.S. Army Public Health Command

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day will be observed locally and nationwide April 28.

Sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the day is specifically set aside to allow an opportunity to safely dispose of unused, unwanted or expired medications at authorized locations in local communities.

Prescription drug use has increased over the years in the military. More than 110,000 active-duty Army troops last year took antidepressants, sedatives and other prescription medications, according to the Army surgeon general.

About 17 percent of military personnel reported misusing prescription drugs, including stimulants (other than methamphetamine), tranquilizers/muscle relaxers, sedatives/barbiturates, pain relievers, anabolic steroids, and erectile dysfunction drugs, according to the 2008 Department of Defense Survey of Health-Related Behaviors.

The prescription drug misuse rate for active-duty Army members was even higher at 23.5 percent. Pain relievers, as in the civilian population, were the most commonly misused/abused type of prescription drug across the military services and in the Army specifically.

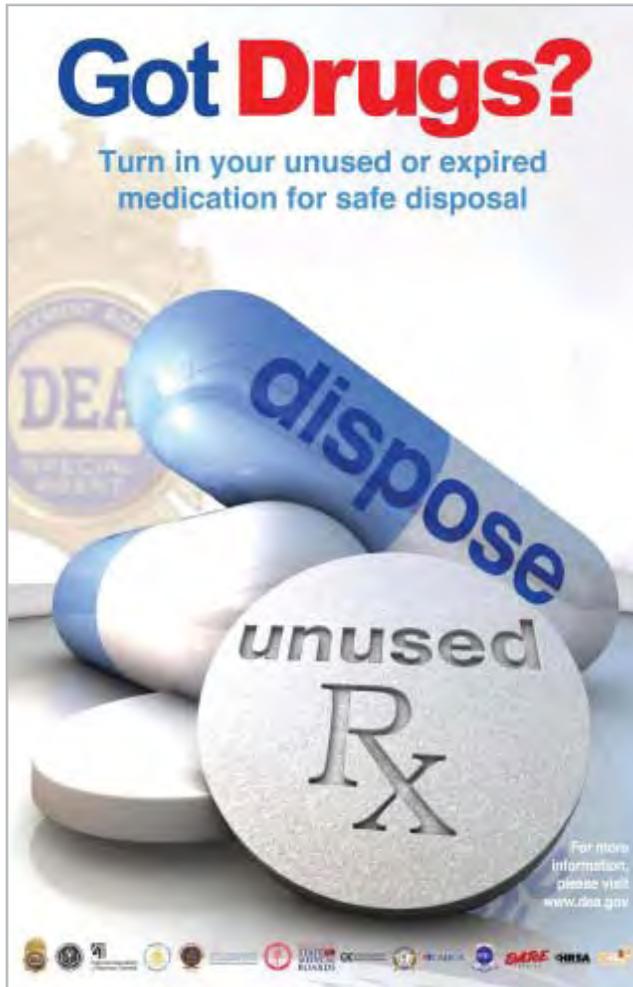
These numbers point to the need for Soldiers and their family members to take a second look at how they handle prescription drugs, including those they no longer can use.

That second look could start with the home medicine cabinet.

“Studies are now showing that the majority of high school teenagers who start experimenting with recreational use of prescription drugs start by swiping them from the family medicine cabinet,” said Maj. Clifton Dabbs, a physician at the U.S. Army Public Health Command. “It’s best to secure your prescription medication in a safe location that is not accessible to children, pets or visitors.”

Additionally, many studies also found that prescription drug misuse may be caused by people who provide the drugs to friends and relatives.

“People may experience the same symptoms, and attempt to diagnose themselves,” said Dabbs.



This self-diagnosis is dangerous because it may lead to inadequate treatment, wrong treatment or increased resistance by organisms to antibiotics.

“It’s best to visit the doctor each time new symptoms arise,” said Dabbs.

He also pointed out that drugs can lose potency and effectiveness if they are stored improperly or kept too long.

Since the opportunity to dispose of unwanted and expired medications comes around only once a year, Dabbs thinks it’s an opportunity that should be seized.

“In the interests of both health and safety, it’s best to rid homes and barracks of unneeded prescriptions,” Dabbs said. “Disposing of old prescriptions through the take-back program removes the risk of misuse and precludes accidental overdose by children or pets.”

For personnel who are unable to visit an authorized collection site, the Food and Drug Administration recommends disposing of prescription medication by taking the medication out of its original

container and mixing with kitty litter or used coffee grounds before throwing in the trash. Medications should only be flushed down the toilet if their label specifically instructs you to do so.

Past Prescription Drug Take Back-Days have been very successful, according to the DEA. On Oct. 29, 2011, more than 377,000 pounds of unwanted or expired medication was collected at 5,327 take-back sites.

“The amount of prescription drugs turned in by the American public during the past three Take-Back Day events speaks volumes about the need to develop a convenient way to rid homes of unwanted or expired prescription drugs,” said DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart.

For more information on National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day or to locate a collection center near you, visit:

- Drug Enforcement Administration, [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html)
- Food and Drug Administration, [www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/BuyingUsingMedicineSafely/UnderstandingOver-the-CounterMedicines/ucm107163.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/BuyingUsingMedicineSafely/UnderstandingOver-the-CounterMedicines/ucm107163.pdf).

# community briefs - community briefs - community briefs

## **FAST Class**

Enrollment for the Functional Academic Skills Training Class is going on now. This class is held Monday through Friday, from May 2 through 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information contact the SHAPE Education Center. Bldg. 212 room 128 at DSN 423-3466 or civilian 065-44-3466.

## **CYSS Summer camp**

The School Age Center is offering 10 weeks of action packed activities for children ages 6-12. The campers will have the opportunity to join a variety of clubs, engage in different rotating activities with their peers, and explore a wide range of sessions. Rotating activities include swimming at SHAPE Pool and trips to the SHAPE Library. Outside activities will also be offered on a daily basis in combination with individual and team games. Field trips are subject to change due to availability and weather conditions. Registration started April 16 for all families currently enrolled at the School Age Center and will start May 2 to the whole community. For information call Parent Central Services DSN 423-5612 or civilian 065-44-5612 or School Age Center DSN 423-6079 or civilian 065-44-6079 or visit <http://usagbeneluxcyss.blogspot.com> or <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/shapecym.html>.

## **10th annual Make A Wish 24 hours 11-12 May**

Starts at 4 p.m. If you want to volunteer, be a food vendor or participate, contact DSN 423-5325.

## **Make-A-Wish 5-A-Side Soccer Tournament**

Registration is open until May 9 for players born between 1995 and 2001. Tournament is held May 11 starting at 4:30 p.m. Fee is €2 per player. For more information, contact the Youth Sports Office at DSN 423-4409 or civilian 065-44-4409.

## **Financial help for college education**

The following four free resources contain invaluable information that could help defray costs of attending college:

- [www.apps.collegeboard.org/cbsearch\\_ss/welcome.jsp](http://www.apps.collegeboard.org/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp)
- [www.finaid.org/scholarships/](http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/)
- [www.fastweb.com/](http://www.fastweb.com/)
- [www.legion.org/needalift/pdf/nal2011.pdf](http://www.legion.org/needalift/pdf/nal2011.pdf)

Scholarship search doesn't have to end once the student attends Freshmen Orientation. Many scholarships and grants are available to students as they continue their college education – including completion of their Graduate Degree. Financial Aid is also available to adult students continuing their education.

Please contact the School Liaison Officer at [slobenelux@eur.army.mil](mailto:slobenelux@eur.army.mil) for assistance, DSN 423-5635 or civilian 065-44-5635 at SHAPE, DSN 368-9670 or civilian 02-717-9670 in Brussels .

## **Paid internships with CYSS Sports & Fitness**

If you are a U.S. citizen between 15 and 18 years of age, currently attending high school, possess and maintain a 2.0 (C) grade-point average or better and get a satisfactory completion of local police background check, you may be eligible for a paid internship for 12 continuous work weeks with 15-18 hours of work during school weeks and a maximum of 40 hours during non-school weeks. If interested, contact DSN 423-5611 or civilian 065-44-5611.

## **AFCU Employment Opportunity**

Effective immediately, Andrews Federal Credit Union is offering the following career opportunities in area branches:

- Chièvres Branch at Chièvres Air Force Base, Belgium:
  - Member Services Representative (Two Full-time Positions)
  - Senior Teller (Full-time)
- USAG Benelux, Brussels Branch, Belgium:
  - Branch Manager (Full-time)
  - Member Service Representative (Two Part-time Positions)
- Schinnen Branch, The Netherlands:
  - Member Services Representatives (Two Full-time Positions)
  - Member Services Representative (one part-time Position)
- Chièvres Air Force Base and Benelux Region:
  - Member Services Representative/Teller Floater (Full-time)

For these and other positions or to apply online, visit [www.andrewsfcu.org](http://www.andrewsfcu.org) . All applicants must have a U.S. Passport with logistical support. Andrews Federal Credit Union is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## **Army Traffic Safety Training Program**

- MSF Experienced Rider Course at the classroom Bldg. 134, CAB / Range Training April 26 (1 day / 8 hours), June 21 (1 day / 8 hours), September 20 (1 day / 8 hours)
- Intermediate Driver Course (under 26) at the classroom Bldg. 220, SHAPE. For all Soldiers under 26-years-old, including non-drivers, April 25 (2.5 hours), July 25 (2.5 hours), October 24 (2.5 hours)

Registration for all courses will close ten calendar days prior to the scheduled training. For MSF program information and course visit [www.imcom-europe.army.mil/webs/sites/staff\\_org/safety/atstp/index.html](http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/webs/sites/staff_org/safety/atstp/index.html). To enroll in a course, online registration is mandatory at [https://apps.imcom.army.mil/AIRS/usg\\_disclaimer.aspx](https://apps.imcom.army.mil/AIRS/usg_disclaimer.aspx). For further assistance, call the USAG Benelux Safety Office at DSN 361-1470.

## **Military and Family Life Consultant Program**

The Military and Family Life Consultant Program provides non-medical short-term, situational problem-solving counseling to service members and their families. It also provides psycho-education to help service members and their families understand the impact of stress, deployments, family reunions following deployments and the stresses of military life. Services can be provided on-demand, on or off military installations to individuals, couples, families and groups. The provided services are confidential and private, except for duty-to-warn situations. A Military and Family Life Consultant is available at Caserne Daumerie and can be contacted at 0497-653738.

## **DD-214's are now on-line**

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following web site for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's on-line at [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records). This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes.

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### Amsterdam Train Crash

One person died and at least 120 people were injured Saturday in a head-on collision between two trains close to Amsterdam's central station. The incident happened when a train from Amsterdam to Uitgeest and another one travelling from Den Helder to Nijmegen collided on a railway bridge by the city's Westerpark in the early evening. Many of the injured were treated at the scene but dozens of ambulances and an helicopter were used to take the seriously hurt to three hospitals in the Dutch capital. It is still unclear how the two trains came to be using the same track. Neither one of the trains left the rails and officials have now begun an investigation into the cause of the crash.

### More Belgians taking second job

During the past year, 25,000 Belgians decided to take on a second job taking the overall total to 200,000. Highly skilled males in particular are adding work as an independent to their job status.

### Flemish singer number one in the U.S.

The Flemish singer Gotye has landed the number one spot in the US hit parade. "Somebody that I used to know" now features on number one spot in the Billboard Hot 100, the singles hit parade. Gotye's success is partly due to the song's cover used in the TV series 'Glee' and his performance in 'Saturday Night Live'. The Flemish singer, who now lives in Australia, is the first Belgian to land a Billboard Hot 100 number one since the success of Soeur Sourire, the 'Singing Nun', and her hit 'Dominique' in 1963.

### Dutch government doesn't agree on austerity talks

Talks on cutting the government spending in the Netherlands didn't come to an agreement when one member of the PVV party, Geert Wilders, walked out of the negotiations on Saturday. New elections are likely to occur. In Dutch electoral law, there must be some 80 days between the collapse of a government and new elections. Given the summer holidays, it is unlikely the election will be held in September. This means the minority government will continue in a caretaker function until then but will be unable to take significant steps to revitalize the economy without parliamentary approval. In particular, it is unclear what the implications are for the 2013 budget - which coalition alliance has spent the past seven weeks working towards. The budget is always presented on the third Tuesday in September.

### Schiphol is Europe's best airport

Amsterdam's Schiphol airport is the best in Europe, according to a passenger satisfaction review. Schiphol comes fourth in the latest global ranking, behind three Asian airports. It is the first time the Dutch airport has topped the list. Schiphol, one of several European four-star airports, won particular praise for its public transport links, passenger facilities and scheduling but was marked down for long waiting times at security and baggage delivery, its taxis and long-term parking.

### Police checked on speeding in Brussels

Federal and local police checked on speed limits in and around Brussels on Saturday night. In all over 23,000 vehicles were checked. The police drew up 1,732 reports of excessive speed. The worst case was recorded in Anderlecht where a driver was speeding at 160 km/h where only 50 km/h are allowed. Seventy-three drivers had their license withdrawn on the spot. Eight drivers were drunk. Two were under the influence of other drugs.

### Belgium to contribute to the Afghan security services

Prime Minister Elio Di Rupo met with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton last week in Brussels. The United States are asking our country to contribute annually 11.4 million Euros to the financing of the Afghan security services after the withdrawal of the NATO troops by the end of 2014. Di Rupo is prepared, but the exact amount has not been determined yet. The government still needs to agree on it.

### Former Miss Belgium enters politics

Stéphanie Meire has announced that she will be on the Flemish liberals list for next local elections to occur in October. Meire was crowned Miss Belgium back in 1993 when she was only 22 years old. Later she became a famous actress on Flemish independent television.

### Interpreters via Skype at Brussels Airport

Brussels Airport is soon to start a new pilot project that will allow interpreters to work via the Skype webcam system when questioning a suspect. At present, if the police wish to question a suspect who does not speak Dutch or French, an interpreter has to be present. Detectives often waste considerable time waiting for an interpreter to reach the police station. This problem should be sorted by using Skype technology via the internet. Interpreters are able to see the questioning at home via a webcam and can provide a simultaneous translation. The project will start with one interpreter for now.

### Heineken boosts revenue but not in Europe

Brewing group Heineken announced it had booked organic revenue growth of 6.8% over the first three months of this year. Net profit for the first quarter was €175m. The increase reflected volume growth of 3.5% and an increase in the hectoliter price of 3.3%. Growth was strongest in Africa and the Middle East.

### Dutch spend less on their Armed Forces

Dutch military spending fell in 2011, according to the latest figures from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The government spent around €8.5bn on its Armed Forces in 2011, the same amount as in 2010. With an adjustment for inflation, military spending actually fell 2.9%, says SIPRI. The figure includes everything connected to defence, including the cost of military personnel, development of new weapons and maintenance of military bases. In West and Central Europe, only Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain spent more on defense than the Netherlands, the institute says.



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

**Through 6 May**

- **Royal Greenhouses in Laken (entrance on Avenue du Parc royal) open to the public.** Open from 8 to 10 p.m. on 13 April. Then the opening schedule will be as followed: from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Tuesdays to Thursdays; from 1 to 4 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m. on Fridays; and from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Closed on Mondays. Entrance fee is €2.50 per adult and free of charge for all under 18 years old.

**Through 20 May**

- **Painting exhibition "Per Kirkeby and the forbidden paintings of Kurt Schwitters"** in Brussels at the Fine Arts Museum BOZAR on Rue Ravenstein 23. Closed on Monday, open the other days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and to 9 p.m. on Thursday. Entrance fee is €10. More info on [www.bozar.be/activity.php?id=11527&lng=en](http://www.bozar.be/activity.php?id=11527&lng=en).

**Through 3 June**

- **Exhibition "Dinner's Served! From Field to Plate"** - An exhibition that asks today the questions for tomorrow with a rich scenography. A multi-modal museography: graphic frescoes, audiovisual productions, exceptional items, photographs, electro-mechanical interactive displays, windows of discovery, tactile monitors etc. Contemporary art works mark out the exhibition halls. More information on [www.expo-atable.be](http://www.expo-atable.be).

**Through 11 June**

- **Paintings Exhibition in Tournai at the Fine Arts Museum on Enclos Saint-Martin.** You'll have the opportunity to admire 100 paintings from Manet to Monet, Seurat or Van Gogh, among others. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. except on Tuesday. Price ranges from €1 to €2.5.

**Through 1 July**

- **Display "Stanley Kubrick, Photographer" in Brussels,** Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique on Rue de la Régence, 3. The display is showing the first creative works of Stanley Kubrick. Opening hours are Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**27 April through 1 May**

- **Ceramic fair in Brussels** on Rue Prince Albert from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**28 April**

- **Volksmarch in Maurage** for 3, 6, 12, 20, 30 km .Departure is from the Rue du Bouloir 1 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Relay bike race in Virelles.** Departure is from the Rue de l'Eau Blanche at 2 p.m. Showers and bike-wash available. Participating fee is €5 per person.
- **Night flea market in Drogenbos** at the Drogenbos centrum from 5 to 9 p.m.
- **Flea market in Molenbeek-Saint-Jean** on Rue Vande-boogaerde from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. (300 booths).

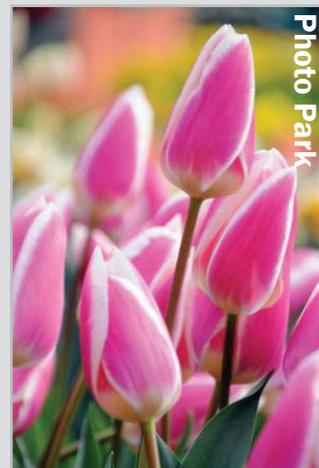


This column is events within close distance from Brunssum and Schinnen

**Through 20 May**

- **The Netherlands' world famous Keukenhof Gardens**

near the town of Lisse (NL) opens its gates again to show an unprecedented wealth of spectacular floral displays planted in endless varieties among beautiful works of art. This year the international flower exhibition has chosen "Poland - Heart of Europe" as its central theme. The Keukenhof is open daily 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ticket office closes at 6 p.m. Entry: €15; children age 4 to 11, €7. More info in English: [www.keukenhof.nl](http://www.keukenhof.nl).



**Through 7 October**

- **Floriade 2012** - 'World Horticulturale 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](http://www.floriade.com).

**29 April**

- **Military Fair in Ciney** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ciney Expo (BE) on Rue du Marché Couvert, 3 with 400 stands filled with books, medals, uniforms, and more all to do with the military. For more information, check [www.cineyexpo.be](http://www.cineyexpo.be).

**27-29 April**

- **Medieval Festival at Corroy Castle in Corroy-Le-Château** near Gembloux (BE) with a medieval artisan market, demonstrations of old crafts, sword fights, archery, fire eaters, falconry and lots more. Open: April 27 from 6 to 10 p.m.; April 28 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and April 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**28-29 April**

- **The Gardens of Monceau Fair in Monceau-sur-Sambre (BE)** is an open air event about gardening and nature in the park around the beautiful castle of Monceau with regional products, activities and lots more. Both days open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **The "Musik- und Schlemmertage" in Steinheim (GE)** is two days long enjoying good music and tasty culinary specialities in the center of the town. Open: April 28 from 5 p.m. to midnight and April 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



**28 April Continued**

- **Book fair in Mons** on the Avenue Gouverneur Cornez at the Athénée J. d'Avesnes from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everything at €1.
- **Flea market in Nimy** starting at 6 a.m. on the Place de Nimy along the canal.
- **Flea market in Saint-Gilles** on the Place Van Menen from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (300 booths).
- **Flea market in Sombreffe** on Place Baudouin from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. (450 booths)

**28-29 April**

- **Wine fair in Jamioulx** on the Place du Syndicat from 1:30 to 9 p.m. on Saturday and from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

**29 April**

- **Flea market on SHAPE** in the 200 area from 6 a.m. to noon. For information, call DSN 423-4269 or civilian 065-44-4269.
- **Volksmarch in Ottignies** for 6, 12, 21 km. Departure is from Rue de l'Invasion 119 A from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Court-St-Etienne** for 5, 10, 20 km. Departure is from the Avenue des Prisonniers de Guerre 36 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Five km route accessible to strollers.
- **Volksmarch in Ophain-Bois-Seigneur-Isaac** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue des Combattants from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Neufvilles** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue du Godimont at the sports center of the Reine Fabiola center from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Five km route accessible to handicapped people.
- **Volksmarch in Maffle** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the square 4 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Mons** for 5, 10, 20 km. Departure is from the Route d'Obourg 18 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Run in Huissignies** for 10 km. Departure is from the sports center on Rue de l'Eglise at 9 a.m. Showers available.
- **Mountain bike ride in Zellik** for 10, 30, 57 km. Departure is from Steenweg op Vilvoorde 229 from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Showers and bike-wash available. Participating fee ranges from €3 to €6. (1200 participants in 2011)
- **Mountain bike ride in Thuin** for 15, 35, 50 km. Departure is from the Rue du Chêne from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bike-wash available. Participating fee is €4.
- **Mountain bike ride in Anvaing** for 15, 25, 50 km. Departure is from the Rue du Carnois 32A from 7:30 to noon. Participating fee is €3.



Flea market on SHAPE

Stephanie Weber



**28-30 April**

- **Wine Growers Festival** in the Hall, Grand'Place in Bertrix (BE) you have three days of tasting and buying wine. Open: April 28 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.; April 29 from 1:30 to 9 p.m. and April 30 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**28 April - 1 May**

- **Burgi-Spargelmarkt** in the center of Brügglen am Niederrhein (GE) you can taste many asparagus dishes and wonderful wines.

**29 April**

- **Antiques Market in Valkenburg** at Theodoor Dorrenplein in the center of town. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**30 April (Dutch holiday)**

- **Koninginnedag or Queen's Day in the Netherlands** (Dutch Holiday) In most Dutch cities and towns Queen's Day is celebrated with lots of festivities, music, markets and fireworks. For instance: the **Queen's Day Fair in the center of Geleen** is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and has many stands all through the center and the **Queen's Day Fair in city Park in Maastricht** is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Queen's Day is the Dutch National Holiday and is celebrated since 1949 on April 30. This date used to be the birthday of Queen Beatrix' mother, Queen Juliana who reigned over the Netherlands from 1948 to 1980. When Queen Beatrix took over as Queen of the Netherlands on April 30, 1980, she decided in honor of her mother, to celebrate the date of her investiture as the Dutch National Holiday. Every year on Queen's Day, Queen Beatrix visits one or two cities in the Netherlands along with some members of the Royal family. This year, Queen Beatrix will be visiting the cities of Rhenen and Veenendaal.



Queen's Day in Amsterdam

ANP



**29 April Continued**

- **Flea market in Lombise** on Avenue Yser from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Saint-Vaast** on the Place Victor Gonda from noon to 8 p.m.
- **Flea market and crafts fair in Ath** on Boulevard du Château from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**30 April (Dutch holiday)**

- **Night flea market in Leuze-en-Hainaut** in the town center from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.

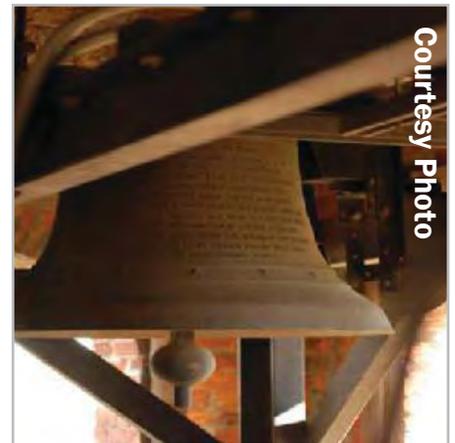
**1 May (Belgian holiday)**

- **Volksmarch in Masnuy-Saint-Jean** for 6, 12, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue Bois Genly 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Jauche** for 6, 10, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue de la Gare from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Maleves-Sainte-Marie-Wastines** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue d'Orbais 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Manage** for 5, 10, 20 km. Departure is from the Avenue de Scailmont from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Huissignies** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the Rue de l'Eglise 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Sars-La-Bruyere** for 5, 10, 15, 20 km. Departure is from the square from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Mountain bike ride in Deurne** for 26, 35, 46, 60 km. Departure is from Hasseltsebaan from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Showers and bike-wash available.
- **Mountain bike ride in Mons** for 25, 40, 55, 65, 80, 90 km. Departure is from Boulevard Kennedy at the Ecoles des Ursulines from 7 to 9 a.m. Showers and bike-wash available. Participating fee ranges from €3 to €6.
- **Mountain bike ride in Seneffe** for 15, 20, 45 km. Departure is from the Place de Penne D'Agenais from 8 to 11 a.m. Bike-wash available. Participating fee is €5. Free on the 15 km route.
- **Mountain bike ride in Seloignes** for 5, 15, 35, 50 km. Departure is from the Rue Les Hauts-Prés 1 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Bike-Wash available. Participating fee ranges from €2.50 to €5.
- **Flea market in Blaton** on the Grand Place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Brussels** on Rue Reper-Vreven from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. (200 booths)
- **Flea market in Frasnes-Lez-Buissenal** on Rue Belle Eau from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (100 booths)
- **Flea market in Hyon** on Rue du By at 6:30 a.m.



Cis Spook

Flea market season has started



Courtesy Photo

Bells concert in Soignies, May 1



Courtesy Photo

Visit the Royal Greenhouses in Laken until May 6

- **Flea market in La Hulpe** on Avenue des Nevelaines from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. (400 booths)
- **Flower market in Leuze-En-Hainaut** on the Grand'Place from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Crafts and Food market in Ronquières** in the center from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (100 craftsmen)
- **Flea market in Ronquières** around the Plan Incliné from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (650 booths)
- **Flea market in Soignies** in the Parc Pater on Rue PJ Winckz from 7 a.m. 6 to p.m. (100 booths)
- **Bells concert in Soignies** at the Collégiale Saint-Vincent (Church) at 2 p.m.

## SHAPE Trips & Tours

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

- **Dover Castle & Canterbury, April 28** - Have a view of the White Cliffs of Dover while crossing the English Channel. Visit the castle, its grounds and secret war tunnels. The trip continues to Canterbury where you can see the Cathedral, Canterbury Tales and many other attractions. Price: €75 adult, €70 child (5-15), €55 child (0-5). Departs SHAPE Saturday at 5:15 a.m. Returns SHAPE Sunday at 1 a.m. Departs Brussels at 4 a.m. Returns Brussels at 2 a.m.
- **Rhine in Flames, May 5** - Trip begins in Bonn, Germany for free time to explore the city. In the evening, board the ship and embark on a breathtaking cruise of the Rhine River. Relax and enjoy a delicious meal. As night falls, the sky will come alive with an amazing fireworks display cascading along the romantic Rhine. Price: €118 Adult/Youth, €50 Children (0-3) Departs SHAPE at 11 a.m. Saturday and returns SHAPE at 4 a.m. Sunday. Departs Brussels at 10 a.m. Saturday and returns Brussels at 5 a.m. on Sunday.
- **Champagne Tour for Mother's Day, May 12** - Treat Mom to a relaxing day out in the Champagne Region of France. Trip begins with a stop in Reims where we will have a few hours to enjoy lunch (not included), shop, take a stroll to the famous Cathedral of Notre Dame in Reims, or tour the beautiful old bishops' palace, the Basilica and Abby Museum of St. Remi. We will then continue with a photo stop at the church where Dom Perignon, the monk credited with inventing this bubbly masterpiece, is buried. Our final destination is Epernay where we will visit the famous Champagne Caves of Mercier. An elevator with a panoramic view will take us down 30 meter below ground to the cellars. We will then tour a portion of the 18 km of caves on a laser guided train. We will end the tour with a complimentary Champagne tasting. Price: €75 Adults, €60 Youth (10-17 yrs), €55 Children (0-9 yrs). Departs SHAPE at 8:30 a.m. and returns SHAPE at 10 p.m. Departs Brussels at 7:30 a.m. and returns Brussels at 11 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

## 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.

- **Delft & Keukenhof, April 26** - Tour the Royal Delft Factory to see how the beautiful blue and white porcelain is made. After some shopping and lunch, tiptoe through the tulips in Keukenhof. Tour and entrance to Keukenhof are included in the price of €45.
- **Cochem/Moselle with optional wine tasting, May 11** - Excursion to the quaint town of Cochem on the Moselle River. Sign up for the optional wine tasting then time on your own or explore on your own completely: river cruise, hiking, mustard factory, restaurants. Price is €35.

## Schinnen Trips and Tours

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

- **Day Trip to Amsterdam, May 12** - Visit the capital of the Netherlands. Round trip luxury motor coach transportation departs Schinnen at 7 a.m. and arrival in Amsterdam at approximately 10 a.m. Departs Amsterdam at 6 p.m. and expected to be back in Schinnen at around 9 p.m. Price per person is \$49. Assigned seating on first-come & pay basis. Register with full payment by May 4 at the Trips & Tours office located inside the Andre Bruls Fitness Center in Schinnen. The trip requires a minimum of 35 participants. For more info call DSN 360-7561 or civilian 0031 (0)46-443-7561.

For recurring events check on [www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/sites/local/pages/gazette/GazetteExtra.pdf](http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/sites/local/pages/gazette/GazetteExtra.pdf).

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

26 April

- **Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - Hosted by ACS, the event will be from 2 to 3 p.m. at the SHAPE Club.
- **Sports and CYS Physicals at SHAPE** - Sports and CYS physicals at the SHAPE Healthcare Facility. In order to book a physical, go to [www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com) or call central appointments at DSN 423-5886 or civilian 065-44-5886. It is a requirement for a sport physical to be on file before any sport tryouts. Plan now for the 2012-2013 athletics.
- **Credit Scores, Reports and Repair** - Learn how they work, how you get them for free and how you can improve yours from 10 to 11 a.m. in the ACS conference room, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. To register, call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324.
- **Food handlers food safety course** - SHAPE Health Care Facility, Department of Preventive Medicine, is offering a basic food handlers food safety course for all participants of SHAPE Group 2 Activities, US FRG's and Volunteer Groups, or anyone in the SHAPE/Chièvres community who intends to participate in community cooking activities. The course will be held in the SHAPE Health Care Facility, 2nd Floor Conference Room from 3 to 5p.m. A certificate will be presented upon completion which is valid for one year and covers participation in events on SHAPE and Chièvres. For more information and to book a place for attendance contact DSN 423-5952/5043.

30 April - 1 May

- **Transition counselor institute phase one** - The purpose of the course is to prepare education and installation professionals to recognize and address transition concerns that impact the mobile military child. Registration and breakfast from 8 through 8:30 a.m. Institute training from 8:30 a.m. through 4 p.m. at USAG Benelux Youth Center Ballroom, Bldg. 503 SHAPE. Participants will have the opportunity to earn educational credits in the form 1.2 CEU's for \$25.00 and/or 1 hour of graduate credit Texas A&M-Central Texas for \$175.00, payable at the completion of the training. Limited seats available. For more information call civilian 254-953-1923. To register for the training visit [www.MilitaryChild.org](http://www.MilitaryChild.org) and click on the training tab.

2 May

- **Math and Science Showcase** - Come and celebrate a year of learning and creating from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at the SHAPE American Elementary School. Open to all SHAPE students and parents. The showcase gives students the opportunity to display their skills in

Community Roundup

creating, imagining and inventing. There will also be a used book sale during the showcase (see flyer on this page).

3 May

- **USAG Benelux Safety Stand Down Day** - Event will be held at the Community Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Among the activities are a roll over car, a riding simulator, display of a rescue truck from the Civilian Protection, display of a fire truck and various information booths and briefings. A motorcycle safety class will start at 1 p.m. and will be followed by a ride out under the supervision of the Federal Police Motorcycle instructor. Event is open to all. For more information, contact DSN 361-1470 or civilian 068-27-5561.

4 May

- **Texas Hold'Em** - See flyer on this page.

## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

### 25 April

- **Credit scores, reports and repair workshop** - Class is from 10 to 11 a.m. at the ACS conference room. For more information on the Financial Readiness Program or to register for a workshop contact ACS at DSN 368-9783 or civilian at 02-717-9783.

### 27 April

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - Hosted by ACS from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Three Star Recreation Center.

### 28 April

- **Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) Meeting** - Meets from 11 a.m. to noon at the USAG Brussels BOSS Center in Bldg. 1, 3rd floor to discuss the new BOSS Center, trips and fund raising. For more information contact DSN 368-9763 or civilian 02-717-9763.

### 3 May

- **National Day of Prayer Luncheon** - Sponsored by the USAG Brussels American Chapel, luncheon will start at 11:45 a.m. in the Three Star Recreation Center. The lunch is free and open to all. For additional information, contact DSN 368-9677 or civilian 02-717-9677.

### 4 May

- **Cinco de Mayo party** - Meets at the 3 Star Recreation Center from 6:30 to 11 p.m. The event includes food, fun and dancing (Salsa competition). Open for 18 years old and over. For more information contact the 3 Star Recreation Center at DSN 368-9822 and civilian 02-717-9822.

### 5 May

- **BOSS Center Grand Opening and Pancake Breakfast** - Boss Center ribbon cutting will be at 9 a.m. at the Three Star Recreation Center. Pancakes will be for sale from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. \$8 per adult and \$6 per child.

## BRUNSSUM/SCHINNEN COMMUNITY

### 24 April

- **Resume Writing and Interviewing Skills** - Join us Tuesday in the Schinnen ACS Conference Room for two courses that will help you in your job search. From 9 to 10:30 a.m. you'll learn to write more effective resumes highlighting and marketing your knowledge, skills and abilities in Employment Resume Writing. The following Interviewing Skills Course from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. will cover preparing for an interview, answering tough questions and how to convince potential employers that you're the perfect fit. For information and to register call DSN 360-7500 or civilian 0031 (0)46-443-7500.

### 25 April

- **Heinsberg Hospital Tour** - Touring the maternity/obstetrics ward of local hospitals is an important way for pregnant women and expectant fathers or birth partners to prepare themselves for the big day. Tour addresses admitting procedures and your childbirth concerns. Meet at 6 p.m. in the Heinsberg Hospital lobby. For more information, call the New Parent Support Program at DSN 360-7335 or commercial 0031- (0)46-443-7335 .

### 26 April

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - Volunteers will be recognized in the following categories: military, civilian, youth, sponsor, family member, volunteer family. For more information, contact the Army Volunteer Coordinator at DSN 360-7451 or civilian 0031-(0)46-443-7451 or the Air Force Volunteer Coordinator at Geilenkirchen at DSN 458-6015 or civilian 0049-2451-63-3781.

### 2 May

- **Managing your Money** - The first Termers Money Management Class comes to Schinnen ACS from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. This valuable course is full of the basics you'll need for a successful future. Call Schinnen's Financial Readiness counselor for an appointment at 0031(0)46-443-7450.

### 3 May

- **First 20 weeks of Pregnancy** - Class is from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Schinnen ACS. Sign up as soon as you know you are pregnant so we can support you through the early physical and emotional changes. To register, call 0031 (0)46-443-7335.
- **Book Discussion** - From 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the JFC Brunssum Library to discuss *Living Life through Words: The Inspirational Writings of Kim McNair*. For more information, call 0031(0)46-443-7500.

### 8 May

- **Tri-Border Town Hall meeting** - Tri-Border residents are invited to the semi-annual Town Hall Meeting to meet community leaders and receive first-hand updates of major changes and events going on in our community. Leaders from GK NATO Air Base, JFC Brunssum and USAG Schinnen will be on hand as well as representatives from many community service providers. Doors open 4:15 p.m., meeting is from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.