

THE GAZETTE

Published for members of the Chièvres Air Base, Caserne Daumerie, SHAPE and Brussels communities

Soignies Tour

The City of Soignies Alderwoman of Tourism, Mrs. Sandra Volante invites the Chièvres, NATO and SHAPE community to tour the city May 7th. For booking and payment, contact the SHAPE Liaison Office at DSN 423-3339, civilian 065/44.33.39 or by email at didier.parmentier@shape.nato.int, or the USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office at DSN 361-5419, civilian 068/27.54.29 or by email at dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil.

Overseas Housing Allowance

The annual Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) Utility/Recurring Maintenance survey is accessible at www.defensetravel.dod.mil/ss/wsb.dll/s/eg4e. The fullest participation possible in this survey is essential as the utility/recurring maintenance allowance for Belgium will be updated based on the results of this survey.

Locating family in Japan

The Red Cross has established a site to help locate family members and friends that may be affected by the earthquake, tsunami or nuclear plant explosions in Japan. Check <https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php>.

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WWII aircrew remembered *Airmen, community, family gather to honor heroes*

Members of the 309th Airlift Squadron based at Chièvres Air Base joined the city authorities of Silly, local residents and family members to honor the crewmembers of a B-17 that crashed at Fouleng, Silly, April 13, 1944. The Royal Flush crashed after being hit by anti-aircraft fire from the base the 309th now calls home.

The emotions of family members and witnesses to the crash were unmistakable on their faces as memories were shared and wreaths were laid against the old farm wall beneath the plaque commemorating the aircrew.

Ghislain Bonnet who was 15 years old when he witnessed the crash spoke to those gathered and encouraged all to keep the memories alive, "Millions of young American Soldiers from the beaches of Normandy to Berlin, gave their lives for our liberty, as freedom comes at the price of blood. We remain a couple of witnesses who have known the dark hours of occupation. If we are here today, it's to tell the younger generation not to forget the sacrifices of their elders. "

Speakers also recognized the significance of the Belgian Resistance fighters who helped three of the crew members to evade the German forces.

"We are here to honor the sacrifice and service of the Royal Flush crew, and of course to pay respect to the six crewmembers who gave their lives. And we are here to honor and give thanks to the Belgian resistance and their surviving family members...all of whom were very brave, sacrificing their own lives in support of the allied forces fighting the Germans," said Lt Col Dave Dubay, 309th Airlift Squadron Deputy Commander.



Lt Col Dave Dubay, 309th Airlift Squadron Deputy Commander presents the wreath from the Chièvres military community.

Eric Daniel

continued on page 3 -- Heroes remembered



SFC Cynthia Perrier

SHAPE community takes back the night

Runners take off from the starting line of the 5.5 kilometer walk/run around the SHAPE perimeter April 15 at the SHAPE International Library.

The SHAPE International library sponsored the run to make stand against violence against women.

USAG Brussels Summer Hire 2011 enrollment begins

CPAC is now accepting applications for Summer Hire 2011. The application process runs through April 27th. Brussels will be taking part in this program again this year; however, due to budget constraints, we expect there will be a significant reduction in the number of positions available.

CPAC has a priority placement system.

1. The first placed are by name requests. In order to be requested by name, a potential Summer Hire must have worked in the USAG Brussels Summer Hire program in the past.

2. The second placed are applicants that are 16 and over.

3. The third placed are applicants that are 14 and 15 years of age.

To apply, go to <https://Injobs.army.mil/sh/staffing/summerhire/default.htm>

First, you must fill out the automated web application.

Second, you must complete the "U.S. In-Processing Package". All application information and documentation must be submitted within 5 work days after submitting your automated web application, as indicated.

Your application cannot be considered unless the following seven documents are submitted:

- Summer Hire Payroll Information Form
- Parental Consent Form
- OF 306 Declaration for Federal Employment
- SF 144 Statement of Prior Federal Service
- Summer Hire Statement of Understanding
- Submit a copy of Front and Back of ID card.
- Proof of Citizenship (i.e. Copy of Passport and SOFA).
- Proof of Social Security Number is required.

For more information please contact Stephanie Condon at Stephanie.condon@eur.army.mil or at 02-717-9649.

THE GAZETTE

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Heroes remembered I continued from page 1

“A common purpose brought these souls together in 1944. While our heroes did not personally know each other, they risked their lives for each other... towards a greater cause. “

A few days after the ceremony Joe Lavin, brother of pilot Lt James Lavin, said , “While the ceremony and words of honor are directed toward my brother and his crewmembers I think this is merely a vehicle by which all Americans who gave their lives to the cause of freedom for the Belgian people are honored. It is also an occasion to honor the Belgian Resistance fighters. The good-will and mutual respect and affection between the people of our two countries generated by this affair is priceless.”

Prior to the ceremony, the 309th gave family members of Lt James Lavin a tour of their aircraft and facilities and then held a private flag folding ceremony in honor of the WWII pilot. The flag was presented to Lt Lavins brother.



Members of the 309th Airlift Squadron stand in silence as Michael Laney, USAG Benelux Government Relations Advisor, plays Amazing Grace on the bagpipes to conclude the ceremony.

The Royal Flush

April 13 1944-- The B-17 Royal Flush was returning from a mission over Schweinfurt Germany and were just 12 minutes from the channel according to Royal Flush navigator, Lt Harold Ashman who shared his story some years ago. That’s when he saw what appeared to be little black clouds getting closer and then the bomber was hit by the anti aircraft defense at Chièvres Air Base.

Four crew members were able to bail out prior to the Royal Flush hitting the ground and exploding, but six didn’t make it. Lt. James R. Lavin, pilot, Lt. Louis A. Bendon, co-pilot, Lt. Calvin L. Anthes, bombardier, Sgt. Raymond R. Marz, waist gunner, Sgt. James W. Malone, tail gunner and Sgt. Loyd G. Brady, ball turret gunner all died in the crash that day.



Ghislain Bonnet standing next to the horse at the age of 15 in 1944.

The aircrew were originally buried at Chièvres then moved to the American Cemetery at Margraten, the Netherlands, their final resting place.

Ghislain Bonnet who witnessed the crash said the Belgian resistance fighters were first on the spot and helped three of the survivors evade capture: Lt Harold Ashman, navigator; Tech Sgt Troy Hollar, turret gunner; and Tech Sgt Edward Price, ra-

dio operator/gunner. Unfortunately, they were not able to rescue injured waist gunner Staff Sgt. Charlie Johnson as the Germans rapidly arrived on the scene.

The Royal Flush was assigned to the 384th Bomb Group flying out of RAF Graf-ton Underwood. The mission that day was to destroy the Scwheinfurt factories that produced ball bearings and piston rings that were vital to German tanks and aircraft.

More than 250,000 US Air-men served as B-17 aircrew in WWII.



Lt James R Lavin



A formation B-17 Flying Fortresses

Preschool story time

Help your preschooler get a head start on early reading skills by attending the SHAPE International Library’s weekly Pre-school Story Time. Preschool Story Time meets every Wednesday from 1000–1030, where we enjoy stories, finger plays, songs and lots of giggles. Story Time also helps preschoolers build confidence, learn socialization skills and make friends while child minders get a chance to meet their peers. Story time is fun for everyone! Everyone is welcome and registration is not required. There is no fee for this program. For more information, please call the library at DSN 423-5631/Civilian 065 44-5631.

Page Turners book discussion group

Join the SHAPE International Library’s monthly book discussion group. The next meeting is Wednesday, 20 April at 1730. The group will discuss Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See. Registration is not required and there is no fee for this program. For more information or to reserve a copy, call the library at DSN 423-5631/Civilian 065 44-5631.

Exchange Survey

The Chièvres Exchange is holding a Customer Satisfaction Index Survey through April 23rd. The survey will take place daily, except Mondays. The survey represents a continuing effort to measure and improve customer service and to ensure The Exchange meets customer expectations. The CSI survey measures customer satisfaction in several areas including customer service, pricing, associate availability and friendliness, and merchandise selection and availability.

Customers will receive a \$5.00 coupon for sharing their opinion.

E-book/E-audio Book Workshop Rescheduled

Due to Spring Break, the library has rescheduled the E-book/E-audio Book Workshop for April 19 at 5:30 p.m. Learn how to use the Army Digital Media Library (Overdrive) and NetLibrary services with your computer, portable and e-reader devices. If it’s portable, bring your device to the workshop for hands-on training. No registration and no fees required. For more information or to reserve a copy, call the library at DSN 423-5631/Civilian 065-44-5631.

Army Emergency Relief Campaign

The annual campaign runs through May 15 and helps active duty Soldiers, retirees, Army National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers in need of financial assistance.

AER provides interest free loans and grants to help pay for essential needs. AER also provides education scholarships to Family Members. Funding for the program comes from voluntary donations by Soldiers and civilians, plus investments made by AER.

Tax deductible contributions can be made by contacting your unit representative, Campaign Coordinator, DSN 361-6334 or DSN 423-4332 or online at www.aerhq.org.

Bus Driver Job Opening

USAG Benelux FMWR, Services Division, is seeking a contractor to drive buses on trips. The driver must have a Belgian, class D license. The person will be an on-call driver. If interested, call DSN 361-5508 or civilian 068-27-5508.



Sunday worship service schedule

SHAPE/Chièvres area

9 a.m. – Catholic Mass at SHAPE Chapel
 10:15 a.m. - Anglican service at SHAPE Chapel
 11:45 a.m. – Contemporary Protestant service at SHAPE Chapel

For additional information, contact the Chaplain's Office at DSN 361-5381

Jewish Community Liaison: contact DSN 423-4938
 Muslim Community Liaison: contact DSN 368-9814

Catholic Mass

Each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. at the Daumerie American Chapel and Thursday at 12:15 p.m. at the SHAPE Chapel.

Brussels area

10:30 a.m. – Protestant service at Chaussée de Louvain 13, St. Stevens Woluwe

Tank crewman Ryan Anderson was discovered attempting to contact Muslim extremists through an Internet chat room. Turns out the specialist had converted to Islam and was passing information on U.S. troops and weapons to jihadists. Anderson was sentenced to life in prison.

Sometimes it's the little things.

**SEE SOMETHING.
 SAY SOMETHING.**

www.eur.army.mil/vigilance/iWATCH.htm

Education

University of Maryland

UMUC Europe is now scheduling student appointments to meet with a member of our Academic Advising Team on May 12, 2011.

Reasons to see an Academic Advisor:

- Go over your Degree Progress Report together.
- See how transfer work will come into your UMUC Degree.
- Explore different majors and/or minors.
- Receive information regarding college level testing.
- Discuss residency, upper level, G.P.A. and other degree requirements.
- Explore resources regarding your chosen career field.

Appointments are first come, first serve. If you are looking to have face to face time to talk about your academic advising issues, be sure to sign up with your Field Rep at DSN 423-5173.

CYSS New Classes coming up

Parent & Child music class - Introduction to music for children and their parents. A great way to connect with your child and at the same time learn about music instruments such as the flute, the guitar and the piano. This class will meet twice a week - in the morning.

Flute class - Flute lessons for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. We will have group classes and also one-on-one lessons. For more information call Parent Central Services Office at DSN 423-5612 or civilian 065-44-5612.

University of Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma is accepting applications for Master of Arts in International Relations. Accelerated class and program format.

On-site and online classes are available. No GRE requirements. For more information, call DSN 423-3654 or civilian 065-44-3654.

Central Texas College

Central Texas College offers online classes leading to an Associate's degree or certificate in Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Professions, Applied Management/Military Science, Hospitality Management and certificates for Fire Science.

Active Parenting for Stepfamilies

A Lunch and Learn Series

Fridays , May 6, 13, 20, 27, from 1130 -1300 at Army Community Service, Building 318, SHAPE.

Learn about the following topics:

- Stepfamily Living: A Different Parenting Challenge
- Turing Differences into Opportunities
- From Anger & Power Struggles to Courage & Self-Esteem
- The Challenge of Discipline
- Stepfamily Communication and Problem Solving

Call Army Community Service at DSN: 423-5324 or 5263 to register.

For question contact the Family Advocacy Program at DSN: 423-5263 or Civ: 065-44.5263.

BELGIAN NEWS

BELGIAN NEWS

By Cis Spook

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Record

The Echo newspaper pointed out that Belgium has not broken the record of the longest time without a government, contrary to popular belief. Cambodia still holds the honor of 353 days without leadership between July 27, 2003 and July 15, 2004. Belgium is only just nearing the 300 day mark. When Cambodia finally did swear in a government it consisted of 207 ministers in order to accommodate everyone in the agreement.

Farmers protest at Ikea

Members of the Boerenbond, Belgium's premier farmers' organization, have staged a protest action at the IKEA stores in Ghent and Zaventem. They are angry because the Swedish furniture giant is offering customers steak and fries for only 2.5 euros. "A lack of respect for the farmers", the Boerenbond claims.

Nudist beach at the Belgian coast

The nudist beach of Bredene has now officially been granted a license by the Flemish government. The nudist beach in Bredene is the only one at the Belgian coast. It covers a length of 350 meters and welcomes some 1,000

naturists daily during the summertime.

Dutch fighter jet crashes at Charleroi airport

A Dutch F-16 fighter jet made a crash landing last week at Charleroi Airport, also known as Brussels South.

The F-16 had to crash land as the landing gear was not functioning. Nobody got injured but the fighter jet was blocking the runway and therefore heavily disrupted the flight schedule.

Population in Belgium

The number of people living in Belgium has grown to more than 11 million. The milestone of 11 million was reached last month, which is quicker than expected. Belgium had 3.8 million inhabitants when it gained independence in 1830. By the turn of the century, this number had risen to 6.7 million.

Last century, it looked as if Belgium would never reach the number of 10 million, but this was eventually the case in 1991.

Twenty years later, there are even 1 million more people living in Belgium. The increase can be explained by immigrants from Poland, Romania and Bulgaria.

Through 8 May

- **International Flower Exhibition in Groot Bijgaarden**, at the Castle of Groot-Bijgaarden, on 5, Van Beverenstraat. Around 400 types of tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and other grape hyacinths, pansies, azaleas and rhododendrons will be presented to the public in the 14 hectares castle park. The visitors can discover new creations by flower growers as well as the most beautiful varieties which have become great classics. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fees are €10 per adult, €5 per child between 6 and 14 and free for kids under 6. For additional information, visit www.grandbigard.be.

Through 9 May

- **Royal greenhouses of Laeken** open to the public, on Avenue du Parc Royal. A winter garden created to fulfill Leopold II's dream, the greenhouses are filled with rare flowers and exotic trees. Entrance fee is €2.50. Open on:
 - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. and from 8 to 10 p.m.;
 - Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 8 to 10 p.m.
 - 19 April reserved for disabled people. Closed on Mondays (except April 25) and on April 26.

Through 20 May

- **Keukenhof, the Netherlands**. This year's theme at the famous bulb flowers park is "Germany, Land of Poets and Philosophers." Keukenhof is located at Stationsweg, 166a at 2161 AM Lisse, the Netherlands. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Front desk closed at 6 p.m. Entrance fees are €14,50 per person and €7 for children between 4 and 11. Parking fee is €6. This year's highlights are:
 - April 1-3: Traditional Dutch costumes festival
 - April 8-10: Summer-flower bulb market
 - April 16: Flower parade
 - April 21-25: Vincent Van Gogh's flower mosaic. For additional information, visit www.keukenhof.nl.

22 April

- **Penitents procession in Lessines**. Every year during the night of Good Friday, a famous procession filled with mystery and mysticism takes place in Lessines. The penitents, wearing frock and cowl and carrying a cross adorned with all the attributes of the Passion, leave the church at dusk and walk through the dark streets. A group of children who advise people of the approaching procession with giant rattles precede the torchlit procession. The cortège then returns to the church for the symbolic burial. On coming out of the church, life is born from death, spring follows winter and the shop windows are ablaze with the colors of Easter. The procession starts in the St. Pierre church at dusk, around 9 p.m. The parade may be scary to small children.
- **Annual flower market in Tournai**, along the Rue Royale. The flower market starts at 8 a.m. and continues throughout the day until 6 p.m. More than one hundred horticulturists take part in this multi-colored market which goes as far back as 1825.

23 April

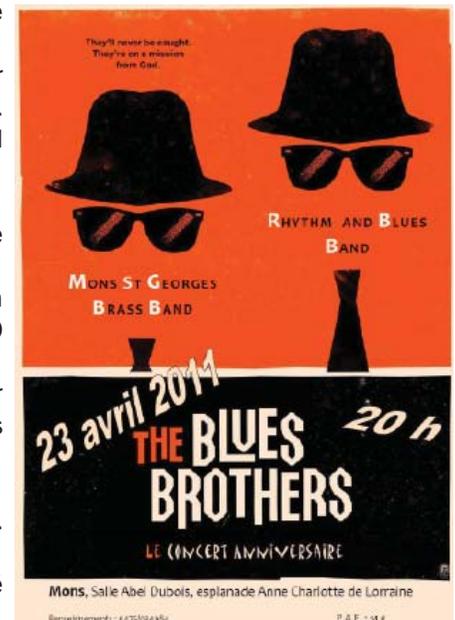
- **Volksmarch in Strepy-Bracquegnies** for 30, 20, 12 or 6 km. Departure is from St Martin room on Rue de Trivières from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Easter eggs hunt in Ath**, on Place du Pays Vert. Participants will be in four categories: 3-5, 6-9, 10-12 and 12 and above. Registration at 1:30 p.m. Participation fee is €1 per kid.
- **Concert by the Blues Brothers in Mons** (musicians are all part of our US/HN community). Concert starts at 8 p.m. at the Salle Abel Dubois on Esplanade Anne Charlotte de Lorraine. Entrance fee is €14.

23 – 25 April

- **International dog show in Gent**, at Flanders Expo, on 1, Maaltekouter. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee is €10 per person.
- **Flea market (700 booths) in Ciney**, at Ciney Expo on 3, Rue du Marché Couvert. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Entrance fee is €8 per person.

24 April

- **Volksmarch in Houdeng-Goegnies** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from the sports hall on 21, Avenue du Stade from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Maffle** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from 4, Place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Ottignies** for 21, 12 or 6 km. Departure is from 119A, Rue de l'Invasion from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.



24 April Continued

- **Mountain bike ride in Cuesmes** for 84, 63, 49, 37 or 19 km. Departure is from Rue de l'Héribus from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. for the 84 km route and from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. for the other routes. Participation fee is €5. Bike wash and showers are available.
- **Medieval event in Ath**, on the Esplanade. Infantry demonstrations from 10 to 11 a.m. and cavalry demonstrations from 11 a.m. to noon.

24 – 26 April

- **105th cavalcade and giants' procession in Jemappes**. The schedule is as follows:
 - On Sunday, parade starts at 2 p.m. in the streets of Jemappes and continues until the fireworks at 9:30 p.m. on the Main Square.
 - The main event will take place on April 25. The large carnival parade with participation of the Gilles starts at 3 p.m. from the Avenue du Roi Albert. Several parades and activities all afternoon. At 9:30 p.m., final parade and gathering of the Gilles on the Main Square followed by fireworks.
 - On April 26, at 9:30 p.m., burning of the humps on the Main Square.

25 April

- **Volksmarch in Quevaucamps** for 20, 10, 15 or 5 km. Departure is from 1, Rue Georges Mauroy from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Musical entertainment throughout the day and folk dance show at 3 p.m.
- **Bicycle route** for 15 km in Quevaucamps - Same departure location and times as above.
- **Volksmarch in La Hulpe** for 21, 12 or 5 km. Departure is from the school on 112 Rue des Combattants from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Traditional walk with sticks** leaves from the Sports Hall in Kain (Tournai area) from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Three routes are available: 6, 12 or 20 km. The origin of this walk goes back to the 14th century. The monks, in their time, climbed the flanks of the Mont-Saint-Aubert by way of expiatory pilgrimage. Much later, the local kids went to the "mountain" and cut off branches in the surrounding forests; they made sticks and started peaceful jousts with their wooden weapons. Today, this tradition continues on Easter Monday. The walk goes to the Mont-Saint-Aubert, on a 147 meters high hill. It offers a beautiful compensation to the walkers with its panoramic view over the entire Escaut valley and over the city in the middle with its cathedral and five church towers. Only condition to participate: bring a stick. Free registration.

28 April – 1 May

- **Art Brussels – International contemporary art fair in Brussels** at Brussels Expo, on 1 Place de Belgique. Open from noon to 7 p.m. Entrance fee is €15 per person. For additional information, visit www.artbrussels.be.

29 – 30 April



- **Eva's Legacy – historical walking route in Chièvres**. Departures from the Grand'Place at 7:30 p.m., 8:15 p.m. or 9 p.m. on both days. The route is about 1.6 km and tour will take approximately 2hrs30. Some 250 comedians, pageants, dancers, singers, etc. will be participating and show Eva's legacy at 8 stages that will be set up along the route. The Chièvres square will turn into a medieval camp. Entrance fee is €12 or €10 on pre-sale at the Chièvres bookstore on Rue Saint Jean, at the Chièvres Tourism Office on the square, or at the Palace on the Ath Grand Place. For additional information, call 068/26.99.99.

29 April – 1 May

- **Plants and garden festival in Lasne**, at the Aywiers Gardens of the former Cistercian abbey on 14, Rue de l'Abbaye. With the participation of more than 180 Belgian and foreign garden professionals. Open from 1 to 6:30 p.m. April 29, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 30 and May 1. Entrance fee is €8 per day. Free entrance for kids under 14.
- **A farm downtown Ath**, on the Grand'Place. Visit a small farm on the main square or purchase some of the local farmers' products from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. all three days.

30 April

- **Flea market in La Bouverie**, on Rue de l'Industrie. Open from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Mountain bike ride in Mons** for 75, 60, 50 or 25 km. Departure is from the Ursulines school on Boulevard Kennedy from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Participation fees range between €3 and €5. Bike wash and showers are available.

30 April Continued

- **Mountain bike ride in Anvaing** for 45, 20 or 10 km. Departure is from the school on 32a, Rue du Carnoy from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Leuze-en-Folie street festival in Leuze.** Street festival (concerts, arts and craft, make-up for kids,...) starts at 5 p.m.
- **Bicycle event Mons-Chimay-Mons.** Departs from the school Les Ursulines on Boulevard Kennedy. Bike wash and showers are available. Three categories:
 - *Bicycle ride* for 205, 155, 115, 80, 55 or 20 km. Departs from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. for the 205 km route, from 7 to 9 a.m. for the 155 km route and from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the other routes. Participation fees range between €1.5 and €5.
 - *Mountain bike ride* for 75, 65, 50 or 28 km. Departs from 8 to 9 a.m. for the 75 km route and from 8 to 10:30 a.m. for the other routes. Participation fees range between €2 and €5.
 - *Family bicycle ride* for 20 km in the Mons area. Free registration at 9:30 a.m. and departure at 10 a.m.

30 April – 8 May

- **Amaryllis Festival in Beloeil**, at the Château de Beloeil on Rue du Château at Beloeil.. 3,000 flowers in many bouquets, divided over the lounges, dining rooms, ceremonial rooms and in the library of the castle of Beloeil. Open every day from 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Entrance fee is €9. For additional information, visit www.chateaubeloeil.com.



1 May

- **Volksmarch in Neufvilles** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from the sports hall on Rue du Godimont from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Huissignies** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from the sports hall on 12, Rue de l'Eglise from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Saint Denis/Obourg** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from the St Denis Abbey on 4, Rue de la Filature from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Masnuy-Saint-Jean** for 20, 10 or 5 km. Departure is from the school on 1, Rue Bois de Genly from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Mountain bike ride in Seneffe** for 45, 20 or 15 km. Departure is from 12, Place de Penne d'Agenais from 8 to 11 a.m. Participation fee is €5. Bike wash is available.
- **Military Memorabilia fair (550 booths) in Ciney**, at Ciney Expo on 3, Rue du Marché Couvert. Open tom 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entrance fee is €10.
- **Brussels by water** (Sailing, cycling and walking events), from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Big boat-bike-walk day for the start of the tourist shipping season. Numerous activities: cruises, guided or free walks and bike rides, visits to interesting places in the direct surroundings of the canal. For detailed program, visit <http://www.brusselsbywater.be>.
- **Annual flower market (50 booths) downtown Leuze.** Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Flea market and arts and crafts market in Bouvignies (Ath).** Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

BOOK NOW

- **Rock Werchter Festival**, 30 June – 3 July. This is the 37th edition of this rock festival held in the Flemish Brabant. Featured artists include The Black Eyed Peas, Linkin Park, Underworld, Magnetic Man, Hurts, Goose and many more. €76 for one-day ticket on pre-sale and €195 for a four-day pass on pre-sale. For detailed schedule and tickets, visit www.rockwerchter.be.
- **Dour Festival**, 14 – 17 July. Dour Festival in Dour (Mons area), on Site de la Machine à Feu. European alternative music event for music lovers. Bands and festival-goers from all over Europe gather at Dour every summer. 200 bands on 7 stages and one campsite. €93 for a four-day pass (€110 camping included) on pre-sale. One-day ticket will be for sale later. Detailed program and tickets on www.dourfestival.be.
- **Power Prog and Metal fest - PPM fest in Mons**, 30 April at the Lotto Mons Expo on 2 Avenue Thomas Edison. 2 stages, 18 bands. With the participation of Europe, Hammerfall, Edguy, ... Entrance fee is €65 per person (€55 on pre-sale). Doors open at 10 a.m. For pre-sales location and detailed program, visit www.ppmfest.com
- **Couleur Café festival in Brussels**, 24-26 June. at the Tours and Taxis site on Avenue du Port 86c. Couleur Café is dedicated to all currents of urban music across the world including R'nB, hip hop, reggae, dub, flamenco, salsa, zouk, folk, pop and electronic music. Entrance is €43 per person per day (€35 on pre-sale); three-day pass is €76 (€91 camping included). For tickets and detailed program, visit www.couleurcafe.be.
- **Musical Night in Beloeil**, 27 August. This year, the evnt will feature the Brussels Philharmonic and José Van Dam. More information in future editions of the Gazette.

SHAPE Trips & Tours

For information on the trips below,
call DSN 423-3884 or CIV 065-44-3883.

- **Disneyland Paris, April 20 & June 2.** Come experience the happiest place on earth. Departs SHAPE at 8 a.m. and returns at 11 p.m. Price: €95 Adults, €90 Youth 3-11, €50 Children 0-2.
- **London Weekend for Easter, April 22-24.** Check out Big Ben, take a river cruise on the Thames, ride the London Eye, people watch in Trafalgar Square, hike up the geometric staircase at St. Paul's Cathedral, or spend some time in the West End theatre district. Price: € 350 pp Single, €230 pp Double / Twin/ Triple €160 Child 3-15*, €95 Child 0-2*, *When sharing a room with two fully paid guests.
- **Keukenhof Gardens and Gouda, the Netherlands, April 23.** The first stop is the picturesque village of Gouda, the cheese capital of Holland. After lunch, we make our way to Keukenhof, the tulip capital of the world. Spend the day admiring flower displays, strolling through the gardens and photographing beautiful scenery. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and return at 10:30 p.m. Adults €50, Youth (4-11) €45, Child (0-4) €35 **Price includes entrance to the gardens.
- **Amsterdam for the Queen's Birthday, April 30.** The Dutch people celebrate the birthday of the Queen Mother, Princess Juliana and many of them wear something orange in token of the royal house. For royalty watchers, there is a chance of a glimpse of the present Queen Beatrix. Please remember that Amsterdam becomes one big party so please consider this when booking this trip. Price: €40. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and returns at midnight.
- **Rhine in Flames, May 7.** The trip begins in the German city of Bonn for some free time to explore. In the evening, board on a ship and start a cruise of the Rhine River while enjoying the scenery and the fireworks. Trip includes evening meal. Price is €110 per adult, €50 for children between 0 and 3. Departs SHAPE at 11 a.m. and returns at 4 a.m.
- **Champagne, France, May 8.** Our first stop through rolling champagne country will be Reims, France. We will enjoy a guided tour of the Mumm Cellars followed by a champagne tasting. Afterwards, we will have free time in Reims for lunch and sightseeing. Next we will tour the picturesque wine fields of Hautvillers, the birthplace and burial of Dom Perignon. We will then have a guided tour of the family cellars of Vadin-Plateau for another tour and tasting. See the age old custom of opening a champagne bottle with a sword. Price is € 82 per adult, € 66 for children (age 3 - 17), € 50 per infant (age 0 - 2). Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and returns at 9:30 p.m.
- **Paris, May 14.** Come enjoy the city of lights and explore its many museums, shops, and restaurants. You will have time to explore everything that Paris has to offer including the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, The Louvre, the many markets and eat the fantastic food available in this amazing city. Departs SHAPE at 7 and returns at 11 p.m. Price: € 45.
- **Le Mont Saint Michel, May 21-22.** This magnificent island built upon granite boulders in the sand off the coast of France has centuries of history. From the magnificent abbey at the top built by monks around 700, to the stunning twice daily tidal changes that are the largest in the world. Come see why this Island is a National treasure. Price: Double/ Twin Room €180, Triple Room €170, Single Room €210 Departs SHAPE at 6 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m. *Prices are per person and include transportation, one night in a three star hotel, gourmet dinner, and breakfast.



Keukenhof, April 23



Amsterdam, April 30



Paris, May 14

Archive Photos

Archive Photos

Archive Photos

19 April

- **Anger and Conflict Management, Part 2** - Focuses on building skills that will support positive relationships at work, home and community. Prior registration at CAS, DSN 423-5263 or civilian 065-44-5263.

20 April

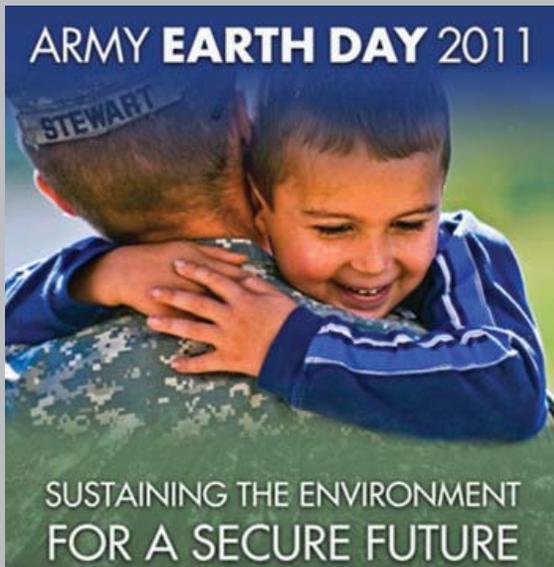
- **Child Wellness Day** - Child and Family Parade from the SHAPE CDC to the SHAPE Events Center starting at 1 p.m. followed by the Child Wellness Day from 2 to 6 p.m. with activities to support healthy and safe children and families, workshops on Family Communication, resiliency and picky eaters. Events are open to U.S. ID and SHAPE card holders.
- **Preschool Story Time** - Meets from 10 to 10:30 a.m. at the SHAPE International Library and helps preschoolers build confidence, learn socialization skills and make friends. There is no fee for this program. For more information, call the library at DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-44-5631.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** - The English speaking SHAPE Alcoholics Anonymous Group meets on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the SHAPE International Chapel, Bldg. 601, room 51. Members support one another's 12 Step recovery program and freely share their AA story with newcomers. Family members, friends, and anyone interested in AA are welcomed to attend. For recorded message with telephone contact #'s, call 049-405-8137. For English speaking meetings in Brussels and throughout Europe see <http://www.aa-europe.net/> <<http://www.aa-europe.net/>> .

21 April

- **Daddy Boot Camp** - a special course for new and expecting fathers will be held from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. at Bldg. 318, SHAPE. For more information or to register, call DSN 423-4274 or civilian 065-44-4274.

22 April

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** - The English speaking SHAPE Alcoholics Anonymous Group meets from noon to 1 p.m. at the SHAPE International Chapel, Bldg. 601, room 51. For recorded message with telephone contact #'s, call 049-405-8137. For English speaking meetings in Brussels and throughout Europe see <http://www.aa-europe.net/> <<http://www.aa-europe.net/>> .



**21 April - Earth Day event
Chièvres Air Base**

The schedule of the activities is as follows:

- 2- 2:30 p.m. - Tree planting with a USAG Benelux Command Group representative near the Army Lodge
- 2:30 - 7 p.m. - Earth Day Discovery Trail. The trail departing from the Army Lodge, will go by multiple environmental points of interest on Chièvres Air Base and is accessible to pedestrians and cyclists. Participants can choose from four different routes with distances ranging from 4 to 14 km (2.4 to 8.6 miles) and will be issued a booklet in English and French explaining each point of interest.

Attendance to the above events is free and open to all U.S. and SHAPE ID card holders as well as Host Nation personnel members.

New Fitness Center Hours

The following Chièvres Air Base Fitness Center hours go into effect today: Monday - Friday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and U.S. Holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAREUR Holidays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ACS New Operating Hours

The new operating hours for Army Community Services are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Play Morning

Until further notice, the play morning classes held every Tuesday and every second Saturday of the month, have been interrupted.

AT USAG BRUSSELS

All ACS services and classes are open to the tri-Mission Community and are free.

28 April

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony.** Ceremony honors the volunteers who have made a difference in the community and will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Three Star Recreation Center for dinner and non-alcohol cash bar. Limited child care available. Please register by April 21 to DSN 368-9735 or civilian 02-717-9735.

FITNESS CLASSES

All classes are held at the USAG Brussels Fitness Center in Bldg. 3 and are free of charge. For more information, call 02-717-9667.

- **New: Big Will's Body Shop** - Sessions are from 1 to 2 p.m. and from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. every Mon, Wed and Fri.
- **Body Pump** - Every Sat from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and every Tue from 6 to 7 p.m.,
- **Spin Class** - Every Mon and Thu from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- **Yoga** - Every Mon, Wed and Fri from 10 to 11 a.m.
- **Individualized Strength Training** - Every Tue and Thu from 1 to 2 p.m.
- **Step Aerobics** - Every Wed, Fri from 6 to 7 p.m.
- **Zumba** - Every Sat from 11 a.m. to noon and every Mon from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **Fitness Program** - Starts May 1 through October 31. By joining the program you may be eligible for three hours of duty time per week to exercise. Application packets are available at the USAG Brussels Fitness Center.

The Fitness Center is open Mon-Fri from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sat and Sun from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Holiday hours are from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Fitness Center at DSN 368-9667.

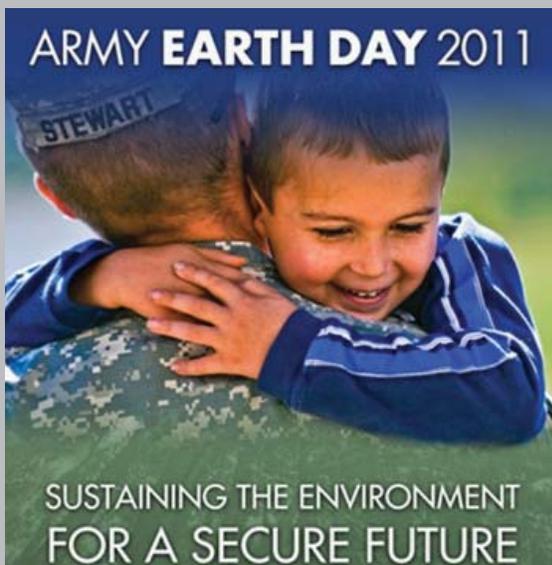
Family & MWR is now partnering with SHAPE Trips & Tours

USAG Brussels Family & MWR is now partnering with the SHAPE Trips and Tours program. Now you can enjoy all of the great tours SHAPE offers and catch the bus from either USAG Brussels or the Sterrebeek Annex depending on the tour.

Reservations/Payments are made by calling SHAPE Trips and Tours at 32 (0) 65 44 3884 Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Fridays from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Tell them that you will be catching the bus from Brussels and if you have a SHAPE ID card. If you don't have a SHAPE ID card, that's OK, you will be placed on an access roster for the trip. See Page 9 for a listing of the upcoming trips.

Donations for Japan

We would like to thank those that made contributions at USAG Brussels, on behalf of Brussels American School, to the people of Japan. We collected 45 large boxes of items, and the POC that has collected the goods at Camp Zama has distributed these generous donations of soup, clothing, youth and baby items, directly to the people most in need. The Japanese people in the area were incredibly thankful. At this time, they are no longer taking donations, but again wanted us to share their sincere appreciation to the Brussels community, on their behalf.



20 April - Earth Day event at the Brussels American School/ Sterrebeek Annex

Schedule:

9:15 to 11:45 a.m. - "Birds, bats and beyond" including a presentation on biodiversity and the construction of nests to be installed at the Brussels American School.

1:30 p.m. - Tree planting with the Command Group near the Kimbro Racquetball course

1:30 - 2:45 p.m. - Group planting of mixed plants, near the elementary school