

# THE GAZETTE

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

## Allstar Weekend Concert

Allstar Weekend is performing tonight at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at the Chièvres Recreation Center. This American pop/rock band gained its popularity from the Disney Channel television network. This free concert is open to all U.S., SHAPE (green) and NATO ID cardholders.

## Chièvres Burger King

Starting today, the Chièvres Burger King will be opening early Tuesday thru Friday for breakfast at 7 a.m. to better support the lodge, barracks, SOF campus members and other Chièvres/Daumerie tenants.

## Training Support Center

The Training Support Center will complete its move to Bldg. 20024 (former Chièvres Garrison Headquarters building) on Chièvres Air Base by Jan. 24. The Photo Studio, Graphics and Video Production will then be fully operational and under the same roof as the Training Aids and Devices Section, the Supply Technician and the TSC Chief.

## Northern Law Center

The USAG Brussels Northern Law Center will be closed Jan. 18 and 25. The Northern Law Center on SHAPE will be operating at minimum staffing Jan. 18-21 and will be closed Jan. 25-27. Normal operations will resume Jan. 28.

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Adam Alexander (center) and Austin Muraille (right), two members of the Brussels Boy Scout Troop 457 are listening carefully and taking copious notes as USAG Brussels leadership engages a diverse audience during the garrison's town hall meeting Jan. 13. They selected that event to learn about citizenship in the community, a project that should help them obtain one of their Merit Badges.

## BRUSSELS TOWN HALL

# Garrison communicates with diverse audience

**By Marie-Lise Baneton**  
*USAG Benelux Public Affairs*

Lt. Col. Francesca Ziemba hosted her first town hall meeting since she took command at the Brussels American School Jan. 13 to share information with the diverse U.S. community that lives and works in the capital of Europe.

The U.S. Army Garrison Brussels commander and her team of subject matter experts briefed the audience on selected topics before they answered questions from the audience and listened to insight from Brig. Gen. David Peterson, the Brussels community coordinator.

The briefers were not the only ones on a mission – Adam Alexander and Austin Muraille were representing Troop 457, the Brussels Boy Scout troop. As they are working toward their Eagle rank and on one of their Merit Badges, they needed to find a community town hall event to understand community and citizenship in action. They selected the

**Continued on next page**

**BRUSSELS TOWN HALL I CONTINUED**

garrison's town hall meeting to learn how people express their opinions, questions and disagreements.

Alexander and Muraille listened carefully and took notes as the briefers followed each other, discussing topics including the inclement weather procedures and snow removal techniques, force protection measures, as well as, present and future services and facilities in the larger Brussels community.

It was a first for Alexander. "I thought it was pretty interesting to find out what was going on," he said. "I really liked finding out that the youth center being set up here was going to be finished soon and that there would be many more changes to help with our school," he continued.

Muraille found the situation a bit strange. "I'm not from this community, I come here for scouts only but it was interesting for me, just to see how communities work," he explained. "I learned how different USAG and Brussels American School are from my school, for example because they have different things like health clinics and everything on their campus," he continued.

Both scouts plan on explaining their troop and school mates how the system works and the lessons they learned during their first experience with town hall meetings. They expressed specific interest when Willie Vigil encouraged the audience to use the Interactive Customer System (ICE) every time they have a comment on the services they receive, a point the Brussels community coordinator also deems of high importance.

"ICE used to be pretty important to keep commanders involved and aware of what folks want," he said. "But anybody who read or heard Secretary of Defense Gates' speech on Jan. 6 about trying to save \$100 billion in the Department of Defense will know that tight times are coming and that is going to force a lot of people to make a lot of decisions," he explained. "So if there are things that we like, we need to write them down; and if there are things that need improvement, we need to write them down. If we don't do that, then we're not taking care of ourselves," he continued while encouraging members of the community to grab an ICE card or to get online and let people know what they like. "That's how we're going to hold down to it in a small community like we have," he concluded.

Another Brussels Town Hall will be tentatively scheduled before the end of the school year. More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

Those interested in receiving the slides of the town hall, may contact USAG Benelux PAO at DSN 361-5419, civilian 068-27-5419 or via email at [dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil).

**Road Safety Information**

*From the USAG Benelux Safety Office*

Due to the recent inclement weather conditions, many Belgian highways and roads are in a poor condition. The numerous potholes make driving extremely dangerous.

The pictures below show damages to the road from SHAPE to Chièvres at Jurbise when you go over the bridge. These potholes can cause serious damage to tyres and suspensions. They also considerably increase

the risk of car accidents.

Be extremely cautious and try whenever possible, to use a safe driving line to avoid the potholes. Also,



keep sufficient space between your car and the car in front in order to give you, as well as the driver in front of you, enough time to react to unexpected obstacles.



**THE GAZETTE**

To subscribe, email [dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil)

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# What's new for 2010 taxes - Part I

*Special to the Gazette*

**Due date of return.** This year taxpayers have until April 18, instead of April 15, to file their tax returns. Taxpayers get extra time because of the Emancipation Day holiday in the District of Columbia— even if you do not live in the District of Columbia. Taxpayers requesting an extension will have until Oct. 17 to file their 2010 tax returns. The IRS advises taxpayers impacted by the recent tax law changes that using e-file is the best way to ensure accurate tax returns and get faster refunds.

**Who must wait to file.** For most taxpayers, the 2011 tax filing season starts on schedule. However, due to recent tax law changes, some people – including those who itemize deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A – will need to wait until mid- to late February to file their tax returns in order to give the IRS time to reprogram its processing systems. Those who need to wait to file their tax return include:

- Taxpayers Claiming Itemized Deductions on Schedule A.
- Taxpayers Claiming the Higher Education Tuition and Fees Deduction.
- Taxpayers Claiming the Educator Expense Deduction.

The IRS will announce a specific date in the near future when it can start processing tax returns impacted by the recent tax law changes. In the interim, taxpayers affected by these tax law changes can start working on their tax returns, but they should not submit their returns until IRS systems are ready to process the new tax law changes.

For taxpayers who must wait before filing, the delay affects both paper filers and electronic filers. The IRS urges taxpayers to use e-file instead of paper tax forms to minimize confusion over the recent tax law changes and ensure accurate tax returns.

**Exemptions and itemized deductions no longer phased out.** Overall income limits for personal and dependency exemptions and itemized deductions do not apply. Before 2010, taxpayers whose incomes were above certain levels lost part or all of their exemptions and part of their itemized deductions. For taxpayers at all income levels, limitations continue to apply to particular itemized deductions, such as medical and dental expenses, certain miscellaneous itemized deductions and casualty and theft losses.

**Itemized deduction.** The limit on itemized deductions expired in 2010.

**Education savings bond exclusion.** An individual who redeems qualified U.S. savings bonds to pay for higher education expenses may be able to exclude interest income from gross income. For 2010, the amount of your interest exclusion is phased out (gradually reduced) if your filing status is married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) and your modified adjusted gross income (AGI) is between \$105,100 and \$135,100. You cannot take the exclusion if your modified AGI is \$135,100 or more.

For all other filing statuses, your interest exclusion is phased out if your modified AGI is between \$70,100 and \$85,100. You cannot take the exclusion if your modified AGI is \$85,100 or more. For more information, see chapter 10 in Publication 970, Tax Benefits for Education.

**Hope and American Opportunity Credits for 2010.** For tax year 2010, the following changes have been made to the Hope and American opportunity credits:

- The Hope credit is not available for 2010
- The American opportunity credit is available for 2010 and is unchanged from 2009.

**Expanded definition of qualified expenses for qualified tuition programs.** The definition of qualified higher education expenses for tax-free distributions from a qualified tuition program is expanded to include amounts paid in 2009 or 2010 for the purchase of computer software, any computer or related peripheral equipment, fiber optic cable related to computer use, and Internet access (including related services) that are to be used by the beneficiary and the beneficiary's family during any of the years the beneficiary is enrolled at an eligible educational institution.

**Expired tax benefits.** The following tax benefits have expired:

- Increased standard deduction for real estate taxes or a net disaster loss from a disaster occurring after 2009.
- Itemized deduction or increased standard deduction for state or local sales or excise taxes on the purchase of a new motor vehicle (unless you bought the vehicle in 2009 after February 16 and paid the tax in 2010.)
- The exclusion from income of up to \$2,400 in unemployment compensation. All unemployment compensation you received in 2010 is generally taxable.
- Government retiree credit
- Alternative motor vehicle credit for qualified hybrid motor vehicles bought after 2009, except cars and light trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating of 8,500 pounds or less.
- Extra \$3,000 IRA deduction for employees of bankrupt companies.
- Credit to holders of clean renewable energy bonds issued after 2009.
- Decreased estimated tax payments for certain small businesses.
- Certain tax benefits for Midwestern disaster areas, including the additional exemption amount if you provided housing for a person displaced by the Midwestern storms, tornadoes, or flooding.

*What's new for 2010 taxes - Part II will be published in the Jan. 24 edition of the Gazette.*

## Tax centers in SHAPE/Chièvres and Brussels

The following tax centers will open Feb. 4 and remain open until Jun. 15.

The USAG Benelux tax center will open Mon-Fri from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the NLC offices on SHAPE and Wed. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres. Appointments are recommended by calling DSN 423-4906 or civilian 065-44-4906.

The USAG Brussels tax center will open Mon-Wed-Thu-Fri. Appointments are recommended by calling DSN 423-4906 or civilian 065-44-4906.

**Fitness Classes**

Starting January, the following fitness classes will be available at the Chièvres Fitness Center:

**Spinning:** Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

**Circuit Training:** Monday and Friday from 10 to 11 a.m.

**Stretching:** Monday and Friday from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

**Crossfit:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. Saturday from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

**Yoga:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

The opening hours of the Chièvres Fitness Center are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, contact DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-27-5643.

**In-Processing Class**

Learn about Belgium, SHAPE and Chièvres every Tuesday and Thursday. Stop by ACS to set up an appointment with the relocation readiness program manager or call ACS at DSN 423-4332 or civilian 065-44-4332 to pre-register.

**Black History Month Celebration**

USANATO SHAPE BN is the lead for coordinating this year's SHAPE/Chièvres Community Black History Month celebration which will be held Feb. 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the SHAPE Events Center. The battalion needs volunteers to prepare ethnic/cultural foods for the food tasting at the end of the program and also volunteers to donate items to show on display that reflect African American History. The displays will be returned. For more information, call civilian 065-44-8167 or 065-44-7634.

**Emergency Placement Care**

The Emergency Placement Care program provides children and youth with a supportive and safe home environment on a temporary basis when they are unable to remain in their own home due to abuse or neglect issues. Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program has begun recruiting for Emergency Placement Care Families.

Interested families should:

- be U.S. ID cardholders.
- be able and willing to complete the assessment, background check, and training process.
- understand there is no flat rate fee for care, only reimbursement for actual reasonable expenses incurred.
- live either on or off an installation.

Contact the ACS Family Advocacy Program Manager for additional information at DSN 423-5263 or civilian 065-44-5263.

**Tax preparation Assistance Volunteers needed**

If you are looking for something interesting and challenging to do, come be a tax center volunteer. The Northern Law Center is looking for volunteers to assist during the upcoming tax season. Build your resume, meet interesting people and learn all about taxes. For more information, call the Northern law Center at DSN 423-3502 or civilian 065-44-3502.

**Grandma's Attic January Special**

Time to get in shape for summer. Get 50% off TSP (Thrift Shop Property) sportswear and gear for the family. We are open Tue, Thu and Sat from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are cleaning out your "attic", we gladly take donations during those store hours.



**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

**SHAPE High School Bingo**

The SHAPE High School Scholarship Committee will have a bingo on Jan. 20 in the International School Cafeteria. This month's theme is "Europe". There are prizes from all over the continent. The doors open at 6 p.m., with the first game at 6:45 p.m. (note: there will be no early bird game) Prices are \$10/10€ per adult pack, \$5/5€ per child pack. Specials include a family pack (1 adult and 2 child packs) for \$15/15€ and an adult 3-pack for \$25/25€. There will be additional opportunities to win tombola prizes and to enter for a chance to win a bench. Dinner and snacks will be available for purchase.

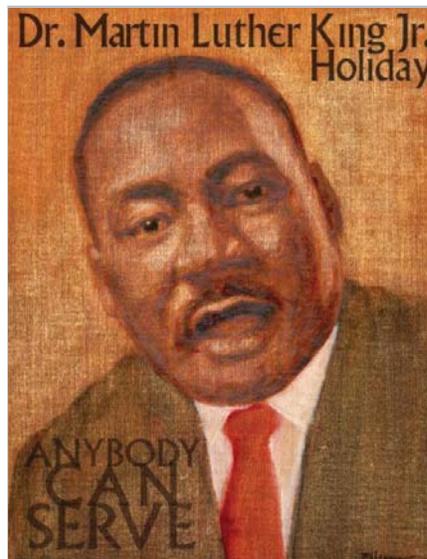
**Upcoming AE-ITT classes**

DOD IA Certification 8570.1 (a+): Jan. 24-28

Information Management Officer Certification (IMO): Feb. 7-11.

Telephone Control Officer - 2009 (TCO): Mar 28

For information, call DSN 361-5346 or civilian 068-27-5346.



**A Martin Luther King's Remembrance "Breakfast" will be held in the Auditorium, Bldg. 30, Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres Jan. 21 from 8 a.m. to noon.**

**For information, call DSN 361-5311 or civilian 068-275311.**

**CYSS instructors needed**

Child, Youth and School Services is looking for qualified instructors for the following classes and activities:

Guitar	Music
Language classes	Driver's Education
Piano	Violin
S.A.T. prep	Computer skills
Tap dance	Public Speaking

For information, call DSN 423-6091 or civilian 065-44-6091.

**AFAP Youth Working Group**

Working Group will be on Feb. 7 (teens will be off school) from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. This workgroup is designed to give teens (ages 14-18, in school) the chance to give input to the SHAPE/Chièvres Communities' leadership. Teens get the opportunity to work together to develop issues and recommendations on what they think will solve problems affecting them. Please call DSN 423-7598 or civilian 065-44-7598 to register.

**Military Spouse Scholarship Program**

Applications are being accepted now until Jan. 31 for the Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship Program. The scholarships are awarded to spouses of all Uniformed Services members: Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve, Retirees and Survivors. The scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees, and school room and board. For more information, visit the National Military Family Association website at <http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/military-spouse-scholarships/>.

**Exchange rewards those who "Made the Grade"**

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, military children, especially those with deployed parents, face unique stresses that often result in higher rates of school absenteeism and failure.

Keeping these unique challenges in mind, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service established an exclusive educational rewards program that continues to receive high marks from students and parents alike.

Now in its tenth year, the "You Made the Grade" program recognizes students who achieve a "B" average or better with a benefits-filled booklet. Offers include a free Burger King kids meal, Subway 6-inch combo, video rental and \$2 off any new release DVD at the Power Zone, to name a few.

Students who make the grade can also register for a drawing to win a savings bond worth up to \$5,000 by filling out and mailing an included entry form.

To receive the "You Made the Grade" booklet, students simply present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average to their local Exchange. Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar year.

Military families can contact their local exchange for more information about "You Made the Grade." Contact information is available through the "your exchange" link at [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com) <<http://www.shopmyexchange.com/>>.

**BELGIAN NEWS**

*By Cis Spook*

*USAG Benelux Public Affairs*

**Starbucks Coffee**

Of the 16,000 selling points worldwide, Starbucks only has four in Belgium, i.e. three at the Brussels airport and one at the train station in Antwerpen.

Within a couple of months, Starbucks will open at the Brussels central train station, the first one downtown Brussels.

**Beard up for a government**

The Belgian movie star, Benoit Poelvoorde, called on his countrymen to stop shaving for as long as Belgium has no government.

Others have initiated a virtual campsite in front of the Rue de la Loi, 16. By joining the campers, Belgian citizens can express their aggravation.

**Price of fries to go up**

The price of potatoes used to produce Belgian fries has doubled in only four months. A ton of early summer potatoes today costs €249 whereas in September, these potatoes only cost €120. The increase is a result of strong demand and a disappointing harvest.

**Polar Bear Swim**

Around five and a half thousand people took part in the annual Polar Bear Swim in the sea at Ostend last week. Although temperatures on the beach were a very respectable 12 °C, sea temperatures were at a chilly 4 °C.

**Flemish school to teach lessons in English**

The state secondary school K.A. Sint-Pieters Woluwe is to become the first Flemish medium school in Brussels to offer its students the opportunity to be taught some subjects in English.

The school that is located in the Brussels suburb of Sint-Pieters Woluwe has many pupils from non-Flemish speaking or bilingual families. This means that a lot of the youngsters at the school are used to using two or more different languages in their daily lives.

**Cigarette sales on the up**

Despite the extension of the smoking ban early 2010, more cigarettes were sold in Belgium last year than in 2009.

**Australian Open**

Five Belgian tennis stars are taking part in the Australian Open tennis championships to be held Jan. 17-30: Kirsten Flipkens, Kim Clijsters, Justine Henin, Yanina Wickmayer and

**Are you a resident of Saint Ghislain?**

Saint Ghislain residents are invited to a *Welcome evening* to be held Mar. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Cultural Center, Grand' Place 37, organized by the city. After a short welcome speech by the Mayor, you will be briefed on all aspects of living in Saint Ghislain. Presentation will be followed by a small reception. Please confirm your presence via email at [dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil](mailto:dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil) by Feb. 18.

**Until 23 January**

- **Brussels Motor Show in Brussels.** Show will focus on light commercial vehicles but also show all new car models to be launched in the coming year. The Motor Show at the Brussels Expo is open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Entrance fee is €11, free admission for children under six and reduced fares for children 6 to 12.

**20 January**

- **The Czech Symphonic Orchestra** performs in Brussels at 8 p.m. at the Center for Fine Arts on Rue Ravenstein, 23. For information and tickets call civilian 02-507-8200.

**22 January**

- **Run & Bike Duathlon event in Hamme-Mille** (East from Brussels) for 2km run, 19km bike and 4km run. Departure is at 11 a.m. from Rue Auguste Goemans, 20 at 1320 Hamme-Mille. Participating fee is €10. Showers and bike wash are available. To register for this event, send an email to vinsangbe@gmail.com.
- **Evening Run in Hamme Mille for 9 or 20 km.** Departure is at 6 p.m. from Rue Auguste Goemans, 20 at 1320 Hamme-Mille. Head light is mandatory. Participating fee is €10 or €15 if in combination with the duathlon (see above). To register for this event, send an email to vinsangbe@gmail.com.



**22-30 January**

- **Antiques and Fine Arts Fair in Brussels** at Tour et Taxis (130 booths) on Avenue du Port, 86c. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Late night openings on Jan. 25 and 27 until 10:30 p.m. Entrance fee is €20.

**23 January**

- **Antiques and Flea Market in Roeselare** at the Fabriekspand on Veldstraat, 59 from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee is €2.
- **The Czech Symphonic Orchestra performs in Mons** at 4 p.m. at the Royal Theater on the Grand'Place. For information and tickets, call civilian 065-39-5939.
- **Volksmarch in Mont-Saint-Guibert for 4, 7, 12, 21 or 30 km.** Departure is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. from Salle des Loisirs on the Grand'Place.
- **Volksmarch in Neufmaison (Saint Ghislain) for 5, 10 or 20 km.** Departure is from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from the Salle Le Colombier on the square.
- **Volksmarch in Enghien for 5, 10 or 20 km.** Departure is from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from the sports center Nautisport on Chaussée de Soignies, 36.
- **Zumba Master Class in Braine-le-Comte**, at the Hall Omnisport du Champ de la Lune on Rue d'Horrues, 53 from 3 to 6 p.m. Pre-registration is €20 to be transferred on bank account 068-2444708-44 with mention of name and first name. Entrance fee is €25 on the day of the event.

**24 January**

- **100 Tzigane Violins in Brussels** at 8 p.m. at the Palais des Beaux-Arts on Rue Ravenstein, 23. For information and tickets call civilian 02-507-8200.

**ONGOING**

**Until 9 May**

- **"America - it's also our history" exhibition in Brussels**, at Tour & Taxis on 86 Avenue du Port. Three centuries of relations between Europe and the United States. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Entrance fee is €10. For additional information, visit [www.expo-europe-usa.be](http://www.expo-europe-usa.be).

**Until 30 July 2011**

- **United States Army in the Persian Gulf War / Operation Desert Storm 1991 display at the Heverlee (Leuven) Army installation** (25 km east of Brussels). The display includes various items from U.S. Army units deployed during Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Provide Comfort I and the home front Support to the Troops. Free entrance. Because the display is located on a military post, it is only accessible upon request via e mail at [flashesandovals@hotmail.com](mailto:flashesandovals@hotmail.com) or phone at 0477-463730. For more information, visit [www.desertstorm1991.com](http://www.desertstorm1991.com).

# SHAPE Trips & Tours

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

- **French and Belgian Cooking Class, Jan. 22.** The day begins in Brussels for free time to explore the many sights that Brussels has to offer. After lunch, learn the art of French cooking in an animated course that allows everyone to participate actively in a stimulating environment. After the welcome drink of French quality sparkling wine, the class starts to cook three courses. Tasting will follow. Space is limited. Price: €100 per person. Departs SHAPE at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 8:30 p.m.
- **Shopping in London, Jan. 29.** Hit the sales in London. Price: €62. Departs SHAPE at 6 a.m. and returns at 1 a.m. on Sunday.
- **Belgian beer tour, Feb. 5.** The day begins at the Dupont Brewery famous for its Saison beer, to sample their beer and cheese followed by a short tour of the brewery. The next stop will be at the majestic Abbey of Maredsous for lunch, free time to explore the beautiful monastery and time to purchase their Maredsous beer. After the Abbey, visit to the Du Bocq Brewery, brewers of many fine beers that are only available in Europe. The final destination is the Brasserie De Fagnes, home of Super Des Fagnes beer. Price: € 50. Departs SHAPE at 7:45 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m.
- **Paris overnight, Feb 12-13.** Spend Valentines weekend exploring the city of romance. Stroll along the Seine, go window shopping down the Champs-Élysées, see the Mona Lisa, or sit in a café and people watch. Price: Single: €172, Double/Twin: €125 per person, Children: €100 (3-12)\*\*, Children: €70 (0-2)\*\*, \*\*When sharing a room with 2 adults. Departs SHAPE at 8 a.m. on Saturday and returns at 9 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Amsterdam, Feb. 19.** Visit the Van Gogh Museum, Anne Frank House, sip coffee at the world's best cafes or enjoy a day of leisure in this beautiful city. Amsterdam is a eclectic city famed for its beautiful canals and outrageous cafes. Price: €40. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and returns at 11 p.m.

Events & Happenings



## WINTER SAFETY

### WINTER SPORTS SAFETY

- Get in shape before the season starts.
- Obtain proper equipment.
- Wear a helmet.
- Take a lesson from a qualified instructor.
- Drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Curb alcohol consumption.
- Dress in layers (e.g. polypropylene underwear, turtleneck, sweater and jacket)
- Wear headband or hat and gloves or mittens.
- Wear sun protection even on cloudy days.
- Know your limits.
- Ski with a buddy.
- Follow the rules. Don't go off trail.



## Every Cookie Has a Mission: TO HELP GIRLS DO GREAT THINGS

Girls Scouts will be selling cookies:

Chièvres PX - Sat & Sun, Jan 15-16, 22-23, 29-30  
 GB on SHAPE - Mon-Fri, 4 to 6 p.m.  
 SHAPE Post office (U.S.) - Mon-Fri, 4 to 5 p.m.  
 Silver Spoon - Mon-Fri, noon to 2 p.m.  
 CYS Bldg. Mon-Fri, 3:30 to 5 p.m.  
 Cash Cage - Thu, 4 to 5 p.m.

**18 January**

- **ADHD Resource Group** - Living with ADHD is challenging but you don't have to do it alone. Join the ADHD Resource Group from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. Call DSN 423-7598 or civilian 065-44-7598 to register.
- **Allstar Weekend Concert** - Concert is at 7 p.m. at the Chièvres Recreation Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. Allstar Weekend is an American pop/rock band from Poway, California. The band gained its popularity from the Disney Channel television network. Open to all U.S., SHAPE (green) and NATO ID cardholders.
- **Play Morning** - sponsored by ACS New Parent Support Program. This program is offered from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the CYSS Teen Center, Bldg. 503, SHAPE. No pre-registration is required. Parents and their children (0-3 years) play together in a group setting. The program teaches parents developmentally appropriate play to help children improve their social, cognitive, and motor skills. Another benefit of Play Morning is the friendships that form among parents and children. No pre-registration is required. Open to all U.S., SHAPE and NATO ID cardholders. For more information, call ACS at DSN 423-4274 or civilian 065-44-4274.
- **Coffee Connection** - If you are new to the community or you are separated from your sponsor due to TDY or deployment, join us for a cup of coffee, friendly conversation, and find out more about living in Belgium from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Chièvres Army Lodge breakfast room. For more information, call ACS at 423-4332 or civilian 065-44-4332.

**19 January**

- **Federal Employment - USA Staffing Class** - Starting Jan. 18, BENELUX CPAC will be implementing the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) web-based USA Staffing system to fill all job vacancies. Internal and External applicants looking for employment with the Army must apply through USA jobs, not the Army Resume Builder. The federal employment class is from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. will cover how to find and apply for federal jobs, how to navigate through USAJOBS and tips on making your resume stand out. For more information or to sign up contact ACS at DSN 423-8333/5324 or civilian 065-44-8333/5324.
- **Infant Massage Class** - Meets at 11 a.m. in the SHAPE Healthcare Facility second floor conference room. Class is co-sponsored by WIC Overseas, ACS New parent Support Program, EDIS and the SHAPE Healthcare Facility. Learn technique that will help your baby sleep better, have an easier time feeding and help with digestion. Expectant mothers and mothers with newborns and up are welcome. mats and oils are provided. No pre-registration is required. Open to all U.S., NATO and SHAPE ID cardholders. Call ACS DSN 423-4274 or civilian 065-44-4274 for more information.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** - The English speaking SHAPE Alcoholics Anonymous Group meets on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Religious Support Center, Bldg. 353 (behind Bldg. 318 - AFN, ACS). For more information, contact DSN 423-2474 or civilian 065-44-2474.
- **Breastfeeding Support Group** meets from 10 to 11 a.m. at the SHAPE Healthcare Facility second floor conference room. All expectant mothers, breastfeeding or formerly breastfeeding mothers are invited to attend this monthly support group. Advantages of breastfeeding, adjusting to a newborn and overcoming difficulties are topics commonly discussed. An International Board Certified Lactation Consultant is available. This group is co-sponsored by WIC Overseas, ACS New Parent Support Program and the SHAPE Healthcare Facility. Call WIC Overseas for more information at 065-44-5971.
- **Preschool Story Time** - Help your preschooler get a head start on early reading skills. Meets from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome and registration is not required. For more information, call DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-44-5631.
- **Page Turners Book Discussion Group** meets at 5:30 p.m. The group will discuss A Quiet Girl by Peter Hoeg. Everyone is welcome and registration is not required. For more information, call DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-44-5631.

**20 January**

- **Understanding the Military Community** - These one-day concept blocks are designed to build strong minds, improve resiliency and enhance leadership skills. Meets from 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the ACS Training Room, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. *Pre-registration is required by the Monday before each concept block.* Call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324 to reserve your seat.
- **Climbing at Face Nord (by reservation)** - Join Outdoor Recreation staff on a trip to Face Nord, one of Belgium's best indoor climbing facilities and climb or bolder your way to fitness. Departing the Chievres Community Recreation Center at 6 p.m. and returning by 10 p.m. Transportation is \$5 Climbing Fee €8-15 (price varies with equipment needs) . Minimum four persons. Reservations must be made at least one week ahead.
- **The Illuminati: A Book Club for Preteens & Teens**, meets at 4:30 p.m. The group will discuss The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon. For more information, call DSN 423-5631 or civilian 065-44-5631.

**21 January**

- **Register now: Coping with Winter Blues** - Offered by the Military & Family Life Consultant from 11 a.m. to noon at ACS, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. Get some ideas to become more energized and deal more effectively with the winter time. Open to all U.S. ID cardholders. Call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** - The English speaking SHAPE Alcoholics Anonymous Group meets from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Religious Support Center, Bldg. 353 (behind Bldg. 318 - AFN, ACS). For more information, contact DSN 423-2474 or civilian 065-44-2474.

**22 January**

- **Family Fun Night** - at the Chièvres Community Recreation Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Activities include skating (\$5 admission, \$5 skate rental) and a bouncy castle as well as board and video games in the Patriot. The Patriot will be serving a spaghetti dinner at \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12 as well as fries, salad and drinks. Skaters under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Parents must supervise their children at all times. For more information, call DSN 361-6268 or civilian 068-27-6268.

**24 January**

- **Register now: Coping with Winter Blues** - Offered by the Military & Family Life Consultant from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Auditorium, Bldg. 30, Caserne Daumerie. Get some ideas to become more energized and deal more effectively with the winter time. Open to all U.S. ID cardholders. Call DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324.

**UPCOMING**

**29 January**

- **Asperger/Autism Support group Family Day** - If you or someone you know has been diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome or Autism, join us from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Chièvres Recreation Center on Chièvres Air Base, for food and fun and meet others dealing with similar issues. For more information, call DSN 423-7598 or civilian 065-44-7598.

**AT USAG BRUSSELS**

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

**18-21 January**

- **Newcomer's Orientation Week** - Receive a key agency brief, guided tours of Leuven Hospital, a local super market and learn basic customs and phrases in the local languages.

**19 January**

- **Ready, Set, Go** - A series of six hands-on workshops designed to prepare you to re-enter the workforce. Workshop is from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. To sign up, call DSN 368-9735 or civilian 02-717-9735.
- **Martin Luther King Celebration** at the 3 Star Lounge, starting at 6:30 p.m. for "Fish Fry", Guest Speaker and DJ.

**20 January**

- **Marriage Enrichment Night** sponsored by the Brussels Protestant Chapel in the Fellowship hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Child care and sandwiches provided at no cost. For information, call DSN 368-9677.

**22 January**

- **Texas Hold'em Tournament** at the 3 Star Lounge. Buy-ins start at 6:30 p.m., play begins at 7 p.m. Buy-in is \$20. Register by calling DSN 368-9819/9822 or civilian 02-717-9819/9822.

**24 January**

- **Metro Madness** - Learn how to navigate Brussels public Transportation System from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information or to sign up, call DSN 368-9729 or civilian 02-717-9729.

**UPCOMING**

- **Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)** is coming this February. AFAP is a program designed to solicit community issues of concern or suggestions on improving and effecting Military life locally in our Brussels Tri-Mission Community or the Army as a whole. We need issues and delegates to participate in the grass-roots program. Childcare and lunch is included for participants. For more information, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-717-9783.

**6 February**

- **Super Bowl Party** from 8 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. at the 3 Star Lounge. Wing Cook-off at 9 p.m. Sign up now at DSN 368-9819/9822 or civilian 02-717-9819/9822.

**SURVEY**

- **Brussels MWR Survey.** In order to serve you better, take a moment to fill out the MWR survey on hours and services at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6JQBH2S>.

**Construction on Sterrebeek Annex**

Construction on Sterrebeek Annex running parallel to the street and along the bus route has started Jan. 15 and will last approximately two weeks. Disruptions to parking and foot traffic will be minimal. Disruptions to bus traffic will also be minimal and will be monitored closely to ensure safety.