

THE GAZETTE

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

Mons Movie complex on fire
 The discotheque located within the Mons movie complex, caught fire early morning Sunday. The fire, believed to be of criminal origin, started after the discotheque had closed and rapidly spread. Called to the scene, the first three Mons firemen entered the building. Unfortunately, one of them was disoriented and unable to find his way back to the outside. The 39 year old fireman who lost his life in action had been a firefighter for over 15 years.

Chièvres Burger King
 The Chièvres Burger King is now open early Tuesday through 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 today. The Photo Studio, Graphics and Video Production is now fully operational.

Northern Law Center
 The USAG Brussels Northern Law Center will be closed Jan. 25. The Northern Law Center on SHAPE will be closed Jan. 25-27.

Table of Contents

News1-7
 Events & Happenings8-9
 Community Roundup 10-11

Allstar Weekend made the show



Sylvia Williams



Sylvia Williams



Sylvia Williams

The five band members of the Disney act Allstar Weekend entertained an international crowd at Chièvres Air Base Tuesday as part of a USO Armed Forces Entertainment Tour traveling through Europe. The roughly 250 visitors from the SHAPE/ Chièvres community enjoyed the band's first appearance in Belgium. After the concert the many teenage girls that attended the event had the opportunity to meet and greet the musicians and get autographs. Thanks to the help of the volunteers and the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, USAG Benelux, the DFMWR staff was able to make this event a significant one for many attendees.

Waiting Spouses: Don't Get Lost in Deployment

Special to the Gazette

We are living in times of rapid change and uncertainty given the current world situation. Help for spouses who are left behind is just a phone call away at the USAG Benelux Army Community Service (ACS) Relocation Assistance Program Manager's Office. The Relocation Assistance Program Manager will assist all waiting spouses with the transition process. She is also available at the Chièvres Army Lodge every Tuesday from 10:30 to 11:30 (Coffee Connection).

Being a waiting spouse can be challenging. There are several unexpected situations that may come to pass. Spouses may have several questions, such as: "How do I access the bank account?"; "How do I pay the utility bills?"; "How do I get transportation to the PX and Clinic?"; "Who will take the children to soccer practice?"; "What happens if I become ill and require hospitalization?"; "Who will care for the children in my absence?". All are real situations and have occurred while being a waiting spouse. Have no fear, for there is support to assist in a smooth transition throughout the entire process.

The ACS Relocation Assistance office stands ready to assist with a variety of programs and services. ACS can provide video teleconferencing for those who would like to see and talk to their deployed spouse. There are also various other services such as briefings, relocation literature, support groups, to name just a few.

Being a waiting spouse can also produce some astounding outcomes. During Desert Storm, a waiting spouse enrolled in college and eventually completed all requirements for her undergraduate degree. Another spouse became employed and eventually acquired career status as a federal employee. That spouse is now serving in a GS-12 position. Waiting spouse status can be viewed as a time for personal and professional assessment; it does not have to be a painful experience, but a positive learning experience. Let's make your experience a positive one by utilizing all available ACS services and programs during this time of your life as a waiting spouse.

The Relocation Assistance Program Manager can be reached at DSN 423-4332 or civilian 065-44-4332.

Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance Breakfast



Mr. James Beauchamp reads Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech to the audience at the Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance Breakfast on Caserne Daumerie Jan. 21. 39th Signal Battalion sponsored the event.



Sgt. Mahasin H. Muhammad (left) and Lt. Col. Rodney L. Lightfoot (right) from 39th Signal Battalion applaud Mr. Beauchamp to his performance of the famous "I Have a Dream" speech of civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. King held the speech originally at the 1963 March on Washington where he expanded American values to include the vision of a color blind society, and established his reputation as one of the greatest orators in American history.

THE GAZETTE

To subscribe, email dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil

Col. Rick Tillotson
USAG Benelux
Commander

Editor
Cis Spook

Marie-Lise Baneton
USAG Benelux
Public Affairs Officer

Staff Writers
Sylvia Williams

The Gazette is an unofficial publication published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of *The Gazette* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army or the USAG Benelux. *The Gazette* is a free weekly publication distributed via email every Monday. The editorial content of this publication is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Chièvres Garrison and USAG Brussels Public Affairs Offices. It is published by the Public Affairs Office, Chièvres Garrison, Unit 21419, APO AE 09708. Telephone (0032) 068-27-5419/DSN 361-5419; fax DSN 361-5106. Everything advertised in this publication will be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher will refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army. Submit content or story ideas to dlima-e-beneluxpao@eur.army.mil by Thursday at 3 p.m.

Brussels named best for quality of life

By Marie-Lise Baneton
USAG Benelux Public Affairs

The Installation Management Command-Europe named U.S. Army Garrison Brussels best for Superior Quality of Life (small unit category) in the Secretary of the Army 2010 Quality of Life Awards Competition Jan. 11.

“The Quality of Life awards recognize garrisons that have taken extraordinary initiatives to improve the quality of life of Soldiers, civilian employees and their Families and give garrisons the opportunity to share their successes and best practices with other Army organizations,” said David West, IMCOM-E Operations Division upon announcement of the nominations.

The award recognizes the Brussels garrison for its comprehensive Summer Hire Program initiative which includes training for supervisors of summer hires, a physical fitness component and professional development sessions for the young workforce.

“It’s always great receiving an award of this significance, especially one that recognizes best practices that improve Soldier, civilian and Family quality of life, said deputy to the garrison commander Vince Crepeau. “Our vision is to make the Brussels community the best place to work and serve,” he added.

Paula Emmert has been the school liaison officer at the garrison for two years. She knew from the beginning that she would have to play a role in the program. A college professor by trade, Emmert loves the program and decided to bring in elements that did not exist before.

“As the school liaison, I work at the garrison on behalf of the school but my contact with the kids is limited,” she said. “This is like the six weeks when I get the kids and I really try to help them take what they learned in school and apply it in a work environment,” she continued.

Emmert’s goal was to give the 32 high school and college students who were working at the garrison in the summer 2010 a meaningful program because the garrison is the only opportunity they have for employment and is their first example of civil service and of the United States Army. “It’s really our chance to make an impression,” she said.



Marie-Lise Baneton

Paula Emmert, the USAG Brussels school liaison officer, reminisces her times managing the 2010 summer hire program as she reads the friendly notes her young protégés still write on her office board on a regular basis.

Although the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) places the young workers, Emmert was able to work with them to get placements that were appropriate for their skills and backgrounds.

The process started by developing a comprehensive supervisor training to help supervisors identify what their own positions were about so that they could meaningfully direct the summer hires on tasks and objectives. “It’s challenging for supervisors because it’s very different just getting the job done and having to explain how to do tasks,” Emmert explained.

Physical fitness and professional development were two other components of the summer employment program. The summer hires had options between working out every day in the morning for an hour, and doing yoga.

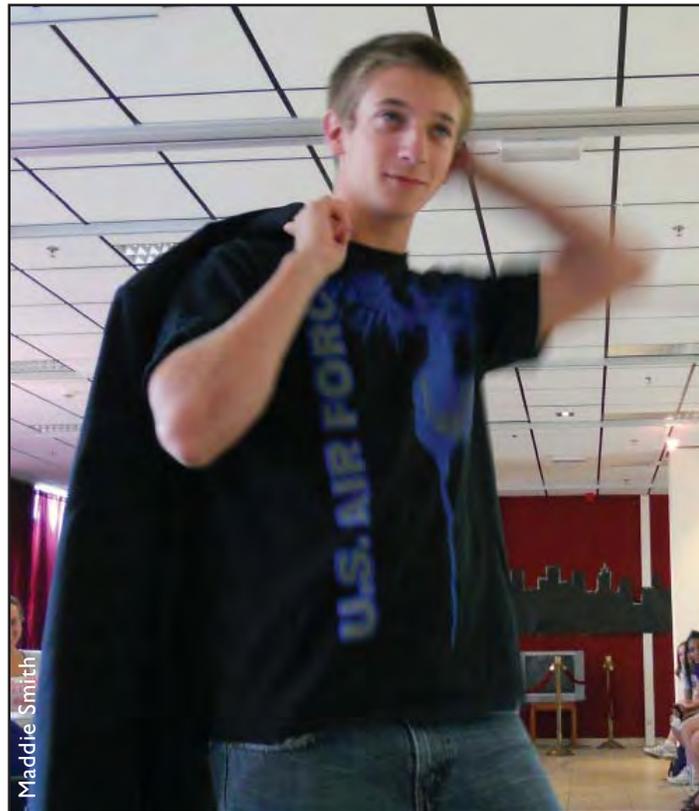
Every Friday afternoon, the summer hires were getting together for professional development. “This was about the students really looking at what they want to do, sort of a character assessment of what career goals they might have,” Emmert said. The activities were supplemented with resume writing and interview techniques. The youths were also introduced to examples of careers and virtual role models. Based on the lessons learned, they had to create a virtual role model on their position for better understanding of their role in the garrison.

Continued on next page

Brussels named best for quality of life | CONTINUED

Emmert's intent was to keep the young staff busy. "I didn't want a single summer hire coming to my office and telling me that they were bored or they didn't have anything to do," she said. "I had the idea that what we could do is have garrison wide projects so if you don't have anything to do in your individual office, come see me," she continued.

The summer hires had a whole list of projects that they could work on together, going from a fashion show, to a



Tim Barry, a senior at Brussels American School, was one of several students who acted as models during the "Dress for Success" fashion Show at USAG Brussels.

newsletter, or the 4th of July celebration. "It was incredibly effective because the summer hires sort of gathered to get the project done," Emmert explained. "One of the fun things that they did was this fashion show about mid-way through. They did it from start to finish: they found the people to work it; they decided who was going to do the script; they researched what clothing they should or should not wear; they found the clothing. It was really a wonderful example of collaboration," she commented.

Feedback was of the essence through the six weeks of employment. At midpoint and at the end of the program, supervisors had to evaluate their young employees who, in turn, had to evaluate themselves and had mid- and end town halls with the commander. "I also do a very detailed three page evaluation. To me, that's not just summer hire accountability, that is also making sure that the supervi-



Brussels American School senior Jordan Howell (center) was one of the students who participated in the "Dress for Success" fashion show at USAG Brussels July 9.

sors are doing their part," Emmert said.

The program ended with an award ceremony and a slide show during which the summer hires presented their work at the garrison and how that played in the wider goal. "I think it's hard to see not only what the individual job is that you're doing but also the impact on the organization. So I kept coming back to the comprehensive idea of employment and contribution to the organization," Emmert explained.

The youngsters were always giving Emmert feedback as well. "I can be very fun but I'm also very strict and they'll tell me, when they write on my board," she commented.

According to Emmert, the award gives her feedback that the garrison has gone beyond what is normally done, pushing the limits to look at the youths and what they need to experience. "The collaborative element is critical," she said. "It's about knowing that the kids need to have a healthy work environment, that they need to establish customer service and communication and figure out ways to collaborate and making them understand that there's accountability for their actions and for their work. If you give them that responsibility and you believe in them, they can do so much! They had full control over it and they rocked!" she said. "This award is about these great hard working kids."

Emmert and her family will be leaving Belgium before the next session starts but she will get the program completely organized so her colleagues can provide continuity. "I actually have a supervisory packet that I give out in a folder that has calendars, schedules and very clear instructions on the work out policy and on professional development," she said.

The Brussels garrison will compete against other U.S. Army garrisons worldwide at Installation Management Command in San Antonio, Texas. Winners in that competition will be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary of the Army.

What's new for 2010 taxes - Part II

Special to the Gazette

The below is a continuation of the changes for 2010 taxes that were published in last week's Gazette.

You may benefit from filing form 1040A or 1040 for 2010.

Due to the following tax law changes for 2010, you may benefit from filing Form 1040A or 1040, even if you normally file Form 1040EZ:

Earned income credit (EIC). You may be able to take the EIC if:

- You earned less than \$13,460 (\$18,470 if married filing jointly)
- Three or more children lived with you and you earned less than \$43,352 (\$48,362 if married filing jointly),
- Two children lived with you and you earned less than \$40,363 (\$45,373 if married filing jointly), or
- One child lived with you and you earned less than \$35,535 (\$40,545 if married filing jointly).

The maximum adjusted gross income (AGI) you can have and still get the credit also has increased. You may be able to take the credit if your AGI is less than the amount in the above list that applies to you. The maximum investment income you can have and still get the credit is still \$3,100.

First-time home buyer credit. You generally cannot claim the credit for a home you bought after April 30, 2010. However, you may be able to claim the credit if you entered into a written binding contract before May 1, 2010, to buy the home before July 1, 2010, and actually bought the home before October 1, 2010. Also, certain members of the Armed Forces and certain other taxpayers have additional time to buy a home and take the credit.

Adoption credit. The maximum adoption credit has increased to \$13,170. The credit is now refundable and is claimed on Form 1040

Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA)

IRA deduction expanded. You may be able to take an IRA deduction if you were covered by a retirement plan and your 2010 modified AGI is less than \$66,000 (\$109,000 if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er.)) If your spouse was covered by a retirement plan, but you were not, you may be able to take an IRA deduction if your 2010 modified AGI is less than \$177,000.

More people qualify for Roth IRA conversions. Income limits no longer apply to rollovers or conversions to Roth IRAs from other retirement plans. In the past, only taxpayers with modified adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less were eligible, and a married person filing a separate return who lived with his or her spouse at any time during the year was barred from Roth IRA rollovers or conversions, regardless of income.

For 2010 rollovers and conversions only, half of the resulting income must be included in income in tax year 2011 and the other half in 2012, unless the taxpayer chooses to include all of it in income in 2010. In all situations, taxpayers must report any 2010 conversion on Form 8606 for tax year 2010. These rules do not apply to rollovers from another Roth IRA

or from a designated Roth account.

Alternative minimum tax (AMT) exemption amount increased.

The AMT exemption amount has increased to \$47,450 (\$72,450 if married filing jointly or a qualified widow(er); \$36,225 if married filing separately.)

Repayment of first-time homebuyer credit. If you claimed the first-time homebuyer credit for a home you bought in 2008, you generally must begin repaying it on your 2010 return. In addition, you generally must repay any credit you claimed for 2008 or 2009 if you sold your home in 2010 or the home stopped being your main home in 2010.

Special rule for uniformed or foreign servicemembers, Peace Corps employees and volunteers, and employees of the intelligence community.

If you or your spouse is an employee, enrolled volunteer, or volunteer leader of the Peace Corps and you sell your main home, you may be able to exclude the gain from income even if you did not live in it for 2 years during the 5-year period ending on the date of sale. Generally, you can elect to have the 5-year test period for ownership and use suspended for up to 10 years during any period you or your spouse serve outside the United States (on qualified official extended duty if an employee). Similar benefits apply to members of the Uniformed Services, Foreign Service, or employees of the intelligence community.

Special limitation period for retroactively excluding military retirement pay. If you retire from the armed services based on years of service and are later given a retroactive service-connected disability rating by the VA, your retirement pay for the retroactive period is excluded from income up to the amount of VA disability benefits you would have been entitled to receive.

Do the name and Social Security number on Your tax forms agree with your Social Security card?

If not, your exemption(s) and any making work pay credit and earned income credit may be disallowed, your refund may be delayed, and you may not receive credit for your social security earnings. If your Form W-2 shows an incorrect name or SSN, notify your employer or the form-issuing agent as soon as possible to make sure your earnings are credited to your social security record. If the name or SSN on your social security card is incorrect, call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

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.

Upcoming AE-ITT classes

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



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

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.

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

This working group will be 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/>.

III BELGIAN NEWS III

By Cis Spook

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Brussels concert hall

The Brussels concert hall Ancienne Belgique has been given third place in the top 100 concert venues published by the U.S. based global concert industry magazine Pollstar. The top 100 is based on the number of tickets sold by each venue, and add that with 233,450 paying visitors and over 300,000 music-loving visitors in total, the relatively small concert venue Ancienne Belgique preceded prestigious venues such as Wembley Arena or Madison Square Garden, and this mostly thanks to the sheer number of concerts organized at the AB, which is the only European venue in the top ten.

Most of the top venues are in the United States. Numbers one and two are in New York – Terminal 5 – and Washington DC – the 9:30 Club – respectively.

Population

Recent figures show that at the end of 2010, 10,984,468 people were living in Belgium. The figure is 94,000 up on the previous year. It includes all the Belgians in the population register as well as all foreigners and asylum seekers who are registered here.

The municipalities with the youngest population are all located in the Brussels Region. In Sint-Joost-ten-Node the average age is 33. In Schaerbeek and Sint-Jans-Molenbeek it's 34. The municipalities with the oldest population are all seaside resorts where the average age is 50. With 497,687 inhabitants, the northern port city of Antwerp is the most populous city. The figure is up 8,000 on the previous year. Herstappe is the city with smallest number of residents: 85 people.

Belgian citizenship

Belgium is to introduce stricter conditions on foreigners

III BELGIAN NEWS III

wanting to acquire the Belgian citizenship. The parliamentary commission that deals with naturalizations adopted proposals that will make it harder for foreigners to become Belgians. Foreigners hoping to obtain a Belgian ID card will have to show that they speak at least one of the country's official languages. They will also have to show that they are prepared to learn the language of the region where they are living and are integrated in their local neighborhood. People with a judicial record will no longer qualify.

Regions to apply highway tolls as of 2013

The three Belgian regions (Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels) have come to an agreement to tax cars and trucks using its motorways as of 2013. The plan had been under discussion for years but until now no agreement could be found on how to split revenues between Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels. Trucks will be paying according to the number of kilometers driven on Belgian highways whereas cars will have to be equipped with an electronic sticker set for a determined period of time. France, Spain and Italy already have a toll system in place for their highways. Switzerland and Austria require the advance purchase of a tax sticker and Germany applies tolls on trucks only. England or Scotland's highways are still toll-free although certain bridges and cities imposed "congestion charges".

Belgium exports water for gas

The Belgian gas distributor Fluxis is to supply the Arab emirate of Qatar with drinking water in exchange of gas. Like other Gulf States, Qatar suffers from severe shortages of drinking water and the rich emirate is very interested in the plans to exchange it for gas.

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/>>.

Medieval Dinner

The SHAPE High School is hosting a medieval dinner with jesters, mummers, minstrels, troubadours, strolling players, jugglers and much more Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the Officers' Club. Cost is €25 per person for a four course dinner. Reserve now at DSN 423-5663/5779 or 5783.

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 by Feb. 18.

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.

27-30 January

- **Light Festival in Gent** – This festival leads you through the historic Gent on a 5 km route. On various locations along the route, a total of 20 internationally known artists will show their work related to light. Route is available on the three days from 6 p.m. to midnight. The route is free and the meeting point is at the Korenmarkt at St. Nicholas Church, where you can pick up a map and information about the artists and their lighting artworks.

29 January

- **“Hybris” quintet concert in Tertre.** Concert by five professional accordionists performing a wide range of music at La Chapelle on Rue Olivier Lhoir, 8 at 8 p.m. Entrance fee is €7.

29-30 January

- **Oldtimers Fair in Brugge** at the Beurshalle on Hauwersstraat from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- **Flea market in Neufmaison (Saint Ghislain)** at the Hall Manous on the square from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 6, 12, 20, 30 or 50 km in Mons.** Departure is from Waux Hall on Avenue Reine Astrid, 22 from 7 to 9 a.m. for the 50 km route and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for all other routes.
- **Flanders Biggest Flea Market in Wieze** (North West from Brussels), at the Oktoberhallen on Schroverstraat 18 (220 booths). Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both days. Entrance fee is €2.



30 January

- **Brussels Philharmonic Orchestrae in Mons.** Concert is at 4 p.m. at the Royal Theater. Entrance fee is €15. For information, call 065-395939.
- **Flea Market (indoors) in Watermael-Boitsfort** (150 booths) from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Avenue des Hannetons, 58.
- **Flea Market in Hornu** on Rue de Mons (covered parking lot of Cora) from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 5, 10 or 20 km in Casteau.** Departure is from the school IMP Saint Alfred on Chaussée de Bruxelles 184 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **“To the Ones I Love” contemporary dance show in Tournai** by nine dancers on Bach music. Show is at 8 p.m. at the Cultural Center on Boulevard des Frères Rimbaut, 2. Entrance fee is €18.



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.

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 or phone at 0477-463730. For more information, visit www.desertstorm1991.com.

SHAPE Trips & Tours

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

- **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.
- **London, Feb. 26.** A day of free time in the city of endless attractions: Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, Museums, and the West End theatre district. Price: €65. Departs SHAPE at 6 a.m. and returns at 1 a.m. (Sunday).

Events & Happenings



WINTER SAFETY

TRAVEL & ROAD SAFETY

ICE & SNOW
TAKE IT SLOW

- Check weather, listen to forecasts.
- Winterize your car.
- Plan trip ahead and tell friends where you're going and time of arrival.
- Visibility - see and be seen (lights, fog lights, reflective items for pedestrians).
- Use public transportation.
- Reduce speed on icy roads.
- No alcohol.
- Use seatbelts for all occupants.
- Maintain following distances.
- Black ice - dangerous because you can't see it (on bridges, overpasses, underpasses, shaded areas).
- Always take food, water and blankets.
- Have plenty of fuel.
- Know what your breaks will do: Firmly press antilock breaks, pump non-antilock breaks.



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

Girls Scouts will be selling cookies:

- Chièvres PX - Sat & Sun, Jan 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.

24 January

- **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.

25 January

- **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.

26 January

- **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.
- **Infant Massage Class** - Meets every Wednesday 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 techniques 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.

26-28 January

- **Facilitator Training Course (FTC)** - This three day course is held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the ACS Conference room, Bldg. 318 on SHAPE. The course will expand the presentation and group interaction skills learned in the Instructor Training Course and will teach how to apply these skills to a facilitation setting. FTC is a required course to be a facilitator for the USAG Benelux AFAP Symposium Feb. 10. Additionally, if you have an interest in applying for ACS Master Trainer, you will need to have completed all three training courses (Instructor, Briefer and Facilitator). Pre-registration is required at DSN 423-7598 or civilian 065-44-7598.

27 January

- **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.

28 January

- **Welcome Everyone to Belgium** is offered by the ACS Relocation Program. Learn how to take the train. Field trip to Brussels including a visit of a warehouse and to the Grand'Place. Meet at Bldg. 318 on SHAPE. Class is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Open to all U.S. ID cardholders. Call ACS to register at DSN 423-4332 or civilian 065-44-4332.
- **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.

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.

31 January

- **Building Resiliency in Adults and Children** - Offered by the Military & Family Life Consultant (MFLC). Learn how to rise above challenges and soar. Call ACS at DSN 423-5324 or civilian 065-44-5324 to pre-register.

UPCOMING

- **Relationship and Intimacy Skills Workshop** - is offered in two sessions, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. or Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the "upper room" conference facility, Bldg. 13, Caserne Daumerie Chapel. Learn and explore partner communication skills, relationship needs, intimacy and romance, relationship conflicts skills. Call ACS at DSN 423-5263 or civilian 065-44-5263 to register.

AT USAG BRUSSELS

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

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.
- **Brussels MWR is on Face Book.** 'Like' Brussels MWR and receive up-to-date information on what's happening.

UPCOMING

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 02-7179819/9822.

17 February

- **ACS Open House** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the ACS facility, Bldg. 4. The event is open to all community members but those interested to join as a partner agency will have an opportunity to present information in respect to their services. In addition to meeting the team and learning about ACS, visitors will also be offered a free light lunch. For information, call ACS at DSN 368-9721 or civilian 02-717-9721.

24 February

- **Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)** - The AFAP Working Group will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the 3Star Recreation Building, USAG Brussels. AFAP provides Soldiers, Civilians, and Retirees and their Family Members the opportunity to raise issues or concerns regarding quality of life for leaderships' information and action. All members of the USAG Brussels Tri-Community, regardless of Military branch, are encouraged to participate and share their perspective. We need service members, civilians, retirees and family members to create a realistic cross section of the community. For more information, stop by ACS, Bldg. 4, second floor or call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-717-9783.

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>.

FITNESS CLASSES

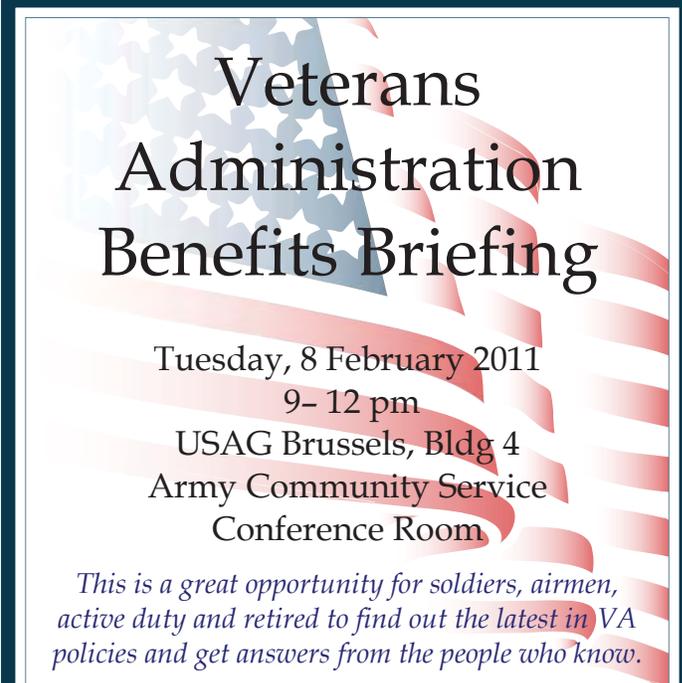
All classes are held at the USAG Brussels Fitness Center in Bldg. 3 and are free of charge. For more information, call 02-717-9667.

- **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.
- **B.W. Body Shop** - Every Mon, Wed, Fri from 1 to 2 p.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.

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.

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.



Veterans Administration Benefits Briefing

Tuesday, 8 February 2011
9- 12 pm
USAG Brussels, Bldg 4
Army Community Service Conference Room

This is a great opportunity for soldiers, airmen, active duty and retired to find out the latest in VA policies and get answers from the people who know.

To register or for more information, please contact
Army Community Service at:
DSN 386-9783 COMM 32 02 717 9783
Point of Contact is Valerie Woods
EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM MANAGER
DSN 368-9735 COMM 32 02 717-9735



