

# THE GAZETTE

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

## Benelux news briefs

### Summer Hire Program

Interested in becoming a summer hire? Check the USAJobs announcement #EUJU17SummerHire9934 at the following link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/468922100>. Closing date is May 12.

### Job Opening AFCU

Andrews Federal Credit Union has a job opening at the Brussels location. Please apply online at [www.andrewsfcu.org](http://www.andrewsfcu.org).

### Job Opening AAFES

AAFES has various openings available. Anyone interested in applying can call DSN 361-5337.

### Newcomer's Potluck

The Chièvres community is invited to come out, bring some "finger food," and welcome our newcomers to Benelux May 16 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Chièvres Lodge.

### Clothes Drive

The local Junior Girl Scouts host a clothing drive throughout the month of May to earn their Bronze Award. Donation boxes are located at NATO, USAG lobby, CYS at the USAG, CYS at the Annex, the SHAPE Healthcare Facility, and the Brussels American School. All donations go to a local orphanage. Clothes must be washed if not clean.

## Table of Contents

News.....	1-6
Inside the gate.....	7-8
Outside the gate.....	9



## Community remembers Victory in Europe Day

Bruno Lefèbvre, Mayor of Chièvres and Member of the Walloon Parliament, pays respect after laying a wreath at the Chièvres monument honoring the war victims, Monday, May 8, 2017. Maj. Timothy Hogan represented USAG Benelux at the commemoration in Chièvres. (U.S. Army photo by Cis Spook)

More on page 2





Colonel Kurt Connell, USAG Benelux Commander, stands next to André Desmarlières (to his left), Mayor of Brugelette, and Edmond Cordier (to his right) and salutes during the V-E Day commemoration held at Brugelette, Monday, May 8, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

## V-E Day I Continued

Victory in Europe Day or V-E Day commemorates the day the Germans officially surrendered, May 8, 1945, making an end to the European phase of World War II.

Failure to defeat the Soviets and the entry of the United States into World War II, forced the Nazis to become defensive and they soon suffered a series of escalating defeats. As a result, Adolf Hitler committed suicide, April 30, 1945 to avoid being captured by the Red Army.

A couple of days later, his successor signed the German's surrender.

Most of the Belgian cities commemorated V-E Day with a ceremony at the war monument. USAG Benelux participated in the ceremonies held in the garrison's neighboring cities of Brugelette and Chièvres.



Maj. Timothy Hogan, USAG Benelux Command Operations Officer salutes next to Bruno Lefebvre, Mayor of Chièvres and member of the Walloon parliament, during the ceremony in Chièvres, Monday, May 8, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Cis Spook)

## Liberation Day in the Netherlands



Ten Soldiers from USAG Benelux, Staff Sgt. David Tovar, Spec. Carl Brown III, Staff Sgt. David Ontiveros, Sgt. Bradley McQueen, Sgt. Courtney Walford, Spec. Manuel Northy, Master Sgt. Shauna Richardson, Staff Sgt. Matthew Severino, Staff Sgt. Reginald Ross and First Sgt. Delonica Boyce, form the delegation of U.S. Soldiers at the annual Liberation Day Concert in Amsterdam on the Amstel River, May 5, 2017..

The Soldiers took part in a tribute to the Allies which included Belgian, British, Canadian, Dutch, French, Norwegian, Polish and American Soldiers. King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands shook hands with all the Soldiers to thank them for their country's participation in the liberation of the country. (Courtesy Photo).

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

**Commander**.....Col. Kurt Connell

**Public Affairs Officer**..... Marie-Lise Baneton

**Editor**.....Kristin Ellis

**Staff Writers**.....Cis Spook  
Rita Hoefnagels  
Christophe Morel

*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 Thursday, except when that day is an American, Belgian or Dutch Holiday, then *The Gazette* is published on Wednesday. The editorial content of this publication is prepared, edited, provided, approved and published by the USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office, Unit 21419, APO AE 09708. Telephone (0032) 068-275419/DSN 361-5419. 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 [usarmy.benelux.id-europe.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.id-europe.list.pao@mail.mil) by Monday at 3 p.m.

# Ribbon cut on second prepositioned equipment site

By Sgt. 1st Class Jacob A. McDonald

21st Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

U.S. and German leaders cut the ribbon in Dülmen May 10 on the second of three Army Prepositioned Stock sites set to open this year.

The APS site in Dülmen will house the equipment an artillery brigade would use in the event of a conflict in Europe. Other sites are set to open and become fully stocked over the next three years. Once fully capable, APS will provide combat equipment, such as modernized Abrams battle tanks, Paladin artillery and Bradley fighting vehicles for deploying U.S. Army personnel in Europe.

"We say speed matters, because we have to have a timely response," said Maj. Gen. Duane A. Gamble, commanding general, 21st Theater Sustainment Command. "We fear that if we don't have a timely response we won't be able to deter to prevent a war. It's about preventing war.

"Having equipment prepositioned in Europe helps us respond faster in a deterrent way, and a preventative way," Gamble said. "These facilities, because it is war reserves, we don't intend to use them, we hope never to use them, and so we need facilities such as this that give us good storage out of the weather so the equipment stays healthy."

The installation in the town of 46,000 people was used by British forces until 2014 and was assumed by the U.S. Army in the past year.

The opening of the site is part of the NATO switch



*Dulmen City Mayor Lisa Stremlau and Maj. Gen. Duane A. Gamble, commanding general, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, cut the ribbon to officially open the Army Prepositioned Stock Site -- 2, at Dulmen Army Depot, Dulmen, Germany, May 10. The site will house a brigade's worth of vehicles and equipment as a part of NATO deterrence operations. (Photo Credit: Sgt. 1st Class Jacob A. McDonald)*

from assurance operations, where allies work together to build trust and strengthen the alliance, to deterrence operations.

"We cannot ignore that we live in a world increasingly affected by wars, violence, and terror, which also raises anxiety and insecurity in Europe," said Dülmen Mayor Lisa Stremlau. "I think it's of great importance these days that there is a strong Europe and that the Western allies can rely on each other. The democratic forces must show unity and take a stand for their values and global peace. You can see and feel this in Dülmen today, because the

takeover of the depot through U.S. Army Europe is part of a greater NATO initiative."

During the past year, in preparation for the opening, employees started working at the new site and the first vehicles and equipment were delivered.

The mayor and Gamble indicated that they hope to continue to build on the relationship between the local community and the U.S. Army.

"I personally and we as the United States Army, have a deep and sincere appreciation and gratitude for our host nation Germany, which is where we draw our strength," Gamble said. "It's our center

of gravity in Europe. The U.S. Army could not support the NATO alliance without the support of Germany.

"It's been that way for decades. We know we will have that same type of relationship with the local community here with the citizens of Dülmen. We won't be able to do our mission without the support of the local community and the support of the citizens of Dülmen. We look forward to a trusting and fruitful partnership in the future."

**Check out the 21st TSC's video on the ribbon-cutting ceremony at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w53kaiXNiWg>.**



# Sexual assaults in military drop, reporting goes up

By Terri Moon Cronk

Defense Media Activity

The past-year prevalence of sexual assault in the military reached a new low in fiscal year 2016, and reporting of such crimes is on the upswing from previous years, Defense Department officials said Monday.

The Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military for fiscal year 2016 shows that 4.3 percent of women and 0.6 percent of men said they experienced a sexual assault in the year prior to the force-wide survey. Those numbers are down compared to the fiscal year 2014 figures of 4.9 percent of women and 0.9 percent of men, officials said.

The report shows that, in addition to the drop in the estimated total number of incidents via the survey, the portion of those incidents that is reported to DOD authorities has risen. As many as one in three service members reported the incidents in fiscal 2016, compared to one in 14 people 10 years ago, they added.

The fiscal 2016 report shows about 14,900 service members indicated they experienced a sexual assault last year, which is 5,400 fewer than the 20,300 victims estimated in 2014.

"We're encouraged that there was less of this horrible crime in 2016. However, there are still too many people experiencing a sexual assault," said Navy Rear Adm. Ann Burkhardt, the director



of DOD's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office. "We will continue to provide first-class support to those who have been victimized and further evolve our prevention efforts to stop the crime before it occurs."

## Resounding Message

"Our people have heard the message from their senior leadership that this crime has no place in our military," SAPRO Deputy Director Nate Galbreath said of the uptick in victim reporting. "We believed 10 years ago that, if we built services that gave people confidence, they would be supported, [and] more people would report."

And more men are reporting sexual assault crimes because of strides DOD has made through awareness, he noted.

"Leadership at all levels of the department have been making an effort to let men know we want to hear from them," Galbreath said. "In

the military, sexual assault is something experienced equally by men and women -- there are just as many men as women who experience sexual assault. ... Real warriors ask for help when they need it."

While force-wide surveys in DOD are voluntary, more than 735,000 active-duty service members were invited to take the fiscal 2016 survey, and 24 percent of those invited replied, Galbreath noted.

"That kind of response gives us a lot of precision and confidence in our results," he said. "Our surveys are designed so that the results represent the entire force. This is how we know that about 14,900 active duty men and women experienced a sexual assault in 2016 -- down from some 20,300 in 2014, and way down from about 34,000 in 2006 when we first started."

## DoD Supports Victims

Service members who made a sexual assault report and participated in the military

justice system said in the Military Investigation and Justice Experience Survey that they received solid support, the deputy director said.

"We are very lucky to hear from a small, but important, group of military members who take our [survey]," he added. "They've told us that they get great support from our special victims' counsel -- their lawyers -- as well as from their victim advocates and sexual assault response coordinators."

"Three-quarters of these service members who've been through the justice process would recommend that other service members make a report," he continued. "If anyone is wondering whether they should come forward, I hope they take this advice."

Prevention is the key to further reducing the occurrence of sexual assault and increase reporting, Galbreath said.

"If we expect prevalence rates of sexual assault to decrease in the future, we will need to get after the prevention of co-occurring misconduct like sexual harassment, hazing and alcohol misuse," he said. "We have plans in the works to collaborate with our counterpart organizations across the DOD to press forward together."

DOD's Safe Helpline is anonymous and offers support for sexual assault survivors in the military at [safehelpline.org](http://safehelpline.org) or by phone at 877-995-5247.



## KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

The Official Website of the American Forces Network Benelux

Listen to AFN: Brussels : 101.7 FM | Chièvres : 107.9 FM  
SHAPE : 106.5 | Tri-Border community : 99.7 and 96.9 FM

# Measles vaccinations recommended for 6-12 month olds

By RHCE Public Affairs

Regional Health Command Europe officials are recommending that 6-12 month old children should be immunized with the Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine, as a result of an ongoing measles outbreak in several European countries.

This dose is in addition to the two doses children normally receive, starting after their first birthday. The vaccine will now be a part of the routine 6-month-old visit with their pediatrician, and is encouraged for all children aged 6-12 months, especially those in day care.

Measles is an extremely contagious virus, with essentially 100 percent of exposed susceptible individuals becoming infected. The virus can linger in the air of a room or transportation vehicle for up to two hours, according to COL (Dr.) Rodney Coldren, the Chief of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance for

Public Health Command Europe.

"However, the MMR vaccine is a very safe and effective means to prevent this disease," said Coldren. "The vast majority of Americans are already immunized against measles, having received at least two

doses of the MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) vaccine in early childhood."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a travel alert for Belgium, Italy and Germany April 17, recommending that all travelers in that age group receive the vaccine. This dose does not replace either of the two doses required after 12 months of age for long-term immunity.

Adults and children not vaccinated for measles could be at risk for contracting the illness due to the outbreak. The most seriously affected countries are Italy and Romania. However, France,

Germany, Poland, Switzerland, Ukraine are seeing a significant number of cases and Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Iceland, Hungary, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden have experienced a few cases.

"Measles has been largely eliminated in the United States, with the exception of small, localized outbreaks, so the MMR vaccine isn't normally administered until 12 months of age," said Coldren. "However, this leaves infants 6-12 months old at risk in areas where the virus is present, because the immunity that was passed on to them from their mothers is generally not effective beyond six months."

Measles can be a very serious, even fatal, illness and is especially severe in babies and elderly persons, according to Coldren.

For more information on protecting your infant with an early dose of measles vaccine, or assistance reviewing family members' immunization status, please contact your Primary Care team.



## Army Emergency Relief campaign runs through May 15

Army Emergency Relief (AER) program provides interest-free loans, grants and scholarships to promote readiness and relieve financial distress of Soldiers and their Families. Army Emergency Relief helps with emergency financial needs for such items as food, rent, utilities, transportation, plane fare, vehicle repair, vehicle replacement, furniture and medical and funeral expenses without placing a cap on assistance. A new category allows assistance to be given toward minor home repairs.

The yearly AER campaign has an educational mission to let Soldiers in a financial emergency know they can get help from AER but also encour-



ages those who can to donate to help fellow Soldiers getting through some financial hardships.

Donations are essential to the continuing success of AER. Although the campaign runs through May 15, donations are welcome throughout the year. Over 8% of the active duty force received assistance during 2016.

Since its inception 1942, AER has assisted more than 3.7 million Soldiers and family members with over \$1.7 billion, according to the most current AER annual report.

In 2015 AER provided \$71 million in assistance to more than 47,000 Soldiers and their Families, according to the AER website.

For additional information, contact your local AER representative at DSN 366-6804 on SHAPE, DSN 368-9735 in Brussels and DSN 360-7450 in Schinnen.

## Local Interagency Coordinating Council

The Educational and Developmental Intervention Services is building a Local Interagency Coordinating Council made up of family members who have children with special needs and of representatives from education, community health, and other organizations that provide services to infants and toddlers.

Based on the belief that families and agencies know their community best, EDIS is in the process of designing the LICC for the role of developing their community's early intervention system.

The intent is to eliminate fragmentation and duplication of services, allow for more effective utilization of personnel and resources, and ensure the provision of a full array of services with the community.

The council meets June 8 at 9:30 a.m. at the SHAPE Rendezvous. Those interested can call the EDIS program manager at (0)65-325326 or DSN 566-5305.

# Mattis Meets With Lithuanian President, Baltic Defense Ministers

By Cheryl Pellerin

Defense Media Activity

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis reassured U.S. allies in the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia of American solidarity with them and of U.S. determination to defend Baltic and other NATO territory against any aggression.

During his visit to Vilnius, Lithuania May 9, Mattis met in the morning with Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė and in the afternoon with Estonian Defense Minister Margus Tsahkna, Latvian Defense Minister Raimonds Bergmanis and Lithuanian Defense Minister Raimundus Karobolis.

The secretary held news conferences after each meeting.

"United by our transatlantic bond, I believe that you who have withstood oppression can most keenly savor freedom, never taking it for granted or looking away when it is threatened," Mattis said during a joint news conference with Grybauskaitė.

"Even in the face of a neighbor next door shredding trust," he added, referring to nearby Russia, "Lithuania has nonetheless contributed to the NATO-led mission far away in Afghanistan and has continued to provide capable trainers" in Iraq for the mission to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

## Common Cause

Mattis said he believes that 2014 was a watershed year in Europe, when the Baltic states and the NATO alliance faced dangers from terrorism, aggression, cyberattacks and more.

"Have no doubt we stand with you, united in a common cause," the secretary said, adding that the U.S. commitment to the security guarantee of NATO's Article 5 remains ironclad. Article 5 of the Washington Treaty that established NATO says an attack on one ally is considered as an attack on all.

Mattis commended Lithuania for its commitment to raise defense spending above 2 percent of gross domestic product by next year.

"Your recognition of the threat and of our treaty obligation under NATO Article 3, to maintain our individual



Defense Secretary Jim Mattis arrives in Vilnius, Lithuania, May 9, 2017. Mattis is on a three-country trip to meet with U.S. partners and reaffirm key military alliances. (DoD photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Jette Carr)

and collective capacity to resist armed attack, heartens the American people, and you rightly stand as an example for all NATO allies," the secretary said.

Americans join the United Kingdom, Germany and Canada as NATO framework nations lead diverse allied defensive forces deployed in Eastern Europe to reinforce a deterrent posture and allow diplomats to engage with Russia. The NATO framework nation concept involves nations working multinationally for the joint development of forces and capabilities the alliance needs.

NATO's purely defensive stance, Mattis said, is designed to assure allied sovereignty by preventing miscalculation and buying time for diplomats to restore mutual respect.

## Meeting With Baltic Defense Ministers

Tuesday afternoon, Mattis joined his Baltic defense counterparts in a meeting and reiterated the strong U.S. commitment to defend its Baltic allies.

He also visited Pabrade Training Area, there meeting with the NATO battle group, which he called a stabilizing force in the region. The group consists

of allied forces deployed in Lithuania to demonstrate the nations' solidarity and determination to defend NATO territory against any aggression, Mattis said.

During their meeting, Mattis said, he and the Baltic defense ministers had good talks, as they share an appreciation of the situation and of the road ahead. "And what you see here with the enhanced forward brigade is matched in the several other Baltic nations as well," he added.

The battle group in Lithuania has a German commander and a strong German contingent, the secretary said, "but allied nations also are part of the battle group, ... [and] it shows the way NATO can be interoperable and troops can come together and work together and, if necessary, fight together."

Mattis is traveling this week to Denmark, Lithuania and the United Kingdom to meet with U.S. partners and reaffirm key military alliances. While in Denmark, Mattis and the Danish defense minister co-hosted a meeting of senior leaders from 15 countries that are key contributors to the fight against ISIS.



## All communities

The following are VTC-projected classes. For additional information about and to register for VTC classes, contact:

- For SHAPE: DSN: 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.
- For Brussels: DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783.
- For Schinnen: DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31(0)46-4437500.

### May 17

- **Retirement Planning** - Held from 1 to 2 p.m., this class is designed for those who are considering retiring within the next 1 to 5 years. Discussions will include retirement plans, life insurance, Survivor Benefit plan, IRAs, annuities and investments.

## BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities:

- **May 12: Friday Night Kickball Tournament**
- **May 20: Family Fitness Day** - In collaboration with CYSS

For more information on the above Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities, call DSN 368-9667 or civilian 02-7179667.

### May 11

- **3 Star Dinner "All You Can Eat Pizza and Salad"** - Starts at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$11 for adults; \$5 for children. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

### May 14

- **Mother's Day Brunch at the 3 Star** - From 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children. Registration is required at DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

### May 16-18

- **Host nation orientation** - On day one: food shopping on the economy from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; on day two, the USAG Benelux Brussels Deputy Garrison Manager will provide a site briefing from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. and the cultural adaptation will follow from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; on day three, the group will have a guided local hospital tour from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For additional information, call DSN 368-9783 or civilian 02-7179783.

### May 18

- **3 Star Dinner "All You Can Eat Taco Bar"** - Starts at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$11 for adults; \$5 for children. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or civilian 02-7179822.

### May 19

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Community Conference Room, Bldg. 2.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities:

- **May 1-31: Circuit training, volleyball competition, basketball competition, racquetball challenge.**
- **May 25: Memorial Day 5K run.**

For more information on the above Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities, call DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31(0)46-4437561.

### May 12

- **Country Night** - Starting at 6 p.m. at the Schinnen Bowling Center. For information, call DSN 360-7207 or civilian +31(0)46-4437207.

### May 12-31

- **BSEP (formerly FAST) training** is Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program is designed to help Soldiers master the functional reading, writing, and mathematical skills required of their Army jobs. For enrollment information, contact the Schinnen Education Center at DSN 360-7651/7653 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437651/7653.

### May 13

- **Flea market** - Market is held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. inside the Schinnen Recreation Center. Set up is at 9 a.m. Cost per table is \$10 inside the Schinnen Recreation Center. For more information or to reserve your table, call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31(0)46-4437560.

### May 15

- **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** - From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Schinnen Headquarters Reception Area. For additional information, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31(0)46-4437500.

### May 17-18

- **A Veteran's Administration Representative** will be at JFC Brunssum from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to meet with anyone who would like a one-on-one appointment. To schedule an appointment, call DSN 314-606-244-3848 or civilian +31(0)455263848.

## SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY Continued

### May 18-19

- **Newcomer's Orientation & Cultural Tour** - Held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Schinnen ACS. All newcomers and spouses are invited to learn about their new community, including local customs, culture and language. On day one, explore the Dutch culture with an introduction to the language and get an overview of the Tri-Border services. Day two will include a visit to a few local attractions and shopping areas. For more information or to register, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31(0)464437500.

## SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

### Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities:

- **May 11: Wellbeats Virtual Trainer** from 5 to 5:30 p.m.; **Nutrition & Fitness Assessments** from 5 to 5:45 p.m.; **Functional Fitness Equipment Orientation and WOD Class** from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; **TRX** from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.; **Circuit Training** from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. and **Spinning** from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m.

For more information on the above Strong B.A.N.D.S. activities, call DSN 361-5643 or civilian 068-275643.

### May 11

- **Hearts Apart** - Held from noon to 1 p.m. in the ACS Training room to connect with others who also have their sponsor deployed or will be deployed soon. For information, call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-326824.

### May 12

- **USNMR Leadership Professional Development "NATO From Where I Sit"** by Col. Philippe Rogers, Deputy Military Representative, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Military Committee. Held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the SHAPE PAO Auditorium, first floor of SHAPE HQs Bldg. All U.S. active duty and civilian personnel are invited to attend.

### May 13

- **Mother's Day Run (5 and 3K)** - All NATO members are welcome to gather at the Community Activity Center on Chièvres Air Base for this run to start at 10 a.m. Sign up by **May 10** online at <http://www.benelux.armymwr.com> or the day of the event from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

### May 25

- **Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Observance** - Held at the Auditorium, Bldg. 30, Caserne Daumerie from noon to 1 p.m. with Mrs. Bernadette Schlueter as guest speaker.

### Through June 5

- **High-intensity Functional Fitness** Monday through Fridays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Chièvres Fitness Center. A well-rounded activity program including aerobic exercise, weight lifting, and gymnastics. The course is free but registration is required.

## Upcoming organized trips

### SHAPE Trips and Tours

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-443884.

- **Strasbourg, May 13**
- **Rhine River cruise, cable car and fortress, May 20**
- **Dubai and Abu Dhabi, May 25 to 30**
- **WW2 experience at Dover Castle and visit of Canterbury, May 27**
- **Amsterdam, June 10**
- **London, June 17**
- **Normandy, June 23-25**
- **Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, July 15**
- **Dutch Day, July 18**
- **Efteling Theme park, July 22**
- **Cologne with breakfast cruise on the Rhine, July 29**
- **Phantasia land, Germany, Aug. 4**

- **London, Aug. 12-14**
- **Heidelberg and Bad Durkheim (Wurst and Wine Festival), Sept. 16**
- **Riverdance (Dance Production), Oct. 7**
- **Paris, Oct. 21**
- **Cooking Class in Lille, Nov. 4**
- **Moulin Rouge, Paris, Nov. 11**
- **Berlin, Dec. 29 - Jan. 1**
- **Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year**

### Schinnen Trips & Tours

Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.

- **London Express, May 20**
- **Day trip to Disneyland, Paris, June 3**
- **Berlin Express, June 24**
- **NFL International Series, Sept. 30 or Oct. 2**





Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

#### May 12-13

- **"Les Jardins du Sud", gourmet walk in Mons** – Held on Rue de la Chaussée and Grand Rue, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A lot of things to discover and to taste, latin dance demonstrations, manufacturing demonstrations, contest and many other activities.

#### May 12-13-14

- **Spring festival in Koekelberg** – Held at Parc Elisabeth. Retro night and fireworks Friday. Concert and dance party Saturday with Sttella, famous Belgian singer. Family Day Sunday with a lot of activities for children and things to eat.
- **40th weekend of Mother's Day in Ath** - Held at "L'Esplanade" with lots of activities: Oberbayern Friday, free concerts Saturday night and huge flower market Sunday as of 8 a.m.

#### May 13

- **Sale of vinyl records in Neufvilles** – You will find more than 4.500 vinyl records on Rue de Neufvilles, 339 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Flea market in Saint-Josse-ten-Noode (Bruxelles, 200 booths)** – Held on Rue du Méridien from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- **Flea market in Jette (Bruxelles, 200 booths)** – Held on Rue Van Bortonne from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Nimy (100 booths)** – Held on Avenue des Tulipes from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### May 13-14

- **"Convention Gameplay" in Colfontaine** – Video games, retro gaming, contests, concerts, cosplay, laser game, personalities and a lot of activities. Held at "Espace Magnum" Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance fee ranges from €7 to €10 for a day (€5 for children) and from €13 to €16 for the whole weekend (€7 for children).
- **Flea market in Cuesmes (150 booths)** – Held on Rue de Flénu from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### Through May 14

- **Circus Bavaria in Lessines** - Held at Parking Anabill Biss Mode, on Rue du Pont de Pierre with clowns, jugglers, acrobats, animals,... Entrance fee ranges from €10 to €16 ([www.circusbavaria.be](http://www.circusbavaria.be)).

#### May 14

- **Volksmarch in Gondregnies (Silly) for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs "Salle La Micheline" on Sentier Maçon from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Elouges for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs the school on rue Charles Wantiez 27 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Tournai for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs "Site de la Verte-feuille" on Chaussée de Renaix 194 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Haren (Bruxelles, 150 booths)** – Held on Rue de la Grenouillette from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Nimy (120 booths)** – Held on Place de Nimy and along the canal from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Read about events near Brunssum and Schinnen (in the Netherlands unless otherwise indicated).

#### May 12-14

- **Garden Fair with the theme 'Butterflies' in Beervelde (BE)** - Held at the park on Dorp 75 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fair is the oldest in Belgium. Entrance: €12; children 14 and under are free.

#### May 12-21

- **Days of Opera in Rotterdam** is an international Opera and Music-theater Festival held at several locations in town. For more info, times and locations visit: <https://www.operadagenrotterdam.nl>.

#### May 13,20,27

- **Small antique & curiosa market in Roermond** - Held at Kloosterwandplein in the center of town from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### May 13

- **Dutch National Windmill Days throughout the Netherlands** - Hundreds of wind and watermills throughout the country welcome the public during this annual weekend. A blue ribbon on or near the mill means you can visit.
- **The Grietmarkt in Amerongen** - Held across Castle Amerongen on Margaretha Turnorlaan is a cultural and "green" festival with art, tasting biological products, music, workshops and surprises! Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. No entrance fees.
- **The Ultimate Ski & Wake 2017 in Vierpolders** - This event held at Paviljoen Breezze on Veckhoekse Sluisweg 2 is the water sports event for the real water sports enthusiast. Several large water sports businesses will take part in the event with stands and demonstrations. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. No entrance fees.

#### May 13-14

- **Spring Fair in Appeltern** - Event is named "Aan het Water" with all kinds of knickknacks and items celebrating spring is held on Op de Goude Ham. Both days open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.50.
- **Hootchie Koe Festival in Varsseveld** is two days of music, food trucks, cabaret, theater, a market with regional products and lots of activities held at Hofshuusterrein on Leemskerweg 24. Open: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.50.

#### May 14

- **Garden Fair in Munsterbilzen (BE)** - Held at Europaplein, this fair has more than 150 participants from the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Luxemburg and France. No entrance fees. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### May 18-21

- **Cultural & culinary festival in Bergen op Zoom** - Held at the squares in the center of town with many regional products, to include the famous asparagus, strawberries and anchovies.