



**PROUDLY SERVING THE  
BENELUX COMMUNITY**

**Vol. 12, Issue 2**

**JANUARY 18, 2019**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OBSERVED JAN. 21**

The U.S. Army Garrison Benelux community will observe Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 21. Some U.S. offices will be closed or have reduced hours of operations in observance of the holiday.

### **BRUSSELS CAC CARD OFFICE CLOSED FOR ONE WEEK**

The Brussels CAC card office will be closed the week of Feb. 25 to March 1. For full CAC services, you may contact the ID card section at SHAPE or Schinnen. For SHAPE, call DSN 366-6292/6291 or 32 (0)65-44-6293/6291. For Schinnen, call +31 (0)45-526-3848.

### **VA CLAIM WORKSHOP**

VA representatives and VA Accredited Service Officers will be conducting a VA Claim Workshop [Jan. 30](#) at the SHAPE Activity Community Service and [Jan. 31](#) in Brussels. They will be assisting with and answering questions regarding VA claim and appeals submittals. For further information, contact [serviceofficer.arc.be@gmail.com](mailto:serviceofficer.arc.be@gmail.com).

### **MIAMI DOLPHINS CHEERLEADERS IN SCHINNEN**

Mark your calendar and participate in the Miami Dolphins Fan Experience Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in Schinnen with Miami Dolphins Alumni and Cheerleaders!

### **LIMITED PASSPORT SERVICES BEGINNING FEB. 1**

Beginning Feb. 1, 2019, U.S. Passport Services will be limited at all Central Processing Facilities in the Benelux: SHAPE, Brussels and JFC Brunssum. USAG Benelux will continue providing U.S. official no-fee passport issue and renewal by appointment only. For more information, go to our [website](#).

### **COMMUNITY LEADERS INFORMATION FORUM (CLIF) TO BE HELD FEB. 6**

The next Community Leaders Information Forum (CLIF) will be held Wednesday, Feb. 6. Got information for the community? Send an email to [usarmy.benelux.id-europe.mbx.dptms@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.id-europe.mbx.dptms@mail.mil).

### **U.S. ARMY EUROPE TAX CENTER CHANGES IN 2019**

U.S. Army Europe tax centers will re-prioritize services in 2019 and focus assistance on those that generally make less than \$54,000 per year, in accordance with Army regulations and IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance guidelines. More information [here](#). Free filing options are still available to service members and families through websites such as [Military OneSource](#) and the [IRS](#).

### **COMMISSARIES OPEN JAN. 22 IN SCHINNEN AND IN CHIEVRES**

The Commissaries in Schinnen and Chièvres will be open Jan. 22.



### **PHOTO OF THE WEEK**

*The American Legion Post BE02 welcomed over 60 kids from La Fermette at the Blanc Moulin in Ostiches, Belgium, on Jan. 16, 2019. Children received food and gifts. Everything was set up to provide holiday cheer to the children. In the photo: Thomas Buckner, Post Chaplain for the American Legion Post BE02, presents a gift to a child. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)*



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## **NEWS**

### **JANUARY 21: A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF**

During his lifetime, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. encouraged all citizens to pursue the purpose and potential of America. He strived to realize the dream of equality and a nation that affords freedom and justice for all. King has now been dead longer than he lived. He was born in 1929 and would have been 90 years old this year. The USAG Benelux community will host a 5K Run/Walk Jan. 26 on Chièvres Air Base for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Participants will meet at the Chièvres Activity Center at noon. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



### **DIESEL RESTRICTIONS IN BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS, BANS IN GERMANY**

Many capitals in Europe will probably ban diesel between 2024 and 2030. At the moment, there is no diesel ban in Belgium and The Netherlands, but there are some restrictions. In Belgium, Brussels has instituted a low emission zone, or LEZ, since Jan. 1, 2018. In The Netherlands, the reduction of air pollution has been a priority for years. Currently, Germany is the only country worldwide with diesel bans. The city of Stuttgart, for example, has already banned diesel cars with the emission standard 4/IV and lower. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



### **EAT MORE LOCAL AND SEASONAL PRODUCE**

If you've been thinking about making a new year's resolution this year, it isn't too late. So what about doing something to try to help the environment, and incorporate more local, seasonal produce into your weekly shopping list? Respecting the seasonal cycle is important because a tomato grown out of season requires more energy consumption than a tomato grown in season. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

### **ARMY TO SURVEY FAMILY HOUSING RESIDENTS BY EMAIL**

Residents of Family housing owned and leased by the Army have a chance again to rate the quality of housing and housing services in 2019. The second online survey of about 10,000 residents living in Army-owned and Army-leased housing worldwide was emailed Jan. 15. CEL & Associates Inc. administers the survey for the Army. The email was from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS REPORTING EXPLAINED**

Although the Benelux region has a milder climate compared to other areas in Europe, it is wise to be informed when inclement weather hits the area. Garrison officials at U.S. Army Garrison Benelux installations will do everything they can to keep services running, but some weather conditions may result in changes in road conditions, school closures, work delays or temporary shutdown on some of the garrison services. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



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