



**PROUDLY SERVING THE
BENELUX COMMUNITY**

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FEBRUARY 22, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GARRISON TOWN HALL ON U.S. ARMY-LEASED HOUSING TO BE HELD FEB. 27

To understand residents' concerns, we are hosting a Garrison Town Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. at the SHAPE Events Center to discuss U.S. Army-leased housing. We encourage all residents in U.S. Army-leased housing, specifically homes assigned to military families, versus privately-leased homes on the economy, to attend this event. We want to put out a few key messages but more importantly hear your feedback and address your concerns. For those who cannot attend, the town hall will be livestreamed on [AFN Benelux's Facebook](#). If you would rather provide feedback in another format, you can submit comments through the [Interactive Customer Evaluation \(ICE\)](#) system.

ARMY CAC HOLDERS NEED TO ACTIVATE PIV AUTHENTICATION BY MARCH 31

Army Common Access Card (CAC) holders have until **March 31, 2019**, to activate their Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Authentication certificate to ensure uninterrupted access to military networks and data. Personnel should use Internet Explorer when updating their security certificates at this [website](#).

TOTAL ARMY SPONSORSHIP RODEO TO BE HELD FEB. 28

Are you sponsoring incoming personnel? Attend the Total Army Sponsorship Rodeo on Feb. 28 at Chièvres Air Base Bldg. 5 (New Garrison Headquarters) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call DSN 361-5696 or +32(0)68-27-5696.

BENELUX TAX CENTERS ARE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

U.S. Army Europe tax centers re-prioritized services in 2019 and focused 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 is located [here](#). Free filing options are still available to service members and families through websites such as [Military OneSource](#) and the [IRS](#).

COMMUNITY LEADERS INFORMATION FORUM (CLIF) SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3

The next The Community Leaders Information Forum (CLIF) will be held Wednesday, April 3. Got information for the community? Send an email to usarmy.benelux.id-europe.mbx.dptms@mail.mil.

CROSSAGE IN CHIÈVRES TO BE HELD MARCH 6

The golf-like sport of Crossage takes places **March 6** starting at noon in the streets of Chièvres and surrounding villages. Are you interested in participating this year? Please call DSN 361-5433 or 0496-87-69-38 and register by **Feb. 28**. Cost is €40 for a wooden mallet (rabot), ball (chôlette) and insurance. Payment must be made by the registration deadline. On **Feb. 23**, people can train and play the sport in the city. The event will be held at Etang d'Horimets on Rue de la Carrière, 1 in Chièvres. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Staff Sgt. Jonathan DelValle, Margo Kosbab, and Staff Sgt. Efrain Valencia cut the cake during the Army Emergency Relief campaign kick-off event Feb. 19, 2019, in Schinnen, The Netherlands. AER promotes readiness and relieves financial distress for Soldiers and families, and the program owes its success through donors' contributions. (U.S. Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels)



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One Team, One Benelux



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NEWS

IMCOM-EUROPE WELCOMES NEW COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Installation Management Command-Europe welcomed its new command sergeant major and bid farewell to her predecessor during a change-of-responsibility ceremony held here Feb. 21. Command Sgt. Maj. Samara Pitre took over for Command Sgt. Maj. Ulysses Rayford, who will become the Sergeant Major for the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



CAREER SUMMITS IN EUROPE TO CONNECT SOLDIERS, SPOUSES WITH EMPLOYERS

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes program will sponsor three career summits in Europe during March and April. The first one will be held at U.S. Army Garrison Italy, March 28-29, and the others at USAG Bavaria, April 1-2, and USAG Rheinland-Pfalz, April 3-4. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

MILITARY SAVES WEEK STARTS FEB. 25

The U.S. Army Garrison Benelux community will recognize Military Saves Week from Feb. 25 to March 1 by educating people on healthy financial habits. The week focuses on debt reduction, financial management and future savings with help from military programs such as Army Community Service. The ACS Financial Readiness Program is hosting classes aimed at teaching the military community on some of the many ways they can reach their financial goals in areas such as budgeting, retirement planning, the thrift savings plan, investments and wealth management. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON TAXABLE MOVING EXPENSES FOR CIVILIANS

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, passed in December 2017, eliminated the moving expense deduction for civilian employees. For tax years 2018 through 2025, many moving benefits paid to DoD civilian employees and contractors are now taxable, regardless of whether the employer reimbursed the employee for their out-of-pocket moving expenses or paid the expenses directly. However, this new tax does not apply to household goods and vehicle shipments to and from overseas assignments. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

DID YOU KNOW MARCH IS BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH?

March is dedicated to brain injury awareness and prevention, and the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic is spreading awareness to help the local military community to know more about brain injuries, how to obtain educational material, and where to seek care. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



1ST INFANTRY DIVISION ARRIVES TO ROMANIA

3rd Attack Helicopter Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division from Fort Riley, Kansas, recently arrived at Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Romania. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



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