

THE GAZZETTE

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

Benelux News Briefs

Passport Services

USAG Benelux Passport Agent services in Brussels will be unavailable through Aug. 19. Passport services will resume on Aug. 20 by appointment only. For passport services during this time, you may contact the Brussels U.S. Embassy at <https://be.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/passports/>

POV and GOV Orientation Classes

POV Orientation Class is conducted at SHAPE Bldg. 220 in room 104 every Tuesday from 8 a.m. to noon. Schedule an appointment in order to receive study material. GOV Orientation Class is conducted every Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. U.S. and Canadian personnel must complete a POV orientation to obtain a SHAPE driving license. Call DSN 366-6603 or +32 (0)65-326603 for more information.

Schinnen Trips and Tours

The Day Trip to Amsterdam, July 14, 2018 is cancelled due to lack of participation.



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Benelux community members celebrate 4th of July

June 29 and July 4, Benelux communities celebrated Independence Day with a lot of activities. It was the perfect occasion for families to have fun. (U.S. Army photo by Greg Wyatt)

See page 4

Travelers: stay vigilant, stay safe

By USAG Bavaria Antiterrorism Office

With summer in full swing, many families will set off on their summer vacations. While vacationing any time of the year, remember to be vigilant.

Increased travel, mass transit and large gatherings of personnel could present attractive targets of opportunity for those who wish to do us harm.

Watch or read the news, check out the State Department's website for the countries you are traveling to, and contact your unit's security manager or antiterrorism officer for information about your travel locations.

With the current threat environment in Europe, it is highly advisable to have some sort of communications plan and meet-up plan in advance, and to discuss this plan with your family. If something happens and your family gets separated, they all know where to meet up and you still may be able to communicate with one another.

During a crisis, telecommunications systems in the affected area can get overwhelmed, which may prevent or delay phone calls. Messaging delivery through apps and text messaging uses a different route than cell/landline calls and would not necessarily be affected to the same degree.

It is advisable, in addition to the basic text messaging system that comes with your phone, to have the entire family download one or two of the same messaging app so that you may still be able to communicate should something happen.

If you still can't communicate via messaging because the system is so bogged down, having those pre-designated meet-up points will get your family back together.

Though there is no known targeting of Department of Defense personnel or assets, "no known threat" does not mean there is "no threat."

In response to the current threat environment, all personnel must remain aware, alert, and attentive to their



While vacationing any time of the year, remember to be vigilant. (Courtesy photo)

surroundings. Remember to review basic individual protection measures and maintain situational awareness. Some individual protection measures to observe include:

- Keep a low profile; make an effort to blend into the local environment.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Avoid planned gatherings or demonstrations.
- Stay away from high risk areas.
- Carry a cell phone.
- Know emergency numbers.

Protecting our community and families is a top priority, and education and awareness are the two most important elements to keep us safe.

It may seem difficult, if not impossible, to prevent an attack, but knowing what to do should something occur will improve your chances of staying safe, keeping in touch and quickly reuniting with your family.

For more information on how to stay safe, contact the USAG Benelux Antiterrorism Office at DSN 361-6290 (Chièvres), 361-5945 (Brussels), or 360-7313 (Schinnen). ♦

<p>THE GAZETTE</p>	<p>To submit or subscribe, email usarmy.benelux.id-europe.list.pao@mail.mil</p>
<p>Commander.....Col. Sean Hunt Kuester</p>	<p><i>The Gazette</i> is an unofficial publication published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of <i>The Gazette</i> are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army or the USAG Benelux. <i>The Gazette</i> is a free weekly publication distributed via email every Thursday, except when that day is an American, Belgian or Dutch Holiday, then <i>The Gazette</i> 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 by Monday at 3 p.m.</p>
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New garrison commander starts “travelling and listening tour”

By Julie Piron

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

After 22 years in the Army, Col. Sean Hunt Kuester’s career has taken him and his family to the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux where he officially took command on Friday June 29, 2018.

Kuester is an Armor officer who served at SHAPE in the Comprehensive Crisis and Operations Management Center from 2015 to 2017, in a 12 person team from nine different countries.

The eclectic environment fostered his interest for the diversity of the communities. This open-minded approach will be one of Kuester’s tools to lead our dispersed garrison. “We may be working at different sites in different roles, but the reality is all our efforts contribute to the same mission...Strong Europe,” emphasized Kuester.

“I’m amazed at the work and accomplishments achieved by the Benelux Team,” said Kuester. “I believe that with teamwork there is very little we can’t do. I believe that in the context of a U.S. Army garrison it is vital for each employee to realize that every single team is part of another team and that no team is an island. We all need each other,” he added.

In order to keep a cohesive team, Kuester plans on “earning trust over time by being present, engaging with the teams, being genuine, demonstrating competence, giving loyalty to the subordinates and remaining compassionate for their people.”

Kuester describes his ideal workplace as “an environment of collegiality and even fun” and further defines his leader’s duty as “being positive and optimistic, to build and sustain a climate where people can thrive versus merely trying to survive.”

After only a week at the head of the Garrison, Kuester has already been exposed to some of the garrison’s challenges and finds himself “fully confident in the existing plans and



Col. Sean Hunt Kuester takes up reins of USAG Benelux, Friday, June 29, 2018, at Caserne Daumerie, Chièvres, Belgium. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

priorities built by the Benelux staff.”

Col. Connell, outgoing Commander now PSCing to Yongsang, Korea, had already established with his team the three broad priorities of the garrison: Force Protection, Infrastructure development and sustainment, and sustained personnel readiness through delivery of support to service members and families. “For now, my intent is to proceed along the outstanding path developed under Col. Kurt Connell’s leadership,” said Kuester.

Hitting the ground running, Kuester has already started what he calls his “travelling and listening tour” in order to meet each team member of the Benelux. Stressing the importance of team work and empowering people, Kuester also highlights his will to get to know people.

“I would like to meet every single person that’s part of the Benelux. I would like to hear their ideas about work concerning what works well and what might be improved. I will do my level best to learn everyone’s name – it may take me a few attempts though, so please be patient,” Kuester concluded. ♦

Discover all the photos of the change of command ceremony on Flickr:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/usagbenelux/albums/72157668775338057>

Benelux communities celebrate Independence Day

Special to the Gazette



July Fourth was America's 242st birthday. Benelux community members celebrated Independence Day at different times with music, food, fireworks, and a lot of activities.

In Brussels and at SHAPE, the 2018 Independence Day Celebration took place June 29. In Schinnen, the celebration was held July 4. ♦



1. The Independence Day Celebration ends with fireworks July 4, 2018 in Schinnen, The Netherlands. (U.S. Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels)

2. A little boy enjoys a train ride at the Independence Day Celebration July 4, 2018 in Schinnen, The Netherlands. (U.S. Army photo by Rita Hoefnagels)

3. A girl navigates a wading pool in a water ball at the Independence Day celebration June 29, 2018 at SHAPE, Belgium. (U.S. Army photo by Greg Wyatt)

4. A girl enjoys carnival rides at the Independence Day Celebration June 29, 2018 at SHAPE, Belgium. (U.S. Army photo by Greg Wyatt)

5 and 6. Community members participate in the Independence Day Block Party at the 3 Star Recreation Center June 29, 2018 in Brussels, Belgium. (U.S. Army photos by Bill Audretsch)

Pets in the wild: the silent killers

By Valentin Wallers

USAG Benelux Environmental Division

We all know about the damage that the human footprint and industrial activities bring to our environment. The most important affecting fauna, flora and biotopes include:

- Habitat destruction such as deforestation, ice melt and urbanization
- Overexploitation of our natural resources through fishery, forestry, farming and poaching practices.
- Climate change adversely affecting suitable habitats and forcing species migration.
- Pollution, visible or not, that alters air, soil and water, impacting all wildlife.
- Breaking the food chain: we often forget that disappearance of one species can affect an entire food chain.
- Introduction of invasive species which can compete with local species for food and habitat, and which can bring diseases.

But have you ever considered that even our beloved pets represent a significant threat for biodiversity? Domestic cats, for instance, which originally evolved in Egypt and the Middle East 4000 years ago, have been established in Western Europe since the Middle Ages, when they were tasked with keeping rodents away from our barns. Nowadays, they are very popular pets, and their population has doubled in just the last 20 years; however, this is becoming a significant issue for wildlife.

Even when well fed, cats are real predators with a single objective: to satisfy their hunting instinct. Scientists from the University of Georgia have demonstrated that our little felines kill, on average, two animals per week, including mammals, birds and amphibians. Hunting activities are more common at night

and within a radius of 600 to 1800 m (2000-6000 feet).

As cats came to Europe relatively recently, in evolutionary terms, our wildlife has not had time to adapt to this abundant and efficient predator, and thus has few defenses against it. The impact of cats on bird populations is proven: it is the number one bird predator, leading to more deaths than are caused by collisions with man-made structures, vehicles, or poisoning with pesticides. In the last 500 years, cats have been responsible for the extinction of 63 species of mammals, birds and reptiles (Doctor Tim Doherty – Integrative Ecology of Deakin University, Australia) A disturbing fact considering that 14% of bird and 25% of mammal species are endangered worldwide.

On Chièvres, a wildlife survey conducted in 2016 revealed a significant population of feral/stray cats. The resulting adverse effects are more damaging on military bases than in the surrounding areas as security fencing prevents the cat's predators, such as foxes, from entering the installation and regulate the population.

You can help to minimize the impact of cats on the environment by applying the following brief tips. You can implement some of them even if you are not a pet owner:

- Do not feed stray cats, this will only lead to an increase in the cat population.
- Create "wild areas" in your garden with tall plants and hedges, so prey animals can find shelter.
- Install a spiked collar on tree trunks to prevent cats from climbing.
- Keep your cat indoors as much as

possible, especially at night.

- Equip your cat with a bell on its collar to warn prey species of its approach.
- Spray or neuter your kitten, so that it does not contribute to cat overpopulation.
- Ensure your pet has an ID tag on his or her collar, or a microchip with your contact details. Don't forget to update these details when you move to a new house.
- Never abandon cats, they are domestic animals and, while feral cats do survive in the wild, pet cats are not adapted to survive in this environment (they will suffer from malnutrition/starvation, disease, injuries, traps, etc.). If you are transferred and can't take your cat with you, find a good home for it or contact a veterinarian or local organization for help.

For more information, please contact the DPW Environmental Division at 361-6369. ♦



Create "wild areas" in your garden for cats. (Courtesy photo)



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

AFN BENELUX 360 Internet Radio <http://benelux.afneurope.net>

Tips for preventing heat-related illness

Special to the Gazette

The different weather forecast sources have announced extreme hot weather in the upcoming days. Prevention of heat illness is vital as it continues to threaten individual health and performance of our soldiers and civilians.

Make sure to prevent heat injuries thanks to the following tips:

1. Stay Cool

Sunburns can be harmful and, in certain cases, can result in a recordable injury.

Some recommendations for protection from the sun and preventing heat injuries include:

- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting, breathable clothing—(cotton).
- Work in the shade when possible.
- Wear a hat to protect the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose, and scalp.
- Use a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher to block out at least 93 percent of the UV rays. Sunscreen should be applied at least 15 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours.
- Wear sunglasses that block UV rays.

2. Stay hydrated

- Drink small amounts of fresh water frequently. Cold water might provide you some stomach cramps.
- Stay away from very sugary drinks that cause you to lose more body fluid.
- Eat smaller meals before work activity.

3. Stay informed

Learn to recognize the symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat those.

- Heat rash may occur in hot and humid environments

where sweat is not easily removed from the surface of the skin by evaporation. Often, it occurs in areas where clothing presses or rubs against the skin.

• Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms caused by heat, dehydration, and the body's salt loss. Tired muscles—those used for performing the work—are usually the ones most susceptible to cramps.

• Heat exhaustion could result from loss of fluid through sweating when a person has failed to drink enough fluids. If heat exhaustion is not treated, the illness may advance to heat stroke.

Symptoms include paleness, dizziness, weakness, muscle cramps, nausea, vomiting, headache, and pale, clammy skin.

• Heat stroke is caused by the body's failure to regulate its core temperature. Sweating stops and the body can no longer rid itself of excess heat. Unless treated promptly, victims of heat stroke will die.

Symptoms include: dry/pale skin (no sweating), hot/red skin (looks like a sunburn), mood changes (irritable or confused), headaches, rapid pulse, and unconsciousness.

All those heat related illnesses can be avoided by proper nutrition and hydration as well as by balanced work/rest cycles.

Don't let the heat win the battle! For any additional information, visit the Public Health Command at <http://phc.amedd.army.mil/> ♦



Use a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher. (Courtesy photo)

Kenneth Ross is the 2018 Army Lodging Supervisor of the Year

By Christophe Morel

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

June 28, Michael D. Formica, director of Installation Management Command Directorate–Europe, presented the 2018 Army Lodging Supervisor of the Year Award to Kenneth Ross, Maintenance Supervisor at USAG Benelux, Chièvres Army Lodging. "You can not be a good supervisor if you don't have a good team," said Ross during his speech.

The Maintenance Supervisor was awarded for outstanding service from October 2016 to September 2017. "During this time, Ross demonstrated his commitment to employees through consistent and steady relationships developed

over the years," stated Major General Sean M. Jenkins, Deputy Commanding General, Installation Management Command. "These relationships helped facilitate resolutions to situations with potential for further escalation. Due to his willingness to assist with implementation of information technology updates throughout Europe, he is highly thought of, not only within the Chièvres Lodging community, but by other Europe lodging management and staffs."

Kenneth Ross also received a Commander's Award from the Department of the Army. ♦



Kenneth Ross, Maintenance Supervisor at USAG Benelux, Chièvres Army Lodging, receives a Commander's Award June 28, 2018 on Chièvres Air Base, Belgium with Michael D. Formica, director of Installation Management Command Directorate–Europe, and Col. Kurt P. Connell, outgoing USAG Benelux commander. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

ALL COMMUNITIES

Government Driver's License

- Per the Headquarters, Department of the Army (HDQA) decision, the Army Accident Avoidance Training online is no longer required to obtain the government vehicle driver's license. For more information, call DSN 366-6603.

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

- For SHAPE: DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)65-326824
- For Brussels: DSN 368-9783 or +32 (0)2-7179783
- For Schinnen: DSN 360-7500 or +31 (0)46-4437500

July 12/26 and Sept. 13/27

- **Couples Communication** - The class will be from 10 a.m. to noon.

Aug. 9/23

- **Positive Parenting** - Offered by Army Community Service. Learn techniques on how to teach your children to control themselves from 10 a.m. to noon.



BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities."

Every Monday and Thursday

- **Lunchtime Yoga** - Relax and refresh during the work day from 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Brussels Fitness Center. For more information, call DSN 368-9667 or +32 (0)2-7179667.



Every Tuesday

- **Tax Assistance** - The Northern Law Center will provide U.S. federal and state income tax assistance to eligible clients on Tuesdays in Bldg. 4 in room 316. Services are by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call DSN 423-4868 or +32 (0)65-444868. For more information on legal services and documentation needed for tax returns, visit www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/org-legal.html.

Every Thursday and Friday

- **Community Movie Night** - Enjoy free entertainment at the 3 Star Recreation Center starting at 6:30 p.m. The schedule includes Pacific Rim Uprising (PG-13) on July 6, A Wrinkle in Time (PG) on July 12, and Blockers (R) on July 13. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or +32 (0)2-7179822.



Every Friday

- **3 Star Recreation Night** - Join the Brussels community for games, cards, music and movies starting at 5 p.m. at the 3 Star Recreation Center. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Line dancing will start at 7 p.m. on the first and third Friday of the month. Karaoke will be held on the second and fourth Friday of the month starting at 6 p.m. U.S. Military, NATO, U.S. Embassy and mission cardholders are welcome. For more information, call DSN 368-9822 or +32 (0)2-7179822.

Through August 3

- **Child and Youth Services Fall Soccer Open Enrollment** - The season starts Sept. 20 and ends Nov. 8. Participants must be registered with CYS and have a valid health assessment at the time of enrollment. Cost is \$25 for children age 3 to 5, and \$45 for children age 6 to 15. For more information, call DSN 368-9539 or +32 (0)2-7179539. Volunteer coaches are needed! If interested, please contact youth and sports fitness.



July 6/7/10/11/14/15

- **Watch the World Cup** - Who will win the World Cup this year? You can watch it at the 3 Star Recreation Center! There will be a cash bar and snack food to purchase; nachos, fries, chicken wings or pizza. Free entry, cost for food and drinks. Belgium will play against Brazil Friday at 8 p.m.

July 12

- **3 Star Dinner Special "All You Can Eat Pizza and Salad"** - Starts at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$11 for adults, \$5 for kids. The alternative kids menu is chicken strips with potato wedges for \$5. Reservations are required by July 10 and can be made at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

See also page 7 in "All Communities."

Schinnen MP Desk

- The Schinnen MP Desk can be reached at the following new phone number: DSN 597-4555 and +31 (0)45-5340555.

Operation hours

- **Schinnen Service Station (GAS)** - Since July 1, the new hours of operation for the Schinnen Gas Station are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and closed Sunday and Monday.

Through Aug. 19

- **2018 Summer Reading Program** - Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card holders up to age 18 beginning June 26 and ending on Aug. 19. Children interested in this program should register at <https://brunssumlibrary.beanstack.org>. Children will check out and read books from the JFC HQ Brunssum Library and receive a variety of prizes for the number of minutes they read. Preschool children may earn prizes by having books read aloud to them. For more information call +31 (0)45-5262669 or +31 (0)45-5262469. JFC HQ Library is open to all U.S. and NATO ID cardholders in the Tri-Border Community and is located next to B&S Central Store Bldg. 604.

Through Sept. 15

- **Bowling Center** - Kids bowl free at the Schinnen Bowling Center with a Bowling Pass. Registration is open until Sept. 15. To sign up, go to www.kidsbowlfree.com/Army.



July 11

- **Infant Massage and Parent Support** - Enjoy the benefits of spending special time with your baby while networking with other parents! Open from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Offered by Army Community Service (Bldg. 39). For more information, call DSN 360-7500 or +31 (0)464-437500.

July 18-19

- **Veteran's Administration (VA)** - Are you a service member or Veteran with questions regarding VA benefits? Make a One-On-One Appointment! The Veteran's Administration (VA) will have a representative at the JFC Brunssum Library Conference Room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to meet with anyone who would like a one-on-one appointment. If you have any questions about your Veteran's benefits, now or in the future, this is the person to speak with. To schedule an appointment, please call DSN 606-2443848 or +31 (0)45-5263848.

July 19-20

- **Host Nation - Newcomer's Orientation & Cultural Tour** - 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 Tri-Border services. On day two, go beyond the gate to visit a few local attractions and shopping areas and learn how to use the local train system. For more information or to register, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500.



SHAPE/CHIÈVRES COMMUNITY

See also page 7 in "All Communities."

Every First Week of the Month

- **Intro to Gym Machines** - The SHAPE Sports and Fitness Center hosts this walk-thru Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Thursday at 6 p.m. Book an appointment at the fitness center.

Every Monday and Wednesday

- **Functional Fitness (Stroller Friendly)** - Join the Chièvres Fitness Center (Bldg. 20004) on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., for an adult, high-intensity, full-body workout using body weight and basic equipment followed by 30 minutes of indoor cycling. Kids are welcome.

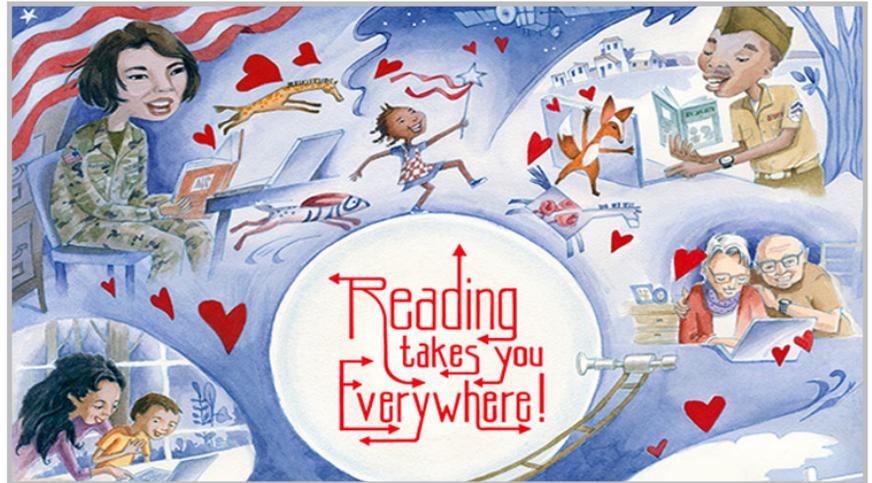


Every Tuesday

- **Summer Reading Toddler & Preschool Story Time STEAM** - Join the SHAPE International Library (Bldg. 307) from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. for an afternoon of stories and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). The program will start with a story time and end with a hands-on project. Recommended for ages 2-4. No cost. For more information, call DSN 423-5631 or +32(0)65-445631.
- **Self-Defense** - Men and women over age 18 can attend this beginner-level self-defense course hosts by certified instructors from the Spanish Forces every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at the SHAPE main gym basketball court. Registration is free. Contact self_defense_shape@outlook.es.

Through August 31

• **Summer Reading 2018** - You can register online or visit the SHAPE International or Chièvres Library. All you have to do is read, be read to, or listen to an audiobook. Summer Reading 2018 is open to all ages, and you can read in any language. Track the minutes you have read, or listened to an audiobook, and you will receive prizes throughout the summer. If you are on holiday, you have until Aug. 31 to collect your prizes. The SHAPE International Library also offers programs through the summer, but you do not have to attend the programs to take part in



the reading portion of Summer Reading. No cost. To register for Summer Reading please either visit the SHAPE International or Chièvres Library, or register online at <https://shapeinternational.beanstack.org/reader365>. If you are a non-US NATO family, select 'Army' when asked which branch of service. For more information, contact DSN 423-5631 or +32 (0)65-445631.

July 6

- **Army Ball** - The U.S. Army celebrates its 243rd birthday at the SHAPE ballroom from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are €50 per person. Contact your unit representative for information.

July 9/10/30, Aug. 13/14, Aug. 27/28 and Sept. 10/11/24

- **Host Nation Orientation** - Army Community Service is inviting all service members, civilians, and their family members to participate in Host Nation Orientation Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m and Tuesday from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tour a Belgian hospital, learn about Belgian customs, sample traditional Belgian cuisine, learn basic French, enjoy a cultural tour of Mons and learn about public transportation and shopping. Registration is required. Call DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)65-326824.

July 12

• **Hearts Apart** - Has your sponsor been deployed, is deployed, or will be deployed soon? Have they been, are they, or will they be going on extended TDY? Don't remain alone. Connect with others in the same circumstances by joining the ACS Hearts Apart Club. Held at the Army Community Service Training Room from noon to 1 p.m. For more information, contact DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)65-326824.



July 20

• **Fun for Kids** - Meet new friends during Fun for Kids at the Chièvres Community Activity Center. Open from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. You can get together a game of pick-up basketball or play on bouncy castles. It's also a great opportunity for newcomers to the community to meet other parents. Open to U.S., NATO, US Mission, and US Embassy ID cardholders. No entrance fee.



July 26-29

- **Beauty and the Beast + Winnie the Pooh - SHAPE Players'/Performing Arts School** - SHAPE Players'/ Performing Arts School presents 2018 Summer Theater Camp in Beauty and the Beast and Fractured Fairy Tales Camp in Winnie the Pooh. Performances: Thursday to Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. Entry is €15 for adults, and €10 for children. For more information, visit www.shapeplayers.net.

Aug. 1

- **Mindful Yoga Therapy**
You will learn to calm your mind and center your body in order to enhance your daily life. Offered by Army Community Service from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)65-326824.



Upcoming elections

Below are the election dates for June to August:

- **July 17:** Alabama
- **July 24:** Georgia
- **August 2:** Tennessee
- **August 4:** Virgin Islands
- **August 7:** Ohio 12th Congressional District Special General
- **August 7:** Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Washington
- **August 11:** Hawaii
- **August 14:** Connecticut, Minnesota, Vermont, Wisconsin
- **August 21:** Alaska, Wyoming;
- **August 25:** Guam
- **August 28:** Arizona, Florida, Oklahoma

For more information, contact the Voting Assistance Officer for USAG Benelux, at DSN 366-6192 or +32(0)65-32-6192 or visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at: www.fvap.gov. ♦

UPCOMING ORGANIZED TRIPS & TOURS

SHAPE Trips & Tours

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Call DSN 423-3884 or +32 (0)65-443884.

- Luxembourg City, **July 7**
- Beyonce and Jay-Z Concert in Paris, **July 14**
- Rotterdam with Harbor Tour, **July 14**
- Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, The Netherlands, **July 21**
- Strasbourg, France, **July 28**
- Honfleur, France, **Aug. 4**
- Paris, **Aug. 11**
- London, **Aug. 12-15**
- Disneyland Paris, **Aug. 18**
- Kevin Hart Comedy Tour in Antwerp, **Aug. 25**
- Flower Parade in Zundert, The Netherlands, **Sept. 2**

- Heidelberg & World's Largest "Wurst" & Wine Festival in Bad Dürkheim, Germany, **Sept. 15**

- Trier, Germany, **Oct. 13**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- Deep Sea Fishing (Mackerel), **July 21**
- NFL Game at Wembley Stadium, **Oct. 27-29**



World Cup 2018: what a crazy night in Belgium!

Through July 15, millions of people will watch the 2018 World Cup. Every week until the end of the competition, we will give you information about this international soccer tournament. This week, for the fifth part of our series, let's talk about the remarkable comeback of Belgium against Japan.

By Christophe Morel
USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Monday night, Japan, the only team from Asia to reach the knockout stage, caused the Belgian supporters a few scares.

After two goals inside four minutes, it was 0-2 for Japan early in the second half! But after a remarkable comeback, Belgium finally won 3-2. Nacer Chadli, a player who was previously sitting on the bench, scored the last goal in the 94th minute!

Everywhere in Belgium, fans celebrated this come-from-behind victory late into the night. They sang, they danced, and they watched all the cars making noise in the streets.

Now, Belgium is one of the last 8 teams. The "Red Devils" will face Brazil Friday night

at the Kazan Arena in the quarter-finals.

Sixteen years after the 2-0 defeat in the quarter-finals of the 2002 World Cup (with a disallowed goal when the score was still 0-0), Belgium will try to get revenge.

Brazilians are favourites to win the 2018 World Cup, but all the Belgian fans dream about a victory, and hope to spend another crazy night. ♦



Belgian fans watch drivers making noise in the streets in Mons July 2, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)



One fan with the Belgian flag dances and sings on the Grand-Place July 2, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

Outside the Gate



Thousands of fans celebrate the victory on the Grand-Place in Mons July 2, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

Stay Vigilant

- Maintain situational at all times when attending events involving large crowds.
- Avoid locations which restrict or limit your movement and ability to exit the venue quickly.
- Pre-establish easily recognizable meeting spots to be used as emergency evacuation points where you and your family/friends can gather if needed.
- Move away from fights, incidents and avoid panicked crowds.
- Report any suspicious activity, unattended bags or anything outside of the norm. ♦



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Through July 15

- **Gallic Village in Liège** - There will be about 40 chalets/stands offering local products such as ham on the bone, spit-roasted ham, paella, grilled duck fillet, Savoyard tart, wine, beer and more. The covered terraces allow dining on the spot. Held on Place Saint Paul. No entrance fee.

Through Sept. 2

- **Star Wars Identities Exhibition in Brussels** - Two hundred costumes, props, models, and pieces of artwork are yours to discover. The collection spans all six *Star Wars* movies and the ongoing television series *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*. Held at Brussels Expo - Hall 2 on Place de Belgique. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry is €22.90 for adults on site (€21.90 if purchased online) and €16.90 for children (€15.90 if purchased online).

July 6-8

- **Provençal village in Tournai** - Artisans and producers will be selling santons (religious figurines), spices, olive oil, macaroons, biscuits, and more. Held on Place Saint-Pierre. Open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **WWII Military Camp in Herselt** - Visitors will see how it was in a camp during WWII. There will be U.S. and British original heavy and light material, demonstrations, and more. Held at Blauberg on Witputstraat. Open Friday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. No entrance fee.
- **Food Truck Festival in Ninove** - Held at Stadspark on Parklaan with lots of good food in a cozy atmosphere. The event starts at noon. No entrance fee.

July 7

- **Volksmarch in Dour for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs from Grand Place, 1 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea Market in Ladeuze** - Held on Rue Grande Drève, 6 featuring 50 booths from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 7-8

- **Far West in Brugelette** - There will be activities, shows with cowboys and Indians, horses, music, dance, and more. Held at Parc Communal on Avenue G. Petit. Entry is €6 for adults, and free for children under age 12. Open from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
- **Old Crafts Fair in Oordegem** - Held at Valkerij de Kaproen on Ouden Heirweg, 34 with demonstrations, stands, and Bird of Prey Shows. Open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. No entrance fee.

July 8/15/22/29 & August 5

- **Summer Dance Festival in Mons** - Held on Grand-Place every Sunday from 3 p.m. to midnight. Initiations into dance, parties, shows, and more. No entrance fee.



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

Through July 8

- **Food Truck Festival in Den Bosch** - The event has many mobile kitchens, food, and live music. Held at Bossche Paleiskwartier on Hugo de Grootlaan, 82. Open Friday from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m., and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. No entrance fee.
- **Wine/Winzer Market in Soest (GE)** - About 17 local vineyards participate in the event. Held at Theodor-Heuss-Park. Open Friday from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday from noon to midnight, and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. No entrance fee.

July 6-8

- **Rock on Grass in Brunssum** - A summer outdoor festival held at Schutterspark. The event has live music, special cars, motor bikes, food trucks, a festival market, and more. Entry is €10.
- **Dutch International Open Sheepdog Trial in Geijsteren** - Participants from all over the world compete for the trophy. Held around Castle Geijsteren on Maasheseweg. Open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. No entrance fee.

July 7

- **Conincx Pop in Elsloo** - A pop festival held along the river Maas. The event starts at 2 p.m. No entrance fee.
- **Essential Outdoor 2018 La Fiesta Loca in Heerlen** - A dance festival with 10 stages and a variety of music. Held at Coriopolis, Nieuw Eyckholt, 208. Open from 1 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Entry ranges from €19,99 to €39,99.

July 7-8

- **Afrikafestival in Hertme** - Artists give a mix of African music, Afrobeat, and jazz. There is also an African market and African food. The event takes place in the open air theater on Hertmerweg. For more information, visit www.afrikafestivalhertme.nl.
- **El Mundo Fantasia in Landgraaf** - This is the costume event of the South of the Netherlands with Fantasy, Cosplay, and Steampunk World. Held at Mondo Verde on Groene Wereld, 10. Open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry is €21 for adults, and €16.50 for children age 3 to 12.
- **Historic Festival in Vorden** - Held at Castle Vorden on De Horsterkamp, 8 with re-enactors, camps, battles, shows, and more. Open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry is €8 for adults, €5 for children.

July 8

- **Marina Market in Duisburg (GE)** - A combination of international culinary market, art market and weekly market. Held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Johannes-Corputius-Platz. No entrance fee.

Highway Construction and Road Closures

You may experience some delays while driving in Belgium this season. Road construction projects are occurring throughout the country and may result in temporary lane closures and road congestion. We will provide regular updates to ensure that the community is informed and prepared.



Mons-Valenciennes (E19/A7): Pay attention if you drive on E19/A7. There is a degradation of the pavement (right band) in Nimy, in the direction of Valenciennes, from km 57.0 to km 57.1. Please drive safe.



Meslin l'Evêque-Ath: Traffic is closed between the roundabout of Meslin Levêque and Chaussée de Bruxelles, in the direction of Ath. Drivers will have to take a deviation, or detour, via the N57 in Ghislenghien, E429/A8 in Lessines and then N56. Work is scheduled to be completed by mid-July.



Obourg-Thieu (E42-E19/A7): There is road congestion between Obourg and Thieu, in the direction of Brussels. The speed of traffic is reduced to 50 km/h. Work is scheduled to be completed by mid-July.



Brussels: During July and August, the Leopold II Tunnel is closed.



Brussels: Road construction began in the Reyers-Montgomery Tunnel in both directions and in the Reyers-Meiser Tunnel in the direction of the E40. Drivers who travel to Brussels from the ring are asked to use alternative routes via the A12, the Leopold III Tunnel and the E411. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.



Schinnen (A76): Due to the construction of the new on and off ramps on A76 (Highway Heerlen-Geleen), exit Schinnen #4 from Heerlen towards Geleen is closed. This results in the closure of the hard shoulder on both sides of the highway and a speed restriction of 70 km per hour until Jan. 31, 2019. Traffic should follow the yellow signs directing them to exit #2 Geleen-Beek and then access #2 on the A76 direction to Beek-Schinnen. The new A76 on and off ramps are scheduled to be completed this fall.



Andenne/Daussoux (E42/A15): The three-way yard project between Andenne and Daussoux has been underway since August 2017. This project involves 15 km in both directions. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained. Work is scheduled to be completed by August 2018.

Please be cautious and patient while driving at all times. If you have questions or would like to report other highway construction sites and road closures, please email the U.S.

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