Americans, Belgians pay tribute to local Belgian war hero

Frank Leon, the director of religious education, discovered Belgian Air Force Lt. Col. Joseph Daumerie's grave in Brueglette, Belgium, during a bike ride. To honor the local war hero and namesake of the garrison caserne, volunteers from the garrison’s religious support office cleaned the grave site and then joined the local community in honoring the 75th anniversary of Daumerie’s death Aug. 15, 2017, in Brueglette. (U.S. Army photo by Jessica Ryan)

See Page 3
Giants to dance in Ath for the Ducasse

From August 25, to 28, thousands of visitors will gather in Ath to celebrate the famous Ducasse, which holds the distinction of being a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Goliath of Gath from the Bible and Gallic War hero Ambiorix of the Belgae come to life in Ath every fourth weekend of August. The festival is a chance to see the famous giants, who have danced at the Ducasse d’Ath since the 15th century when it served as a celebration of the consecration of the local St. Julien Church.

The Ducasse will kick off with an archery contest on the town square at 4 p.m. The main highlight on Friday, the burning of the giant Goliath’s pants, takes place at 10:30 p.m. It is a Belgian tradition that friends of the groom burn a pair of his pants and host a huge party before the wedding.

Saturday will start with a wedding and ends with a fight. Goliath takes his fiancée from the city hall to the St. Julien Church to be married at 3 p.m. The newlyweds will return to city hall where Goliath is confronted by David, who is always played by a young boy, at about 6 p.m. This year, Timoté Pierot will be David. Goliath and him recite a dialogue called the Bonimée. David then hurls a stone from a sling at the giant. If David hits the giant, David has won the battle, and the city will have good luck for the next year.

The big parade Sunday will start at 9:45 a.m. from the train station and processes through the city. The parade moves very slowly and when the procession gets to the end of the route, it turns around and goes back down the same route in reverse at 3 p.m. If you watch the whole thing in both directions, expect it to last until around 5 p.m.

The parade will feature seven giants, floats, marching bands and historical groups. Onlookers throw coins at the giants as they pass for good luck.

On Monday, giants will roam the city in the morning with their carriers and receive coins from the population. At 4 p.m., the Santa Cecilia band and the Moulbaix majorettes will be on the Esplanade where mini-giants will dance to the music. Weather permitting, the hot-air balloon festival on the town square will start at 5 p.m. There will also be a fireworks display on September 8, at 9:30 p.m., which is the conclusion of the festival.

The biblical story of David and Goliath was influential to this festival along with a mix of fairy tales and folklore. Giants in folklore are huge mythical beings, usually in humanlike form. Battles between giants and men are interpreted as a symbol of the triumph of good over evil.

The Famous Pie

Ath is located just a few miles from Chièvres Air Base on Highway N56. If you plan to go to the city of giants this weekend, taste the famous masteilles pie. The speciality dessert is prepared only one time of the year, when the city allows giants to roam its streets. Ath’s traditional masteilles pie is served by the families after the battle between David and Goliath and can be found in local bakeries. Defining the taste is a bit illusive so it’s best to taste it for yourself.

Remain Vigilant

• Maintain situational awareness 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 and 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.
Americans, Belgians pay tribute to local Belgian war hero

By Sean Brish
USAG Benelux Public Affairs

August 15 was a time for reflection in the quaint town of Brugelette as the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux community joined the townspeople in commemorating the 75th anniversary of Belgian Air Force Lt. Col. Joseph Daumerie’s death. The afternoon was also spent celebrating the centennial of Chièvres Air Base and the 50th anniversary of the presence of American troops in Belgium.

André Desmarlières, the mayor of Brugelette, learned about the USAG Benelux commander Col. Kurt P. Connell’s intent to honor the local war hero and decided to host a commemorative event. Additionally, volunteers from the garrison’s Religious Support Office offered to clean Daumerie’s grave and participate in the event.

The idea initially came from Frank Leon, the director of religious education. He stumbled upon Daumerie’s grave a few weeks earlier while wandering through Brugelette.

“I was taking a bike ride through this countryside one summer evening and the cemetery was open,” said Leon. “So, I came inside and started reading the tombs and recognized his name right away.”

Born in 1888 in Brugelette, Daumerie fought in both World Wars I and II. In 1940, he helped establish a military intelligence network as a member of the Belgian underground movement. He was captured by the Germans and executed in Berlin on August 26, 1942. He was posthumously promoted to “Captain in the Intelligence and Action Services.” This prestigious title has been awarded to only 190 people, of whom a quarter earned the honor posthumously.

As the town band began playing the Belgian and U.S. national anthems, the event commenced with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Monument to the War Dead on the Brugelette Grand Place.

Later in the afternoon, garrison community members and the townspeople of Brugelette made their way to the cemetery. White roses were handed out to those wishing to lay them by Daumerie’s grave.

Among the attendees was garrison chaplain Lt. Col. William Lovell. He addressed the crowd, telling them how important it was to pay homage to the local hero. A final salute was given to Daumerie before Chaplain Capt. Paul Camiring blessed his grave.

“Every day I drive into a caserne named after Colonel Daumerie and I work in a chapel named after Colonel Daumerie,” Lovell said in his keynote speech. “It is fitting we honor his memory and the sacrifices he made for this country and for the Allies.”

Before heading to the reception, attendees gathered around Daumerie’s memorial plaque at the local pharmacy, where he was born, and placed a wreath beneath it.

The event also celebrated the centennial of Chièvres Air Base as a military base and the 50th anniversary of U.S. military presence in the area. During the reception, Mayor Desmarlières not only narrated Daumerie’s accomplishments but also spoke about the importance of the multicultural partnership between the U.S. Army and Brugelette, thanking everyone who had played a part in making the event a success.

Attendees also viewed displays showcasing the history of the air base and the presence of American troops in Belgium.

Following the mayor’s remarks, Lovell ended the ceremony by highlighting the solidarity between the American and Belgian communities and how it translated into commemorative events such as these.

“Since 1967, our American community and your population have lived and worked side by side in a peaceful and friendly environment. Together, for the past 50 years, we have accomplished great things.”
By Marie-Lise Baneton
USAG Benelux Public Affairs

There were no sirens blaring, no fire to put out, but Belgian firefighters in their full gear drove their trucks to Chièvres Air Base to join their U.S. counterparts of the 424th Air Base Squadron on the peaceful morning of August 19.

Air Force Master Sgt. Abelardo Salas, who took on his duties as the squadron’s fire chief at the NATO airfield in January 2017, approached Thierry Boembeke, the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Directorate of Emergency Services fire chief on conducting a joint exercise to test their interoperability with the Belgian equipment.

“I wanted to learn about their capabilities, to ensure that our equipment was interchangeable and that we have the ability to communicate effectively during firefighting operations” Salas said.

Fighting fires is the specialty they all share. However, the Air Force team’s core mission is to put out aircraft fires while the Belgians fight structural fires. In a crisis situation, they would complement each other with manpower, fire ground operations and water supplies.

This was nothing new for Boembeke, who has partnered with the local fire departments since 1990. “We regularly train together to ensure everything we have learned together in the past comes to us automatically in case of an emergency,” he said. “It’s important to do so, because the U.S. firefighters don’t stay here long and even on the Belgian side, there are always new team members.”

Maj. Michel Di Silvestro commands the Belgian team assigned to the nearby fire station representing the ‘Hainaut-Centre zone - Chièvres Post.’ He has a decade of training experience with the Air Force and has supported numerous garrison full scale exercises. “We have learned a lot from each other over time, but I want to continue to test our ability to collaborate and to communicate,” he said.

After a short slide presentation on the 424th ABS’s mission and a tour of the facilities, it was time to practice skills together. Teams made of one firefighter from each organization conducted search and rescue operations. The pairs went through a simulated burning room to find potential casualties. The challenge was the language as firefighters normally guide each other through facilities. “When you don’t know each other’s language, it’s an additional challenge,” Salas said.

Once that training was over, all had a chance to participate in target practice aboard the U.S. fire trucks. The driver, who also has to operate the turret, had to knock down cones located on the ground, simulating putting out an aircraft fire on the ground.

All thought the three-hour exercise was valuable in many ways. “We were able to confirm that our hose connections are compatible, and our search and rescue techniques have a lot of similarities,” Salas explained. “We have been working on this for years, but we must always update our skills and confirm that nothing has changed,” Boembeke added.

During the meal that followed the training session, the group discussed the morning’s events and agreed that there would be more opportunities to train together in the future. One of the simple things that will be done in the meantime is small cards with basic English and French words, so they can understand each other better.
Women's Equality Day observed Aug. 26

By Therese Ayers
USAG Benelux Equal Employment Opportunity Office

August 26 is designated in the United States as Women's Equality Day. Instituted by U.S. Rep. Bella Abzug and first established in 1971, the date commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave U.S. women full voting rights in 1920.

The first women's rights meeting was held at Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. The Women's Suffrage Movement began with that pivotal meeting and weakened during and after the Civil War. For practical and political reasons, the issue of black suffrage collided with women's suffrage and tactical differences divided the leadership.

Julia Ward Howe and Lucy Stone founded the American Woman Suffrage Association, which accepted men as members, worked for black suffrage and the 15th Amendment, and worked for women suffrage state-by-state. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Susan B. Anthony founded the National Woman Suffrage Association, which included only women. They opposed the 15th Amendment, because for the first-time citizens were explicitly defined as male and worked for a national constitutional amendment for woman suffrage.

Frances Willard's Women's Christian Temperance Union, the growing Women's Club movement after 1868, and many other social reform groups drew women into other organizations and activities though many worked for suffrage. These women often applied their organizational skills learned in the other groups to the suffrage battles.

Stanton, Anthony and Mathilda Jocelyn Gage published the first three volumes of their history of the suffrage movement in 1887 after winning women's vote in only a few states. In 1890, the two rival organizations, the NWSA and the AWSA, merged, under the leadership of Anna Howard Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt, into the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

After 50 years, a leadership transition had to take place. Mott died in 1880. Stone died in 1893. Stanton died in 1902. Her lifelong friend and coworker Anthony died in 1906.

Women continued to have active leadership in other movements, including the National Consumer's League, the Women's Trade Union League, movements for health reform, prison reform and child labor law reform. Their work in these groups helped build and demonstrate women's competence in the political realm but also drew women's efforts away from the direct battles to win the vote.

Large suffrage marches and parades in 1913 and 1915 helped bring the cause of woman suffrage back to the center. The NAWSA also shifted tactics. In 1916, the organization unified its chapters around efforts to push a suffrage amendment in Congress.

In 1915, Mabel Vernon, Sarah Bard Field and others traveled across the nation by automobile, carrying half a million signatures on a petition to the U.S. Congress. The press took more notice of the "suffragettes."

In 1917, three years after establishing woman suffrage in Montana, Jeannette Rankin was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and became the first woman to hold national office.

In 1919, Congress passed the 19th Amendment, sending it to the states. On August 26, 1920, after Tennessee ratified the amendment by one vote, the 19th Amendment was adopted.

The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality.

The Army observes this historic day by amplifying its appreciation of women's significant contributions. Visit https://www.army.mil/women/ to learn more about the history of women's service to the Army.
All communities

The following are VTC-projected classes. For 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.

August 30

- Master Resiliency Training: Assertive Communication - Held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This training focuses on how to use the IDEAL Model to communicate assertively.

September 6

- Master Resiliency Training: Effective Praise and Active Constructive Responding - Held from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. This training focuses on how to use active-constructive responding in communication.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

Through August 25

- Community Movie Night - Watch free movies on selected Thursday and Friday nights at the 3 Star Recreation Center starting at 6:30 p.m. The last screening is King Arthur (PG-13) on Aug. 25. For more information, call +32 (0)27-17-9822 or DSN 368-9822.

August 31

- 3 Star Dinner Special "All You Can Eat Pizza and Salad" - Starts at 5:30 p.m. Cost: $11 for adults; $5 for children. Reservations can be made at reservations3star@yahoo.com.

September 1

- Intramural League Flag Football Registration Deadline - Register at the Brussels Fitness Center. For more information, call +32 (0)2717-9667 or DSN 368-9667.

September 9

- 9/11 5km Remembrance Day Run/Walk - Join the Brussels community in recollection and contemplation while walking or running five kilometers along a specially chosen route from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call +32 (0)2717-9667 or DSN 368-9667.

September 16

- Fitness Day - Visit the Brussels Fitness Center for a morning of exercise and fun starting at 10 a.m. The first 60 participants will receive a free tee shirt. For more information, call +32 (0)2717-9667 or DSN 368-9667.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

August 25

- Ladies Night - Grab your girlfriends and enjoy a night out at the Schinnen Bowling Center starting at 6 p.m! There will be dollar tacos at the taco bar, a live DJ and dancing. For more information, call +31 (0)464-43-7207 or DSN 360-7207.

August 28-29

- "She Kills Monsters" Auditions - The Alliance Players in Brunssum is holding auditions for their upcoming production of Qui Nguyen's "She Kills Monsters" at the Alliance Theater starting at 7 p.m. on both days. Sign up at www.allianceplayers.org.

August 28 to September 1

- Commander's Cup Challenge - The fitness center has started a Commander's Cup Challenge, offering teams and individuals challenges to secure the Commander's Cup Trophy. Push-ups will be the next challenge. Participants must complete this challenge from August 28 to September 1. Please stop by or call the Schinnen Fitness Center at DSN 360-7561 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437561 for more information.

August 30

- The 2017 Summer Reading Program Raffle Draw - Come and join the JFC Brunssum Library staff at 6 p.m. for the 2017 Summer Reading Program Raffle Draw. Children and young adults who completed the program will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win super prizes.

- Schinnen Travel Office - The office will be closed August 30. Normal operation hours will resume August 31. The office email (schinnencto@cwtsatotravel.com) and the civilian phone number: +31 (0)46-4434373 will be monitored by the organization.
September 2-3
• **Library Closure** - The JFC Library will be closed September 2-3 due to road resurfacing on the base. The staff apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

September 13
• **Play & Parent Support Group** - ACS will host this group for parents with children up to 36 months in age. Each meeting has toys, circle time (with songs and books) and a sharing section where parents can discuss their parenting successes and challenges with Benelux New Parent Support Home Visitor. New Parent Support is available to all U.S. ID card holders. The home, office and hospital visits are all a great way to receive support and information from a caring professional regarding your pregnancy, newborn, young child or to discuss your family and transition to parenthood. For appointments and inquiries, please call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500.

September 21-22
• **ACS Host Nation - Newcomer’s Orientation and Cultural Tour** - All newcomers and spouses are invited to learn about their new community, including local customs, culture, and language, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Army Community Service. On the first day, explore the Dutch culture with an introduction to the language and get an overview of Tri-Border services. On the second day, go beyond the gate to visit local attractions and shopping areas and learn how to use the local train system. For more information or to register, please call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500.

**The following are Soldier For Life and Transition Assistance Program classes and events mandatory for separating and retiring service members:**

• **September 25** - **Veterans Affairs I and II Briefings.** VA Benefits I and II briefings are part of VA's portion of Transition Goals, Plans, Success, or GPS, which is designed to help military members make the transition to civilian life. Find out the latest on VA policies, benefits and eligibility from the people who know.

• **September 25-29** - **Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program SFL/TAP registration is now open!** This is also a reminder that SFL/TAP classes are mandatory for separating and retiring service members.

• **September 26-28:** **Department of Labor Employment Workshop.** Learn the skills needed to make your transition to civilian life successful. DOLEW includes effective job search, résumé-writing and interviewing techniques. Be sure to bring a laptop computer or electronic tablet to the workshop.

• **September 29:** **Personal Financial Planning for Transition.** This briefing will help prepare you and your family with the financial management tools and resources to help assure your family's strong financial future.

• **All classes will take place at the JFC Brunssum Library's Multipurpose Room from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** You can attend all or any that you may be interested in. For more information, call DSN 606-2443848/3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263848/3475.

SHAPE/CHIÈVRES COMMUNITY
See also above in "All Communities"

August 25
• **Cinema and a Slice** - The Youth Center invites children for a movie and pizza night at SHAPE Bldg. 503 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. This event is open to all registered youth in grades 6-12. For more information, call +32 (0)65-32-6839 or +32 (0)65-32-6797.

• **Dogs' Day Out** - The Chièvres Kennel invites all dogs in the Benelux community and their people to an afternoon of canine and human fun at the SHAPE Fest Tent from noon to 4 p.m. Events include a fun dog show, grooming demonstrations, obedience demo, agility course, photo booth and more. For more information, call the Chièvres Kennel at DSN 361-5436.

August 28-29 and September 18-19
• **Host Nation Orientation** - ACS is inviting all service members, civilians, and their family members to participate in Host Nation Orientation from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m at ACS Bldg. 318. Registration is required. Call DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)6532-6824.

September 1-27
• **Watercolor Exhibition with Eric Delbart** - Watch artist Eric Delbart work on watercolor paintings at the SHAPE Club every Friday starting at 2 p.m. For more information, call + 32498937315.

September 2
• **BOSS Strong Viking: Water Edition** - Open to single service members. This will be a dynamic team building experience and promotes physical fitness, readiness and esprit de corps! Food and transportation will be provided. Deadline for registration is August 31. Call DSN 361-6820.
Netherlands Law Center Announcement

The Office of The Judge Advocate General is now accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program. Under this program, the Army projects sending up to 25 active-duty commissioned officers to law school at government expense. Selected officers will attend law school beginning the fall of 2018 and will remain on active duty while attending law school. Interested officers should review Army MILPER Message 17-051 and Chapter 10, AR 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility. This program is open to commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain. Applicants must have at least two, but not more than six, years of total active federal service at the time legal training begins. Eligibility is governed by statute (10 U.S.C. 2004) and is non-waivable. Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test. Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at AHRC, send the original application to the Office of The Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Rm 28517), 2200 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310, to be received by November 1, 2017. Submission of the application well in advance of the deadline is advised. Interested officers in the Netherlands can contact the Netherlands Law Center at DSN 360-7693 or commercial +31 (0)46-4437693.

Upcoming Organized Trips

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

• Polish Pottery - Karlovy Vary - Neustadt, Sept. 1-4
• Heidelberg and Bad Durkheim (Wurst and Wine Festival), September 16
• Atlantic Wall Museum & Oostende, September 23
• Rotterdam Military Tattoo (colorful indoor music show), September 30
• India, October 7-17
• Alsace Vineyards, October 14-15
• Paris, October 21
• Polish History and Vienna, Oct. 28 - Nov. 3
• Cooking Class in Lille, November 4
• Moulin Rouge, Paris, November 11
• London, November 25
• Luxembourg Christmas Markets, December 2
• Germany Christmas Markets, December 9-10
• Reykjavik & Iceland, December 3-7
• Berlin, December 29 - Jan. 1
• Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year

Schinnen Trips & Tours
Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437560.

• Family Day “Trout Fishing”, September 9
• Day Trip to the World's largest wine festival and “600 years Wurstmarkt” in Bad Durkheim, Germany, September 16
• Day Trip to the National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 in Groesbeek, September 23
• Prague Express, October 27-29

September 7
• A Day at the Mons Memorial Museum - Explore the local community with Army Community Service's Relocation Readiness Program. The Mons Memorial Museum has great exhibits detailing the complex realities of World Wars I and II. Cost: Museum Admission €6; Transportation €4,20. To sign up, call DSN 366-6824 or +32 (0)6532-6824.

September 8-9
• SHAPE Fest - Held at the SHAPE Fest Tent. There will be international food and drinks from NATO nations, activity playpark, live music, and carnival rides. For more event details, visit http://www.shape2day.com.

September 11
• Patriot Run - Join the SHAPE/Chièvres community in recollection and contemplation while walking or running five kilometers along a specially chosen route from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call +32 (0)6827-5643 or DSN 361-5643.
Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

**Through September 2**
- *Summer Gardens in Mons* - From Monday to Saturday (except Aug. 15) on Place du Marché Aux Herbes. A lot of activities for children, karting, music and more. Free entry.

**Through September 3**
- *Royal Palace in Brussels* - When the royal family goes on vacation, the palace is open to the public. Open from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed on Mondays. Free entry.

*August 25*
- *Big flea market in Hoves* - Held on the square featuring 400 booths from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

*August 25-28 and September 8*
- *Giants in Ath during Ducasse* - Starts Friday at 3 p.m. and ends September 8 with fireworks at 9:15 p.m. Don’t miss the giants’ wedding Saturday at 3 p.m and the battle between David and Goliath around 6 p.m. Amazing giant parade on Sunday at 9:45 a.m and 3 p.m. Free entry.

*August 26*
- *Ducasse in Erbiseoul* - Held on Rue Basse from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Craft market, flea market (120 booths), music and activities for children. Free entry.
- *Ville-Pomm'Rock Festival in Pommereoule* - A music festival held on the square. Three rock bands will perform from 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free entry. For more info, visit http://www.villepommrock.be/
- *"Multifestival Aout en Eclats" in Soignies* - Held on Place Verte and Place Van Zeeland from 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Concerts, shows, circus groups, theater, activities for children and more. Free entry.

*August 27*
- *Visit Attre Castle* - Open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. A guided tour in English is available. Tickets: €7.50 for adults; €5 for children; €6.50 for seniors and students.
- *Volksmarch in Neufvilles for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km* - Departs Route de Montignies, 1 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- *Flea Market in Quaregnon* - Held at the station featuring 250 booths from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- *Flea Market in Saint-Gilles* - Held on Rue du Fort featuring 100 booths from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*August 31-September 3*
- *"Les rencontres inattendues", a festival of philosophy and music in Tournai* - Hundred philosophers, musicians, singers and actors will be involved in more than 25 shows, workshops and debates, in various locations of the city: the Cathedral, the Cloth Hall, the Court and the Bishop’s Palace Square, the Tourist Office, the Episcopal Seminary and the Musée des Beaux-Arts.

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

**Through August-26**
- *Euroasia (BE)* - Held in Gent (BE). The market features both European and Asian goods. Open Tuesday, noon to 10 p.m. and Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free entry.

*August 25-26*
- *Wine Fest (GE)* - Delicious wines and all kinds of culinary products at the French market in Park d’Eu in Haan (GE). Open on Friday, 2 to 10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- *Food Tasting Park (NL)* - Food event held at Kenaupark in Haarlem (NL) with more than 33 participating food trucks. Open Friday, 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 11 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 8 p.m. Free entry.
- *Summer Fair (NL)* - Held at Olaertsduyn Estate on Windgatseweg 2 in Rockanje (NL). An exclusive fair with culinary food trends, food trucks, gadgets, live music, fashion shows, home & garden trends and more. Open Friday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €5 for adults; free for children 11 and younger.

*August 26*
- *Culemborg Blues (NL)* - One of the largest free blues festivals in the Netherlands. The festival is held from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m. at several stages in the historic center of Culemborg (NL).
- *"Pure Passie" Festival (NL)* - A lifestyle fair with more than 130 stands, good music, delicious food, many garden ideas, creative artists and lots more at the Kernhem Estate on Kernhemseweg 7 in Ede (NL). Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free entry.

*August 26-27*
- *Koemperock (NL)* - A free rock festival at Sportpark Lindenheuvel on Rozenlaan 75 in Geleen (NL). Open August 26 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. and August 27 from 1 to 8 p.m.
- *Art Square (NL)* - An annual Art market held at Onze Lieve Vrouweplein in the center of Maastricht (NL). Open both days open from noon to 6 p.m. Free entry.
- *Castle Festival (GE)* - Held at the lower castle (Niederburg) and tourney field of Manderscheid (GE). Open Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Entry: €10 for adults; €4 for children age 12-17.
- *Mussels Festival (NL)* - Held in the center of Philippine (NL) with lots of activities involving mussels, old crafts, demonstrations, art market and more. Open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.