

THE GAZETTE

IMCOM-Europe's #1 Newsletter

Published for members of the Chièvres Air Base, Caserne Daumerie, SHAPE and Brussels communities

It's Soldes Time

As of July 1, signs will be posted on virtually every store in Belgium, announcing Soldes. Soldes simply means now is the best time to shop on the economy because numbers of items from summer clothes to furniture to even groceries are on sale. Soldes is held twice a year in January and July, and discounts can be as much as 80 percent off. Soldes will run until July 31.

Commander's Hotline

Voice your ideas and concerns directly to the USAG Benelux commander. Visit the Benelux homepage at www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil and click on "Commander's Hotline" on the left navigation menu. The form is submitted directly to the commander without first passing through anyone else. This is your avenue to influence daily operations around the Benelux.

U.S. Holiday

July 3 is a U.S. Holiday in honor of America's Independence Day. The garrisons will have minimal manning and services that day. There will be no TLA or in- and out-processing services at the U.S. Housing Office on SHAPE.

Commissary Open on July 4

The Chièvres Commissary is open July 4 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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Chièvres Lodge Open for Business

By **Christie Vanover and Rachel Parks**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

CHIÈVRES, Belgium – The community gathered to celebrate the opening of the new Army Lodge on Chièvres Air Base, June 23.

"This facility is a source of pride for the entire region," said JoAnn Chambers, chief of staff, IMCOM-Europe. "It is the first environmentally-friendly Lodge to be erected in

Europe. It's the newest and most modern in the region."

This is the 10th Army Lodging facility in the world to be built to the new Army standard, and it's the first in Europe due in large part to the Army Corps of Engineers.

"It took a lot of toil, sweat and commitment to ensure that this 15-million-dollar Lodge was completed on time, on scope and on budget," said Lt. Col. Anela Arcari, deputy commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District, "but the effort of all of our team members was no less than our Soldiers and their families deserve."

Before the Chièvres Lodge, most Servicemembers, civilians and their families called the Hotel le Maisières home while they were in- and out-processing at SHAPE and Chièvres. In early June, guests began transitioning to the new facility, which has

Continued on next page



Frank Kislán, IMCOM-E F&MWR project engineer; JoAnn Chambers, IMCOM-E, chief of staff; Col. James Drago, USAG Benelux garrison commander and William Cook, Chièvres Army Lodge manager, cut the ribbon during the official Grand Opening.

Transferability Policy for Post 9-11 GI Bill Announced

By **Rachel Parks**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

The Post 9-11 GI Bill takes effect Aug. 1, and the Department of Defense recently announced the policy for transferring educational benefits to spouses or children of Servicemembers.

The DOD also announced that on June 29, eligible Servicemembers can begin signing up their immediate family members for the transferability option under the Post 9-11 GI Bill, using a new secure DOD Web site.

After Servicemembers designate their spouse or children online, the Army will verify the information

and then Servicemembers will need to apply for the benefits through the Veterans Administration.

Cris Weisbecker, the acting Benelux Education Services officer, said there are many people who will want to take advantage of the new bill. She said the transferability option has been a major selling point to many people.

The transferability provision was pushed by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates after the idea was raised at a military spouse group at Fort Hood, Texas.

"We have had an overwhelm-

ing response and do expect quite a few of our members to take advantage of this," said Bob Clark, the assistant director for accessions policy at the Pentagon.

Eligible Servicemembers who take advantage of the post 9-11 GI bill and want to transfer their benefits will need to meet certain criteria before they can do so. Also, once Servicemembers have signed up for the new bill, they cannot go back to the Montgomery GI Bill, said Weisbecker.

The new bill might be the perfect option for many Ser-

Continued on next page

New Lodge Continued

notable changes and upgrades compared to the Maisières.

"First and foremost, we have air-conditioning at this Lodge. Each room also has a DVD player and there is a 32-inch flat screen television in each guest room. In the suites, there are two televisions, one in the sitting area and one in the bedroom," said Lodge General Manager William Cook. Additionally, each room is wired for high-speed internet. Currently however, technicians are working through some installation issues, so the speed is not at full capacity yet.

Cook added that these amenities are just the beginning of the improvements. Compared to three family suites at the Maisières, the new Lodge has 60 and each includes a two-plate range in the kitchenette portion of the room, as well as a microwave, refrigerator and dishwasher. There are also 34 standard rooms with microwaves and refrigerators.

One of the major advantages, according to Cook is the new location on Chièvres Air Base. "Patrons are within walking distance of all the stores, the credit union and the gym. That's a big thing. And if you need to board pets at the kennel, it's just down the road, so you can go down there and visit them or go on a walk," he said.

The Lodge supports all authorized U.S. military, civilian personnel and official NATO visitors who are traveling to the area for official business or leisure travel. To make reservations, call DSN 361-6704 or CIV 068-26-7404.

Read more about new construction within the Benelux in the next Edge, out July 1.

Post 9-11 GI Bill Continued

vicemembers, she added, but it may not be the right fit for every Servicemember.

"Each person has to look into their future plans," she said. "This is not always the best choice for every individual," she added, noting that certification testing is not covered under the Post 9-11 GI Bill but it is covered under the Montgomery GI Bill.

Weisbecker said people interested in learning more about the Post 9-11 GI Bill should start their search for information on the VA Web site. "The Ed Center representatives are working to become subject matter experts on the new GI Bill but this is a VA program, and people will need to contact the VA to get started," she said.

Weisbecker stressed that the most important thing Servicemembers and their families can do is educate themselves about the differences between the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post 9-11 GI Bill.

"Take your time, read the information that's out there, make your own personal decision," said Weisbecker.

She also said that Servicemembers who need to be on top of the process and pay attention to the approaching

roll-out dates are those who want to use the new GI Bill for a school term starting in the fall.

Active duty Servicemembers or select reserve members who are serving on or after Aug. 1, who have served at least six years, and are willing to commit to an additional four years, are entitled to transfer benefits to their spouse. In order to transfer benefits to a child, the Servicemember needs to have served at least 10 years and be willing to commit to more time in service.

Servicemembers who have served at least 90 consecutive days on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, are also entitled to some benefits but these cannot be transferred to dependents and are pro-rated for the amount of time the Servicemember was on active duty.

Weisbecker stressed that there are many significant changes to this GI Bill and VA representatives will be able to answer questions and help get the process started if a Servicemember would like to take advantage of the program or transfer their benefits to a spouse or child/children.

[Portions of this article are from the American Forces Press Service]

VA Web site

www.gibill.va.gov

DOD Web site for June 29 Transfer

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB>

DOD Web site (regarding transferability)

https://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2009/0409_gibill

THE GAZETTE

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29 June

- **Couleur Café music festival Brussels**, at the Tours and Taxis site on Avenue du Port 86c in Brussels. Couleur Café is a Music Festival dedicated to all types of urban music across the world including R&B, hiphop, world, afro, reggae, ragga, dub, dancehall, latin, salsa, son, raï, rock, dance. Started in 1990, Couleur Café spreads nowadays over three festive summer nights. For program and reservations, visit www.couleurcafe.be.

29 June

- **Yearly festival on the square of Meslin-L'Évêque** (Ath area). At 6 p.m., 18th competition of the throwing of fresh eggs. Registration on the spot. At 8:30 p.m., after-party.

30 June and 2 July

- **Ommegang Pageant in Brussels**. More than 1,400 extras, dressed in authentic historic costumes, horses, coaches and giants, take part in the spectacle. Yearly colorful pageant on Brussels' Grand'Place commemorates a celebration in honor of Emperor Charles V in the 16th century. The Ommegang takes place on both days at 9 p.m. The procession starts at the Sablon at 8:50 p.m. and ends at the Grand'Place where the show starts at 9 p.m. To book a seat, call 070-660601.

1 July – 30 August

- **Summer of Antwerp**. The 'Summer of Antwerp' brings relaxation and color to the city, bringing music from the four corners of the globe, open-air films screened on the docks of the River Scheldt, visual theater and unusual events and installations. For detailed program, visit www.zomervanantwerpen.be.

2 – 5 July

- **Rock Werchter Festival**. This is the 35th edition of the festival held in the Flemish Brabant, near Brussels. With the participation of Jason Mraz, Metallica, Black Eyed Peas, The Killers, Dave Matthews Band, Lady Gaga, Nine Inch Nails, Oasis, Placebo, Lily Allen, Katy Perry and more. For detailed schedule and tickets, visit www.rockwerchter.be.

3 July

- **Night market (25 booths) at Brugge**, on Sint-Pieterskerkstraat. Open from 5 to 10 p.m.
- **Night market at Gent**, on Fr. Van Ryhovelaan. Open from 4 to 11 p.m.
- **Arts and craft and flea market (150 booths)** at 7861 Papignies (Ath area), on Place Borremans. Open from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

U.S. Tri-Missions and U.S. Army Garrison Brussels 2009

Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Fun

Independence Day Festival

Saturday, July 4th 3:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

USAG Brussels Sterrebeek Annex




Waterslide, Bouncy Castles, Games, Activities, Food & Drink,
Live Entertainment, Bingo, Uncle Sam and MORE!

Fun for Everyone!

For More Info call 02-717-9763

Remember to Bring Both Dollars and Euros

The US Army does not officially endorse any product sponsors in connection with this event.

HATS OFF TO AMERICA!

Independence Day Celebration!

SHAPE, Belgium

Friday, 3 July from 1500-2300
Carnival Rides, Softball Tournament

Saturday, 4 July from 1200-2330 (Fireworks at 2300)
Live Entertainment, Food & Beverages, Carnival Rides

Hertz **Exchange** **SKYSAT** **ING** **SatoTravel** **MWR**

American 4th of July Celebrations in Belgium

By Christie Vanover and Thad Moyseowicz

USAG Benelux and USAG Brussels Public Affairs

The American communities in Belgium are ready to celebrate Independence Day with 4th of July festivals on SHAPE and in Brussels.

"Chièvres Garrison hosts the annual U.S. Independence Day Celebration on SHAPE under the Fest Tent in the 500 Area near the GB. This year, the celebration has expanded to two days, July 3 and 4, with lots of activities planned for each day," said Dorothy Keasey, chief, Community Recreation Division. "All U.S. and SHAPE ID cardholders and their guests are invited to attend the American-style National Day, with lots of food, entertainment, fireworks and fun."

The activities on SHAPE start at noon on Friday with a softball tournament on Fields 8 and 9. Teams of nine who want to participate should call the SHAPE Gym at DSN 423-3993 to sign up.

"Spectators are encouraged to cheer the teams on during this fun one-pitch competition," said Keasey.

From 3 to 11 p.m. on Friday and noon to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, carnival rides will overtake the parking lot near the Pizza Bowl. In addition to go-karts, pony rides and more, the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers program is sponsoring a dunk tank, and they promise to have some big names ready to taunt those with a good fast ball.

On July 4, the Fest Tent near the GB parking lot will be packed with live entertainment, food and beverages.

And before fireworks are launched at 11 p.m., MWR is teaming up with BOSS at 6 p.m. to award some major prizes like a round-trip ticket from Europe to the U.S.

To enter, fill out an entry form at the new Chièvres Lodge, the Chièvres Fitness Center or the Army Community Service office in Bldg. 318 on SHAPE. The drawing is only open to U.S. ID cardholders who are 18 and older.

And there's no need to leave the Fest Tent this year to see the fireworks. They're being launched from the SHAPE soccer field behind the gas station, and Keasey said the Fest Tent is the best spot to see all the action.

In addition to fun and entertainment, Chièvres Garrison is promoting its summer safety campaign in conjunction with the Federal Police. They will have a rollover car on site along with a bicycle orientation course for children. BOSS is also promoting its message "I.A.M. Strong" to help engage Soldiers to combat sexual assaults.

To accommodate guests in the new Chièvres Lodge, the garrison is offering shuttle service July 3 and 4. The shuttle will run on its weekend schedule both days, with an additional shuttle departing after the fireworks from the SHAPE Healthcare Facility.

In Brussels, the garrison is partnering with the Brussels Tri-Missions to host a celebration at the Sterre-

beek Annex (the site of the Brussels American School).

At 9 a.m., the festivities begin with the Matt Reimann Firecracker Run. The free, family-friendly run has three categories: 2K (non-competitive, stroller-friendly), 5K and 10K. It will be held in Tervuren Park. Register in advance at the USAG Brussels Fitness Center or register on-site the morning of the run from 8 to 8:45 a.m.

A 10 a.m., the one-pitch softball tournament begins. Registration is limited to the first seven teams. To sign up, stop by the Fitness Center or call 02-717-9667.

The opening ceremony kicks off at 3 p.m. followed by plenty of activities for young and old, including an inflatable water slide and the day's finale, the spectacle of fireworks.

U.S. DoD ID cardholders (U.S. Servicemembers/civilians and their adult dependents) are authorized to sign-in four people on at USAG Brussels Sterrebeek Annex gate without the need for prior arrangement. For those with more than four guests, they must be pre-cleared through the security manager. Email the sponsor name and parent organization; contact details, including phone number; names, nationality of each guest and the national ID or passport numbers for those guests to ann.m.smith@eur.army.mil by noon on July 1.

"Hats Off to America as we celebrate the 233rd birthday of the United States of America," said Keasey.

Brussels One-Pitch Softball Tournament

July 4, 10 a.m.

Sign up at the USAG Fitness Center or call 02-717-9667

Chièvres One-Pitch Softball Tournament

July 3, noon

Sign up at the SHAPE Gym or call DSN 423-3993

Brussels Matt Reimann Firecracker Run

July 4, 9 a.m.

2K, 5K and 10K

Register at the USAG Fitness Center or on-site

Win a round-trip ticket to the U.S.

Fill out an entry form at Chièvres Lodge, the Chièvres Fitness Center or Chièvres ACS office. Open to U.S. ID cardholders only. Drawing at 6 p.m. on July 4.

3 – 27 July

- **Fun fair at Namur**, on Place des Cadets, Rue des Bourgeois and Rue du 1er Lancier. 80 stalls, with traditional and modern attractions. Open on weekdays from 4 p.m. to midnight and on weekends from 3 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

4 July

- **Volksmarch for 50, 25, 14 or 7 km at Ellezelles** (25 km North- West from Chièvres). Departs from the Salle Wallemacq on 17 Arbre Saint-Pierre, 17 from 7 to 9 a.m. to the 50 km route and from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the other routes.
- **Flea market downtown Havré** (Mons area). Open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Arts and craft and flea market (100 booths) at Nivelles**, in Ste-Barbe area. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

4 – 5 July

- **Plazey Festival at Koekelberg (Brussels area), in the Saint Elizabeth Park**. This is a family event free of charge with many concerts, visual entertainment and gourmet treats, as well as all kinds of activities for children. Starts at 6 p.m. on July 4 and 1 p.m. on July 5. For additional information, visit www.plazey.be.
- **Flea market (150 booths) at Gent**, on Van Beveverplein. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both days.
- **Flea market (30 booths) at Tournai**, on Rue Doublet. Open from 2 to 8 p.m. on July 4 and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 5.
- **The Middle Age at the citadel of Namur**. Travel through time to the Middle Ages. This year the animations are focused on the theme of comic strips and medieval images. Hundreds of artists will be present. Open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on July 4 and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on July 5. For additional information, visit www.citadelle.namur.be.
- **Yearly windmill Fest at Ostiches** (Ath area). On July 4, at 3 p.m., experience the beer and farm products fair and draught horse contest. On July 5, starting at 10 a.m., visit the windmill, see displays of former and miniature tractors, shop the farm products market, arts and craft market and flea market, and sample beer tasting. Concludes with hot air balloon launchings and fireworks. All activities are free of charge (except the visit of the windmill).

4, 11, 18 and 25 July

- **Colora Festival at 3000 Leuven**. Colora treats you to festive world music every Saturdays in July. Besides the music, ethnic organizations are there to provide information about their activities. 30CC/Binnenplein Romaanse Poort, 63 Brusselsestraat at 3000 Leuven.

5 July

- **Volksmarch for 30, 20, 12, 7 or 5 km at Ostiches** (Ath area). Departs from the soccer field on 32 Chemin de Stocq from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 20, 10 or 5 km at Blaton** (20 km South-West from Chièvres). Departs from the school on Rue des Ecoles from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 20, 10 or 5 km at Bousval** (16 km East from Nivelles). Departs from 44 Haute Rue from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 20, 10 or 5 km at Oisquerq** (15 km North-West from Nivelles). Departs from the tent set up at the sports center on Rue du Canal from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch for 20, 10 or 5 km at Casteau** (SHAPE area). Departs from La Grange on 5b Rue Saint Antoine from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market (600 booths) at Auderghem** (Brussels area), on Place Pinoy. Open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market (450 booths) downtown Brugge**. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market (150 booths) at Brugge**, on Sint-Pieterskerkiaan. Open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Arts and craft and flea market (170 booths) downtown Enghien**. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market (50 booths) at Gent**, on Elfjulistraat. Opens at 9 a.m.
- **Arts and craft and flea market (150 booths) at Nivelles**, on the train station parking area. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market downtown Obourg (Mons area)**. Open from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market (350 booths) at Oostende**, on Gerechtsplein and Westerkwartier. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Arts and craft and farm products market (75 booths) at Thoricourt** (15 km East from Chièvres), on Vieille Place. Open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market (150 booths) at Watermael-Boisfort** (Brussels area), on Quartier des Archiducs. Open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

5, 12, 19 and 26 July

- **Les Collégiades at Mons.** A series of organ concerts taking place every Sunday of July at 6 p.m. in the collegiate church of Sainte-Waudru in Mons. This program exists for more than 15 years and stands for quality music and performers. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. No prior registration needed. Entrance fee is €9. Free entrance for young under 14.

7 July – 23 August

- **Brussels by water** – summer cruises at Brussels, from Quai Beco, Avenue du Port, close to Tours & Taxis. Discover Brussels along the canal. 45-minute guided boat tours every day at 2, 3, 4, and 5 p.m. (except on Mondays). Prices are €4 per adult, €3 for children between 11 and 3 and free under 3. No reservations required. Every Tuesday and Friday, evening cruises between 7:30 and 9:30 pm. Prices are €4 per adult, €3 for children between 11 and 3 and free under 3. Book in advance. For reservations and more information, visit www.brusselsbywater.be



8 – 19 July

- **Gent Jazz Festival.** Buy your tickets now! This is a mix of young talent and international musicians with a well-established reputation. During the first part of the festival, you will enjoy mainstream and avant-garde jazz. As usual, the second part focuses on jazz fusion of diverse music movements. This years' edition features big names such as Jamie Cullum, George Benson, Jamie Lidell and Joe Jackson. A tribute to Nina Simone is also planned. For detailed program and reservation, visit www.gentjazz.com.

10 -12 July

- **Cactus Festival at Brugge.** Outdoor music festival at Minnewaterpark and Bargeplain. For tickets and additional information, visit www.cactusfestival.be

11 July

- **Flea market at Ghlin** (Mons area), on Place Busteau. Open from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

11 – 12 July

- **Flea market (80 booths) at Mons**, on Quartier du Trieu. Open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both days.
- **Arts and crafts and flea market (60 booths) at Strepy-Bracquegnies** (La Louvière area), on Rue Monnoyer and Noulet. Open from 5 to 11:30 p.m. on July 11 and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 12.
- **Brosella folk and jazz at Brussels**, at the Theatre de Verdure, on Avenue de l'Atomium. Twenty open-air concerts to awake nostalgia and kindle new enthusiasm. Children are all part of the fun, and there is entertainment provided just for them. Free.

11 – 20 July

- **"Death rides" from the Atomium at Brussels**, on Square de l'Atomium. Death rides from the top sphere of the Atomium, a breathtaking descent of more than 100 meters. Supervised by professionals. Every day from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2:30 to 6 p.m. Price is €25 per person. For information, visit www.belventura.be.

12 July

- **Flea market (100 booths) at Gent**, on Vrijdagmarkt. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Antique market (25 booths) downtown Gent.** Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market (200 booths) downtown Nivelles.** Open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

13 July

- **"Les 3 Terrils" festival at Dour** (Mons area), on Plaine de la Machine à Feu. The Kids Festival changes its name and becomes 'Les 3 Terrils', a festival based on the discovery of contemporary music with an environmental approach. The 3 Terrils is open to all genres and trends. Doors open at noon. Entrance fee is €25 or €10 for young under 16. For more information and tickets, visit www.les3terrils.be.

Ongoing Until...

5 July

- **"Presidents of the USA" exhibition** at 4020 Liège, at the Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, on 3 Parc de la Boverie. This exhibition has the official support of the Embassy of the United States of America and pays tribute to the 44 presidents of the United States. Through photos, illustrations and films, visitors discover America's exciting history and some historic moments between Belgium and the United States. A film (French, English, Dutch) on 400 years of joint history between the United States and Belgium is continuously being showed during the exhibition. Open from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Closed on Monday. Entrance fee is €5 per person. For additional information, visit www.presidentusa.be.

30 August

- **A soldier's life at the Royal Museum of Mariemont.** Discover the Great War through an unpublished manuscript, illustrated with many pictures and drawings, relating Gustave Groleau's life during the war. Groleau served in the Belgian army and fought on the Yser front. His books recount the wartime atrocities. Exhibition is open from Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Musée Royal de Mariemont on 100 Chaussée de Mariemont at 7140 Morlanwelz-Mariemont. Entrance fee is €4. For additional information, visit www.musee-mariemont.be.

20 September

- **14 comic strip authors pay tribute to the atomium at 1020 Brussels**, Square de l'Atomium. Each illustrator will place his composition in a 1950s, contemporary or futuristic setting. The theme is the Atomium itself and the spirit of Expo '58. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

28 September

- **Brussels Rollers.** Every Friday from June to end of September, leave your car behind and get your skates on. From the Palais de Justice to the race course at Boitsfort, the broad boulevards of Brussels are reserved just for you. Ten km open to everyone and 10 km for thrill-seekers, in the company of several thousand fellow skaters, this is a trip that combines good humour and conviviality. It ends with a fiesta right in the centre of town, sometimes late into the night. Departs from the Place Poelaert at 1000 Brussels. For additional information and to get confirmation that the parade is still on, visit www.belgiumrollers.com.

Sign Up Now

For information and to sign up, call SHAPE Trips and Tours at DSN 423-3884

- **Paris, Montmartre district. July 4.** See the artistic side of Paris. Begin your day with the optional two-hour guided walking tour to explore the Paris that inspired some of the great artists (Moulin Rouge, windmills of Montmartre, Sacre Coeur Basilica, Vincent Van Gogh's house, Place du Tertre where artist's work is painted and sold on the spot). After the tour the rest of the day is yours to explore this amazing side of Paris! Departs SHAPE at 8 a.m. and returns at 1a.m. Prices are €40 without tour and €60 with tour.
- **Nausicaa aquarium. July 5.** Guided tour included. Take a journey beneath the sea to Europe's largest marine complex. From the Mediterranean Sea creatures to African penguins, learn about the wet and wild part of our planet. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and returns at 7:30 p.m. Prices are €55 per adult, €50 per child under 12. Prices include transportation, entrance to aquarium, and guided tour.



Rachel Parks

London – July 11.

A day of free time in the city of endless attractions: Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, Museums and the West End theatre district. Departs SHAPE at 5:30 a.m. and returns at 2 a.m. Price is €60.

- **Dolfinarium. July 12.** Back stage tour included. You will have your own private-guided tour and time to see the nine different shows going on. This unique park is a wonderful place to spend a summer day. Departs SHAPE at 6:30 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m. Price is €75.
- **Dour Festival at Dour (Mons area). July 16 – 19.** European alternative music event for music lovers. See the Pet Shop Boys, Sepultura, EPMD, Dropkick Murphys and more. The Dour Festival opened its gates for the first time in 1989. Twenty years later the first Belgian festival to offer several stages and a camping site has been recognized internationally. Bands and festival-goers from all over Europe gather at Dour every summer. More than 140,000 spectators gathered last year. Prices are €85 for a four-day pass (€100 camping included) and €40 for a one day pass (€50 camping included). Detailed program and reservations on www.dourfestival.be.
- **Rhine River Cruise. July 18.** You will follow the Rhine River in the direction of Bonn, Königswinter over the Remagen Bridge on to Koblenz. At Koblenz you have free time for lunch at the Deutsche Eck. At 2 p.m., you board a Rhine boat, the Köln Düsseldorf line, and cruise for approximately 3 hours along the most beautiful castles and villages along the Rhine River. You will arrive in St. Goar at approximately 5 p.m. with free time to enjoy this typical German city. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m., and returns at 10 p.m. Prices are €77 per adult, €65 for youth between 4 and 13 and €45 per child under 3.
- **Disneyland, 2 parks-one day. July 21.** Experience the happiest place on earth. With the thrilling ride and fantastic shows, you will have an action packed day that is sure to satisfy the whole family. Departs SHAPE at 6 a.m. and returns at 11 p.m. Prices are €87 per adult, €75 for youth between 3 and 11 and €35 per child under 2.

Amsterdam – July 25

Spend your day sipping coffee in a café, visit the Van Gogh Museum, go people watching in Vondelpark or rent a bike and tour the city on your own. Trip departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m. Price is €45.



- **Tour De France. July 26.** Final day of the biggest bike race in the world. Thousands of people will line the Champs de Elyse in Paris to see the last stage of this international cycling competition. Departs SHAPE at 6:30 a.m. and returns at 11 p.m. Price is €45.
- **Switzerland, Nove and Venice. July 27 – August 2.** Your first stop will be a chance for a break in Luxembourg, then over to Metz to the Alsace area with a visit to Colmar. You continue on to Basel, Lucern, and to our hotel in the mountain village of Melchtal with dinner. During your stay you will take an excursion around the lake to visit Kussnacht and the chapel dedicated to Queen Astrid of Belgium, the William Tell Monument, and take a boat ride on Lake Lucern. You will have a mountain walk at Melchsee Frutt, with the possibility for an afternoon of trout fishing, or you can rent a "Trotinette" (a razor like scooter). As you continue your journey there will be a morning stop to an Antique store in the old train station on the Brunig Mountain Pass. You will visit Brienz, a mountain village known for all the wood carvers, Trummelbach Waterfalls, with free time for lunch in Wengen, then on to Interlaken where you will have the chance to go Paragliding (for an additional fee). The next stop will be in Nove, Italy. From Nove you will have a chance for wine tasting in the beautiful Nove wine country. You will leave from Nove for a full day in Venice. Departs SHAPE at 7 a.m. on Monday and returns at midnight on Sunday. Prices are €795 per person in a single room, €700 per person in a double or triple room, €575 per child between 3 and 11 and €265 per child under 2. Prices include bus transportation, 6 nights stay in hotel, breakfast and dinner in the Swiss hotel, cable car cost to Melchsee Frutt, waterfalls, and boat excursion fees.
- **Musical night of Beloeil (Chièvres area). August 22.** Like every year the prestigious estate of the Princes of Ligne organizes a "concert walk." Music lovers and others can listen to various interpretations of classical music. The theme this year is Italian classical music. For many years this has been one of the major music events of Belgium. Doors open at 5 p.m. Concerts start at 6 p.m. and end at 11:30 p.m. with fireworks. Prices are between €33 and €38 for adults and between €18 and €23 for children under 12. Reservations are mandatory. You can book your seat from now until August 22 by phone 069/68.95.16, by fax 069/68.74.28 or by mail tourisme.beloeil@skynet.be. You can also buy tickets online at www.ideefixe.be.



July 2

SUDS Nite 18+ / Dragonball: Evolution (PG-13)

July 3

7 p.m. Hannah Montana: The Movie (PG)

9:30 p.m. State of Play (PG-13)

July 4

Closed for the 4th of July

July 5

3 p.m. Hannah Montana: The Movie (PG)

5:30 p.m. State of Play (PG-13)

Dragonball: Evolution – Starring Justin Chatwin, Yun-Fat Chow

★★★ On Goku's 18th birthday his grandfather, Gohan, gives him a small round Dragonball with four stars floating inside the ball. There are only six others like it in the world. The holder with all seven Dragonballs will be granted one perfect wish. In the quest to find out about his past and his connection to the Dragonball, Gohan promises to reveal all to Goku at his birthday dinner. When Goku skips out to attend a party he finds himself facing the deadliest enemies on Earth. Rated PG (intense sequences of action/violence, brief mild language) 85 min.

Hannah Montana: The Movie – Starring Miley Cyrus, Billy Ray Cyrus

★★★ Miley Stewart struggles to juggle school, friends and her secret pop-star persona. When Hannah Montana's soaring popularity threatens to take over her life, she just might let it. So her father takes the teen home to Crowley Corners, Tenn., for a dose of reality, kicking off an adventure filled with the kind of fun, laughter and romance even Hannah Montana couldn't imagine. Rated G – 98min.

State of Play – Starring Russell Crowe, Ben Affleck

★★★ A rising congressman, Stephen Collins, and an investigative journalist, Cal McCaffrey, are embroiled in a case of seemingly unrelated, brutal murders. McCaffrey's street smarts lead him to untangle a mystery of murder and collusion among some of the most promising political and corporate figures. U.S. Congressman Collins is the future of his political party: an honorable appointee who serves as the chairman of a committee overseeing defense spending. All eyes are upon the rising star to be his party's contender for the upcoming presidential race, until his research assistant/mistress is brutally murdered and buried secrets come tumbling out. Rated PG-13 (some violence, language including sexual references, brief drug content) 127 min.

Reviews is based on an average compilation of published critiques.

Entertainment

Movies in English

At the Plaza Art in downtown Mons

Afterschool

Ezra Miller, Jeremy White, Emory Cohen

June 29 at 10:30 p.m.

June 30 at 5:15 p.m.

July 1 at 5:15 p.m.

July 3 at 10:30 p.m.

July 5 at 9:30 p.m.

Looking for Eric

Steve Evets, Eric Cantona, Stephanie Bishop

June 29 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

June 30 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

July 1 at 10 p.m.

July 2 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

July 3 at 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.

July 4 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

July 5 at 4:15 p.m. and 9 p.m.

July 6 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Somers town

Thomas Turgoose, Ireneusz Czop, Perry Benson

June 29 at 6 p.m.

June 30 at 6 p.m.

July 1 at 10:30 p.m.

July 2 at 5:15 p.m.

July 5 at 11:15 a.m.

July 6 at 10:30 p.m.

The Fall

Lee Pace, Catinca Untaru, Justine Waddell

June 29 at 5:30 p.m.

June 30 at 10:30 p.m.

July 2 at 10:30 p.m.

July 3 at 10:30 p.m.

July 5 at 9:15 p.m.

July 6 at 10:30 p.m.

Military Unites With Hollywood on 'Transformers'

By Joe Davidson

Special to American Forces Press Service

LOS ANGELES – “Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen” hit theaters worldwide last week as the culmination of more than a year of Defense Department support, ranging from script and uniform notes to C-17 aerial maneuvers and jumps from the Army’s Golden Knights parachute demonstration team.

The first Transformers film released in July 2007 used a variety of Air Force assets. In the latest film, DreamWorks and Paramount studios partnered with all four services to highlight America’s military members and combat power on the big screen. Deciding how and why to work with the services was essential in making the film work, producers said.

“There are really a lot of similarities between a military operation and a movie production,” said Army Lt. Col. Greg Bishop, the department’s project officer for the movie. “The mobility of the operation, the logistics and planning required, and the problem-solving skills required to pull the whole thing off are very much alike.”

Transformers executive producer and director Michael Bay has worked with military leaders on other films and frequently consults with them to make action sequences in his movies appear more authentic.

“You know the first thing we’re going to look at is that if you’re going to fight these 32- to 125-foot robots, who else would you fight them with?” Transformers producer Lorenzo di Bonaventura asked.

Like its predecessor, the latest Transformers movie uses hundreds of military members from all the services and from throughout the country to make the film feel more realistic.

“I enjoyed being able to walk on the set and there are a hundred real Soldiers as opposed to walking on and it’s a hundred actors from Orange County or L.A. in fatigues,” said Megan Fox, the film’s female lead actor. “It was just an overall pleasant experience, and I have an immense amount of respect for the Soldiers and for our troops.”

That realism extends to military equipment as jet fighters roar from the deck of an aircraft carrier to the recoiling sounds of M1-A1 Abrams tanks firing 120-mm rounds



at their deceptive and at times overpowering foes.

“What [the military] bring to it is obviously a sense of reality. But for us what is most interesting about it is our interaction with them,” di Bonaventura said. “Because you actually get to see these people who have made a life choice and the honesty of that choice comes through each and every time you meet these guys. So, for us, that’s the really exciting thing. We get to hang out at the base and see the joy they get out of being a part of us, and you also see us get affected by their level of commitment.”

This latest Transformers film shows an extreme example of what the military does in everyday life.

“Though the ‘enemy’ in this film are alien robots, we strove to make the depiction of operations as realistic and accurate as possible,” said Capt. Bryon McGarry, the Air Force project officer for the movie. “As in real-world operations, we go to ‘war’ against the Decepticons in the film jointly to achieve coordinated, balanced and devastating results. If they ever came to Earth, we’d be ready for them.”

DreamWorks and Paramount pictures have given permission to provide special screenings of “Transformers, Revenge of the Fallen” at bases that provided support for the film and also aboard the USS John C. Stennis.

In Belgium, the film can be seen in English in Brussels at UGC Toison D’or, UGC De Brouckere or Kinopolis.

Entertainment

Vote every week on the songs you like, and then we'll count them up and play them back every Sunday from 1-3 p.m.

www.afneurope.net

ENGLE 20
COUNTDOWN
The show you control!

Fitness Classes

Chièvres Air Base

	M	T	W	T	F
Mature Yoga	■		■		■
Yoga for Everybody		■	■	■	

Mature Yoga 12:15 to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 13 on Caserne Daumerie. Free.

Yoga for Everybody 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. Bring your own mat. Free.

The Chièvres Sports & Fitness Center

Open weekdays from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Weekends and U.S. Holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

USAG Brussels

	M	T	W	T	F	S
Yoga	■		■		■	
Spinning	■			■		
Body Pump		■				■
Strong Women		■		■		
Step Aerobics			■		■	

Yoga 10 to 11 a.m. Free.

Spinning 6 to 7 p.m. Free.

Body Pump 6 to 7 p.m. Sat. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Free.

Strong Women 12:15 to 1 p.m. Free.

Step Aerobics 6 to 7 p.m. Free.

For more details call 02-717-9667

USAG Brussels Fitness Center

Open weekdays from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Weekends from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Open U.S. Holidays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Golf Scramble Sign Up

The Benelux chapter of the Military Police Regimental Association will be holding the second annual golf scramble July 6. Registration for the scramble is 60 euro and includes green fees, a BBQ dinner, a commemorative polo shirt and free practice range. The event will be held at "Le Golf du Mont Garni" in Baudour. Registration for the event has been extended. If you are interested in hitting the links call DSN 361-5086.

CYSS Fall Sports – Chièvres

Registration for youth soccer and flag football on Chièvres runs until Aug. 21. The soccer season runs September through November. The flag football season runs August through October. The cost is 28 euro.

Soccer Ages:

- Bambino Co-ed Born in 03-04
- Pee Wee Co-ed..... Born in 01-02
- Minor Co-ed Born in 99-00
- Bantam Co-ed Born in 97-98
- Junior Girls Born 94-95-96
- Junior Boys Born in 95-96

Flag Football Ages: (Age on Nov. 15)

- Bantam Co-ed 9-11 yrs
- Junior Co-ed..... 12-15 yrs

Registration for youth golf ends soon. The golf season runs June through September. Registration is free.

Golf Ages:

- Peewee Co-Ed 6-7 years
- Minor Co-Ed 8-9 years
- Bantam Co-Ed..... 10-12 years

CYSS Annual Registration, Health Assessment and Immunization Records must remain valid throughout the season and are required prior to registration. Sign up at Central Enrollment and Registration Office, Bldg. 503 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information call DSN 423-5612 or DSN 423-5856.

CYSS SERVICES FALL SPORTS LEAGUES

SOCCER & FLAG FOOTBALL FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGES 6-18

REGISTER ANYTIME BETWEEN JUNE 1ST & JULY 31ST

SEASONS START AUGUST 31ST

COST: \$36/CHILD WITH DISCOUNTS FOR VOLUNTEER COACHES

Registration forms & more info available at www.brussels.army.mil
By calling 02-717-9651,
Or email us at bruscysinfo@eur.army.mil

U.S. Army Child, Youth & School Services

As H1N1 Virus Spreads Army Takes Steps in Prevention

By Grafton Pritchett
Soldiers Media Center

WASHINGTON – The Army is currently taking steps to help prevent and stop the spread of the H1N1 virus for Soldiers at home and abroad.

The Army has reported a total of 191 cases of the H1N1 virus, or swine flu, as of June 12.

The military is actively pursuing vaccine production for both the regular and H1N1 flu, according to Col. Jonathan Jaffin, director of Health Policy and Services in the Army's Office of the Surgeon General. Soldiers will be vaccinated as soon as the medicines become available, he said during a Blogger's Roundtable last week.

"There has been significant news coverage about the H1N1 virus, and the Army is taking it seriously," Jaffin said. "We want to illustrate why we feel like there is no cause for panic or alarm."

Jaffin went on to state that all segments of the government, as well as international partners, are working together to stop the spread of the flu among members of the military.

"The best treatment for the flu is prevention," Jaffin said.

Steps for prevention include washing hands and limiting contact with infected persons, surfaces and objects like door knobs.

Soldiers who feel symptoms of flu including dizziness, fatigue and fever should report sick call and stay at home, Jaffin said.

"Their very nature is to come in and work when they aren't feeling well. We are reminding them if they have flu symptoms to stay home. They have a strong sense of duty that sometimes interferes with ability to stay home," Jaffin said. "That is one of the main things we emphasize with them."

No missions have been impacted by the virus as of yet, officials said.

The DoD is working with the World Health Organization's Emerging Illness Network and the Global Emerging Infection Surveillance, which is a DoD program, in assisting with the prevention and surveillance of the virus.

Confirmed H1N1 Cases

In Europe, the number of confirmed cases of the H1N1 influenza continues to rise on a daily basis.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control reported the following totals of confirmed cases, as of June 28.

UK.....	4,250
Spain.....	541
Germany.....	366
France.....	239
Netherlands	118
Belgium	41
U.S.	27,717*

*Based on reports from the U.S. CDC, as of June 25.

Visit www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil and click on the H1N1 link for more info.

Help Resolve Local Issues

Become a voice for our community. The American Family Action Plan program is looking for volunteers to help resolve issues that impact Soldiers and Families within the SHAPE/Chièvres communities. The next single Soldier workgroup is June 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Chièvres Single Servicemember Quarters conference room. The community workgroup is July 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the ACS building on SHAPE. Volunteers will help prioritize issues and recommend solutions. Recommendations will be sent on to higher headquarters and possibly the Department of the Army. To become a delegate or for more information, stop by ACS in Bldg. 318 on SHAPE or contact the AFAP Program Manager at DSN 423-5324, CIV 044-65-5324.

Seafood Roadshow

The Seafood Roadshow is coming to the Chièvres Commissary July 19. Save up to 50 percent on items like Tiger Shrimp, King Crab Legs, King Crab Claws, Tuna Steaks, Tilapia Fillets, Slipper Lobster Tails, Salmon Fillets, Catfish Fillets, Bay Scallops, Large Sea Scallops, Snow Crab Claws, Flounder Fillets, Haddock Fillets, Cod Fillets and Angus Top Sirloin Roast.

Public Warning System Test

On July 2 Belgian civil protection authorities will test electronic warning systems between 8:45 and 10:15 a.m. This will be repeated several times in this timeframe. The tests will be conducted in Ath, Seneffe, Feluy, Saint-Ghislain, Tertre and Ghlin. Tests will also be conducted at the two SEVESO companies in the Brussels area.

Training Area Continues to Expand on Chièvres

By Rachel Parks

USAG Benelux Public Affairs

Two new two-story training buildings have been added to the Alliance Home Station Training Area on Chièvres Air Base. The buildings, like the one pictured on the right during its construction phase, will be used by Soldiers in urban training scenarios. Each training facility has four rooms spread out over two floors, as well as a roof that can be used for sniper training and surveillance. Perimeter walls have also been added. The facilities were constructed over a period of two weeks and will support Army training across the Benelux. The first major exercise using the new facility is scheduled for the early fall.

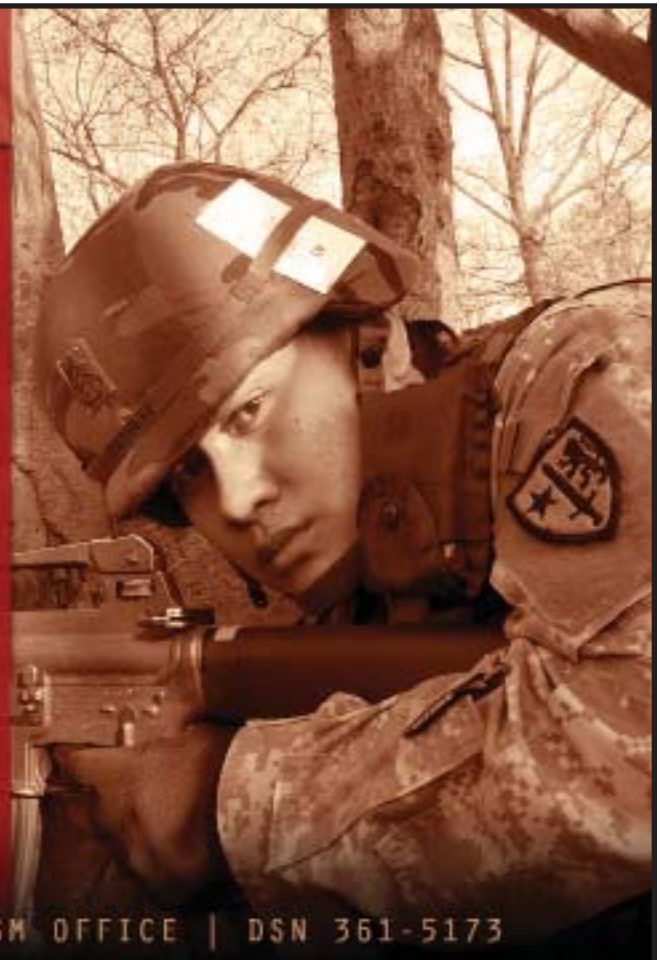


Pierre-Etienne Courtejoie

FORCE PROTECTION

HOTEL SAFETY

- Do not accept deliveries to your room unless previously arranged and you are certain of the source and contents
- Keep your room key with you instead of leaving it with the front desk
- In some countries, you may be required to leave your passport at the reception desk overnight so it can be checked with local police officials. These are normal procedures. Be sure to obtain a receipt for your passport and any valuables you leave in the hotel safe



USAG BENELUX ANTITERRORISM OFFICE | DSN 361-5173

Military Career Drives Postmaster's Passion

By Thad Moyseowicz

USAG Brussels Public Affairs

Joshua "Josh" Alo has been the Army's postmaster in Brussels for the past 10 months. Alo knows the postal business well, particularly as it affects a military community. Prior to becoming Brussels postmaster, the Honolulu, Hawaii, native served nine years in the U.S. Air Force as a mail transportation manager, serving overseas in Japan, Belgium and Italy, with significant deployments to the Middle East.

"I saw, firsthand, how important mail still is to people, especially to a military community overseas," he said. "I've seen, with my own eyes, the delight military folks take in receiving mail. I've seen a Soldier downrange literally spend minutes sniffing a special letter before opening it."

Deriving so much satisfaction from being an agent by which Servicemembers received their mail, taking a civilian job as a military postmaster was a natural step for Alo after his last Air Force enlistment was up.

As the Brussels postmaster, Alo supervises six employees who directly bring the U.S. mail to much of the community, as well as indirectly support the mail service of the three U.S. diplomatic missions in the city.

"You can talk all you

want about e-mail making snail mail obsolete, but, judging by our workload, it's not going to happen anytime soon. However you cut it," he further noted, "there's a definite correlation between mail and morale. All of our great Brussels APO team knows they're directly contributing to this community's morale. It's a joy to serve and have this effect."

Delivering the mail is how Alo has earned his daily bread throughout his adult life, but his avocation since his teen years has been making music, specifically Reggae music. He enjoyed his active duty time with the Air Force, and with two enlistments, had even contemplated making it a career. His decision to leave active duty was driven, in part, by a desire to devote more time to exploring life through performing music.

How Alo became a recorded musician, with fans literally throughout the world, is a story of perseverance and dedication. "Music is a part of growing up Hawaiian," he explained.

Alo credits his father with instilling in him a love of Hawaiian music. Interestingly, Alo junior was a latecomer to performing as an instrumentalist. His first experience with



a stringed instrument was with that quintessential Hawaiian piece, the ukulele, between the ages of 13-16.

"Taking ukulele was a mandatory part of the school curriculum," he said. "I hated it, probably because it was mandatory, but I learned basic fingering." By this point, Alo's personal musical tastes had crystallized around island Reggae, and learning to play the guitar would be fundamental to performing that genre.

"My father had an acoustic guitar in the closet,

which I was strictly forbidden to touch. Well, I used to regularly sneak it out, and I taught myself to play. One day, when I was 17, I was playing and my father walked in on me."

Alo decided, on the spur of the moment, to not stop, and to finish playing the piece on the forbidden guitar. "Dad looked at me, listened, didn't say a word, and, next thing I knew, he gave me that guitar."

No longer having to be furtive about practicing, Alo continued his musical self-education by "jam-

Postmaster's Passion Continued

ming," typically on the beach, and more and more to impromptu audiences. "That's when I learned how much music can unite," he recalled. "A wide range of people would come to watch me perform."

Incidentally, to this day, Alo remains completely self-taught on the guitar; he cannot read music, but believes his musical ear has made up for that deficiency.

As much as he enjoyed performing, neither "jamming" nor a job at a local convenience store was paying the bills, hence his 1999 enlistment in the Air Force. Alo continued to hone his skills, playing largely to himself or occasional by-request solo performances for friends.

"Island Reggae is my music of choice," he said, "but it's frankly not something with a huge following at a typical military installation." In addition to playing his chosen instrument, he began to pay more and more attention to lyrics and tried his hand at writing his own.

During this period, he also underwent a personal religious experience, which provided an incentive to pay even more attention to lyric-writing. "My goal is to bless others

with my music, and, for that, the lyrics really are everything," he explained.

Alo's big break came during his 2006-2007 assignment to Aviano Air Base in Italy. Invited to join a word, sound and poetry group that met weekly off-base, he became a regular.

"It felt good to be heard," he remembered. More than that, however, it gave him an introduction to an Italian who not only liked his music, but who also owned an independent recording studio in Venice.

The studio owner recruited several other musicians from among the Italian Reggae scene, and they came together to record Alo's first album, "Answer your Calling," released in 2007. Despite the fact that production was hurried ("I deployed to the Middle East for four months within a few days of its being recorded"), the album turned out to be a critical success within Reggae circles. The album made #2 on the Reggae trade charts in Brazil in 2007, whetting Alo's appetite to do more with his music. He credits the distribution revolution which the Internet has wrought with helping to disseminate

his music.

The stability of being in Brussels has given him greater opportunity to pursue music in his off-time. He has formed a new band, and, together, they're focusing on a second album.

He wants to continue sharing his music with whoever will listen. Reggae has something of an anti-establishment stigma. He believes his music is completely true to Reggae – and is also music which can resonate with all.

"I'm proud of my service, past and present, to military communities, and that's a big part of what I sing about." Alo wants to be heard globally, not as a high-priced performer, but as a performer whose message people will want to hear. For the moment, that means continuing to work hard at his day job as Brussels postmaster, and continue, off-duty, to make a name for himself in local music circles and with independent recording studios.

"My wife and I are blessed," he said. "We live modestly, and material life is not something high on our priority list, and I do hope I can make a difference with my music."

Brussels Mourns Former Army NCO, USAF Civilian

By Thad Moyseowicz

USAG Brussels Public Affairs

Mr. Charley Boone, who did a second career as a USAF civilian from 1975-2005 as an employee of the APO at USAG Brussels, passed on the morning of June 22 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brussels, following a long illness.

Mr. Boone's first career was with the U.S. Army, from which he retired in 1975 with the rank of sergeant first class and a Combat Infantry Badge from Viet Nam service.

Mr. Boone was a popular member of the APO team, and always had a kind word for all APO patrons. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, of Brussels, and a son who lives in Toulouse, France. The funeral was held June 26.



Benelux military retirees, Rev. Kempton Baldridge (left) and Maj. Gen. Charles Wilson (right) flank the late Charley Boone.

July 4th Cookouts Turn Up Heat for BBQ Fire Safety

Installation Management Command-Europe Public Affairs

As July 4th approaches, barbecue safety takes center stage as U.S. Army Garrisons throughout Europe keep a focus on the Summer Safety Campaign and Fire Safety Campaign.

While, cookouts are pretty much a year-around activity, July 4th festivities seem to turn up the heat on outdoor cooking, aka BBQs.

No matter when you fire up those charcoals or use the propane grill, safety is a must at all times, according to Gerald Adams, Installation Management Command-Europe fire protection specialist.

"The proper use and storage of barbeque grills is essential to safe outdoor cooking," said Adams. "Data shows that there are hundreds of fires that occur each year related to outdoor cooking, and almost all of those are preventable."

According to Adams, individuals in Europe have a "very good" safety record regarding the use of outdoor cooking grills. However, he added that people still need to be vigilant because all it takes is one mistake or one bad decision to cause an outdoor cooking-related fire incident.

Some fire incidents he has heard about, he said, are clearly bad decisions.

"People have placed charcoal in ovens. Others have used charcoal grills indoors. These are deadly ideas," he said.

As part of IMCOM-Europe's effort to raise awareness of fire safety during the Army's focus on fire prevention now through October, Adams offered a number of tips for outdoor cooking:

Before Cooking

- Instruct children on the dangers of a lit grill.
- Choose a safe grilling location away from children's play areas and areas of heavy traffic. The area should be well-ventilated to avoid danger from carbon monoxide and other combustion by-products.
- Never grill inside or even in a semi-enclosed area, such as a tent or camper. Always grill on a flat, non-combustible surface.
- Make sure you're not wearing clothing that could contact the fire, such as hanging shirt-tails or dangling strings.
- Never leave a grill unattended.

Cooking With Propane (LP) Gas Grills

- Read the owner's manual and operating instructions carefully.
- Use the exact type of tank and fuel specified. Do not attempt to connect European-type propane cylinders with U.S. LP grill supply lines.
- Check hoses and valve connections often. Do this by pouring soapy water on the connection points. If bubbles appear, retighten the connections and test again. Also, if repairs to gas lines are needed, ensure qualified repair personnel fix the lines.
- Transfer and store liquid propane cylinders in an upright position and never where temperatures can reach 125 degrees.
- Whether your grill lights by match or push button igniter, always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Cooking With Charcoal Grills

- Charcoal grills should be lit and supervised by adults only.
- Never start a fire with gasoline.
- Use starter fluid only as recommended by the manufacturer. Never use starter fluid once the fire has been ignited.
- If using an electric fire starter, use an insulated indoor/outdoor cord plugged into an outlet protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter if equipped.
- Be sure the ground is dry and you're not standing in water when plugging the starter into an outlet.
- Don't use a charcoal grill underneath a combustible overhead.

Individuals with questions should contact local garrison fire prevention offices.

More information is available on the IMCOM-Europe's Web site at www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/management/docs/spring_safety.pdf



Air Force Photo

Summer Hires Begin New Jobs in Benelux

By Jackie Drago

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Volunteer

Every summer, youth from Army communities in Europe contribute their time and efforts to the Summer Hire Program.

The program is designed to provide young family members an opportunity to gain useful work experience, prepare for future education and career goals and support the Army mission. Maj. Gen. Byron S. Bagby, U.S. Army chief of staff, explained that this program not only provides these young people the opportunity for a summer job, but it also gives them a sense of contribution and accomplishment and a positive impression of both the Army and the Federal Government as employees.

The Summer Hire Program kicked off June 22 and will last six weeks ending July 31. "This is a great opportunity, and I applaud all of you for signing up," U.S. Army Garrison Commander Colonel James P. Drago told Summer Hire Employees at their training workshop.

This summer, 24 people work in various offices between SHAPE, Caserne Daumerie and Chièvres Air Base. Felicia Thomas, the coordinator of the Summer Hire Program for the entire Benelux, explained that when employees apply, they are given three options to choose from: clerical, labor or child development work.

The Summer Hire employees work eight hours, five days a week and make \$5.50 per hour. Ebonee De Vos, a Summer Hire employee on Caserne Daumerie, described that her day-to-day work involves a lot filing and eventually computer use.

"I decided to do Summer Hire to have something to do over break and to make money," De Vos said.

De Vos also explained that she hopes to gain experience and knowledge for when she goes off to college this fall and for any future jobs.

Before the young employees headed off to work after their training workshop, Drago left them with some final advice. "Remember you will get out of it what you put into it, figure out how you think you can contribute - this is called initiative," he said.



Summer hires receive training before beginning their new jobs.

University of Maryland University College

Study Picasso, Expatriate Writers in Paris with UMUC Europe

University of Maryland University College Europe announces two three-credit undergraduate field study courses, Picasso in Paris and Expatriate Writers in Paris: 1920s, offered this August in the "City of Lights." The registration deadlines are July 10 and 17 respectively, with classes starting in early August.

Picasso in Paris: Students will study major developments in modern art, beginning with cubism and including expressionism and surrealism, in the famous collections of the Pompidou Center Museum and Picasso Museum. Students will also explore the works of other artists, such as Matisse, Braque, Kandinsky, Magritte and major painters of today. The faculty member will give lectures and facilitate discussions based on paintings and sculptures in the various museums and galleries visited during the course.

Expatriate Writers in Paris: 1920s: Students will follow in the literary footsteps of renowned writers through the streets of Paris. Visits include Gertrude Stein's salon; Shakespeare & Co., the bookstore founded by young American Sylvia Beach who helped publish James Joyce's radical novel Ulysses; and Hemingway's favorite café. Through walks, lectures, discussions and readings, students will identify the relationship of the city to its "expatriate" artists by reconstructing the 1920s in Paris.

For more information, visit www.ed.umuc.edu/field-study or contact the Benelux Education Center or UMUC Europe at DSN 314-370-6762, CIV +49-(0)6221-3780, or edfieldsty@ed.umuc.edu.



From now until July 6, Sixt rent a car at the Chièvres PX is running a 4th of July special. Rent a car for five days or more at reduced rates.

Subcompacts – 169 euro per week
Compacts – 179 euro per week
Full size – 269 euro per week

Prices include unlimited mileage and full coverage insurance. Subject to availability. Call DSN 361-5359 or CIV 068-27-5359 for more information.

Wearing a Helmet Is one Key to Summer Cycling Safety

By Installation Management Command-Europe Public Affairs

Heading into the thick of summer, when schools are out and cycles and wagons take to the sidewalks and play areas, Installation Management Command-Europe safety officials encourage everyone to keep safety in mind.

The IMCOM-Europe bicycle helmet safety effort is in conjunction with the Army's Summer Safety Campaign running through September to make summer safer.

Bicycle helmets are a key to ensuring cyclists have a safe summer, but helmets are sometimes overlooked – sometimes for dubious reasons, according to Mike Schwarz, IMCOM-Europe chief of safety. While helmet use on military installations is required for U.S. Forces personnel, off-post, local laws do not require helmet use on public roads, except during organized races.

"Despite the overwhelming data and facts that clearly illustrate how important bicycle helmets are in bicycle safety, some choose comfort or looks over safety," said Schwarz. "But, it is possible to be comfortable wearing a helmet. And, because there are so many types of helmets available, style and fashion looks can also

be accommodated. The bottom line is that helmets protect people and there are no viable reasons for not wearing a helmet."

Schwarz said that individuals who say that helmets are uncomfortable may simply need to fit the helmet properly.

"Believe it or not, some people buy helmets without trying them on, then they wear the helmets without adjusting them. There will be discomfort in that case," Schwarz said. "That discomfort can be remedied by getting the right size helmet and making adjustments."

First, helmets must fit correctly. Putting a youth helmet on an adult or an adult helmet on a youth is a mistake. Most new helmets come with either adjustable pads or a universal fit ring that allows adjustments to be made.

Positioning the helmet properly on the noggin also lends itself to comfort. Schwarz said the helmet should sit level on a rider's head and low on the forehead, approximately one or two finger widths above the eyebrows.

Wearers should take time to properly adjust side and chin straps. Yawning is one way to test the fit. When a

wearer opens his or her mouth wide, the helmet should pull down on his or her head. If it doesn't, the chin strap may be a little loose. The helmet should not rock back more than two fingers above the eyebrow, nor forward over the wearer's eyes.

"That's a big thing to keep in mind. The helmet should be adjusted to ensure it does not obscure a cyclist's view. That's no-no," said Schwarz.

Schwarz emphasized that everyone – adults and child – should wear bicycle helmets each time they ride. And if the unfortunate happens and a cyclist is involved in an accident, always replace the helmet if it was involved in an accident. The helmet may, after receiving an impact, be damaged to the point that it is no longer adequate to protect the head against further impacts. This damage may not be visible to the user.

"Helmets are the single most effective way to prevent head injuries resulting from bicycle crashes. Wearing a helmet each ride can encourage the same smart behavior in others," he said.

See more summer safety information tips at www.imcom-europe.army.mil/sites/management/so.asp.

Preparedness can keep travelers safe from pickpockets

By Robert Szostek

U.S. Army Europe Office of the Provost Marshal Public Affairs Office

U.S. Army Europe crime prevention experts say Americans traveling in Europe this vacation season should take precautions to keep themselves safe.

"It's important to remember that tourists make tempting targets for thieves," said Lt. Col. Lon Walker, chief of law enforcement at the USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal.

Travelers who are lost or distracted, weighed down with bags and carrying money and other valuables in obvious places, make great targets for thieves.

Pickpockets are very active during the summer, especially in major cities and in Eastern and Southern Europe. They stalk tourists and strike when their victims are vulnerable. "If anyone jostles, bumps or crowds you, a pickpocket may be in action," Walker said.

Also beware of staged distractions. A thief may drop

something or cause a loud commotion as a distraction to create an opportunity for a second thief to steal valuables and walk away. Pickpockets will help travelers load bags onto or off trains to give them the opportunity to steal something from them, slit open backpacks and take whatever drops out.

Some thieves also target those who have had one too many in bars and clubs late at night and beachgoers who leave valuables unguarded while swimming. Walker also said it's best not to flash a lot of cash while paying for things, or to throw away credit card receipts or other documents with account numbers on them.

OPM officials said travelers can contact their local Provost Marshal Offices for more security tips or download National Crime Prevention Council travel safety pamphlets at www.ncpc.org/resources/files/pdf/traveling.

From Your Chièvres MWR

30 June

- **Play Morning** sponsored by ACS New Parent Support Program. This program is offered from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Prime Time Grill on Daumerie. Parents and their children (0-3 years) play together in a group setting. The program teaches parents developmentally appropriate play to help children improve their social, cognitive and motor skills. Another benefit of Play Morning is the friendships that form among parents and children. No pre-registration is required. Open to all U.S., SHAPE and NATO ID cardholders. Call ACS at DSN 423-5324 for additional information.

1 July

- **Sponsorship Training Class** Learn how to be a great sponsor for newcomers to the Benelux. The class equips you with practical information and useful resources to ease the transition to Belgium. Open to all U.S., NATO and SHAPE ID cardholders. Meet from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at ACS Bldg. 318 on SHAPE. Call ACS at DSN 423-5324 to sign up.
- **Make the Right Move** Are you leaving soon? Learn everything you need to know to out process from Belgium and find out information on your next duty station. Family members are encouraged to attend. Open to all U.S., NATO and SHAPE ID cardholders. Meet from 2 to 3 p.m. at ACS Bldg. 318 on SHAPE. Call ACS at DSN 423-5324 to sign up.

2 July

- **Infant Massage Class** Learn soothing and stress-relieving techniques from certified instructors. Massage helps mom and baby relax, bond, relieve stress and boost the immune system. Learn techniques that will help your baby sleep better, have an easier time feeding and help with digestion. Expectant mothers and mothers with newborns and up are welcome. Mats and oils are provided – no pre-registration is required. Open to all U.S., NATO and SHAPE ID cardholders. Meet every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Healthcare Facility in the EDIS Playroom on SHAPE. Call ACS DSN 423-5324 for more information. <http://www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil/sites/services/acsnewparent.asp>.
- **SHAPE Library Summer Reading Program** Ages 8 - 10, 10 to 11 a.m. "Be Creative at Your Library" Call DSN 361-5767 for more information or go to www.library.eur.army.mil or www.usafelibraries.org.
- **Prenatal Class** Coping Methods/Pain Relief/Delivery positions/Birth plans/ Belgian hospitals/Relaxation (Session 3) co-sponsored by the ACS New Parent Support Program, WIC Overseas and the SHAPE Healthcare Facility. Class is 5 to 7 p.m at the Social Work Services Conference Room. Call the Clinic at DSN 423-5886 to register.

3 July

- **Softball Tournament** from noon to 6 p.m. on SHAPE athletic fields 8 and 9 (behind the SHAPE Clinic).
- **Carnival Rides and Games** on SHAPE in the GB Parking Lot from 3 to 11 p.m.

4 July

- **Independence Day** The festivities take place in the fest tent, the parking lot and the area next to the GB on SHAPE. The celebration begins at noon and features live music, carnival rides, entertainment, activities, food and beverages. At 11 p.m., fireworks cap off the day with a bang.

The Patriot in the Chièvres CAC has new hours. Open 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday through Thursday and from 4 to 11 p.m. Friday.

Be Creative @ your Library

July 2009

Come sing silly songs, make neat crafts, and discover good books during the 5th annual joint Air Force and Army library Summer Reading Program.

Contact your local library to find out more!
Join the SHAPE International Library's SUMMER READING PROGRAM!
Enjoy prizes, stories, songs, crafts & more!
Ages 5-7 meet July 7, 14, 22 & 23 from 10-11.
Ages 8-10 meet July 2, 9, 16 & 24 from 10-11.

SHAPE International Library
Building 307
DSN 423-5631, Civilian (065) 44 56 31
<http://www.library.eur.army.mil/locations/shape>

For more information:
Army Libraries: www.library.eur.army.mil
Air Force Libraries: www.usafelibraries.org

From Your Brussels MWR

30 June

- **Finding Employment In Brussels.** Join us every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon in the ACS Conference Room, at the top floor of Bldg. 4 at USAG Brussels, for this Federal and NATO Jobs Workshop. Open to all U.S. and US NATO ID cardholders, including U.S. Mission personnel. Contact ACS at 02 717-9783 to sign up.
- **Parent-Toddler Playgroup.** Come along have some fun and meet some new friends for yourself and your child. Playgroup is a free activity sponsored by the New Parent Education and Support Program and meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon in the SKIES Room located on the ground floor of Bldg. 4 at USAG Brussels. No advanced registration needed. A great way to socialize for both kids and adults. Call ACS at 02 717-9783 for more information.
- **Hands-On Resume Class.** The ACS Employment Readiness Program offers all U.S. and U.S. NATO ID cardholders (including U.S. Mission personnel) an opportunity to learn the application processes for Federal and NATO jobs. Every Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. at USAG Brussels in the ACS Conference Room, top floor of Bldg. 4. Note: having attended the "Finding Employment in Brussels" workshop is a prerequisite for taking this "Hands-On Resume class." Call ACS at 02 717-9783 to register.

1 July

- **Resume Review Opportunities.** Looking for a job? Your resume has only a few seconds to impress. A strong resume needs a solid foundation and finishing touches. The ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager provides assistance to all U.S. and U.S. NATO ID cardholders seeking advice for writing up a first-rate resume. Walk-ins are welcome every Wednesday, anytime between 1 and 4 p.m. You may also call ACS at 02 717-9783 to schedule a one-on-one appointment outside of these hours.
- **Auto Skills 101.** Sign up today for this hands on class instructing students in the basics of car maintenance and repair. Class meets every other Wednesday evening from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the USAG Brussels Auto Craft Shop for a total of six class sessions. Cost is \$30 and will include instruction and use of all shop tools and facilities. Please call 02-717-9743 for more information and to sign up, class space is limited.

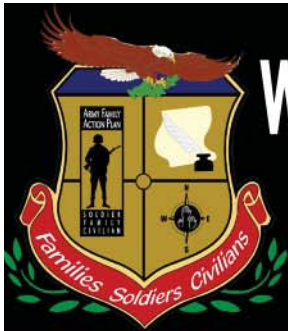
3 July

- **Summer Vehicle Check-Up.** Is your car summer ready? For only \$35 our skilled Auto Craft Shop mechanic will make sure your car is ready for safe summer driving. Appointments available every Friday by calling 02-717-9743.
- **Parent-Toddler Playgroup.** Come along have some fun and meet some new friends for yourself and your child. Playgroup is a free activity sponsored by the New Parent Education and Support Program and meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon in the SKIES Room located on the ground floor of Bldg. 4 at USAG Brussels. No advanced registration needed. A great way to socialize for both kids and adults. Call ACS at 02 717-9783 for more information.

4 July

- **Matt Reimann Firecracker Run.** Kick your 4th of July off right, and get the whole family out for the annual Independence Day Fun Run. Races start at 9 a.m. in Tervuren Park with race-day registration starting at 8 a.m. There are 2, 5 and 10K divisions with prizes for the top finishers in each. Call 02-717-9667 or stop by the Fitness Center for more information and to get signed up.
- **Independence Day One-Pitch Softball Tournament.** Get your team together and get signed up today. Tournament starts at 10 a.m.. Cost is \$200/team and includes a commemorative T-shirt and awards for the top three teams. With a maximum roster size of 12 players and a limit of seven teams, get signed up early and make sure your team gets a shot at the title. Stop by the Fitness Center or call 02-717-9667 for more information and to get signed up.
- **USAG Brussels Independence Day Celebration.** Come join FMWR and Tri-Missions Brussels as we celebrate "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Fun." Starting at 3 p.m., there will be live musical entertainment, bouncy castles and waterslides for the kids, food and drinks for sale, BINGO, fireworks and much much more. Please call 02-717-9763 for more information.

Information for USAG Brussels MWR events can be found online at
<http://www.usagbrussels.eur.army.mil/sites/local>



Want to Improve Your Quality of Life and Well-Being?

OUR LOCAL COMMAND, IMCOM-EUROPE & DEPT of the ARMY WANT TO KNOW.....

- 1.) WHAT'S WORKING?
- 2.) WHAT ISN'T
- 3.) DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA OR SUGGESTION ON HOW TO FIX IT?

Share your concerns by filling out the below form. Place it in a **Red Issue Drop Box** at one of the following locations:

PX
Commissary
Inprocessing Facility

Hotel
ACS Building 318 SHAPE
Clinic

Community Mail Rooms (CMR)

Or email your comments to aftbfamily@eur.army.mil

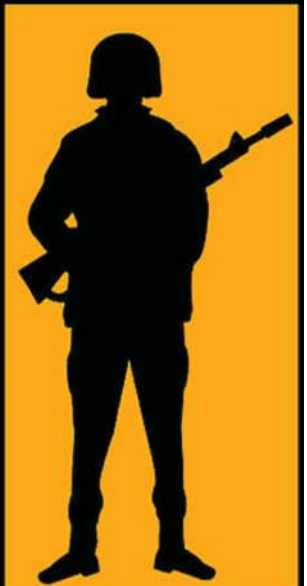
IMPROVE YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE

What is the problem? (Issue Title)

What are the facts? (Issue Scope)

How would you fix it? (Issue Recommendation)

ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN



SOLDIER
FAMILY
CIVILIAN