

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

Commissary birthday

The Chièvres Commissary celebrates the commissaries' 150th anniversary July 1 with a cake cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. The 150th anniversary observance ties back to the official beginning of the modern commissary benefit on July 1, 1867. It was on that date that enlisted men received the same privileges available to officers since 1825 – the right to purchase goods, “at cost price,” from their post’s subsistence department warehouses.

Job Openings: MWR

MWR is hiring for various positions. People interested in their vacancies should call the Benelux CPAC at DSN 361-5319 or 5306 or civilian 068-27 5319/5306.

Closure

Andrews Federal Credit Union, in Schinnen, Brussels, and Chievres will be closed on Tuesday, 4 July.

Volunteers

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the celebration on SHAPE July 1. There are multiple opportunities over the course of several days to help out. You can register online.

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Benelux prepares to celebrate America's birthday

July 4 will be the United States of America's 241st birthday. On the occasion, community members are invited to celebrate Independence Day at the different installations (Archive photo).

See Page 5

Signing of pledges: for a culture of excellence

Special to the Gazette



Col. Kurt Connell is explaining the service culture initiative at Caserne Daumerie in Chièvres, Tuesday June 20, before signing the Leadership Pledge and the Customer Pledge. Cheryle Hess, Deputy to the Garrison Commander (bottom), and Command Sgt. Maj. William Majors, USAG Benelux Garrison CSM (top), followed his lead.

USAG Benelux leaders signed the Service Culture Initiative pledges, Tuesday June 20, in Chièvres, Brussels and Schinnen.

The SCI is an IMCOM initiative designed to enhance the level of customer service and inculcate a culture of service excellence.

The SCI establishes an environment where employees feel valued and respected, have engaged caring leaders, demonstrate loyalty to the organization and treat each other with dignity and respect.

Leadership at all locations signed the leadership pledge, which codifies the principles and requirements associated with providing effective, caring and engaged leadership, and the customer pledge, which codifies the actions and behaviors expected of IMCOM professionals.



While the Schinnen Community is listening to Col. Kurt Connell, Chester (Chet) Witkowski, Deputy Garrison Manager, USAG Benelux-Schinnen, is signing the pledges.



In Brussels, Derrick Hood, USAG Benelux-Brussels Deputy Garrison Manager, is also signing the pledges.

To submit or subscribe, email usarmy.benelux.id-europe.list.pao@mail.mil

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New Program receives the Army's 2017 Operations Security Award

By Christophe Morel

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

As Installation Management Command and garrison leaders are signing Leadership and Customer Pledges worldwide as a part of the Service Culture Initiative, they are codifying standards for customer service and leader engagement. Excellence and the pride of belonging to the command are some of the desired effects. Several members of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux can be used as role models as the campaign develops. Read about their accomplishments this week and next.

On May 16, Barbara Hunsberger, the USAG Benelux Operational Security program manager, a member of the garrison's S3-5-7, was awarded third place in the Army's 2017 Operations Security Competition. "OPSEC is the way that we protect our sensitive information from those who would want to harm our organization, our community members, or those who would want to take that information and use it for negative means," Hunsberger explained.

Each year, Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) looks at all the OPSEC programs in the Army, ranging in the thousands, and ask leaders to nominate their program managers. USAG Benelux leaders nominated Hunsberger in the Individual category for "her vast knowledge and experience, coupled with her initiative and can-do attitude." This year, three professionals were selected to be recognized. Hunsberger was one of them, the only civilian.

Prior to the Brussels airport terrorist attack, Hunsberger had been working diligently to develop and implement a new OPSEC program. Today, the USAG Benelux area of operations is considered to have one of the highest terrorist threats in Europe. In this context, Hunsberger's mission is essential to the Army. During a recent Higher Headquarters Inspection, her program was recognized for using a holistic framework, incorporating all communities into one program that ensures no OPSEC gaps exist.

"We have such a big organization and it's hard for me to go to every place and talk to people about OPSEC. I do VTC training where people from each location can get their OPSEC training. This year, we were able to bring in a team

from the United States to Chièvres. All tenant units within the Benelux community were invited to attend OPSEC level II certification. These individuals are now qualified training instructors, they can go back to their organizations and teach OPSEC," Hunsberger explained.

Social networks

With this new system, most units have someone who is OPSEC level II trained and is qualified to teach others about the things that they should be protecting. "That's the first time that we've ever been able to do that here. Twenty people became OPSEC level II certified during that class and I've scheduled another training team to come back in September," Hunsberger said.

Training is not Hunsberger's sole mission. It's also her job to ensure that no sensitive information is released to the public. She sometimes visits schools and talks to children and family members about how to protect themselves, even

in their own lives. "Like not posting on Facebook that their mom or dad is either deployed or being deployed to certain areas," Hunsberger said.

Hunsberger believes there is still a lot to do in the use of social networks, and some problems still occur. "A week ago a person saw something that he thought was not right and posted it on Facebook. It was the wrong thing to do. My job is to educate community members on proper reporting procedures, and to inform them of who in the Benelux community can assist them in accomplishing that," Hunsberger explained.

Today, her work is a model for other OPSEC managers. But she prefers to talk about the collective project and to look at the work still to be done. "Our leadership is allowing me to do the job to make our garrison safer, so I believe that the award is more of an organizational accomplishment than an individual one," Hunsberger concluded.



A beer brings broadcaster a story and an award

By Christophe Morel

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

"I knew that this story would be one of the biggest, most ambitious stories that I was ever going to do," said Staff Sgt. Adam Harder about his video 'The Man from the Bottle.'

With the 16 minutes long production, the AFN operations manager and broadcast journalist won the Defense Media Award (DMA) in the long form production category in April 2017.

The DMA program, which replaced the Thomas Jefferson Awards, Visual Information Awards and VI Productions Awards, honors excellence among military and civilian broadcasters, graphic artists, journalists, photographers, public affairs practitioners, mass communication specialists and videographers.

This time, the DMA honored an investigation into a story which sounds like an urban legend, a story about Vince Speranza, a veteran who served as an infantryman and machine gunner in Bastogne during World War II.

As Harder explains in the video, it all began with a local Belgian beer. "I was in Ath, in a restaurant," Harder explained. "The owner, Jean-Luc, knows that my friend Eli Rios and I are in the U.S. military and said 'hey, I have got this beer'. It's called Airborne. If you look at the bottle, there is a little cartoon American troop merrily prancing with a helmet in his hand and it's full of beer." Harder described.

A very personal story

So it's in this restaurant that Harder learned about Speranza, the man from the bottle. Jean-Luc told Harder that Speranza helped a dying friend in a church. "He went to his buddy and asked him can I get you anything? And the only thing his buddy asked for was a beer because they were in Belgium. He checked all the pubs for beer and finally found a tap that worked despite everything in the bar being blown up.



Staff Sgt. Adam Harder is talking to Vince Speranza in December 2015, in Bastogne (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bernardo Fuller).

All the glass in the pub was broken so he decided his helmet was the only way to get the beer to his dying friend. He took his helmet full of beer back to his dying friend. And then he started doing that for all the other people who were injured," Harder explained.

While researching the story, Harder discovered that Speranza was still alive, though he initially couldn't find much information on the web. "I emailed another journalist from Illinois who was the only other reporter I'd seen do a story on Vince. He was able to get me Vince's email. To my surprise, Vince emailed me back within 24 hours which I have to admit, I was impressed by given that he was 92 at the time." Harder said.

In December 2015, Harder met Speranza

and his granddaughter in Bastogne. Though he was to be the producer, he brought someone with him for extra shots. The video shows the veteran talking about what he actually did during

the war, in a field or in a church. "This is a very personal story so I wanted to give the viewer time to get to know the character," Harder said.

40 hours

After the shooting, Harder took a long time to capture the real essence of the story. He had about nine hours of footage. "I had two cameras worth of three days of footage, I had a ton of shots! It probably took me a total of 40 hours to put it together, at least" Harder indicated.

The award is meaningful for the 26 year old journalist who received compliments from Speranza. "This award made me feel like I had told his story properly, and that's all I really wanted to do. I wanted to be sure that his amazing story was just as amazing to everybody else as it was to me," Harder said.

Now Harder hopes that he will find another great story to tell. "I think that every single person on earth has a story that's very interesting. And if you are a good journalist, you can find a way to tell it," Harder concluded.

You can find "The Man from the Bottle" on Youtube or at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/502348/man-bottle-telescoped-version>.



Harder works at AFN-Benelux on SHAPE (U.S Army photo by Christophe Morel)

Celebrate Independence Day in Benelux communities



The Benelux community is planning lots of activities to celebrate Independence Day, America's 241th birthday. A great occasion to have fun with family and friends.

Schinnen ★

Independence Day Celebration at and around the Schinnen pavilion will be held July 4 from 4:30 p.m. to Midnight with live music, karaoke, food, beverages, rides, fireworks and more.

No pets, coolers or picnic baskets are allowed. Backpacks are subject to search. All fees are in Euros.

The event is open to US & NATO ID card holders and their dependents. Guests should be sponsored.

Contact the Benelux Public Affairs Office at usarmy.benelux.id-europe.list.pao@mail.mil if you want to bring guests.



SHAPE/Chièvres ★



The Independence Day observance on SHAPE will be held Saturday July 1, from noon to midnight, at the SHAPE Fest Tent Area. This year, you are invited to celebrate the independence of the United States of America and also the 150th anniversary of Canada. The program includes food, drinks, carnival rides, live music and Fireworks.

Brussels ★

An Independence Day Block Party will be held June 30. The 3 Star hosts the event featuring BBQ, face painting and corn hole. The program:

- 5:30-9:30 p.m.: drink sales, food sales, T-shirt sales, crafts (CYS), photo booth, life dancing and DJ music
- 5:30-9 p.m.: bouncy houses, face painting, games, military static displays and sparklers/ground fireworks.
- 5:30-6:30 p.m.: DJ music
- 6:30- 7 p.m.: Tom Murphy
- 7-8 p.m.: DJ music and line dancing
- 8-8:30 p.m.: Tom Murphy and Jeff
- 8:30-9:30 p.m.: DJ music and line dancing



Volunteers are needed !

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the celebration on SHAPE July 1. There are multiple opportunities over the course of several days to help out. If you're interested, you can register online.



There will be fireworks in Schinnen and on SHAPE (Archive photo).

Remain Vigilant

Maintain situational awareness at all times when attending events involving large crowds and pre-establish easily recognizable meeting spots to be used as emergency evacuation points where you and your family and friends can gather if needed.

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.

July 5

- **Retirement Planning** - Held from 3 to 4 p.m., this class is designed for those who are contemplating retiring within the next one to five years. Participants will discuss current retirement plans, life insurance, Survivor Benefit Plan, IRAs, annuities, and investments.



BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

Beginning July 3

- **CYS Youth Center Summer Volleyball Camp** - Open to incoming freshman to seniors. Season is from July 3 to August 8 every Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Brussels Youth Center.

July 6-7

- **Community movie nights in the 3 Star** - Gifted (PG-13) Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and Unforgettable (R) Friday at 6:30 p.m. Contact DSN 368-9768/9822 for more information.

August 7 to 11

- **CYS Youth Center Summer Rugby/Football Camp** - For ages three to 18 at the BAS Football Field. Contact CYS for details and registration information.

August 14 to 18

- **CYS Youth Center Summer Basketball Camp** - For ages three to 18 at the CYS gym. Contact CYS for details and registration information.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

Upcoming Family Advocacy Events:

- **Meditation Monday's** - From noon to 1 p.m. Take the opportunity every Monday to slow down and get centered for a more productive week.
- **10,000 Steps Tuesday's** - From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Fresh air, good company and a little exercise; Mom's with strollers welcome. For more information please call DSN 360-7367, civilian +31 (0)46-4437367. Domestic Violence Hotline: +31 (0)613-216737.

July 4

- **Independence Day** - See p. 5 for details.

July 12

- **Play and Parent Support Group** - A mixed age Play & Parent Support Group is available at ACS in Schinnen one Wednesday per month. Next time this parent-child playgroup for parents with children age 0-36 months meet is July 12 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the ACS Schinnen living room area. 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.

July 20-21

- **Host Nation - Newcomer's Orientation & Cultural Tour** - From 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Schinnen ACS. All newcomers and spouses are invited to learn about your new community, including local customs, culture, and language. On day one explore the Dutch culture with an introduction to the language and get an overview of Tri-Border services. Day two, we go beyond the gate to visit a few local attractions and shopping areas and learn how to use the local train system. For information, call DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500.

June 27 to Aug. 20

- **Summer Reading Program** - The program "Reading by Design" is open to all U.S. and NATO ID card holders between the ages of three and 18 years old. Children interested in this program can register at the library starting June 27. Children will check out and read books and will receive a variety of prizes for the number of books they read. Preschool children may earn prizes by having books read to them. For more information call +31 (0)45-5262669/2469.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

See also above in "All Communities"

July 1

- **USA/Canada Anniversary** - USA will celebrate its 241st birthday in conjunction with Canada's 150th anniversary. See p. 5 for all the information.

July 1

- **SHAPE Olympics Opening Ceremony** - Open to the SHAPE community and alumni. Events will include an Olympic sports initiation for kids, a 5k fun run, and more. Opening ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m.

June 1 to Aug. 12

- **Summer Reading Program** - The program "Reading by Design" is open to all U.S. and NATO ID card holders between the ages of three and 18 years old. Registration is not required.

July 28

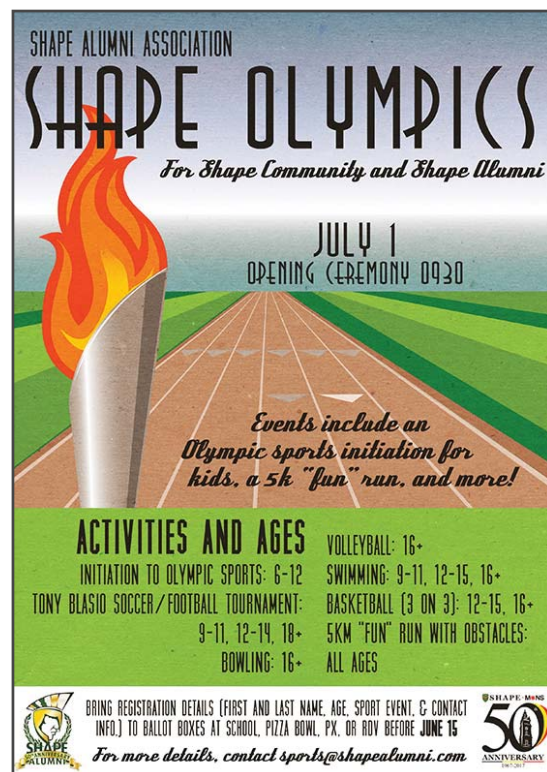
- **Employment and Career Expo** - The 2017 Employment and Career Expo will have guest speakers, informative and interactive workshops, webinars, subject matter experts to critique and tailor resumes, and a network area with agencies looking to hire military spouses. The event is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the ACS building.

Through Aug. 11

- **CYS Summer Camp** - Summer camp is open for all CYS-eligible SHAPE/Chièvres families from kindergarden to 12th grade. Registration is required. For more information contact Parent Central Services.

Closures and hiatuses

- **B3's Sports Bar** - B3's Sports Bar will not be opened Friday June 30 due to the SHAPE 50th anniversary event.
- **Ball Pilates** - The volunteer instructor who teaches Ball Pilates is no longer available; therefore, it has been removed from the fitness class schedule.
- **Circuit Training** at the Chièvres Fitness Center has gone on hiatus. It will resume July 17.
- **TRX Thursdays** at the Chièvres Fitness Center has gone on hiatus and will resume July 20.



Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Nausicaa, Europe's largest aquarium, July 8**
- **Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, July 15**
- **Dutch Day, July 18**
- **Efteling Theme park, July 22**
- **Cologne with breakfast cruise on the Rhine, July 29**
- **Phantasia land, Germany, Aug. 4**
- **Footloose, the musical in Oostende, Aug. 5**
- **London, Aug. 12-14**
- **Paris, Aug. 19**
- **Amsterdam, Aug. 26**
- **Polish Pottery - Karlovy Vary - Neustadt, Sep. 1-4**
- **Heidelberg and Bad Durkheim (Wurst and Wine Festival), Sept. 16**
- **Riverdance (Dance Production), Oct. 7**
- **India, Oct. 7-17**

- **Alsace Vineyards, Oct. 14-15**
- **Paris, Oct. 21**
- **Cooking Class in Lille, Nov. 4**
- **Moulin Rouge, Paris, Nov. 11**
- **London, Nov. 25**
- **Berlin, Dec. 29 - Jan. 1**
- **Crete, Spa and Middelkerke, all year**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Dutch day trip, July 7**
- **Day trip to Amsterdam, July 22**
- **Family Day "Trout Fishing", September 9**
- **Day Trip to the World's largest wine festival and "600 years Wurstmarkt" in Bad Durkheim, Germany, Saturday, September 16**
- **Day Trip to the National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 in Groesbeek, Saturday, September 23**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

Through June 30

- **“Summer After’s work” in Laeken** - A good way to enjoy summer with music and tastings. Held on Chaussée de Wavre, 141 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

June 29 - July 2

- **“Ducasse de Papignies”** - A big Spring Festival with a lot of activities for four days in the center of Papignies. Don't miss the night market Friday, and the flight of the balloon at 8 p.m. Saturday, the “Papignies Summer Project” will start at 8 p.m. and there will also be a flea market from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday night, the cover band Zénith will be performing at 9 p.m. No entrance fee.

June 30 - July 2

- **“Couleur Café festival” in Brussels** - A famous festival with a lot of international artists. Entry: €79.00 for three days, €39 for one day.

July 1

- **Flea market in Hainin (100 booths)** - Held on Rue Gai Séjour, 2 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Mont-Sainte-Aldegonde (70 booths)** - Held on Place de Mont-Sainte-Aldegonde and Place Max Buset from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

July 1-2

- **Flea market in Mons (100 booths)** - Held on Avenue des Guérites from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

July 2

- **Volksmarch in Beloeil for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs Rue Baron Descamps, 11 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Casteau for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs Rue Saint-Antoine, 5B from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Volksmarch in Marchienne-Au-Pont for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs “Résidence Hustin” on Rue de l'Hôpital, 9 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Quevaucamps (70 booths)** - Held on Place du Pâturage from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Flea market in Frasnes-lez-Buissenal (over 200 booths)** - Held on Rue du Monceau from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Ath (50 booths)** - Held at Esplanade from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flea market in Enghien (100 booths)** - Held at Rue Montgomery from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Big flea market in Auderghem (600 booths)** - Held on Place Edouard Pinoy from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

July 2-9

- **“Beloeil Plage” (Beach in Town)** - A lot of activities for eight days in the center of Beloeil: beach party, kids party, music, night craft market, scrapbooking, sports events, tea dance, “marathon spinning” and lots more. The beach will be open each day from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Program and information: <http://www.beloeil.be/agenda/457-beloeil-plage-2.html>. No entrance fee, except for some activities.



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

June 30-July 1

- **“Concert at Sea” in Renesse** - Held at Brouwersdam, along the sea. One of the largest festivals in the Netherlands. Entry: €45. Weekend ticket: €75. Open: noon to 1 a.m.

June 30-July 2

- **Food-truck Fest in Haarlem** - Held at de Lichtfabriek on Minckelersweg, 2. More than 30 food trucks, also theater and live music. Open: Friday, 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 1 to 11 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 10 p.m.
- **The Mystical Fantasy Fair in Heeswijk** - Held at Hoeve Weltevreden on Rukven, 3. Spiritual, Celtic and medieval activities, workshops, music, food and more. Open: Friday, 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €7.50.
- **Oriental and Asian Market Pasar Malam Istimewa in Zeist** - Lots of oriental snacks; Indonesian and Thai culinary specialties; live music; dance; stands and more. Held both in and outdoors at Dijnseburg on Badmeester Schenkpad. Entry: €7.50; children (4-12) €6. Open: Friday, 1 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, noon to midnight and Sunday, noon to 8 p.m.

July 1

- **Conincx Pop in Esloo** - An admission free pop festival held along the river Maas. Starts at 2 p.m.
- **Airmen’s Party in Gellenkirchen (GE)** - For those aged 18 and up with Mickie Krause, Loona, Disco Boys, The Westbunch and DJ Shalien. Held in Hangar 2 at NATO Air Base. Entry: €22.50. Door opens at 7 p.m.
- **Curiosa Market in Heusden** - Held on Burchtplein. Open: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. No entry fees.

July 1-2

- **The annual Ricarda Markt in Bedburg (GE)** - A combination of Art and Culinary Market. Open: Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **The Open Days in Gellenkirchen (GE)** - Held at the NATO Air Base. A multi-faceted entertainment program from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. including a plane exhibition, activities for kids, food, drink and more. Entry: €8; €2.50 for ages 6-16. <http://www.35Jahre-Nato-Awacs.de>.
- **Midsummer Fair in Zeljen** - Held at De Oranjerie on Noorderstraat. A varied fair with many stand-holders offering decorations, accessories, garden and lifestyle products. There is also music and food. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3; free for children <11.

July 2

- **“Oud Limburgs Schuttersfeest” in Merkelbeek** - The largest meeting of Shooters’ (Schutterijen) clubs in both the Belgian and Dutch provinces of Limburg. More than 160 clubs participate. Entry: €5; children 12 and younger - free entrance. Starts around 11 a.m.
- **The Lekkerbekkenmarkt in Peer** - A Food Tasting event with stands and food trucks from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the center on Market Square.