



**PROUDLY SERVING THE  
BENELUX COMMUNITY**

**Vol. 12, Issue 3**

**JANUARY 25, 2019**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ARMY CAC HOLDERS NEED TO ACTIVATE PIV AUTHENTICATION BY MARCH 31**

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

### **SOME BRUSSELS SERVICES TO BE CLOSED JAN. 29 FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.**

Some garrison services in Brussels will be closed on Jan. 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The affected services are Army Community Service, Housing, DEERS/RAPIDS (ID Cards), Fingerprints/Security, Education Office and Post Office (will reopen at 11 a.m.). Please call the specific service to confirm hours if not listed. Services will reopen at 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

### **COMMUNITY LEADERS INFORMATION FORUM (CLIF) TO BE HELD FEB. 6**

The next Community Leaders Information Forum (CLIF) will be held Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 10 a.m. in Caserne Daumerie Bldg. 30. Got information for the community? Send an email to [usarmy.benelux.id-europe.mbx.dptms@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.benelux.id-europe.mbx.dptms@mail.mil).

### **MIAMI DOLPHINS FAN EXPERIENCE IN SHAPE AND SCHINNEN NEXT WEEK**

Mark your calendar and participate in the Armed Forces Entertainment's Miami Dolphins Fan Experience [Jan. 29](#) at the SHAPE Alliance Cinema starting at 3 p.m. and [Jan. 30](#) at 7 p.m. at the Schinnen Recreation Center. Fans will get the opportunity to meet the Miami Dolphins alumni and cheerleaders!

### **LIMITED PASSPORT SERVICES BEGINNING FEB. 1**

Beginning Feb. 1, 2019, U.S. Passport services will be limited at all Central Processing Facilities in the Benelux: SHAPE, Brussels and JFC Brunssum. USAG Benelux will continue providing U.S. official no-fee passport issue and renewal by appointment only. For more information, go to our [website](#).

### **U.S. ARMY EUROPE TAX CENTER CHANGES IN 2019**

U.S. Army Europe tax centers will re-prioritize services in 2019 and focus assistance on those that generally make less than \$54,000 per year, in accordance with Army regulations and IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance guidelines. More information is located [here](#). Free filing options are still available to service members and families through websites such as [Military OneSource](#) and the [IRS](#).

### **VA CLAIM WORKSHOPS IN THE BENELUX JAN. 28-31**

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) representatives and VA-accredited service officers will conduct a VA claim workshops at the following locations: [Jan. 28 and 29](#) at JFC Brunssum, [Jan. 30](#) at SHAPE, and [Jan. 31](#) in Brussels. For further information, contact [serviceofficer.arc.be@gmail.com](mailto:serviceofficer.arc.be@gmail.com).



## **PHOTO OF THE WEEK**

*Snow covered the grounds on Caserne Daumerie in Chièvres, Belgium, Jan. 23, 2019. As snow fell in the local community, snow and ice removal teams braved the cold to ensure that the garrison services were minimally impacted by the weather. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)*



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## **NEWS**

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS REPORTING EXPLAINED**

Although the Benelux region has a milder climate compared to other areas in Europe, it is wise to be informed when inclement weather hits the area. Garrison officials at U.S. Army Garrison Benelux installations will do everything they can to keep services running, but some weather conditions may result in changes in road conditions, school closures, work delays or temporary shutdown on some of the garrison services. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



### **ARMY SURVEYING FAMILY HOUSING RESIDENTS BY EMAIL**

Residents of Family housing owned and leased by the Army have a chance again to rate the quality of housing and housing services in 2019. The second online survey of about 10,000 residents living in Army-owned and Army-leased housing worldwide was emailed Jan. 15. CEL & Associates Inc. administers the survey for the Army. Residents should receive an email from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

### **IT'S ALWAYS A GOOD TIME TO VISIT THE BRUSSELS FITNESS CENTER**

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's [Brussels Fitness Center](#) went to great lengths to ensure that U.S., NATO, U.S. Mission, and U.S. Embassy ID cardholders are able to access the facility at any time after registering their ID card. Twenty-four hour access to the fitness facility enhances individual personal fitness opportunities and aligns with garrison commander's community readiness and resiliency priority. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



### **DIESEL RESTRICTIONS IN BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS, BANS IN GERMANY**

Many capitals in Europe will probably ban diesel between 2024 and 2030. At the moment, there is no diesel ban in Belgium and The Netherlands, but there are some restrictions. In Belgium, Brussels has instituted a low emission zone, or LEZ, since Jan. 1, 2018. In The Netherlands, the reduction of air pollution has been a priority for years. Currently, Germany is the only country worldwide with diesel bans. The city of Stuttgart, for example, has already banned diesel cars with the emission standard 4/IV and lower. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

### **CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES FOOD PROGRAM DISHES UP NEW IDEAS**

In August when the annual worldwide Army Youth Leadership Forum was held in Southbridge, Massachusetts, military youth narrowed down the top three concerns that they routinely face. One item was their food options and programs. After military teens made their decision about their concerns, the U.S. Army's Child and Youth Services nutrition department went to work. The CYS professionals, who work for the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Wellness and Recreation department, developed a plan to improve food options and implement nutrition and cooking classes. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



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