

# PROUDLY SERVING THE BENELUX COMMUNITY

Vol. 12, Issue 5

# **FEBRUARY 8, 2019**



# 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 <u>website</u>.

## ARMY SURVEYING FAMILY HOUSING RESIDENTS BY EMAIL

Let your voice be heard! Administered by CEL & Associates Inc., the housing survey was emailed to housing residents from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com. Make sure to complete the survey before **Feb. 14**.

## BENELUX TAX CENTERS ARE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

U.S. Army Europe tax centers re-prioritized services in 2019 and focused 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 <u>here</u>. Free filing options are still available to service members and families through websites such as <u>Military OneSource</u> and the <u>IRS</u>. Volunteers are still needed. Please contact the tax center at your location for more information.

### SCHINNEN TROOP STORE AND POST OFFICE EXTEND HOURS IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Beginning Wednesday, Feb. 6 and ending Wednesday, March 27 the following services will be open for extended hours each Wednesday:

- Schinnen Troop Store: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Schinnen Post Office Parcel Pick-Up Window: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Regular postal hours for mailing packages and purchasing stamps remain from noon to 5:30 p.m.

### **CHANGES TO VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN GERMANY**

U.S. Army Europe Registrar of Motor Vehicles recently announced changes to the vehicle registration process in Germany. Effective Jan. 11, there is no longer a requirement to annually register vehicles more than 10 years old. For more information, click <u>here</u>.

# **CROSSAGE IN CHIÈVRES TO BE HELD MARCH 6**

The golf-like sport of Crossage takes places **March 6** starting at noon in the streets of Chièvres and surrounding villages. Teams compete among each other as they try to hit the beer kegs with their wooden mallet and ball in as few as possible hits. Are you interested in participating this year? Please call DSN 361-5433 or 0496-87-69-38 and register by **Feb. 28**. Cost is €40 for a wooden mallet (rabot) and ball (chôlette) and insurance. Payment must be made by the registration deadline.



# **O** PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Army Lt. Col. Kelly Porter (left) and Maj. Simon Chang (right), along with representatives from the American Legion 'Flanders Field' Post BEO2, put up a commemorative display on Chièvres Air Base, Belgium, Feb. 3, 2019, honoring the four chaplains who sacrificed their lives during the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester's sinking in 1943. During the day, they spoke to community members about the history and importance of the four chaplains' actions. (Photo courtesy of the American Legion)

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WEBSITE

**INSIDE THE GATE CALENDAR** 

**OUTSIDE THE GATE CALENDAR** 

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FEEDBACK (ICE)

PHONEBOOK

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PROUDLY SERVING THE BENELUX COMMUNITY

# **NEWS**

# HELICOPTERS RETURN TO CHIÈVRES AIR BASE IN PREPARATION FOR ATLANTIC RESOLVE

Amid the snow and icy conditions, Chièvres Air Base, Belgium, became the intermediate staging area for 1st Combat Aviation Brigade as helicopters landed on SHAPE Air Field in late January and early February. The 1st Infantry Division brigade, based out of Fort Riley, Kansas, are in the fourth iteration of a combat aviation brigade rotation in support of Atlantic Resolve, U.S. Army Europe and U.S. European Command. [READ MORE]

# CAREER SUMMITS IN EUROPE TO CONNECT SOLDIERS, SPOUSES WITH EMPLOYERS

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes program will sponsor three career summits in Europe during March and April. The first one will be held at U.S. Army Garrison Italy, March 28-29, and the others at USAG Bavaria, April 1-2, and USAG Rheinland-Pfalz, April 3-4. [READ MORE]

# BENELUX COMMUNITY TO RECOGNIZE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month is celebrated in February each year. It was originally established in 1926 as Negro History Week. In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford expanded the celebration to include the entire month of February. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans, and a time for recognizing their immeasurable impact on U.S. history. This year's theme is "Black Migrations." [READ MORE]

# ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF WANTS NO SOLDIER LEFT BEHIND FINANCIALLY

Army Emergency Relief, the Army's own nonprofit organization that provides financial assistance to active and retired Soldiers and their Families, is reaching out to all Army personnel with dual messages: the organization is available to help during a financial challenge, and donations are appreciated when times are good. [READ MORE]

# 5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE BENELUX TAX ASSISTANCE SERVICES THIS YEAR

'Tis the season for filing taxes. For those interested in filing their tax returns through the tax assistance centers at U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, it is important to remember the guidelines for this season's processes. At the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, tax assistance services are provided by Northern Law Center in SHAPE Bldg. 318 and the Netherlands Law Center in Schinnen Bldg. 37. Brussels personnel can seek services through the Northern Law Center on Tuesdays in Brussels Bldg. 4, Room 316. [READ MORE]

# PRIMARY CARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCREENINGS TO CHANGE

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**OZETTE** 

Army military treatment facilities across Europe will soon see a change in the way behavioral health screenings are completed at primary care appointments. The Behavioral Health Data Portal (BHDP) is an enterprise-wide web-application that enables standardized data collection for improved screenings in primary care settings. [READ MORE]

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