

MAY 17, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR KATRINA M. HERZFELD

Command Sgt. Maj. Katrina M. Herzfeld assumed responsibility as the command sergeant major for U.S. Army Garrison Benelux May 15 at Chièvres Air Base, Belgium. Herzfeld's full biography is located [here](#). See page 2 for the full story of her assumption of responsibility.

USAG BENELUX TO CONDUCT FULL-SCALE EXERCISE ON MAY 17

On May 17, the garrison will conduct a full-scale exercise to train and validate the coordinated emergency response plan. After 12 p.m. (noon) that day, customers will have limited access to services and facilities on Chièvres Air Base. We strongly encourage people to plan accordingly and avoid the base, if possible, when the exercise is underway. The following offices and facilities will be closed:

- **Post Office at Caserne Daumerie:** The post office will be closed on Friday. Please visit the post office at SHAPE for services.
- **Army Community Service at SHAPE:** The office will be closed on Friday. For emergencies or support, please call the following hotlines:
- **24/7 Domestic Violence/Victim & Family Advocacy:** +32(0)472.90.1068
- **Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy:** +32(0)476.76.2264
- **Military Family Life Consultant:** +32(0)497.65.3738

If you are on Chièvres Air Base during the exercise, please remember that there may be delays at the gates in addition to an increased presence of law enforcement and emergency responders. Please keep in mind that there is no reason to panic if you see emergency response teams and vehicles on the base. Garrison operations plan to return to normal on Saturday, May 18.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE TO BE HELD MAY 20

AFNorth Battalion and the Benelux Equal Opportunity Office will host a special event in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May. This year's theme is "Unite Our Mission." Come to the SHAPE Chapel on **May 20** starting at 11 a.m. to hear Col. Romeo Macalintal, HQ, U.S. NATO SHAPE, speak during a special presentation. **Free food and refreshments will be served.** For more information, call the EO Office at DSN 361.5235 or +32(0)68.27.5235.

NATIONAL TEST CENTER AND ACES TESTING MARATHON AT SHAPE MAY 20-23

If you are an active-duty service member, spouse or graduating high school senior, further your education through CLEP and DSST exams at SHAPE Bldg. 212 (Education Center) on May 20-23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are ready to advance your education, join us for our NTC Testing Marathon. Pre-register at ntcshape-europe@umuc.edu.

STRONG B.A.N.D.S. EVENTS HAPPENING THROUGHOUT MAY

Reach your peak with STRONG B.A.N.D.S. events happening throughout the month. Check out our event listings [here](#).



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

U.S. Army Garrison Benelux and NATO leaders recognized Brussels-area volunteers during a formal recognition ceremony May 16, 2019 in Brussels. Considered the heart of the Benelux community, volunteers make a meaningful difference in the lives of service members and families each day. (U.S. Army photo by Christophe Morel)

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 NEWS

CSM KATRINA HERZFELD ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY OF U.S. ARMY GARRISON BENELUX

Army Command Sgt. Maj. Katrina M. Herzfeld took the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux flag from garrison commander Army Col. Sean Hunt Kuester, signaling her assumption of responsibility as the garrison senior enlisted advisor during a ceremony held May 15 on Chièvres Air Base, Belgium. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



NEW INITIATIVES TO CUT COST, TIME FOR SPOUSES TO CONTINUE CAREERS

The Army recently issued a directive to reduce the financial burden for spouses who wish to continue their professional careers after they move to a new duty station. The policy allows spouses to be reimbursed up to \$500 for qualified relicensing costs that result from a permanent change of station or assignment to a different state. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

EILEEN CATALAN NAMED FIRST SERVICE CULTURE PEER2PEER EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER AWARD WINNER IN BRUSSELS

In April, the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux community in Brussels started a new Service Culture Peer2Peer Employee of the Quarter Award initiative. In the spirit of the Service Culture Campaign’s leadership pledge, “Taking care of our customers begins with taking care of our most valuable asset – our U.S. Army Installation Management Command Professionals,” USAG Benelux Army professionals in Brussels nominated their peers for the award and voted to select the winner. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES TO BE HELD IN EUROPE

Words incised into the façade of the memorial in Ardennes American Cemetery sum up Memorial Day and the comrades in arms it honors. On May 27, the U.S. will observe Memorial Day, an annual observance honoring the military men and women who gave their lives in defense of our nation and its values. Each year, thousands gather for Memorial Day ceremonies to honor these individuals in the Benelux. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

CHEESE MARKETS IN THE NETHERLANDS

When asked what comes to mind when thinking of The Netherlands, people will say: tulips, the Night Watch by Rembrandt, the waterworks, windmills and wooden shoes. But there is more. The country is also known for its variety of cheese and its cheese markets. When visiting in spring and summer try to go to one of the following places and enjoy the hustle and bustle of these traditional and cultural happenings. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



RELIVE THE MEDIEVAL TIMES IN CHIÈVRES

The city of Chièvres will host the third Cervia Medieval May 17-19. The event is an opportunity for attendees to discover the city’s medieval past while enjoying activities and entertainment such as music, dance, shows, and a market of that time period. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



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