

THE GAZETTE

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

Benelux news briefs

AFAP wants your input

Through the Army Family Action Plan process, American military family members can express their concerns about quality-of-life issues directly to senior leadership and work together to find solutions.

Submit your concerns via email (using a subject line of "2015 AFAP Conference Issues") at usarmy.benelux.imcom-europe.mbx.dfmwr-ac@mail.mil.

APOs holiday schedule

U.S. military post offices on SHAPE and Caserne Daumerie will be operating on the following hours until Dec. 18 (closed on federal holidays):

Postal Finance will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and **Personal Mail Pickup** will be open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Mailing deadlines

To ensure packages addressed to locations in the United States are delivered before Christmas, be sure to mail them by the following dates: **Nov. 25** for space available parcels; **Dec. 3** for parcel airlift; **Dec. 10** for priority parcels and first-class letters; and **Dec. 17** for express mail.

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Local school children visit Chièvres Air Base

Belgian school children wait their turn to see the inside of a 424th Air Base Squadron fire truck with Staff Sgt. Bradley T. Baker Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015. The children also had the opportunity to try on fire fighting gear. (U.S. Army photo by Donovan Abrassart)

Dangers of drinking and driving

Special to the Gazette

USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program

Millions of people worldwide do it. Many say, “What’s the harm? I got home safely, and no one was hurt.” Just because you made it home safely to your bed doesn’t mean that you’re making the right decision. When you put your keys in the ignition and drive away after drinking, you not only put your life at risk, you risk the lives of all those you come across while driving.

Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the holiday festivities for many of us. Often, but not always, this means alcohol consumption. Be sure and make plans before the festivities so that you make the right choices during and after the holiday gathering.

Alcohol impairs your judgment and depth perception as well as the vital motor skills required to drive safely. It’s easy to think you are driving normally when, in fact, you aren’t. When the police take notice, you could be hit with a charge of driving under the influence/driving while intoxicated, or DUI/DWI, and this is a best-case scenario.

If you get into an accident, your life and the lives of oth-

ers could be lost. Additionally, if you are lucky enough to survive an accident, you may injure yourself or others and those injuries may have long lasting personal consequences.

Drunken driving account for about 30 percent of all motor-vehicle accidents per year, and thousands of drivers and passengers lose their lives due to drinking and driving, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

“Operating a motor vehicle in Belgium while sober can be difficult in and of itself; adding alcohol or other intoxicants to the mix is putting your life and the lives of others on the roadways at risk,” said John Lamb of the USAG Benelux Army Substance Abuse Program, or ASAP, Office.

Individuals can protect themselves and others by planning ahead and using designated drivers or using other means of transportation, such as taxicabs or trains, Lamb said.

“Don’t make drinking and driving more important than your military career or life,” he said. “Make the right choice, and put your keys down.”

Rucks for Thankfulness

U.S. Soldiers assigned to 39th Signal Battalion perform Ruck for Thankfulness on Chièvres Air Base, Nov. 20, 2015. The event was a 3-mile road march done while carrying up to 70 pounds of canned and non-perishable food they donated and collected in order to help a local charity. (U.S. Army photo by Visual Information Specialist Pierre-Etienne Courtejoie)



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

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Operating hours over Thanksgiving weekend (Nov. 26 - 29)

SHAPE/Chèvres Community

	Auto Skills Shop	Library	Outdoor Rec	Kennel	PX	Commissary	Fitness Center	Personal Mail Pickup	Postal Finance	Northern Law Center	SHAPE Healthcare Facility
Thu Nov. 26	11 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Closed	Closed	9 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Closed	Closed	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Acute Care clinic: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Physical Therapy: 1 - 5 p.m.
Fri Nov. 27	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed	8:30 a.m. - noon, 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.				7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (through Dec. 18)	8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (through Dec. 18)	Closed	Acute Care clinic: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Physical Therapy: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat Nov. 28											
Sun Nov. 29											

The blocks left blank mean regular operating hours for that day of the week.

Brussels Community

	3 Star Lounge	Library	Auto Skills Shop	Outdoor Rec	Shoppette	Dental Clinic	Health Clinic	Fitness Center	Package Mailing	Package Pickup
Thu Nov. 26	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	7 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Fri Nov. 27	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	5 a.m. - 8 p.m.	7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (through Dec. 23)	7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (through Dec. 23)
Sat Nov. 28			Closed							
Sun Nov. 29		11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Closed					11 a.m. - 4 p.m.		

The blocks left blank mean regular operating hours for that day of the week.

Schinnen/Brunssum Community

	Main Exchange	Housing	Commissary	ACS	CPF	Northern Law Center	ISO	WIC Office
Thu Nov. 26	Closed	8 a.m. - noon 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		Closed
Fri Nov. 27	8 a.m. - 6 p.m.	8 a.m. - noon 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Closed	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.		Closed	Closed	
Sat Nov. 28	8 a.m. - 6 p.m.		10 a.m. - 6 p.m.					
Sun Nov. 29								

Schinnen/Brunssum Community

	Fitness Center	Bowling Center	Outdoor Rec	BRD Administrative	Northern Law Center	Schinnen/Brunssum post	DPW
Thu Nov. 26	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Closed	8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fri Nov. 27	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.	8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Closed		
Sat Nov. 28							
Sun Nov. 29							

The blocks left blank mean regular operating hours for that day of the week.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY

Volunteer now

- **Coaches needed** - Volunteers receive free and reduced fees for their children to participate. If you are interested, call DSN 368-9539 or civilian 02-7179539.
 - **CYSS Youth Sports Winter season programs** - Open enrollment is going on now for several sports programs offered by Child, Youth and School services during the January-February season. For additional information, call DSN 368-9539/9651 or civilian 02-7179539/9651.
- Basketball** - Youth ages 3 to 15 may be signed up for this sports program. Cost is \$20 for ages 3 to 5; \$40 for ages 6 to 15.
- Cheerleading** - Youth ages 6 to 12 may be signed up for this sports program. Cost is \$20 for ages 6 to 7 and \$40 for ages 8 to 12.

Nov. 25

- **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. for all U.S. Military and Family members, DoD U.S. employees and DoD HN employees working or residing in the Brussels area. For information or reservation, call DSN 368-9747 or civilian 02-7179747.

Nov. 26

- **There will be no 3 Star Family Dinner (Thanksgiving).**

Dec. 3

- **Brussels Winter Fest** - Will be held at the 3 Star Lounge starting at 5:30 p.m. and until 8 p.m. for dinner and kids activities; from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for pictures with Santa and from 7:30 to 8 p.m. for the tree lighting and Christmas carols.

SCHINNEN/BRUNSSUM COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Basketball Coaches Clinic** - Clinic will be on **Dec. 9** from 6 to 9 p.m. at the CYSS Building. For more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.

Register by Nov. 27

- **CYSS sports programs** - Open enrollment is going on now for several sports programs offered by Child, Youth and School Services during the Jan. 16 to Feb. 20 season. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders, but spaces are limited. Youths must be registered with CYSS and have a valid health assessment at the time of enrollment. For details, contact CYSS Sports & Fitness by stopping by Building H602 on JFC Brunssum or calling DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5264195.
- Coed basketball** - Youths ages 3 to 15 may be signed up for this sports program. Cost: \$20 for children ages 3 to 5 and \$40 for those ages 6 to 15.
- Junior girls basketball** - This sports program is offered to youths ages 13 to 15. Cost: \$40.
- Cheerleading** - This sports program is offered to youths ages 6 to 15. Cost: \$40.

Register by Dec. 9

- **Basketball Officials Clinic** - The class will be held **Dec. 12** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at JFC Brunssum, Building H 602. To register or for more information, call DSN 364-4195 or civilian +31(0) 45-526-4195.

Nov. 25

- **Heinsberg Hospital Tour** - Offered in English by the New Parent Support Program. Meet at 6 p.m. at the front door of the hospital. For additional information, call +49 (0)2452-188501.

Nov. 26

- **JFC Chapel Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner** - At the Alliance restaurant from 6 to 8 p.m. Bring a dish or two to share, enough for your family and a few more.

Nov. 28 and 29 and Dec. 2 and 3

- **New Parent Support Program** - The New Parent Support Home Visitor will be available for office hours, hospital and home visits to all U.S. ID card holders. To schedule an appointment call ACS at DSN 360-7500 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437500.

Dec. 2

- **Meet the Mommies** - Expectant parents can meet the New Parent Support Home Visitor and learn about the services offered from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Geilenkirchen, Germany U.S. Clinic.

Dec. 4

- **Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting** - Will be held as of 5:30 p.m. with festive market environment, lighting of the tree, performances from the AFNORTH International School Concert Band and Choir, food and refreshments, childrens' activities and photos with Santa. For more information call F&MWR at DSN 360-7370 or civilian +31 (0)46-4437370.

SHAPE/CHIEVRES COMMUNITY

Register now

- **Movember mustache-growing contest** - SHAPE Healthcare Facility will host a Movember event **Nov. 30** from noon to 1 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the clinic. For more information or to register for the competition, call Preventive Medicine at DSN 566-5336 or civilian 065-325336.

Register by Nov. 27

- **CYSS sports programs** - Open enrollment is going on now for several sports programs offered by Child, Youth and School Services. Open to all U.S. and NATO ID card-holders, but spaces are limited. For details, stop by SHAPE Building 503 or call DSN 423-6039/6097 or civilian 065-446039/6097.
 - Basketball** - This program is offered during the December-to-March season to youths ages 6 to 15. Cost: \$40. Call CYSS for appropriate league.
 - Developmental basketball** - This program is offered during the January-to-February season to girls and boys ages 4 to 5. Cost: \$20.
 - Cheerleading** - This program is offered during the December-to-March season to youths ages 9 to 12. Cost: \$40.

Registration through Nov. 30

- **Cross-country** - This CYSS program is offered during the December-to-February season to youths ages 10 to 13. Cost: \$15. For questions or to volunteer as a coach, call the CYSS Youth Sports Office at DSN 423-4448 or civilian 065-444448. To register for cross-country, call DSN 423-6039/6097 or civilian 065-446039/6097.

Nov. 25, 27, 28, 29

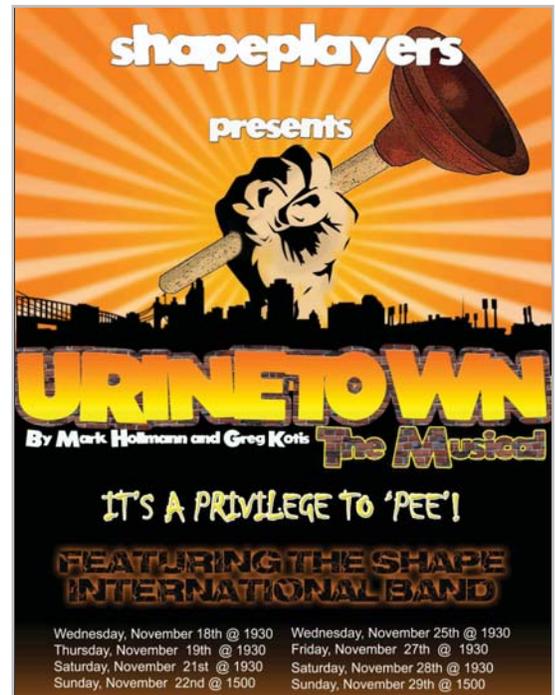
- **Urinetown by the SHAPE Players** - At the SHAPE Performing Arts Centre, featuring the SHAPE International Band, performances are at 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday performances which are at 3 p.m. Tickets are at €16 per adult, €8 for children and students. For additional information, call DSN 423-3312 or civilian 065-443312.

Dec. 3

- **SHAPE Holiday Experience** - Learn about and celebrate Belgian and American traditions from 4 to 7 p.m. at the SHAPE Events Centre. There will be stories and a puppet show about the traditions. St Nicholas and Santa Claus will visit. To celebrate St Nicholas's Day there will be shoe decorating (to be filled after our special guests arrive) Santa will be available for photos.

Dec. 4

- **ACS Holiday Open House** - USAG Benelux Community Agencies will be on site with information about programs and services offered to Service Members, Families, Civilians, Retirees, and Surviving Families. Other fun activities include photos with Santa, food, music, door prizes and a door decorating contest. The New Parent Support Program Activities and playroom will be open. For additional information call DSN 366-6824 or civilian 065-65326824.



Inside the gate

Emergency numbers

Brussels
Any emergency - Dial 112
Brussels MP station:
DSN 368-9769
civilian 02-7179769

SHAPE/Chièvres
Any emergency - Dial 112
Chièvres MP station:
DSN 361-5301
civilian 068-275301
SHAPE Police Desk:
DSN 423-3333/4
civilian 065-443333/4

Schinnen
Any emergency - Dial 112
Schinnen MP station:
DSN 360-7555
civilian 046-4437555

Travel the Benelux

Visit Abbaye de Villers, a beautiful ruin

by **Tim Clark**

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

The great Cistercian Abbaye de Villers was founded in 1146 by 12 monks from the Abbey of Clairvaux, France, who were sent out to start a second abbey. At its peak in the mid-13th century it housed 100 monks and 300 brothers living within the abbey walls. The abbey flourished as a cultural and religious center in the Middle Ages. Most of the ruins still standing date from that time.

The abbey suffered the fate of many ecclesiastical buildings in Belgium; it was wrecked by Protestant iconoclasts in the 16th century and plundered by the French Revolutionary army in 1794. The result is the largest set of church ruins in Belgium.

Charles Houart bought the site in 1820 and allowed a railroad to be built right through the grounds. In 1893, the Belgian government stepped in and purchased the abbey to conserve the site. The abbey was named an Exceptional Heritage Site of Wallonia in 1972.

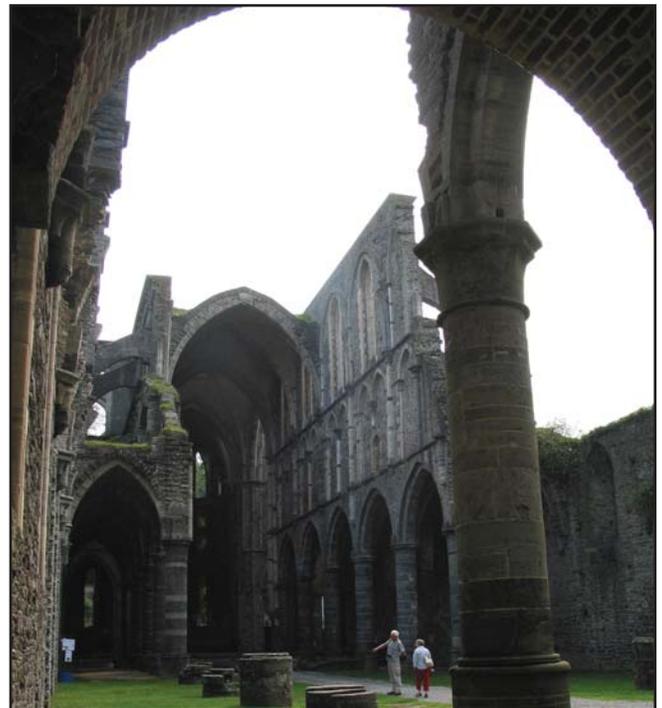
Much of the architecture of the monastery is still standing. You can explore the cloisters, the dormitory and brewery. The jewel of the site is the majestic ruins of the Cistercian church. The church, which took 70 years to build, was completed around 1300.

A spectacular location to snap some photographs, take a walk or paint a picture. The history and romance of the abbey have inspired artists for years.

Abbaye de Villers is the home of many cultural events throughout the year, including Night of Choirs every August, when six choirs perform concerts among the ruins followed by a fireworks show. Art exhibits, outdoor theater and conferences are also held here. A St. Nicholas event is scheduled for the afternoon of Dec. 2 starting

at 2 p.m. with a hunt among the ruins for his missing miter and a chance to make a customized shoe for St. Nicholas to leave presents in on Dec 6.

You can pick up an audio guide in the visitors center to help you understand what you are seeing and learn about the daily life of the monks who lived here from the 12th to the 18th century. A new visitor center is under construction and set to open in spring 2016.



The impressive Cistercian church ruins at Abbaye de Villers. Photos by Jean Grandmont



Essentials for your visit

Rue de la Abbaye 55
1495 Villers-la-Ville, Belgium

Open:

Nov.1 to March 31: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
April 1 to Oct 31: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays and Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1

Admission:

Adults €6
Children, senior citizens €5
Children ages 6-12 €2.50
Children ages 5 and under free
Audio Guide €1.50

Outside the gate

Enjoy "waterzooi" - a classic Belgian soup

Story and photos by Tim Clark

USAG Benelux Public Affairs Office

Everyone has a favorite recipe to make chicken soup. This Belgian version has the characteristics of a winner: Easy to make, full of vegetables, and rich and creamy to warm you up inside.

This Belgian stew is sometimes called Genkse Waterzooi after the

city of Gent where it originated. A favorite of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, who was born in Gent in 1500, this dish was popular in the 16th century and has withstood the test of time. A classic of Flemish cuisine, waterzooi gets its name from the Dutch "zooien" meaning to boil. The

original dish was made with fish; now chicken is most commonly used.

As temperatures drop, embrace the opportunity to enjoy a hearty meal. Forget the rain and cooler weather with a stand-out comfort food, enjoy some chicken waterzooi at a local restaurant or make some at home.



Outside the gate

- 2 leeks
- 3 carrots
- 2 celery stalks
- 1 small onion
- 4 medium potatoes, peeled and cut into quarters
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 4 to 5 cups chicken broth
- 2 lbs. chicken breasts, boneless and skinless
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 tbsp. cornstarch
- 1 egg yolk

Dice the leeks, 2 1/2 carrots, celery and onion. Melt the butter in a deep pan, and sauté the vegetables.

Add the chicken, potatoes and enough broth to cover everything. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer until chicken is done (about 20 minutes).

Cut remaining half carrot into matchstick size pieces. Reserve.

Remove chicken, and cut into pieces.

In a bowl, whisk cream, cornstarch and egg yolk. Add to broth and stir as waterzooi thickens. Add broth to thin the mixture if desired.

Season chicken with salt and pepper, and add to soup. Simmer for three to four minutes to heat chicken.

Serve in soup bowls and top with carrot matchsticks. Garnish with fresh parsley and a tomato slice



Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

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

- **Snow & Ice Sculpture Festival in Brugge (Bruges), Nov. 28**
- **German Christmas markets overnight, Dec. 5 to 6**
- **Alsace Christmas markets overnight in Triberg im Schwarzwald (Black Forest), Dec. 12 to 13**
- **Aachen and Monschau Christmas markets, Dec. 19**
- **Paris in winter, Dec. 28**
- **London New Year's, Dec. 30 to Jan. 1, 2016**
- **Amsterdam with the Heineken Experience, Jan 16**
- **"The Nutcracker" Ballet, Brussels, Jan. 24**
- **Thermae 200 in Valkenburg, Jan. 30**
- **London with "Wicked" show, Feb. 20**
- **Croatia with Venice and Slovenia, March 28 - Apr. 6**

SHAPE Travel Group

Call civilian 0470-876369 for details.

- **Canterbury, England, Dec. 3**
- **Aachen Christmas Market, Dec. 10**
- **Paris Lights, Dec. 15**
- **Snow World, the Netherlands (transportation and four-hour ski pass), Jan. 19, 2016**
- **Trocs and Leuven, Jan. 28, 2016**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

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

- **Cologne Christmas Markets, Dec. 5**



Read about events near Chièvres, SHAPE and Brussels.

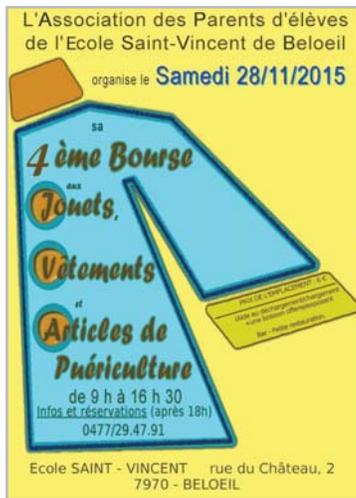
Due to the current situation in Belgium, some events listed may be cancelled without much prior notice. Therefore, we have provided a phone number for most of the event so you can call to make sure the event is still on.

Nov. 27

- **Orientation trail in Nivelles** - From 7 to 8 p.m., trail covers a distance of 3 to 6 km and starts at "Garences du Panier Vert" Rue Samiette, 162. Participation fee is €3. Telephone 0489/101560.

Nov. 28

- **"Midi-Minuit" (Noon until Midnight) event in Chièvres** - The local shops of Chièvres will gather at the city hall on the Chièvres square to show what they have to offer. Fire eaters and St. Nicholas will be also be present from 3 to 6 p.m. with possibility to have pictures taken with St. Nicholas.
- **St Nicholas fest in Masnuy St Jean** - Organized by the Belgian Red Cross, event will be held at the school on Rue du Bois de Genly 1 from 3 to 8 p.m. and is open to all. Telephone is 0476/888781.
- **Day of the Tree in Lens** - On the square in front of the city hall (Place de la Trinité) from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with distribution of free young trees and free entertainment for kids in celebration of the Day of the Children's Rights. Telephone is 065-220435.
- **Secondhand toys market in Blaregnies** - At the sports center on Rue de Sars 5 from 2 to 6 p.m. Entrance is free of charge. Telephone 0486/775758.
- **Secondhand clothing, toys and baby equipment in Be-loeil** - At the school Saint Vincent on Rue du Château 2 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone: 0477/294791.



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

Nov. 26-29 & Dec. 3-6; 10-13 and 17-20

- **Christmas market in Bad Sassendorf (GE)** - Held in the center of town, this fair is open: Thursdays-Fridays, 2 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays-Sundays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Nov. 26-29 & Dec. 2-6, 9-13, 16-20

- **Christmas Market in Merode (GE)**. The Prince and Princess von Merode will open the Castle Merode again this year for a romantic and traditional Christmas Market. The market is only open on Wednesdays-Thursdays, 2 to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 2 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 to 10 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 8 p.m. Admission on Wednesdays-Saturdays is €6.50 and on Sundays €7; children (6-16) €2. To get to Castle Merode follow the A4 (Köln/Aachen); exit Eschweiler-Ost and follow signs Weisweiler and Langerwehe (GE). Then get on B264 direction Düren until you see the sign for Merode (GE).

Nov. 26-29

- **Large Car Fair in Rotterdam** with participation of many top car dealers and people with passion for cars at Ahoy on Ahoy-weg 10. Besides the newest models many booths will also offer various accessories. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nov. 27-29

- **Altstädter Nikolaus Market Bergneustadt (GE)** is an attractive and traditional Saint Nicholas market located in the Heimatmuseum among the timber-framed houses in the old historic center of town. Open Nov. 27 from 6 to 10 p.m.; Nov. 28 from 3 to 10 p.m. and Nov. 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nov. 28

- **Amstelveen City Blues in Amstelveen** is an international blues festival held in Schouwburg on Stadplein 100 in the center of town. Among participants are Nikki Hill and Jason Ricci. Admission is €36.50. Starts at 7:30 p.m.

Through Nov. 29

- **Finnish Christmas market in Rotterdam** - On Gravenrijkwel 64 with lots of Finnish articles and delicacies is open Thursday-Friday, noon to 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. No entrance fees.
- **Christmas market in Gladbeck (GE)** - In the surroundings of Castle Wittringen on Burgstrasse 64, this market is open: Nov. 26-27, 3 to 8 p.m.; Nov. 28, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Nov. 29, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.



Nov. 28-29

- **Mons'ter Market in Mons** - Personal and original creations for children (clothing and accessories), jewelry, decorations, hats, and more at the Youth Hostel on Rampe du Château 2 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days. Telephone 0478/635147.

Nov. 29

- **Volksmarch in Mainvault for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs the school on Rue du Mont 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 081/830389.
- **Volksmarch in Dion-Valmont for 5, 10, 15 or 20 km** - Departs rue de la Cure 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 081/830389.
- **Volksmarch in Baugnies for 5, 10 or 20 km** - Departs the former school on Rue de Mortagne 34 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 081/830389.
- **Concert by the local band in Herchies** - In celebration of the Saint Patron of the musicians, the concert will be held at the Herchies Church at 10:45 a.m. Telephone 065/377431.
- **Discover the Mons area** - Volksmarch starting at 8 a.m. from the hospital (CHU - Ambroise Paré) on Rue des Apôtres 46 for three distances 5, 10 or 20 km. Telephone 0498/595957.
- **Secondhand clothing and toys fair in Ath** - From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Quai de l'Entrepot. Telephone 0479/732207.
- **Day of the Tree and local products market in Mons** - Distribution of free young trees as of 10 a.m. and local products market until 5 p.m. at Hainaut Développement on Boulevard Initialis 22. Telephone 0800/15500.



Ongoing

- **Through Jan. 17**
- **Exhibition "Mankind, The Dragon and Death. The Glory of St Georges" in Boussu** - The exhibition (including paintings, sculptures, drawings and illuminated manuscripts) shows how the iconography of St George and the dragon has always been a powerful driver of the European imagination. At the MAC'S Grand Hornu site on Rue Sainte Louise 82. Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. More information at <http://www.mons2015.eu/en/man-dragon-and-death>.



Through Nov. 29 continued

- **PAN Amsterdam art & antique fair** - This fair held at RAI draws more than one hundred art and antique dealers who participate with paintings, jewelry, design, silverwork, glass, statues, Asian art and more. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Nov. 26 and 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is €15; children 11 and younger - free admission.
- **Country & Christmas fair near Haaruilens** - At Castle De Haar, the fair has more than 200 booths. Open: Nov. 25-28, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Nov. 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €17.50; children (12 to 16), €10.

Nov. 30

- **The Magical Christmas Moments in Brugge (BE)** - At "Oud Sint-Janshospitaal" in the center offers a variety of gifts; Christmas decorations; and workshops. Open all days 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €15; children 13 and younger - free entrance.

Through Dec. 20

- **Christmas Show in English country style in Valkenburg** - At Ricos on Hekerweg 37, open only on Fridays, 1 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays-Sundays, noon to 5:30 p.m.

Through Dec. 23

- **Christmas market in Bochum (GE)** - On the historic market square at the foot of the St. Paul Church, market is open daily from noon to 9 p.m.
- **Nikolaus market in Düsseldorf (GE)** - On square in the old historic center of town. Christmas markets are also held at Stadtbrückchen (trendy), Schadowplatz (nostalgic); Heinrich-Heine-Platz; Flinger Strasse; Schadowstrasse and Königsallee in the center of town. Open Sundays-Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays-Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Christmas market in Aachen (GE)** - Around the historic town hall in the center of town. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Christmas market in Bonn (GE)** - This market in Beethoven's birthplace presents illuminated storefronts and the festive scenery of the Münsterplatz, the Bottlerplatz, the Friedensplatz and connecting streets. Vendors offer traditional Christmas goods, arts and crafts. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Christmas market in Valkenburg** - Market is held in a cave and is open: Mondays-Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.: Dec. 23, noon to 6 p.m. Entry: €6; children 5 to 11, €3.

Outside the gate

Remain vigilant, and maintain situational awareness at all times.