

AROUND EUROPE

Students tackle solar energy problems

WIESBADEN, Germany -- Wiesbaden Middle School students dug deep into the nuts and bolts of solar power April 27.

The members of teacher David Bruce's eighth-grade electronics class got an inside look at the various options for harnessing the sun's energy and worked through the math needed to determine actual requirements and output.

"I am an engineer focused mainly on sustainability," said guest speaker Rich Gifaldi, an engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District.

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USACE employees visit little-known D-Day engineering feat

NORMANDY, France -- The remnants of 600,000 tons of concrete rising out of the sea are visible nearly 68 years after D-Day. Mulberry Harbor, the temporary harbor developed by the Allies to offload troops, vehicles and supplies on to the beaches during the Battle of Normandy is a lasting example of superb military engineering.

Jay Aldridge, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District attorney and Army veteran, recently traveled to Normandy to visit Mulberry harbor and other D-Day sites.

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'Lest we forget' volunteers help remember Holocaust victims

WIESBADEN, Germany -- Nearly 50 volunteers from Wiesbaden-based military units have become part of a unique German community program to maintain a number of "Stumbling Stones" commemorating Jewish lives in Wiesbaden extinguished by the holocaust.

"It was the idea of our Special Emphasis Coordinator Shauna Fuller. She put the word out in our organization after she got in touch with the volunteer organization maintaining the memorial stones," said Col. Kenneth C. Tarcza, commander of the Defense Contract Management Agency.

Together with volunteers of DCMA, 5th Signal Command, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District and other units, he got on his knees to scrub the bronze-covered cobble stones inserted in the walkways of houses where Jewish citizens of Wiesbaden lived until they were deported to concentration camps during World War II.

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Message from the Commander

Taking Care of People: Safety ALWAYS

"I never thought it would happen to me" is a sentiment felt by most people involved in accidents. My priority to take care of people includes keeping our workforce safe and healthy. In my military career, I have witnessed fatal vehicle accidents and crippling construction accidents. Regretfully, every one of these could have been prevented had someone taken the effort to identify and mitigate risky behavior beforehand.

As we enjoy this beautiful European summer, take the extra time to plan ahead to protect against mishaps. The Army "Take 5 for Safety" Campaign encourages everyone to take just a little time — five seconds, five minutes — to think things through in order. The smart choices you make before conducting sports, hobbies, cookouts, and yard work, as well as riding bikes and motorcycles, could save lives. Enjoy the warm weather, but understand the risks. Most accidents occur this time of year.

This is also the season with a high construction workload. Our safety manager often points out that if you compare similar construction programs in the USA, the continental EU, and in the U.K. — for every three people killed in the USA and EU, two keep going home to their families safely in the U.K. The U.K. saves three times as many lives. HOW? They concentrate on the "3 Keys": Leadership, worker Training, and job Oversight. We require these in USACE contracts and demand them from our contractors.

It should be no surprise that May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. As I admire the gleaming motorcycles in our parking lots, I want to see each one return week after week, with no dings or dents. Motorists bear a HUGE responsibility in keeping bikers alive. The most common bike/car accident is when motorists turn in front of oncoming bikes and cut them off at intersections. Please look TWICE before turning — bikes are harder to see if all you are looking for is another automobile.

Help me to take care of people. Don't become a statistic for something you never thought would happen to you. Stay safe, and enjoy the summer.

You can find out more about USACE and Army safety programs at <http://bit.ly/Jc52T1> and <https://safety.army.mil/>

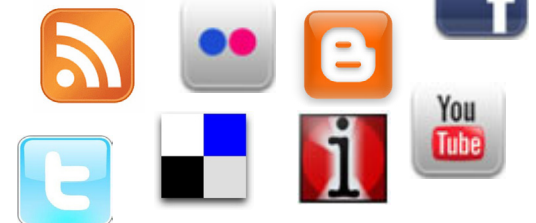
Building Strong! People, Partners, Projects

COL Pete Helmlinger

Congratulations to Chris Hood, Dennis McElaney, and Joe McKenna, our most recent Europe District Heroes of the Battle. Well done!



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Spotlight on the Turkey Residence Office



Left to Right: Charles Truesdell, Volkan Tunay, David Vernon, Milton Ricks, Tommy Rose, Orkun Dincer, CPT Sturgill, Nilay Yardimci and Col. D. Peter Helmlinger

The Turkey Resident Office provides construction administration and inspection for the Military Construction (MILCON) and Operations & Maintenance (O&M) projects in Turkey. Construction includes housing, medical facilities, community centers, Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS) and radar facilities on Incirlik Air Base, in Ankara and other locations throughout Turkey.

Working in Turkey offers the unique challenge of executing construction and engineering projects dedicated to improving security, quality-of-life and mission capabilities within the country. The Turkey Resident Office coordinates with U.S. and Turkish Air Force, Army representatives and State Department personnel under the direction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' international interests. The office is composed of three local national employees and five Department of Army Civilians.

Turkey is a vibrant place to work and live. Our local nationals and DACs enjoy the moderate Mediterranean climate, rich cuisine, strong coffee, exciting camel wrestling, whirling dervish dancing and the beaches of the Turquoise Coast.

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For more solicitations, search [FBO.gov](#).

NAU in the News

Herald Union, Students tackle solar energy problems - Engineer shows how math, electronics, engineering uses in real-world applications

May is National Bike Month



Visit www.bikeleague.org for details.

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