



# EIE EXPRESS

The Monthly eNewsletter for USACE Europe District's *Engineering in Europe* Magazine

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## AROUND EUROPE

### Furloughs begin for U.S. Army civilians



WASHINGTON – Some 229,000 Army civilians began their furloughs the second week of July, along with thousands of other military civilians.

Using Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's guidance, the Army distributed each person's 88 hours of furlough this fiscal year for one day a week, which will total 11 days, from early July through September, said Tony J. Stamilio, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Civilian Personnel and Quality of Life.

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### School design wins educational award

WIESBADEN, Germany – Kaiserslautern High School will soon have a new home. A modern, 21st-century educational facility is being designed to replace the current school, housed in a converted World War II-era hospital building.



In May, the firm hired by USACE and the Department of Defense Education Activity won a prestigious LEARNING BY DESIGN Citation of Excellence for the KHS project.

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### Admin officer shares 'passion' for fishing



With summer's arrival and a pair of major European competitions on the horizon, Brad Smudzinski wants to get more people hooked on fishing, even while chasing his own dreams in the sport.

The administrative officer for Europe District's Bavaria Area Office in southeast Germany has carved out a name for himself in the angling world. But he also remains active as a warden and instructor in the U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwöehr fishing program.

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### Message from the Commander

Mission focus during furlough period



I am humbled and inspired by the dedication and professionalism of the Europe District workforce during the furlough-implementation period. The district is committed to the success of our customers and their mission to support warfighters. The motivation, camaraderie and mission focus of our Department of the Army Civilians, despite personal financial hardships, stress and uncertainty, is commendable. The continued efforts of our local national workforce and contractors to ensure mission success during this time also are commendable. Together, along with our partners from the Federal Ministry of Construction and others, I am confident that EUD will once again accomplish all its end-of-fiscal year missions to provide premier engineering, construction, contingency operations and environmental support across U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command.

The district began implementing Department of Defense-directed involuntary furloughs of Army civilians in July. Furloughs are a consequence of congressionally directed budget cuts, known as sequestration, and are scheduled to last through the end of this fiscal year. Our DA Civilians will be furloughed one day per week for a total of 11 weeks. Our LN, military, contractor and foreign military sales-funded civilians are not impacted by the furlough. Collectively, however, about 75 percent of the Europe District workforce is affected – and prohibited from working during their furlough day.

Our district-wide furlough day will occur every Friday through Sept. 13. By exception, our 11th and final furlough day will occur on Monday, Sept. 16, allowing the district to complete end-of-fiscal year closeout. During the furlough period, the district will have approximately 20 percent less capacity from previous years to award contracts and execute our mission. Most customers have already identified and funded their mission-critical projects. I have asked others to prioritize and fund any remaining projects as soon as possible to avoid year-end obligation challenges.

My priorities remain: take care of People, support Partners and deliver Projects. I appreciate the outstanding commitment of all during this challenging period. Europe District will remain mission focused.

Building Strong! People, Partners, Projects

COL Pete Helmlinger

Please join me in congratulating Ben Peshke, John Wutzer and Jack Galloway as District Heroes of the Battle. Special recognition is due to Dave Muellerleile, who was selected as the USACE Installation Support Professional of the Year for 2013. Fantastic accomplishment!

## SPOTLIGHT on the Stuttgart Resident Office



The Stuttgart Resident Office provides construction support to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart and its tenants. With four installations, an airfield and various ranges, the military community is home to the headquarters of U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command.

The resident office, meanwhile, will soon experience growth in personnel and project load. Darrick Godfrey is set to join the team by the end of July as the new resident engineer. He'll guide a seasoned group of project engineers in Susan Kil, Akemi Herrick and Rudolf Zink.

Kil and Herrick will manage the start of new projects in secure areas for the Defense Intelligence Agency, Defense Information Systems Agency and AFRICOM – along with other ventures for Range Control and the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

As part of his Europe visit in May, Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, the chief of engineers and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commanding general, toured an old office building on Kelley Barracks that's being converted into a new joint operations center for AFRICOM. Herrick said the \$7.2 million overhaul is among the command's top priorities. The Stuttgart Resident Office has targeted April for completion.

Zink will oversee the newly awarded two-year construction project of an elementary and high school in Boeblingen. To accommodate the new schools, he recently administered the completion of a new military working dog facility, as the existing kennel was located on the future school site. Elsewhere, the renovation of a veterinary clinic on Panzer Kaserne and construction of a new deli at the Patch Barracks Commissary were just completed.

Stuttgart, Germany's sixth-largest city, is also a fun place to be when the calendar strikes autumn.

The world-famous annual "Volksfest," originally a traditional agricultural fair, is now a three-week festival featuring large beer tents and a French village. In terms of size, it's second only to Oktoberfest in Munich. Running from late September to early October, it's sometimes referred to by foreign visitors as the Stuttgart Beer Festival.

A smaller spring festival is staged on the same grounds in April each year.

### WORK WITH USACE

Border post upgrades  
Djibouti, Africa  
Solicitation Number:  
W912GB-13-R-0024

MATOC contracts  
Throughout Romania  
Solicitation Number:  
W912GB13R0016

Ambulance Support Station  
Riga, Latvia  
Solicitation Number:  
W912GB-13-R-0018

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### NAU in the News

- Livebetter eMagazine, Teaching real-world science to German students – article
- Herald Union, Teaching students the science of magic – article
- The Stuttgart Citizen, Top engineer promotes STEM to Patch students – article

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## WATCH: Military construction commercial airing on AFN

### Operations Security

'Use of Social Media'

Antiterrorism awareness themes seek to focus efforts and instill Armywide heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent and protect the community and critical resources from acts of terrorism. The theme for the last quarter of fiscal year 2013, which ends Sept. 30, is the "Use of Social Media" to support AT awareness and community outreach.

Awareness and community-outreach efforts empower the entire Army — from units, leaders and Soldiers to families, Army civilians and contractors — to take preventive measures against terrorist acts and encourage each individual to serve as a sensor. Through the Army's iWATCH program, community members are reminded to continuously be aware of and report suspicious activity.

The use of social media is a powerful tool that expands the reach of AT communications and enables Army organizations and communities to stay connected and share key themes and messages. When used correctly, it can help an Army organization reach an enormous audience.

Social media allows agencies and units to engage in conversations on topics related to terror threats, antiterrorism protective measures and suspicious-activity reporting while promoting AT awareness across the Army community.

### Comments? Corrections?

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