

Zama Briefs

Emergency Numbers

In case of a medical emergency, all cellular phone users stationed on mainland U.S. Army Japan installations may dial 046-407-2911. Land line users on all U.S. Army Japan and Garrison installations, including those located outside the Kanagawa Prefecture, may dial 9-11. SOFA-status members living off-post may dial 119.

Worldwide Caution

Ongoing events in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East have resulted in demonstrations and associated violence in several countries. Americans are reminded that demonstrations and rioting can occur with little or no warning. U.S. citizens are strongly encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance, be aware of local events and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. For more information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1747.html or <http://travel.state.gov/>.

School supplies for Afghanistan

Students in Afghanistan are beginning school this month and will be in great need for pencils, sharpeners, pens, notebooks and back packs. All who have APO access may send school supplies free through MPS to: M. Matteson, MPRI, APO AE 09356.

Tax Center

To date, the Camp Zama Tax Center has processed more than \$450,000 in refunds and assisted more than 220 tax payers to electronically file their returns. Due to the high volume, the tax center is no longer able to take walk-ins and will be operating on an appointment-only basis. *If you owe taxes, they should have been filed by April 15. If you do not owe taxes, you have until June 15 to file with a request for an overseas filing extension.* To schedule an appointment, call (046)407-3190 or 263-3190.

MEDDAC Pharmacy Service

Effective immediately, patients must provide a list of their medications when they come to the clinic for a visit to prevent dangerous combinations of medications. The list must include: prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, herbal medications and food supplements. Forms are available at BG Crawford F. Sams U.S. Army Health Clinic or at www.usarj.army.mil/organization/meddac/index.htm.

Prepared Childbirth Classes

Prenatal classes for mothers-to-be and their spouses will continue through May 1 & 8, scheduled for 5:30 – 8 p.m. in the community room at Army Community Services. To register, call 263-8818.

ZaCSA Senior Scholars

The Zama Community Spouses' Association is pleased to announce the Zama American High School senior scholarship recipients: Lara Morales (\$1,800), Daniel Roper (\$1,000), Jennifer DeYeso (\$1,800), Whitney Wilder (\$1,800), Krystle Pagarigan (\$1,500), Emily Hunter-Chester (\$1,000) and Kimberly Vilorial (\$1,000). An awards presentation is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 17 at the Camp Zama Community Club. Parents and all ZaCSA members are invited to attend. For more information on ZaCSA, visit www.ZaCSA.com.

Hundreds celebrate success with UMUC-Asia

By Esther Dacanay

Torii Editor

The decision to pursue a college degree can turn into a lifelong commitment, especially for those serving in the Armed Forces. However,

that didn't stop the nearly 200 students who were honored Saturday during the University of Maryland University College-Asia's 50th Anniversary Commencement held at the New Sanno Hotel in Tokyo.

"It often takes our world-wise

students a little bit longer to pursue a degree simply because they do not have the luxury of time," said Dr. Susan C. Aldridge, UMUC president. "This is why we work hard to provide a worldclass learning experience easily accessible anywhere at anytime."

From Camp Zama, approximately 35 graduates earned a bachelor's degree or an associate degree. The remaining graduates were from UMUC-Asia's other service branches located throughout Honshu.

"It took me 21 years of perseverance, support, hard work and faith to finish my bachelor's degree," said Dwight Williams, a management studies graduate and pastor of the Pentecostal service at Sagamihara Family Housing Area, who took his first college class in 1986. "At all costs, don't give up, take one class at a time if necessary. I should have finished much earlier, but I can say that at least I finished. The race isn't given to the swift nor to the strong, but to the one who endures to the end."

To find out how to use your Army training as units towards a college degree, contact the Camp Zama U.S. Army Education Center at 263-5055.



Photo by Esther Dacanay

Graduates from University of Maryland University College-Asia anticipate the awarding of their college degrees during the 50th Anniversary Commencement held Saturday at the New Sanno Hotel in Tokyo. More than 200 students participated in the commencement.

Arnn Elementary showcases student work at science fair

By Tetsuo Nakahara

Torii Staff

Who would have known that electricity can come from fruit or that certain colors are more eye-catching than others? These questions and more were researched, analyzed and charted by young science buffs displaying their work at a fair held April 18 at John O. Arnn Elementary School.

Approximately 150 students in fifth and sixth grades worked on their science projects for nearly two months, displaying their hard work and diligence. Students in grades K – 4 displayed their class project during the event.

The purpose of the science fair is for students to be able to take a whole scientist method and put it into action, according to Lauren Yee, science fair committee chairperson. The students conceptualized their own ideas, gathered the data and charted their progress.

"I couldn't believe that I got 1st place," said Silvia Dykstra, 12, an Arnn sixth-grader. "My project was the eye-catching project. I surveyed other students regarding business projects for our field trip to Hiroshima, and we needed to make an advertisement. So, I was interested that which color ads would catch people's eye."

Approximately 150 students, parents and teachers attended the awards ceremony, which was complimented by a student bake sale. The sixth-grade 1st place award was a robotic set and the fifth-grade 1st place award was a hologram.

"It was really nice to bring the community together through this event," said Yee. "Judges and all prize donations are from community organizations including AAFES, Youth Services, PTO and Hawaii Club "Hui O' Hawaii," who all supported us very much."

The winners of the science fair are as follows:

5th grade:

1st place – Christian Venzlauskas - "the effect of different temperatures on popcorn"

2nd place – Alexander Carter - "homemade fire extinguisher"

3rd place – Ryuto Adamson - "electricity from fruit"

6th grade:



Photo by Tetsuo Nakahara

Silvia Dykstra, 12, the sixth-grade science fair winner, showcases her findings for her "Eye Catcher" project April 18 at John O. Arnn Elementary School. Approximately 150 students in fifth and sixth grades participated in the fair.

1st place – Silvia Dykstra - "which is the most eye-catching color?"

2nd place – Skyler Gayhart - "homemade water filter"

3rd place – Dylan Thompson - "static electricity"

"The science fair could not have been possible without parental support," said Ruth Morgan, Arnn principal. "The important part of the science fair is that children were asked enough questions to think about what they would have done differently, and therefore improved because we learn more from failure rather than success, particularly in the world of science. The light bulb inventor, Thomas Edison, said "Success is from 99 percent perspiration and one percent inspiration."

The next Arnn school event is the Recycle Art Contest scheduled for May 1 – 3.