



Photos courtesy of Hawai'i Nature Center

Youngsters enjoy a variety of activities as part of the school programs offered by Hawai'i Nature Center. Photos show children clearing a taro patch in Makiki, "mud mucking" at the USFW Honouliuli National Wildlife Refuge where the center conducts its fall wetland program and participating, hiking on trails.

Afloat Training Group Sailors pull cattails to preserve

Terri Kojima

CNRH Environmental Public Affairs

Answering a call to volunteer, Sailors from Afloat Training Group (ATG) worked to help restore Pouhala Marsh at Pearl Harbor's West Loch on May 17.

Sloshing through the muddy waters, the "dirty dozen" volunteers removed more than 2,000 square feet of cattail from the marsh, which is the largest of the remaining wetland habitats in Pearl Harbor.

Over the past few years, Navy volunteers from various commands have worked side-by-side with civilians from around the island to help re-establish the 70-acre marsh which serves as a vital habitat for four endangered waterbirds. On scheduled cleanup days, volunteers remove mangrove tree roots, pickleweed and recently, cattails, which threaten to overtake the wetlands' indigenous flora and fauna.

The continuing restoration project is coordinated by the Hawai'i Nature Center, a non-profit organization, which provides hands-on environmental education programs to families and children.

In her letter of appreciation to ATG Middle Pacific, Pauline Kawamata, the nature center's volunteer program manager, thanked the volunteers for their tremendous efforts and a great job. She added that removing invasive plants like cattail helps to re-establish habitat and feeding areas for endangered Hawaiian birds that live there while increasing the center's ability to teach more children and volunteers about the wet-



Photo courtesy of Hawai'i Nature Center

Ankle deep in mud and waters of Pearl Harbor's largest remaining wetland habitat are Sailors from Afloat Training Group (ATG) Middle Pacific who are working to remove invasive cattails. The ATG volunteers teamed with Hawai'i Nature Center to help restore Pouhala Marsh, which is home to several endangered Hawaiian birds.

lands. According to Kawamata, Pouhala Marsh is of vital importance for the endangered Hawaiian stilt, the ae'o. "Other endangered waterbirds who call Pouhala Marsh home include the Hawaiian duck [koloa], Hawaiian coot [alae ke 'oke o] and Hawaiian moorhen [alae 'ula]," she explained.

The Navy volunteers were praised for their volunteer efforts by Capt. Dell Epperson, commodore, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific.

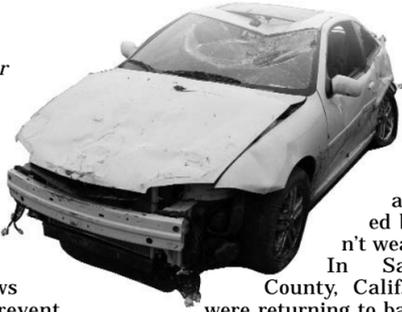
"These folks [volunteers] are the stalwarts of ATG, always there for the community regardless of the difficulty of the work," said Epperson in his response to the nature center's note of appreciation. "We're glad to have helped!"

Commands and individuals who are interested in volunteering for the continuing Pouhala Marsh restoration project are encouraged to contact Pauline Kawamata at the Hawai'i Nature Center, 955-0100, ext. 18.

Seatbelts save Sailor and Marine lives

Dan Steber

Naval Safety Center
Public Affairs



It doesn't take fancy charts, gritty crash videos or endless training sessions to learn that seatbelts save lives. Everyone knows they will help prevent serious injuries or deaths in crashes, but why do so many people still refuse or forget to wear them?

That question puzzles a lot of experts. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) collects an enormous amount of data on various traffic safety issues. Their data shows that from 1994 to present, seatbelt use in America has risen from 58 percent to 82 percent. More and more people are learning the lesson that seatbelts save lives; however many families, friends and shipmates still are left mourning each year for those who didn't get the word or didn't pay attention.

For example, two Sailors in Virginia Beach, Va. were driving at about 100 mph when the driver lost control of the vehicle. The car rolled several times, ejecting the passenger - a petty officer third class. The belt-

ed driver survived the crash and left the scene. The PO3 died along the side of the road after being ejected because he wasn't wearing a seatbelt.

In San Bernadino County, Calif., two Marines were returning to base after a night in Las Vegas. Their vehicle drifted into the northbound lanes and the driver yanked the steering wheel and hit the brakes. That overreaction sent the car out of control. It left the road, skidded into the desert and flipped several times. One of the Marines was ejected and died.

Neither of these victims believed they would die that night...why would they? Were fatigue or alcohol factors? In these cases, does it matter? The luck that may have existed in Vegas ended on a lonely stretch of road and in a heap in the desert. A good time turned tragic in the resort city of Virginia Beach and families in different parts of the country suffered the unwanted sorrow that came with the news of these preventable deaths.

Department of Defense (DoD) policy states that military members are required to wear seatbelts on or off

base, even in states that may not require them or don't have a primary offense law for seatbelts. That means Sailors and Marine must wear them...period. To not do so, in effect, is a violation of lawful direct orders.

But Sailors and Marines should wear them for other reasons: to make sure they live to see children walk, to enjoy family gatherings, to share special moments with loved ones, and to enjoy the freedoms they fight for. They should do it because it's the right thing to do. Some people think that seatbelts are confining, but how confining is a wheelchair or worse...a coffin?

NHTSA reports that child restraints saved 451 children in 2004. Seatbelts saved 15,434 people and airbags saved an additional 2,647 lives during the same period.

Seatbelt use has risen from 58 percent in 1994 to 92 percent in 2005. It is possible to reach 100 percent use and it will save lives - 5,839 according to NHTSA. These numbers clearly show that seatbelts and other protective devices and laws have kept many families from the pain of losing a loved one.

Wear seatbelts and helmets - they make sense. It's the law in many states and is the DoD rule for all military members.

For more information, visit the Naval Safety Center Web site at www.safetycenter.navy.mil.

Tricare retiree dental program gets enhanced Web, phone service

Nancy White

TRICARE

New automated telephone services and an improved, easy-to-use web site provide both visitors and enrollees with complete, comprehensive information about the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP).

Automated features added to the redesigned interactive voice response telephone system, or "IVR," include the ability to request that a list of dentists in a specific area, including specialists, be faxed or mailed.

Callers can also get a complete breakdown of TRDP covered services, including time limitations. Streamlined navigation through the automated telephone system makes it easier than ever for TRDP enrollees to obtain such information as their eligibility, status of a claim, maximum used to date and remaining deductible amount.

The IVR at (888) 838-8737 is available for automated services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Callers who wish to speak directly to a customer service associate can dial the IVR from Monday through Friday during the hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. PST.

Those with Internet capability can log on to the TRDP's dedicated, customer-friendly Web site at www.trdp.org and take a "virtual tour" of the program. Further navigation through the Web site allows users to enroll in the TRDP, find a local network dentist through the online dentist search function, download a claim form, view or print the entire benefits booklet, and click on "related sites" to get the latest dental health updates and find useful links to important government and health information.

There is also an online customer inquiry form that allows customers to contact Delta electronically during a time that is convenient for them and to get prompt responses to their specific questions about the TRDP - all within reach of their computer.

Another convenient feature of the TRDP web site is the online Consumer Tool Kit®. Much like the IVR, this self-service tool for enrollees allows them to verify their eligibility, get up-to-date benefits information, verify maximums and deductibles used to date, review processed claims and reimbursements, and even print extra ID cards for themselves and their enrolled family members.

Hawaii Navy News Online
www.hawaii.navy.mil

Famous Famiglia Pizzeria at NEX Pearl Harbor donates opening day sales to charity

Story and photo by
Laarni Gedo

NEX Marketing

The Kolaj family of Famous Famiglia Pizzeria, despite expansion to more than 70 company-owned and franchised units, has not forgotten where they came from. When the first Famous Famiglia pizzeria opened in Hawai'i at the Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor on June 1, the family kept their tradition and donated the opening day sales to charity. The day after the grand opening, John Kolaj, co-founder and chief operating officer of Famous Famiglia, presented a check for \$4,041.27 to the non-profit organization, Friends of Fleet and Family Support Center.

"My brothers and I never forget the humble beginnings with which we were raised by our mother," said Giorgio Kolaj, co-founder and executive vice president of Famous Famiglia. "Throughout the difficult times over the years, she always taught us that we must always give back to the community, to the neighbors, to the world - that we should leave this place better off than we found it. And so, beginning with the very first Famous Famiglia, it has been our tradition to donate the first day's total sales to a local charity. This is one we are proud to continue. We are genuinely grateful to have the opportunity to serve the communities in which we have established business," Giorgio explained.

The military, because of the Kolaj family's history which stemmed from war-torn Kosovo, is one group that Famous Famiglia gravitates to. Living under a strong communist regime, Giorgio's father -who was a farmer - had higher hopes for his children.



Tony Kolaj, the elder of the Kolaj brothers, is one of only three pizza makers in New York to ever earn the pizza maestro title. Eugene Tolk, main pizza maker for Famous Famiglia at Pearl Harbor, learns a few things about making pizza from one of New York's best.

"My father had a dream for his children to have the opportunities and freedoms that America is known for around the globe," Giorgio said. "On our way to the U.S., my family lived in Italy for some time where, as it turned out, my father died shortly thereafter. My mother decided to carry his dream of pushing on to America," he continued.

"We arrived in this blessed country in April 1970, on the shores of New York City. This is a great country. We enjoy the opportunities and freedoms it has to offer because of only one group - the military. We are exceedingly grateful for the men and women who serve this country so families like mine can have a sense of hope," offered Giorgio.

From a farm in Europe to the city of New York, the Kolaj family continues to make their father's dream come true, tak-

ing the dream once again across the ocean to Pearl Harbor. The military community and its friends will get a chance to take a bite of a Famous Famiglia pizza and taste of a true American dream.

"We are very excited about being given the opportunity to expand our brand into lovely Hawai'i," Giorgio said. "Furthermore, it is of personal and emotional gratitude that we have the opportunity to expand into Pearl Harbor. The Navy base here has a unique place in this great country's history. For Famous Famiglia to be a part of this history has special meaning for our company, our brand, our people and our own family history."

The Pearl Harbor location is Famous Famiglia's first unit in Hawai'i although on the mainland, the pizzeria continues to spread with more than 70 units. Since the Kolajs' arrival in New York City, Famous Famiglia has planted and taken roots in the city where they are most recognized. "As the official pizza of the New York Yankees, the official pizza of Madison Square Garden, the official pizza of the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority and more, we are the premier New York City pizza brand," Giorgio said. "This is something we are proud of and we believe such pride translates into the pride of every slice we bake and serve."

Besides family pride, Famous Famiglia pizza's great taste comes from decades of experience. Tony Kolaj, also a

co-founder and director of quality control, said the skills and ingredients used in making their pizza is what sets theirs apart.

"We use the best ingredients we can get, whether it's cheese, meat, or vegetable," Tony, the elder of the four brothers, said.

Years of hard work and determination from the Kolaj family earned them not only valuable experience in the pizza industry, but the respect of those who know them. With more than 20 years in the pizza industry, Tony earned the title "pizza maestro" for his skills in pizza-making. Only three individuals in New York have been honored by their peers.

"It's a pleasure to have Famous Famiglia Pizzeria as part of the Mall food court and I'm sure it will be a favorite for our customers," said Frank Ilderton, NEX Hawai'i operations manager.

Giorgio and his brothers said that they hope to do the best they can in providing the men and women of our military and their families with the best product, value and a pleasant atmosphere.

"Mamma always taught us to do our best to deliver more than we promise," Giorgio said. "With this in mind, my family and I guarantee the patrons of the Famous Famiglia restaurant at Pearl Harbor that we will do our very best to make you proud of us. Famiglia means family in Italian and our hope is that each patron will feel like family when dining at Famous Famiglia."

A battle for the ball



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Juan Q. Cometa
Ensign Monica Frey, one of USS Chosin (CG 65) mainstays, battled for the ball against a French national during a Friendship Soccer Game at Pearl Harbor June 6.

Got Questions?

Write to us at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

Skylark Central

Who said...

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Unscramble the tiles to reveal the message



Know your Navy

Q: Women were able to enter regular military service for the first time under the Armed Services Integration Act on June 12 of what year?

Last week's question...

In 1830 a Sloop-of-War completed the first U.S. Navy voyage around the world. What ship was it?

Answer...
USS Vincennes

Battle of Midway

There are 46 words hidden in last week's Battle of Midway Wordfind.

Midway, Island, Hawai'i, Target, Japanese, Imperial, Fleet, Battle, Aircraft, Carriers, Battleships, Cruisers, Destroyers, Submarines, Transports, Minesweepers, Americans, Code, Defense, Hornet, Enterprise, Yorktown, Pearl Harbor, Surprise, Luck, Fighters, Torpedo, Bombers, Dive, Ablaze, Hiryu, Retaliated, Damage, Retreated, War, Pacific, Messages, Enemy, Akagi, Planes, Combat, Patrol, Protection, Zero, Bridge, Raiders



Here's what's going on at Navy Region Hawai'i!

Editor's note: Every effort has been made to provide the most up-to-date information at the time of publication. However, scheduling of these events is subject to change. It is recommended that you call the contact numbers for the individual events to determine whether or not the activity will be held. For more information (FMI): visit www.greatlifehawaii.com

Outdoor Adventure Events
June

- 10:** Night snorkeling, 5:30 p.m., \$15. Register by June 7.
- 11:** Alpine Tower, 9 a.m., \$20. Register by June 7.
- 17:** Mt. Olomana Hike, 8:30 a.m., \$7. Register by June 14.
- 18:** Father's Day shark adventure, call for time, \$90. Register by June 14.
- 24:** Learn to surf, 9:30 a.m., \$15. Register by June 21.
- 25:** Waimano Pools hike, 9 a.m., \$7. Register by June 21.

FAMILY FUN AND MOVIE NIGHT

Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), Community Central, will host free, ongoing family fun and movie nights throughout the summer at Naval Computer and Technology Area Master Station (NCTAMS), Pearl City Community Center and Ford Island. **Tonight** see "Big Fat Liar" (rated PG) at Ford Island near the Navy Lodge. There will be games and bounce houses from 4-7 p.m. Free cotton candy and popcorn will be available for the movie which begins at 7 p.m. FMI: 471-8658.

FITNESS ON FRIDAYS IN JUNE

Free fitness classes, courtesy of MWR, will be offered on **Fridays through June 23**. The sessions will include Latin dance aerobics (4-5 p.m.) and ballroom dancing (5-6 p.m.) which will be given by Samir Hana. Partners are required for ballroom dancing. For those who want to build muscle, professional body building with Rey Ronquilio is offered every Friday from 6-8 p.m. FMI: 473-0793

HIP HOP AEROBICS

Move and groove in hip hop aerobic classes from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every **Thursday** night at Bloch Arena. The cost is \$25 per month. FMI: 473-0793.

YOUTH, TEEN SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is **now ongoing** for youth and teen summer camps, sponsored by Morale, Welfare and

Recreation MWR at Pearl Harbor. Children can learn how to bowl, play tennis, sail or surf at a sports camp or be a part of the Outdoor Rangers where they create their own experiences. In Teen Sail Training and Leadership Adventure, the ocean becomes the setting as teens embark on a three-day sail to the island of Kauai. At Operation Purple camp, teens will fly to the Kilauea Volcano on the Big Island to explore lava tubes and volcanic terrain. FMI or to register: 421-1556 (Catlin Clubhouse) or 499-2572 (Iroquois Point Clubhouse).

SURF ALOHA KAYAK SURFING COMPETITION

MWR will host the Kayak Surfing Competition on **June 10-11** at White Plains Beach, Barbers Point. The event begins at 8 a.m. on both days. Application forms are available at www.greatlifehawaii.com or at any Go Bananas Stores. FMI: 737-9514.

AUTO SHOW REGISTRATION

Show how hot your wheels are in one of the biggest and best auto shows on the island. On **June 11** from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., cars of all makes and models will come together at The Mall at the Pearl Harbor NEX. Activities at the show will include bounce houses, a climbing wall, food, prizes and non-stop entertainment. Pre-register to show your car for free at the Autoport, NEX customer service or Checker Auto Parts. Also enter the free pre-show Poker Run hosted by CSK Pro Shop. FMI: 423-3206.

ALL MILITARY SURFING COMPETITION

The All Military Surfing Competition will be held **June 17- 18** at White Plains Beach, Barbers Point. The event begins each day at 7 a.m. Fill out and submit an entry form by June 7. Application forms are available online at www.greatlifehawaii.com and at the Outdoor Adventure Center at Bloch Arena. FMI: 473-1198 or 306-8848.

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR RIMPAC 2006 COIN NOW ON SALE AT ITT

Visit any Information, Tickets and Travel office to pick up your official Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) coin for \$5. The heavy brass coin displays the official RIMPAC logo and the Hawai'i

State Seal.

NAVY MARINE GOLF COURSE OPENS FRONT NINE

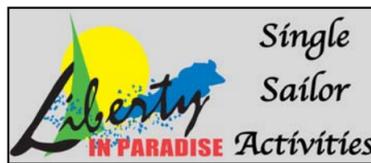
Although the golf course is still under renovation, the front nine at the Navy Marine Golf Course is now open for play. The back nine and range will continue to be closed for a few more months. FMI: 471-0142.

SUMMER SWIM LESSONS



Registration for children's summer swimming lessons is now ongoing at MWR pools. Classes are available for children of all ages. Pick up a brochure at any Navy MWR swimming pool or visit www.greatlifehawaii.com to see a detailed listing of all class schedules. FMI: 473-0394.

DEEP-SEA FISHING



- Today:** China Town tour and food tasting, leave LIP at 11 a.m., \$20.
- June 10:** Ali'i Kai Catamaran (dinner sail), leave LIP at 4 p.m., \$45.
- June 11:** Surfing lessons and lunch, 10 a.m., \$7.
- June 12:** WWE wrestling and free food, 5 p.m. at LIP, free.
- June 13:** Miniature golf/par 3, Bay View golf course, leave LIP at 10 a.m., \$25.
- June 14:** Wacky Wednesdays at Beeman, 6:30 p.m., free.
- June 15:** Planet Hollywood dinner and Waikiki nightlife tour, leave LIP at 7 p.m., bring money.

Weekly events:

- Sunday:** Chess tournament, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday:** 8-Ball tournament (Beeman Center)- 7 p.m.
- Tuesday:** 8-Ball tournament - 7 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Game show - 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday:** 9-Ball Pool tournament - 7 p.m.

Communit

To have your activity or event featured in the Community Calendar, e-mail your requests to hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or fax 473-2876. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's issue. Items will run on a space available basis and must be resubmitted every four weeks.

June

Today - The 10th Annual Information Technology Expo - The expo will be held from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. at The Banyans at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. There is no fee to attend and all personnel are invited. Attendees will be able to view the latest in information technology, including desktops, notebooks, peripherals, storage, video conferencing, wireless solutions, office automation and more. To pre-register, visit www.fedpage.com and click on "events and attendee registration." Pre-registration is not required, but those who pre-register will be entered in a drawing to win a door prize. Complimentary refreshments will be served. FMI: dennis@fbcdh.com.

10 (also July 22, Aug. 12, Sept. 9) - Pouhala Marsh clean-up - Pouhala Marsh work days have been scheduled for cleanup and removal of pickle weeds at the north end of Pearl Harbor's West Loch. The project will cover a Hawaiian fish pond and coastal marsh of about 70 acres. Volunteers are needed to help with the project from 8:30-11:30 a.m. FMI: 473-1203 or email adelina.lope@navy.mil or Pauline Kawamata at 955-0100, ext. 18.

10 - Gyotaku by Naoki - Meet artist Naoki Hayashi. His art, gyotaku, is a decade-long tradition practiced by Japanese fisherman to record their big catch by pressing rice paper onto the ink-covered fish. An avid diver and fisherman, Naoki's art provides a window to the underwater. Take a peek of what lies beneath from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the rotunda of the Navy Exchange (NEX).

10, 17 - 8th Annual Celebrate Fathers - The Hawai'i Coalition for Dads will host its 8th Annual Celebrate Fathers and Father-Child-Look-Alike Contests from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 10 at Pearlridge Uptown and June 17 at Windward Mall in Kaneohe. The free Celebrate Fathers events will include fun family activities, such as a Father-Child Look-Alike Contest, balloons, face painting, entertainment, prizes and information booths for dads, kids, teens, and families. Dads and their families will be entertained at Pearlridge by Son Caribe, Steve the Magician, and Confetti the Clown and at Windward Mall by Easy Kine Ohana, Imua & Kamu, and a balloon artist. FMI: 841-2245 or Chet Adessa at Fleet and Family Support Center, 473-4222.

16 - Asian-Pacific American Heritage Luau - The Seabees at Naval Station Pearl Harbor will host their first luau in celebration of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month from 5-9 p.m. at Foster Point at Hickam Air Force Base. The luau will feature some of the world's best fire knife dancers and drummers, a Polynesian revue, and dinner. The cost of the luau is \$27 per person. Tickets must be purchased before June 9. FMI or to purchase tickets: 474-4719 or 590-7742

17 - Daniel Ho and Herb Ohta live performance - Daniel Ho, 2006 Grammy Award-winning ukulele master, will join forces with another award-winning ukulele master, Herb Ohta Jr., for a performance at 1:30 p.m. in the audio department of the Pearl Harbor NEX.

21 - Orientation for parents of special needs children - An orientation meeting to provide parents an opportunity to learn about special education in Hawai'i public schools will be held from 7-9 p.m. at the Hokuani/Hale Moku Community Center, building 3453, Main Street. Ivallee Sinclair, a family specialist from the Hawai'i Department of Education, will be the speaker. FMI or to RSVP: 473-4222, ext. 277.

24 - Cub scout meeting - The cub scouts of pack 189 invite first through fifth grade boys to a special meeting on joining cub scouts from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Catlin-Halsey-Radford-Miller Community Center. FMI: Joe Bransfield, 778-6588 or email pokino@pack189hawaii.org.

24 - Informal fashion show by Hawaiian Hula Girl - Check out the newest swimwear must-haves at the Hula Girl Swimwear fashion show at 1 p.m. in the women's department of the NEX. Attendees can enter to win a designer swimsuit of their choice from Hula-la Swimwear. Also, meet Erika Ireland and receive expert advice on choosing the most flattering swimsuit for your body. Sign up for a consultation or FMI: 423-3307.

At a Glance

CLEP testing centers - Hawai'i Pacific University, in partnership with military education centers on Oahu, has established three National Test Centers (NTC) which are located at Pearl Harbor Naval Station (PHNS), Hickam Air Force Base (HAFB) and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) at Kaneohe. Testing is free to all military personnel (active and reserve). There is a \$75 fee for active and reserve military adult family members (17 years of age), retired military personnel and DOD civilians. Examinations are conducted daily at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the following schedule: HAFB (Mondays and Wednesdays); PHNS (Tuesdays and Thursdays); MCBH (Fridays). FMI or reservations for testing: HAFB - 422-1032; PHNS - 422-0079; MCBH - 254-4133.

At the Movies

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater
Naval Station Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

TODAY

7:00 p.m. Scary Movie 4 (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:30 p.m. The Wild (G)

4:30 p.m. Akeelah and the Bee (PG)

6:30 p.m. Silent Hill (R)

SUNDAY

2:30 p.m. Stick it (PG 13)

6:30 p.m. The Sentinel (PG 13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Thank You for Smoking (R)

Memorial Theater

Hickam Air Force Base
(449-2239)

TODAY

7:00 p.m. Akeelah and the Bee (PG)

SATURDAY

7:00 p.m. American Dreamz (PG 13)

SUNDAY

7:00 p.m. Silent Hill (R)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Silent Hill (R)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Akeelah and the Bee (PG)

Sgt. Smith Theater

Schofield Barracks
(624-2585)

TODAY

7:00 p.m. Scary Movie 4 (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:00 p.m. The Wild (G)

7:00 p.m. The Sentinel (PG 13)

SUNDAY

7:00 p.m. The Wild (G)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Scary Movie 4 (PG 13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. The Sentinel (PG 13)



Akeelah and the Bee

A young girl learns to believe in herself and value her intelligence in this family-friendly drama. Akeelah Anderson is an 11-year-old being raised by her mother, Tanya, who was left on her own after the death of her husband. While Akeelah is a very bright girl, she's hardly a star student and seems afraid of acting like a bookworm around her friends and classmates. However, Akeelah's teacher sees genuine potential in her student and encourages her to enter the school's spelling bee, convinced Akeelah has the brains and the talent to win.

American Dreamz

On the morning of his reelection, the president decides to read the newspaper for the first time in four years. He begins reading obsessively, re-examining his black and white view of the world, holing up in his bedroom in his pajamas. Frightened by the president's apparent nervous breakdown, his chief of staff pushes him back into the spotlight, booking him as a guest judge on the television ratings juggernaut.

Scary Movie 4

The Scary Movie gang is back with send-ups of "War of the

Worlds," "The Grudge," "The Village," "Saw" and much more. Legendary comedy director David Zucker ("Airplane!," the "Naked Gun" franchise, "Scary Movie 3," and "Ruthless People") and producer Bob Weiss reunite to take aim at some of the best fright films, the latest box office hits, music, current events, pop culture, and celebrities.

The Sentinel

Pete Garrison is the most decorated agent in the history of the Secret Service - the president's last line of defense. But now, wrongly suspected of targeting the president for assassination, Garrison has become the service's worst nightmare. As he uses his formidable skills to try and prove his innocence and find the real assassin, Garrison is tracked by his equally adept former protégée.

Silent Hill

When the doctor of a troubled young girl recommends permanent psychiatric institutionalization and the girl's concerned mother refuses to accept the grim diagnosis, the mother and daughter flee to a strange abandoned town to seek out answers.



Stick It

A 17 year-old, ex-gymnastics star with big family problems finds herself on the



wrong side of the law after one-too many arrests. Forced back into the regimented world of gymnastics to clean up her act, she rediscovers her love of the sport and gets the chance to make peace with her dysfunctional life.

Thank You for Smoking

Set in the fascinating world of Washington spin, where, more often than not, money trumps politics and morals. Nick Naylor, the public spokesman for Big Tobacco, has no problem going on television and telling people that smoking can actually be good for them, while Naylor's adversary, Senator Ortolan Finistierre, is calling for the government to place the word "poison" on all cigarette boxes.

The Wild

In this computer-animated comedy-adventure, an assortment of animals from the New York Zoo - including a lion, a giraffe, an anaconda, a koala and a squirrel - discover what a jungle the city can be when one of their own is mistakenly shipped to the wild and they embark on a dangerous mission to rescue him.