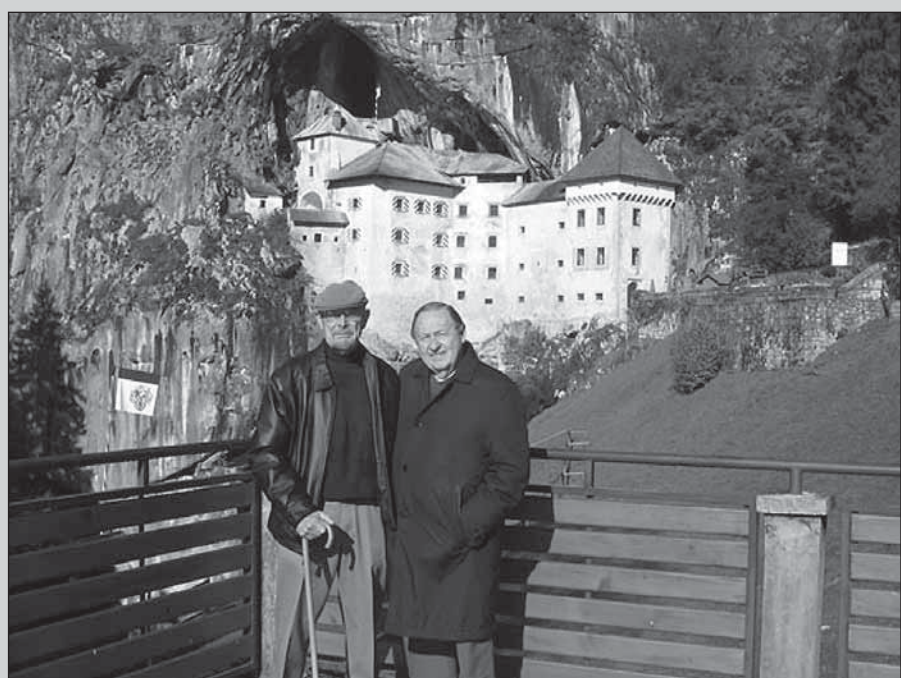


COMMUNITY



Harry Salem, Ph.D., who has worked at the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) for 26 years, traveled to the University of Nova Gorica in Slovenia in October to deliver a lecture on toxicology in the 21st century and participate in a graduate thesis committee. He was invited as part of collaboration between Nova Gorica and Rutgers University, where he serves as a visiting professor, teaching chemical toxicology in its graduate program. Salem serves as the chief scientist for life sciences. In the photo, Salem poses in front of a Slovenian castle built into a mountainside with his friend Sidney Katz, Ph.D., chemist and professor at Rutgers and Nova Gorica universities. Salem will present "A Brief History of Bioterrorism" on June 14. The event was originally scheduled for January but was postponed because of inclement weather. The presentation is part of a Science Cafe sponsored by the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council. Additional details will be posted at www.nmtc.org.

Dr. James Valdes, the senior technologist for biotechnology at the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, played a key role in the 27th annual Army Science Conference, held recently in Florida. Valdes chaired the Technical Program Committee. A significant part of his role involved reviewing the hundreds of abstracts submitted last spring by renowned scientists and engineers from the United States and foreign governments, academia and industry seeking to present a paper or poster. Valdes led the Technical Program Committee that determined which papers and posters were accepted, as well as selecting papers that won awards, including the prestigious Paul A. Siple Memorial Award. Valdes has chaired the Technical Program Committee in previous years and plans to stay involved in future conferences. He encourages ECBC to participate more fully to showcase its accomplishments to the Army.



Harford County Public Library Director Mary L. Hastler and Bel Air branch manager Beth LaPenotiere receive help from special friends, including Tales, the library mascot, to launch the 50th anniversary celebration at the Bel Air branch on Jan. 24. The afternoon's festivities included live music from several local students, a visit from Tales, a photo display of the history of the branch, crafts, 1960s trivia and refreshments.



APGFCU's Sue Stover, left, director of sales; Paul Slaby, center, senior vice president of finance; and Sue Kemen, senior vice president of operations, serve lunch to APGFCU employees as part of the Kiss-a-Pig fundraiser.

Harford artists win \$6,000 from state

Two Harford County residents are among the 93 who have been selected to receive Individual Artist Awards (IAA) from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development.

Brent Crothers received a \$6,000 award under the Visual Arts: Sculpture category, and Neil Anderson-Himmelspach received a \$6,000 award under the Classical Music Composition category.

Statewide awards total \$246,000.

"The Individual Artist Awards program recognizes the talent and hard work of the state's many individual artists and the vital role that they play in making our communities a better place to live and work," O'Malley said in a press release. "Investing in the arts helps grow

Maryland's economy, increase our job base and enhance the quality of life for all Maryland citizens."

Artists competed for \$1,000, \$3,000 and \$6,000 awards in the following eight categories: choreography, classical music composition, classical music solo performance, poetry, sculpture, solo dance performance, world music composition and world music solo performance.

Applications for 2012 will be available in June at MSAC web site www.msac.org.

The mission of the Maryland State Arts Council is to encourage and invest in the advancement of the arts for the people of Maryland. For more information about the Maryland State Arts Council call 410-767-6555 or TTY 1-800-735-2258.

Vincent Licari Couture is one of the featured live auction packages at the Derby After dArc Celebrity Chef and Auction to benefit

The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region March 26 at Maryland Golf and Country Clubs. The winning bidder of this package will be the host of a VIP Fashion Show in their home featuring Vincent Licari Couture and a personal wardrobe consultation.

Event proceeds benefit individuals with developmental disabilities. For more information visit www.arcncr.org.



THE PETS OF THE WEEK



Hi, my name is Willow. I am a 1-year-old little girl who was surrendered by my family because they were unable to care for me any longer. I am very sweet and looking for a place to call my forever home. I hope you will stop by and see me soon.



Hello, my name is Snuggles, and I am 3-year-old Labrador retriever mix. I am very sweet and loving. I like to go on long walks and be around other animals. I also love to play with squeaky toys.



Hi, I am Sally, a 1-year-old, black and white female and I really want to meet you. I am very pretty and I would love to cuddle with you. Sadly, my previous owner could no longer care for me, so I'm here waiting to meet my new family.

ABOUT ADOPTING: To make arrangements to adopt a pet at the Harford County Humane Society's animal shelter in Fallston, call 410-836-1090. The shelter is at 2208 Connolly Road in Fallston.