

Boys & Girls Clubs of America Turns 100

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). In 1906, 53 independent Boys' Clubs, as they were known then, came together in Boston to form a national organization, the Federated Boys' Clubs. To mark the Centennial of the nation's fastest-growing youth service network, BGCA held several exciting events that celebrate the hope and opportunity Boys & Girls Clubs bring to kids from all walks of life. These events were supported by four major Centennial sponsors: American Express, The Walt Disney Company, The Coca-Cola Company and Major League Baseball.

Defense Department Sets Record With Charitable Giving

By Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department raised a record-high \$15.1 million in the 2005 Combined Federal Campaign, exceeding the department's goal by \$2.3 million.

"By all of these contributions, you have enabled the Department of Defense to maintain its distinction as the largest single charitable organization in the world," Michael B. Donley, director of administration and management for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, said to the ceremony participants.

DoD participation in the Combined Federal Campaign was 60 percent, which is about 10 percent higher than the average of other federal agencies, Donley said. Twenty-three of the 24 DoD organizations that participated in the campaign earned the National Capital Area unit award for their achievements, he added.

The Combined Federal Campaign is a nationally authorized workplace-giving drive of federal employees. Employees are given the opportunity to contribute to hundreds of different charitable organizations through payroll deduction or one-time payment.

Each organization was awarded depending on the amount of money raised or improvements from last year's campaign. Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon R. England thanked all participants for their hard work and said they had helped more people than they realize.

"A lot of people benefit from it — people we never know, we never meet," he said. "You don't know how many families, neighbors and communities."

