



SPORTS & RECREATION

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Wildlife Gala tasty fun for Families

Bob Mathews
FMWR Marketing Publicity

Hunting, fishing and outdoor enthusiasts filled Club Stewart for Pass and Permit's annual Wildlife Gala and Venison Cook-off, Jan. 9.

They came to swap hunting and fishing stories, learn about opportunities to throw out a line or hunt at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, and to check out vendors' exhibits and displays.

They also brought healthy appetites and a willingness to sample some of the wild game recipes cooked up by Scott Leysath, known as "The Sporting Chef" on HuntFishCook TV.

The buzz of the night apparently was Leysath's rattlesnake-rabbit sausage, although he also served up other tasty morsels, such as quail, wood duck and venison flank, balancing sweet and sour flavors in an effort to please the samplers.

There were awards given out as well,

for the Big Buck and Big Gobbler contests, a Wildlife Photography Contest and the Venison Cook-off, in which contestants battled it out just a short distance from Leysath's cooking demonstration table.

Staff Sergeant Jesse Everson of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, his wife Angela, and their four children Makenzie, 15; Abigail, 11; Asa, 8; and Mathea, 3; were among those enjoying the evening.

Angela Everson said the rattlesnake-rabbit sausage had a "subtle flavor, very unique." Husband Jesse called it "tasty." Both said they liked to taste wild game.

"I'm pretty adventurous," said Angela, "I'll try pretty much anything."

"I liked the meatballs (on the buffet table)," Asa chimed in.

Angela said she particularly appreciated the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' reptile and amphibian display.

"My son is studying about reptiles in school right now, so his getting to hold a snake was the neatest thing," she said.

Harvey G. "Buck" Buchanan Jr., sampled friend Rodney West's venison steak and Leysath's rattlesnake-rabbit sausage and some quail.

"Everything was tasty," he said. "I look forward to going back for some seconds." West won first place in the venison steak cook-off for the second consecutive year.

"I was here last year and it has probably doubled in attendance," said



Scott Leysath, "The Sporting Chef," tosses up a wild game treat during his cooking demonstration at the Wildlife Gala and Venison Cook-off at Club Stewart Jan. 9.

Buchanan, whose wife of 18 years, Lt. Col. Shatrece Buchanan, is deployed. "They have more exhibits."

Leysath stayed busy cooking at his demonstration stand, attracting a steady stream of sample seekers. He knew the rattlesnake-rabbit sausage would create a buzz.

"It's a commercial product that I buy out of a place in Colorado," he said. "What's really cool about it is that out of all the things I cooked today, tomorrow when people go talk to their friends they are going to say, 'You know what? I ate rattlesnake yesterday.' It's got that mystique. That's the one I think people believe they will show the most bravery by eating."



Photos by Bob Mathews

Conservation Wildlife Ranger Isaac Strickland of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources shows Tyah Macon, 8, (right) a corn snake (also called a red rat snake) as Marian Vanderzyl, 8, looks on at the Wildlife Gala and Venison Cook-off at Club Stewart, Jan. 9.

See WILDLIFE

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New hours at Fitness Centers

The Fitness Centers at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield (Caro, Newman, and Tominac) now has new operating hours. The new hours are:

Monday - Friday: 5 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

For more information, call each Fitness Center (Caro) 767-7090, (Newman) 767-3031, or (Tominac) 315-5078.

See Page 3C for more sports & fitness briefs



Philip Konz

Idris Harris, 14, jumps over three students to break three boards during CYSS Taekwondo training at Fort Stewart's CYSS School Aged Services building.

Stewart TKD closes 2009 with awards ceremony

Commentary by Philip Konz
Child, Youth and School Services

Excellence is an often used performance measurement that is very hard to describe but is easily recognized when observed. And the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Child and Youth School Services SKIESUnlimited program with its many activities is here to help encourage and bring out the excellence within the community's Families.

Once a year, the Fort Stewart Youth Services Taekwondo Class assembles its members to honor and respect the hard work and efforts of all their students and Families. The Fort Stewart Youth Services Taekwondo Class held its 2009 Student of the Year Awards at the School Aged Services Building, Dec. 10. This year's presentations recognized the excellent

performances of many Families.

The top award of "2009 Student of the Year" was given to Josh Bones, age 10, for the excellent job he did throughout the entire year. Josh's accolades for the year include Outstanding Student for March; Best Kicker Award for June; Student of the Month for July; Best Poomse (Forms) Award for September; several first-place wins, second and third place trophies and medals for the sparring and forms competitions in several different tournaments. He also earned numerous certificates of appreciation and achievement and assisted in training other student, helping them prepare and pass their belt examinations. Josh's efforts are an outstanding example of the positive spirit, actions and the excellence a true martial artist strives for.

See Page 2C for additional 2009 CYSS Taekwondo awards

Stewart-Hunter gyms offer free classes

See page 3C for more information

Stewart-Hunter Intramural Basketball

MARNE CONFERENCE

Games Jan. 6

526th EN Co. 37, 24th ORD Co. 32
526th Eng. Co.
Sherman, 15 points
24th Ord. Co
Gill, 11 points

HQ 6/8 Cav. 39, 135th QM Co. 20
135th QM Co.
Wilson, 12 points
HQ 6/8 Cav
Brown, 9 points

87th CSSB 35, 92nd EN Bn. 31
87th CSSB
Clark, 17 points
92nd EN Bn.
Jay, 7 points

Games Jan. 11

984th EN Co. 41, FMWR Library 27
984th Eng. Co.
Love, 9 points
FMWR Library
Garner, 6 points

87th CSSB 45, 526th EN Co. 17
87th CSSB
Clark, 19 points
HQ 6/8 Cav
Hunt, 8 points

ROCKY CONFERENCE

Games Jan. 6

MEDDAC 53, 90th HR Co. 39
MEDDAC
Rozier, 16 points
90th HR Co.
Blocker, 6 points

92nd CHEM Co. 42, 554th EN Co. 21
92nd CHEM Co.
Jackson, 10 points
554th EN Co.
Gibson, 9 points

HD 385th MP Co. 31, HQ 92nd EN Bn. 26
HD 385th MP Co.
Reed, 12 points
HQ 92nd EN Bn.
Johnson, 10 points

Games Jan. 11

HQ 92nd EN Bn. 30, 554th EN Co. 14
HQ 92nd EN Bn.
Elams, 10 points
554th EN Co.
Wenta, 6 points

HD 385th MP Co. 35, 90th HR Co. 27
HD 385th MP Co.
Fordan, 13 points
90th HR Co.
Watkins, 8 points

Marne Conference

	WON	LOST	PCT
1. 87th CSSB	5	0	1.000
2. 135th QM Co.	2	1	.666
3. HQ 6/8 Cav.	1	1	.500
4t. 984th Eng. Co.	2	2	.500
4t. 24th ORD Co.	2	2	.500
4t. 526th EN Co.	1	3	.250
7t. FMWR Library	0	1	.000
7t. 92nd Eng. Bn.	0	3	.000

Rocky Conference

	WON	LOST	PCT
1t. HD 385th MP Co.	3	0	1.000
1t. 92nd CHEM Co.	1	0	1.000
1t. MEDDAC	1	0	1.000
4. HQ 92nd EN Co.	1	1	.500
5t. 90th HR Co.	0	2	.000
5t. 24th Finance Co.	0	0	.000
5t. B Co. WTU	0	0	.000

Hunter Army Airfield Conference

as of Jan. 8

	WON	LOST	PCT
1. 1/10 ATK	5	0	1.000
2. 473rd QM Co.	6	1	.857
3. 416th Trans. Co.	5	1	.833
4. USCG	2	2	.500
5t. 110th QM Co.	2	3	.400
5t. Savannah Corps Eng	2	3	.400
7t. USMC	1	2	.333
7t. 512th QM Co.	2	4	.333
9. 10th Trans. Co.	1	3	.250
10. 224th MI Bn.	0	7	.000

2009 CYSS Taekwondo Awards

Outstanding Student of the Year awards: Terri Brown (10), Brea Guidry (12), Idris Harris (14), Hannah Payne (8)

Formal Certificates of Achievements: Lauren Cardinal (15), Makayla Christie (8), Andrew Conger (11), Joshua Davis (12), Javier Gonzalez-Rodriguez (10), Annemarie Gulley (10), Dean Harrison (7), Jared Hazel (11), Braxton Jordan-Eller (12), Lucas Skinner (9), Christian Touchet (10), Crissy Wright (8)

Best Poomsea (Forms) of the Year award: Lauren Cardinal (15)

Best Kicker of the Year award: Idris Harris

Outstanding Family awards were presented to the Families of the following students for the tremendous support and encouragement they provided to their children throughout the year:

Josh Bones (10), Terri Brown (10), Lauren Cardinal (15), Makayla Christie (8), Javier Gonzalez-Rodriguez (10), Brea Guidry (12) and Trent Guidry (10), Dean Harrison (7), Hannah Payne (8), Lucas Skinner (9) and Crissy Wright (8),

Promotions:

Yellow Belt – Alycia Jones (6)
Orange Belt – Lucas Skinner (9)

The Child and Youth School Services SKIESUnlimited programs offer a superb opportunity for the Families within the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield communities to strive for excellence in their lives. The Youth Services Taekwondo Class' 2009 Student of the Year Awards is just one way in identifying and rewarding those outstanding accomplishments.

With the beginning of 2010, get your Family on the track for excellence. Sign up with the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Child and Youth School Services SKIESUnlimited programs today. "Strive for Excellence"

SPORTS & RECREATION BRIEFS

Yoga classes offered twice a week

Tominac Fitness Center on Hunter Army Airfield now offers yoga classes twice a week, Mondays from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. Start your New Year's resolution now and get fit with yoga. All levels, from first timers to experienced yoga practitioners, are welcome.

For more information, contact the Tominac Fitness Center, 314 Billy Mitchell, building 919, at 912-315-5078/6351.

Free Aquatic Fitness classes offered

Free Aquatic Fitness Classes are offered at the Newman Fitness Center. Classes will be held in shallow water Mondays, 6 to 7 p.m. and Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m. Classes will be held in deep water Tuesdays, 9 to 10 a.m. and Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m. Flotation belts are worn for safety.

Basketball Coaches needed

Fort Stewart Youth Sports still needs a basketball coach for the upcoming season. We have the teams formed but only need one more coach. What a great experience in giving back to our children! Thank you to those that responded to the last

request and signed-up. For more information, call 767-9240 or 767-9270 or visit Jordan Youth Gym, building 608 and fill out a volunteer form.

Bennett Complex to turn off field lights

Until further notice, to conserve energy and costs, the lights on the athletic fields at Bennett Sports Complex, building 471, are being turned off during hours of darkness. This will remain in effect until the start of softball season in April. The athletic fields will still be available for play during daylight hours. We are sorry for any inconvenience. For more information, call Stewart Sports Office at 767-8238.

Parent supervision required for children at gym

Effective immediately, children 13 to 15 years old who are Family Members of Soldiers, retirees or Army Civilians must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to be able to use the Newman Fitness Center, and they must be participating in the same activity and under the direct supervision of that parent or guardian.

A reminder that Jordan Youth Gym designed for the needs of our youth is available for children grades 1st through 12th. Children, 5th graders and

under, must be accompanied by parents. Each piece of equipment is age appropriate and may be upgraded for adult use dependent on weight being used.

For those who desire parental involvement, the program is designed for parents to exercise along with their child on the same equipment. For more information, call the Newman Fitness Center at 767-3031 or Jordan Youth Gym at 767-5079.

Free basketball admission offered to military

All servicemembers and their Families will receive free admission with military ID to the Georgia Southern University Men's Basketball vs. The Citadel - 7 p.m. game, Jan. 28, as part of Georgia Southern Military Appreciation Day.

Present your military ID at Hanner Fieldhouse ticket office on Herty Drive, Georgia Southern University entrance, off GA Hwy 67 (Fair Road), Statesboro, Ga. The Georgia Southern Band and Cheerleaders will be in attendance and the R.O.T.C. Color Guard presentation of the Colors and Static Displays throughout Hanner Fieldhouse.

For more information, call Georgia Southern Sports Ticket Office (800) 478-9467 or FMWR Leisure Travel Office at 767-2841.

WILDLIFE

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Leysath, who has a degree in psychology, had his own restaurant and catering business for nine years.

"We would do 40 jobs a year with Ducks Unlimited, Safari Club, all those big game things," he said.

Development of the skills that have brought him renown as "The Sporting Chef" on the HuntFishCook TV show involved a lot of trial and error, he said.

"I'd like to have some of the wild game that I cooked 25 years ago back. Some of the stuff that I cooked tasted like liver and it was overcooked," he said. "We all make mistakes in the kitchen, and we just have to order a pizza that day."

He has two main points of advice to hunters and fishermen who want to have the best-tasting meals they can from their catch.

"Get the game or fish cleaned and cooled as fast as you can, as fast as humanly possible," he said. "And once you start putting it in a pan, do not overcook it. That is what I have been beating people over the head with for decades."

For more information about Scott Leysath, or to find his free recipes, go to <http://huntfishcook.com>.

Supporting the Army

Scott Leysath, "The Sporting Chef," and Donny McElvoy, the co-host of the HuntFishCook TV show, are big supporters of the Army, Leysath said.

"Our eyes have been opened in the three or four years we have been working with the Army to try and show people about some of the career possibilities with the

Army. We are frankly impressed by the career possibilities that are available to people within the Army," Leysath said.

"I have a 12-year-old son, and I have no problem say-

ing, 'Son, you ought to consider the Army as a career choice. There are great opportunities there.'"

He added, "We strongly support what they are doing in Iraq and Afghanistan. They need our support."

The Winners

2009 BIG GOBBLER CONTEST WINNERS

First Place: Greg Harvey (gobbler scored 79.5 double beard)

Second: Chris Gross (gobbler scored 74.9 double beard)

Third: Greg Harvey (gobbler scored 69.4)

Fourth: Leo Barret (gobbler scored 68.5)

Fifth: Greg Harvey (gobbler scored 64.8)

VENISON COOK-OFF WINNERS

Steak: First Place Rodney West; second place, William Ward

Sausage: First Place Ted Eby; second, Christina Schirman; third place Cornelia Gillis

Chili: First Place Nicole Bowen; second, Danny Dees and third James Vanderzyl

BIG BUCK CONTEST WINNERS

Grand prize winner: Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Christenbury - \$400 and a deer mount. Deer scored - 44.180 and 8 points.

First Place prize winner: Robert Stout - \$400. Deer scored - 44.675 and 9 points.

Second Place: Allan Murray - \$200. Deer scored - 36.315 and 8 points.

WILDLIFE PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Active Duty Grand Prize (\$100): - Staff Sgt. Joseph Hanline

First Place prize winner: Shaina McClure, \$75.

Second Place: Edward Blackmon, \$50.

Third Place: Sgt. Alan Kielor, \$25.