

# FSGA-HAAF CYS Services in The Frontline 4-7-11 community news!

# COMMUNITY & LEISURE

APRIL 7, 2011



Bob Mathews

Shawn Brown, described as "early childhood's premier edu-tainer," brought his Super Fun Show to the Fort Stewart Youth Center for the opening of the Month of the Military Child. Brown performed at the morning show for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds and an afternoon show for first through fifth-graders.

## Lively show launches Month of Military Child

**Bob Mathews**  
Family and MWR Marketing Publicity Specialist

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander Col. Kevin W. Milton and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Ervin led scores of 3, 4 and 5-year-olds in a toe-tapping, hand-clapping, thumbs-up rendition of Tooty Ta to launch the Month of the Military Child, April 1 at the Fort Stewart Youth Center.

Child, Youth and School Services Director Dagmar Peguero invited Col. Milton and Command Sgt. Maj. Ervin to join her and others in a few minutes of fun

with the song—to the delight of the excited children.

Shawn Brown brought his Super Fun Show to the Youth Center for two shows, one for the younger children during the morning and another that afternoon for the first through fifth-graders.

The shows at the youth center were two of several scheduled events at Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield to launch a month-long celebration of military children.

Colonel Milton and Command Sgt. Maj. Ervin spoke briefly to the youngsters just before the Super Fun Show started. Both told the children that they are very special kids and an important part not only

of their own family, but the Army Family as well.

Brown, an Air Force veteran, performed and interacted with the children for about 40 minutes. Whenever he performs on a military post, he said, it is like "coming home."

"These children are put in a position like no other children on the planet, because their parents are serving and (in some cases) they are giving their lives," he said. "They are part of what I believe helps keep our country strong. These children are going to be strong, they are going to persevere, they are going to support other military children. They are going to pay it forward."



Elvia Kelly

Anne Cross, ninth grader, views the habitat of the endangered Red Cockaded Woodpecker as her team listens to Larry Carlile, supervisory wildlife biologist at the Fort Stewart Fishing and Wildlife branch at Holbrook Pond, April 1.

## Wildlife jamboree brings the wild things closer to students

Elvia Kelly  
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

The Outdoor Wildlife Jamboree celebrates Month of the Military Child with a roar. Liberty County students explored the wonders of Fort Stewart's wildlife at Holbrook Pond, April 1. The jamboree is just one of many events in April recognizing the contributions and sacrifices of the sons and daughters of military parents.

"The Wildlife Jamboree is one of the kick off events for the Month of the Military Child," David Smith, Youth Education Support Services director, said.

"One of the things about this event here

is that it's a learning opportunity. It's an opportunity for children to get an idea of the habitat that live in and around Fort Stewart."

The students began their morning with a watery adventure. They took a boat ride with fishing biologists from the Department of Public Works' Wildlife Management. They learned the process of studying fish population and diseases by electrocuting fish.

Once the fish has been momentarily paralyzed, the students grabbed the fishes and placed them in containers filled with water. They observed the different species of fish, noticing features like color.

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## JAMBOREE \_\_\_\_\_

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"My favorite part was when we caught the fish," Kiarvanaya Queen, sixth grader, said. "Some of them were silver, some of them were green, and some of them were silver and green. After shocking them, they were on their sides. They were not hurt because it only shocks them for a second. We threw them back in the water once we were done."

Following the boat trip, students took a short bus ride to learn about the endangered red cockaded woodpecker. Walking several feet into the woods, an observation point was set-up. Through the lens of a spotting scope, the children viewed the woodpecker's habitat.

"Our mission today is to tell the kids a little bit about the endangered species management," Larry Carlile, supervisory wildlife biologist at the Fort Stewart Fishing and Wildlife branch. "I don't think kids get enough information these days about the importance of conservation and wildlife management. It feels great [talking with children]."

While some students were enjoying

the fishes and woodpeckers, others were nodding to the beat of music performed by Kirby, the recycling robot. Kirby is from DPW's recycling department, informing the community about the importance of recycling.

"I want the boys and girls to understand that recycling saves the environment," Kirby said. "It brings back money to the installation, and the community can reuse the items over and over again. After visiting this station, I want the children to take the information back home to their parents to teach them the importance of recycling."

Preceding each station, one which included a buck's skull, skin of the endangered eastern indigo snake and the five-lined skink, the students were treated to lunch from the grill and the military police k-9 presentation.

"[Today's jamboree] was a learning experience for me," Madelyn Bahm, sixth grader, said. "I know what we need to do for nature. I believe it was a very good way to [kick off Month of the Military Child]."



Elvia Kelly

Fish biologists, from the Department of Public Works' Fishing and Wildlife branch, teach students the process of electrocuting fish for population study at the Outdoor Wildlife Jamboree at Holbrook Pond, April 1.