



September 2008



**Program Coordinator**

Shelly Aiken  
Camp Smith, Bldg 501  
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10567

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[shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)

[www.guardfamilyyouth.org](http://www.guardfamilyyouth.org)

**Call Toll Free:  
1-877-715-7817**

**Check us out on the  
Web!!!**

[http://dmna.state.ny.us/family/  
famredi.php](http://dmna.state.ny.us/family/famredi.php)

# Guard En Of Youth

I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework. Submitted by Chris Age 14

## **NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY PROGRAMS STATE VOLUNTEER & YOUTH SYMPOSIUM**

**This years State Volunteer and Youth  
Symposium will take place on  
November 7th-9th 2008.**

The symposium is for ALL Family members, volunteers and military points of contact for the Army and Air National Guard. Registered adults attending are invited to bring their youth ages 6-18

This will be held at DMNA – JFHQ  
330 Old Niskayuna Rd, Latham, NY.

The host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Turf  
Wolf Road in Latham, NY.

**A full program of fun for kids 6-18!!!**

**Please keep this date free!!!**

To Sign up for this fun event please see registration form at the end of the newsletter.

We look forward to seeing all of you!!!  
From all of us at Family Programs!!!

# CAMOUFLAGE KIDS

Support Through Sports

Presents



## Army @ Buffalo

Saturday, October 18, 2008  
UB Stadium  
3:30 p.m.



Enjoy a great day at the stadium for exciting NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL!

The Camouflage Kids organization will provide your family with a FREE day at a college athletic event.

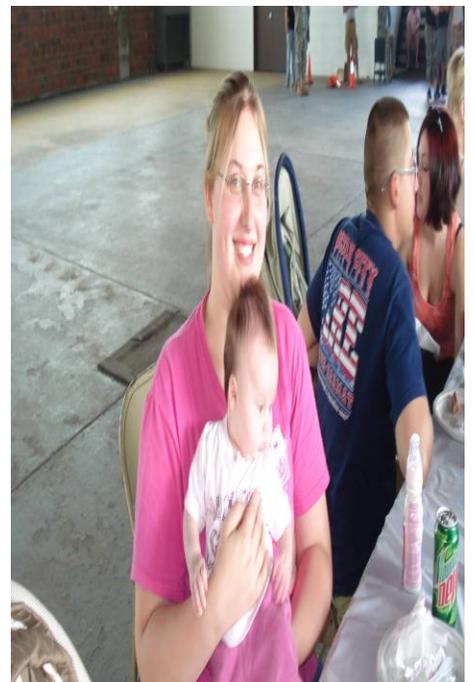
All participating members of our military personnel will receive game tickets, t-shirts, backpacks, and food, all FREE of charge.



Camouflage Kids, Inc. — P.O. Box 878 — Bristol, Indiana 46530  
(866) 435-1875 — [www.camokids.org](http://www.camokids.org)

Camouflage Kids, Inc. is an Indiana based non-profit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Tax Identification Number or EIN for Camouflage Kids, Inc. is 20-5794680.

# GENESSEO ARMORY PLANTING OF ORION GARDEN & FAMILY DAY





# Honoring Our Veterans & Troops

*“A Family Celebration of Freedom”*



## Family Picnic

Saturday, September 20, 2008

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m

## Ceremony at noon

**“Honoring All Who Served  
& Remembering Those We Lost”**

VA Medical Center  
3495 Bailey Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14215

Entertainment ~ Food ~ Antique & Classic Car Show  
~ Children’s Activities ~ & More!

**This community event is free and open to all!**

A Welcome Home and Thank You  
to Veterans of All Eras!

# **PROJECT PEN PAL**

With Project Pen Pal you will meet other military children around the world. You can make friends, learn about their traditions, culture's, how they feel about their schools and their hobbies. In addition, Project Pen Pal encourages you to write about the challenges you face being a Military Youth, and share those feelings with children from different backgrounds who are dealing with similar issues like, military life, deployments and relocation, just to name a few.

**ALL AGES WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!!**

**We have Pen Pals from New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Illinois, New Jersey, Nevada, Vermont, California, Connecticut, Ohio , Wyoming and NEW MEXICO is now on board!!!**

**UNITY IS STRENGTH!!**

**To sign up please fill out permission slip at the end of this newsletter and fax or mail it to:**

**Shelly Aiken~NY National Guard Youth Program Coordinator**

**Camp Smith, Bldg 501**

**Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567**

**[shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)**

**Fax: 914-788-7407**

**Sign up today, Pen pals are waiting :)**



Do you have school-aged children who play sports?

Or do they take dance, music or arts classes?

Maybe they would they like to try something new... like Karate?

Could your child benefit from a tutor to stay at grade level?

If the answer is **YES** to any of these questions,  
Our **Military Kids** grant program may be able to help.

Our **Military Kids** pays the fees for children of deployed Reserve and National Guard to participate in youth sports, fine arts, and tutor programs. This is a way of recognizing the sacrifices the entire family is making while the soldier is deployed overseas.

It is simple to apply to the program...

Just fill out the attached application. Send it in with a copy of the deployment orders and a flyer or other information that lists the activity and the fee for the activity. The child is limited to one grant for one activity. Grant will cover up to six months of instructions, lessons, tutoring with maximum award of \$500.00 per child.

If everything is in order and if funding is available, within two weeks a check will be sent to the organization and the child will be notified of the award.



6861 Elm Street, Suite 3F • McLean, VA 22101 • 703.734.6654 • [www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org)

**TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION PLEASE VISIT: [www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org)**



# Operation Enduring Comfort™

at St. Peter-North Ridge

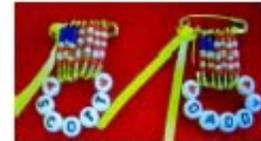
"A continuing effort to find ways to personally thank and support service members and their loved ones in our area"



## **Please Accept These Gifts from Our Hearts to Yours**

***Pillowcases or T-shirts with a picture of a deployed loved one*** are being offered free of charge to families of deploying and deployed soldiers.

***Troop Support Prayer Pins*** are intended as a show of support for our troops and a reminder to pray for them. Pins are available free of charge to anyone with a loved one serving overseas.



**"Take A Break" Events** Give your whole family an opportunity to unwind among military families from all branches of service. We consider it a privilege to host events for local military families and their supporters, providing a relaxing environment for adults and children. These events will vary, but usually include refreshments, deployment-related crafts, gym activities, and the built-in support of other local military families!

Call or e-mail for more information about our next upcoming event, or to be placed on our contact list.

**We'd Like To Be A Resource** We have a team of people who would consider it a privilege to support you in any way we can while your loved one is away. This effort is close to our hearts since our pastor is currently deployed. Please let us know how we can help.



**All Operation Enduring Comfort™ activities are supported by dedicated volunteers and funded by donations. If you would like to support these efforts, please contact us for more information.**

Requests can be submitted to: [enduringcomfort@stpeternorthridge.org](mailto:enduringcomfort@stpeternorthridge.org)

OR St. Peter Lutheran Church – Operation Enduring Comfort™ - 4169 Church Road, Lockport, NY 14094

Questions? Please call us at 716-433-9014 or check our website at <http://enduringcomfort.stpeternorthridge.org>

This program is inspired by the LC-MS Ministry to the Armed Forces Chaplain Support through Operation Barnabas. Part of a nationwide effort to support military families, this local Operation Enduring Comfort™ effort is sponsored by:  
St. Peter Lutheran Church 4169 Church Road Lockport, NY 14094 716-433-9014 [www.stpeternorthridge.org](http://www.stpeternorthridge.org)



# Support Our Troops Night @ Shea

## September 10, 2008 @ 7:10 p.m.

### Mets vs. Nationals



Show support for our military personnel & enjoy a Mets game with supporting organizations, volunteers, servicemen, family and friends.



Great price of Upper Level Reserved seats @ \$5!



Discounted ticket prices for participating groups in the Mezzanine Reserved seats *(with advance purchase through this flyer or Group Ticket Window)*.



Each person will receive a Commemorative Shea Stadium Lapel Pin *(with advance purchase through this flyer or by purchasing online through the Group Ticket Window)*.

*Come out during the final season at Shea Stadium & enjoy the game with family and friends.*

To purchase tickets, follow the instructions below:  
Please visit [mets.com/groups](http://mets.com/groups)

Sign-In ID: TROOPS  
Password: METS

*(Both sign-in ID and password are in ALL CAPS)*

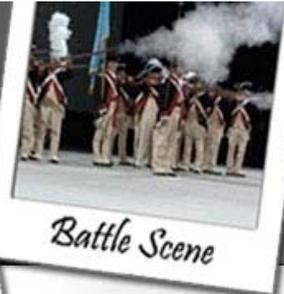
All payment and shipping details are available online at the time of purchase for participants

For more information, please contact Laura Kelly of the New York Mets Group Sales Department at 718-559-3107 or [lkelly@nymets.com](mailto:lkelly@nymets.com)

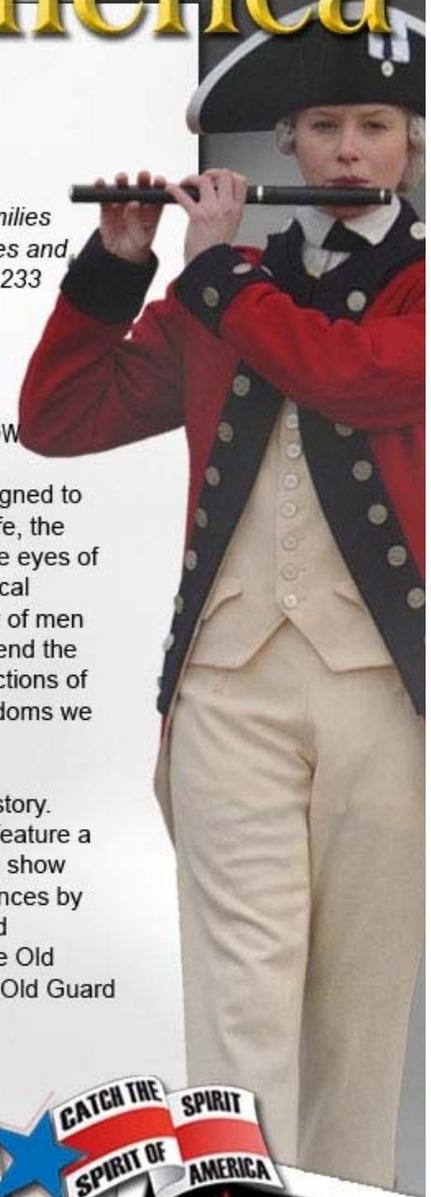
# The U.S. Army's Spirit of America



Continental Color Guard



Battle Scene



**When:** Friday, September 12, 2008 (10:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.)  
Saturday, September 13, 2008 (2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.)

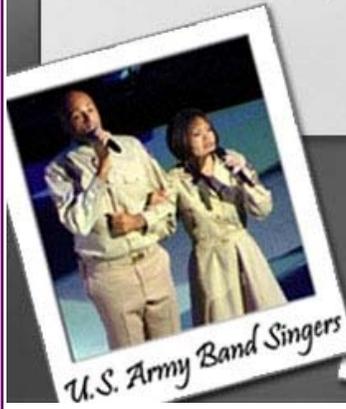
**Where:** Blue Cross Arena - Rochester, N.Y.  
*\*New York Active Duty, Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, Families and Civilians are encouraged to attend this FREE event with their families and friends and celebrate the service and strength of Soldiers for more than 233 years.*

**Who:** The U.S. Army Military District of Washington Presents Spirit of America  
Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe - Commander JFHQ-NCR / MDW  
Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond P. Houston - Command Sergeant Major JFHQ-NCR / MDW

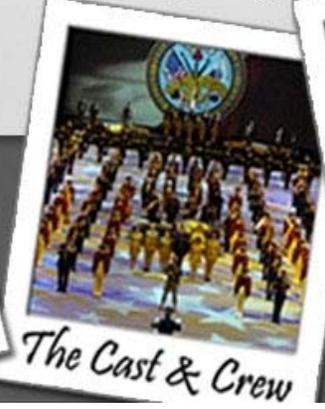
**Why:** Presented on behalf of The United States Army, Spirit of America is designed to inform, entertain and inspire audiences of all ages. Bringing history to life, the FREE patriotic, live-action show tells the history of our nation through the eyes of the America Soldier. With a unique combination of stirring music, historical narration and live action dramatization, Spirit of America is the true story of men and women who have left friends and families behind to protect and defend the United States of America. Spirit of America commemorates the brave actions of ordinary men and women, who as U.S. Army Soldiers preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

**What:** During the show, Soldiers in period uniforms reenact key moments in history. From the Revolutionary War to current operations, these reenactments feature a unique perspective of American history -- that of the citizen Soldier. The show includes battle scenes, short periods of simulated gunfire, and performances by the Army's elite ceremonial units. The show features the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own," and Soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), the oldest active-duty infantry unit in the Army. Elements of the Old Guard include The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, the Caisson Platoon, the Commander-in-Chief's Guard and The U.S. Army Drill Team.  
[www.soa.mdw.army.mil](http://www.soa.mdw.army.mil)

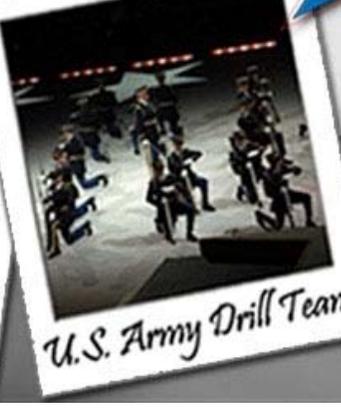
**Contact:** Spirit of America Public Affairs, Kristen Parker .  
202-685-4026, [kristen.m.parker@us.army.mil](mailto:kristen.m.parker@us.army.mil)



U.S. Army Band Singers



The Cast & Crew



U.S. Army Drill Team



Civil War Reenactment

# **CHILD CARE NEWS**

## **Child Care \$\$\$ Available**

Active Duty National Guard serving under Title 10 or Title 32, United States Code (U.S.C.) military families are now eligible for Child Care subsidy benefits subject to eligibility requirements and availability of funds. Please visit the NACCRRA website, [www.naccrra.org](http://www.naccrra.org), for further information regarding this subject.

When you reach the site click on (Click here for Military Child Care) lower left hand corner, then click on Army, then Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood. Should you have any question please do not hesitate to call me.

National Guard TITLE 10 Activated military Spouse, If you are:

\*Employed

\*Seeking employment (for 60 days)

\*Going to school

You qualify for \$100 per month per child for full time care  
(Licensed Provider Required).

Call the National Guard Child Care Program today to apply!  
1-888-NGCCP-99 (888-642-2799) or [ngccp@guardfamily.org](mailto:ngccp@guardfamily.org)

## **Child Care for Families of Severely Injured Military Service Members**

NACCCRA and the Department of Defense (DoD) have partnered to provide families of severely injured military members with assistance to find and pay for safe, licensed child care services for a period of six months during their period of recuperation. The program is available nationwide wherever the injured member is receiving either in-patient or out-patient medical care.

**To apply for any of these programs, families and service members can call 1-800-424-2246 or visit <http://www.NACCRRA.org/military>.**

**To find suitable child care please visit: [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)**

If you have any questions on how to apply, or if you need help with completing the application to receive assistance, please contact me at:

[shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)

914-788-7405

**The Child Development Home Office provides active duty military families with job opportunities and exceptional childcare services.**

**ATTENTION MILITARY SPOUSES:**  
**Would you like to work from home?**

Here are just a few reasons you should contact the Child Development Home (CDH) Office and inquire about becoming a CDH provider:

- You can be your own boss. Learn valuable business skills and build your resume for future employment opportunities.
- You can set your own business hours-- full-time, part-time, days, evenings, weekends, or before and after school. The choice is yours!
- Increase your family income while you are caring for your own children.
- Earn extra money to pamper yourself, or save it up for birthdays and holiday spending money.
- Receive comprehensive training and certification in professional childcare. Training is transferable when you relocate to your next duty station.

Support your military neighbors while they are working and/or attending school.

For more information on becoming a CDH provider, please call or stop by our office today. We are located in the first office inside the Fleet and Family Support Center at NSU, Saratoga Springs.

Phone: (518) 886-0200 ext. 161

Fax: (518) 886-0121

## **CALLING ALL YOUTH**

**Authors:** Do you know funny jokes? Do you have a story you want others to know about? Write an article for us. Please share with us. Make this YOUR newsletter.

**Artists:** We need your help now. Send us your artwork to be published in YOUR newsletter.

**Designers:** Do you have a flair for design? Help build a website, suggestions for your Newsletter. **CREATE a LOGO** for the youth Program. Let us know!!

**Recipes:** Do you have any Yummy recipes you want to share? Send them to us.

**Photographers:** Photo of the Month, Photos of special events, share a smile

**Poets:** Do you have a poem about your parent being deployed? Do you have a poem about being a military kid? Any poetry that you would like share?

If you are between the ages of 1 and 18, email or fax your gifts to the Youth Program.

All submissions should be sent to:

Shelly Aiken

Camp Smith Bldg 501

Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Fax: 914-788-7407

[shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)



## **Grants for special needs families**

Applications are now being accepted through the Quality of Life Grant program for families that care for children and adults with autism and other special needs. These grants provide families with stipends that may be used for a wide variety of support related to their family member. To be considered for a Quality of Life Grant, an applicant must:

- \* Have an individual with a diagnosed developmental disorder or disability living at home;
- \* Live in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United States; Virginia, Washington D.C., Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York; and
- \* Submit a legible and complete application via the Neighbor Heart website or via the United States Postal Service post-marked by November 1, 2008

Quality of Life Grants are \$500 per approved individual and apply to anything that improves a family's quality of life, to include: remediation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, equine therapy, behavior therapy, security improvements, medical travel, respite care, membership fees, registration fees, educational training and seminars, educational advocacy, vision services, and other medical services.

To apply for a grant, visit:

<http://www.neighborheart.org/grants.asp>

## **A Note To Parents**

With the new school year started, it might be a good idea to visit or contact your child's school and talk with the teachers to ensure they are aware that the child has a deployed loved one. Ask your child's teachers and-caregivers to watch for any unusual or disruptive behavior. Keep in mind, no-matter how well prepared your child is for the separation, they will still have difficulty adjusting to the changes once the loved one is deployed.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like more information or ways I can help, please feel free to contact me. Thanks for all you do and continue to do while your loved one serves our country.

### **Program Coordinator**

Shelly Aiken

Camp Smith, Bldg 501

Cortlandt Manor, NY  
10567

(Phone) 914-788-7405

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[www.guardfamilyyouth.org](http://www.guardfamilyyouth.org)

**AAFES Offers \$500 Shopping Sprees for a Song**

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) is issuing a casting call for aspiring entertainers to perform a 30 second rap or jingle. The selected performer will win a \$500 shopping spree and a chance to be heard on the BX/PX's worldwide television and radio networks. Submissions to contest must be about one of the following four themes:

- \*What AAFES means to the entrant
- \*The benefit AAFES provides military shoppers
- \*The savings found at BXs and PXs
- \*What the AAFES "Community Connection" means to the military community

Entries will be accepted electronically or by mail through Oct. 6. For complete contest rules, go to

[http://www.aafes.com/Patriot\\_Family/rapjingle.asp](http://www.aafes.com/Patriot_Family/rapjingle.asp)

**FT.DRUM**

***Sackets Harbor Family Fun Day***

**9/20/08**

**11:30 am**

The day kicks off with a parade followed by the festivities on the Visitors Center lawn. Family fun activities, contests, games, and lots of prizes. Proceeds from the events will go to various local Not for Profit organizations.

**Bill Christopherson  
315-783-5077**

**WEST POINT**

**Friday, September 19th from 7:00pm until.... Girls Night Out at Havana's in Newburgh on the waterfront :-)**

**Saturday, September 20th from two hours before the football game until.... TAILGATE (more to be announced, but this is going to be FUN!!!!) :-)**

**Saturday, September 27th from 5:15-7:30... Waiting Families Support Group Meeting at the Youth Center, Nanuet Rotary will be barbequing and we will be handing out hero packs for the kids and doing our "see you in my dreams pillowcases"!!!! :-)**

**If you have questions, let me know!**

**Galatea Badger, MEd**

**Ph: 845-938-5654**

**Fax: 845-938-3019**

**Fall Fest**

**Friday September 19**

**(5-7pm)**

**At the Naval Support Unit on Rt.29 in Saratoga**

**-Petting Zoo**

**-Bouncey Bounce**

**-Balloon Clowns**

**-Saratoga K9 unit demonstration**

**-BBQ style food**

**ALL FREE!!!**

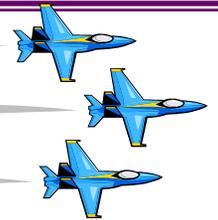
**Call 885-5138 x1 to sign-up**

# SUMMER CAMP FUN





# 106th RESCUE WING GALAXY CAMP





# New York National Guard Family Programs Family Volunteer and Youth Symposium



## Youth Registration Form

**November 7,8 & 9 2008**

Youth Volunteer Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name Tag Preference \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Tee shirt: Y- Med\_\_ Y- Lg\_\_ A-Med\_\_ A-Lg\_\_ A-X Lg\_\_ A-XX Lg\_\_ A-XXX Lg\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parental / Guardian Emergency Notification Information Required**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please have Youth Registration Forms submitted by October 10, 2008**

Mail or Fax to:

Shelly Aiken/Youth Program

Camp Smith, Bldg 501

Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Fax: 914-788-7407

Phone: 914-788-7405

[Shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:Shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT AUTHORITY:** 10 USC, Section 1558, Secretary of the Army; E.O. 9397 (SSN); and Army Regulation 608-1, Army Community Service Center.

**PRINCIPLE PURPOSE:** To prepare travel orders for training for voluntary services provided by an individual and to obtain agreement from the volunteer on the conditions of accepting the performance of voluntary service.

**ROUTINE USES:** None

**DISCLOSURE:** Voluntary. However, failure to complete the form may result in an inability to provide training for voluntary services.

**This form serves as permission and waiver to participate in physical activities and releases the New York National Guard Family Programs, New York National Guard Youth Programs from any and all liability.**

**Parental Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

# PROJECT PEN PAL

## Permission Slip

Would your child be interested in making a new friend and getting to know another child like him/herself? **Why not sign them up for the Project Pen Pal.** What a great way for them to share stories about Military life and learn different cultures from around the Globe. If your child is interested please fill out the information below. Parents, **please don't forget to sign** the permission slip and either fax it or mail it to the number below.

**Child's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age/Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hobbies/Interests** \_\_\_\_\_

**What Language do you speak and write?** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PROJECT PEN PAL PERMISSION FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian) give my permission for  
\_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) to participate in Project Pen Pal.

I understand that it is my (parent/guardian) responsibility to supervise my child's contact with another Military child and not the responsibility of the New York National Guard Youth Program.

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/Fax** \_\_\_\_\_

### **\*Please mail or fax this permission slip to:**

Shelly Aiken

NY National Guard Youth Program

Camp Smith, Bldg 501

Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Fax (914-788-7407)

\*If you have questions about Project Pen Pal please **email Shelly** at:

**[shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil](mailto:shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil)** Or Call me at 914-788-7405

### **Project Pen Pal Code of Conduct**

- No obscenities in written or electronic correspondence
- No illegal material mailed or emailed
- No attempt to harm others in correspondence (making threats, making fun of another person, bullying behaviors, etc.)