

New York



APRIL 2008



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**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



## APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, highlighting the important role military children play in the armed forces community. This April is a time to applaud military Families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome.

Here are some simple ways that you can reach out to a military child you know, but it doesn't stop here! Be creative!

- \*Recognize them during scheduled unit activities such as Mobilization Briefings or Family Days.
- \*Let them help plan a special activity for their Family.
- \*Help them organize a care package to send to their deployed Service Member.
- \*Contact your Operation: Military Kids state team and get involved in upcoming activities for military kids. [www.OperationMilitaryKids.org](http://www.OperationMilitaryKids.org)
- \*Volunteer for a local unit.
- \*Encourage local businesses and organizations to recognize military kids this month.

### CONNECT AND JOIN

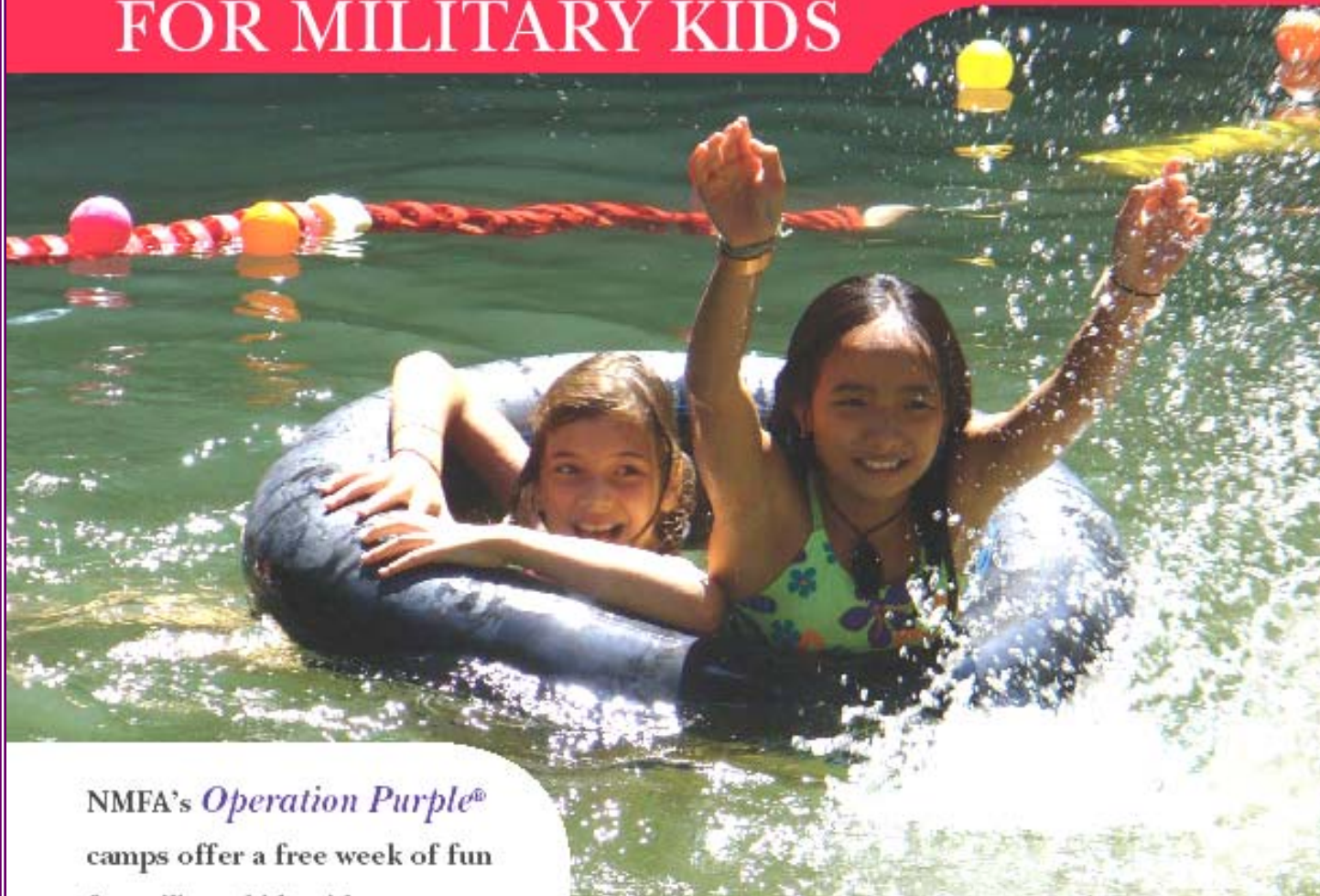
This is the second year Connect and Join, along with help from retailers across America, will make the Month of the Military Child a truly unique one for all the children. For more information please visit:

<http://www.monthofthemilitarychild.com/>

**GIVE THANK'S TO ALL MILITARY KIDS!!!**

# FREE SUMMER CAMP

## FOR MILITARY KIDS



NMFA's *Operation Purple*<sup>®</sup> camps offer a free week of fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently, or will be deployed.

**SIGN UP TO ATTEND  
THE CAMP IN YOUR AREA.**

**Operation Purple Camp-NY at 4-H Camp Wabasso for  
ages 8-15.**

**July 13-18**

**August 10-15**

Visit [www.operationpurple.org](http://www.operationpurple.org) for  
registration information or  
additional locations and dates.

  
**OperationPurple**<sup>®</sup>  
A program of the National Military Family Association

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**SIGN UP TO ATTEND  
THE CAMP IN YOUR AREA.**

**WHERE: ALDRSGATE CAMP  
AND RETREAT CENTER,  
GREIG, NY**

**WHEN: AUGUST 10 to 15, 2008**

  
**OperationPurple**<sup>®</sup>  
*A program of the National Military Family Association*

Visit [www.operationpurple.org](http://www.operationpurple.org) for registration information, locations, and dates.

**WHERE: CAMP PIONEER: ANGOLA, NY**

**WHEN: JUNE 22-27th**

**AND JUNE 27th-AUGUST 1st**

**AGES: 8-13**

# **CHILD CARE FOR** **MILITARY FAMILIES**

## **OPERATION MILITARY CHILD CARE**

Child care fee assistance for families of activated or deployed National Guard and Reserves for licensed child care.

**Service members that are on Title 10 Orders are eligible. If your orders say Title 32 but you are in support of an operation, you are eligible for this subsidy, for example: Rear Det NCO's.**

All income levels and ranks are eligible.

**ALL RECRUITERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SUBSIDY.**

## **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)

Shelly Aiken  
New York National Guard  
Youth Program Director  
914-788-7405

# **Child Care News**

**Are you looking for Childcare? Here are five good reasons for choosing a Child Development Home (CDH):**

- \* CDH providers have had training which includes child abuse, first aid, CPR and food sanitation
- \* CDH providers attend monthly trainings
- \* Monthly unannounced inspections are conducted by the CDH office
- \* All CDH providers are required to be part of the USDA food program to ensure children are fed balanced meals
- \* Childcare is subsidized for active duty military if their spouse is working or going to school which makes childcare more affordable

The CDH program is always looking for childcare providers to work and earn money in their own homes while caring for their own children and the children of military families. Our office will assist perspective providers in completing the certification process and support the provider in continuing with professional growth.

If you are interested in being a childcare provider or are looking for childcare, call the CDH office at 518-886-0200.

## **YMCA Programs for Child Care:** **A good place to grow**

YMCAs are dedicated to providing high-quality, affordable child care. As the nation's largest provider of child care programs, YMCAs provide family-centered, values-based programs to nurture children's healthy development. Well-trained staff provide safe, affordable, high-quality care so you can have peace of mind while you work. Like all Y programs, child care is open to all, with financial aid available. Staff members are partners with parents and other caregivers, working together to help kids grow up healthy, happy and strong.

To find your local YMCA please visit: [www.ymca.net/](http://www.ymca.net/)

## Children's Book Series Available at Discount to Military Families

AUSA Family Programs has teamed up with the publishers of the Thumbs Up Johnnie™ children's book series to offer a 50 per cent discount to military families. Thumbs Up Johnnie and his friends help children learn important life skills about teamwork, friendship, financial responsibility, and good hygiene. The books are written for children aged four to eight years.

In the most recent book in the series, entitled Thumbs Up to the Red, White and Blue, Johnnie and his crew travel to visit the Nation's monuments, learn about the pledge of allegiance, and meet their friends from the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

The discount applies to the Thumbs Up Johnnie™ books and the Thumbs Up Johnnie™ Reading Cuddle Buddy. Items can be ordered online at <http://www.thumbsupjohnnie.com> (click on "Johnnie Merchandise"), or by calling toll free (866) 749-4378. To receive the 50 per cent discount use the coupon code "AUSAFP" when ordering.

## AUSA and MCEC Offer Scholarship for Prestigious Summer Program

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) is joining the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) to provide one Army teenager with a full scholarship to the prestigious School of Public Service at St. Albans School, Washington, DC, during the summer of 2008. The School of Public Service (SPS) is a leadership program which features an intensive four-week summer academic session held in Washington, D.C., from June 22 - July 19, 2008. AUSA will fund the total cost of tuition, room and board for one student for this summer's program. The value of this scholarship is just short of \$5,000.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be the son or daughter of a member of the United States Army (Active Duty, Reserve or National Guard), either currently serving or retired. The deadline for the online application is April 15, 2008. Application must be made online at the SPS website: <https://www.stalbansschool.org/home/form.asp?id=4892>. Please contact Ms. Suzanne Woods at SPS with any questions: [sps@cathedral.org](mailto:sps@cathedral.org) or 202-537-5531. [Source: <http://www.ausa.org/Webpub/DeptFamilyPrograms.nsf/byid/RBOH-7CQLVW>]

## 2008 American Patriot Freedom Scholarship

**New-** Homefront America, Inc. is accepting applications for the 2008 American Patriot Freedom Scholarship. A total of 25 scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each. All applications must be postmarked by April 25, 2008. For the application, visit:

<http://www.homefrontamerica.org/PDF%20Files/2008%20APFS%20Application%20030208.pdf>

## Nike Discount with US Military ID

Need new sneakers? U.S. Nike stores are offering a discount to service members and their families with a valid U.S. military ID. Visit: [www.Nikebiz.com](http://www.Nikebiz.com) for participating locations and details:

[http://www.nikebiz.com/customer\\_service/discounts.html](http://www.nikebiz.com/customer_service/discounts.html)

## FREE MILITARY HANDBOOKS

Just click on the links on the page to request your free handbooks.

[www.militaryhandbooks.com/](http://www.militaryhandbooks.com/)

These handbooks are excellent resources for all Military Members and their families.



**PALISADES INTERSTATE  
PARK COMMISSION  
BEAR MOUNTAIN, NY 10911-0427  
845-786-2701**

**What: FREE NYS Parks Lifeguard Training and Certification**

**When: Monday – Friday, 10 am – 6 pm, April 21,22,23,24 and 25, 2007.**

**Where: Union Avenue Y**

**565 Union Avenue**

**New Windsor, New York 12553**

**Upon successful completion of training, State Parks practical examination, and medical clearance, all will receive a summer lifeguard job offer paying no less than **\$12.56** an hour.**

Please pre-register by 04/18/08. Contact Tim Larkin at (845) 786-2701 ext. 276 or email [Timothy.Larkin@oprhp.state.ny.us](mailto:Timothy.Larkin@oprhp.state.ny.us) to pre-register or for more information.

Notes:

1. Each candidate must be sixteen years of age on or before June 21, 2008 (Proof of age required the first day).
2. A completed NYS Parks Lifeguard Medical Form must be submitted by the first day of the course. Forms are available from Tim Larkin.

There is a “pre course” test which consists of

A: Swim 550 yards continuously, using these strokes in the following order:

200 yards of front crawl using rhythmic breathing and a stabilizing, propellant kick. Rhythmic breathing can be performed either by breathing to the side or to the front.

200 yards of breaststroke using a pull, breathe, kick and glide sequence.

150 yards of either front crawl or breaststroke. The 150 yards may be a combination of front crawl or breaststroke.

B: Starting in the water, swim 20 yards using front crawl or breaststroke, surface dive 7-10 feet, retrieve a 10-pound object, return to the surface, swim 20 yards back to the starting point with the object and exit the water without using a ladder or steps, within 1 minute, 40 seconds.

C: Swim 5 yards; submerge and retrieve three dive rings placed 5 yards apart in 4-7 feet of water; resurface; and swim 5 yards to the side of the pool.

# **FREE SUMMER CAMP**

## **CAMP TRANQUILLITY**

### **“A Children’s Camp With a Heart”**

Tranquillity Camp would like to offer **FREE** scholarships for the summer of 2008 to all Military children. Children must be in good health and between the ages of 8-15. Camp is 25 miles south of Albany. Transportation is provided from Queens, NY or parents can drive their children directly to camp.

The Camp Is situated on 1,000 rolling acres in Earlton, NY., just 20 miles south of Albany, NY. Each summer hundreds of children find friendship, fun and personal growth in our camp program, which gives them a healthy, happy and memorable summer experience. This is the third year Camp Tranquillity has given support to our National Guard youth!!! HOOOOAH!!!!!!!

A partial list of activities include:

Softball, swimming instruction, arts and crafts, football, nature hiking, Special events, gymnastics, Evening programs, and much more!!!

If you are interested in camping at Tranquillity Camp, parents can contact Richard S. Lerner directly.

#### **Contact:**

**Richard S. Lerner**

**845-638-6351**

**Email: [campty@msn.com](mailto:campty@msn.com)**

**Don't Wait!! Sign up today!!!**





## WEST POINT

\*Effective 1 January 2008, CYS is waiving fees for 2 team sports per child of deployed Soldier's.

\*CYS is also providing a 50% reduction in instructional programs for Family members of deployed Soldier's

\*Morgan Farms offers a 10% discount on lessons and summer camps to Families of deployed Soldier's

\*Please keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming announcement about priority given to Families of deployed Soldier's for summer camp slots and a discounted rate for summer camps.

Any questions? Give me a buzz or shoot me an email anytime!

Tea :-)

Galatea Badger, MSED

Mobilization and Deployment/  
AFTB

Program Manager, Army Community Service

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DSN: 688-5654

Fax: 845-938-3019

Email:

Galatea.Badger@usma.edu

## Ft. Hamilton

### *Child Safety at ACS*

Child safety through fingerprinting and photographs will be held on April 3 at Army Community

Service from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. It is free of charge.

This safety precaution helps parents and police in the event that a child is lost or abducted. For more information, call Vincent DiMaira at (718) 630-4460.

### *Exceptional Family Member*

The Exceptional Family Member Program is a mandatory program designed to meet the needs of family members with physical, emotional, developmental or learning difficulties that requires special,

medical treatment, therapy, or education. To enroll

your family member in the EFMP, please contact

Brenda Shea at the Ainsworth Clinic at (718) 630-

4417. Also, please note that funding for respite care

up to 40 hours per month for Exceptional Family

Members is now available. For all questions pertaining

to respite care and the EFMP, please contact

Vincent DiMaira at ACS at (718)630-4460.

## FT.DRUM

### The PREVIEW Magazine

Fort Drum's Premier MWR Entertainment Guide

The Preview is available as a insert in the Fort Drum newspaper, The Blizzard, the third issue of each month, and is also available through out the month at any of Fort Drum's MWR facilities.

Inside of it's pages, you will find information on MWR programs, classes, trips, and special events. It is the 'What's Happening' guide to the installations Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities.

The PREVIEW is now available on-line as a downloadable PDF.

<http://www.drum.army.mil/mwr/Information/March%2008.pdf>

## **Operation Homefront/CinCHouse.com** **Launch Military Motherhood Award**

**\$5,000 cash, celebration with members of Congress and other honors**

SANTA ANA, CA – To recognize the moms who always manage to put their families first through all the challenges of a military lifestyle, Operation Homefront and CinCHouse.com are accepting nominations for their inaugural Military Motherhood Award. The winning mom will be awarded \$5,000 and flown to Washington, D.C. for a May 8, awards ceremony. The event will be co-hosted by Congresswoman Susan Davis (D-Calif.) and Sen. Mel Martinez (R-Fla.), both members of Operation Homefront's Congressional Advisory Board.

Sponsored by Lockheed Martin, this essay contest pays tribute to military wives and women in uniform with children. It's a celebration of their triumphs and a chance to honor their sacrifices as they support their country and their families. The Army Times Publishing Company is also supporting the event through their various publications with efforts to encourage service members to nominate their spouse.

Nominations to the Military Motherhood Award will be accepted on CinCHouse.com through the month of March. Anyone may nominate their spouse, a friend or themselves. Operation Homefront will then select the top 20 nominations and allow the CinCHouse community to vote for the top five. Our panel of judges will then select the winner.

To nominate someone for the Military Motherhood Award, please visit [www.cinchouse.com](http://www.cinchouse.com) <<http://www.cinchouse.com>> . For more information about the contest and event, please contact Meredith Leyva at 757-410-4926 or [meredith@oeprationhomefront.net](mailto:meredith@oeprationhomefront.net) <<mailto:meredith@oeprationhomefront.net>> . For more information on all of Operation Homefront's programs for troops and wounded warriors, please visit [www.operationhomefront.net](http://www.operationhomefront.net) <<http://www.operationhomefront.net>> .

**NOMINATE YOUR MOM TODAY!!!!!!!!!!**

# 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?** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PORJECT 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.)