

**New York**



**December 2007**



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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

Throughout the world, in every nation, from every heart, one prayer... That all people live in freedom, and peace reign everywhere! From our Family to yours  
Happy Holidays!!!

## 2007 New York National Guard Youth Symposium

Our 2nd annual youth symposium was a great success. I want to thank everyone that helped support this great event and for all your hard work and dedication to our National Guard Youth!!

Dyette Putnam, The Family Program Staff, Operation Military Kids, DMNA Staff, The New York State Police, Jay Belifore and the Civil Air Patrol Color Guard.

You made a difference in these children's lives!!!

**UNITY IS STRENGTH!!!**

**THANK YOU!!!**



## Wants vs. Needs: How Parents Can Help Kids Find a Balance

With the annual holiday gift-giving season fast approaching, kids across the Western hemisphere are clamoring for all kinds of things they really need (and a few things they want, too). Teaching them the difference between their wants and needs, and also that both are okay, is challenging for parents any time of year, but especially so right now. Here are tips to help teach your kids (and to remind yourself) that wants are perfectly normal, but are not the same thing as needs.

Whatever your financial situation might be, it's a good idea to establish a budget that allows you to save some, share some, and spend some. This practice will help you identify your needs and set parameters regarding your wants. You can get going along this path by checking out Nathan Dungan's insightful Web site, Share Save Spend:

<http://www.sharesavespend.com>

### **For parents with children ages birth to 5**

\*Be a savvy shopper. If you don't do so already, check out consignment or second-hand stores specializing in children's toys, equipment, and clothing. New gadgets come out all the time for parents of young children, but many are just "more of the same."

\*Restrain yourself—and ask others to do so as well—from buying lots of gifts for babies and small children. They won't know the difference, and you won't end up with a home full of "stuff" that you rarely use.

### **For parents with children ages 6 - 9**

\*Start teaching your kids about the value of money. Talk about differences in prices and quality at the grocery store, clothing store, and toy store.

\*Discuss how your family helps those who really are in need. Whenever possible, include your children in choosing charities and benefit events in which you invest your time and to which you make financial and non cash donations.

\*Be specific in your use of the words want and need. For example, if you really want a cup of coffee while you're running errands, say as much, but don't say you need it. On the other hand, if you live in a cold climate and really need winter boots to protect your feet, be clear about that, too.

### **For parents with children ages 10 - 15**

\*Children need certain items for school and everyday life, such as school supplies, socks, and coats. Based on typical prices at the stores you frequent, set a limit on the amount you plan to spend. If your kids want more expensive brands than the ones you're willing to buy, let them know they'll have to use their own money to make up the difference in price. If they don't currently have money of their own, perhaps you can make a deal with your children to exchange their work around the house for the extra bump in price.

\*When kids this age want something, to them it often feels like a need. Have a conversation with them to find out what's underneath that feeling. Sometimes they are concerned about fitting in with a crowd. If the item fits your budget, in some cases it might be worth having the good conversation and making the investment.

\*By now, your children should know where your family donates its dollars and time. Let them help make these decisions with you whenever possible.

\*When your children receive allowances or earn money, help them think about what percentages should go toward spending, saving, and sharing so that each financial decision is intentionally made.

### **For parents with children ages 16 - 18**

\*If your teens want to work (or you want them to work), talk about what they need and want money for and how much they hope to earn. If they have valid reasons for working and are keeping up with their school work, then, if at all possible, help them find part-time jobs with a limited number of hours on school nights (10 or fewer per week) and that don't schedule them to work late.

\*Remember to have the conversation with your teens about what percentages of their earnings should go toward spending, saving, and sharing so that each of their financial decisions is made with care.

## **How Kids Can Make a Difference**

We recognize our children as our greatest resource. We understand they are the source of continuity for our families and the future leaders of our communities. We gain perspective from their simple approach to problem solving. We discover forgotten wonders through their enthusiasm for new experiences. We find strength in their amazing resilience. One of the greatest gifts we can give our children is acknowledging their capacity for giving. By recognizing their talents and instilling a desire in them to help other people, we teach our children to make a difference in the lives of their families, their friends and their communities.

The following websites present ideas, projects and opportunities for children to get involved. From volunteering in their local community to advocating for awareness and change in global social issues, the opportunities for our children to impact others are endless. Through our encouragement and support, we can empower them to “Make a Difference.”

### **PBS Kids—Volunteering: How Can I Make a Difference?**

<http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/emotions/volunteering/article3.html>

This PBS website encourages children to work with their parents to get involved and volunteer. By examining their interests, thinking about their strengths, and assessing needs in their communities children can determine where they might best fit.

### **Climate Change Kid’s Site—We Can Make a Difference**

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/kids/difference.html>

This EPA-sponsored website introduces children to the concept of global warming and presents ways they can help reduce greenhouse gases.

### **Kids Can Make a Difference**

<http://www.kidscanmakeadifference.org/cando.htm>

This website offers a program for middle and high school students so they will understand the extent of world hunger and poverty and inspire them to become involved.

### **USA Freedom Corps for Kids—How Kids Make a Difference**

<http://www.usafreedomcorpskids.gov/kids/>

This website offers ideas how children can give to their local communities through simple fundraising, donations to charity and service opportunities.

### **Just Give.org—Kids Corner**

<http://www.justgive.org/html/kidscorner/inspiringkids.html>

This site offers ways for children to make a difference through caring for animals, helping other children or protecting the environment.

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

NACCRRA is working with DoD to help those who serve in the military to find and afford child care that suits their unique needs. Through several innovative civilian/military efforts among DoD, NACCRRA, and Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, we are building the quality and capacity of child care throughout the country.

**Operation: Military Child Care:** Child care fee assistance for families of activated or deployed National Guard and Reserves for licensed child care. All income levels and ranks are eligible. Service members that are on Title 10 Orders 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)

Respectfully,

Shelly Aiken

New York National Guard

Youth Program Director

914-788-7405

# What's Happening New York

## FT.HAMILTON

We currently waive the annual registration fees for families affected by deployment.

We are providing free instructional programs

(Jiu Jitsu, Piano, and Dance, Educational Tutoring) to the children of families affected by deployment. We are currently working on building dance classes for pre-school children and language instruction classes.

In February 2008, we will begin offering SuperSaturdays (Respite care) to families affected by deployment. Families may enroll their children and enjoy the day away to catch up on much needed work. This care would be at no charge to the family.

Any family enrolled in our Child Development Center Full or Part Day program, our After School or Summer Camp program will pay the rate at the lowest end of the sliding scale.

For more information, contact us at Child and Youth Services, Suite 1B, building 137C Poly Place, Brooklyn, NY 11252 or call (718) 630-4812/4805.

## WEST POINT

Hi all! I am so thankful to be able to throw a wonderful Holiday Celebration for our special group on Saturday, the 15th of December from 5-7:30 at the Youth Center. We will have our Fabulous Santa there to make a surprise appearance and to give each child in the group a very nice Christmas gift picked out especially for them! We will also be doing great Holiday crafts, and we will have food made by the Nanuet Rotary! What a great way to kick off the season!

Please let me know if you will be able to attend the meeting and give me the names/gender/ages of your children that will be at the WFSG Holiday Celebration so I can be sure to get the right gift for everyone! If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a buzz or shoot me an email!

Happy Holidays! Tea  
Galatea Badger, MSED  
Mobilization and Deployment/  
AFTB Program Manager, Army  
Community Service  
622 Swift Rd  
West Point, NY 10996  
Ph: 845-938-5654

Email:

[Galatea.Badger@usma.edu](mailto:Galatea.Badger@usma.edu)

## FT.DRUM

Plan a day out for yourself. Book childcare at the CDC Annex for only \$3.50 per hour. Must register in advance. For more information call 772-8675.

### Post Tree Lighting Ceremony

Join us for a reception after the tree lighting ceremony, enjoy hot cocoa, cookies, snacks and have a picture taken with Santa.

Dec 5 . . . . starts at 5:15 pm

Youth Dance, Taekwondo, Skiing/Snowboarding Lessons and Home School Computer Classes Brought to you by CYS SKIES Unlimited Program

10799 N. Riva Ridge (SAS Bldg) 772-0629

### Youth Skiing/ Snowboarding Program

Jan 8 - Feb 14 - 6 weeks  
Dry Hill Ski Area, Watertown NY Must be 10 years of age and older. Choice of Tues. or Thurs. night. Fees: \$7 weekly for lift ticket using own equipment; add \$13 weekly for equipment rental.

Contact Youth Sports Office at

772-6717 to sign up.

Armed Services YMCA  
**2008 Essay Contest**  
“My Military Hero”

- ❖ Volunteers will be reading all of your essays and will award the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> favorites in each grade category with a U.S. savings Bond.
- ❖ Children of all active duty or retired military personnel from Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, Coast Guard and National Guard/Reserve families in first through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible to enter.
- ❖ Essays for entrants in grades first through eighth should submit an essay of at least 100 words but not more than 300 words.
- ❖ Essays for entrants in grades nine through 12 should submit an essay of at least 300 words but no more than 500 words.
- ❖ All mailed entries must have an essay entry form, which can be found in this packet and also on the ASYMCA Web site, [www.asymca.org](http://www.asymca.org).
- ❖ All entries must be postmarked by March 14, 2008.

**Mail Entries to:**

ASYMCA  
Attn: Essay Contest  
6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200  
Alexandria, VA 22310

- ❖ E-mail entries may be sent to [tharper@asymca.org](mailto:tharper@asymca.org) and must be received by March 14, 2008. E-mail entries still must include the entry form.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please call (703) 313-9600 ext. 10, or send an e-mail to [tharper@asymca.org](mailto:tharper@asymca.org).
- ❖ All essays become property of the Armed Services YMCA and will not be returned.
- ❖ For complete rules and entry forms, visit the Armed Services YMCA Web site at [www.asymca.org](http://www.asymca.org).



## **OUR MILITARY KIDS INC.**

Our Military Kids, Inc. a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, provides grants to school-age children (K-12) of deployed and severely injured National Guard and Reserve personnel to cover fees for tutoring, sports, and fine arts programs. These grants allow children to participate in a range of activities that might otherwise be unavailable to them because of economic hardships resulting from their parents' deployment or injury, or because they live too far from a military installation to take advantage of reduced rate or free services. Grants from Our Military Kids have enabled over 2,300 children of Guardsmen and Reservists in 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia to participate in sports, tutoring and fine arts programs.

### **The goal of the Our Military Kids program is to:**

- \*Help children and families of deployed and injured Guardsmen and Reservists maintain as normal a life as possible.
- \*The loss of the daily presence of a parent in the home is a huge stress. The worry about the deployed parent's safety and the disappointment that the missing parent cannot participate in family/school activities is significant.
- \*Art, music, and drama are wonderful outlets for a creative mind. Kids can lose themselves in the creative process, giving themselves a respite from their daily routine and stressful family concerns.
- \*For the sports-minded child, group sports are a wonderful way to balance the mind and spirit and often help a child through difficult times and situational stress.
- \*Provide assistance so children can more easily cope with the challenges and difficulties surrounding a severely injured parent.
- \*Recognize children of service members for the personal sacrifices they have made, and acknowledge them with a congratulatory letter, Our Military Kids certificate, and patch.
- \*Allow families to select an activity in their local area by providing the grant to the service provider of their choice.

If your child, or the child of someone you know, is eligible and could benefit from this grant program, please consider completing a simple one page application, and sending it along with a copy of the parent's deployment orders, documentation showing the child is a dependent of the service member (Form 1172 or copy of dependent ID card or equivalent), and documentation from the service provider outlining the program and fees associated with the activity the child has selected to Our Military Kids. Additional grant program information and the application can be found on the Our Military Kids web site [www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org) or can be obtained by contacting Our Military Kids at 703-734-6654 or toll free 866-691-6654.

**[WWW.OURMILITARYKIDS.ORG](http://WWW.OURMILITARYKIDS.ORG)**

# LINT CENTER

FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES, INC

## *Announcement of Ms. Aehee Kim Alliance Building Scholarship*

The Lint Center for National Security Studies is proud to announce the new Ms. Aehee Kim Alliance Building Scholarship based on the generosity of Ms. Aehee Kim who notified Lint Center of her desire to create a scholarship. This scholarship submission closure date is 31 January 2008.

This program is offered to further the educational and career development of Counterintelligence and National Security Workers, their children and scholars of Counterintelligence and National Security while increasing, cross-cultural understanding, global insight, and national security.

Applicants will prepare a 600-800 word essay in English fully explaining one of the goals or concepts of The Lint Center for National Security Studies. This must be your thoughts, ideas or experiences pertaining to Counterintelligence, National Security, Alliance Building, and/or National Defense. Ground-breaking innovative ideas/solutions are desired. Essays will be judged on scholarly rigor, creativity and innovation. Authors are encouraged to be interdisciplinary in their thinking.

This scholarship will also have two additional questions in addition to the above:

1. How can America improve Alliances with foreign allies?
2. What have you done to improve US Alliances?

This scholarship will be \$500 for tuition and books. Additionally, the essays will be published, and the winner will have a National Security Professional designated as a mentor for one year. [Further Info:](#)

<http://www.lintcenter.org/2007/announcement-Aehee-Scholarship.doc>

### **Lint Center for National Security Studies, Inc mission:**

To create and award scholarships for Counterintelligence and National Security Workers, their children and scholars of CI and NS, to further the study National Security, cross-culture studies and global understanding.

Additionally, coordinate creation and dissemination of National Security Studies and Forum.

Profile: Scholarships, Think Tank, Community Support, Forums Conduct All Actions with Unpaid Volunteer Staff Veteran and Minority Managed

See website for other Scholarships offered and Services. [www.LintCenter.org/services.htm](http://www.LintCenter.org/services.htm)

## Holiday Gift Ideas and Recommendations

No matter how well we teach our children about the importance of family, friends, and giving during the holidays, any kid will tell you: It's about the presents! Before you hit the mall, check out our list of the season's best bets.

[http://  
fun.familyeducation.com/  
holidays-and-seasonal-vents/  
gifts/33091.html?detoured=1](http://fun.familyeducation.com/holidays-and-seasonal-vents/gifts/33091.html?detoured=1)



## Ranks & Insignia

Do you know your Ranks & Insignia? Take a look at this [Enlisted Insignia](#) chart and see how many you know.

[www.deploymentkids.com/  
images/  
insignia\\_enlisted\\_open8.gif](http://www.deploymentkids.com/images/insignia_enlisted_open8.gif)

After testing your knowledge, check the [answers](#). For more information about ranks and insignia visit DefenseLink's [ranks and insignia](#).

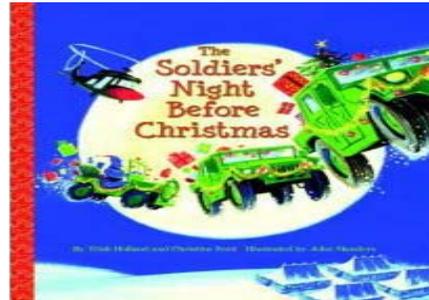
[http://www.defenselink.mil/  
specials/insignias/](http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/insignias/)

## Military Alphabet Code

Learn the military alphabet code while finding the words on this [word search puzzle](#).

[www.deploymentkids.com/  
wordsearch.pdf](http://www.deploymentkids.com/wordsearch.pdf)

# Featured Reading



This version of the Clement Moore poem takes place on a U.S. Army base in the desert. The narrator wakes up when he hears a crash, and sees a Blackhawk helicopter giving the all clear to nine Humvees and a jeep, all loaded with gifts. Sergeant McClaus calls the drivers by name: Now, Cohen! Mendoza! Woslowski! McCord! Now, Li! Watts! Donetti! And Specialist Ford! When the caravan leaves, the sergeant calls out, HAPPY CHRISTMAS, BRAVE SOLDIERS! MAY PEACE COME TO ALL! Cartoon illustrations help to make this a lighthearted, even humorous, retelling that will probably be most appreciated by military families who already know the original version.

## PROJECT PEN PAL

### **Connecting Military Children around the Globe**

With Project Pen Pal you will meet other military children around the world and in other countries. You will learn about their culture, how they live, how they feel about their schools and their hobbies. In addition, Project Pen Pal encourages you to write about your feelings and share those feelings with children from different backgrounds who are dealing with similar issues like military life and deployments and relocation, just to name a few.

We invite you to participate in this exciting project!!

**We have Pen Pals from New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, Germany, and Japan so far.**

To become a Pen Pal please fax or mail your permission slip at the end of this newsletter to:

Youth Program: Camp Smith, Bldg 501, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567:

Fax# 914-788-7407

# 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.)