



Guard en of Youth



New York National Guard Youth Program

July 2007 Issue

“Liberty is the right to choose. Freedom is the result of the right choice.”

Galaxy Purple Camp

109th AIRLIFT WING-SCOTIA NY

August 6-9 8am to 4pm

***Registration forms will be
available June 1st***

The 109th Airlift Wing will be hosting a day camp for military children ages 8 (must be 8 by August 1st) to 13 on August 6th through 9th. Military children from all branches of service are invited to attend. There are only 60 slots available and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. This camp is designed to provide military children with an understanding of military careers and activities and how we serve our local communities. There will be opportunities for children to learn ways to cope with stresses that are associated with military families and deployments. This will all be done in a fun, hands on learning environment.

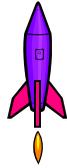
Junior Counselors will be needed. Children 13 and over can apply for the position of Junior Counselor. They will work alongside an adult Camp Counselor, assisting in leading a group of 6 to 8 campers.

For questions or registration please contact:

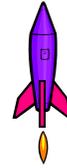
Joanna Pritchard - 109th AW

Office: (518) 344-2357

Email: joanna.pritchard@nyscot.ang.af.mil



GALAXY CAMP



**106th Rescue Wing
Air National Guard Base
Francis S. Gabreski Airport
Westhampton Beach, NY
August 7th - 9th 2007
0800 to 1600**

106th Rescue Wing Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach, NY will be hosting a camp for military children ages 8 (must be 8 by August 1st) to 13 on August 7th through 9th. Military children from all branches of service are invited to attend. There are only 40 slots available and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. This camp is designed to provide military children with an understanding of military careers and activities and how we serve our local communities. There will be opportunities for children to learn ways to cope with deployments and stresses that are associated with military families. This will all be done in a fun, hands on learning environment.

We are also accepting applications for Junior Counselors. Each Jr. Counselor will be partnered with an adult counselor to assist with leading a group of children. They must be 14 years of age (must be age 14 by August 1st) and have a willingness to lead with guidance and promote a sense of fun and excitement. After reviewing applications, applicants will be notified of decisions.

Deadline for applications is July 16th 2007

Please contact Lisa D'Agostino if you have any questions and to receive your application.

**Lisa D'Agostino
(631) 723-7133
lisa.dagostino@nysuff.ang.af.mil**



Long Island Camps and Private Schools Support our Troops

FREE SUMMER CAMPS

Dear Families,

The Long Island Camps and Private Schools organization, represent Camping on Long Island at its finest. Our organization has been active for over 50 years with a 23 camp membership. With representation in Nassau and Suffolk counties of New York, we pride ourselves on abiding by the highest standards of the American Camping Association.

To honor our troops overseas, we would like to donate a Summer Camp Experience for an immediate family member. If you would like more information and a consideration for one of our many scholarships, please call our association and speak to Cheryl at 516-623-4550. You can then expect a phone call from an age appropriate camp where the program and details will be outlined.

Happy Camping!!

Brookhaven Day Camp
Camp DeBaun
Camp Tioga Sleepaway Camp
Crestwood Country Day Camp
Driftwood Day Camp
Hampton Day CampDay
Ivy League Day Camp
Kenwal Day Camp
Mark County Day Camp
Merrick Woods Country Day Camp
North Shore Day Camp
Twin Oaks Day Camp
West Hills Day Camp



GIVE YOUR KIDS THE GIFT OF SUMMER IN THE COUNTRY!

THE FRESH AIR FUND is providing free summer experiences to New York City children from a Military family. The Fund is currently registering girls and boys ages 6 to 12 for its Friendly Town and Camping programs. On a Fresh Air Fund vacation, a child will see a world outside New York City, full of meadows, streams and lakes. Children often make friends that last forever.

FRIENDLY TOWN

In 2007, close to 5,000 children will visit volunteer host families in suburbs and small town communities across 13 states from Virginia to Maine and Canada through The Fund's Friendly Town program. Wherever children go, they may learn new skills like riding a bike, swimming or gardening. Over 65 percent of all children are reinvited to stay with host families, year after year. First time visitors are boys and girls, ages 6 to 12.

CAMPING

Each summer, thousands of children attend 4 Fresh Air sleep-away camps on a 2,300-acre site in Fishkill, New York. Special features shared by all camps include a planetarium, model farm, wilderness trail and ropes course.

Camp Hidden Valley is for boys and girls with and without special needs, eight to 12 years old

Camp Tommy is for 12- to 15-year-old boys

Camp Anita Bliss Coler is for girls, nine to 12-years old

Camp Hayden-Marks Memorial is for nine- to 12-year-old boys

Visit us a www.freshair.org

Registration begins on May 29th. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4:00pm - 7:30pm

Saturdays: 11am - 3pm

The Art and Craft of the Stone Wall

Sponsored by The Orange County Arts Council

Taught by mason and stone artist Bob Hilfiger

Participants will be rebuilding the stone wall at the Veteran's Cemetery in Goshen and the stone wall at The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor. There is no charge for workshops for veterans and families.

Workshops are scheduled for:

Saturday July 14 from 8AM-10AM
The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor
New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site

Saturday August 11 from 8AM-10AM
The Veterans Memorial Cemetery
111 Craigville Road, Goshen, NY

No experience is necessary.

The Art and Craft of the Stone Wall is part of the Orange County Art's Council's "Arts for Vets" program, in which Orange County artists work with veterans and families.



ARTS FOR VETS

To sign up for this workshop, for more information on the workshops or to volunteer to work on this project or other Arts for Vets projects contact:

Megan Cooke at 845-469-8111
artsforvets@hotmail.com

Telling Your Stories: At War and on the Home Front

Sponsored by The Orange County Arts Council

Experienced Orange County writers are offering veterans and their families ***four introductory workshops*** on beginning the writing process using snapshots, memories and letters. Workshops are free and designed to jump start the writer in all of us through oral and written exercises.

This is an opportunity to tell the stories of your experience in the military, at war and at home.

Each workshop is limited to 12 participants. No writing experience is necessary. Workshops will be scheduled in convenient Orange County locations.

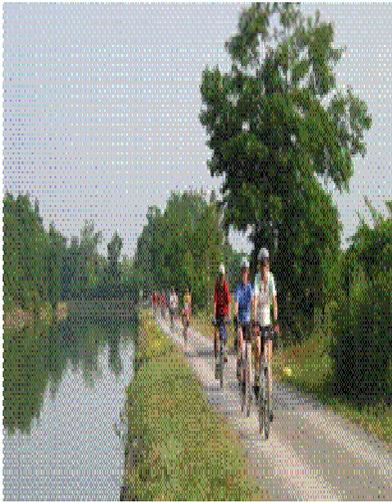
VetsWrite is part of the Orange County Art's Council's "Arts for Vets" program, in which Orange County artists work with veterans and families.



For more information on the workshops or to volunteer to work on this project or other Arts for Vets projects contact:

Megan Cooke at 845-469-8111
artsforvets@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER & CHILD YOUTH SERVICES PRESENT:



Central Park Bike Tour

July 7, 2007-1:30pm-4pm

What a Breeze...

\$35 per person

What a View..

124 WAINWRIGHT DRIVE

What a Park!

For More Info contact Rodney Boyd! @ 718-630-4923

Or Tracey Ladson @ 718-630-4518/4123

WANNA GO? LET US KNOW!!!!

SUMMER HORSE

CAMPS

English & Western Style

Riding

Grooming

Tacking

Mucking

Proper TLC

For more information
call 938-3926/446-5365

At Morgan Farm

West Point

2007 Schedule

3 Day Mini-Camps, 9am-3pm

Cost: Mil/DoD - \$135.00

Non-DoD - \$140.00

Beginner Western

July 30 - August 1

Instructor TBA

5 Day Camps, 9am-3pm

Cost: Mil/DoD - \$220.00

Non-DoD - \$225.00

Beginner Western

July 9 - 13

July 16 - 20

July 23 - 27

Instructor TBA

**No intermediate or advanced camps
are scheduled at this time.**

**Camps will be added according
to level of demand.**

On the web:

www.westpointmwr.com

A Parent's Guide to Understanding Online Acronyms

Have you ever glanced at the computer screen when your child was chatting online with a friend, and found that you couldn't understand what was being said? It may look to you like they're just typing jumbles of letters. Maybe video games and television have turned your child's brain into paste, you think. In fact, what you're seeing are acronyms for common phrases - a kind of Web shorthand. Understanding the abbreviations that your kids are using online is helpful in two ways: It helps you converse with them over text, IM, and e-mail, and it also helps you decipher what they're saying to friends. Most chat abbreviations are harmless. But did you know that kids have several ways to tell their friends that you've just walked into the room? Chances are your kids aren't hiding anything important from you - they just want their privacy. Nevertheless, it's a good idea to learn the lingo so that you can be aware of your child's online activities. Following are some of the more common acronyms kids use, sorry kids, I have kids too!!!

AAK - Asleep at the keyboard
AAR8 - At any rate
AFAIK - As far as I know
AFK - Away from keyboard
ASAP - As soon as possible
A/S/L - Age/Sex/Location
ATM - At the moment

B - Back
B4N - Bye for now
BBS - Be back soon
BC - Because
BF - Boyfriend
BFF - Best friend forever
BFN - Bye for now
BG - Big grin
BMG - Be my guest
BOTOH - But on the other hand
BRB - Be right back
BTDT - Been there, done that
BTW - By the way

CD9 - Code 9: Parents nearby
CSL - Can't stop laughing
COZ - Because
CU - See you
CUL or CUL8R - See you later

DOS - Dad over shoulder
DQMOT - Don't quote me on this

EZ - Easy
EG - Evil grin

F2F - Face to face
FAQ - Frequently asked questions
FWIW - For what it's worth
FYI - For your information

G2G - Got to go
GAL - Get a life
GF - Girlfriend
GG - Gotta go
GGN - Gotta go now
GL - Good luck
GR8 - Great
GTG - Got to go
GW - Good work

H8 - Hate
HAK - Hugs and kisses

IC - I see
IDC - I don't care
IDK - I don't know
ILY - I love you
IM - Instant message
IMHO - In my humble opinion
IMO - In my opinion
IOW - In other words
IRL - In real life

JK - Just kidding

K - Okay

L8R - Later
LOL - Laughing out loud

MIRL - Meet in real life
MorF - Male or female
MOS - Mom over shoulder

NE - Any
NBD - No big deal
NP - No problem

OIC - Oh, I see
OMG - Oh my God
OTP - On the phone

P911 - Parent emergency
PAW - Parents are watching
PIR - Parent in room
PLS - Please
PLZ - Please
POS - Parent over shoulder
POV - Point of view
PRW - Parents are watching

Q - Question

ROFL - Rolling on floor laughing
ROTFL - Rolling on the floor laughing
RL - Real life
RUOK - Are you okay?

SIT - Stay in touch
SOZ - Sorry
SYS - See you soon
S2R - Send to receive

TAFN - That's all for now
TBH - To be honest
THX - Thanks
TTFN - Ta ta for now
TTYL - Talk to you later
TY - Thank you

U - You
U2 - You too

WE - Whatever
WTG - Way to go
WTH - What the hell
WU - What's up?

XO - Hugs and kisses

Y - Why?
YT - You there?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!!!

Here are some of the great fireworks displays in NY!!

Macy's 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular

It's just not the Fourth without it. More than 80,000 dazzling explosions—Flickering Butterflies, Glittering Gems, Giant Silver Swallows, and Bursting Comets—light up the sky over the East River while millions of New Yorkers catch the show from rooftops, in parks, along the river, at the Promenade, on boats, and on NBC.

- **When:** 9 p.m.
- **Musical accompaniment:** Bring a radio wherever you decide to watch for a synchronized musical program on 1010 WINS.
- **More info:** Call 212-494-4495 or visit macys.com

The Capital District's biggest and best outdoor party!!!

Wednesday, July 4th 2007 from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Fabulous 4th & Fireworks!!! Celebrating Price Chopper's Diamond Anniversary. Featuring the Spin Doctors, at the Empire State Plaza.

Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12242
(518) 473-0559

Niagara Falls, Ontario CANADA "Fireworks over the Falls".

Fridays & Sundays May – September- Queen Victoria Park and Illumination Stage, 10p. ("The whole family will be thrilled by the free Fireworks over the Falls, every Friday and Sunday from late May until early September. Special displays are also held on U.S. and Canadian holidays: Victoria Day May 21, Memorial Day May 28, Canada Day July 1, U.S. Independence Day July 4, Canadian Civic Holiday August 6. Come out to Queen Victoria Park early to enjoy free Concerts at 8 p.m., before the Fireworks at 10:00 p.m." [More Info.](http://www.niagarafireworks.com)) 877-642-7275

The Friendship Festival: <http://www.friendshipfestival.com/>

LINKS OF THE MONTH

Family Education: SUMMER FUN and SAFTEY

<http://www.familyeducation.com/home/>

SPORTS CAMPS: Americas Largest Camp Network

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

KIDS ABOUT AND ABOUT IN NY: Family Ideas for summer

www.kidsoutandabout.com

I LOVE NY STATE FOR KIDS: Travel Fun For Kids

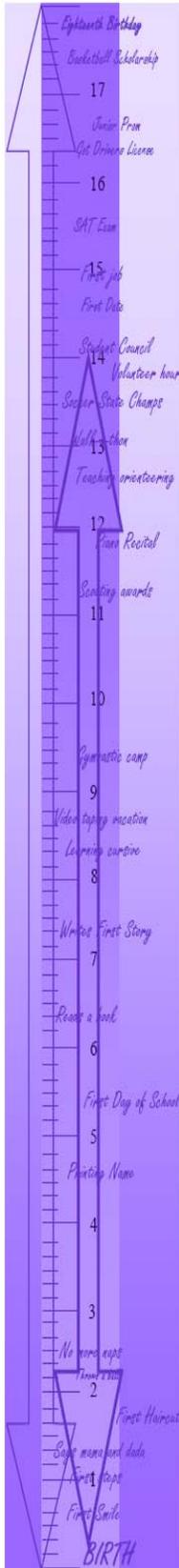
www.iloveny.com/kids/travel.asp

SUMMER READING PROGRAM: NY 2007

<http://www.summerreadingnys.org/kids/index.html>

NEW YORK STATE 4H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT:

<http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/>



FACT SHEET

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.

Child Care for Families of Severely Injured Military Service Members:

NACCRRA 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 inpatient 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

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 anytime.

Shelly Aiken New York National Guard Youth Program

Shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil

914-788-7405



Our mission is to support the social, emotional, and academic needs of National Guard children and youth

FREE SUMMER CAMPS

BIVOUC ADVENTURES

Adventures for students who live the Military Adventure

Bivouac Adventures are backcountry camping experiences for students of Military Families. These trips are designed for fun as well as for challenge, for relaxing as well as for engaging. On a Bivouac Adventure, you'll learn new skills, both for playing in the outdoors and for playing the game of life. We'll explore adventures that only military families connect to.

CAMP DATES:

July 9-13

Adirondack Canoe Trip

July 23-27

Adirondack Backpacking Trip

The Trip Cost: \$175.00 But there is **FULL FREE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!!!!**

SIGN UP TODAY!!!!

And Contact us at:

293 Troy-Schenectady Road
Latham, NY 12110

Phone: 518-783-5332

Email: info@shilohsedge.org



FREE SUMMER CAMP

CAMP TRANQUILLITY

"A Children's Camp With a Heart"

Tranquillity Camp would like to offer **FREE** scholarships for the summer of 2007 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.

2 Week Free Session for Military Kids: August 8th-22nd

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

518-634-7650

Email: campty@msn.com

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



Army Opens New Military-Only Resort

The Army recently opened the Cape Henry Inn, a military-only resort in Virginia Beach, Va. The Inn offers 120 rooms, two swimming pools, two outside cabannas, playgrounds and outside grills. The Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command plans to expand the property over the next two years with additional rooms and conference facilities.

Reservations must be made by those individuals who are Active Duty, Retired, Reserve military, or DoD civilian. For more information, visit the Cape Henry Inn website

<http://www.capehenryinn.com/> or telephone the Inn at (757) 422-8818.

The Cape Henry Inn and Beach Club...

With its prime **Chesapeake Bay setting** and comfortable accommodations, The Cape Henry Inn and Beach Club is one of the newest and most popular resort destinations on the entire Atlantic coast line.

Natural Wonders....

Enjoy the incredible bottlenose dolphins in their natural habitat, as they congregate just off the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Beach coast.

Spectacular Beach....

Get swept away by the spectacular sunrises and sunsets. Relax and sunbathe or stroll along our beach.

Year Round Destination

The Cape Henry Inn and Beach Club is a year-round resort destination offering affordable and comfortable accommodations.

Program Keeps Families Driving

Havoline with Deposit Shield motor oil brand is partnering with Operation Homefront to launch a national program called Operation Havoline Star, which will provide 1,000 free conventional oil changes, including lube and filter, at participating Texaco Xpress Lube locations. Eligible military families can receive one gift certificate for one free oil change redeemable at participating Texaco Xpress Lube locations across the country through Dec. 31, 2007. Military dependants with an active-duty service member currently deployed overseas are eligible for the program and can apply through one of Operation Homefront's 31 local chapters or on the Operation Homefront website. www.operationhomefront.net/

PROJECT PEN PAL

Connecting Military Children around the Globe

During the summer months, most parents want their school-age children to relax after the busy school year. But how can you make sure your child doesn't stop learning altogether during the summer? Pen Pals are a great way to keep your child learning thru the summer!!!

Attached at the end of newsletter is a permission slip to become a pen pal.

Sign up today, Pen pals are waiting :)

Making Friends around the world

Free College Guides Available to Military Families

College Circle is an educational website designed to provide college bound students and their parents with information about planning for and financing a college education. Students and parents can also find a selection of free booklets to help students pick the right college, find scholarships and financial aid, choose a major, and cope with the stresses of college life.

Visit: www.collegecircle.com

Scholarship and Financial Aid Resources

Starter Kit School Liaison Officer Scholarship, a compact disc which includes listings of more than 100 available scholarships. Also included on the CD are tips for winning scholarships, prioritizing, preparing, contacting schools to explore financial aid opportunities and application deadlines. This CD is available from school liaison officers.

Need a Lift, a 152-page financial aid reference guide for veterans, veterans' dependents and members of The American Legion. The manual is available for \$3.95 at the American Legion National Emblem, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or by calling 1-888-453-4466 for credit card orders. This reference guide is updated annually.

Chapters of the Association of the United States Army, the Officers' Wives Club, and the Enlisted Wives Club.

Scholarships for Military Children Program

The Scholarships for [Military Children Program](#) is offered by the [Defense Commissary Agency](#), partnered with the [Fisher House Foundation](#). Scholarships are for \$1500 and the program is open to dependent unmarried children (under the age of 23) of active duty personnel, Guard, Reserve, and retired military.

Eligibility will be determined using the DEERS database. Applicants should ensure they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current ID card.

Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the upcoming fall term. Students attending a community or junior college must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applications and instructions for the program can be downloaded from <http://www.militaryscholar.org/apply/application.shtml>. They can also be obtained at any commissary. Applications must be returned by hand or mail to a commissary.



Big Brother & Big Sister Of NYC

As Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC celebrates over 100 years of mentoring, we are proud to announce a partnership with the New York National Guard Youth Program, specifically focused on NYC children of deployed service members. We invite children of deployed service members who may need support while their parent is away from home as well as those children who have lost a family member in the line of duty, to be matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister.

A Big Brother or Big Sister is a special friend whose influence on a child's development can be powerful. In the relationship the adult serves to guide and lend a helping hand to a child. The match meets every other week to have fun and engage in activities all over the city.

TO ENROLL YOUR CHILD OR VOLUNTEER :

Call Lilli Golberg, LMSW at 212-994-7743 or email her at Lgoldberg@bigsny.org

Big Brother & Big Sister of the Capital Region

Serving 4 counties

**1492 Central Ave
Albany NY 12205
518-862-1250
Ask for Jessica**

Little Moments, Big Magic



Boys and Girls Club Of American

Boys and Girls Clubs are a safe place to learn and grow-all having while having fun. They are truly the positive place for kids. Boys and Girls Clubs have existing after school, weekend and summer programs in many communities where Military Children live. Ages 7-18. To find a club near you visit:

www.bgca.org/clubs or call 1-800-854-CLUB

YMCA

Camps, Child Care, exercise classes, aquatics, crafts and much more. If your service member is deployed, call to find out if your YMCA is giving a discounted rate.

www.ymca.net

From child care to older adult fitness, Youth in Government to camp and aquatics, Ys offer opportunities for individuals and families to grow in spirit, mind and body at every life stage.

Teens and Summer Jobs

Is your teen ready for a summer job?

Are you ready? If your family is facing the "first-job milestone," take heart: For every era that ends, a new, equally exciting one begins. Be sure to read on for all the pros and cons of summer jobs, as well as state and federal labor laws, safety tips, and more.

<http://life.familyeducation.com/teen/summer-jobs/34467.html?wtIAC=FE>Your-Child-12-18-2007-06-06.email-h>

New York National Guard Youth Program

Program Director:

Shelly Aiken
Camp Smith, Bldg 501
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
(Phone) 914-788-7405
(Fax) 914-788-7407
(Cell) 518-727-0628
shelly.m.aiken@us.army.mil
www.guardfamilyyouth.org

New York National Guard State Family Program Office

**330 Old Niskayuna Rd.
Latham, New York
12210**

Program Director:

Beverly Keating: 518-786-4525
beverly.keating@us.army.mil

Family Assistant Manager:

Patricia Bradt: 518-786-4904
Patricia.bradt@us.army.mil

Family Readiness

Assistant:

Stephanie Duell: 518-786-4774
stephanie.duell@us.army.mil

Call Toll Free:

1-877-715-7817

BE a part of the WNBA on the WNBA BE Tour! It's your chance to experience a day in the life of a WNBA superstar.

New York City, NY 7/7 - 7/8
South Street Seaport 11am-6pm
both days
(7/7) 3:30pm – Live

www.wnba.com

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 or 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 and **Please print clearly. Thanks :)**

Child's Name _____
Age/Grade _____
Hobbies/Interests _____

Do you speak or write another language besides the English language?
Yes ___ **or No** ___
If so what Language do you speak or 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 Or Call me at 914-788-7405