

New York



MARCH 2008



**Program Coordinator**

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**New York National Guard  
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**Program Director:**

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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>

# Guard En Of Youth

**The older you get, the harder your parents try to keep you little. Submitted by; Emily age 16**



## FREE SUMMER CAMPS FOR MILITARY YOUTH!!!

Many children are experiencing multiple deployments or have more than one parent or family member deployed. The stories from those who attended *Operation Purple* summer camps offer a glimpse of the heavy emotional and psychological burden that falls on the sons and daughters of those who fight America's wars. The goal of these free summer camps is to bring together youth who are experiencing some stage of a deployment and the stress that goes along with it. *Operation Purple* camps give kids the coping skills and support networks of peers to better handle life's ups and downs.

**NEW YORK WILL HOST 3 OPERATION PURPLE CAMPS FOR 2008!!**

Actual enrollment for the camps will start 24 March - 5 May 2008, families can sign up NOW to receive e-alerts from NMFA regarding the camps and enrollment. To sign up for the alerts:

Go to NMFA website: <http://www.nmfa.org>

Click on blue "Youth Initiatives" link on left  
Next click on red "Operation Purple link"  
Sign up for alert (at bottom of page)

# SHRINE CIRCUS

MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> thru MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>  
at

THE AGRI-CENTER ON THE  
FAIRGROUNDS IN HAMBURG  
5820 South Park Ave., Hamburg, NY



## SHOW TIMES - FREE PARKING

Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> ..... 10:30 am & 7:00 pm  
Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> ..... 10:30 am, 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm  
Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> ..... 10:00 am, 2:30 pm & 7:30 pm  
Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> ..... 1:30 pm & 5:30 pm

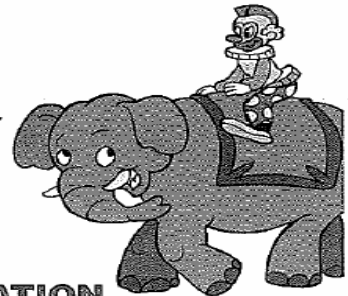
## RESERVED SEATING

Adults \$12.00      Senior Citizens \$10.00      Children Under 10 \$8.00

GROUP RATES  
AVAILABLE UPON  
REQUEST



TICKETS ON SALE AT  
SHRINE CIRCUS OFFICE  
1600 Southwestern Blvd., West Seneca, NY  
AGRI-CENTER BOX OFFICE and  
ALL TICKETS.COM LOCATIONS  
Including all Tops Friendly Markets



CALL 674-8666 FOR MORE INFORMATION

## SPECIAL MILITARY RATE

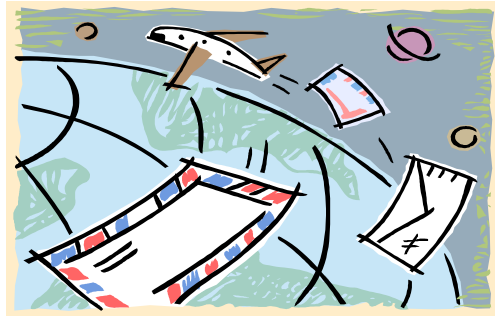
- \* Immediate Family Members of Deployed Soldiers receive FREE admission.
- \* Serving Military Members and their Immediate Family receive 1/2 Price Admission.

Show Special for: Thursday 1900 & Friday 1530

Call: Peter Pilc at 716-888-5797  
Carol Adamczak at 716-236-3411

# **PROJECT PEN PAL**

*Connecting Military Children around the Globe*



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 MANY TEENAGERS FROM NEVADA WAITING FOR PEN PALS!!!**

**We have Pen Pals from New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, California, Nevada.**

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**

**Or fax to:**

**Fax# 914-788-7407**

# **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

Search Institute® has identified the following building blocks of healthy development—known as **Developmental Assets®**—that help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.

External Assets

### Support



1. **Family support**—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
2. **Positive family communication**—Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parents.
3. **Other adult relationships**—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
4. **Caring neighborhood**—Young person experiences caring neighbors.
5. **Caring school climate**—School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
6. **Parent involvement in schooling**—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.

### Empowerment



7. **Community values youth**—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.
8. **Youth as resources**—Young people are given useful roles in the community.
9. **Service to others**—Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.
10. **Safety**—Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.

### Boundaries & Expectations



11. **Family boundaries**—Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts.
12. **School boundaries**—School provides clear rules and consequences.
13. **Neighborhood boundaries**—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.
14. **Adult role models**—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.
15. **Positive peer influence**—Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.
16. **High expectations**—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.

### Constructive Use of Time



17. **Creative activities**—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.
18. **Youth programs**—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in the community.
19. **Religious community**—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.
20. **Time at home**—Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.

Internal Assets

### Commitment to Learning



21. **Achievement Motivation**—Young person is motivated to do well in school.
22. **School Engagement**—Young person is actively engaged in learning.
23. **Homework**—Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.
24. **Bonding to school**—Young person cares about her or his school.
25. **Reading for Pleasure**—Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.

### Positive Values



26. **Caring**—Young person places high value on helping other people.
27. **Equality and social justice**—Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
28. **Integrity**—Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs.
29. **Honesty**—Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy."
30. **Responsibility**—Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.
31. **Restraint**—Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.

### Social Competencies



32. **Planning and decision making**—Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.
33. **Interpersonal Competence**—Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.
34. **Cultural Competence**—Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.
35. **Resistance skills**—Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.
36. **Peaceful conflict resolution**—Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.

### Positive Identity



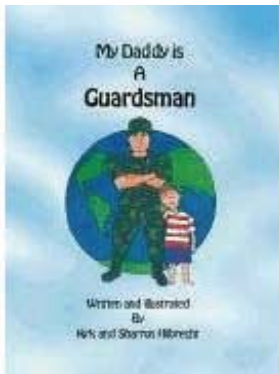
37. **Personal power**—Young person feels he or she has control over "things that happen to me."
38. **Self-esteem**—Young person reports having a high self-esteem.
39. **Sense of purpose**—Young person reports that "my life has a purpose."
40. **Positive view of personal future**—Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

It can be hard for the children of members of the National Guard to understand why Daddy or Mommy has to go away on a mission for a long time. "My Daddy is a Guardsman" lets kids know that Daddy has an important job: helping poor people around the world, capturing bad guys, and making the world a safer place to live.

*Also available*

*"My Mommy is a Guardsman"*



## **MY LITTLE MAILBOX**

What child doesn't love to receive their own mail? Now they can receive mail, just for them, as often as once a month! **My Little Mailbox** offers personalized letter mail packs, pen pal letters and holiday mail packs for kids! No two letters are exactly alike! Here are just some of the occasions you can celebrate with a personalized letter mail pack from **My Little Mailbox**: Holidays, Birthdays, Potty Training, Tooth Fairy, Starting School, and Best Wishes.

For more information, please visit:

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

## **New Journal for Military Children**

Health Net Federal Services released My Life, a Kid's Journal, designed for military children whose parent or loved one is deployed. The journal is meant to serve as a keepsake for the child or as a gift to their special person who is deployed once it's completed. To obtain copies for military children living in the TRICARE North Region, e-mail your request to:

[communications@healthnet.com](mailto:communications@healthnet.com)

To find more deployment news and resources, visit

The Deployment Center at [www.military.com/deployment](http://www.military.com/deployment)

## **AIRFORCE YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Air Force Services Family Member Programs offer a number of activities to educate, guide, and entertain the young. Programs are available throughout the year at installations throughout the world. Explore the information below or click on the images above to find out more about these great opportunities

Visit this website for more details:

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

## **Operation Kid Comfort**

The Armed Services YMCA's (ASYMCA's) Operation Kid Comfort was created in 2004 at Ft. Bragg/Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, NC and is designed to address the emotional stress that children of military personnel suffer during a parent's absence from home.

ASYMCA volunteers collect photographs from military families to make "photo transfer" quilts that feature images of the deployed family member. Photos of the deployed parent are scanned into a computer, printed and placed on the fabric. The quilt is then given to the child to play with, sleep with, or use to comfort them during their periods of grief.

If you would like a free quilt, please provide six to nine photographs of your children with the deployed parent or other family members. If possible, send the photos electronically or via mail on a disc. Scanned copies save the volunteers precious time.

To request a quilt or pillow, please visit [www.asymca.org/c4-2.html](http://www.asymca.org/c4-2.html) and send completed request form with photos to:

Susan Simms at the ASYMCA National Headquarters. Contact information for Susan Simms is 1-800-597-1260 ext 14

or [ssimms@asymca.org](mailto:ssimms@asymca.org)

## Relationships and Friendships:

### Finding Strength in Family and Community

We all experience challenging times in our lives. On this recording, therapist and bestselling author Mary Pipher offers hope and ways to help us heal and draw strength from one another as she talks about how to stay calm and take care of yourself and the people you love during difficult times; how to help your children feel safe and secure; and ways to draw strength through rituals, routines, and spirituality. Dr. Pipher's comforting words will help you through whatever hard times you may face.

Listen to individual tracks or download the CD. Please visit

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

*free to service members and their families*



## MILITARY APPERCIATION WEEKEND



March 14 thru 16 - Shawnee Mountain Ski Area in Shawnee-on-Delaware will show its support for the troops during Military Appreciation Weekend. As a special "Thank You," all active Military and their immediate family (spouse & children) will receive Free lift tickets and ski/snowboard rentals for any of these 3 days. For all retired Military and Reservists and their immediate family, a discount of 50% off lift tickets will be offered. Valid Military picture ID is required. Shawnee Mountain is located off I-80 exit 309 in Shawnee-on-Delaware. To find out more, call Shawnee Mountain at (570) 421-7231 or log on to [www.shawneemt.com](http://www.shawneemt.com)

### Part-Time Jobs

A site designed specifically for teens, students and young adults. By entering your zip code, you'll be taken to partner sites where you can do a job search for part-time jobs, summer jobs, hourly jobs, teen jobs and entry-level jobs. You can even apply online, and your application will be sent to employers within minutes. Also includes tips and advice on resumes, interviews and what to do and expect once you get that job.

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

## Complimentary Blue Star Flag



The Blue Star Flag first appeared in 1917, when Captain Robert L. Queissner, who had two sons serving on the front line, designed it as a tribute to their dedication and service. He proudly displayed this flag in the front window of his home and the flag quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in the service. Also known as a Service Flag, the blue star stands for hope and pride. **Order a complimentary Blue Star Flag** to honor your loved ones in the service by visiting:

[www.grantham.edu/promo/freebluestar.php](http://www.grantham.edu/promo/freebluestar.php)



Budweiser is honored to salute the men and women of our armed forces and their families. Throughout 2008, members of the military and as many as three direct dependents may enter any one of **Anheuser-Busch's Sea-World, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks with a single-day complimentary admission.** For your service and sacrifice, we thank you.

<http://herosalute.com/states/index.html>

# **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

622 Swift Rd

West Point, NY 10996

Ph: 845-938-5654

DSN: 688-5654

Fax: 845-938-3019

Email:

Galatea.Badger@usma.edu

# SUMMER CAMP

# 2008



**Call Central Enrollment today at  
718.630.4812 or 718.630.4805.**

## 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>

**What Can**

**Your YMCA**

**Do to Help Our Military Family Members?  
Care.**

***Be Aware.***

***Be Involved.***

**Learn more about how extended deployments affect  
military families. Visit:**

*www.asymca.org and/or www.ymca.net  
for suggested program ideas and resources.*

**YMCA**

***We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.***



# 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.)