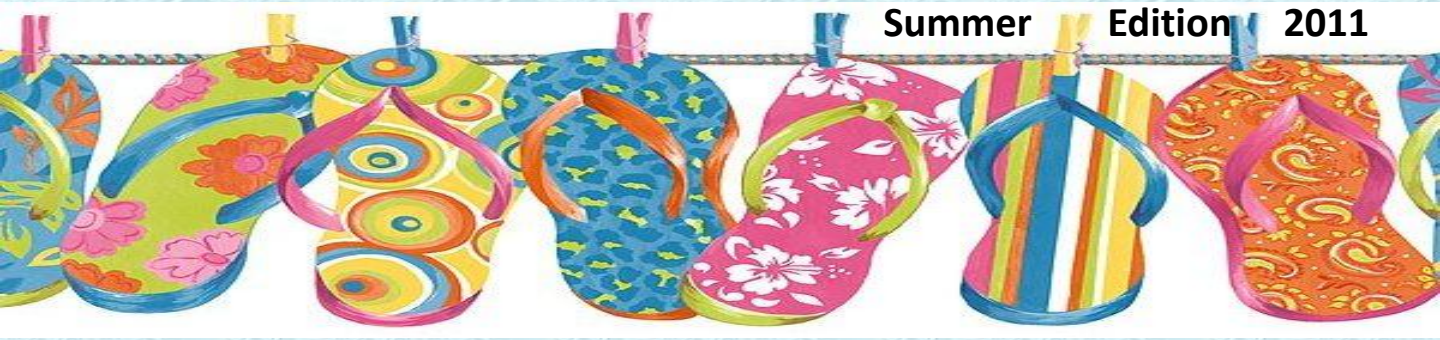
Guard En Of Youth

To Support the Social, Emotional, and Academic Needs of National Guard Children and Youth



Summer Edition 2011

Happy 236th Birthday of the United States Army

2011 Defiant Garden that was planted in May at the Connecticut St Armory by the HHC (-) 27th BSTB FRG, 4H, and several volunteers.

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Family Readiness is Key to National Guard Success

Story by: Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo - Joint Force Headquarters, NY - Dated: Sat, Apr 16, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- Developing key leaders and stronger family readiness groups was the focus for more than 180 New York National Guard family volunteers and military personnel here, April 15-17, 2011.

"A large part of the weekend is getting to meet other volunteers and learning from their experiences," said Sgt. First Class Frank White, military point of contact for the 501st Explosive Ordnance Detachment.

"This is the second deployment cycle I have gone through and I have seen a lot of changes and improvements in what the family programs offers and how beneficial it is to the family readiness groups," said White, whose unit is currently in Iraq.

At the 2011 New York National Guard Family and Youth Training Workshop participants received information briefings and discussed family program and readiness group roles and responsibilities, communication techniques, fund raising, event planning and identifying and using available resources.

"The weekend training was designed to help establish and facilitate ongoing communication, involvement, support and recognition between National Guard families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best in both," said Andrew DePalo, the New York National Guard Family Programs director.

"This is done through education, outreach services and partnerships by leveraging resources, training and constantly capitalizing on new capabilities, concepts and technological advances," DePalo added.

Since 2007, the New York National Guard Family Programs has developed a vast network of trained volunteers working with active and reserve components, government agencies, employers, veteran and volunteer service organizations, and private businesses to support New York military servicemembers and their families.

While adult volunteers focused on helping families cope with the stresses of military life and deployments, nearly 80 children, ages 6-18, shared a weekend of leadership and team building of their own.

"The Youth program provides support and skills training in leadership, mentoring and resource coordination that reflect the unique needs of military youth," said Colleen Casey, New York National Guard Child & Youth coordinator.

"We provide safe activities and a place to meet, talk and have fun with other military youth while addressing deployment issues, such as separation anxiety, increased responsibility and reintegration when a loved one returns home from mobilization," Casey said

Leaving their parents behind, the youth boarded buses and set off for the 4-H Training Center in nearby Ballston Spa.

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"The 4-H focuses on science, engineering, and technology, healthy living, and citizenship, which is a perfect fit for what we try to instill in our National Guard youth," Casey said.

The 4-H is affiliated with the Youth Program to provide resources to help dependents cope with the stress of separation during deployments.

While at the center, younger participants built bluebird houses, tied fly-fishing lures and studied insect collections as part of a natural resource lab and learned about aerodynamics while creating airplanes and helicopters out of paper and straws during an aerospace science lab. Other activities included archery, cooking and geo-caching.

"It's great to have all these kids come together, because they realize they are not alone, there are a lot of kids dealing with the same issues or circumstances, whether one parent or another is deployed or just returned," Casey said.

Teens were given classes on how to identify and protect themselves from potential dangerous practices associated with social media sites, cyber bullying and distracted driving. They were also introduced to engineering concepts. They designed and built a bionic arm using air and hydraulic pressure to create prosthetic movement and used Lego's to build a bridge.

The science curriculum was provided by Youth Extension Service, or YES, a Department of Defense program that matches up college interns with military youth.

"It was a jam-packed weekend," said Keri O'Neil, New York National Guard Child & Youth coordinator. "Seeing all the smiles on the kids faces shows we did something really special and it makes it all worthwhile."

The Youth Program offers free counseling, summer camps and support groups to help children of National Guard personnel. A youth newsletter, pen pals program and teen council help youth communicate and stay involved in issues that pertain to them.

Since the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the deployment of more than 10,000 members of the New York Army and Air National Guard to combat zones, the family program has expanded to include full-time consultants in child welfare and psychology and the establishment of professionally-staffed outreach centers around the state.

Take a Break Camp

Hosted by Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center

For Military Youth ages 8-14

More Spaces have just been made available!

To Register: Call us at (716) 549-1420

July 10 - 15, 2011

Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, Angola NY

Registration opens March 15, 2011,

Registration extended!!! Taking applications until May 30th!

First acceptance notifications will be sent May 5, 2011
First priority will be given to children experiencing deployment.

For more information:
Call Pioneer at **(716)549-1420** or
email at **info@pioneercamp.org**
www.pioneercamp.org

PIONEER

...offering multi-faceted programs and lake front facilities to all people year round!

New York District Kiwanis Foundation Inc.
Kamp Kiwanis®

FREE

OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMP
FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY & BASE PERSONNEL
AGES 8-14 AT KAMP KIWANIS IN TABERG, NY

Week 1-July 10 — July 16 **Week 2 July 17 — July 23 (accepting nut allergies)**
Week 3 July 24 — July 30 **Week 4 July 31 — August 6**

Kamp Kiwanis is located in upstate New York and provides a wide range of fun and safe activities for children. The NY District Kiwanis Foundation wish to provide this opportunity for your children to honor those people who are in the military or those who work at our military bases. Our highly trained staff are a mix of local and international college age young adults. Our staff ratios are well above those set by American Camp Association standards, providing a safe and supportive atmosphere for your children. We also serve children with a variety of special needs and camp is ADA compliant. This experience is provided to you, free of charge in the summer of 2011.

For more information, contact:
Joanne Murphy
Army National Guard Family Programs Office
518-285-5830
Joanne.m.murphy@us.army.mil

This program is the New York District Kiwanis Foundation, Inc. Kamp Kiwanis is licensed by the Oneida County Department of Health, is inspected by the Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities and is accredited by the American Camp Association.
www.kampkiwanis.org 315-336-4568 kampkiwanis@hotmail.com

OPERATION:MILITARY KIDS
FAMILY WEEKEND
DAY CAMP

Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Jefferson County

A wonderful way to just relax and connect with your family

Where? **4-H Training Center**
Saratoga Springs, NY

When? August 6 from 9AM–6:30PM (lunch and dinner provided on Saturday, lunch provided on Sunday)
August 7th from 10AM–2PM

Who? Open to military families with youth of all ages.

Cost? FREE!!!! Registration is first come first serve and limited to first 60 participants.

Come join in the activities of this two-day, family fun event and meet other military families who share your experience.

Available Activities include:

- Shooting Sports
- Geocaching
- Photography
- Hiking
- Fishing
- Mobile Tech Lab
- Arts/Crafts
- Outdoor Cooking
- Campfire

For more information or to request a registration form please contact Barbara Kessler–bdk49@cornell.edu or (315)788-8450 ext. 232

Military Child Education Coalition

Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

naccrra

Operation: Military Kids is a partnership of Army Child, Youth & School Services, 4-H National Headquarters/USDA, and Cornell University. Operation: Military Kids is now made supported by the 4-H Army Youth Development Project under Kansas State University cooperative agreement number [illegible]

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County office if you have special needs or are unable to pay.

NEW YORK GIANTS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMPS

Walgreens

New York Giants Youth Football Camps

Non-Contact Football Skills, Life Skills and Fun!
For Kids Ages 6 to 14 Years Old.

MILITARY PAY JUST $249: SUBMIT DISCOUNT CODE "MILITARY200"
Available to first 20 applicants. Register at www.NYGiantsCamps.com

CONGERS, NY: June 27-July 1
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

FREEPORT, NY: July 18-22
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

MANHATTAN, NY: July 25-29
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

OLD BROOKVILLE, NY: July 11-15
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

WHITE PLAINS, NY: July 18-22
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

NEW ROCHELLE, NY: July 25-29
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

RYE, NY: July 11-15
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

PLAINVIEW, NY: July 25-29
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

- Non-Contact Football Skills for Kids Ages 6-14
- Learn to run, throw, catch, defend and compete the New York Giants way!
- Age appropriate, station-based training for both advanced players and newcomers.
- For football instruction, athletic skill development, fitness and agility training.
- Kids gain confidence, develop skills and have a blast!

Featuring Giants Youth Camp Heroes like Stephen Baker,
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Sign up Today for the Best Week of the Summer!

Visit www.NYGiantsCamps.com or call 877-226-9919

Camp Ronald McDonald at Eagle Lake
A Project of RMHC of Northern California

August 7–12, 2011

Participants: 92 special needs youth

Ages: 8–18

***This is a military youth only camp.**
***There is no cost to attend.**

Campers will spend their days having both mountain and lakeside adventures with such adapted program activities as swimming, canoeing, kayaking, arts & crafts, drama, sports, nature walks, archery, and nutrition/cooking classes. Evening activities will include dances, talent shows, carnivals, group games and of course campfires! At night campers will reside in roomy, ventilated log cabins in bunk style beds. Each cabin cluster has a magnificent view of Eagle Lake.

Camp Ronald McDonald at Eagle Lake does not provide transportation for campers to and from camp. Please work with the California 4-H Youth Development program for details on travel reimbursement to the camp. Each camper will be eligible to receive up to $600 in travel reimbursement for mileage incurred, airfare, train, etc.

California State 4-H Youth Development Program
One Shields Ave, Davis, CA 95616-8575
(530)757-8968

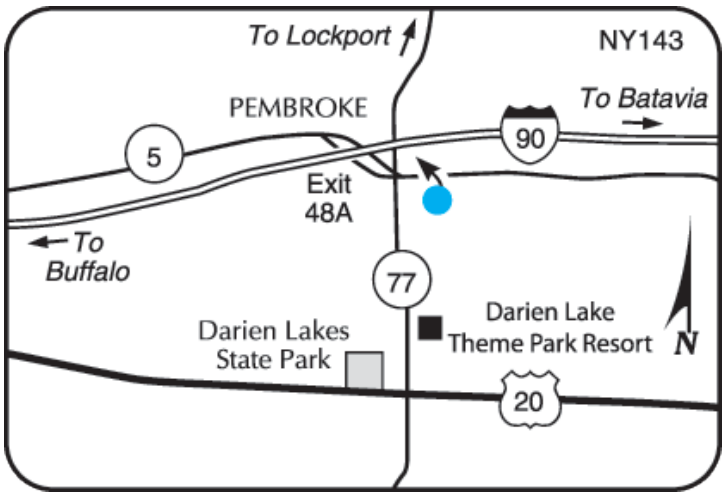
ANR Building Attn.: Crystal O'Hara
crohara@ucdavis.edu

Darien Lake is packed with over 100 rides, all new shows and attractions, including five world-class coasters, spectacular thrill rides, acres of Water Park fun, Adventure Isle for kids, and more!

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS

Valid August weekends in 2011 (Friday-Sunday)

Present this coupon and Military I.D.
at any Darien Lake ticket window
and **RECEIVE UP TO SIX (6) ALL-DAY ADMISSIONS FOR JUST $19.99* EACH!**
(Regular admission $42.99)



Less than one hour from Buffalo, Rochester & Niagara Falls!
Take I-90 to exit 48A or refer to map insert for alternate routes. Our public picnic area is located just outside the main gate at Sunshine Lake. Picnic baskets, coolers and grills will not be allowed in the park.

585.599.4641
GoDarienLake.com

Children 2 and under **FREE**. Extra charge attractions not included. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Coupon cannot be sold. Park hours may vary please call ahead or visit our website at **GoDarienLake.com**.

*Price subject to applicable tax.

PLU# 20600

COMING TOGETHER AROUND MILITARY FAMILIES®

DUTY TO CARE II

HONORING THE HEALER

Participants in this one day training will have opportunities to learn about self care, as well as to brainstorm strategies to develop professional resilience.

- Learn about self-care
- Find solutions to manage compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, and/or burnout
- Improve professional well being
- Explore ways to manage stress

Healthcare, Early Childhood Education, Family Support and Mental Health professionals supporting military families are invited.

New York National Guard and Reserve
September 27, 2011
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
The Century House Hotel
997 New London Road (Rt 9)
Latham, NY 12111

Register for this training online at **www.zerotothree.org/ctamf**
For Registration Questions, Contact: Secely Smith at 202-638-1144 or
mprojects@zerotothree.org

Free training for professionals. Materials and food will be provided. Free continuing education credit hours available.

YOU SERVE OUR COUNTRY.

LET BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS SERVE YOUR CHILDREN.

MISSION YOUTH OUTREACH

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

AS A MEMBER OF A MILITARY FAMILY, YOUR CHILD CAN RECEIVE A NO-COST MEMBERSHIP TO THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Clubs provide a fun, safe and supervised environment, where your child can –

- Get active with games and athletics
- Enrich creative skills
- Explore academic and career goals
- Receive the guidance of caring, adult professionals

FIND THE CLUB IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

GO TO BGCA.ORG/MILITARY OR CALL 800-854-CLUB.

MISSION: Youth Outreach is a partnership of the U.S. Armed Forces and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Boys & Girls Clubs have proudly supported the children of America's service members since 1991. Today, BGCA partners with all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces to provide critical programs, support and stability for young people. On installations around the world and in communities across the nation, Clubs are there for military youth.

A partnership between the Joint Military Services and Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Guard En Notes

Volunteer of the Quarter

Heather Horwedel is a tremendous asset to the NYNG Youth Program as an adult volunteer and is a fine example for today's youth and adults. Heather volunteers her time with the Youth Program which supports NYNG Yellow Ribbon Deployment and Reintegration and Strong Bonds events. She assists with registrations, provides child care, and participates in games and activities for all the events.

Besides volunteering for the Youth Program, Heather also volunteers for the Spina Bifida Association of Northeastern New York, Double H Hole in the Woods Ranch, Conway Circle of Performing Arts Dance Studio, and Schenectady County Community College Student Volunteer Organization.

She truly enjoys her work with the youth and her peers. She is a positive influence with children and adults. She always goes above and beyond and is helpful in any capacity needed. To know Heather – is to love her.

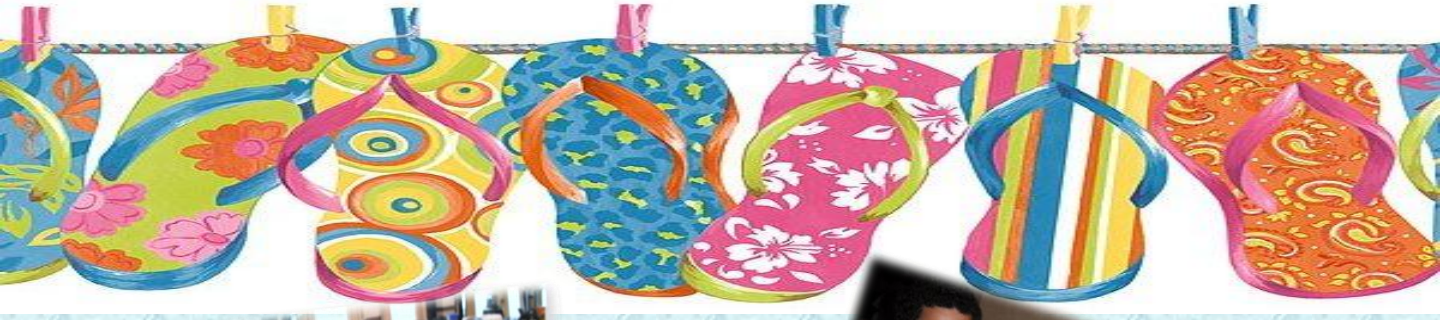
Military Child of the Quarter

Sean Carpenter is a youth volunteer and a Jr. Counselor with the Youth Program. He volunteers his time at Yellow Ribbon Pre-Deployment and Reintegration events held throughout New York State. He enjoys working with fellow Military Youth. As a Jr. Counselor, Sean is trained and certified in Red Cross Babysitting, First Aid, and CPR for infant, child, and adult. He has also taken Leadership courses.

Besides volunteering for the Youth Program, he enjoys video games, and playing soccer and baseball. Sean's very proud of his recent baseball team's Class D Section III Championship. They proceeded to the State's Semi-Finals which ended gallantly with an 18-1 season.

Sean will be entering his senior year of high school this fall. He also is a great mentor to his little brother, Neil.

Guard En Notes



442nd MP's, White Plains

Staring contest lasting over 26 minutes

827 ENG, Buffalo

Yellow Ribbon 30 Day

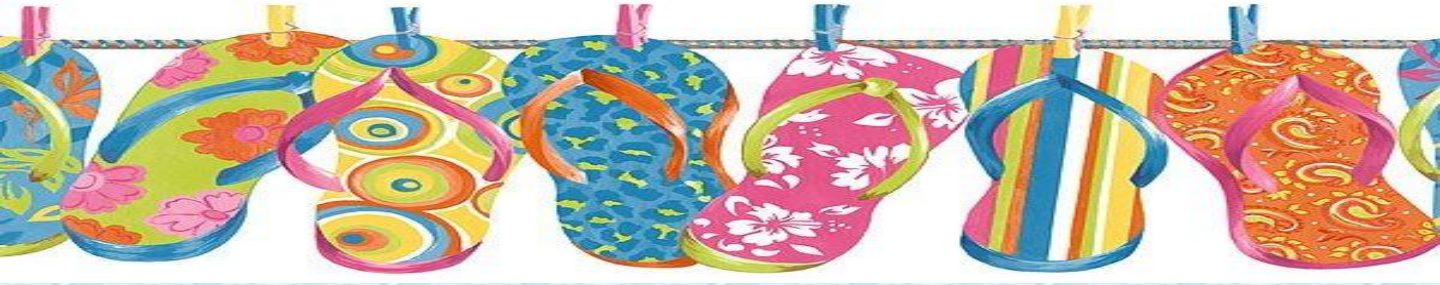
Guard En Notes

827 ENG, Kerhonkson

442nd MP's, Tarrytown

Yellow Ribbon 60 Day

Resources



- Quarterly Newsletter
- Jr. Counselor Training
- Teen Council
- Military Youth Pen Pals

Operation: Military Kids (OMK) builds partnerships to increase capacity for youth, families and communities to support youth of Military Families.

Providing high-quality, affordable military-sponsored child care subsidies for qualifying Service Members.

24/7 program offering information, referrals, and support to Service Members and their Families.

Grants available to pay the fees for children of deployed Service Members to participate in youth sports, fine arts, and tutor programs.

A national, nonprofit organization that informs, trains, and supports professionals, policymakers, and parents in their efforts to improve the lives of infants and toddlers.

Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)'s work is focused on ensuring quality educational opportunities for all military children affected by mobility, family separation, and transition.

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