

# CT Guard C.H.A.T

Children And Teens

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## Monthly CYP Event

It's the beginning of the school year and I am sure things are getting busier for you with school work and extra curricular activities. Please remember that there are grants available for extra curricular activities for up to \$500 per child through Our Military Kids. Tell your parents and have them visit [www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org) for additional information.

The CYP outing to the Rock Cats game was a ton of fun and we had great seats right behind home plate! We had a

great group of families that were able to get out and enjoy their evening.

In September we will continue our Horses to Homecoming Program: Although our original date was set for September 11<sup>th</sup> it has been changed to September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 12:00, due to the 169<sup>th</sup> AVN and 143<sup>rd</sup> LMAT Yellow Ribbon being held on the same day.

Please remember that an RSVP is required for all Child and Youth Program

activities to ensure we have proper supervision and supplies. To RSVP for any of the above events please contact Michelle McCarty at 860-524-4866 or [FACYouth@ng.army.mil](mailto:FACYouth@ng.army.mil).



Rocky the Rock Cat!

## Message from CT State Youth Coordinator



It's back to school time and Fall is just around the corner!

I know that the beginning of school is a very busy time for many. Please keep in mind that I am willing

and able to go to your child's school to talk about military children and how they can best support you and your child.

Fall will bring many activities for your youth to participate in to include our annual Fall Festival! The

Youth Council is also looking to host a group outing to Lake Compounce for their Hallowed Graveyard. Be on the lookout for many events to connect one military child to another!

Sincerely,  
Michelle McCarty

## Laugh Factory!

*Why was the clock sent to the principal's office?*

*Because he was tocking too much!*

*What is the first thing an ape learns in school?*

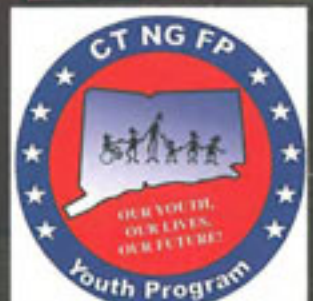
*The ape b c's*

*How do bees get to school?*

*On the school buzz!*

*Why did John walk backwards to school?*

*Because it was back to school day!*



# National Guard Youth Symposium, New Orleans, LA



Dane and Brooke at D-Day Museum



Bus Tour of Katrina Disaster



All the Youth delegates!



Pin Trading

## Child care Program for all Military Families!

### Sittercity membership at no cost to you

The Department of Defense is offering a new program to help all military families find in-home care. All Army, Marines, Navy, and Air Force families, (active, reserve and guard) are now eligible for memberships to Sittercity, which are paid by the Department of Defense. Sittercity is the nation's largest and most trusted website for finding quality local babysitters, nannies, elder care providers, dog walkers, housekeepers and tutors. Military families can now visit [www.sittercity.com/dod](http://www.sittercity.com/dod) to activate their paid membership today.

The Sittercity program provides military families

with instant access to over a million nationwide comprehensive caregiver profiles which include background checks, references, reviews, pictures and much more. Sittercity's proprietary matching technology helps families hand-select the perfect caregiver for their family. In addition, military families will be able to connect with Military Certified care-providers on Sittercity including Child Development Centers and Family Childcare Centers, as well as caregivers who are military subsidized and authorized access to a military installation.

This new program can help you find child caregivers for a number of situations such as: after-school, hourly care, school vacations, respite care during deployment, planning for

your next PCS, extended duty hours, weekend care, special needs children, or anytime a sitter is needed! The Sittercity program can also help military families who may not need childcare, but are looking for other types of care. You can find elder care providers for an aging loved one, daily dog walkers, pet sitters, tutors and even house sitters.

The Department of Defense is pleased to be able to offer this premium membership to military families at no cost. This is a web based self service solution. You make all arrangements including hiring decision and payment of caregivers.

Go to [www.sittercity.com/dod](http://www.sittercity.com/dod) to learn more and activate your mem-

## Youth Benefits

### FREE TUTORING & HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE FOR ARMY FAMILIES

- Available to ALL Army affiliated families (Military, Civilian & Contractor), regardless of deployment status or component
- 24/7, real-time, individualized, one-to-one tutoring and homework assistance with a qualified and screened tutor
- Spanish speaking tutors available (2pm-1am EST daily)



- K-12 assistance in Math, Science, Writing, Social Studies and English

- Adult assistance for college coursework and resume/job search/citizenship/standardized testing

For more information, check out the website:

[www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss\\_tutor](http://www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss_tutor)



### \$500 Grants for Extra Curricular Activities!

Our Military Kids offers grants to the children of our deployed Service Members for a number of extra curricular activities.

To see the full list of eligible activities and to apply, please visit:

[www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org)

# GUARD KIDS PAGE!

## Featured Reading



Amazon.com

Three children anticipate happy reunions with their parents, who are on active military duty abroad. When one little boy wonders, "Who is bringing chicken soup to my daddy when he has a cold?" and "Is he cozy and warm?" These things are answered as they lead to their happy reunion!



The Dog Tags for Kids Project is dedicated to helping United States Service men and women serving our country, connect with their children at home. Specially engraved Dog Tags, in the appropriate service color, are provided FREE to the Service Members for their children. Dog tags are engraved "With Love From Dad, U.S. Army, Iraq 2010."

The dog tags must come from the parents, so all dog tags are sent to Iraq, Kuwait, or Afghanistan at the request of the Service Members to send to their children; from their hearts to their children's hearts.



For more information and how to order them please visit:

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

## The First Tee Providing No Cost Services to Children

**What is The First Tee?** Since 1997, The First Tee, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, has introduced the game of golf and its values to more than 3.5 million participants in 50 states, five international locations and more than 3,500 elementary schools. The First Tee has more than 200 Chapters nationwide, each focusing on impacting the lives of young people with fun, golf-related opportunities that teach valuable life skills that can be applied on and off the golf course.



**The First Tee's Services to Military Families:** In the summer of 2009, The First Tee formed a two-year partnership with the Department of Defense to extend its proven character education and life skills programs to children of military personnel worldwide. Special focus is given to providing services to children of National Guardsmen and Reservists, the "Citizen Soldiers" who have been deployed to war in record numbers. The First Tee programs are being underwritten by the Department of Defense and are available at no cost to military personnel and their families.



**Programs Available:**  
Each program consists of several age appropriate sessions:

- **TARGET:** An introduction to The First Tee life skills experience in a fun safe environment.
- **PLAYER:** A progression of small group classes focusing on life skills and golf skills / etiquette.

**Eligibility:** School aged children of National Guardsmen and Reservists are eligible to receive The First Tee's golf and life skills program.

**Accessing Services:** Here are the simple steps for signing up your child:

- Locate your nearest Chapter of The First Tee at [www.thefirsttee.org](http://www.thefirsttee.org) and download the military coupon at [www.thefirsttee.org/military](http://www.thefirsttee.org/military)
- Make contact with The First Tee Chapter, learn the schedule of upcoming classes and bring the completed coupon to the Chapter facility
- Enroll your child in a session for no cost!



**Program Deadline:** The First Tee Military Affiliate Program is in effect through May 1, 2011.

### Support:

- The staff specialist for The First Tee's Military Affiliate Program is Dee Brady. We assist military families, units and Public Affairs Officers throughout any challenges they might encounter. [deebrady@thefirsttee.org](mailto:deebrady@thefirsttee.org) | (904) 947-4161



## FUN and GAMES



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

# September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7 CYC Meeting	8	9	10	11 169 AVN/LMAT YRP Event
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Yom Kippur
19 Horses to Homecoming	20	21 CYC Meeting	22	23 Autumn Begins	24	25 Mock Deployment at YRP Event
26 250/118 YRP Event	27	28	29	30		

## Acronym Legend

CYC- CT Youth Council      CYP- Child and Youth Program      AVN- Aviation  
SOMK- Speak Out! For Military Kids      YRRP: Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

## Schedule of Events

- September 6, 2010: Labor Day
- September 7, 2010: CYC Meeting at the Hartford Armory at 6:30 p.m.
- September 11, 2010: 169 AVN and LMAT 30 Day post-mobilization event at 9:00 a.m. at the Marriott in Windsor.
- September 18, 2010: Yom Kippur
- September 19, 2010: Horses To Homecoming at the 1st Company Governor's Horse Guard in Avon from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- September 21, 2010: CYC meeting at the Hartford Armory at 6:30 p.m.
- September 23, 2010: Autumn begins
- September 25, 2010: CYP Mock Deployment at the YRP event at the Hartford Armory from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- September 26, 2010: 250th ENG/ 118th MED 60 day post-mobilization event at 9:00 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell.

# Parent News

## Child Care Assistance

Operation Military Child Care: is a Department of Defense (DoD) initiative to support the child care needs of parents who are activated/deployed.

### WHO is eligible to participate?

Title 10 Active Duty National Guard Service Members who are deployed overseas.

### What does it offer?

At least \$100 per month per child depending on income, rank, and type of care needed.

Operation Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood: To meet their needs, the Department of Defense (DoD) has asked the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) to partner with state and local Child Care Resource & Referral agencies (CCR&Rs) to

refer military families to Nationally accredited civilian child care programs and help additional civilian child care programs in selected communities become accredited.

### WHO is eligible to participate?

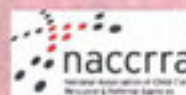
Title 32, AGR Service Members, Dual Status Technicians, and civilian technicians.

### What does it offer?

At least \$100 per month per child depending on income, rank, and type of care needed.

*Apply Online at [www.naccrra.org](http://www.naccrra.org). or call 1-800-424-2246.*

Should you have any questions regarding Child Care assistance please call Michelle McCarty at 860-524-4866.



## Pregnant or Have a New Born?



If you are, you are eligible to receive a free "Baby Bundle!" The baby bundle includes a variety of educational resources for new parents, parenting guides, books, a size chart and other goodies!

If you would like to receive a "Baby Bundle" please contact your Family Assistance Center Coordinator or contact Michelle McCarty at 860-524-4866 or [FA-CYouth@ng.army.mil](mailto:CYouth@ng.army.mil).

## COUNCIL CONNECTION

This summer, the Youth Council had a some fun with their summer picnic and the Rock Cats game and they have plans for more fun coming up this fall to include a Lake Compounce trip!

They council is working on electing new Officers for their leadership positions. We will be highlighting them in the upcoming CT Guard CHAT. The

meetings we have for September will be on the 7th and 21st at the Hartford Armory at 6:30 pm. We will introduce the new Officers, talk about College and career paths and as always have a fun time with fellow military youth!

To RSVP please contact Michelle McCarty at 860-524-4866 or email [FACYouth@ng.army.mil](mailto:FACYouth@ng.army.mil).

## Resources

Military OneSource:

1-800-342-9647

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



Military Support Program

1-866-251-2913

24/7 Counselor Assistance!



## Youth Symposium 2010

As mentioned in the previous Keeper, Danae Overton and Brooke Gilbert attended the National Guard Youth Symposium in New Orleans, LA. Through there time at symposium they experienced a tour of the Ninth ward where Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans the hardest, visited the WWII museum, attended classes that will help build their life skills, and listened to motivational speakers. But most importantly they met other military kids from the other 54 states and territories. They were able to connect with

them and build life long friendships. Danae and Brooke even have plants with Rhode Island delegates to meet up soon!

If you are interested in attending a Youth Symposium in the future I encourage you to get involved with the CT Youth Council. Next Years symposium is in Louisville, Kentucky. If you are between the ages of 11 and 18 you are eligible to join the CYC. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Hartford Armory at 6:30 pm. For more information

please call Michelle McCarty at 860-524-

# Region 1!



Region 1 delegates: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont!

## JOIN THE CT YOUTH COUNCIL (CYC)!!

If you are between the ages of 11 and 18 and are interested in meeting other youth who have a loved one in the military, whether they are deployed or not, join the CYC !!!!

For more information about the CYC, call Michelle McCarty at 860-524-4866 or email [FACYouth@ng.army.mil](mailto:FACYouth@ng.army.mil)

Life-Long Friendships!  
Military Connection  
Great Opportunities



# Join us!

**CTNG Child and Youth Program**

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Toll Free: 1-800-858-2677  
Desk: 860-524-4866  
Email: [FACYouth@ng.army.mil](mailto:FACYouth@ng.army.mil)

Our Youth, Our  
Lives, Our Future

Website:  
[www.jointservicessupport.org](http://www.jointservicessupport.org)



# National Guard Youth Website



Join the National Guard Online Community! By registering as a member, you will gain access to a wide range of National Guard Child and Youth Program resources, information, and tools.

To Register go to:

[www.jointservicessupport.org](http://www.jointservicessupport.org)

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