April is Month of the Military Child, which was established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. More than 1.7 million American children under the age of 18 have at least one parent/guardian serving in the military.

This year’s theme is “Military Kids: Heroes of the Future.” Army Garrisons, State Youth Program Coordinators, Army Reserve CYSS Coordinators, and Operation: Military Kids (OMK) State Teams plan numerous events ranging from picnics and parades to recreational fairs and fun festivals – all to recognize and applaud Families and their children for their daily sacrifices in supporting America’s Army.

We encourage you to find a way to recognize and celebrate our military children. Parents, if you are unable to find events or activities in your local area, ask your children what special activity they would like to do to celebrate their military connection. A few ideas are below.

**Month of the Military Child Recognition Ideas:**

- **Purple Up! For Military Kids on April 13th (wear purple in support of military kids)**
- **Patriotic Day (wear patriotic colors one day each week)**
- **Read a book related to military children (book list provided on page 3)**
- **Wall of Heroes (display pictures/stories of military youth and Service Members)**
- **Incorporate patriotic-themed literature into the classroom**
- **Me and My Hero Day (invite military youth and their Service Member to talk to the class about being in the military community)**
- **Create patriotic-themed posters**
- **Study symbols of patriotism in the United States**

Courtesy of: Iowa National Guard
A Month of the Military Child
Message from Lieutenant General Stultz

March 2, 2012

Army Reserve Family Programs

Dear Children of the Army Reserve:

April is the "Month of the Military Child," a time when the military and the nation honor your sacrifice, celebrate your contributions, and reaffirm that "you serve too!"

This year’s theme, "Military Kids: Heroes of the Future," is a proper reflection of how the senior leaders of the Army Reserve feel about each of you. You are our future — future leaders, future Soldiers, future entrepreneurs, and future parents of military children. Whether you choose the life of a Soldier or other pursuits, you will take with you the legacy of your military experience — growing and thriving during Family separation and challenges, demonstrated leadership skills, comfort with diversity, and a strong sense of self and commitment to community.

I have asked all Army Reserve commands and their local communities to offer special events and activities to "call you out" for all you do, day-to-day, to support your Soldier, Family, school, community, and the Army Reserve. My hope is that everyone lets you know you are an important part of the Army Reserve Family.

I also want to honor and empower your continued resilience and contributions by delivering on the promises of the Army Family Covenant. To that end, I am committed to delivering quality youth programs that build on your skills. This year, Army Reserve Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) will offer 10 Army Reserve Enrichment Camps, seven Youth Leadership, Education, and Development (YLEAD) Summits, 12 Weekend Camps, 20 School Break Camps, and many other age-appropriate activities at unit events, such as Family Days. I encourage you to sign-up and take advantage of these programs designed just for you.

We, the Army Reserve, are building the future through Army Strong children and youth. Thank you for your continued support and sacrifices for our military and our nation.

Sincerely,

Jack C. Stultz
Lieutenant General, US Army
Commanding
Month of the Military Child
Suggested Reading List

Celebrate Month of the Military Child by picking up any of these! There's something for all ages.

**My Story** By Michelle D. Sherman, PhD, DeAnne M. Sherman

**You and Your Military Hero** By Sara Jensen-Fritz, Paula Jones-Johnson, and Thea L. Zitzow

**America's White Table** By Margot Theis Raven

**My Hero: Military Kids Write About Deployment** Edited by Allen Appel and Mike Rothmiller

**You and Me Make Three** By Gwendy Mangiamele, Wendy Lokken & Edna Cucksey Stephens

**The Adventures of Brisky Bear and Trooper Dog** By Phil Calloway

**Rock USA and the American Way** By Edna Cucksey

**My Mommy Wears Combat Boots** By Sharon G. McBride

**We Serve Too** By Kathleen Edick and Paula Johnson

**The Hero In My Pocket** By Mariene Lee

**Daddy Got His Orders** By Kathy Mitchell

It's a Family Thanksgiving! A Celebration of an American Tradition for Children and Their Families By Debbie Fink

**Thumbs up to RED, WHITE & BLUE!** By Michelle Bain

**Daddy You're My Hero** By Michelle Ferguson-Cohen

**Mommy You're My Hero** By Michelle Ferguson-Cohen

**To Keep Me SAFE!** By Sarah R. Jones, M.S.

**A Year Without Dad** By Jodi Brunson

**The Bear Under the Stairs** By Helen Cooper

**Harry and the Terrible Whatzit** By Dick Gackenbach

**The Kissing Hand** By Audrey Penn

**There's an Alligator Under My Bed** By Mercer Mayer Published by E.P. Dutton

**Will I Have a Friend?** By Miriam Cohen and Lillian Hoban

Courtesy of: Iowa National Guard
Announcing...
Meet Me at Union Station
School Break Camp
Kansas City, MO
May 19, 2012

*Meet Me at Union Station* is a weekend day camp for AR youth in grades 3-8 who live in the Kansas City metro area and AR youth of attendees of a Family Programs Academy hosted by the 103D ESC Family Programs.

Union Station Kansas City is a historical landmark and civic asset renovated and reopened to the public in 1999. It features a science center, national and international traveling exhibits, a giant screen movie theater, planetarium and live theater, shops and restaurants.

**Date:** May 19, 2012  
**Place:** Union Station, Kansas City, MO  
**Questions? Contact:** jason.follett@usar.army.mil; 515.285.4692 x3043

Photographs courtesy of: [www.UnionStation.org](http://www.UnionStation.org)
Spring is almost upon us. The days are getting longer and warmer. Spring’s arrival means it is that time of year again when we seriously clean our homes. While this is a rewarding activity, it can also be a risky one. Falls, cuts, chemical burns, and electrical shock are just some of the injuries which can occur.

You can survive spring cleaning by following these safety tips.

1. You probably have lots to do so plan your work carefully - don’t try to do it all at once.
2. It may not feel overly warm but that doesn’t mean you cannot get a heat injury. Make sure you drink plenty of water. Also, don’t forget the sun block and wear a hat.
3. Carefully inspect & repair lawn equipment and tools before using. Never lay hand tools such as rakes, hoes, shovels on the ground where they can be stepped on or tripped over.
4. Wear protective clothing. Wear sturdy leather shoes, not tennis shoes, and safety glasses when operating mowers, edger’s, trimmers, or other power tools. Wear vinyl or rubber gloves when you use liquid cleaning products. Cloth or leather gloves will protect your hands from minor injuries which can occur while you are dusting, moving furnishings, and handling debris.
5. Beware of electrical hazards. Keep moisture away from electrical appliances and outlets. Don’t spray cleaning products directly onto light switches or the fuse panel area of an electrical stove. Ordinary household vacuums must not be used on damp surfaces.
6. Watch for overhead electrical hazards. Never touch a light fixture while you are on an aluminum ladder. When using an extension pole to clean ceilings or wash windows, stay away from lights and power lines.

7. Slips, trips and falls are common household accidents, and they can occur easily when the house is in disarray during spring cleaning. Keep traffic areas clear of buckets, cords, boxes and other obstacles. Clean up spills promptly, and move carefully on damp surfaces. Look over your shoulder before you back up. Many housekeeping accidents happen as a result of tripping over objects or bumping into obstacles when backing up.
8. Read the directions before using any cleaning product. When using the product, keep the work area well-ventilated. Many chemicals used for house cleaning can cause irritation to the respiratory system as well as burns to the eyes and skin. Never mix bleach and ammonia because this creates a deadly gas. Avoid using ammonia cleaning products in the bathroom at the same time as cleaning products containing bleach. Another way which this deadly mixture accidentally occurs is by pouring a bucket of ammonia cleaning product, which has been used for cleaning floors or windows, into a toilet bowl already containing a bleach product.
9. Ladders are involved in many serious injuries at home. Inspect your ladders for wear and damage and secure them when in use. Place the base of the ladder on a solid, even surface. Do not stand on the top few rungs of a ladder. Do not lean away from the ladder because this can cause it to tip over.
10. Use sturdy scaffolding and good sense when doing work at heights such as cleaning stairwell ceilings or second story windows. Consider hiring an expert for this kind of work.
11. Use proper lifting techniques when moving bags of potting soil, fertilizer, mulch, decorative stone or paving blocks. Plan how you will pick something up and where you will set it down. Get help if necessary. Use the strength in your legs, not your back, to pick up a load. Bend your knees, and keep the load close to your body.
12. Supervise children and keep cleaning chemicals and tools out of their reach.
Free Tax Filing with H&R Block Through Military OneSource!

April 17th is rapidly approaching! If you are eligible under the Military OneSource program, you can complete, save and file your 2011 Federal returns and up to three State returns online for free with the H&R Block At Home® tool. For more information, please visit www.militaryonesource.mil. If you have questions about this tax service or about your own tax returns, Military OneSource tax consultants are available 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., EST at 1-800-342-9647.

Military OneSource Program Eligibility Requirements:

- National Guard and members of the Reserve (regardless of activation status), includes members of the Coast Guard Reserve activated as part of the Department of the Navy under Title 10 authority.
- Spouses and dependent children of the services noted above, and who are authorized in DEERS.
- A family member who is taking care of the affairs of a service member (in one of the services noted above) when the service member is deployed.
- A severely injured service member of one of the services noted above, or a designated family member of a severely injured member who is incapable of handling his or her own affairs. Medically retired individuals are eligible until 180 days past their End of Tour of Service, retirement date, or discharge date.

Empowering Military Families With That Extra Edge in Learning

By Dr. J.D. Cryer

The Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics (CTLM) was started in 2007 at the University of Northern Iowa. It began with the belief that families play a critical role in their children’s education.

The CTLM has created their pioneering, research-based Making Sense: Family Resources that support military families and those who serve them as a contributor to Student Online Achievement Resources (SOAR). SOAR is an innovative project funded by the Department of Defense that focuses on engaging families in their children's learning. In conjunction with the Military Impacted School Association (MISA) and US Skills, SOAR creates a wide variety of free online educational resources available to military families. Together with the CTLM, they are proudly addressing the unique challenges facing military children in our nation’s public schools. Frequent relocations, multiple deployments, and longer tours of duty often interrupt the continuity of the military child’s education. Military children are living a lifestyle where relocation, loss, and change feel constant.

To help children succeed in this challenging lifestyle, the CTLM’s Making Sense: Family Resources, a set of videos and supplementary educational materials (activities, links, and references), provides that extra edge for military families in mathematics, literacy, and early learning.

Making Sense: Family Resources seeks to empower families who engage in their children’s learning. All materials are free to military families and those that serve them.

The Making Sense: Family Resources include:

- strategies to optimize family learning opportunities outside the classroom.
- materials that build confidence in families, helping them to stimulate conversations about mathematics and literacy.
- ideas designed to connect learning concepts to life skills.
- opportunities for families to have a positive effect on student achievement.

The CTLM also extends its reach to military families by creating additional learning opportunities outside of their regular family time and school day. Pilot projects are underway to provide resources to summer camps and after-school programs serving military children. These learning resources provide supplemental instruction in mathematics and literacy. As part of SOAR, and proudly working with the U.S. military, the CTLM is committed to supporting military families in their quest for quality educational resources for their children.

To learn more, please visit www.uni.edu/ctlm, or contact Dr. J.D. Cryer via email at jd.cryer@uni.edu or by phone at 319-273-2294.
After nearly a decade of U.S. military action in Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere, extended deployments have become a new norm - and an academic and emotional burden - for military children.

Army children coping with a parent’s long-term deployment - 19 months or more - have lower test scores than their peers, including other military children, according to a study by the RAND Corporation’s Arroyo Center. Yet their problems can fly under the radar of school staff that has not been trained to support them, researchers found.

The RAND researchers studied more than 44,000 students in North Carolina and Washington state who had parents of any rank in the active or reserve Army or Army National Guard who were deployed between 2002 and 2008. They also conducted interviews with staff at 12 schools that served high percentages of military children. According to the study, Army children falter in math and language arts performance.

This study builds on other recent work showing the strain on military families. A 2010 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that the wives of active Army members were at higher risk for a variety of mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and sleep disorders. That parent stress trickles down to school-age children, according to a 2009 study, which identified one in three elementary-age children of deployed military members as at high risk for social and psychological problems, with the risk greater for children whose remaining parents had high stress.

Moreover, military families, already a highly mobile group, tend to become more so during deployments, the report found. Students may live with a remaining parent, extended family, or friends, and change homes during the course of the year, leading to missed school. Teachers reported anecdotally in the RAND study that children of deployed personnel were more likely to miss school or homework assignments. Further, RAND researchers found regular district school staff, even those close to a military base, frequently are left out of the support loop. Children of deployed reservists are especially likely to be overlooked.

How can CYSS School Support Services help?

CYSS School Support Services works with educators to increase their understanding of the military lifestyle, deployment cycle, and school transition issues and their potential impact on the social, emotional, and academic well-being of Army Reserve children and youth. CYSS School Services Specialists provide training and resources to educators, advocate for children and parents on school and education related issues with local schools, and promote academic success by sharing information with parents and youth about educational programs and school policies and procedures.

Please feel free to contact me via email [jason.follett@usar.army.mil] and/or via phone 515.285.4692 x3043 with any academic questions and/or concerns.
Resource Tree

Tutor.com
www.tutor.com
Tutor.com provides military children, dependents, and spouses with FREE 24/7 online access to expert tutors for assistance in core subjects, test preparation, essay writing, as well as career transition resources.

Our Military Kids
www.ourmilitarykids.org
Our Military Kids provides one-time grants up to $500 for sports, fine arts, camps, and tutoring programs. Children aged 3-18 years, who have a parent currently deployed overseas with the National Guard or Reserve, as well as those who have a Wounded Warrior parent may apply.

MilitaryKidsConnect (MKC)
www.militarykidsconnect.org
MilitaryKidsConnect (MKC) is an online community of military children (ages 6-17) that provides access to age-appropriate resources to support children from pre-deployment, through a parent's or caregiver's return. The website offers military children an online community where they can learn about deployments, recognize and share feelings, and develop coping skills.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters
www.bbbsa.org
Big Brothers Big Sisters matches children ages 6 through 18 with mentors in professionally supported one-to-one relationships. They have volunteer programs in communities across the country.

Child Abuse ... It's No Secret
EVERYONE CAN HELP

Child abuse is no secret. We've all heard about it.
We need to motivate everyone to take positive action to reduce child abuse and neglect.
The safety and health of the Army's children rest in all of our hands.

Recognize the signs ... report abuse and neglect.
Announcements

Four Star Leadership Program
July 14-20, 2012
Application Deadline: April 27
FOUR STAR LEADERSHIP WITH GENERAL TOMMY FRANKS is a world-class summer leadership program that offers leadership training, policy debate, and speech competition to 50 top high school students. It is an all-inclusive program (tuition, room, board, travel, and fees) that is free to all students selected to participate. Students have the opportunity to earn scholarships and obtain internships. Please visit www.fourstarleader.com.

American Legion Boys State - Iowa
June 10-15, 2012
Camp Dodge, Johnston, IA
Registration deadline: May 30
Eligibility — Young men who've completed their junior year of high school and have at least 1 semester of school left. http://www.ialegion.org/boys_state.htm. Sponsorships available. Please contact Kathy Nees, State Director at 515-282-5068.

Fort Des Moines Museum Summer Camps - Des Moines, IA
One-day, two-day, and one-week camp available for youth grades 1st-8th. Camp information and registration available at http://www.fortdesmoines.org/events.shtml. Scholarships for camp registration fees available on a need, first come, first serve basis. Please call 282-8060 for more information.

Career Workshop - Lincoln, NE
April 17, 2012, 3 p.m.-6 p.m.
(National Guard Armory, 1776 North 10th St., Lincoln, NE)
Career Workshop for current and former military service members and spouses. Community and service organizations representing a variety of resources will be on hand. This event is FREE. Contact Karen Mosier at 402-471-2278 or Karen.Mosier@nebraska.gov for more information. No pre-registration necessary.

Hiring Fair - Lincoln, NE
April 24, 2012, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Lancaster Event Center (4100 North 84th St., Lincoln, NE)
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Hiring Our Heroes Hiring Fair is for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members, and eligible spouses. Job seekers are strongly encouraged to register for FREE at HoH.GreatJob.net. For more information, visit www.uschamber.com/hiringourheroes.

Bike Rodeo - Cedar Rapids, IA
April 28, 2012, 10 a.m.-noon
3165 Edgewood Parkway SW, Cedar Rapids, IA52404
2nd Annual Bike Rodeo. This event is FREE and will include minor bike adjustment, visit with CRPD Bike officers, and a ride with the miniature RAGBRAI course. Register To Win prizes! Bike Rodeo will be located in the parking lot of the Cedar Rapids Kaplan University Campus. Call 319-363-0481 for more information.

OMK SUMMER CAMPS ARE HERE!
Applications are available, and many are due by May 1. To check availability in your state, please click http://www.operationmilitarykids.org or the links below:

Iowa: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/programs/omkcampsopportunities.htm
Missouri: http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/military/events.htm
Nebraska: http://www.nebraskaomk.org/cgi-bin/sos_view.cgi?p=1067

NMFA—Operation Purple Summer Camps

The National Military Family Association is now accepting applications for its popular Operation Purple Summer Camps! This free summer camp program was developed by the Association to support military children, ages 7-17, dealing with the stress of war. In this ninth summer of the program, 1400 children will attend an Operation Purple camp at one of the 16 locations in 14 states: Alaska, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, North Carolina, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and West Virginia. Find a camp near you and submit your application online. Priority will be given to families with children who meet the deployment criteria and have never attended an Operation Purple camp. Visit the website to apply today!
Iowa:  [Iowa OMK– CLICK HERE!]— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

“Living in the New Normal: Practicum”
4/27/2012, 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.
Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa – Freedom Center
This training is a condensed version of the original two-day LINN training. Attendees will still receive wonderful information and resources (at no cost) related to helping youth cope with the challenges of both military and civilian life.
REGISTER:  [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org) (click on the ‘training’ tab)

*Operation Military Kids (OMK) Summer Camps*
Application deadline – 5/1/2012
Located at the Iowa 4-H Center, Madrid, IA
Camp dates and ages:
- June 17-23  Ages 9-11
- July 8-14    Ages 9-11
- July 22-29   Ages 12-14
[http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/programs/omkcampopportunities.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/programs/omkcampopportunities.htm)

“Living in the New Normal: Practicum”
5/5/2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sleep Inn and Suites, 2400 10th Street SW, Minot, ND 58701
This training is a condensed version of the original two-day LINN training. Attendees will still receive wonderful information and resources (at no cost) related to helping youth cope with the challenges of both military and civilian life.
REGISTER:  [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org) (click on the ‘training’ tab)

Minnesota:  [Minnesota OMK– CLICK HERE!]— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

*Purple Up! for Military Kids Day*
4/13/2012, All day
Minnesota Operation: Military Kids will be celebrating the Month of the Military Child (in April) on Friday, April 13th. We encourage EVERYONE to wear purple on April 13th to honor our military youth who impacted by deployments. For more information for a flyer to promote the day, please contact Amber Runke at: runk0014@umn.edu.

“Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve: Institute”
5/8/2012, 8:00 a.m.-5/9/2012, 4:00 p.m.
Hotel Chequamegon - Ashland, WI
The purpose of this course is to help educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to the children and families of the National Guard and Reserve. This training is open to guidance professionals, school administration and other caring adults interested in learning more about the military child. Where: Hotel Chequamegon - 101 Lake Shore Drive West - Ashland, WI 54806. Attendance Requirement: 95% attendance is required to receive institute credit and course materials. Cost: FREE! For more information about this training or other professional development opportunities, please contact Joe Clever at: 254-953-1923 or Joe.Clever@militarychild.org.  REGISTER:  [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org) (click on the ‘training’ tab). Limited seats available! Register early!
"Living in the New Normal: Helping Children Thrive in Good and Challenging Times Practicum"
5/10/2012, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Hotel Chequamegon - Ashland, WI
This training is designed for Family Readiness Group leaders, first responders and other concerned adults to gain strategies and practical applications to increase resilience in military-connected children. Date: May 10, 2012 Registration and Breakfast: 8:00 - 8:30 AM Institute Training: 8:30 - 4:00 PM Place: Hotel Chequamegon - 101 Lake Shore Drive West - Ashland, WI 54806 Attendance Requirement: 95% attendance is required to receive institute credit and course materials. Cost: FREE! For more information about this training or other professional development opportunities, please contact Joe Clever at: 254-953-1923 or Joe.Clever@militarychild.org. REGISTER: www.militarychild.org (click on the ‘training’ tab). Limited seats available! Register early!

Missouri: Missouri OMK- CLICK HERE!— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

SOMK Service Projects
4/7/2012, 11:00-3:00 p.m.
Flat Branch Park, Columbia, Missouri
Columbia clean-up. If there are other areas of the state that would like to participate in a clean-up in their local areas, they can do this on 4/7/12. Abby Rolbieck at ajrzqd@mail.missouri.edu.

Purple Up! For Military Kids
4/13/2012, All day
Inviting OMK programs across the country
April marks the nation’s “Month of the Military Child,” a time to honor youth impacted by deployment. In celebration, New Hampshire Operation: Military Kids (OMK), part of the 4-H Youth Development program of UNH Cooperative Extension, is inviting OMK programs across the country to join in the 2nd annual “Purple Up! For Military Kids.” We are encouraging everyone across the state of Missouri to wear purple on Friday, April 13, as a visible way to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue. OMK hopes everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate these young heroes. http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/military/events/docs/Purple-Up-flyer2012.pdf

Healthy Kids Day
4/28/2012, 11:00-1:00 p.m.
YMCA in Kansas City
The L/RSN in partnership with the YMCA will hold a Healthy Kids Day. Events will include healthy eating, exercise and having fun. POC Pam Howe phouwe@ksu.edu.

Month of the Military Child Celebration
4/21/2012, 6:10-10:00 p.m.
Royals Stadium, Kansas City, MO
This will be an evening of fun, fellowship, and thank-you to the military families. POC Darcy Seitz, darcy.i.seitz@us.army.mil.

Nebraska: Nebraska OMK- CLICK HERE!— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

North Platte Rec.- Easter Egg Hunt
4/5/2012, 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
North Platte Recreation Center, 1300 South McDonald Rd., North Platte, NE
Bring your little ones to hunt for the specially marked Easter Eggs and win a prize. This “hunt” will be held on the South lawn of the Rec Center or in the gym in case of inclement weather. You won’t want to miss the action. Hunt starts at 1:00 pm sharp! For children not yet in school, the cost is FREE. For more information, please call 308-535-6772 or visit: http://www.ci.northplatte.ne.us/files/leisure/brochure_rec_winter_2012.pdf.
Month of the Military Child Proclamation Signing
4/11/2012, 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol Building, 1445 K Street, Lincoln, NE 68509
Proclamation Signing by the Governor for the Month of the Military Child. Military children will be honored at this ceremony with a parade around the Capitol. There will be refreshments available before the proclamation signing in Room 1126. (To get to Room 1126, go through the lower south entrance doors, turn left, first room on the left.) Please RSVP to Jessica Cooley at 402-309-7338 or jess.shottenkirk@us.army.mil.

Kids Night Out
4/13/2012, 5:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
UNL Campus Recreation Center, 841 N. 14th Street, Lincoln, NE
Kids Night Out (KNO) offers youth a fun and exciting Friday night away from mom and dad for ages 6-12. KNO will be held on one Friday night per month. To start the evening, pizza and a drink will be provided to all participants. Kids will have the opportunity to participate in crafts, games and activities within the Recreation center reflecting the theme for the night. Games and activities range from relay races, Limbo, Dodge ball, and much more! To cap the night off, each KNO will feature a kid-favorite movie. KNO staff to participant ratio is maintained at a low level and consists of both college students and professional staff. Parents drop your kids off for an evening of fun and excitement, while you enjoy a night out without the kids. Registration Deadline: Wednesday prior to each event. Cost: $16 UNL student and CREC member; $24 general public. For more information, please visit: http://crec.unl.edu/youth/kidsnight.shtml

UNL Campus Rec.- Family Swim Night
4/13/2012, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
UNL Mable Lee Hall Pool, 15th & W Street, Lincoln, NE
An evening of fun in the pool for the whole family! No pre-registration is required! FREE for UNL Community Members with N-Card. $6.00/person for General Public & Guests. For more information please visit: http://crec.unl.edu/aquatics/familyswim.shtml

North Dakota: North Dakota OMK— CLICK HERE!— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

Beautiful Child Photo Shoot & Activity Fair
4/3/2012, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Liberty Square @ Grand Forks Air Force Base
Beautiful Child Photo Shoot & Activity Fair An evening of family fun! Participate in card making with the MTL, fingerpainting, games, decorate cookies, physical activities and more! Where: Liberty Square @ Grand Forks Air Force Base. Who: Military children ages infant-elementary. For more info: Call Kelly Painter at 701-747-4484 or email: kelly.painter@us.af.mil

Purple Up! for Military Kids Day
4/13/2012, All day
North Dakota
Wear PURPLE today to show your support and thank military kids for their service! Who: All North Dakotans

Red Cross Babysitter's Course
4/14/2012, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Comfort Inn, Bismarck, ND
Where: Comfort Inn Conference Room E, 1030 East Interstate Ave., Bismarck, ND. Who: Military youth ages 11-15. This is a FREE training! Limited spaces available so call soon! For Registration and Info: Call Jessi 701-333-4822 or email j.clarkwoinarowicz@us.army.mil
Living in the New Normal Institute: Helping children Thrive in Good and Challenging Times – MCEC Training
4/19/2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4/20/12, 4:00 p.m.
Wahpeton Baymont Inn and Suites, 1800 Two Ten Drive, Wahpeton, ND
A two-day MCEC workshop outlining specific community resources, deployment info, and strategies for encouraging resilience Who: Anyone interested in supporting military children. SCEUs available
REGISTER: www.militarychild.org (click on the ‘training’ tab). For more information click on the link on the Welcome page.

4-H Aerospace Event
4/29/2012, 11:30 a.m.-4/30/2012, 12:00 p.m.
UND School of Aerospace, Grand Forks, ND
Are you interested in the field of aerospace? Learn about aircraft structure, navigation, air traffic control, take the controls in a simulator, and much more! Who: Youth age 12-15. For more information click on Welcome Page. To Register: https://nd.4online.com. Tuition Assistance may be available for Military youth. Contact Diane at 701-231-9601.

4-H SE Activity Day
5/5/2012, 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Lisbon High School, Lisbon, ND
4-H SE Activity Day - Come try out a sample of hands-on activities. Who: Youth ages 5 and older. For Info, please contact: Roberta Hopkins 701-683-6128 or email Roberta.hopkins@ndsu.edu.

South Dakota: South Dakota OMK – CLICK HERE!— OMK has a compiled list of events throughout the state!

4th Annual Month of the Military Story Time
April, All Month
OMK is requesting libraries across the state to include the reading of the following books as part of their story time during April, or, if they do not have a story time, create one, to help honor our military kids: The Adventures of Brisky Bear & Trooper Dog Back Home Again, by Steve Bolt; Havoc at the Hillside Market by Melissa Halas-Liangissa; and My Story: Blogs by Four Military Teens. Every library and school that participates will be awarded the book selections to keep as part of the circulation. OMK is hopeful that each location will find someone associated with military service in their community to read these stories to the children. To receive your free books please send a short program description, which should include dates, times, and locations of events to stacia.mcgourty@state.sd.us.

Purple Up! for Military Kids Day
4/13/2012, All Day
All citizens of South Dakota are encouraged to wear purple to show support of our military kids and to honor and thank them for their sacrifices. Purple t-shirts are available for purchase in the Sioux Falls and Rapid City areas. For more information, please contact Sheila Snyder at sheila.snyder@sdstate.edu.

You may also be interested in checking the following links regularly for events in your area:

CYSS Events
https://www.cyssevents.com

Operation Military Kids calendar for your state
www.operationmilitarykids.org/public/states.aspx

YMCA
www.ymca.net/

4-H
www.4-h.org/
Children are the world’s most valuable resource
and its best hope for the future.

John F. Kennedy

The mission of Army Reserve Child, Youth & School Services is to support readiness and quality of life by reducing the conflict between Military Mission requirements and parental responsibilities.

We offer:

- Child Care Solutions;
- Unit & Command Support;
- Youth Development Opportunities; and
- School Support Services

Please contact your:

**Youth Services Specialists (YSS)**

**Courtney M. Adams**
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**School Services Specialist (SSS)**

**Jason Follett**
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**CYSS Information:** [http://arfp.org/cyss.html](http://arfp.org/cyss.html)

**CYSS Events:** [https://www.cyssevents.com](https://www.cyssevents.com)

If you do not reside in the states listed, the CYSS Staff can put you in contact with the YSS or SSS in your area.