

FAMILY TIES MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY PROGRAM

September 2012

Volume 55



Adjutant General & Mrs. Rice Visit to the Military & Family Support Center

By Mrs. Nancy Rice



On 14 August 2012, my husband and I had the honor and pleasure of visiting the Military and Family Support Center in Wellesley, Mass. This Center is the home of the Family Program under the direction of Mrs. Maureen Serrecchia and the Yellow Ribbon Program under the leadership of MAJ Christopher Hoffman. It also houses the 51st Troop Command. After a tour of the facility, we were able to meet all those involved in the support of our Family and Military Members.

In the Mass Guard, we are spread out all over the state and beyond. Many Military Members and their Families may actually live in communities where they have a civilian support system in place. But at the heart of the Mass Guard is a team of wonderful people who work hard everyday to provide services to you: the Military and Family Support Center. The essence of our military community, at the very core, is the person. You matter, and together we come together to make a difference in this world we call home. Not only are we, the family, entitled to services, we deserve them!!!

Yesterday I travelled to the top of the new World Trade Center under construction in NYC. Meeting Soldiers and Airmen, many who joined post 9-11 and in response to the attack/s on our soil, and others who are veterans of many wars- as well as our civilian uniformed services- has been extremely moving. Each one of those serving our country recognizes the importance of Family. I look forward to meeting you and serving to help you become aware of what is available to you. Families have served their countries for as long as our loved ones have responded and rallied. I look forward to hearing your personal stories and helping you become aware of how dedicated our Guard is to giving something back to you: the support and recognition you deserve.



Inside This Issue

Family Readiness	3	Family Program Calendar	9
Youth	4	PREP	10
FAC Facts	5-7	Career & Job Opportunities	11
WINGS	8	Guard Family Information	12-13



**September is
Suicide Prevention Month**

{SUICIDE}
ONE IS TOO MANY



**SPEAK UP
REACH OUT
(855) 620-ASAP
(620-2727)**

**Massachusetts
National Guard**
The Nation's First



Family Readiness Resiliency and Military Families



What is resiliency and why is it so important to Military Quality of Life? The definition of resiliency is speedy recovery from problems; the ability to recover quickly from setbacks; elasticity; the ability of matter to spring back quickly into shape after being bent or stretched.

To apply resiliency to your everyday life, first look at the benefits. It is often said that your true self emerges in the face of adversity. Bringing resiliency into your life helps you manage through the tough times. As Military Families there is nothing like the worry of deployment, or the fear of being the person left behind and life going awry without them. It is taking these hardships and bouncing back, seeing the light in the midst of the dark.

As a Military Family, the challenges you face are unique and require resiliency to effectively overcome these and thrive. Below are 10 Steps to improve resiliency for you and your Family.

FAMILY READINESS SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

LISA POTITO
Senior Family Readiness
Support Assistant
Office: 508-233-7231
Lisa.Potito@us.army.mil



KIMBERLY POTTS
26th MEB Family Readiness
Support Assistant
Office: 508-233-7707
Kimberly.A.Potts@us.army.mil

ERICA STANKIEWICZ
51st Troop Command Family
Readiness Support Assistant
Office: 508-233-7946
Erica.I.stankiewicz@us.army.mil

AMANDA CARLSON
151st RSG Family Readiness
Support Assistant
Office: 508-233-7427
Amanda.j.carlson.ctr@us.army.mil

TANYA PEREIRA
79th Troop Command Family
Readiness Support Assistant
Tanya.L.Pereira.ctr@us.army.mil

1. **Build Positive Beliefs.** Remind yourself of your strengths. Becoming confident about your ability to deal with crisis is a great way to build resilience for the future.
2. **Find Purpose in your Life.** A sense of purpose plays an important role in recovery and may include participating in activities that are meaningful to you.
3. **Develop a Strong Social Network.** Having caring, supportive people around you acts as a protective factor during times of crisis.
4. **Embrace Change.** Learning how to be flexible and to adapt will better equip you to respond to challenges.
5. **Be Optimistic.** Positive outlook does not mean ignoring the problem! It means understanding setbacks are expected and that you have the skills and abilities to combat the challenges you face.
6. **Nurture Yourself.** Focus on building your self-nurturance skills, even when you are troubled. Make time for activities that you enjoy. By taking care of your own needs, you can boost your overall health and resilience and be fully ready to face life's challenges.
7. **Develop Problem Solving Skills.** Whenever you encounter a new challenge, make a quick list of some of the potential ways you could solve the problem. Try different strategies and focus on developing a logical way to work through common problems.
8. **Establish Goals.** Resilient people are able to view situations in a realistic way and set reasonable goals to deal with the problem. When you find yourself becoming overwhelmed by a situation, take a step back to simply assess what is before you. Brainstorm possible solutions and break them down into manageable steps.
9. **Take Steps to Solve Problems.** Do not wait for a problem to go away on its own. Instead, start working on resolving the issue immediately. Focus on the progress that you have made thus far and planning your next steps, rather than becoming discouraged by the amount of work that still needs to be accomplished.
10. **Keep Working on your Skills.** Resilience may take time to build, so do not become discouraged if you still struggle to cope with problematic events.





DEBBIE WILDER
YOUTH COORDINATOR
Debra.wilder@us.army.mil
 Phone: 888-301-3103 x 7290

SUSAN LAFLAME
YOUTH COORDINATOR
Susan.l.laflame.ctr@us.army.mil
 Phone: 888-301-3103 x 7952



The Youth Program launches "Back to School Month" on Facebook. Be sure to check out our page and Like us to see all the great information this month.

We have Middle School Monday, Transition Tuesday, Wee Ones Wednesday, Teen Thursday and FUN Friday!

You will be able to see these throughout September and share with your friends and Family.

We want to see your comments, too!

See you on Facebook!



Teen Council Applications Accepted Now!

The Massachusetts Child and Youth Program is looking to establish a Council of Teens, between the ages of 13-17 in grades 9-12, to be the voice of National Guard Youth in the Commonwealth. The Teen Council will consist of National Guard Teens (dependants/siblings). Our intent is to provide leadership training in order to enable Council Teens to mentor fellow Guard Youth as well as advise our State Youth Program of current youth/teen issues and concerns. Dependant participants on the State Teen Council will be afforded an opportunity to apply to attend National Military Youth Conferences, such as next summer's National Guard Youth Symposium.

Please feel free to call our State Child and Youth Coordinators for further information:

Debra Wilder, (508) 233-7290

Susan LaFlame, (508) 233-7952



Artist for a Day at Museum of Fine Arts was a hit!

Over 40 Military children had the opportunity to tour the MFA and create their own works of art. The response was overwhelming and the feedback we received was to hold this event more frequently! The children who attended the formal program on August 18, 2012 had a special guided experience with a hands-on component.

The children were broken up into groups and escorted around the gallery by a guide. They covered Native American Art, Early American Art and Modern American Art. The guide did a great job engaging the children and capturing their imagination by telling stories of the three pieces that she had picked out and asking them to think about the pieces. As the guide and children interacted, it evolved into an animated discussion. Adults reported that as a result, they started to look at Modern Art differently and a little deeper as well!

Finally, all of the groups got together again and worked on similar art projects that were age appropriate. If you missed it this year, please remember that all National Guard members and their Families can enjoy many benefits through the Blue Star Museums Program.





Family Assistance

What's Happening Around the State

Worcester Family Assistance — Stephanie Winslow

D Co 223 MI BN has landed safely and are settling in. The FRG has a few dates they would like you to be aware of;

Saturday, September 15, 2012 Apple Picking at Honey Pot Hill Orchards, 138 Sudbury Rd, Stow, MA at 10am. Admission costs for children & chaperones paid for by FRG. Please plan on bringing items to put into gift boxes to ship to our soldiers for Halloween. More info to come!

Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 10 am -12 noon is a Halloween Party at the Wellesley Family Support Center, 14 Minuteman Lane, Wellesley, MA. At the party we will also make gift boxes of Thanksgiving items to ship to our soldiers. For more information on either of these events please email at dco223mibnfrg@gmail.com



Springfield Family Assistance — Jennifer Remillard

We are in the home stretch of the deployment for the **182nd (ENG and ENG DET) Sappers**. Homecoming is just around the corner! To help prepare you for this wonderful time Family Program is hosting two Reunion Briefs for your choice of attendance. The first will be held on Sunday, September 29th at the VFW Post 8006 in Florence from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. The second will be held on Sunday, October 14th at the Wellesley Armory from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. At each Reunion Brief you will have the benefit of hearing from speakers with the VA, local Vet Centers, Chaplain's Office, Military Family Life Consultant, Massachusetts Transition Assistant Advisor and Family Program. It is a great opportunity to get informed and to ask questions. Refreshments will be served at both events. Look for your invitation in the mail. Please contact the Springfield FAC for any questions.

Has your contact information changed during the deployment? Please remember to update your information with the Springfield FAC so that you receive your invitation to the Reunion Briefs and all the details on homecoming.

Are you attending the Big E this year? Don't forget Military Appreciation Day, sponsored by *VA New England Healthcare System*, Opening Day, Friday, September 14. Admission is free for all Active Duty Military, Coast Guard and Reserve personnel and their dependents with Military IDs. Dependents include the wife or husband of the Active Service Member and their children. Free admission is also extended to Veterans of the U.S. Military. You must be able to show a copy of a DD-214 or proof of membership in any Veteran's organization at the time of entry.

Back to school is here! If you have not already received school supplies, please stop by the Springfield FAC office to pick them up. Please call the Springfield FAC to schedule a time to stop in. The school supplies are courtesy of donations by Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree Stores.





Family Assistance

What's Happening Around the State (cont.)

Wellesley Family Assistance

Dawn Wetherbee

The **972 MPs** are in Qatar and the APO address is available. Please contact the Wellesley FAC if you need this address. Remember OPSEC! Share the address only with those you trust and please do not post it on social media sites.

The Family Readiness Group had their first virtual meeting this past month. It was well attended and after a few glitches were ironed out, it went very well. If you are unable to attend the meetings in person, the goal is to have a virtual meeting once a month so the information that is shared during the meeting can be disseminated to those who are unable to join. If you have any topic ideas for meetings or things that you would like to learn about, please do not hesitate to contact your FRG leaders!

You should be receiving emails from the Wellesley FAC and the FRG. If you have not, please contact us immediately and you will be added to the list. This type of communication allows us to disseminate information quickly and accurately to everyone. If you would prefer a phone call with the information, just let us know and we would be more than happy to accommodate that request.

Milford Family Assistance

Charlie Pinder



The **126th Military History Detachment** is getting closer to the Homecoming day and your Reunion packets will be in the mail soon. The Soldiers have been doing well and are looking forward to returning home to their Family and friends. Once they return home they will be required to attend a Reverse Soldier Readiness Process and review paperwork and information at State Headquarters. This is a one day process. They will also be required to attend a Yellow Ribbon event soon after the return home. Families are invited and encouraged to attend with their soldier and more information will be included in the Reunion packets.

Warriors in Transition and their Families will soon be receiving a Guidebook which will contain information and resources needed for a successful transition from deployment to the Warriors in Transition Program. These will also be made available at the CB-WTU town hall meetings. If you or your Family have questions regarding resources, DEERS, health insurance and more, please contact Charlie Pinder to receive your Warriors in Transition Guidebook.

If you have recently had a change in residence or an addition to your Family and need to update DEERS, please contact Charlie Pinder and he will assist you in this process.

FAC Quick Finder

Stephanie Winslow
 Worcester Family Assistance
 508-753-3164
 Stephanie.A.Cox@us.army.mil

Charlie Pinder
 Milford Family Assistance
 508-233-7358
 Charles.Pinder@us.armymil

George Pontes
 Camp Edwards Family Assistance
 508-823-0891
 George.Pontes@us.army.mil

Bethany Pinard
 Taunton Family Assistance
 508-822-6024
 Bethany.A.Pinard.ctr@us.army.mil

Dawn Wetherbee
 Wellesley Family Assistance
 508-233-7221
 Dawn.Wetherbee@us.army.mil

Jennifer Remillard
 Springfield Family Assistance
 508-233-7950
 Jennifer.Remillard@us.army.mil



Charlie Pinder and SFC Plunkett meet at the CB-WTU & provide information and resources for Wounded Warriors and Families



Family Assistance

What's Happening Around the State (cont.)

Camp Edwards Family Assistance — George Pontes

The **181st Vertical Engineers Co** is beginning its deployment this month. The Send Off ceremony is September 2nd and details have been sent through the Soldiers and to their Families. We will have Hero Packs, Wrapped up in Sports, Military Friends and Family Programs in attendance. The FRGs will have booths with refreshments as well as the one of a kind 181 Engineer (Vert) Tee-Shirts for sale. Falmouth Supports Our Troops will be helping out by manning the Back to School Supply table for us as well. The 181 is well supported by Family members so we are expecting a big turn out. The next big event is right around the corner after the Send Off as the FRGs have planned a Pot Luck Dinner on September 22nd from 4-7 PM at Camp Curtis Guild. One of the FRG leaders will be contacting you if they already haven't about this event. It will be a great chance to get to meet some of the other Families supporting the 181 Engineers. If you need further details or have any questions please contact George, the Family Assistance Center Specialist, (FAC) at (508) 823-0891 or george.pontes@us.army.mil. You can also contact one of the Family Readiness Group leaders at dee1992@aol.com, CheLee35@verizon.net, donoghue42801@yahoo.com, bdebeaucourt@comcast.net, or Terri.lynn@me.com.

387th EOD Families are getting ready for the return of their Soldiers after a year-long deployment. Families received a Reunion Pamphlet this month and which was followed up with phone calls from the FAC to clear up any questions. The Reunion Guide has a great deal of info relating to Reintegration from many sources, and all info is up to date. Of course the big question is when will the unit be arriving and that information will be shared as soon as possible. If you have any questions or ideas please contact the FAC, George, or Becca at beccawalters@comcast.net anytime.

Taunton Family Assistance — Bethany Pinard

Bethany Pinard joined the Family Program Staff on July 9th as the Taunton Family Assistance Specialist. She holds a degree in History from UMASS Dartmouth and is a certified Elementary Education teacher. Prior to accepting the FAS position, she was the FRG Chairperson for the 1-182nd Dog Company during their deployment to Afghanistan from March 2011 – March 2012. She became involved in the FRG when her son, Nicholas, joined Dog Company in February of 2011. When the Chairperson position unexpectedly became available, she gladly stepped up to the challenge and successfully led the families through the ups and downs of the unit's year-long deployment.

Being an active part of the FRG was extremely important to Bethany. She was able to use her teaching and leadership skills to help the other families deal with the day to day stressors of deployment. She states, "It gave me a great sense of accomplishment and usefulness to be able to give and receive support during a difficult time in our lives. I don't know how I would have gotten through without the FRG." It was because of her experience with the FRG that she was drawn to Family Programs. "I knew as soon as I was involved in the National Guard, that I never wanted to be anywhere else," she says. Bethany is ecstatic to be a Family Assistance Specialist, so she can continue to support military families.

Bethany has been married to her husband Wayne for 17 years. In addition to Nicholas, 21, they have another son, Nathan, who is 12 years old and two Shih Tzus, Bailee and Bella Rose. They reside in Fairhaven, MA.



Welcome to the Family Program Team, Bethany!



WING Family Programs



104th Fighter Wing—Barnes ANGB

Sandy Wakefield, Wing Family Program Coordinator



The **104th Fighter Wing** hosted a Family Day for approximately 1500 military members and their Families on August 12, 2012. Families enjoyed a wonderful cook-out, popcorn, snow cones, cotton candy, bounce houses, bank, dunking booth sports events, road race for children and adults and much more. Also attending the event in support of the Military Members and Families was Operation Military Kids, Military Friends Foundation, Boys and Girls Club, and Flo Jacksen who helped hundreds of children make beautiful bracelets and necklaces. The Family Readiness Group worked exceptionally hard serving the popcorn, snow cones and cotton candy. They also distributed school supplies donated by the Dollar Tree Stores to Military children who were returning soon to school. It was a wonderful day for all and next year should be bigger and better.

The FRG is sponsoring a Pasta Night once again on September 21, 2012 for all Military Members and their Families. Anyone in the Military is welcome to attend this event. Reservations are suggested to help with the total planning figures. If you wish to attend please contact Sandy Wakefield at 413-568-9151 or Sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil.

The Big E is once again offering free admission to Military Members on their opening day September 14, 2012. Anyone with a Military ID will be admitted free. September 27, 2012 is Westfield Day at the Big E and the 104th Fighter Wing marches in the Big E Westfield Day parade the begins at 5:00 PM. All Military members who are participating in the parade are welcome to bring their Families to also march in the parade. Family members will need to be at the Big E between 4-4:30 PM. Again, please contact Sandy Wakefield at the phone number and email address above.



102nd Intelligence Wing (102IW)

Erin Creighton, Wing Family Program Coordinator

Free Effective Parenting Class

MA Military Reservation

The Coalition for Children & Mashpee's Family & Community Partnership Presents an 8 Week Effective Parenting Class For Military Parents & Guardians with children 1 - 6 years old; with Lee Burwell *Based on the teachings of Bonnie Harris, M.Ed. Parent Educator and Author.

The Class begins Wednesday, September 26th from 9:30 am - 11:30 am Chapel Support Building - Air Station Cape Cod. The Session runs for 8 weeks.

The Art of Parenting, Making Expectations Realistic, Understanding Temperament, Connective Communication, Setting Limits Effectively, Natural and Logical Consequences, Conflict Resolution, Building Self-Esteem

Brunch, childcare & transportation available, so call now! (508) 548 0151 x 172.

Registration Information

<http://www.thecoalitionforchildren.org/parenting-registration---air-station-cape-cod.html>

The annual Family Day festivities are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012. This event, which includes a formal ceremony, food, drinks, amusements for kids, static displays and more, is a wonderful opportunity to give Families an inside look at what military members do at Otis ANGB. It is also an opportunity to say THANK YOU to your family for their unwavering support as you serve the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States of America!

WHO: Military & Civilian Employees & Family Members

WHAT: Family Day 2012

WHEN: Sunday, Sept. 16 at 10 a.m.

WHERE: Bldg 158, Hangar

WHY: Say THANK YOU to your family for their unwavering support

Schedule of Events September 2012

- **3 Sept** - Labor Day
- **11 Sept** - Patriot Day
- **12 Sept** - Job Fair, Dedham
- **13 Sept** - Job Fair, Woburn
- **14 Sept** - Military Appreciation Day, Big E
- **15 Sept** - Apple Picking, 223 MI BN FRG
- **16 Sept** - 102 IW Family Day
- **17 Sept** - Registration opens, Scholastic Art & Writing Awards
- **21-23 Sept** - Strong Bonds Weekend
- **21 Sept** - 104 FW FRG Pasta Night
- **22 Sept** - First Day of Autumn
- **22 Sept** - 181 EN Vert. FRG Potluck Dinner, Reading
- **26 Sept** - FREE Effective Parenting Class begins
- **27 Sept** - Big E Westfield Day with 104 FW Parade
- **29 Sept** - 182 EN DET Reunion Brief, Florence
- **29 Sept** - The Money Conference, Holyoke
- **29 Sept** - Bittersweet Meet & Greet, Gold Star Mother's Day, Wellesley
- **30 Sept** - Gold Star Mother's Day

SEPTEMBER 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 	12 	13 	14	15
16 	17 	18	19	20	21	22 
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 						

For more information on any of the listed events, please contact your local Family Assistance Specialist!

OCTOBER 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3	4 	5 	6
7	8	9 	10	11	12	13
14 	15	16 	17	18 	19	20 
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 
28	29	30 	31			

- **4 Oct** - National Golf Day
- **5 Oct** - World Teacher's Day
- **9 Oct** - Fire Prevention Day
- **14 Oct** - 182 EN DET Reunion Brief, Wellesley
- **16 Oct** - Job Fair, Bedford
- **18 Oct** - Job Fair, Middleton
- **20 Oct** - 223 MI BN FRG Halloween Party, Wellesley
- **27 Oct** - Navy Day
- **31 Oct** - Halloween

Marriage Enrichment (Strong Bonds) WORKSHOP: The PREP® Approach

For the first time ever we are launching a Strong Bonds Weekend for couples and providing Child care. Many have asked and we have listened. We are going to do something totally new and want to give you an opportunity to connect with your spouse. We will be running 2 Strong Bonds events at the same hotel and at the same time for you. You can choose from 2 of our most popular Strong Bonds Curriculums "PREP" (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) or "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage". With the weight of your military service and the time it pulls away from the family this is a time that you can use to get a deeper connection with your spouse.

The event will be **21 – 23 September 2012 at Bedford Double Tree**. We will offer a family Social Friday night as we kick off the Strong Bonds weekend. Saturday and Sunday meals include a family breakfast and lunch. Child care will be provided for all kids Saturday and Sunday during the training.

Hotel accommodations include 1 room per family of 4; however, if you have children over age 13 you may request an additional room. Families larger than 4 people will receive 2 rooms. Parents and/or Guardians will be responsible for the rooms and any incidentals that may accrue during your stay. Parents and/or Guardians are responsible for their children's actions during the weekend.

If you like to attend please contact CH (CPT) Jeremy Pickens or SSG Sharee Holmes at the below numbers.

Registrations will be accepted on a first come-first serve basis. Please enroll through the State Family Program Office as soon as possible.

CH (CPT) Jeremy Pickens at 508-233-7163/ jeremy.pickens@us.army.mil or
SGT Sharee Holmes at 508-233-7220/ sharee.holmes@us.army.mil.

You can also visit: www.strongbonds.org.

PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) offers a fresh approach. It is basic and straightforward. The workshop and material teach couples the skills they need to nurture a lasting love. Couples spend most of their time in special discussions or practicing skills. Key topics include expectations, commitment, forgiveness, feeling understood, and sensuality. **PREP** begins with teaching effective communication skills, addresses problem resolution strategies that work, reveals how to discover the hidden issues in every relationship, and then moves into caring, fun, and friendship.

Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage is an entertaining and informative event designed to bring hope and positive change to your marriage, improve communication, help your spouse truly understand you and your needs and rekindle the romance in your marriage. No workbooks, "emotional break-out sessions or public speaking. Session includes the "Tale of Two Brains", "Why Does He/She Do That? (the Flag Page)", "How to Stay Married and NOT Kill Anybody" and "The #1 Key to Incredible Sex!"



September and October 2012 Job & Career Fairs!



<p>Dedham, MA Sept. 12, 2012 American Legion Post #18 155 Eastern Avenue 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Woburn, MA Sept. 13, 2012 George A. Campbell American Legion Post #101 194 Lexington Street 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Bedford, MA Oct. 16, 2012 Anthony-Hunt-Hamilton American Legion Post #221 357 Great Road 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Middleton, MA Oct. 18, 2012 American Legion Post #227 69 River Street 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</p>
--	---	---	---

<p>EMPLOYERS Must register for FREE at HOH.Greatjob.net</p>	<p>JOB SEEKERS Register for FREE at HOH.Greatjob.net to guarantee admission. Walk-ins welcome but space not guaran-</p>
--	---

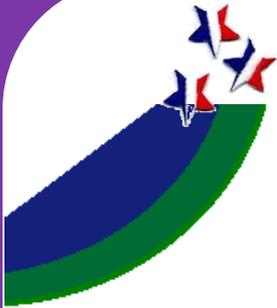
Join us for hiring fairs for veteran job seekers, active duty military, members of the National Guard and reserve components, and military spouses. These fairs are FREE for both employers and job seekers. These events are sponsored by the American Legion and conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; local Chambers of Commerce; the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS); Massachusetts Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR); the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; the Student Veterans of America; NBC News; and other local partners.

For registration questions, please contact us at
hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807.

<p>Massachusetts ESGR Ellie Cash, Program Support Specialist 50 Maple Street Milford, MA</p>	<p>508-233-7249 Direct 256-7249 DSN 888-301-3103 x 7249 Toll Free Eleanor.j.cash.ctr@us.army.mil</p>
--	---



Massachusetts ESGR has consistent job opening and career fair announcements!
 Visit <http://maesgr.com/> for the latest information.



THE MONEY CONFERENCE

Financial Empowerment for Individuals & Families

Register Today!
Register Today!

Saturday, September 29, 2012 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Holyoke Community College
303 Homestead Ave, Holyoke, MA

This is a FREE community event focusing on money management, tax preparation, credit education, and financial strategies. Residents of the Commonwealth will gain important money management skills by attending.

Special Guests include State Treasurer Steven Grossman, Holyoke Mayor Alex B. Morse and Keynote Speaker Dee Lee, CFP.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST LUNCH COMPLIMENTARY CHILD CARE DOOR PRIZES

REGISTER BY PHONE:
617-367-6900 x 615
OR ONLINE:
WWW.THEMONEYCONFERENCE.COM

Conference Topics:

- Military Family Finances
- Paying for College
- Retirement
- Taxes & Financial Goal Setting
- Credit & Debt Management
- Budgeting & Setting Financial Goals



The Money Conference in Holyoke is hosted by:
The Massachusetts State Treasurer's Office
The Massachusetts Financial Literacy Trust Fund
Holyoke Community College
The City of Holyoke



Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

All military-connected youth in grades 7 through 12 are invited to submit original art and writing to the 2013 Awards to compete for regional and national awards and scholarships (over \$25 million offered in the past five years).

Registration opens 17 September 2012.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards are the nation's largest and most prestigious source of recognition and scholarships for creative teens. To learn more apply online at: www.artandwriting.org



These announcements are provided for the benefit of members of the National Guard. It is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement by the Massachusetts National Guard, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States Armed Forces. Any participation is solely the responsibility of the individual.

In Observance Of



Gold Star Mother's Day



You are cordially invited to a "Bittersweet Meet and Greet" with the Massachusetts Community of Organizations Supporting the Families of the Fallen.



**Saturday, September 29, 2012
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
at the
Military and Family Support Center
14 Minuteman Lane
Wellesley, MA 02481**

Lunch will be provided and you are welcome to show off your culinary skills by participating in our pot luck dessert extravaganza.

Just as the Gold Star Mother's support continues beyond the life of her child, the country's support of its Mothers also endures.



We thank and honor the Survivors of Soldiers, Marines, Airmen, and Sailors. We especially thank Gold Star Mothers for supporting their children's call to serve and for their sacrifice.

Children are welcome; please RSVP by 9/21/2012 to Helon Wyllie at (508) 233-7714 or helon.wyllie@us.army.mil.

A grateful nation remembers.

104 FW Family Day



181 EN Vert. Send Off



SEPTEMBER 2012

**MASACHUSETTS
NATIONAL GUARD
FAMILY PROGRAM OFFICE**



**Find Family Program
on Facebook!**



**Email or write to us.
Your opinions matter!**

Helpful Websites

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org

Concordia Dental Plan

www.ucci.com

DEERS

www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/

EANGUS

www.eangus.org

ESGR

www.esgr.org

Guard Support of MA

www.guardsupport.org

Legal Services

www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal

Military Friends Foundation

www.militaryfriends.org

Military Child Care

www.naccrra.org

Military One Source

www.militaryonesource.com

NGB Family Online Community

www.guardfamily.org

Operation Military Kids

www.operationmilitarykids.org

Tri-Care Information

www.tricare.osd.mil

USFamily Health Plan

www.usfamilyhealth.org

Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov

Veterans Affairs Kids K-12

www.va.gov/kids

Youth Online Community

www.guardfamilyyouth.org

MANG Family Program

<http://www.massguardfamily.org>

Important Numbers

Taunton Armory

111 Hon. Gordon Owen Riverway, Taunton, MA 02780
Tel# 508-823-0891 Fax# 508-823-0892

Springfield Armory

1505 Roosevelt Avenue, Springfield, MA 01109
Tel# 508-233-7950 Fax# 508-233-7975

Wellesley Armory

14 Minuteman Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481
Tel# 508-233-7221 Fax# 508-233-7232

102D Intelligence Wing (102IW) Family Program Office

Otis Air National Guard Base
58 Reilly St, Box 70 Otis ANG Base, MA 02542
Tel# 508-968-4855

Reading Armory

25 Haverhill Street, Reading, MA 01867
Tel# 508-233-7444 Fax# 508-233-7441

Worcester Armory

50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, MA 01605
Tel# 508-753-3164 Fax# 508-753-3165

Milford Armory Headquarters

50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757
Tel# 508-233-7358 Fax# 508-233-6774

104th FW Family Program Office

Barnes Air National Guard Base
175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01085
Tel# 413-568-9151 Ext#6981183