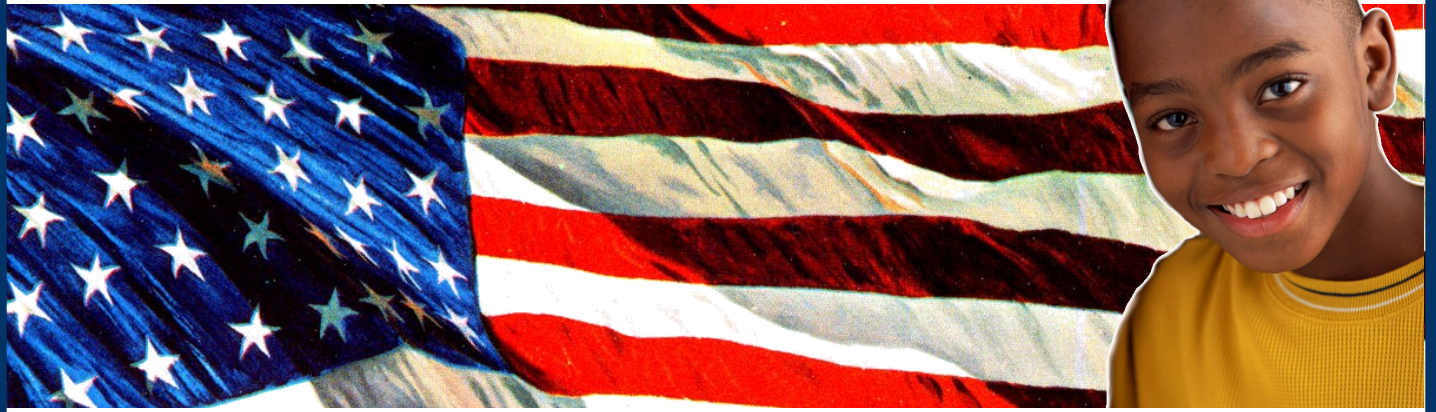


OUR MILITARY



CHILDREN

Conference: Forward March

Conference: Forward March Moving Children Forward During Challenging Times

This conference is designed to provide information on how to meet the needs of military families.

The topics identified focus on issues related to the military culture, post-deployment issues, child and family issues, and mental health treatments designed to address these issues. Information will be provided on how to access care, systems in place to help families deal with issues, and the impact of technology on children's overall mental health.

The speakers represent a blend of national, state, and local expertise in the topics to be cov-

ered. This program has been planned for substance abuse professionals, psychologists, social workers, case managers and counselors working in or around military communities.

Other interested mental health or human service professionals

are welcome to attend. Additionally, school personnel, clergy, veteran's groups, military personnel, and family focus groups are welcome to attend. Distinguished dignitaries serving in capacity for North Carolina and the United States of America have also been invited.



Fees: \$125

Start Date:

Thursday, September 16, 2010

End Date:

Friday, September 17, 2010

Address:

701 Westmont Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28305
United States

Register Online:

<http://bit.ly/forwardmarch>





Change would ease GI Bill transfers to children

Service members would have more flexibility to share Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits with their children under a House bill introduced on Wednesday. The bill, HR 5737, would remove a restriction that benefits must be transferred before the child is age 23. It would not change a restriction under which children may use transferred benefits only until age 26.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill's rules allow spouses or children of service members to use transferred benefits in return for the member's promise to remain in the military. Benefits can be transferred to a spouse after six years of service and to children after 10 years of service, with the member required to sign an obligation to serve four more years.

The requirement for additional service has been waived or reduced for people who will retire from the military before 2014 under a policy intended to ensure people at the end of their military careers are not cut out of a benefit that only became available on Aug. 1, 2009.

Second Life offers Virtual Services

Comfortable with online gaming? Here's a fun way to access information and services. The Army OneSource Community in Second Life® is a virtual world that provides services and resources for Soldiers and Families worldwide. It is an effective tool for geographically dispersed Soldiers, their Family, friends, and other community members to keep in touch with each other and with the programs in their Army Community. By using an avatar, users can meet virtually to collaborate, learn, network socially, host or attend special events and meetings and participate in a number of fun activities that can change daily, weekly and monthly!

The Army OneSource Community in Second Life® has many places to visit. There is a virtual Exchange, Community Center, Museum, Amphitheater and Driving Range, just to name a few. In-world greeters are available to show you around the community and answer any questions about locations, activities and events.

The virtual world community facilitates interactive social networking and learning through:

- E-learning and collaboration tools
- Computer-based training
- Live media streaming
- Joining or creating special interest groups
- Participating in and holding special events
- Training and outreach services

The Army OneSource Community in Second Life® is available to adult Family, Army staff, and volunteers. To access this virtual world, visit myarmyonesource.com.

Military Parents Voice Education Concerns

In June 22, 2010, top U.S. and military leaders took part in a roundtable discussion with parents at an elementary school to gain greater insight into the education challenges military families face.

The military faces two distinct challenges: frequent moves and multiple deployments.

Biden, an educator for nearly 30 years and mother of an Army National Guard officer, said she and First Lady Michelle Obama are on a mission to better understand the challenges military families face. "We're here to listen to you," she told the participants.

Kathryn Griffin, whose husband is in the Virginia National Guard, expressed concern for Guard children, whom she worries get lost in public schools where teachers may not receive the special training they need to detect when children are experiencing problems due to a deployment or other military challenge.

Madeline Lanza, an Army spouse, echoed Griffin's concerns, pointing out that many teachers lack the experience and training to recognize military-related problems in students. Her husband deployed last May, she explained, and her child went through some "rough spots." While the teacher was helpful, she didn't have the experience to deal with the problems. She encouraged teachers to avail themselves of training.

The general issue is to get both training to the teachers who are dealing with the kids in the classrooms ... and the kind of counselor support so the teacher doesn't spend all their time with just a couple of students who are having challenges.

Military challenges need to be met, and then with the conflicts the Military are in, schools need to get the resources to the kids who are dealing with a very tough challenge with having one or both parents deployed for six months or a year at a time, and this is happening not just once, but with multiple deployments.



VFW Scholarship programs

Patriot's Pen, a youth-essay writing contest sponsored by the VFW and endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' contest criteria, is a nationwide competition that gives students in grades 6, 7 and 8 the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy.

Contestants write a 300-400 word essay based on an annual patriotic theme with the 2010-2011 topic being "Does Patriotism Still Matter?" The first-place winner receives a \$10,000 savings bond and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. The top national winners each receive a savings bond anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

The VFW also has the Voice of Democracy (VOD) scholarship program which is an audio-essay contest for high school students in grades 9-12 that annually provides more than \$3 million in scholarships. This year's theme is "Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future?" The first-place winner, who competes with all the first-place VFW Department winners, receives a \$30,000 scholarship that is paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. More info at www.vfw.org.

Participate in the Sesame Street Study

Caregivers of parentally bereaved children have an opportunity to participate in a national research study to evaluate a new Sesame Workshop DVD and print materials kit entitled "When Families Grieve." The workshop DVD and print materials help caregivers understand the impact of parental death on children in military and civilian Families. This research is being conducted by the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress. Visit www.cstssesamesurvey.org/.

Educational Tool For Educators for Constitution Day

Friday, September 17, is designated by law as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. A innovative documentary, which can be viewed or downloaded from <http://www.constitutingamerica.org/> film features the winners of Constituting America's We The People Contest for Kids, highlighting their winning works on how the Constitution is relevant today, as well as educational information on the Constitution. It can be used to fulfill the Constitution Day educational mandate or provide a resource that can be used any day during the year while teaching about the Constitution.

Students can also enter Constituting America's "We The People 9.17 Contest for Kids". High School winners receive \$2,000 scholarships; younger students receive gift cards and other cool prizes, and all winners receive a trip to a historic city, and national exposure. Visit <http://constitutingamerica.org> for more info.

Family Fun 5K Walk/Run

Beginning in September, Fort Bragg will be hosting a monthly Family Fun 5K Walk/Run. The first Family Fun 5K will be held Saturday, Sept. 25 at Hedrick Stadium. The event, which is open to military/government ID card holders and their family members, will begin at 8 a.m. Registration will not be required and there is no entry fee. There will be no official timing or individual awards. For more information, call 396-1217.

The Army Reserve needs School Support Service Specialists

Army Reserve Soldiers are deploying in record numbers and often leave their families in communities with limited military-connected support. To help these families, the position of School Support Services Specialist has opened in several states. If you think you would be a good fit to help "suddenly" military students and their families navigate the waters, visit www.sercona.com and choose the "Counseling/Support/Outreach" bullet for a complete list of areas where this position is available as well as information for how to apply.

Free SAT/ACT Online Test Preparation Courses!

Registered SOAR (www.soarathome.org) users now have access to the first generation of The Princeton Review's online coursework for students preparing for the SAT and/or ACT test. Online courseware includes: Information about the SAT and ACT, Test Taking Strategies, Tips and Techniques and Practice Problems

Where will I find the Test Prep on SOAR? Registered students can access either the SAT or ACT courses by clicking Program Materials from the SOAR Student site. Once a student logs on to the course (with the listed username and password), and reads the 'Quick Instructions', he or she is ready to begin.

eKnowledge also provides SAT or ACT

EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

Welcome Back Youth Bowling
September 18
10 am. Airborne Lanes.
910-432-6899.

Military Weekend at Hubb's Corn Maze
September 24-26
With Military ID, get a \$2 discount on the Master Pass. The Master Pass includes the corn maze, the giant slide, the barrel train, the hay ride and toddler town. Visit Hubb's Corn Maze website for more information.

Movie Night at the Beach
September 25
8:30 pm. Showing The Incredibles. Smith Lake Recreation Area. (910) 396-5979.

Rock the Fort
September 25
12:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Family fun event with Rock Musicians - Hawk Nelson, Gospel Artist - Jason Crabb and a message by Josh Holland. Free Event. Main Post Parade Field. For more information, view flyer or call (910) 396-1121.

Fort Bragg Family Fun 5K Run/Walk
September 25
8 am. Hedrick Stadium. Beginning this month, Fort Bragg will be hosting a monthly Family Fun 5K Walk/Run. For more information, call (910) 396-1217.

Community Information Fair
September 28
10 am - 6 pm. Fort Bragg Club.
For questions or more information, please contact ACS, Installation Volunteer Services at (910) 396-8160.

Shopping for College and Financial Aid Workshop
October 2, 2010
12-1PM
Tolson Youth Activities Center
Learn more about how to shop for and select a college as well as how to pay for college. For more information, please call 910-432-1008.

Military Academies Fair
October 2, 2010
1-2:30 PM
Tolson Youth Activities Center
Learn more about applying and attending one of the 5 service academies (West Point, Air Force Academy, etc.), a Senior Military College (Virginia Military Institute, Citadel, etc.) or a Corps of Cadets School

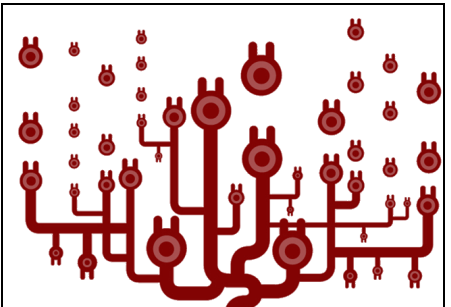
Home School Spelling Bee
October 22, 2010
10AM-3PM
Pre-Register Online: <http://www.fortbraggmwr.com/sls/homeschoolspellingbee.php>

Eligibility Requirements:
•Ages: 8-15
•Home Schooled (open to Military

and Civilian)
Other Information:
•Participants will be divided into grade levels (Elementary, Middle, High)
•Prizes awarded by grade level

EDGE! Programs
The EDGE program offers out-of-school enrichment opportunities for children and youth (grades 1-12) to experience, develop, grow, and excel by participating in cutting-edge art, fitness, life skills and adventure activities, known as Art EDGE!, Fit EDGE!, Life EDGE! and Adventure EDGE! Find out what's going on this month.

CONTACT INFO



FORT BRAGG SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

Ph: 910-432-1008
Toll Free: 1-866-567-5899

braggschoolliaison@conus.army.mil
fortbraggmwr.com/sls/sls.php



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www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss_tutor

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*For children of: Active, Wounded, Reserve Component, National Guard and Army civilians (including Survivors).



