



# WELCOME TO THE JULY EDITION OF FAMILIES4GUARD

Volume 2, Issue 8

August 2012



Major General Augustus L. Collins



## Disaster

Preparedness 2

"BETTER THAN A SHOEBOX" 3

UPCOMING EVENTS 4

Allegiance to the FLAG 5

YOUTH 6-8

Can you believe summer is almost over? Seems like the kids just got out of school. Tips on safety for going back to school. Wear your seatbelt every time. No matter if it is a short trip just around the corner. Riding in a friend's or relative's car is no excuse to skip the seatbelt. Even if your friend or friend's parents don't wear seatbelts, always wear yours. And don't ever share a seatbelt with a friend – it might look like fun to buckle up as a pair, but you could both get hurt in an accident.

To find more safety tips go to the following website:

<http://kidshealth.org/>



## ARE YOU PREPARED FOR DISASTER?

# Disaster Preparedness

## Precautions for Natural Disasters

It is becoming quite evident that natural hazards incur massive damage. Some of this damage, however, can be avoided if the right preparedness measures are put in place.

The suddenness of natural hazards allows them to cause much damage. Adequate disaster preparedness, however, may assist in reducing the potential damage associated with these hazards.

A natural hazard is an unpredictable naturally occurring event, arising within the physical, climatic or biotic environment, that will have a negative effect on people or the environment. Natural hazards include hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods. A natural hazard is classified as a disaster when it causes death, injury or major damage to property. Disaster preparedness is important in preventing the loss of lives and minimizing the damage to property during a natural disaster. It is therefore necessary to be knowledgeable of disaster preparedness measures.

## Develop a Disaster Plan

In the preparation for any disaster, it is always important that a disaster plan be established. All family members should be fully aware of what they should do if a disaster strikes. Knowledge of near-by shelters, emergency numbers and contact information of near-by relatives is essential as there may be an emergency or it may become necessary to evacuate the area where they are to someplace safer or less threatened. Contact information of a relatives living a fair distance away from the threatened area would also be an asset in the event that the damage caused by the disaster is fatal.

## Keep Important Items and Documents at Hand

Additionally, a Disaster Preparedness Kit should be packed. This should contain first aid items and batteries among other things. It is unwise to wait for a disaster warning or a disaster itself to pack such a kit as items may be scarce in local stores at that time or many items may be forgotten as a result of panic. It is always good to be well prepared.

Originals or copies of important documents such as passports, birth certificates and marriage certificates should always be at hand. These should not be left behind in an evacuated house but always carried on the person in the event that there is no return.

## Remove Potential Hazards

Trees surrounding houses should be pruned regularly or even cut down if they are in positions where they may damage property if disturbed, for example, by wind or vibration. Everybody should also familiarize themselves with turning off the gas and electricity supply to their houses in the event that the gas or electricity becomes hazardous.

**STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE LATEST NEWS.....**

## Keep Updated With the News

It is important not to be misled by propaganda and rumors. Trustworthy information related to natural disasters is always published on the news. Volcanic eruptions and hurricanes are always closely monitored by professionals who relay information to the media. Instructions and advice are also aired on the news as to how to keep safe during natural disasters.

Indeed, as world events continue to unfold themselves, the awareness of the importance of disaster preparedness is growing. It is important that all the necessary steps be taken in order to reduce the destruction which would have otherwise been done by natural disasters. Read more at:

[Suite101: Disaster Preparedness: Precautions For Natural Disasters |](#)

[Suite101.com http://suite101.com/article/disaster-preparedness-a195580#ixzz1zTzQdIPj](http://suite101.com/article/disaster-preparedness-a195580#ixzz1zTzQdIPj)



## BETTER THAN A SHOEBOX

PRESENTED BY:  
OLEVIA LYON

CONTRIBUTOR: MPSC  
MSARNG  
STATE FAMILY READINESS  
[olevia.lyon@us.army.mil](mailto:olevia.lyon@us.army.mil)  
601-313-6766

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO ASSEMBLY YOUR EMERGENCY BINDER, PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE FAMILY READINESS SUPPORT ASSISTANTS FOR YOUR AREA OR MYSELF. CONTACT JANE LYON FOR YOUR FRSA'S INFORMATION.**

## GETTING READY

FAMILY READINESS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

### Changes Coming for TRICARE Dental

On May 1, 2012 the TRI-CARE Dental Program coverage will change from United Concordia to Met-Life. This means that over 2 million Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve members, Family members, and survivors may soon see some significant changes to their dental coverage. According to TRI-CARE, beneficiaries can expect to see the enhanced dental coverage at a lower premium share under the new contract.

*NOTE:* The change to Met-Life is for Family members, members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve, and survivors only. The Active Duty Dental Program will continue to be administered by United Concordia. The TRI-CARE Retiree Dental Program coverage will remain under Delta Dental.

<http://www.military.com/military-report/changes-coming-for-tricare-dental?>

## UPCOMING SCHEDULES:

The Central Region FRG Training in July was **AWESOME!!!!** We had the honor of Mrs. Debra Collins, wife of MAJ GENERAL Augustus Leon Collins, (TAG/MS), join us for the Central Training in Pearl, MS. We appreciate Mrs. Collins participating and supporting our Family Training.

If you would like to experience this wonderful event we have one more FRG Training scheduled for the **Central/Southern Region FRC/FRG Leadership Training.**

**Natchez, MS August 24-26, 2012**

**Contact: SGM Earnest "Richard" Norton**  
Family Program Specialist  
601-313-6169

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS AUGUST 10, 2012**

Please contact us to let us know that you will be attending this event.



U  
S  
A  
  
A  
M  
E  
R  
I  
C  
A

**WANT TO HELP OUR SERVICE MEMBERS? BECOME A FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER AT YOUR NEAREST ARMORY.**



I pledge Allegiance to the **FLAG** of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for



# MSNG YOUTH!

Please contact us to let us know that you will be attending this event.



**“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.”**

**-Ralph Waldo Emerson**

How can you be yourself in a world that is trying to pressure you into being someone else?

- \* Stand up for what you believe in. Hold your ground and do you what you think is right no matter who makes fun of you.
- \* Accept yourself for who you are and not for what others want you to be. You are unique. Oscar Wilde said, “Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.”

## Upcoming Youth Events!!

### \* TARA WILDLIFE

Look for 2013 dates

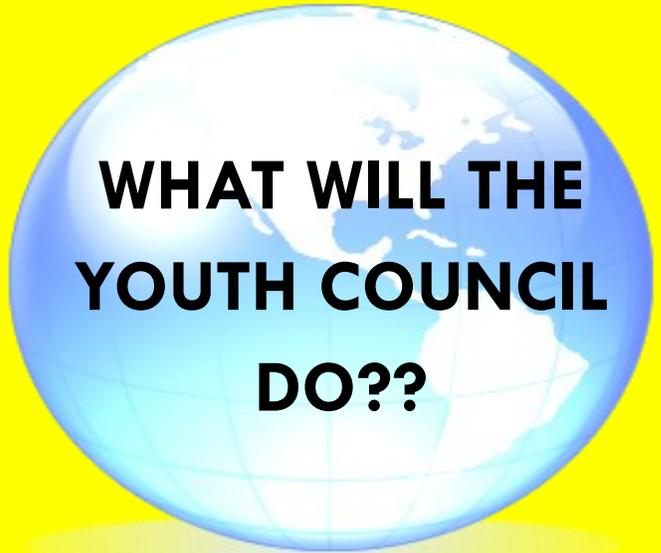
in the spring!!!

Vicksburg, MS

**Activities include: wildlife study and tours, animal tracking, nature study, proficiency training with bows, 22 rifles, shotguns, skeet shooting, fishing identification and recognition, canoeing, boating safety, campfire stories, hunters education certification, game calling, bird identification, identification of natural foods, safe water retrieval and purification.**

# MSNG YOUTH COUNCIL!!!

The Mississippi National Guard Youth Council is formed in order to support the Mississippi National Guard's members, their families, and their youth. This council consists strictly of volunteer members between the ages of 13-18 years old, working together toward the common goals of identifying, defining, and addressing issues that contribute to the future of our National Guard Youth. Their purpose is to actively involve youth in policy issues affecting them and help implement new ways to enhance the quality of life for our Guard members and their dependants.



- \* The Youth Council will meet no less than twice a year and as often as is deemed necessary by the Youth Council with permissions from the State Youth Coordinator.
- \* The Youth Council will discuss, plan, and advise in matters that encompass military children, teens, and family quality of life issues.
- \* The State Youth Coordinator or a representative from the Family Programs Office will attend all Youth Council Meetings
- \* The Youth Council will determine dates, locations, and times of meetings in coordination with the State Youth Coordinator.

“How can you be a better student in your school? Unscramble the words to find out!”



**UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS!!**

EATSFY \_\_\_\_\_

RELADE \_\_\_\_\_

IHRGST \_\_\_\_\_

NKSEIDNS \_\_\_\_\_

ECRUAOG \_\_\_\_\_

EPCACT \_\_\_\_\_



Our Military Kids provides substantial support in the form of grants to the children of National Guard and Military Reserve personnel who are currently deployed overseas, as well as the children of Wounded Warriors in all branches. The grants from Our Military Kids pay for participation in sports, fine arts, camps, and tutoring programs that nurture and sustain children while a parent is away in service to our country or recovering from injury.

Email address:

[OMKquiry@ourmilitarykids.org](mailto:OMKquiry@ourmilitarykids.org).

Phone: (703) 734-6654, or toll free

(866) 691-6654

Fax: (703) 734-6503

Address:

Our Military Kids, Inc.  
6861 Elm Street, Suite 2A  
McLean, VA 22101