

Guidon

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri



Photo by Amanda Sullivan, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

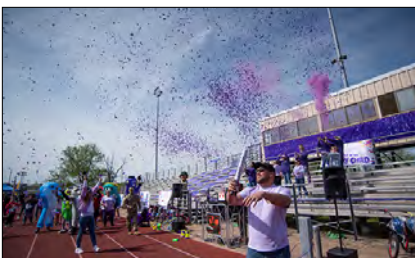
Army Engineers name 2024 Best Sapper team

The winners of the 17th Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition are Capt. Matthew Cushing and Joseph Palazini, from the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky — making history, not only as the first team to win the competition twice, but also back to back. They were presented with the BSC trophy April 23 in Lincoln Hall Auditorium. Read more about this year's competition [here](#), and more BSC photos are available to view and download on the [Fort Leonard Wood Flickr page](#). Engineer Regimental Week continues through April 28 — look for a wrap-up article in the May 2 eGuidon.



Army, NGA receive DOD POST certification

Officials with the Department of Defense Peace Officer Standards and Training Agency presented certificates at a ceremony April 24 in the Military Police Regimental Room at the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex, certifying both the Army's and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's law enforcement standards and training.



April is Month of the Military Child

MOMC-palooza provides family fun

One of the largest events of Fort Leonard Wood's Month of the Military Child celebration, MOMC-palooza, took place April 20 at Gerlach Field, giving families here a chance to relax, have fun and celebrate the resiliency of military children.

Read these stories and more at <https://www.army.mil/paowood>.



Fort Leonard Wood National Guard Soldiers receive TRADOC awards

Two Fort Leonard Wood Army National Guard liaison NCOs were named the best at what they do by U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command for fiscal year 2023. Master Sgt. Ryan Owen was named the top TRADOC ARNG Liaison NCO in charge, and Sgt. 1st Class James Yeakey was named the top TRADOC ARNG Liaison NCO.

NEWS BRIEFS

Gate hours changes

Starting May 6, the South Gate will be open 24/7, and the West Gate will be open from 4 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. There are no changes to the hours of operation for the North or East gates.

TAP Career Fair

The Fort Leonard Wood Transition Assistance Program is hosting a career fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 9 in Nutter Field House. Call 573.596.7070 for details.

Commissary sidewalk sale

The Fort Leonard Wood Commissary will have a sidewalk sale from 9 a.m. to

7 p.m. May 16 to 18, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 19. Call 573.596.0783 for details.

Ready and Resilient Fair

The next Ready and Resilient, or R2, Fair is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 22 at the Main Post Chapel. The R2 Fair provides opportunities to participate in activities and speak with subject matter experts about resources and assistance programs that can help with life stressors. Some mandatory training opportunities will be offered. Call 573.596.6754 for details

Volkslauf 10K fun run

The Fort Leonard Wood Marine Corps

Detachment is hosting its Volkslauf 10K fun run, starting at 8 a.m. June 8 at the Auto Skills Center. The race contains multiple man-made obstacles, mud pits and river crossings. Cost is \$30 per person, if registering before May 1. Click [here](#) for details.

USO Support Motorcycle Ride

Registration for the USO Support Motorcycle Ride is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. June 15 at American Legion Post 43, in Lebanon, Missouri. Riders will depart at noon and travel along Historic Route 66 to the American Legion Post 331, in St. Robert. Call 573.512.1419 for details.



MWR EVENTS & SPECIALS - LEONARDWOOD.ARMYMWR.COM

SPACE WARS

MAY 2
3 - 5:30 PM

BRUCE C. CLARKE LIBRARY

Come in costume, enjoy the fun, and take pictures with a few of your favorite characters!

Aloha STRONG BANDS Volleyball TOURNAMENT



May 3, 6PM

DAVIDSON FITNESS CENTER

Gather your best team and come bump, set, & spike with us! \$15 per team, age 16 & up.
Register at Davidson Fitness Center

573-596-4359

FAMILY AND MWR PRESENTS

Spring YARD SALE

MAY 4
8 AM - NOON
SETUP: 7AM



BAKER THEATER PARKING LOT

ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLINE (ENDS MAY 2): \$20 PER SPACE

TABLES AVAILABLE: \$5 EACH (ADVANCED REGISTRATION ONLY)

DAY-OF REGISTRATION: \$30 PER SPACE



Photo by Melissa Buckley, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Donald Blackburn (in front) and Capt. Matthew Focht, from the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, perform survivability tasks while moving 600 meters with a crater can April 20 at Training Area 61.

17th Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers

BEST SAPPER

COMPETITION



Photo by Melissa Buckley, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

Above: Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Whitney, from the 19th Engineer Battalion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and his teammate complete the nonstandard physical fitness test event April 19 in Waynesville's Roubidoux Park.

Right: A competitor attempts to breach a door with a thermal lance April 21 at Range 33M.



Photo by Melissa Buckley, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

Capt. Raaqim Rispress, from the 20th Engineer Battalion at Fort Cavazos, Texas, and his teammate cross the Big Piney River April 20 at Training Area 256.



Photo by Angi Betran, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office





Photos by Brian Hill, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

Above: Nine-year-old Harper Barton (left) and 10-year-old Alexander Borchardt attempt to make giant bubbles float across Gerlach Field April 20 during one of Fort Leonard Wood's largest Month of the Military Child celebrations, MOMC-palooza.

Left: Children had their pick of two different types of bounce houses at the event.

MOMC-PALOOZA

More than 70 Fort Leonard Wood organizations came together April 20 on Gerlach Field to help celebrate Month of the Military Child and Earth Day.



Above: Children fish litter from pools while learning about the importance of keeping their environment clean during the MOMC-palooza celebration April 20 on Gerlach Field.

Right: Children weren't the only ones trying out their Army Combat Fitness Test skills.



FORT LEONARD WOOD
SERVICE MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

SGT. MEETKUMAR PATEL

PRESIDENT

BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SINGLE SERVICE MEMBERS



Patel started his Army career as a *Motor Transport Operator* at Fort Leonard Wood in 2019. Now, Patel is responsible for managing Fort Leonard Wood's BOSS program, more than 60 BOSS unit representatives and organizing volunteer, educational and recreational opportunities for single service members at Fort Leonard Wood.

Where are you from?

Orlando, Florida

Why did you join the military?

I needed structure and discipline, and I wanted to challenge myself and have a purpose. As a Soldier, I get to make a difference in the world, and I get to experience things I would not be able to elsewhere. Not only do I get to serve my country, I get to show

my gratitude to those who served before me.

What does a BOSS president do?

I work directly with the garrison command sergeant major and a civilian advisor to support and plan events for single service members, geo-bachelors (service members living apart from their families) and single service member parents. We do everything, from fun events to teaching life skills. My main purpose is to develop the plan, get it approved and make sure the information is successfully broadcast. I also make sure we manage our budget properly.

What motivates you to want to take care of other single service members?

I didn't know about the

program at my last duty station. I found out about it here. It would have been nice to have there, too. I want to get the word out. I get satisfaction from knowing I am making a positive impact on someone else's military experience. We want all single service members to feel welcome.

What are you working on for the future?

We are working on a QR code for advanced individual training Soldiers here. They can scan it, pick the duty station they are headed to and get in touch with a BOSS program representative there before they even arrive.

More information on Fort Leonard Wood's BOSS program can be found on the [Fort Leonard Wood website](#) and on [Facebook](#).



Click here to nominate a Fort Leonard Wood service member for recognition.