

Guidon

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri



MSCoE CG and CSM Send: Recognizing George Washington's birthday safely

On Feb. 19, we honor the life and legacy of America's first president, George Washington. Leaders, before the weekend, talk to those in your care about risk mitigation. Know your teammates and their plans; stay engaged and be available.



Community gathers on Fort Leonard Wood for National Prayer Breakfast

More than 400 community members from various faiths gathered to pray at the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 13 in Nutter Field House.



Prime Power Production Specialist training now open to Army's newest Soldiers

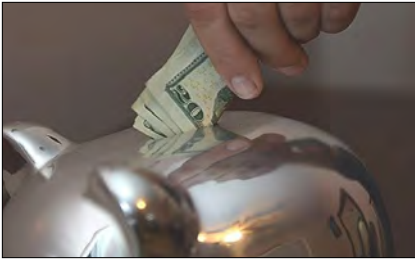
With a growing need for more Prime Power Production Specialists, the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment made the decision with the new fiscal year in October to open up the 12P military occupational specialty to the Army's newest Soldiers.



Parking poorly poses potential perils, problems

Police officers with Fort Leonard Wood's Directorate of Emergency Services are responding to a number of parking violations in highly trafficked areas of the installation and are asking for the community's assistance in helping eliminate future potentially hazardous situations on post.

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



Army provides financial resources to Soldiers

Training and guidance on financial concerns is delivered worldwide in the Army through the Financial Readiness Program, which is designed to educate Soldiers and their families in support of mission readiness.



Fort Leonard Wood's annual Kids' Trout Fishing Derby set for Feb. 24

Fort Leonard Wood's annual Kids' Trout Fishing Derby is scheduled to take place Feb. 24 at Stone Mill Spring Recreation Area, located off of FLW 26, near Piney Valley Golf Course.



Fort Leonard Wood's LORA getting ready for customers looking for relaxation, adventure

Employees at Fort Leonard Wood's Lake of the Ozarks Recreation Area are preparing to open the marina and welcome springtime customers.

MWR EVENTS & SPECIALS - LEONARDWOOD.ARMYMWR.COM

SCUBA

CERTIFICATION

FEB 24 AT 9AM

DAVIDSON FITNESS CENTER POOL

KIDS'

TROUT DERBY

FEB 24

STONE MILL SPRING

OFF FLW 26

9AM - 1PM

LIVE PRO-WRESTLING

FEB 24, 6PM

TREVOR MURDOCH

IN ACTION

SALUTE

TO THE

SERVICE

DAVIDSON FITNESS CENTER

DOORS: 5PM, BELL: 6PM

TICKETS ONLINE

Gate barrier repairs

The active vehicle barriers at the North and West gates will be undergoing repairs over the next few weeks. At the North Gate, the work will reduce the inbound and outbound traffic to one lane each from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. Feb. 19 to 21. At the West Gate, inbound and outbound lanes will be shifted to the left or right of the roadway between Feb. 19 and March 15, to facilitate and maintain two-way traffic flow during the repairs.

Road closures

The 159 to 161 address section of Epps Street, in the Woodlands family housing neighborhood, will be closed from 8 a.m. Feb. 21 to 5 p.m. Feb. 23; and Demolition Avenue, near Water Intake Road and the weir in the Big Piney River, will be closed from 8 a.m. Feb. 26 to 5 p.m. March 1, while new water mains are connected. Call 573.596.0214 for details.

Scheduled water outage

Due to water main repairs, there will be a scheduled water outage starting at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 21, affecting family housing addresses 101 through 145, and 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157 and 159 on Epps Street, in the Woodlands neighborhood. Additionally, water hydrants 8000-105, 8000-028A, 8000-028, 8000-026A and 8000-026 will also be affected. The outage is scheduled to last about four hours. The alternate inclement weather date for this scheduled work is Feb. 22. Call 573.596.0214 for details.

Faith Skills classes

The Fort Leonard Wood Religious Support Office will begin offering its spring Faith Skills religious education classes on Wednesday evenings at the Main Post Chapel starting Feb. 21. The classes, occurring through May 1,

SAMC NCOs receive awards for volunteerism



Photo by Brian Hill, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office

At a Feb. 14 event in the Engineer Regimental Room at the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex, Maj. Gen. Christopher Beck, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood commanding general (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. Jorge Arzabala (right) presented three Sergeant Audie Murphy Club NCOs — from left: Master Sgt. David Barerra, 1st Sgt. Cetra Banks and Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Calderon — with the President’s Volunteer Service Award in Gold, a national recognition for individuals who demonstrate a “commitment to strengthen our nation and communities through volunteer service,” the awards read. To qualify for the gold award, each individual met a minimum criteria of at least 500 volunteer hours within a 12-month time period.

include a dinner at 5:30 p.m., and the classes run until 7:30 p.m. Call 573.596.0089, or email martha.a.strong.civ@army.mil for details. A Faith Skills Facebook group is also available [here](#).

Scholarship opportunity

Applications are now being accepted for the Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation scholarship program for the 2024-2025 academic year. All current Balfour Beatty Communities housing residents — including spouses and children — set to be attending an accredited college or university in the fall of 2024 — or who are enrolled in a program of study designed to transfer

directly into a four-year program — are eligible to apply. Applications are being accepted now through March 21. Click [here](#) for details.

Suicide prevention helpline

The national suicide prevention and mental health helpline is available by calling 9-8-8. Veterans may press “1” to be connected with a responder trained to assist military and veteran populations.

Sexual assault helpline

Fort Leonard Wood’s 24/7 Sexual Assault Resource Center is available by calling 573.855.1327. Visit the [Safe Helpline website](#) for more options.



DIGITAL GARRISON

The Army’s Digital Garrison mobile app is a one-stop information source for military communities. It’s free and available at the [Google Play](#) and [Apple](#) stores.

Keeping military communities connected!

FORT LEONARD WOOD
SERVICE MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT



**STAFF SGT. MATTHEW SMITHEY
DRILL SERGEANT
COMPANY A
554TH ENGINEER BATTALION**

Staff Sgt. Matthew Smithey is a drill sergeant with Company A, 554th Engineer Battalion, a unit responsible for the advanced individual training of [Army Horizontal Construction Engineers](#).

Where are you from?

Greensboro, North Carolina

Why did you join the Army?

I was trying to go to school and work two full-time civilian jobs, and it was stressful. On top of that, it was hard to make ends meet financially. Believe it or not, I was getting less sleep before I joined the Army. I was ready for a change. I didn't want to be like my friends and get stuck. Education was a priority for me, and the Army allows me to be able to focus on education while continuing to serve.

What is the primary mission of an AIT drill sergeant?

In this part of the training, what we do is take care of the Soldiers' needs, so they can focus on their eight weeks of AIT. It is mostly administrative issues we help them with, such as medical appointments and their orders. If it is personal in nature, we offer them resources, so they can hopefully work through the issues before they go to their next unit.

What do you like to teach the new Soldiers, when they aren't in their AIT courses?

Outside of their AIT courses, I try to talk to them about furthering their education and gaining professional certifications. When I ask these junior Soldiers why they joined, most of them say it was to get an education while serving. They usually have heard of the GI Bill, but when Soldiers leave this company, they also know about the [Credentialing, Education, Certification and Licensing Program](#). They learn how they can use it to enhance their education and careers. I tell them about my project management certification, construction management certification, heavy equipment operator certification and an instructor certification — they will all transfer over into the civilian world, if I ever choose to leave the Army. And it was all paid for by the Army.

What do you like most about being a Soldier?

I love being a Soldier, but if I have to pick one, I would say the people — the people I work with and the Soldiers I get to mentor. Some of them look at me like the father figure they never had, and it makes me feel good to know I can make a difference.



[Click here to nominate a Fort Leonard Wood service member for recognition.](#)