



Military Police celebrate 82 years

"Serving with dignity, determination and discipline" — the U.S. Army Military Police School hosted a full week of events to celebrate 82 years of devotion to serving others.



Future Soldiers, JROTC cadets get introduction to Army training during Fort Leonard Wood visit

Area Army recruiters brought 20 Missouri high school students – including three future Soldiers – to Fort Leonard Wood Saturday to see an Army installation firsthand, meet drill sergeants and instructors and get hands on with training equipment here.



Housing town hall helps residents prepare for cooler temperatures

Fort Leonard Wood on-post family housing residents got the chance to learn about preventative maintenance specific to Missouri's winter weather and got answers to help them avoid misinformation during Tuesday's quarterly housing town hall at Stonegate Community Center.



Garrison leaders host quarterly employee town hall

Fort Leonard Wood garrison leaders hosted a town hall for civilian employees Wednesday at Nutter Field House.



Navy proves superior at annual Joint Service Truck Rodeo

Imagine backing up a vehicle through a winding serpentine of cones with precisionperfect accuracy — now, try it in a 35,000-pound 18-wheeler. That is just one of the challenges 16 competitors had to negotiate during the 58th Transportation Battalion's 8th Annual Joint Service Truck Rodeo Friday at Training Area 228.



Survivor group volunteers time, donates blankets, stuffed toys to hospital, first responders

Fort Leonard Wood's Retiree Survivor Support Group donated no-sew fleece blankets and stuffed toys for children in need to installation first responders and hospital staff Sept. 21, during a ceremony in the Army Community Service lobby.

NEWS BRIEFS

Army Military Pay Office closure

The Army Military Pay Office will close at noon Friday. Call 317.361.0198 in the event of an emergency.

Fire Fest

The Fort Leonard Wood Fire Department will be hosting Fire Fest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the Exchange parking lot. During this family-friendly event, attendees of all ages will have the opportunity to meet firefighters, see fire trucks, tour the fire safety trailer, meet Sparky the Fire Dog and learn about fire prevention and response. Call 573.596.0886 for more information.

Honor Glow Walk

Fort Leonard Wood's Survivor Outreach Services is hosting an Honor Glow Walk event, starting at 6:45 p.m. Saturday at the USO. The 3.5-kilometer route will take participants from the USO to Memorial Grove and back, with a lighted path featuring the names of fallen service members, whose families live in Missouri. The event is open to anyone with access to the installation. Call 573.596.0195 for details.

Photo studio closure

The Fort Leonard Wood Visual Information Service Center will be closed from Oct. 6 through mid-December.

Child care options

Child Youth Services currently has three family child care providers offering hourly

care, as well as a list of 14 people, who recently completed the CYS Babysitters Course. Anyone interested in either of those options should call 573.596.0238, or visit Bldg. 470, Rm. 1126, for more information. The next scheduled CYS Babysitters Course will be spring break of 2024.

RSO lists fall Faith Skills classes

Fort Leonard Wood's Religious Support Office has a schedule of classes for their fall Faith Skills program, including "Trauma REBOOT," "Are We There Yet? The Marriage Journey," "God's Presence in Our Profession" and more. A 5:30 p.m. dinner, followed by classes, will be held Wednesday evenings through Nov. 8 at the Main Post Chapel. Call 573.596.0089, or email martha.a.strong.civ@army.mil for details. Additionally, a Faith Skills Facebook group is available to join.

Motorcycle safety ride

Fort Leonard Wood motorcycle safety experts are hosting a ride and rally, starting at 8 a.m. Oct. 5 in the Main Post Chapel parking lot. Riders wanting to participate should contact their unit motorcycle mentor by Oct. 3. Participating Department of Defense civilians should be on approved leave. Email Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Ornot at matthew.j.ornot.mil@army.mil for details.

Ready and Resilient Fair

The next Ready and Resilient, or R2, Fair is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Oct. 5 at Nutter Field House. The R2 Fair provides opportunities to learn about resources here that can help with life stressors. Some mandatory training opportunities will be offered. Call 573.855.6407 or email malia. h.nemetz.civ@army.mil for details.

TAP hiring fair

The Fort Leonard Wood Transition Assistance Program is hosting a hiring fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 12 at Nutter Field House. Everyone with access to Fort Leonard Wood is invited to attend. Call 573.596.7070 or 1727 for details.

Teen ID post access policy

Fort Leonard Wood's Directorate of Emergency Services has policies on checking teenager Department of Defense ID cards at installation access points. If a child is with a parent or guardian, then no ID is required unless the child looks close in appearance to an adult or if the child is driving. Additionally, DOD ID card holders under the age of 18 are not authorized to sponsor non-DOD personnel on post. More information on installation access policies is available on the Fort Leonard Wood website or by calling the visitor center at 573.596.0590.

Suicide prevention helpline

The National Suicide Prevention Helpline is 9-8-8. Veterans may press "1" to reach a responder trained to assist military and veteran populations.

Harnessing the power of the sun



Photo by Melissa Buckley, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office Tommy Morgan, a vehicle dispatcher with the Fort Leonard Wood Transportation Motor Pool, plugs an electric vehicle into one of the installation's seven new solar charging stations Monday outside Bldg. 5267. Unlike the other charging stations that have been installed across the installation over the past few months, the solar chargers, which were all installed last week, are government owned and are not tied into the electrical grid. Fort Leonard Wood, along with the rest of the Department of Defense, is in the process of electrifying its non-tactical vehicle fleet. There are currently 20 government-owned EVs here – and numerous more plug-in hybrid vehicles – with 20 more EVs anticipated to arrive over the coming fiscal year.



DIGITAL GARRISON

keeping military communities connected!

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.



Abrams Theater is open for movies on Saturdays and Sundays. This weekend's showings include:

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem" Rated PG Showing at 11 a.m. Saturday

"Expend4bles" Rated R Showing at 2 p.m. Saturday*

"Meg 2: The Trench" Rated PG-13 Showing at 11 a.m. Sunday

"Blue Beetle" Rated PG-13 Showing at 2 p.m. Sunday

Prices for regular showings are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children (ages 6 to 11). First-run showings are \$8.75 for adults and \$6.75 for children. 3D showings are \$9 for adults and \$6 for children. Children under 5 are free. Call 573.329.6176, or visit the Exchange website for details.

*This is a first-run showing.



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ERIC FIKES

SUPERVISORY TRAINING SPECIALIST

HOMELAND DEFENSE CIVIL SUPPORT OFFICE INCIDENT RESPONSE TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Responsible for training service members to be first responders during weapons of mass destruction or hazmat events.



Where are you from, and what brought you to Fort Leonard Wood?

I'm from Uniontown, Alabama. I retired (from the Army) out of Fort Leonard Wood in 2019, working in the same office I'm currently working at, and I ended up just staying because I loved the place so much. The cost of living is low, and I figured getting into the (general schedule) system would balance it out. Plus, I love to be outdoors and hunt and fish, and this is the perfect environment for it.

What is something about the local community you especially like?

It's a very tight-knit community, where everybody knows everybody, and everybody is friendly. Having that small town feel and the concept that everyone is looking out for one another is by and large the most attractive part of the area.

What is the best part about your job?

Everything. Ultimately, we are training Soldiers and responders to save lives, and I think that's the most rewarding part.

Why should service members consider becoming Army civilians?

You get to feel like you're serving. A lot of Soldiers have that angst and nervousness about retiring and what they're going to do next. With being an Army civilian, you still get to contribute to the nation's mission with the Army. You still get to coach and mentor and provide the information and years of knowledge you've accumulated.

What would you say to service members considering an Army civilian career?

Think long and hard about your experiences in the military, because they translate to the civilian world in more ways than you would think. A lot of us downplay our service, but when you truly look at it, you did great things. It's just a matter of getting it on paper and presented to the organization to show you are the best candidate.

