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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



Media Advisory

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Fort Leonard Wood needs donors to give blood

When: 11 a.m., Dec. 18
What: Media opportunity on how the Armed Services Blood Program collects blood
Who: Local, regional and national media organizations
Where: Fort Leonard Wood Blood Donor Center

Significance: During the holiday season, the blood supply drops as more people travel to be with families and friends. The Soldiers in training here are the primary blood donors, but during Holiday Block Leave they have a chance to spend the holidays with their loved ones back home. The Blood Donor Center becomes in great need to maintain and build its blood supply.

The ASBP, the official blood collection agency for the U.S. military, collects blood to help treat its own. One-in-four service members admitted to a medical facility in Afghanistan or other Overseas Contingency Operations areas will require a blood transfusion.

During the estimated two-week span of HBL, the Military Healthcare System will require 5,600 units of blood. The Fort Leonard Wood Blood Donor Center must rely on permanent party personnel, retirees, Family members and civilians to willingly donate.

Media interested in getting an inside look at a military blood donor center, should contact the Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145, no later than noon, Dec. 17.

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.
