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



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Volunteers needed to staff Special Olympic games at Fort Leonard Wood

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo – Fort Leonard Wood, in conjunction with Special Olympics Missouri, is scheduled to host the 2015 SOMO State Indoor Games March 27 through 29, and organizers are in need of 800 to 1,000 volunteers to help make the event a success.

More than 1,800 athletes are expected to attend the bowling and basketball competitions.

“These athletes are the best of the best around the state as they’ve qualified for state by winning gold or silver at their area competitions,” said Brandon Schatsiek, Special Olympics Missouri public relations manager.

Volunteer opportunities are available on Fort Leonard Wood and also in Waynesville and Rolla. On Fort Leonard Wood, venues include Daugherty Bowling Center, Davidson Fitness Center, Nutter Field House, Shay Gym, Cunningham Gym and Swift Gym. Events off post will be at Waynesville High School, Waynesville Sixth Grade Center, Waynesville Middle School and Coachlite Lanes in Rolla.

“Volunteer duties (in Rolla) include checking in other volunteers; helping bowlers stay in order and bowl at appropriate times; preparing and handing out awards; divvying out lunches; and much more,” Schatsiek said.

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Schatsiek said there is a need of roughly 60 volunteers in Waynesville on March 28. Those volunteer duties include checking in volunteers, keeping score (no experience required), assisting during individual skills competition and preparing and distributing medals to athletes.

Rhonda Hutsell, Army Volunteer Corps coordinator, said there are numerous opportunities for volunteers — from helping to set up to helping coordinate various ceremonies and events.

“This is a very positive opportunity to showcase Fort Leonard Wood and how proud Fort Leonard Wood is to be part of SOMO. We want to make it the best it can be,” Hutsell said.

To volunteer for off-post events, go to www.somo.org to register. Since installation volunteer hours are tracked, those wishing to volunteer on the installation should contact Hutsell at 573.596.0131, ext. 60212 or rhonda.l.hutsell.civ@mail.mil.

-30-

For more information, contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

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 about 80,000 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, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned 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.
