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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Lebanon leaders get inside view of Fort Leonard Wood's hospital**

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – Lebanon civic leaders visited Fort Leonard Wood July 23 and got a first-hand look at the installation's hospital.

Lebanon Mayor Lyle Anderson and City Administrator Chris Heard joined about 20 other community leaders from the surrounding area at the Fort Leonard Wood Community Leaders Luncheon, where the General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital was the primary focus.

Col. Peter Nielsen, GLWACH commander, provided an overview of the hospital where he gave a glimpse of the unique services it offers not only to its supported population of about 35,000 but to the surrounding community.

“As the only hospital in Pulaski County with an ER (emergency room), an OR (operating room), ICU (intensive-care unit) and in-patient capability, we are very busy with EMS calls to this facility,” Nielsen said. GLWACH can “admit patients or stabilize them for as much time as necessary and then find the most appropriate location once they're stable.”

“This hospital has been state, nationally and internationally recognized for its safety and quality programs over the past several years and for initial initiatives that have started here that have spread outside of this organization,” he added.

After the update, community leaders received a tour of the facility to include its pharmacy, behavioral health and physical therapy departments.

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According to Heard, the overview and tour offered valuable information to the community. One thing in particular, he noted, was the training Soldiers receive.

“When we were in the ER one gentleman talked about how medics at the hospital used battlefield training to save a person’s life,” Heard said. “They articulated the training that they receive is very effective and helpful in day-to-day operations and how that helps people in this region.”

Heard said forums like Fort Leonard Wood’s Community Leaders Luncheon are important for information sharing.

“It was a good opportunity for leadership at the fort to continue to educate and inform the community and business leaders outside the fort of all the positive things happening on Fort Leonard Wood,” Heard said. “It’s always good when the Fort Leonard Wood team reaches out to members of the community and lets us know what’s happening.”

- 30 -

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

Encl.

Photo

Cutline: Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, talks to Laclede, Phelps and Pulaski counties’ leaders as a part of the FLW Community Leaders Luncheon and post hospital tour.

### *About Fort Leonard Wood*

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*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 more than 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, one of only five reception stations in the Army, 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.*

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