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



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No. 15-049

March 24, 2015

17 Springfield-area teams to compete in SOMO Indoor Games at Fort Leonard Wood

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Seventeen teams from the Springfield-metro area will converge on Fort Leonard Wood March 27-29, 2015 for the Special Olympics of Missouri's State Indoor Games featuring solely basketball and bowling.

The post has hosted small, area SOMO competitions but nothing on a state-wide scale since the 2006 Fall Sports Classic.

The indoor games will feature more than 1,800 athletes and coaches from across the Show Me state, which includes 200 basketball teams, 1,250 bowlers, and more than 500 volunteers from Fort Leonard Wood and the surrounding communities.

The games are slated to begin March 27 and will run through March 29. The event is free and open to the public.

The Opening Ceremony is slated for 7 p.m., March 27 at Gammon Field on post. The Opening Ceremony is scheduled to feature the Parade of Athletes, the culmination of the Torch Run, the lighting of the Flame of Hope, the traditional declaration, and a special performance by the 399th Army Band.

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Media interested in covering the State Indoor Games should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145, no later than noon, March 25.

SOMO's Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/somissouri/sets/>

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.
