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



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473
VOICE: 573-563-4145
FAX: 573.563-4012
BY: Shatara Seymour
EMAIL: shatara.r.seymour.civ@mail.mil

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FLW celebrates Army's 240th birthday

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – In honor of the Army's 240th birthday, Fort Leonard Wood will kick off its celebration with a birthday run, beginning at 5:30 a.m., Friday at Gammon Field here.

The Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood will continue its birthday celebration to promote esprit-de-corps and take pride in the Army's heritage with a streamer ceremony and Retreat at 4:30 p.m., Friday at the MSCoE Plaza.

The focus of the streamer ceremony and Retreat is to share with the local community and leaders the Army heritage and to thank the communities for their support over the last ten years.

Lastly, the Fort Leonard Wood festivities will wrap up with the 399th Army Band in performance for Twilight Tattoo at 7 p.m. on the MSCoE Plaza with music, pageantry and military drill. The event is free and open to the public. It is recommended that individuals attending the Twilight Tattoo bring a lawn chair or blanket.

The history of Twilight Tattoo began more than 300 years ago as British troops were summoned from the warmth and hospitality of local pubs by a bugle and drum call to return to the barracks.

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The familiar tune told tavern owners “doe den tap toe,” or “time to turn off the taps.” The troops knew the call to mean “taps off,” and minutes later they were back in their tents.

The modern-day call is known as “Tattoo,” and during basic training the call signals the time to quiet down and hit the bunks. For the U.S. Army the call serves as a tribute dedicated to the vitality of our nation and to the sacrifices of those who forged America into the land of the free and the home of the brave. It is for our forefathers and fellow Americans that we proudly present “Twilight Tattoo.”

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Media interested in covering Fort Leonard Wood’s Army birthday events, should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

Encl. – Flyer and photo

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, one of only four 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 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.
