Guidon

Thursday, November 19, 2026 Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri



Send Me: The making of a Soldier | Week 8

"Frag out" echoed across Range 31 as the bone-rattling blasts of live hand grenades ushered trainees into Week 8 of U.S. Army Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood. Week 8 marks the beginning of Blue Phase, the final phase of BCT.



Academic alliances fuel combat modernization at Fort Leonard Wood

Thirteen Soldiers with the U.S. Army Military Police School participated in a Hacking for Defense problem-sourcing seminar through the Defense Innovation Unit Nov. 9, 2026, in the USAMPS conference room.



Soldier returns to US Army after vaccine mandate discharge

Back in the fight and moving up the ranks, Sgt. Luke Chrisman officially rejoined the U.S. Army during a reinstatement and promotion ceremony Nov. 16, 2026, at Fort Leonard Wood.

Fort Leonard Wood DES announces holiday gate closures

Fort Leonard Wood's West and East gates are slated to have condensed hours during the Christmas and New Year holidays, according to Maj. Samantha Maulupe, director of Emergency Services at Fort Leonard Wood.

Read these stories and more at https://www.army.mil/paowood.

NEWS BRIEFS

Ed center Friendsgiving Feast
The Truman Education Center and its resident colleges are hosting a free Friendsgiving Feast from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 20 in Bldg. 499. Participants may RSVP to their advisors.

MSCoE assumption of command
Brig. Gen. Daniel Hibner will assume command of the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood during a ceremony scheduled for 10 a.m., Nov. 23 on MSCoE Plaza. Hibner comes to Fort Leonard Wood from his most recent assignment as the commander of the U.S. Army Joint Modernization Command at Fort Bliss, Texas. From May 2021 through July 2022, Hibner served as the commandant of the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood.

Trees for Troops
Trees for Troops is making a stop at Fort Leonard Wood to deliver real trees for the holidays. Pickup will take place Dec. 4 and 5 at a new location this year, the Outdoor Adventure Center. Pickup for active duty, Reserve, National Guard and their spouses begins at 11 a.m., Dec. 4 —a military ID is required at time of pickup. Trees left on Dec. 5 will be available for other authorized Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons.

Holiday tree lighting and market
Celebrate the season at the lighting of the Installation Christmas Tree at 5:30 p.m., Dec. 4 at Joint Services Park. Enjoy an evening of activities, sweet treats, photo opportunities with Santa and the announcement of the Cards to the Community winners.

Noontime bowling league
Daughterty Bowling Center's noontime league plans to start games at 11:30 a.m., Dec. 10. League is held on Thursdays. Two-person teams will bowl two games each for 16 weeks. Awards will be given at the end of the league. For more information, call 573.596.1498.

Community Health Assessment
The Fort Leonard Wood Department of Public Health wants to hear from you. The team is conducting a Community Health Assessment to better understand the health, safety and wellness needs of the installation's service members, families, civilians and retirees. Take the Fort Leonard Wood Community Strengths Survey now through Jan. 4, 2027, and help improve your community. The survey may be found here.

Drunk Driving Prevention Program
The Fort Leonard Wood chapter of the Drunk Driving Prevention Program offers to drive service members home for free. Military members can access services by contacting the Fort Leonard Wood chapter through their dedicated hotline, 573.452.8595 or by email at FLWDDPP@gmail.com.

Warrior banquets at PCC
Pershing Community Center can host warrior banquets for initial entry training units, offering a place for graduates and families to share a buffet-style meal, and a place for leaders to present family day briefings, awards and promotions. Call 573.329.2455 for details. A portion of the proceeds are given to the unit's recreation fund.

Stay weather aware
Common Access Card holders, their family members, long-term contractors, private organizations and Fort Leonard Wood tenants can receive notifications on their phones via the ALERT! Mass Warning Notification System — instructions for setting up ALERT! notifications are on the Weather and Hazardous Conditions page.

Suicide prevention helpline
The national suicide prevention and mental health helpline is available by calling 988. Veterans may press "1" to be connected with a responder trained to assist military and veteran populations. For help from the Veterans Crisis Line via text messaging, text 838255. An online chat option is also available on the Army Suicide Prevention Program's website.

Sexual assault helpline
Fort Leonard Wood's 24/7 Sexual Assault Resource Center is available by calling 573.855.1327. Visit the Safe Helpline website for more options.

EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

PX car wash grand opening
The Fort Leonard Wood Exchange is hosting a grand opening for the car wash at 8 a.m., Nov. 30 near the South Express gas station.

PX Thanksgiving closures
On Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, the North Express is set to be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All other Exchange facilities are scheduled to be closed for the holiday. Express gas pumps will remain available 24/7.

PX holiday hours
The Main Exchange and Class Six will be open until 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays now through Dec. 19. Some Main Exchange restaurants are also planning to stay open until 8 p.m.

You Made the Grade program at PX
Good grades are back in session at the Exchange. Military-connected students in first through 12th grades can turn report-card success into rewards with You Made the Grade. Straight A's earn a $20 Exchange gift card, while a B average earns $10 plus coupons.

PX favorite holiday story contest
The Exchange is inviting shoppers to share their favorite holiday memories for a chance to win one of three $1,000 Exchange gift cards. Authorized Exchange shoppers 18 years and older can enter through Dec. 25 by submitting an original essay in English of 500 words or less about a favorite holiday memory, from childhood or recent years. Entries must be emailed to sweepstakes@aafes.com with "Favorite Holiday Story" in the subject line. Winners to be announced in January.

MWR Events and Specials



Ozark Tavern Events
November 2026

Gather some friends and enjoy tons of fun events this month at Ozark Tavern. Check out what's coming up:

Nov. 20: Trivia at 7 p.m.

Nov. 21: Pool Tournament at 7 p.m.

Plus don't miss fun for the whole family with 1/2 price wristbands for the Game Room on the following days:

Nov. 27 from 5 - 10 p.m.
Nov. 28 from 3 - 10 p.m.



Cards to the Community
Register by Dec. 3

Design a larger-than-life card to be displayed at Joint Services Park throughout the holiday season beginning Dec. 4. Guidelines and how to join the competition can be found on the MWR website.



Breakfast with Santa
Dec. 5 | 9 a.m.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast, fun activities, crafts and photos with Santa at Pershing Community Center. Reserve a spot today at Leisure Travel Services, online, or by calling 573.329.8587.



Ugly Sweater Volleyball
Dec. 5 | 12 p.m.

Grab the team and gaudiest yuletide gear for a merry good time at Davidson Fitness Center. Cost is $10 per team. Sign up at Davidson Fitness Center or by calling 573.596.4359.

Did You Know?

Piney Valley Golf Course implements a weather call during the colder months. If the daily temperature is 45 degrees or above, the golf course will be open for normal operations. However, if the daily temperature is below 45 degrees, the golf course will be closed.



Find more events, programs, and specials at leonardwood.armymwr.com