

Media Release



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Army Engineers celebrate 237th birthday

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers web site, George Washington appointed the first Engineer officers of the Army June 16, 1775 during the American Revolution. Engineers have served in combat in all subsequent American wars.

In observance of the 237th Army Engineer birthday, Engineers at Fort Leonard Wood have several events planned starting with the 237-mile Engineer Regimental Colors Run that kicks off at 11 p.m. June 13 and ends at 4 p.m. June 15. Runners will don reflective vests and cover a lot of ground on post with a trail vehicle following them. Drivers are asked to be aware and cautious of runners, especially at night.

The U.S. Army Engineer Museum will conduct a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open a new exhibit on the Engineers' role in the Global War on Terror June 15 at 3:30 p.m. at the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex here. Brig. Gen. Peter "Duke" DeLuca, U.S. Army Engineer School commandant, and Jack Gruber, a USA Today staff photographer who took many of the photos in the exhibit, are scheduled to cut the ribbon.

The exhibit encompasses more than 1,000 square feet – the largest space devoted to one topic in the museum, said Troy Morgan, Engineer Museum director.

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Following the ribbon cutting, Engineers will muster at the museum's Engineer Regimental Room for a cake cutting by the U.S. Army Engineer School commandant, regimental command sergeant major and the oldest and youngest Sappers. A plaque dedication is also scheduled.

Motorcycle enthusiasts are invited to participate in a regimental motorcycle ride that departs from the Main Gate Visitor's Center parking lot at 11 a.m. June 16. Riders will travel on post and conclude at the Fallen Sapper Memorial where a wreath laying ceremony is planned.

Engineers will conclude the birthday observance with a barbecue and fellowship at Engineer Memorial Grove here.

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Recommended Facebook entry: This week, U.S. Army Engineers will celebrate 237 years of service since the time the first engineer officer was appointed by George Washington June 16, 1775. To Engineers who serve both at home and abroad, and to their families who support them, Happy Birthday.

Recommended Tweet: This week, U.S. Army Engineers will celebrate 237 years of service since the time the first engineer officer was appointed by George Washington June 16, 1775. To Engineers who serve both at home and abroad, and to their families who support them, Happy Birthday.

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 80-90,000 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 Non Commissioned 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.