Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fort Leonard Wood to celebrate Hispanic American Heritage Month

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Hispanic American Heritage Month is under way and to help celebrate the contributions of Hispanic Americans, Fort Leonard Wood is planning to hold its Hispanic American Heritage Month observance and luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Oct. 3 at the Pershing Community Center.

The event, hosted by the 3rd Chemical Brigade is scheduled to feature Yolanda Lorge, Grupo Latinoamericano Dance Company president, as the guest speaker.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$10 and can be purchased through brigade equal opportunity advisors or by calling 573-596-0601/1013.

According to the Library of Congress website, each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was

expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting Sept. 15 and ending

Oct. 15. It was enacted into law Aug. 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

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Source: http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov

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.

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