



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
*Press Release***

7073 RADIO ROAD
FORT POLK LA 71459-5342
Voice: (337) 531-1418
Fax: (337) 531-6014



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Maj. Ron Elliott, 337-531-1418

Samantha Bingham, 337-531-4630

Louisiana Home Front Celebration 2004

Fort Polk, LA – Fort Polk is proud to continue cooperative efforts with area communities in support of a home front celebration to honor and recognize all members of the armed forces –Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard and military families during a one-day public event.

The celebration, originally scheduled for June 19, 2004, was postponed after the announcement on April 8, 2004 that elements from 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and Warrior Brigade deployed in the Central Command area of responsibility would remain in theater longer than expected.

In unison with some of Fort Polk's closest neighbors, the cities of Leesville, DeRidder, Alexandria, Pineville, Natchitoches, Lake Charles, Many and Ball, the event has been titled "A Louisiana Home Front Celebration" – Servicemembers, Families, and Communities Serving Together with Pride.

Brig. Gen. Michael D. Barbero, commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk has approved the new date in cooperation with Leesville Mayor Jim Shapkoff, Jr and other key leaders in the Greater Fort Polk area.

The Sept 25 event will include a ticker-tape style parade akin to a World War II celebration to honor and recognize service men and women that will involve military marching units and bands. Events will continue with celebrity entertainment, hometown community carnival activities and much more.

Thousands are expected to participate, and community involvement is key to the success of the large-scale event. In partnership with the city of Leesville, statewide registration to participate in the event is underway. Volunteers are much needed and crucial to this events success.

Registration Contact Information:

Parade:

Joy Cryer

Office of the Mayor

101 West Lee Street

Leesville, LA 71446

Office: 239-2444

Fax: 238-0464

Email: leesvilc@bellsouth.net

Community Carnival Activities:

Paula Schlag
Fort Polk Public Affairs Office
7073 Radio Road
Fort Polk, LA 71459
337-531-2011
Cell: 337-208-2525
Fax: 337-531-6014
Email: schlagp@polk.army.mil

Sponsorship/Entertainment/Food and Drink Vendors:

Shelby Sarver
Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation
7073 Radio Road
Fort Polk, LA 71459
Office: 337-531-1860
Fax: 337-531-2403
Email: shelby.sarver@polk.army.mil

Volunteers:

Tresa Hess
Fort Polk Public Affairs Office
7073 Radio Road
Fort Polk, LA 71459
337-531-4045
Cell: 337-208-3532
Fax: 337-531-6014
Email: tresa.hess@polk.army.mil

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