



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Ground Breaking Ceremony for Kingsport Armed Forces Reserve Center

Mt. Carmel, TN – The Tennessee Army National Guard will host a Ground Breaking Ceremony for a new 11 million dollar Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Mt. Carmel, Tennessee. The ceremony will be held on May 29th at 10:30 a.m. at 399 Highway 11 W, Mt. Carmel, TN.

MG Gus L. Hargett, Jr., Tennessee's Adjutant General; Dr. Sherman R. Reed, Army Reserve Ambassador of Tennessee; and COL Gregory Smith, Regional Engineer, 81st Regional Support Command will attend representing the Tennessee National Guard and the Army Reserve.

The 54,466 square foot AFRC building was designed to meet LEED Silver rating. LEED is an acronym which means "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design", and is the standard for determining "green" rating of construction projects.

Innovations contributing to the Silver LEED rating include a green/vegetated roof, which incorporates low-growing plants in moveable trays placed over about half the roof. This reduces heat gain in the summer and produces oxygen, off-setting the building's carbon footprint. Skylights and mini-skylights are incorporated to bring natural light into the building which reduces the need to use artificial lighting.

The Geo-thermal heating and cooling system uses the earth's natural constant temperature to heat and cool the building thru a system of wells and heat pumps. This is the most efficient man-made way to heat and cool a building.

On-Demand and Point-of-Use Water Heaters, Hydronically heated slabs (Concrete floor slabs in the Assembly Hall and Maintenance Workbays are heated by liquid-filled tubing running thru the slab in lieu of forced air heaters. This puts the heat down at the level of the occupants.), Polished & Stained Concrete floor slabs, Operable Clerestory Window in Assembly Hall, Field Maintenance Shop and corridors, roof-mounted Photo-voltaic panels to produce electricity from sunlight, and Solar Hot-Water panels are just some of the state-of-the-art features that make this building environmentally friendly.

For more information on the ceremony, contact the Joint Public Affairs Office, Tennessee National Guard at 615-313-0633.

Tennessee Army and Air National Guard press releases can be found at

<http://www.tnmilitary.org/PressReleases.htm>

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