

# Family Fun at the Carlisle Barracks Oktoberfest

*Article by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos, USAWC Public Affairs, photos by Scott Finger*

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O'zapft is! With the traditional tapping of the keg, Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin, USAWC Commandant, officially opened the third annual Carlisle Oktoberfest.



**Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin and Artie Tafoya of the Appalachian Brewing Company tap the first keg of the official brew for the class of 2011.**

While this is the third year that Carlisle Barracks has held Oktoberfest, it is the first year that it was held at the Army Heritage and Education Center, where more public venue would attract more members of the Carlisle community.

“We thought it would appeal to War College students, but there are community members, and we’re excited,” said Lt. Col. Janet Holliday, garrison commander. “It’s a huge community event.”

“This event is a great opportunity to foster the positive relations between Carlisle Barracks and the community,” said Chris Reitman, a member of the Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation team.

This year’s Oktoberfest was bigger than ever, with over 7,000 people celebrating Pennsylvania’s German heritage through German music, food and drink and family fun.



**Lisa Towery and Maggie Martin toast the**



**official Army War College beer.**

“The Carlisle Barracks Oktoberfest has always been open to the public, but this year, with 7,269 people in attendance it was by far our

most successful event to date,” said Reitman.

“There are lots and lots of people here, and we’re thrilled,” said Liz Knouse, FMWR director.

While beer is most often associated with Oktoberfest celebrations, the Carlisle Barracks FMWR strived to make the event family friendly. A children’s area featured pony rides, Segway rides, a moon bounce, face and pumpkin painting. Children and adults alike enjoyed food and drink, and arts and crafts.



**Children paint pumpkins at Oktoberfest.**

The center of any Oktoberfest is the fest tent. It is here that the first beer is tapped and people can gather to listen to music, eat and socialize. The Carlisle Oktoberfest's fest tent was the main gathering point for families to relax and enjoy German music, food and of course beer.



**Participants in the hot dog eating contest eat their hotdogs.**

“My family and I had a wonderful time,” said Gillian Covert. “(Carlisle Barracks) could not have provided a more family friendly event.”

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