

Carlisle Barracks celebrates Military Family Month

Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

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As part of its commitment to military families Carlisle Barracks offers several youth sports leagues such as soccer, basketball and T-ball throughout the year. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos.*

Nov. 29, 2011 -- Every November, Carlisle Barracks and all military installations around the world celebrate military families and convey to them the respect and appreciation for the sacrifices they make in support of service members on military missions around the world.

“During Military Family Month, we celebrate the exceptional service, strength, and sacrifice of our military families, whose commitment to our Nation goes above and beyond the call of duty,” said President Barack Obama as he proclaimed November as Military Family Month.

“We dedicate the month of November to military families to thank them for their dedication, support and service to the military and their country,” said Elaine Leist, Carlisle Barracks deputy garrison commander.

The local staff of the Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation office have been at the forefront of celebrating military families with savings and specials on recreation and leisure activities.

"While this is a special month set aside to recognize the military family, it is our hope in FMWR that we show that each and every day," said Liz Knouse, director Carlisle Barracks FMWR. "Thank you for all that you do for your country!"

Military Family Month extends into December here at Carlisle Barracks with several family friendly activities throughout the month.

Dec. 1 – Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

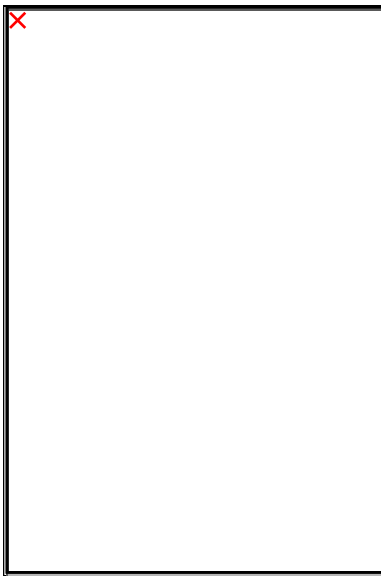
Dec. 3 - Christkindlmarkt Holiday Crafts Bazaar and Outdoor Recreation is offering a trip to cut your own Christmas tree.

Dec. 18, Holiday Brunch with Santa at the Le Tort View Community Center

Trips to New York City to see the Rockettes and the Nutcracker Ballet

Some of the November Military Family Month savings and programs were:

- Barracks Crossing offered 10 percent off complete framing
- On Sunday's in November the bowling center ran a Sunday Family Special where kids under 18 could bowl two free games when accompanied by a family member paying regular price.
- On Thanksgiving Day FMWR hosted a traditional Thanksgiving Feast at the Le Tort View Community Center.



A Carlisle Barracks family takes advantage the Carlisle Barracks Golf Course walking trail. The golf course is one of the services FMWR provides for military families. *File photo.*

During the Army War College student's annual trip to New York City, Youth Services and the Teen Center offered special activities and extended hours for the post youth, including cooking dinner for the children and their caregivers as well as showing movies in the evening.

Military Family Appreciation Month was established in 1993 by the Armed Services YMCA as a way to demonstrate the nation's support and commitment the families of military personnel.

“Day after day, week after week, spouses resolutely accomplish the work of two parents, sons and daughters diligently keep up with homework and activities, and parents and grandparents patiently wait for news of their child and grandchild's safe return,” said Obama. “To these families, and to those whose service members never come home, we bear a debt that can never be fully repaid.”