

Open house draws crowd

Greg Welker, Army War College Public Affairs Office

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The Directorate of Emergency Services held an open house on Aug. 12 for post residents and their families. Visitors could sit in the fire truck, learn fire safety and more during the event. Photo by Greg Welker.

Aug. 12, 2009 -- Carlisle Barracks residents and employees got to see first-hand the people and equipment that help keep them safe during the [emergency services open house](#) Aug. 12.

"It allows the community to meet all of us and interact with the equipment that we use," said Dennis Ing, firehouse station chief. "It's great to see people here every year because it changes every year; there's always something different."

Visitors were treated to free drinks and hot dogs as well as visit from McGruff the Crime Dog and Sparky the Fire Dog for pictures. The police also brought K-9 Rosie, their police dog, to the open house. As the firemen and policemen were showing some of their equipment to the visitors, they allowed them to try on fire gear and swing a bat at the protective gear of the police. There was a moon bounce that the smaller children could play in.

"I really liked it," said Maria Cuccia. "My favorite part was getting stuff, but I really like trying on the mask."

"It was nice and really cool," said Joey Mickley. "I got to try out everything I could that was here."

The firemen set up a fire hose to shoot at a fake fire so the kids, and some of the adults, could feel what it was like to put out a fire. The police officers had a special robot that they use for dangerous situations on display. Some of the kids chased it around as one of the officers maneuvered it around the grass.

"It's really nice," explained Sharon Spahr. "It's really good for the kids. They really love getting to sit in the trucks."

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