



NEWS RELEASE

Oktoberfest

09/27/08

Capitol Hill /Barracks Row

8th St. SE between G St.SE and Eye St.SE

Washington DC 20003

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At 11 am on Saturday, September 27, 2008 bustling 8th Street SE will be closed to traffic as the 6th annual Oktoberfest begins! Everyone will get into the act: There will be Tours of the Home of the Commandants, restaurants will roll out expanded beer gardens, brass bands will play, puppet shows and a petting zoo open for kids and guys of all ages will have German cars to admire – including a Cold War Trabant.

Booths of all description will line the street featuring crafts, foods and inspirational messages. Spring bulbs and funnel cakes and a fleet green E Cruzers (stretch electric carts) that get you where you're going while shrinking your personal carbon footprint, will all be on display to tempt, inform or amuse you... and maybe even get you started on that Christmas list.

While the Oktoberfest is going on, the military chefs will be up the street stirring the pot. Once again the Military Culinary Competition pits Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air force and Coast Guard against each other for bragging rights as to who has the top chef – and maybe, by extension, the best chow.

Fifteen teams of four active military chefs will compete in a mystery box competition. They open their box of ingredients and have thirty minutes to decide what they will make. Then in two and a half hours it's show time and their dish has to be served to the 4 judges! Moms all over the world know what this is like but watching soldier chef's worry this way is particularly interesting for those of us who face this same problem at home every night! The cook off will be MC'd by radio personalities from DC 101.

Capitol Hill Oktoberfest is a community festival organized by Barracks Row Main Street that celebrates the street's renaissance. Designed in 1801 as the first commercial corridor of the federal city, 8th Street was substantially revitalized over the past ten years with the addition of new brick sidewalks, rows of fresh trees and lamp posts but most importantly, ongoing façade improvements to the buildings themselves. In 2006 Barracks Row Main Street won the prestigious Great American Main Street Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Plan now to spend Saturday September 27 from 11 am to 5 pm being entertained on Historic Barracks Row, 8th St. SE- just below Pennsylvania Ave and steps from Eastern Market Metro. **To learn more**, please visit www.barracksrow.org