

Outgoing Chief of Staff recognized for major War College contributions

By Tom Conning

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After five years at Carlisle Barracks and a variety of jobs, **Col. John Laganelli**, exiting Army War College chief of staff, his wife, **Dian Laganelli**, family, friends and co-workers gathered in the Bliss Hall foyer for an awards ceremony recognizing Laganelli, May 10. **Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo**, Army War College Commandant, highlighted Laganelli's accomplishments and capabilities.

"What Col. Laganelli brought to us - besides Dian - was that natural ability to get the very busy and focused members of a diverse organization moving in the same direction for a common purpose," said Cucolo. "A devoted husband and on-call auto repair and personnel recovery dad, Col. Laganelli never lost his sense of humor or his positive outlook."

Cucolo presented Laganelli the Legion of Merit and recognized Dian's contributions to the Carlisle Barracks community with the Outstanding Civilian Service Award.



Col. John Laganelli, outgoing Army War College chief of staff, and his wife, Dian, receive awards in the Bliss Hall foyer during a ceremony recognizing them, May 10. Col. Don Galli is replacing Col. Laganelli who is headed to Kuwait where he will serve as the Deputy Chief of Staff at 3rd Army/U.S. Army Central Command.

"Dian has been a huge supporter in both communities of Carlisle Barracks and greater Carlisle itself," said Cucolo. "Dian, once again, you have made an incredibly positive impact...you literally won friends and influenced people just by being yourself."

We never intended to stay here for five years, said Laganelli. "It's been a great job," he said. "There are a lot of people that I would like to say thank you to and it would take me all day long to thank people."

He highlighted the rewarding relationships the couple made beyond the gates of Carlisle Barracks, working with United Way, Carlisle CARES, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Laganelli began his tour at Carlisle Barracks as an Army War College student. After graduation, he tackled the responsibilities of the Strategic

Decision-Making Exercises, creating challenging new scenarios and managing the enormous scope of planning detail required for that capstone student event. Since 2011, he has served as the Chief of Staff of the Army War College. Laganelli is headed to Kuwait where he will serve as the Deputy Chief of Staff at 3rd Army/U.S. Army Central Command.

Army Col. Don Galli is current USAWC Chief of Staff.

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