

A special welcome to all Newcomers to include the Students, Families of the USAWC Class of 14

Lt. Col. Kimberly Peeples, Garrison Commander

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Activities for newcomers include "welcome jams" held for high school and middle school students allow kids to make friends before school starts and learn more about their new community. Carlisle sponsors a welcome jam for all newcomers downtown September 28, in conjunction with Harvest of the Arts.

I have a tremendous staff of extremely experienced and dedicated people ready to serve. They have been preparing for your arrival for many months, and we are all happy that you have arrived safely to Carlisle Barracks.

We are a small, close-knit community - but a community not defined by the housing footprint or the fence line. Approximately one third of student families live on post in some of the 221 family quarters managed by our housing partner, Balfour Beatty Communities. Whether you are living on or off post, we strive to ensure that you will have an unforgettable Carlisle Experience filled with fond memories on post, throughout the Army War College, and across the greater Carlisle area community.

Several new faces have joined my experienced garrison team, and they'll help us take a fresh look at our programs. For example, our new Outdoor Recreation manager brings a great deal of outdoor experience. Bruce Nielson just joined us after spending the last 4 years as a professional guide in Zion National Park, Utah. Please visit him to plan some exciting Pennsylvania adventures. We also have two new

graduates managing our Youth Sports program with a plan to take our already strong program to new levels with your input and recommendations.

For the first few months of the academic year, we're sponsoring a number of events to help you get to know each other and the community such as the County Fair, Welcome Picnic and 'Boatyard Wars' open on Aug. 9, welcome jams, ice cream socials, and school orientations. We have a great bowling alley (newly renovated) and a beautiful golf course facility. If you would like to get involved in the community, we have a robust volunteer program managed through Army Community Service. Whatever your desire, I think we will have something to interest you. Please pick up the MWR First Choice Magazine each month for our event highlights!

We're proud of the services and activities we offer – but we're always striving to improve and best support your 'Carlisle Experience'. We will do everything possible to support and serve during your tour. I read every comment card submitted through ICE and the comment box at the Exchange. You can also call my office at 717.245.3232, or stop and talk with me around post. We welcome your input, comments, and suggestions in an effort to sustain the programs that are working, and to continuously grow and improve where needed.

This is your home town. I hope that you'll find Carlisle Barracks and the local community as welcoming we have. Since our arrival in May, we have found Carlisle to be an extremely welcoming place and wonderful community. I enjoy walking the post at night with my son, Van. His favorite stop is the Fire Department at the center of our historic post. We hope that you will have a similar experience.

Again, welcome to Carlisle Barracks, an outpost of pride and military tradition! We are so happy that you are here. John and I look forward to meeting you!