

USAFA,

For those who have not yet heard, Lt Gen Richard M. Clark has been nominated by the President, and if confirmed by the senate, he will become USAFA's 21st Superintendent. He is excited for the opportunity to come back, having been here formerly as both a cadet (Class of '86) and as the Commandant of Cadets from 2010-2012. Lt Gen Clark has a phenomenal leadership record and is currently serving at the Pentagon as the Deputy Chief of Staff of Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our plan going forward is still very dynamic, and largely dependent on the success of public health measures both in the local Colorado Springs area and here on USAFA. We have set go/no-go decision dates for upcoming events in order to give you and your families as much time to plan as possible. We should all recognize that we have a mission to accomplish and we will need to remain flexible. This is a dynamic situation as we deal with the conditions at USAFA as well as in the state and city. We need every individual's continual compliance with health and safety measures in order to ensure we can complete as many activities as possible. As it stands, here is some info on future events:

- **March Back from Jacks Valley.** The second March Back will take place this Saturday, 25 July. While neither March Back is open to the public due to COVID-19, we are asking family, friends, alumni, fans, etc. to participate in other ways. Get out and march/walk/run 6.2 miles between now and July 31 in your cadet PT shirt (for grads) or USAFA gear (for everyone else) and share pictures online with the hashtag #marchwith2024. For full details on the event, visit <https://www.usafa.edu/event/virtual-march-back/>.
- **Doolie Day In.** Doolie Day Out will look a little different this year, and has been modified to Doolie Day In—details forthcoming.
- **Return of Cadet Wing.** The final wave of cadets returning to the Wing is scheduled for July 26 and July 27. We are excited to welcome back the rest of the family!
- **Acceptance Day Parade.** The Acceptance Day Parade on August 10th will not be open to the public; however, a live stream of the event will be offered and a link will be sent out as the event date nears.
- **First Day of the Fall Semester.** 12 August. There will be a mix of remote learning, in-person classes, and hybrid courses. Some courses will be synchronous, while others will be asynchronous. Cadets are responsible for understanding these definitions and for how each course on her/his schedule will operate.
- **Parents Weekend 2020.** USAFA will be unable to host Parent's Weekend this year due to the risk of COVID exposure from people traveling across the country and internationally.
- **Thanksgiving Break.** We will make a final decision on the details of Thanksgiving Break no later than 1 October.

The next Supt's Live Stream will take place this Thursday, 23 July at 1530. It will be a mandatory Cadet Wing All Call. Cadets should expect a link to come through their CW leadership. I intend to explain the plan for the Fall as we understand the details today.

OFF BASE LODGING FOR CADETS

You may have heard about temporary living conditions for a number of cadets off-base as they return to USAFA. That is an option we are currently pursuing as a way to allow appropriate social distancing and to create swing space for Q&I in the dorms. This way we can ensure proper on-base care for those individuals who present COVID-like symptoms. At this time, we have not determined which hotel(s) to use, but fully intend to support our local businesses who have been so dedicated to our institution over the years. This gives us the swing-space needed to function under COVID.

MORALE

I understand that the many cancellations and current conditions can take a toll on morale. As leadership, we keep asking you to hang in there for an undetermined amount of time. I want you to realize that not everything has changed. We are still in beautiful Colorado Springs, and for cadets, day passes are still authorized. Additionally, the 10th FSS, CW and Cadet Activities are looking at other options for the coming months. Plan ahead and make the most of it! My family and I enjoy hiking, so here are a few recommendations to help you get out and enjoy in our current environment:

- **On base:** Eagle's Peak, Stanley Canyon
- **Off base:** Red Rock Canyon Open Space <https://redrockcanyonopenspace.org/>
Garden of the Gods <https://www.gardenofgods.com/park-info/park-1/park-rules-and-times>
Palmer Park: <https://www.alltrails.com/parks/us/colorado/palmer-park>

North Cheyenne Cañon Park: <https://www.alltrails.com/parks/us/colorado/north-cheyenne-canon-park>

Ute Valley Park: <https://coloradosprings.gov/parks/page/ute-valley-park>

Finally, I am extremely proud of how our institution has led the way in so many aspects this summer. We were the first Service Academy to welcome its Class of 2024, and CW has still carried out BCT effectively. Our Pandemic Math Team is doing nationally recognized work on the COVID outbreak to help inform our decisions. DF is still running Summer Academics and New Faculty Orientation—welcome to our new instructors and professors! AD still executed Physical Education and is prepared for whatever Fall sports will look like this year. We still hear the hum of the 306 FTG overhead daily, and the Prep School still welcomed their new class of Cadet Candidates a few weeks ago. I am thankful for the hard work the Air Base Wing, especially the 10 MDG, has put forth to keep up with COVID posturing, testing, and care. Thank you to all MEs and Directorates who are doing the hard work every single day. Because of you, our mission continues. The situation will remain challenging and dynamic but we will get through this with flexibility and team work. I look forward to speaking to all on the next live-streaming event.

Stay healthy, stay connected, JS