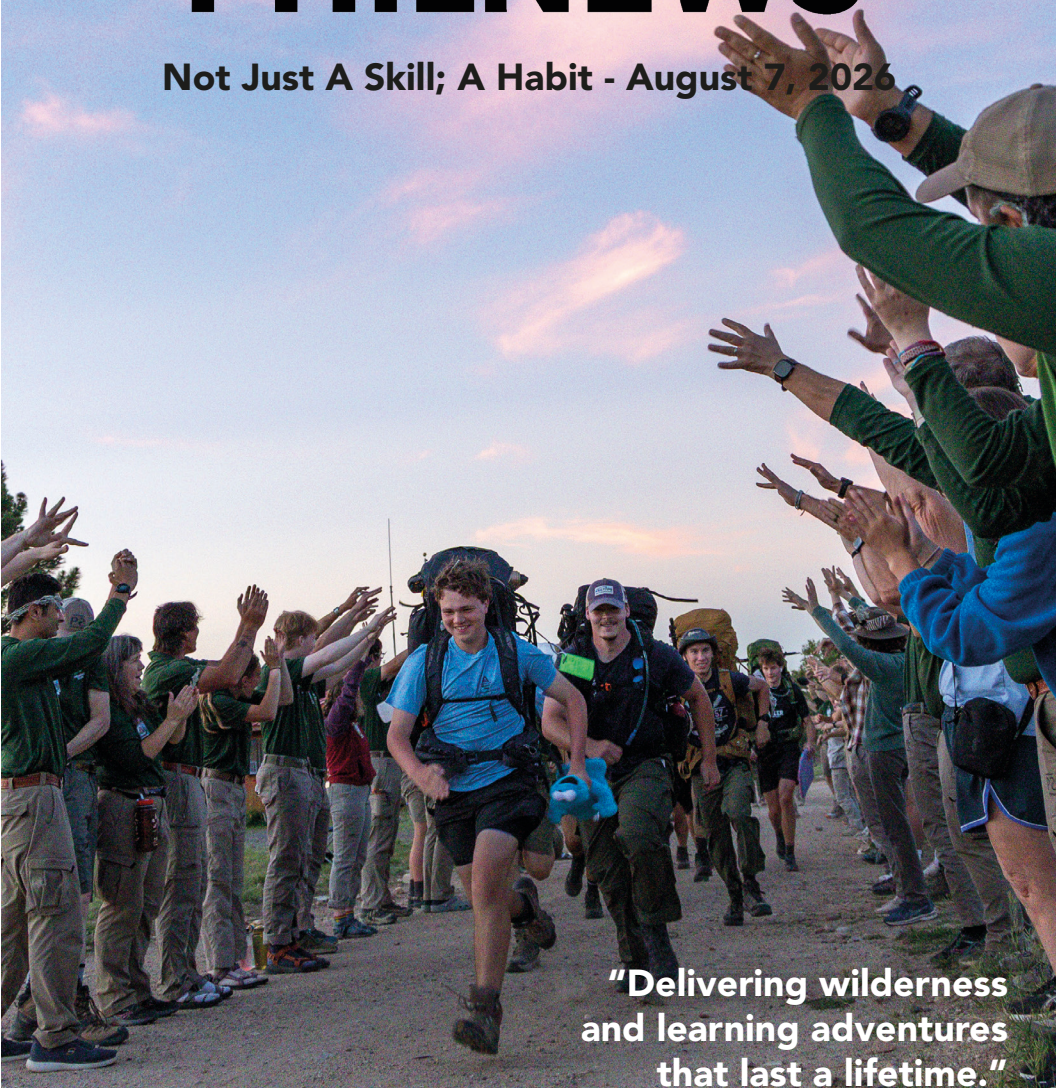




PHILNEWS

Not Just A Skill; A Habit - August 7, 2026



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AMERICA





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Sarah Peplow

Inside Cover Photo by:
Matt Stepp

Back Cover Photo by:
Muriel Alldredge

Trail Race

By John Youngdale

Just before sunrise, a bugle rang out, beginning the fifth annual Philmont Trail Race. 285 people participated in the race on Aug. 1, following routes through the South Country, showing runners some of Philmont's most iconic scenery. The Trail Race started as a summer tradition at Philmont in 2021, and consists of four separate events ranging from 8 to 50 miles.

The most ambitious event, the 50-mile race, began at 5 a.m. at Zastrow Trailhead. In a long loop around the South Country, the athletes passed Fish Camp and Clear Creek before eventually heading up Mt. Phillips, the second-highest point at Philmont. After their descent, they went right back up to Shaefer's Peak and down Tooth Ridge into basecamp. Bryan Gensits, who came in at first

place for the 50-mile, seemed more excited about his time than his placement. Gensits was happy to take an hour off his time from last year, and thankful for the pleasant weather.

"I think the hardest part of this course is the heat," Gensits said. "It was not hot today, which was all I could have ever wanted."

The classic 26.2-mile marathon started at 6 a.m. from Zastrow Trailhead. The runners went up one side of Urraca Mesa and down the other before heading through Crater Lake and Miners Park, up Shaefer's Peak and down Tooth Ridge. Standing on the starting line for the marathon, Dontese Cocchio said that his biggest inspiration is "all the other people that are here." Samuel Griffin, who won the marathon, shared that same sentiment.

"I'm excited for all my fellow runners



Trail Race



Photo by Muriel Alldredge who are also doing this with me,” Griffin said. “I love this running community. Everybody’s so encouraging.”

Beginning at Lovers Leap Trailhead, the 18- mile ‘Heavy Half’ featured a great view from Lovers Leap and

later Shaefer’s Peak before winding down Tooth Ridge to the finish line. The eight-mile race, called the Tooth Ridge Sprint, also started at Lovers Leap Trailhead, and shortly after, followed the famously steep Stockade Ridge Trail, straight up to Tooth Ridge, before turning right and following the switchbacks all the way down to basecamp.

Liz Lawrence came in first for the eight-mile Tooth Ridge Sprint. Lawrence, who runs for the University of Vermont, has trained for years to improve her running skills. However, she attributed some of her success to style.

“Glitter on the face, pink clothing, it makes you run faster,” Lawrence said. “Look good, feel good.”

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Full-Time Staff Highlight: Andy Schmit

By Heidi Wakefield

Originally, Andy Schmit first came to Philmont on trek in 1991 and never quite got it out of his system. He came back to work in 1995, returned for conservation in 2005, moved into maintenance from 2006 to 2008, and kept finding his way back until Philmont became permanent in 2016. He's been a full-time Maintenance Technician ever since.

The Maintenance department is larger than most people realize. "We have the main shop, which also has the plumbing shop, electrician shop, and carpenter shop," Schmit said. "Right next door is the farm and roads crew.

And we have the paint shop and the lumber yard back there." Between them, the department keeps the ranch supplied and operational year-round.

Schmit's day rarely looks the same twice. "One thing I have learned is always be flexible," he said. Plans shift constantly to meet the demands of different departments, Backcountry staff camps, and grounds. "There are certain projects we need to get done, and we do those first", but beyond that, the day has a way of writing itself.

What keeps him going is the work itself and the people around it. "I just like working with my hands," Schmit said. "Seeing the people's reaction to what I can accomplish out here." When he gets the chance to head into the backcountry, a rarity for someone usually based at CHQ, he welcomes it. "It's a little change of pace," he said.

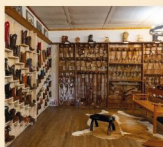
After more than two decades of coming and going, and nearly a decade of staying, what Schmit values most is simple. "There's a lot of people that we meet over the years," he said. "I like listening to some of their stories and being able to just connect with them."



Photo by Sarah Peplow

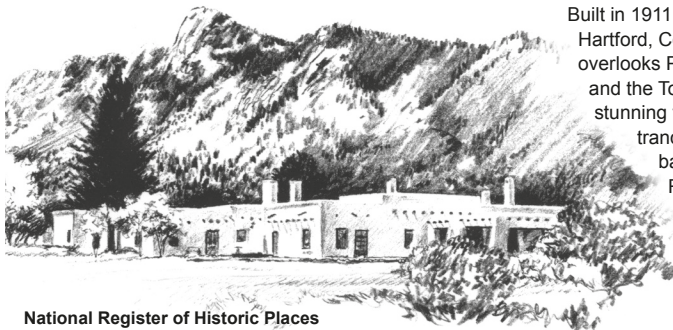
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Photo by Elena Scherry

“Delivering the Magic of Philmont:” A Day in the Life of a Backcountry Staff

By Urvi Thakker

Rooster from Metcalf Station says, “The best part about working in the Backcountry is delivering the magic of Philmont,” but what does that mean? Have you ever wondered what it’s like to work in the Backcountry, what their daily routine looks like, what they eat for dinner, and what they do in their free time? Rooster and Bruce, two interpretive history program counselors from Metcalf Station, give us a sneak peek into just that, showing us what a day in the life of a Backcountry staff member looks like.

Typically, their day starts at around 7 a.m., which is when they gather at the cabin for breakfast and tea. Their morning ritual also includes performing cabin duties before the crews start to arrive. “I go through and check the chlorine residual on our water charts, check the fridges for their temperatures, set out smellables...” Bruce said.

As crews hike in from the far horizon, they hear staffers yelling “Welcome to Metcalf Station!” echoing through the canyon. Once they’ve set their packs down, they receive a porch talk from

Delivering the Magic of Philmont

Backcountry staff. “Porch talks are very important to Backcountry Staff... That is [the Scouts’] first impression of you as a staff and your camp in general. You have no idea what the crew just went through,” Rooster said. “You want them to feel welcome and you want them to have an amazing first impression.”

Backcountry staff host morning and afternoon programs for the Scouts, typically with slots from 8 a.m. until noon, with a break for lunch, and then from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. During leisure time or in between programs, Backcountry staff often fill their time by reading, crafting something in the forge, sewing, baking, sending letters to other camps with their custom seal, working on the railroad track, or playing some of their various instruments. “We love playing our instruments,” Bruce said. “That’s another thing we all do together in our downtime. If you see one person playing an instrument, chances are another person will bring theirs out soon enough.”

At around half past five, they gather to eat a hearty, home-cooked dinner, like baked green chili chicken mac and cheese, followed by evening rotations of show preparations, bear bag checks, and Advisor’s Coffee.

Crews return to the porch at 8 p.m. for the much-coveted campfire

show, playfully disguised by the staff as a mandatory company meeting. “Campfire shows in the Backcountry are extremely important,” Rooster said. “It is a good time to bring up all the energy in the crew, give them a good time, give them something to laugh at, let them listen to the music, as well as tell the history of the camp and the place that you’re at.” The show includes the staff singing songs like Building Up the Rail, Bonito, and I Like Trains, interspersed with funny interactions among the Interp members about their life in the early 1900s, and concluded by a special message from the Camp Director.

“My Scoutmaster came through Metcalf in ’23, he talks about his experiences to this day... My best friend’s mom came here in 2017; she still talks about the campfires she saw right here,” Bruce said. “Every day that the crews are out here, they are making memories, they are having experiences, they are learning things that they will treasure forever, and we get to be a small part in their life stories.”

“It’s amazing what one day of working with [a Scout] can do to their outlook for the rest of their trek, for the rest of their lives,” Bruce said. “Whether you change their day, week, month, or year, or life, having that interaction and being able to spend time with these crews is just so rewarding.”

Lights in the Mountains

By John Youngdale

"Because of the land's incredible history,
there is a spirit in these woods that
refuses to remain quiet."

— Jared and Lori Chatterley,

"When the Sun Goes Down"

For any Scout who comes to Philmont, there is a high likelihood they will hear one of the many tales of paranormal activity that occurs at the ranch. From the spirits of miners working for eternity in the North Country, to the orbs, phantoms, and strange creatures that roam around Urraca Mesa to the south, the number of supernatural sightings cannot be purely coincidental. But why?

"There has been a lot of exciting things that have happened in this area that will lend itself to more paranormal energy," Jared Chatterley said. "There has been a lot of life lived here."

Chatterley worked seasonally at Philmont in the 1990s and took an interest in the ghost stories he heard here. Chatterley and his wife, Lori, published a book, "When the Sun Goes Down" in 2000, a collection of ghost stories that occurred on the ranch. In the book, the two affirm that the history of Philmont and the surrounding area has left a deep, lasting impression that can still be seen today.

In the South Country, almost every ghost story surrounds Urraca Mesa.



Photo by Ian Massidda

Long before the Spanish, Mexicans, or Americans laid claim to the area, the Ancestral Puebloans inhabited Urraca. According to Chatterley's book, a common bird found on the mesa, the magpie (or Urraca in Spanish) was seen as a disembodied spirit in the Ancestral Puebloan culture. Some believe that on the mesa that now holds this name there is a portal used by the Anasazi to travel to a different world.

Many of the stories surrounding Urraca Mesa are consistent with others. Glowing, blue lights, which Chatterley himself has seen, have been spotted near the rim of the mesa, sometimes accompanied by movements and audible chants. Lost Scouts in outdated uniforms, and ghostly cowboys have been seen wandering around on the top. Even a small, two-legged, hoofed creature has been noticed stalking

crews as they hike along the side of the mesa.

To the north, the legends are rooted in the industry that dominated the land in the mid-19th century: mining. Mining has always been a dangerous job. The town of Dawson, east of Philmont, was wiped out after two large mining accidents, both caused by explosions that instantly killed hundreds of miners. The Baldy mining district was a bustling hub of copper, silver, and gold mining. Many people lost their lives in the area due to the harsh conditions, many of whose graves can still be seen near Baldy Town.

Backcountry staff have reported seeing miners wandering through staff camps with lanterns or watching them from the cabin rafters while they sleep. Many have heard pickaxes and the voices of miners echoing from the depths of the Aztec Ponil mine or blowing in the wind through the pines. Some say they have experienced poltergeists moving objects around and knocking things off shelves, or slamming doors shut on hot days when the wind refuses to blow.

Regardless of the validity of these stories, the telling of ghost stories has become an important and memorable part of the Philmont experience.

“Having these stories and this kind of tradition here at Philmont totally

broadens and expands the opportunity and the experience of coming to Philmont,” Chatterley said. “[It] gives it a richer history, which makes it cool for people to come here.”

Stories of the paranormal continue to be part of the oral tradition at Philmont as stories are passed down and changed over time. It is important to recognize that the truth within these stories lies with the people who inhabited this land before it became Philmont: the indigenous people, the miners, loggers, trappers, and cowboys. The ghost stories we tell around campfires help serve part of Philmont’s mission, to keep the history of those people alive.





The Kit Carson Museum welcomed interpretive staff this July to help bring the area to life. Reinacting the time period of the Mexican-American War, while dressed in time specific apparel, interp workers gave life to the history Philmont is built on today.

Kit Carson Museum

Philmont, where history, tradition, and
modern interpretation collide, and
Scouting interacts with the generational
significance of the land.



Photo by Elena Scherry

Living History: Kit Carson

By Heidi Wakefield and John Youngdale

180 years ago, the blistering sun cast over the thousands of horses, mules, wagons, and men, marching through Rayado along the Santa Fe Trail, in what is now New Mexico. Determined to claim the land for America, the U.S. was able to deter the Mexican Army from fighting with the sheer mass of the Army of the West, managing to escape bloodshed. The land, handed over to the U.S. Army, became known as New Mexico, subjecting the citizens to American Citizenship. From then on, alongside Native American and Mexican settlements, Anglo Americans began to carve the way for the Kit Carson settlement at Rayado.

Now, in 2026, the Kit Carson Museum at Rayado sits where those troops marched in 1846. The mission of the museum is to preserve the history of the area and allow those who come to Philmont to learn about the events that happened on the ground they stand on.

“I think it’s critical to understand the development of Philmont,” Program Counselor Nicole Dwyer said. “It’s such a deep and rich history, and not a lot of people know about it until they get here.”

This summer, the Kit Carson Museum hosted a living history event, inviting historical interpreters to come and talk about the history of Rayado and the greater Cimarron area.



Photo by Muriel Alldredge



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Although the Kit Carson Museum workers typically depict 1853, during the event, they portrayed the year 1846, when New Mexico became a part of the United States, after the Mexican-American War.

“There is documentation that soldiers did stop at Rayado,” Program Counselor Maddie Malm said. “It was before any settlement was here.” The Philmont Museum, in charge of the event, felt it was an important moment in history to portray on the grounds of Rayado in 2026.

The staff at Rayado give general tours of the grounds, but during the living history event, the interpreters provided

guests with further insight into the land during the Mexican American War.

“We get three months to learn about very important history and the wider implications for the rest of the world and the United States,” Malm said. “So that’s been a very valuable experience.”

“This is the first American settlement in New Mexico,” Dwyer said. “It’s definitely a privilege to live in this spot.”

As Philmont resides on land originally home to Mexican and indigenous settlers, there is great importance in understanding the origins of Philmont Scout Ranch. Acknowledging its history brings a greater appreciation for land conservation and overall sustainability, hoping to keep it preserved for generations to come.



Photo by Muriel Alldredge

Backcountry Recipes

Buffalo Chip Cookies

Ingredients and Equipment:

1 cup vegetable shortening
2 cups brown sugar
4 large eggs
4 cups all purpose flour
2 tsp baking powder
2 cups corn flakes
1 cup flaked coconut
1 cup butter
2 cups white sugar
2 tsp vanilla
2 tsp baking soda
2 cups quick oatmeal
1 cup chopped pecans
12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips

Instructions:

Beat vegetable shortening, butter, eggs, and vanilla at medium speed. Mix flour, baking soda, and baking powder together. Add to creamed mixture and mix until well blended. Sift in remaining ingredients. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake in a 350 degree oven 8-12 minutes.

Growing up, my mom used to make these cookies to give to teachers at our school. They have satisfying crunch from the corn chips and They are a family favorite. I got excited to see them in the Backcountry cook books, so I am under obligation to include this recipe in the Philnews. As always, cookies are better when shared, so, bake on!



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Phil-Lingo

By Urvi Thakker

Walking around Basecamp with your friends on a hot summer's day, sweaty and sad about leaving Philmont, and having to pretend to know what your friends are talking about when they say things like "Phil-Crud"? Hearing approximately five-hundred versions of the word "rock," not knowing what they actually mean? We see you. We got you.

RAWC: The Ranger at Welcome Center is one of the Ranger Trainers at the Welcome Center to make sure the Rangers are there to greet their crew when they first arrive at Philmont.

ROCS Trek: The Roving Outdoor Conservation School Trek is a 21-day expedition designed for Scouts to be able to deep dive into natural resource management and master their backcountry skills.

Rabbi Rock: Rabbi Rock is a Jewish Chaplain on the Ranch known for dropping by various departments across the Ranch to wish them "a blessed day." Be sure to return the favor the next time you see him walking around Basecamp!

Weather Rock: If the rock is wet, it's raining. If the rock is dry, it's sunny. If the rock is gone, there's a tornado. If there are two rocks, you need a visit to the infirmary.

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Participants, coordinators, and rangers from the decades gathered to celebrate their shared experience of Rayado: the unique and challenging 21-day excursion through the Backcountry.

RAYADO REUNION: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



Photo by Sarah Peplow

“Kids have changed, and so, we have to be thinking about it. Kids need hard things. Kids need to be able to learn to overcome obstacles. Kids need to learn to count on someone else. Kids need to learn to communicate with those around you.

Philmont still does all of that.”

— Mark Anderson

Rayado Reunion: Celebrating 50 Years

By Heidi Wakefield

“It’s to help them think,” the previous director of the program from 1999-2017, Mark Anderson, said. “They’re not just thinking about themselves, but as the trek develops, they’re thinking about what’s going to be best for all of [them].”

“Rayado means stripe or mark,” said Anderson. “So Rayado leaves a mark on those who participate or a stripe of achievement.” Scouts come to Philmont for the challenge, for the adventure, and for the memories they make. Scouts participate in Rayado for the life-changing experience that goes beyond that of a normal trek.

After nearly a month of hiking over 150 miles, never knowing where they are headed or what is around the bend, Scouts are pushed to their limits, physically and mentally, all while joining a crew they met on arrival

at Philmont. Anderson noted the program’s core goal, not just to teach the skills of camping and outdoor exploration but to bring Scouts to “a point where it becomes a habit.”

Testing adaptability, patience, endurance, and their values as a Scout, Rayado is unlike anything else. One of the highest achievements of High Adventure, Rayado doesn’t just challenge Scouts; it turns them into leaders, confident campers, and experienced explorers.

Originally, the Kit Carson Man program, Carl Imoff and Ian Sutherland proposed the new program, Rayado, in 1975, hitting the ground in 1976. Anderson commented that it was not just a way to increase the rigor of Scouting but a way to incorporate more women into Philmont as a whole, given the previous program was only

Rayado Reunion

available to boys. Succeeding with the first female rowdy ranger, Carol Munch, who helped with the program's launch, as well as inspired many generations of female rangers to come.

With the 50th anniversary, Philmont hosted a reunion, inviting past Rayado staff and participants from the decades to come back and see the changes on the ranch, and take a moment to reflect on the shared experience of Rayado with other participants. Of the 253 participants for the reunion, 40 went on a five-day trek before returning and joining the rest for programs and informational sessions.

On the last day of the reunion, they split into groups; the participants took tours through Basecamp, going through the arrival day process. They visited the Welcome Center, Logistics, CHQ, Outfitting, Infirmary,

the Backcountry Warehouse, and Conservation. At the end of the day, the groups were bussed to the Kit Carson Museum down the road to experience part of the Living History event taking place, as interpretive actors reenacted the proclamation the U.S Army gave to the Mexican Citizens in what is now considered Cimarron, New Mexico.

From the Museum, the participants hiked up to Rayado Ridge for a group dinner, eating Philmont's bison burgers. Afterward, Andrea Watson, General Manager, and other staff gave speeches on the legacy of Philmont and the coming years' plans.

Finally, together, the past participants of Rayado, single digits, and staff gathered around the Rayado flag poles to sing the Philmont hymn, arm in arm as the sun sank below the ridge.



Photo by Sarah Peplow

Testimonials from Rayado

By Heidi Wakefield

Name: Carol Munch

Ranger, Coordinator, or Participant:

First Female Rayado Ranger

Year: 1976

Favorite Memory:

“Seeing how the girls came together, when one of them had really bad blisters, it wasn’t me who said I’ll take things out of your pack. They came together as a group.”

Why would you recommend Rayado?

“It is very empowering. It teaches you who you are, what you can accomplish, who you can become. I really think from all of those, you have the opportunity to learn that you can do whatever it is that you want to,” said Munch. “It is life changing.”

What Lessons did you learn?

“We could do anything”



Photo by Sarah Peplow

Name: Patrick Baty

Ranger, Coordinator, or Participant:

“I was a participant in 2015, and a coordinator for 2022.”

Favorite Memory:

“One of the days when I was in Rayado, I had to get pulled off trail because I injured myself. I came down to basecamp for a couple of days and then came back and met my crew at Miner’s Park. I was sitting on the Miner’s Park porch, waiting for my crew to pull up, and it is the most enjoyable I’ve ever heard. And I just got this massive run down immediately of everything I’ve missed, everything they’d done while I was gone. They’d made me a musket ball (from Black Mountain).”

Why would you recommend Rayado?

“If you want to learn where your boundaries are, and push past them,



Photo by Sarah Peplow

Testimonials from Rayado

mentally, spiritually, and physically, and discover more about yourself than you thought you could probably know. It's gonna push you in a new direction, nothing else is going to give you this physically demanding experience. The leadership and crew dynamic skills that you are going to get are going to be unmatched by anything else out there."

What Lessons did you learn?

"From trek itself, the ability to do hard things. Just because I've never done, something mentally challenging, physically challenging, doesn't mean I can't do it. And continuing to build on that as I do other things in my life," said Baty. "It's ability to juggle 100 different things at a time."



Photo by Sarah Peplow

Name: John Kaszuba or Kaszuba John, depending on how you know him.

Ranger, Coordinator, or Participant: Rayado Ranger in 1980

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Favorite memory:

"I was on top of the Baldy Saddle with one of the sister crews, and we had a nice sunrise, and I had a little white gas stove I cooked tea for my fellow rangers."

What lessons did you learn from rayado:

"Commitment, focus, belief in a cause, those have carried through."

Why would you recommend Rayado?

"Because, in this day and age, people are unplugged from each other, unplugged from nature, and they don't understand how they can be responsible for themselves for their own actions and their own happiness and Rayado can teach them all of that."

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Thank You & Looking Ahead to 2027

By Andrea Watson, General Manager

Before looking ahead, I want to thank each of you for an incredible 2026. The experiences you created for participants, families, and one another made this a very special year at Philmont, made even more meaningful as we celebrated our nation's 250th anniversary.

There is never an easy season at Philmont, and 2026 was no exception. Challenging drought conditions pushed our entire team to work harder than ever to serve every camper and participant and ensure they had an incredible experience. Thank you for your flexibility, commitment, and determination throughout the season.

Because of your work, there is tremendous momentum as we look ahead to 2027. First and most importantly, we anticipate increased attendance across all our programs. That growth is a direct reflection of the outstanding experiences you delivered this year. Your professionalism and care have strengthened confidence in Philmont and encouraged more people to come, return, and share the experience with others.

In 2027, we will continue piloting OA Lodge Treks and Fastpacking for a second year. At the Philmont Training Center, we will build on the success of Stay and Play and Unit Adventure

Camp as we continue to grow and improve both programs. PTC will also continue expanding the types of visitors and groups it hosts and might even get a new acronym. Stay tuned for more on that!

Across the backcountry, we hope to reopen Fish Camp while renovation work continues on the historic Rayado Lodge. We will officially open the new Beaubien staff dining hall, continue improvements to Trappers Lodge, and invest in permanent structures at Dean Cow as we reestablish the camp following the Ute Park Fire.

Additional facility work will include improving restroom and shower access at CHQ Staff Tent City and Cattle Headquarters. We will also install new roofs at 16 backcountry camps as we wrap up repairs from the August 2025 hailstorm.

Sustainability will remain a major focus, especially protecting our most precious resource: water. We will continue improving the efficiency of our water systems and finding additional ways to reduce water use and loss.

Conservation work will also move forward using state and federal grants for forest thinning, including in the Bear Caves area, while accelerating

Thank You & Looking Ahead to 2027

tree planting at Cimarroncita.

With the completion of the Philmont Master Plan in fall 2026, we will begin implementing a bold vision for the next 30 years. Much of 2027 will focus on planning and preparing for major projects beginning in 2028 and beyond.

There is a great deal of work ahead, but because of the foundation you helped build in 2026, there is even more reason to be excited about Philmont's future! See you in 2027!

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\$395,000.00

520 E. 6th , Cimarron, NM 87714

This hilltop beauty offers stunning mountain views, 4 bedrooms, and 3 1/2 baths. Meticulously maintained, the home has approximately 3000 sq. ft., including the finished basement. Also on the .72-acre property are a 25x24 metal parking barn and a 31x20 outbuilding. Almost the entire property is fenced. The fencing includes 6 drive-through gates and 6 pedestrian gates. In 2024, the exterior of the home and the fencing were repainted, and a new electrical service panel for the entire property was installed along with conduit wiring in the parking barn. The furnace motor and zone valves were replaced in 2025. In 2026, the southside deck was refurbished, including two new Larsen storm doors, and the upstairs bedroom as well as the entire living quarters of the basement were repainted. This one is a must-see!



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Cut the Act: Advisors Coffee

By Heidi Wakefield

Coffee, tea, and cookies. Advisors gather on the porch. Often, lifelong Scouts, parents of Scouts, Scout leaders, and advisors talk, tell stories about their treks so far, and enjoy the company of Backcountry staff. On trek, the one thing all crews undoubtedly have in common is that they are at Philmont. Treks, animals, red roofs and “what day is it for you on trek,” there are stories shared, and coffee sipped as the sun sets on another beautiful day in the backcountry, no matter how grueling the day’s activities were. That is an important part of Philmont: slowing down. Enjoying the weather, enjoying the slow, quiet rustle of the trees and the sounds of hummingbirds.

Advisor’s coffee is a moment for advisors and guardians to step away from the Scouts for a minute and talk to other adults, but really, it is about the connection shared at a place so far away from the bustle of real life.

“Advisors get to talk to advisors,” one advisor said at Pueblano. It is “a chance to hear from different people.”

Name: Patrick Mulligan

Where are you from?

Glen Rock, New Jersey

Why did you choose Philmont?

“I chose Philmont because I wanted to do it for a while. I was planning on going on a trip to Philmont, but then the pandemic happened, so it got pushed off. So now I’m here as an advisor at 22.”

How is your trek going?

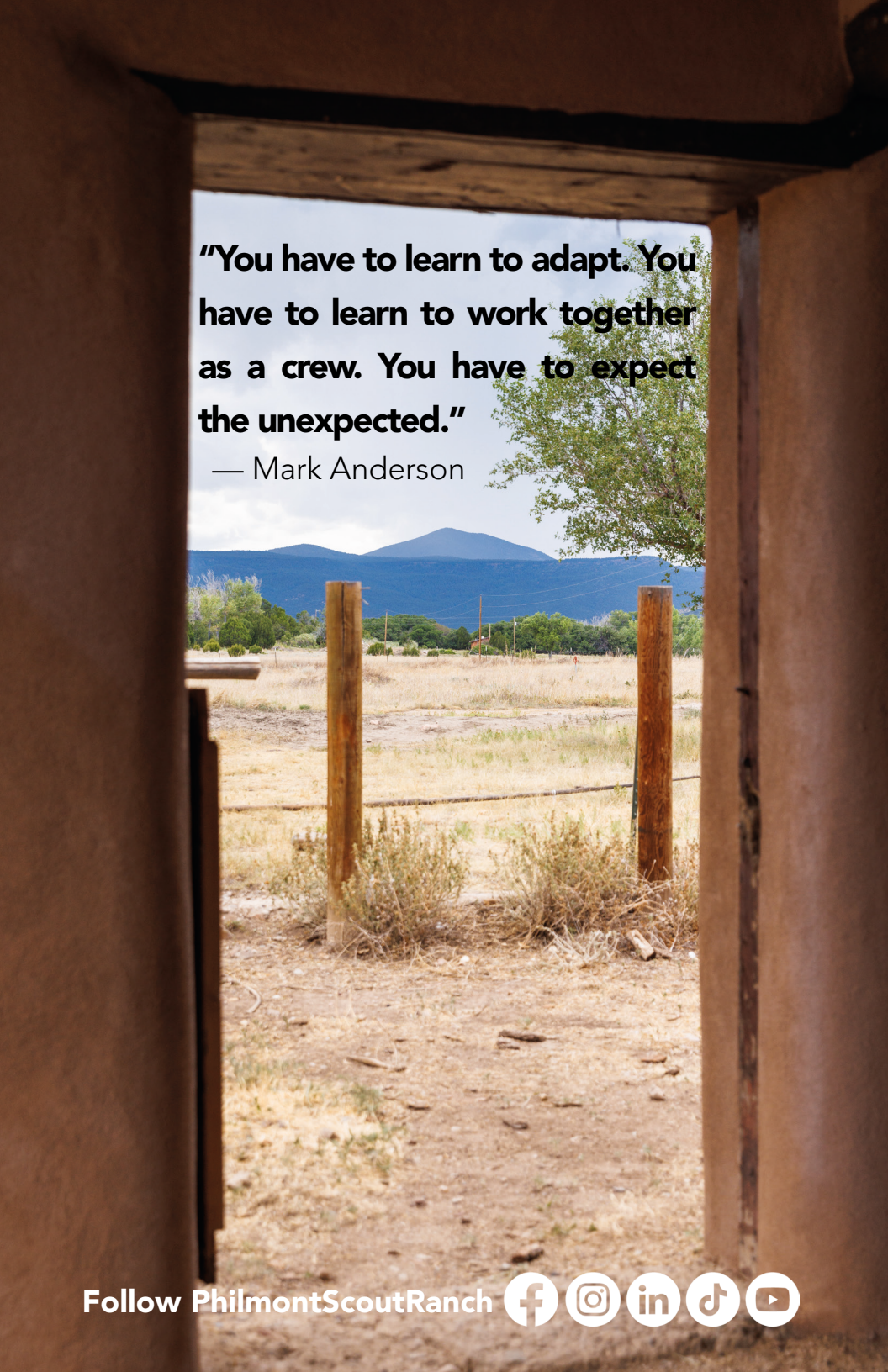
“I was pleasantly surprised. I was expecting a little more bickering, a little bit more complaining, but everybody just carried their weight.”

What advice would you give to scouts?

“For Philmont, the main thing is just one step at a time. That’s all it is, that’s all it ever will be. Don’t be afraid to take a break. But, you know, you can do it.”



Photo by Brendan Cox

A photograph taken from inside a wooden structure, looking out through a rectangular opening. The view shows a dry, grassy field with two prominent wooden posts in the foreground. In the background, there are rolling hills and a large, dark mountain range under a cloudy sky. A tree is visible on the right side of the frame.

"You have to learn to adapt. You have to learn to work together as a crew. You have to expect the unexpected."

— Mark Anderson

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