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PhilNews

“Explore the Arts” of Cimarron

By Garrett Franklyn
Staff Writer



Spectators view paintings on display at the L. Martin Pavletich Studio on Saturday, June 9 in Cimarron. Pavletich started his art career after leaving a profession in mechanical engineering and first found inspiration in his mother's art. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

On an easel surrounded by pastels and oils deep inside the workshop of Martin Pavletich, there sits a canvas painted with trees.

When the thought of Philmont comes to mind, it's generally followed by images of Mt. Baldy, the Tooth and Arrowhead Rock. And for Cimarron, it's generally of the St. James Hotel or the Cre-Mee, the Cimarron Art Gallery or Cow Paddy. These destinations are foremost on the minds of participants staggering off the trail and weary staff members

searching for a place to eat, not paintings, or paintings with trees, for that matter.

But nearly as common as the many restaurants are the art galleries scattered across the small town, sequestered in one hole-in-the-wall after another and generally missed for the cheese-dripping goodness of a piping hot pizza. In recent years, the town has been trying to cater to the art community in the hopes that more people from Philmont would take more of the local culture.

“It's developing into more of

and will be able to see Pavletich's paintings of the local area.

“Most of it is within an hour and a half within Cimarron,” he said. “There are a lot of things to inspire an artist to paint, [and] it's a very inspiring place.”

Pavletich draws on the local scenery as inspiration, from the mountains of the Sangre de Cristo to the splatter of clouds hovering close to Cimarron. Though his style draws on the landscape for inspiration, it is eclectic and

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Spirit of the Kwahadi

By Katie Sill
Staff Writer



A Kwahadi dancer performs the hoop dance on Monday, June 11 at PTC. This intricate dance tells the story of life. RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Venture Crew 9—also known as the Kwahadi Dancers—performed at the Philmont Training Center (PTC) on Monday, June 11 at 7 p.m.

The Kwahadi Dancers are known for their authentic Native American dance programs. Based out of Amarillo, Texas the dance troop travels across the United States to perform for various organizations.

Since their establishment in 1944, over 1600 young men and women have participated in the Kwahadi dance program. The Kwahadi Dancers draw their roots

from Scouting. The organization is a huge proponent of the positive influence of Scouting on young people. One must be a member of the Boy Scouts of America to join the Kwahadi Dancers.

In addition to performing in 46 states in America, the Kwahadis have also been featured abroad. They were chosen to represent the United States at the International Festival of Arts in Amman, Jordan. In 2008, they performed at the TreX-Games in Busan, South Korea, representing the entire North American continent.

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Sunday 17	Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22	Saturday 23
					8 p.m. Muggle Quidditch on the Health lodge lawn	8 p.m. Coffee House in the Staff Dining Hall
Sunday 24	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29	Saturday 30
8 p.m. Tie dye and s'mores in Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Humans vs. Zombies starting in Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Movie night in town of your choice: Brave or Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (time forthcoming)	7:15 p.m. Yoga @ PTC Small Fry Overnight hike to Rich Cabins	8p.m. Movie night in Baldy Pavilion and mocktails	8 p.m. Fasion show in Baldy Pavilion and Dodge ball at Health Lodge field	11 a.m.-2 p.m. Brat Day in Baldy Pavilion Pirate Day

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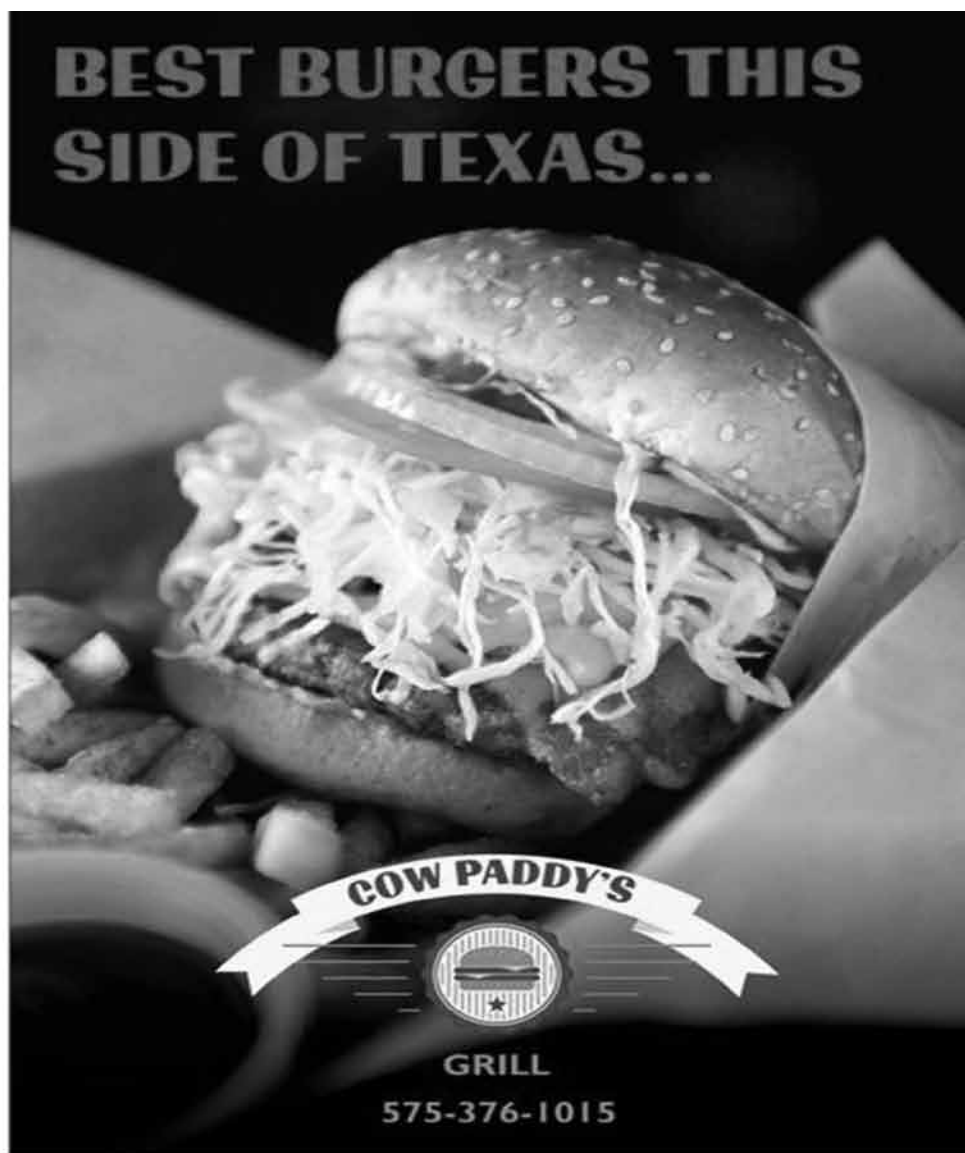
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Mark's Minute: Are you a Good Carpenter?

By Mark Anderson
Director of Program



SAMANTHA WAIDLER/ PHILNEWS PHOTO MANAGER 2011

This week Philmont Scout Ranch filled to capacity with a full week at the Philmont Training Center and crews

arriving and departing in the backcountry camping operations. Our numbers will average around 5000 people participating in programs and sharing experiences across the Ranch until early August.

We have reached the moment that we have been training for! We have a chance to share every aspect of our "pile of rocks."

Every day is a first day for someone and each participant deserves our very best.

Each of us needs to be a good carpenter to build and create great experiences.

David Slovisky wrote, "A good carpenter makes

almost as many mistakes as a bad carpenter, but the good carpenter takes the time to fix them all."

One of the participants at the Training Center this past week shared a story about his son.

"My 10-year-old son Joe has flat feet and has occasionally had foot and leg pain because of it. When I asked his leaders how long the all day hike was going to be and they told me 8 miles I immediately thought there would be no way he'd do that. Being the semi-seasoned Scout parent, I knew not to tell him the distance for fear he'd talk himself out of it. I did however, cancel a family hike to the T-Rex print the day before in hopes he could rest up for the big hike. I also went down and spent \$100 on a nice new pair of trail runners at the Tooth of Time Traders in hopes a light weight hiking shoe might be better than the heavy and clunky boots he brought.

Well, the day came and off he went. I was literally anxious and praying for him the whole day. As pick-up time rolled around I kept peeking out the blinds of our classroom in hopes I would catch a glimpse of him. Pick-up time came and went, and no sign of his group. Finally, I went into the program office to ask where they were. "Running late" was the response. I waited out front for the bus to return and finally they arrived. Here comes Joe bounding off the bus with a big smile on his face as if he'd been sitting around all day fishing or something. I asked his leaders, did you make it all the way and they said, "And then some, we did about 9 miles, and we went so fast we had time for additional activities." I couldn't believe it, I could not have been more proud of Joe. But what made my trip, if nothing else had even gone on, and even if it had cost far more, was what Joe said to his leader when he didn't

know I was listening. He said, "Now I know I can do anything" The confidence he gained from that one hike, on just one day at Philmont, may prove to be the single greatest experience of his life - the moment he realized he can do anything he puts his mind to. So for that, among the host of other blessings we received, I thank you all for all you do."

I hope that you will give your best each day and make sure that you are a good carpenter. We each have been empowered to make a difference in the lives of those we share our time with.

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constantly growing.

“I keep trying to find my own unique style,” he continued. “I paint for me, first. If I find something I like, then I’ll frame it. Hopefully, someone else likes it.”

Pavletich, who has a degree in mechanical engineering from New Mexico State University at Las Cruces, began his professional career at Mobil Oil in Texas, the rigors of which served as a catalyst for his latent creative prowess.

“I got tired of what I was doing,” he said. “I wasn’t having fun anymore. I told my wife, ‘I can’t do this anymore.’”

And so he arrived at Cimarron in 1993, managing and renovating a hotel that today is known at the Cimarron Inn. As for the building on 9th Street that would eventually house his studio, it would undergo several forms: A meat market in the ‘30s turned manufacturing plant in the ‘50s turned furniture builder in the ‘70s. Where Pavletich now sits at the front of his studio was once a welding area cluttered with an array of welder’s tools. Today, the studio’s front door opens

upon cleaned, recently varnished wooden floors enshrined by painting after painting.

A far cry from the past.

Then again, Pavletich’s studio isn’t the first in Cimarron to undergo so radical a transformation. The husband-and-wife pair of Steve Knight and Sherry Wolf renovated a rundown warehouse into a new art gallery they named the Old Town Gallery after they arrived in Cimarron from Southern California.

“One of the big draws is the fact there are so many artists around,” Wolf, 62, said. “People of like minds like to congregate together.”

She also draws motivation from the history of northern New Mexico, particularly the ethnic and ancestral inspiration of the many Native American tribes and their lingering petroglyphs, which contributed to the culture of the state.

“I like the cultures, I like the history,” she continued. “I liked New Mexico. It seemed to be a good fit.”

Deep within the building is a wide collection of photographs, paintings, collages and jewelry, drawing on various New Mexican themes. Knight and Wolf have been at the gallery for eight years, but their history with art began long before that when she bought a pair of earrings from her future husband in Thousand Oaks, Calif. nearly 21 years earlier. It was the first time the two met.

“I still have them,” she said, smiling.

Although visitors probably won’t be privy to those, they will be able to view the rest of the Old Town Gallery’s collection, as well as the other galleries in Cimarron and Pavletich’s studio. By that time, maybe, Pavletich’s painting of the trees will no longer be lingering on his easel, but hanging on one of the textured plaster walls of his studio, ready to be noticed and enjoyed.

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Continued from page 1, Kwahadi

When the Kwahadi are not traveling, they are dancing regularly in Amarillo at the Kwahadi Kiva Indian Museum and Event Center. The museum features art and artifacts from the Pueblo and Plains Indian cultures. It also serves as a youth hostel for travelers passing through Amarillo.

The Kwahadi Dancers will be performing on Monday nights at PTC for the month of June and early July. Those who attend will be treated to the beautiful sight of elaborate costumes covered in brightly colored feathers.

Meanwhile, the contagious rhythm of the drum is entrancing. Staff and PTC visitors alike should not miss the opportunity to see a Kwahadi performance; whether at Philmont or at their museum in Amarillo.

Program Teaches Environmental Education

By Garrett Franklyn
Staff Writer

The Backcountry Environmental Education Programs, organized by the Environmental Educators, is a 2009 start-up combining backcountry programs with an educational experience about the importance of the local environment.

“What we hope to do is instill a natural curiosity in their [the participants] world that they can transpose to wherever they go,” said Andrew Sheets, 27, one of the educators.

Called BEEP for short, the program is a way for environmental educators to combine preexisting programs at backcountry camps with environmentally-conscious

and program-relevant lessons. The information is then passed down to camp directors and program counselors, who will then teach participants. For example, at Pueblano and Crater Lake, two camps with a program on sparpole climbing, the educators have added lessons on the history of logging.

“It’s intended not to be a supplemental program,” said 21-year-old Alexander Nussbaum, another educator. “It’s intended to be an additional program to the programs already in place at backcountry camps.”

Nussbaum, a third-season staff member, left Wednesday for

the backcountry to help some of the camps prepare their programs. Currently, there are 19 staff camps with a BEEPS program, but Nussbaum and the other eight educators are in the phase of adding and developing plenty more for the remaining camps.

“I find it really rewarding,” Nussbaum continued. “It’s great to reach out to a lot of participants and give them a small dose of knowledge they might get.”

Visiting Foresters Educate Staff

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

Hiking between the picturesque Cito Reservoir and Hunting Lodge, participants come upon the Demonstration Forest. This is home to the Visiting Forester Program, where experts share knowledge about the Philmont forest.

The foresters come from all over and volunteer to participate in the program. They stay at the Hunting Lodge and set up in the demonstration forest during the day.

Some foresters come for weeks, others only for a few days, but each one that comes to Philmont may decide what he or she wants to teach to participants.

“The great thing about the program...it’s an opportunity for foresters that have experience with Philmont to give back and recapture some of the experience that you had working here,” Forester Michael DeBonis said.

A graduate of Yale University, DeBonis has been working as a forester for 10 years. He worked at Philmont about 20 years ago as a college student and decided to come back to be a volunteer

forester.

“The management of forests is critically important, and I think as campers come through, they may be walking through landscapes and not have a full understanding of not only what the history is, but what the management plan is,” DeBonis said.

DeBonis wants to teach participants about Philmont land use history, and try to relate what participants see to what is happening in forests around New Mexico.

One mile path guides participants through the demonstration forests, where Scouts and participants can learn about different kinds of trees and what the land was like before it became Philmont.

Along the path, participants learn about clear, sanitation, and selection cutting methods. Clear cutting means trees are eliminated from the landscape, completely

changing the area. Sanitation cutting is when infected trees are cut down and removed to prevent other trees from becoming sick. Selection is when one or two trees

are cut down for different reasons, whether they are blocking light for other trees or more spacing is needed between trees.

Alan Kelso, a forester who has worked in many forests, wanted to teach the kids about Ponderosa Pine Fire Ecology. He wants to make sure participants are aware of the forest around them.

“My main thing is on I want their head on a swivel,” the Missouri alum said.

Kelso wants the participants to learn about the history of the land, and he starts off with the pioneers arriving in 1851. He wants to inform people that the forest is not in its natural state because of the human management that occurs at Philmont.

Kelso has been a forester for 38 years, and first volunteered to be a forester at Philmont in 2010. The time he spent here has had a big impact on his life.

“I felt the week that I spent here [Philmont] was the most worthwhile week I have ever spent in my whole career because of the light that I saw in the eyes of both advisors and Scouts,” Kelso said.

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Both Kelso and DeBonis wanted to teach what it is like to be a forester.

“It’s not always walking through the woods, sometimes it’s working in an office, sometimes it’s collecting data, sometimes it’s flying in an airplane,” DeBonis said. “But the forestry profession is a great profession and it is an opportunity for us to let people know about it...you just can’t read a book and apply it, you’ve got to learn it from doing it...that’s the nice thing about forestry, it is different wherever you go.”

Forester Mary Stuever will be volunteering for a week starting June 25. She thinks that it is great that Philmont had the program to help educate the crews about forests.

“There is still a lot of misunderstanding in our society about forests and what makes a forest healthy and what the issues

are,” Stuever said.

The program serves as a learning tool for everyone who comes through the demonstration forest, and helps promote forestry as an art.

“One of the nice things about forestry is there is an art in the science,” DeBonis said. “You should always base your decisions on the science, but there isn’t always clear science on what to do. And then you have human interventions...and the art of forestry is what you feel, what you think is right, how you interpret the science, how you interpret the goals of the landowner.”

Zastrow, New and Improved

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

The gateway to the backcountry is more exciting than ever.

A 15 minute bus ride to Zastrow Turnaround, a half hour downhill hike to Zastrow Camp, and all participants will be welcomed to what the staff call “Hotel Zastrow,” a gateway to the backcountry.

This year, Camp Director Karl Hubbard and staff are shaking off previous stereotypes, and bringing a new energy to Zastrow.

“We are extremely hospitable,” Hubbard said. “It’s not about the program, it’s the staff.” Zastrow has the staff energy that makes it a fun camp for participants to stay at or hike through.

It is introducing new programs this year. Astronomy has been introduced at Zastrow for the

first time.

“The astronomy program will give Scouts the chance to use their knowledge on their treks,” Zastrow staff member Alex Williams said.

Also new this year is Dutch oven cooking and geography. Scouts will learn to make good food, have a feast, and learn about worldwide Scouting.

“The new “Geography of Scouting” program talks about other countries with Scouting,” Hubbard said. “So they can learn why we call ourselves Boy Scouts of America, and that other countries have great Scouting organizations.”

Zastrow offers an excellent geocaching program, where Scouts use a GPS system to find ammo boxes with stamps inside. There is a nine and 12 hole course, with the Scouts being timed. The best time

wins the Amazing Race Zastrow.

There are plans to add a new GPS to the program to help improve the course. There is also an orienteering course at Zastrow, where Scouts use a map and compass to navigate from point to point.

A popular program at Zastrow receiving high reviews is the “Re-dedication to Scouting. Participants discuss the four points of the compass and talk about how the four principles of Scouting should guide their life.

Zastrow also hosts two

younger PTC groups who participate in some of the activities Zastrow offers.

With new programs being offered and excellent staff at Zastrow, the camp is gaining popularity.

“We are all about improving Zastrow right now,” Hubbard said. “We are becoming more popular with the Ranch and with crews, and I think we are doing a good job here.”



DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Abreu, a 1912 Experience

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer



Crew members cleaning the burros’ pen during program time at Abreu. In addition to the burros, Abreu offers goat milking and brick making. DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

A Scout cautiously steps up to Nacha, the goat, who doesn’t seem to care that he is about to milk her. The Scout tries his best but is

unsuccessful.

“Don’t be gentle,” instructed staff member Amelia Trenga, who’s character name is Amalia.

The Scout tries to again, but to no effect.

“Squeeze high to bring the

milk down first,” Trenga said.

After a third try, the Scout is successful and another troop member takes his spot next to Nacha.

This is one of the experiences Scouts receive at Abreu, a living history camp. Abreu has an authentic 1912 experience. Staff members are dressed in the attire of clothing worn back then, and the house on the property resembles houses from 1912 as well with authentic dishware, furniture, blankets and more.

“New Mexico just became a state, so we are really excited about that,” Trenga said. “We have to be up early to take care of the animals, do farm chores, and take care of the garden. Then we take care of ourselves.”

About 15 crews go through Abreu a day. Six to eight stay the night at Abreu. Scouts learn about the animals and how to take care of them at Abreu. There are many animals to care for including two hens, one rooster, two male burros and two female goats.

Scouts can enter the pen with

the burros, pet them and learn about them. They may be able to learn how to pack burros later in the summer.

From the burro and goat pens, the unmistakable sound of a rooster echoes through Abreu. The staff teach Scouts how to take care of the hens and roosters, while enjoying the eggs that they provide.

Along with the animals at Abreu, Scouts and participants can buy a fishing license and take the short walk down to Rayado Creek to fish.

Another popular activity at Abreu is adobe brick making where Scouts create a mixture of sand, clay and hay into two buckets. Once the mixture is ready, they put the concoction into a brick mold. The Scouts are allowed to create a design in the brick.

Bricks are ready to use immediately after being made, but it takes three weeks for the bricks to dry. The Scouts have a choice to either keep the brick or let it be used to help rebuild parts of Abreu.

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How to Save a Life at Carson Meadows

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

Hiking into Carson Meadows, it's hard not to stop and stare at the view.

"One night, we took our sleeping bags and stuff and went into the meadow and looked at the stars and pointed out constellations," Carson Meadows staff member Frank Frantz said. "It was awesome."

But even with the stunning views of the surrounding mountains and the looming Tooth of Time, the staff focuses on the importance of search and rescue (SAR).

Carson Meadows and Seally Canyon are the only two staff camps that specifically teach SAR and both are working to revamp the program.

Work started before crews arrived, with three days of advanced training from SAR experts and former Philmont Rangers Matt Schofield and Geoff Sandfort.

Schofield and Sandfort worked with Philmont staff during the spring to plan a training curriculum that would add value for the stand and spark interest for SAR in participants.

After the training, the staff put together a SAR program to help Scouts understand the importance of Carson Meadows specialty.

"Getting kids interested in SAR is something I like to do," Carson Meadows staff member Carl Garrett said.

Garrett has worked for four



Crew members perform a litter carry during search and rescue program. The Carson Meadows staff has revamped the SAR program this year. DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER



DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

years as King County SAR in the Seattle area. He has been on about 50 missions, doing things such as helping police with evidence searches and getting a person with a broken ankle off a mountain. SAR is his addiction.

"It's exciting, the adrenaline rush, and it's in the name of a good cause," Garrett said. "That combination makes it what I love to do."

The SAR program starts with 30 minutes of learning about lesson procedures, communication, and Incident Command System (ICS). The Scouts focus on first aid basics before learning how to pick up and carry a litter with a dummy in it.

After the session, the Scouts

are given a short scenario where they have to use the SAR training to save a dummy. They are given a GPS to find the dummy, perform first aid, then take it to the traverse demonstration that is set up in a ravine.

"We wanted to add some cool stuff to the search and rescue program this year," Carson Meadows staff member Roderick Bergman said. "We tried to have less lecture in the program."

Bergman, better known as "Cougar," has experience in SAR in Colorado. He has been on 22 SAR missions.

The program will focus on search planning, search tactics, a clue awareness course, wilderness

medicine and an introduction to haul systems.

Carson Meadows staff does more than teach SAR. They are responsible for a portion of south Philmont where they would respond to a SAR call.

"There was one SAR that was south of Philmont, and we were hoping they would call Carson Meadows to go get it," Garrett said. "We were so excited and we all wanted to go respond."

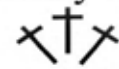
During times when there is no program, the staff challenges each other with potential SAR situations.

"We build systems, we teach each other stuff, we look at a problem and figure out what we



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The Gentleman Loggers of Crater Lake

By Katie Sill, Staff Writer
and Erin Nash, Photographer

As a crew hikes toward Crater Lake, they hear loggers hollering in the distance and the strumming of a guitar accompanied by the twang of a banjo. They trudge into a clearing where four poles, each about 50 feet tall, stick straight up in the ground.

“Hi there!” Collin “Bobby Li” Wong yells from beside the tallest spar pole. “Who’s first?”

The crew has just stepped back in time to a 1914 logging camp.

Wong hands the first crew member a harness, gaffs and a belt to wrap around the pole. The gaffs, which look like special leg braces with spikes on the inside of each foot, help loggers grip the wood as they scale the spar pole, Wong explains. He instructs the crew on proper techniques and safety for climbing, secures the first climber’s safety rope and smiles as he says, “Now you gotta compliment your donkey so he’ll take good care of you.”

A Scout or Ranger acts as the “donkey,” harnessed to the opposite end of the climber’s safety rope to belay them if he or

she loses their grip on the pole. The Crater Lake staff has made it a tradition to compliment or tell a cute pick-up line to their “donkey” to ensure they arrive safely back on the ground at the end of their climb.

“Donkey, you have the prettiest eyes I’ve ever seen,” the first climber yells.

The Scout slowly but surely inches his way up the pole using the gaffs, belt and Wong’s coaching. The belt is optional, Wong says, but is recommended for first-time climbers to help counterbalance their weight rather than bear-hugging the pole on the way up.

Crater Lake offers other activities at the rail tie yard. Using axes and other tools, crews can chip at logs and form wooden rail ties. In 1914, loggers worked in pairs to create rail ties, which they sold for five cents each. Crews are timed to illustrate the amount of time it took for professional loggers to shape round logs into a square tie.

“If anyone can finish a tie in 15 minutes, like they used to back

then, we’ll give them a nickel,” Wong says.

In the evening the Crater Lake staff encourages anyone and everyone to participate in their campfire program. The six-man Crater Lake crew entertains guests with live music, tall tales about loggers and comedic banter.

“After our logging competition against Paul Bunyan, he got thirsty and that’s what happened to our lake,” Wong says. “Now we just have Crater Hole.”

The crowd laughs and sings along as the six gentlemen stomp their feet and play their instruments. Camp Director Ry “Tiny” Taylor encourages the audience to sing loud enough for people at Miner’s Park to hear. As the campfire program draws to a close Taylor thanks the

audience for their participation and wishes them a good trek.

“We want Scouts to feel welcome here and like they can

just hang around with us on the porch,” Taylor says. “We are the gentleman loggers.”



Nathan “Loch” Ford, Gage “Quill” Reigelman, Ry “Tiny” Taylor, J.B. “Thumbs” Scott, Will “Flapjacks” Thompson and Collin “Bobby Li” Wong entertain Scouts with songs and tall tales at their evening campfire on Friday, June 15, at Crater Lake. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Continued from page 7, Abreu

After a long day of brick making and goat milking, there is nothing better at Abreu than heading to the Cantina for an ice-cold dollar root beer. There are many things to do in the Cantina, such as play chess, cards or the cracker barrel peg game.

Upon entering the Cantina, you will be greeted by the smiling Cantina Manager Gertrude.

“It is fantastic to work at the Cantina,” said Rosemary McCann, character name Gertrude. “All I wanted to be was Cantina Manager, and when I got it I was so excited. It is so much fun to play with the crews.”

McCann offers a varied selection of products from beef jerky to Toblerone chocolate bars.

Every so often, she will start a pickle eating contest. She said she goes through about 10 gallons of root beer in three days.

“I like that we pretend to be in 1912 because the Scouts learn, and they get to enjoy root beer and some nice social time,” McCann said.

Abreu also offers a Mexican dinner. Now that the season has started, Abreu will be a popular place to visit.

“I think Abreu is so popular because it is along the river,” Trenga said.

And as for the goat milk, no one will get to drink it because it is unpasteurized. Such is life in 1912 New Mexico.



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Learning to COPE

By Garrett Franklyn
Staff Writer

Kristen Hall begins her climb on a nearly 50-foot free-range ladder at the Philmont Training Center challenge course. In her eyes there is a glint of resolve.

“I think I can do it,” the 15-year-old said immediately before beginning, expressing exactly the attitude the COPE course is designed to foster.

For certain crews this summer, their itineraries will include the PTC challenge course. After days of hiking, they’ll come off the trail by way of the Tooth’s Stockade Trail and arrive at the course ready to further hone the confidence and teamwork they picked up during their hike.

“The purpose of it [COPE] now is to build teamwork and



Kristen Hall walks across the high ropes course on Friday, June 15 near Lover’s Leap Turnaround. This course invites Philmont visitors to challenge themselves. RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

trust, they’re learning confidence as we speak,” said Andrea Watson, Associate Director of Program of PTC, as Hall tepidly began the wire bridge.

Much of that is the focus of the Philmont Training Center. Hours earlier, Watson stood watching a group of kids shooting water-pressure rockets into the New

Mexico sky in a moment seemingly torn from the reel of the movie “October Sky.”

Ultimately, though, the meaning behind the programs at PTC is its ability to help participants take the skills they learn here at Philmont and apply them in their local councils. For participants like Kristen, the lessons are made all the more impactful by

the struggle taken to learn them.

“I feel awesome,” she said after touching the ground, a breath between every word.

Philmont staff can also participate in the COPE course, so long as they have a minimum of six people in their party.

Weekly Western Nights

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer

Thunderheads threatened to ruin the event, but while everyone enjoyed their pulled bison and barbeque chicken, the clouds parted to provide a picturesque setting for a wild Western night.

Every Tuesday at Philmont Training Center (PTC) there is a buffalo barbeque starting at 5:30 p.m. on the Greensward and a Western Night dance at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. After supper, branding is across from the back of the Assembly Hall. You name it; they’ll brand it: belts, water bottles, felted hats, anything that will not easily burn through.

Staff and participants of all ages came together learning how to lasso a dummy steer made of metal.

Wrangler Cody Spencer helped to teach a few PTC participants how to hold and spin the lasso. He then explained to one of the troop leaders the benefits of the different styles of Western wear such as flat-brimmed hats versus open-brimmed.

Inside the Assembly Hall, the line dancing had begun. Instructors Eric Spiess and Kevra Smith dictated the moves on a microphone while showing dancers how to do the step. They themselves had only learned the dances a week prior and were already teaching them. Spiess and Smith will be teaching every fourth Tuesday.

The first dance was “The Roper,” followed by the Western

“Two Step,” and “The Chicken.” A few songs later, they taught the “Circle Dance” and then “The Row Dance,” which was far more complicated to master.

Many of the dances featured a standard grapevine move or a basic two-step. No one seemed bothered to dance with someone of more or less skill than him or herself and most everyone switched partners every song, and in the circle song, one switches partners every 16 counts and goes through many partners in just one song.

There was lots of laughter and some confusion, but overall it was a fun way for staff and participants to mingle and enjoy the ranch together.

A Long Standing Art

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer



Newly refurbished totem poles stand by the fireplace in the Trading Post. These poles were originally at Cito Camp. AL GERMANN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

There are three totem poles in Base Camp carved by earlier participants at Philmont. Two are on display in the Tooth of Time Traders (TOTT) and one is on exhibit at the Philmont Museum. Totem poles are often worn down from being exposed to the elements. The two in TOTT were restored over the past year and re-painted in order to go out on display in the award-winning store. There are many more Totem poles at Cimarroncito.

Totem poles, always carved of cedar, require ample time and careful consideration. Every cut the artist makes into the wood

requires them to re-analyze their plan for the piece.

Totem poles hold significant meaning to those who carve them and often to entire families or communities, and were more of a Northwest tradition.

The tricky thing about most totem poles is that you cannot analyze and understand them unless you are told the original story. According to the book “Monuments in Cedar,” they are generally read from bottom to top and everything is in chronological sequence of the events. Some

Continued on page 15, Long Standing



A couple dances on Tuesday, June 12 at PTC Western Night. Other activities included branding, roping lessons and a Western barbeque dinner. AL GERMANN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

PhilNews is now accepting submissions to be printed in future issues.

Either I-Camp or email any articles you wish to be considered. Please submit all articles by Saturday to be in the following Friday's issue.

Email: philmontnps@philmontscout-ranch.org

Chaplain's Corner

Kaì eîdon oupavón kaivón kaì γῆν kaivῆν

“Then I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth.” - Revelations 21:1

By Chaplain Aaron

“God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.” -Martin Luther (1483-1546)

All too often we look in the same direction. Often we open our Bibles, Torahs, Korans, Sutras, or other religious books to the

same pages we always have. These familiar texts bring us comfort and reassurance but do not open our hearts and minds to the vastness of the Sacred.

I encourage you this week at Philmont to open your holy book to a new page, to explore a religion

outside your own, and to take time with the trees, flowers, clouds, and stars to find new insight and a deeper understand of the Holy.

“In the vastness of my nature I place the seed of things to come.”

- Krisna, Bhagavad Gita 14:3

Mind Reader

By Lynn Larkin
Trek 615-C1

There are some things in the sky above Philmont that I would like to share. Some you can see, others are invisible.

They are all there because of the Cimarron VOR, a radio navigation beacon for airplanes. Its actual location is about 2-3 miles southeast of Cimarron, beside Highway 58. If you look closely, you can catch sight of it driving to town from Base Camp. It looks like a stubby white rocket or missile from a distance.

It broadcasts its signal on a frequency of 116.4. Your car radio stops at 107.9, but if you have an older radio, you might be able to pick it up if you twist the knob around. If you're lucky, you will hear it's Morse code identifier _._ _._ for CIM. Weather reports are

broadcast by voice.

As a navigation aide, a VOR can be used as a waypoint on a Jet Route, or a Victor Airway for lower flying planes. Jet route 134 is one that incorporates the Cimarron VOR as one of its waypoints. Many flights departing the West Coast eastward are flying along J134, an invisible “highway” in the sky. One flight of note is the “Red Eye,” the late night out of Los Angeles to New York City. It it's route crosses over Philmont, you might hear it pass over around 2 a.m.

Another one of these “highways” near the Range is AR71, which is an aerial refueling track operated by the US Air Force. Because these aircraft are flying lower and slower than normal jet traffic, they are a bit louder. A

careful listener will notice this, so when you do, look up. You might catch sight of a refueled, a KC 10 perhaps, servicing anything from a group of fighters to a B52 bomber. The operations generally run east to west.

To many, this is just noise invading Scouting Paradise. The higher flying airliners are easier to dismiss, but at least with the refuelers we get a show. The next time you find yourself flying over the Southwest, ask the pilot of he or she is navigating via J134 or J96. If so, then you're going to fly over Philmont. And here's where I read your mind because you're going to look down at the Tooth of Time and think “I want to go back to Philmont” aren't you?

Attention All Philmont Staff!!

The Villa Philmonte will be hosting a night full of singing and music on Saturday July 21st.

If you are skilled in singing or playing an instrument and would like to participate please let the Villa staff know by July 14th.

All instruments are more than welcome including any musical genres.

If you would like to sing and need accompaniment please let us know and send us a copy of the music as soon as possible.

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Rock of Ages (PG-13)

Julianne Hough, Diego Boneta

123 minutes

1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

That's My Boy (R)

Adam Sandler, Andy Samberg

114 minutes

1:25, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG)

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock

93 minutes

1:20, 4:05, 7:05, 9:20

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted 3D (PG)

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock

93 minutes

1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:00

Prometheus (R)

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender

124 minutes

1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55

Prometheus 3D (R)

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender

124 minutes

1:10, 3:50, 6:50, 9:30

Snow White and the Huntsman (PG-13)

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth

127 minutes

1:05, 3:55, 6:55, 9:40

Metallica Partners with FBI

By Associated Press

Metallica made a public service video to try to catch a man wanted in the death of a Virginia Tech student who disappeared after one of the heavy metal band's concerts. The band is working closely with the FBI to collect information on the incident. In addition to the \$100,000 reward offered by The Jefferson Area Crime Stoppers, Metallica has put up a \$50,000 reward.

Weeds Announces Final Season

By The Wrap

The network announced that Showtime's "Weeds" will end after its upcoming eighth season.

Gaga's Trouble in Thailand

By WENN

Lady Gaga is accused of disrespecting Thailand's national flag. According to Thailand's Culture Ministry, the singer tied the flag to her motorcycle and rode it across the stage while wearing a provocative outfit. This is only a taste of the controversy surrounding Gaga's tour of Asia.

Graceland's 30th Anniversary

By Associated Press

Graceland opened as a public tourist attraction 30 years ago this June. Over 18 million visitors have toured Elvis Presley's former residence since then. Presley's ex-wife says it's the spirit of Elvis, and not just music history, that keeps the crowds coming to Graceland.

Rep: Lohan Treated for Exhaustion After Film Shoot

By Associated Press

Lindsay Lohan continued to bring drama to the production of her latest film, receiving treatment for exhaustion and dehydration a week after she was involved in a car crash that sent her to the hospital.

Lohan's publicist Steve Honig says producers of the Lifetime film "Liz and Dick" summoned paramedics to Lohan's hotel room Friday morning after she did not respond for a shoot. The incident occurred after the actress completed an all-night shoot and had kept up a grueling schedule in recent days, Honig said.

Concerts and Shows

June 22: Dave Koz; The Plaza Theatre Performing Arts Center; El Paso, Texas

July 6: The Beach Boys; Sandia Casino Amphitheater; Albuquerque, N.M.

July 20: Sublime with Rome; Hard Rock Casino Albuquerque Presents the Pavilion; Albuquerque, N.M.

Movies Coming out June 22

Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (R)

Seeking a Friend for the End of the World (R)

The Invisible War (NR)

To Rome With Love (R)

Brave (PG)

*These movies may not be available at Taos' Storyteller Cinema

Click-and-Buy on TV

By The Wrap

PayPal, TiVo, and Comcast are partnering up to offer a new shop-at-home service. Paypal enabled commercials on TiVo and Comcast will premier in November, just in time for the presidential elections. TV viewers can donate to the presidential candidates campaigns through TV commercials.

Streisand and Women's Heart Health

By Associated Press

Barbra Streisand hosted a fundraising concert at her home in Malibu California to raise money for women's heart health. Streisand personally donated \$10 million dollars to create a research and treatment facility at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Former president Bill Clinton and singer Josh Groban also addressed the crowd about this important issue.

Radiohead Drum Technician Killed in Stage Collapse

By Associated Press

Investigators combed through the wreckage of a Toronto stage Sunday to determine what caused the structure to come crashing down ahead of a Radiohead concert, killing the band's drum technician and injuring three other crew members.

The British band said it was devastated over the death of Scott Johnson, a U.K. citizen in his 30s who was trapped under the rubble and pronounced dead at the scene.

US Basketball Star Hurt in Drake-Brown Brawl

By Associated Press

Professional basketball star, number nine, Tony Parker says he suffered a scratched retina on one of his eyes during a New York City nightclub brawl involving singer Chris Brown and members of hip-hop star Drake's entourage.

Local and Regional

Albuquerque Isotopes

Starting on June 19, the Isotopes will begin an eight game home stand, with four games against New Orleans and four against Nashville.

Denver Broncos- The Broncos ended offseason workouts on June 14 with the end of a three day minicamp. Peyton Manning showed critics and fans that he is recovering from injury just fine, making all of the throws expected of the 36-year-old quarterback. The only thing Manning has to work on is getting in rhythm with his new pass catchers. Pre-season football begins for the Broncos on August 9 against the Chicago Bears.

U.S. Open

Webb Simpson shot a final round 68 (-2), and waited in the clubhouse as nobody could catch the 281 (+1) score he posted to win the U.S. Open. He edged out Michael Thompson and Graeme McDowell by a stroke to claim his first major victory. Tiger Woods shot a final round 73 to finish six strokes behind Simpson.

New Mexico Stars

The Stars finished a dismal season on June 16, losing to the Allen Wranglers 85-70. The Stars finished 2-12 on the season, tied for the worst record in the league.

Colorado Rockies- The Rockies have not played well during interleague play, losing seven straight games to the Los Angeles Angels and the Oakland Athletics. The Rockies will look to end interleague play on a high note when they go on the road to face the AL West leading Texas Rangers for three games, followed by a four game series at home against the Washington Nationals.

National Sports

Stanley Cup Finals

Dustin Brown had a goal and two assists as the Kings routed the Devils 6-1 at home to win the first Stanley Cup in franchise history. Brown is the second American born captain to lead his team to the cup. Jonathan Quick was named the Conn Smythe Trophy winner, with a record of 16-4 in the post season.

Euro 2012

Quarter Finals- June 23 & 24;
Semifinals- June 27 & 28.

Tournament favorite Netherlands had an early exit in Euro 2012, losing 2-1 to Portugal in their final game of Euro 2012. Germany and Portugal advanced in the group B, and Greece and the Czech Republic advanced in group A.

French Open

Rafael Nadal won his seventh French Open title, defeating world No. 1 Novak Djokovic in four sets. Nadal passes Bjorn Borg for the most French Open titles.

NBA Finals

Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Miami Heat; Game 6- Sunday, June 24, 6 p.m. (if necessary); Game 7- Tuesday, June 26, 7 p.m. (if necessary)

Lebron James scored 29 points and grabbed 14 rebounds as the Miami Heat took a 2-1 series lead over the Oklahoma City Thunder with a 91-85 game three win. Games four and five were Tuesday and Thursday, check ESPN.com for game results.

Baseball

Pitching continues to dominate baseball headlines, as Matt Cain became the 22nd pitcher in MLB history to throw a perfect game in a 10-0 Giant victory. It is the fifth no-hitter this season and the second perfect game. Cain struck out 14 batters, and got help with amazing defense from his outfield.

Tennis

Nadal, Djokovic, Roger Federer, and Andy Murray will be the top seeds play begins at the third major of the year, Wimbledon. Murray is the home crowd favorite but Djokovic will be defending his title from last year. Matches begin on June 25.

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World

UN Suspends Syria Peace Mission

By BBC News

The head of the UN Stabilization Mission in Syria, Norwegian Gen. Robert Mood, has said the operation had been suspended due to escalating violence. UN observers will cease patrols and stay in their current locations.

"This suspension will be reviewed on a daily basis. Operations will resume when we see the situation fit for us to carry out our mandated activities," he said, adding that a "return to normal operations remains our objective".

First Hours of Egyptian Election See Little Enthusiasm

By The Huffington Post

As Egyptians went to the polls on Saturday morning to complete the first democratic presidential election in the country's history, none of the "unbridled jubilation" of past votes was evident in the streets. Instead, voters met the first hours of the runoff between former prime minister Ahmed Shafik and Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohamed Morsi with small lines and little apparent enthusiasm for either of the two men.

Greek Conservatives win, Head into Coalition Talks

By Associated Press

Fears of an imminent Greek exit from Europe's joint currency receded Sunday after the conservative New Democracy party came first in a critical election and pro-bailout parties won enough seats to form a joint government.

As central banks stood ready to intervene in case of financial turmoil, Greece held its second national election in six weeks after an inconclusive ballot on May 6 and the subsequent collapse of coalition talks.

China Launches Its First Woman Astronaut into Space

The Shenzhou-9 capsule, which launched on Saturday from the Jiuquan spaceport near the Gobi Desert, will carry China's first female astronaut, Liu Yang, toward the Tiangong space lab. She will spend over a week living and working there conducting tests and scientific experiments.

21 al-Qaeda Militants Killed in South Yemen Fighting

By The Huffington Post

Yemeni troops killed 21 al-Qaeda fighters as the army pushed on with an offensive in two southern provinces, according to military officials Saturday. The fighting in Azan town in Shabwa province and the Hassan valley in neighboring Abyan follows a surprise government assault earlier this week that recaptured the al-Qaeda base of Jaar after weeks of battles that raged back and forth.

IOC Probes Black Market Olympic Ticket Scandal

By Associated Press

International Olympic officials have opened a high-level investigation into allegations that authorized representatives in more than 50 countries - including a national Olympic committee - were involved in selling London Olympics tickets on the black market for profit.

Rodney King, Whose Beating led to LA Riots, Dies

By Associated Press

His beating stunned the nation, left Los Angeles smoldering and helped reshape race relations and police tactics. And in a quavering voice on national television, Rodney King pleaded for peace while the city burned.

King's life ended Sunday at age 47 after he was pulled from the bottom of his swimming pool. An autopsy was expected to determine the cause of death within two days; police found no alcohol or drug paraphernalia near the pool and said foul play wasn't suspected.

GOP on Health Care: Repeal Quickly, Replace Slowly

By Associated Press

Congressional Republicans intend to seek quick repeal of any parts of the health care law that survive a widely anticipated Supreme Court ruling, but don't plan to push replacement measures until after the fall elections or perhaps 2013.

Instead, GOP lawmakers cite recent announcements that some insurance companies will retain a few of the law's higher-profile provisions as evidence that quick legislative action is not essential.

National

Daredevil Crosses Niagara Falls

By The Christian Science Monitor

On Friday, Nik Wallenda walked into history books. That day, he became the first person to walk on a tightrope across the Niagara Falls. Nearly 1 billion people watched the event, and over half the televisions in Western New York were tuned in. Wallenda, who wore a safety tether as required by his funders at ABC, crossed the 1,800-foot wire through a dim haze of mist and broke into a run at 15 feet near the end. He next plans to cross the Grand Canyon on a high wire to honor the memory of his grandfather.

Obama Immigration Plan to Stop Deporting Some Illegal Immigrants

By CNN

The Obama Administration said Friday it will stop deporting young illegal immigrants who entered the United States as children if they meet certain requirements. The shift occurs as an election year policy change and was greeted with praise by some Latino leaders.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Current Philmont Staff can buy the following ads for a reduced price in the 2012 Maverick July, 4 Rodeo Program

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Continued from page 10, Long Standing

are not story totems, but rather symbolize ancestors or important clan symbols.

There are several types of totem poles, the most common being house pillars, mortuary poles and memorial poles. Mortuary poles hold the ashes of

the deceased and are often plain pillars with one essential figure on top. One would not be able to explain why that figure was chosen unless they knew the story of the deceased.

With all of the mystery, totem poles have a unique attraction that

many other art forms do not. If you are interested in the story of our totem poles, stop by the Philmont Museum and view the displayed pole in its original form. Also, be sure to check out the recently repainted and restored totem poles at Tooth of Time Traders.

Philmont Museums:

Philmont Museum-Seton Memorial Library and Gift Shop
Villa Philmonte-Kit Carson Museum

The Philmont Museum-Seton Memorial Library's current exhibits focus on Native American clothing and illustrations from the Ernest Thompson Seton collection and an updated look at Philmont history. The Museum Gift Shop markets Native American jewelry, pottery, a large collection of pawn and over 500 regional books titles. Open Daily.

Villa Philmonte was the summer home of Philmont's benefactor Waite Phillips. Open to the public daily for guided tours. Reservations are required.

The Kit Carson Museum at Rayado is a living history museum on the mountain route of the Santa Fe Trail. The settlement, located seven miles south of the Philmont Museum was formerly the home of frontiersmen Lucien Maxwell and Kit Carson. Summer hours 8-5 daily.

Philmont is located 4 miles south of Cimarron on Hwy 21

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The Wild Within

Bison bison

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer



The Philmont herd grazes in the bison pasture. MATTHEW PROKOSCH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

It was a frozen December morning as I watched my breath steam into the crisp air.

It was the second zoo I recall visiting, and it later became my place of employment. I went in to shadow a zookeeper, Lindsey Bicksler, in order to learn some fun things to do in my new home of Pennsylvania. Little did I know that morning, that passion for wildlife would consume me and leave me wholly unsatisfied if I did not spend my time around animals.

Bicksler allowed me to help feed the American Bison, genus: Bison, species: bison, and in order to do so we shut the two bison, one male (bull) and one female (cow), out of the enclosure. They were in separate, smaller contained areas on either side of us. They ate while we cleaned and placed more food out.

The bison's natural habitat is the prairie, where they mostly graze on grasses, herbs, shrubs and twigs. They live for about 12 to 20 years and breed in the summer.

Bicksler and I went back in to

the area where food and supplies were stored and the bison feed enclosures were on either side of us, keeping us safe in between.

We shut ourselves into the middle, but in order to open the large, heavy doors for the bison to get back into the enclosure, we had to stick our arms through the bars and pull the outer door shut from inside our own cage. We got the male side open and he galloped into the enclosure so we swiftly

shut him out.

This was a particularly cold, icy day and the female bison door was stuck. As we both reached our arms through, she would charge the gate and we would have to get our arms back in before she broke them with her gargantuan head.

Bison are generally five to seven feet tall at the shoulder and can weigh just over a ton. They can run at speeds of up to 40 mph and have horns that can grow to be two



DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

“We live in a wild world, yet act as captives. I instead hope to hold the world captive by exposing the wild within it.”
Beverly Ponterio



KATY MOONEY/PHILNEWS PHOTO EDITOR

feet long.

After 45 minutes of attempting to open the gate for them, Bicksler asked me if I thought I could scale the 10-foot wall, with no grips or ladders. We kept trying, and after another 15 minutes, we got the gate open and prompted the bison to go in the enclosure, allowing us to vacate the area safely. I have had a healthy respect for bison ever since that moment. It was also the moment I knew I wanted to be a zookeeper.

That seems crazy to many, but working with some of the most powerful creatures in the world is a privilege. It is incredible to stand so close with something that has roamed the earth for so long.

Here at Philmont, we also have bison, around 100 of them. They are often called buffalo, though there is no species of buffalo native to North America, only the North American Bison. As far as buffalo go, there are only the Water buffalo

found in Asia and the Cape buffalo found in Africa.

Waite Phillips gave an incredible gift to the Boy Scouts of America when he donated his land, and asked little in return. One of the stipulations was to keep the land as a working cattle ranch, and the American bison along with the horses, burros and cattle help to make that a reality and maintain the character of Philmont.

Female bison remain pregnant for nine months and give birth to only one calf. Our bison here have recently birthed some calves. You may be able to see them bronking or nursing along the road on the left side as you drive from Philmont into Cimarron.

Owen's Corner: Early Leave Requests



Owen McCulloch is the Base Camp and Seasonal Personnel Director at Philmont. KATY MOONEY/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program

Every seasonal staff member has signed a Letter of Employment with an agreed upon start and end date. Occasionally, a date must be changed – but to do so obviously changes the kind of service we are giving our customers if we have fewer staff, and we take this seriously. Date changes do become part of your permanent employment record, so be sure you only change your end date if you have to. Remember that This Is A Real Job!

Early Leave Requests must be submitted with the required signatures to CHQ by July 31. Submissions past that date will not be considered, and will be automatically denied.

Requests for Early Leave prior to August 10 must include a letter of resignation.

You must provide documentation supporting your request.

Any request submitted will be processed for the date requested – even if the request is marked “Denied – Not A Valid Reason”.

Acceptable Reasons for Leaving Philmont Early

- Your contract says so
- 5 days prior to the first day of school (we do check academic calendars)
- Freshman orientation/ Grad School orientation
- Accident/injury/death/ family emergency

Top Worst Reasons for Leaving Philmont Early (these are all real, and they were all marked “Denied -- Not A Valid Reason”)

- I'm getting a ride with another staff member (even though their contract ends before mine)
- My school said I had to be back early for registration

(but the school doesn't start for two weeks).

- I need to see my girlfriend/boyfriend/ family/dog before I start school.
- I have another job starting, and need to leave in time to begin work.
- My family has a vacation planned.
- My apartment contract starts on August 15th.
- I have to get my retainer adjusted.
- I'm going to go hiking with friends.
- I have to readjust to lower altitude before school (from Dallas).
- Road trip!

Early Request Forms can be picked up at Camping Headquarters – Seasonal Personnel desk.

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New Mexico Land Conservancy AmeriCorps Position Available

New Mexico Land Conservancy AmeriCorps Position Available

The Earth Care AmeriCorps Program is an 11-month professional development program for early-career professionals that provides full-time AmeriCorps positions and training for the next generation of food and public health advocates, urban farmers, educators, and non-profit leaders. Earth Care's mission is to educate and empower young people to create healthy, just and sustainable communities. More information on the Earth Care AmeriCorps Program can be found here: <http://www.earthcarenm.org/get-involved/serve-with-us/>

Work as an AmeriCorps Service Member and learn about conservation real estate, land and easement monitoring and stewardship, and non-profit operations and management through hands-on experience with a statewide land trust.

The New Mexico Land Conservancy (NMLC) is a non-profit land conservation organization, based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, dedicated to conserving New Mexico's land heritage. Since 2002, NMLC has protected over 100,000 acres of land throughout the state. NMLC's twenty five-year goal is to conserve, directly or in partnership with others, 1,000,000 acres of high conservation-value lands throughout New Mexico by 2037. NMLC will focus on protecting lands that conserve significant wildlife habitat and natural resources, agricultural lands, scenic open space, cultural and historic sites, and recreational lands at community, watershed and landscape scales.

NMLC achieves its conservation goals by: 1) using conservation easements and other voluntary land protection methods that respect both land and private property rights; 2) educating landowners, other organizations, public policy

makers and the general public about land conservation; and 3) promoting policy and legislation to further voluntary land conservation and enhance related benefits for private landowners.

NMLC is currently staffed by an Executive Director, a Conservation Director, an Operations Manager, a Financial and Administrative Assistant and a Conservation Intern; and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. NMLC is dedicated to the highest quality work, and operates as a learning organization with a work culture based on consensus and teamwork.

Scope of the AmeriCorps Position

NMLC seeks a qualified and motivated individual to assist with stewardship, land conservation, outreach and project-related fundraising activities in support of the organization's mission and in accordance with its established policies, plans and strategies. This position reports to the Conservation Director and supervises no staff.

This is a term-position lasting 11 months and will begin on approximately September 4, 2012 and end on July 31, 2013.

The primary responsibilities of the AmeriCorps Service Position include the following:

Land Conservation and Stewardship (75%):

- Support development and completion of land conservation projects, including easement/project design, baseline documentation, mineral and environmental assessment, title review and other project-related due diligence.
- Assist and support annual conservation easement monitoring and prepare associated reports and documentation.
- Support ongoing process of developing conservation easement monitoring and

stewardship criteria, procedures and systems.

- Support ongoing process of developing land conservation project review and tracking criteria, procedures and systems.

Outreach/Communications (20%):

- Expand relationships with external constituents including landowners, other conservation organizations, community groups and government entities. Partner with other public and private entities, as appropriate, for mutual benefit to accomplish NMLC's mission and leverage resources.
- Assist and support the development and implementation of NMLC-sponsored educational workshops to increase awareness and interest in land conservation in New Mexico.
- Support development, enhancement and periodic updating of communications materials using digital photography, maps, spatial information and mapping and graphic design software.
- Support and potentially attend workshops, conferences and special events.

Fundraising (5%):

- Support relevant fundraising activities -- in particular, those related to conservation projects and stewardship activities.

Requirements of the Position:

- Bachelor's degree (graduate degree preferred) in related field (natural resource management, land use planning, geography, biological/environmental sciences, etc.) with interest and desire to work in the non-profit land trust or conservation arena.
- Excellent computer skills including experience with Microsoft Office and the Adobe Suite of products (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign).
- Experience with GPS and GIS required.
- Familiarity with New Mexican and/or western landscapes

and communities is preferred, particularly an ability to work with urban as well as rural agricultural landowners.

- Must possess excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Must be willing to occasionally work some evenings and weekends.
- Must be willing to travel around the state.
- Must have personal transportation to/from work. Transportation will be provided for work-related travel.
- Must be willing and physically able to work in the field including walking/hiking over rough terrain in inclement weather for extended periods of time.
- Should have some experience operating a four-wheel drive vehicle off-road.
- Must be a self-starter, well-organized, and punctual.
- Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment to meet established goals and deadlines.
- Must be committed to the organization's conservation mission and be able to maintain strong, positive, collegial working relationships with staff, Board, and outside consultants and professional service providers.
- Must be willing to contribute to maintaining an ethical, smooth and efficient working environment with staff, Board and others. A sense of humor is appreciated even if it is not that good.

Benefits of the Position:

- The AmeriCorps Position will receive a Living Stipend (Full-time = \$12,100) during service and an educational stipend upon completion of service (\$5,500) which can be applied to past or future education.
- Full-time AmeriCorps members are also eligible for health care benefits (if not covered under another policy) and child care, as needed.
- Being part of a young, dynamic and growing conservation organization.

• Living in Santa Fe, New Mexico – a culturally diverse city of 75,000 residents with excellent outdoor, recreational, arts, entertainment, cultural, educational, culinary and sustainable living opportunities.

NMLC is an equal opportunity employer and provides a smoke-free, drug-free work place.

Application deadline is July 13, 2012. Please mail or email letter of interest, current resume and an AmeriCorps Service Member Application found here: <http://www.earthcarenm.org/get-involved/serve-with-us/apply/> (on the Earth Care website, please disregard application deadlines as NMLC will be accepting applications through July 13, 2012). Please mail or email all application materials to:

New Mexico Land Conservancy
Attention: AmeriCorps Recruitment
P.O. Box 6759
Santa Fe, NM 87502-6759

Or email to: admin@nmlandconservancy.org

The AmeriCorps Position will be filled by July 31, 2012 and will have a start date on or near September 4, 2012. Please note - no phone calls will be taken regarding this announcement. Candidates will be notified regarding the status of their applications. For further information about the organization, please visit NMLC's website: www.nmlandconservancy.org <<http://www.nmlandconservancy.org/>>

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Simple Sustainability Protects Philmont

By David Pedrick
Sustainability

Philmont Scout Ranch teaches the principles of Leave No Trace and a passion for the land. But, are these principles really leading Philmont down the path to environmental sustainability and carbon neutrality? Most agree environmental sustainability is the renewable and socially aware acquisition of Earth's resources while being ecologically minded. What is meant by renewable? The Center for Sustainable Economy, which hosts the Ecological Footprint Quiz, "estimates the area of land and ocean required to support" one's complete living habits. The estimates are based on the research of Venetoulis and Talbert and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

The quiz determined how many global hectares is needed to support one's way of life and

extrapolates that number, applying it to each "global hectares available per person on a renewable basis." According to Venetoulis and Talberth, 15.71 hectares are available per person. Their research reports that the world's population consumes an average 23.5 global hectares per person, which is "overshooting the Earth's biological capacity by nearly 50 percent." We would need 1.50 Earths to sustain present levels of consumption. This deficit is being supplied by fossil fuels.

The quiz asks 21 multiple-part questions to determine how many global hectares the quiz-taker requires. It then averages that for the population and determines the total Earths needed for that population to live in equality. Questions range from type of car driven, recycling habits, eating

habits, location, and energy consumption. Using the national averages for each question, the result is 5.87 Earths. This leaves the question, "What must I change and what is most effective?"

Using this quiz, one can change the food variable, which leads both to the greatest percent change and to the largest fraction that can be affected through habit and fixture changes. Options are making sure purchases are organically or sustainably produced and buying natural foods from local farmers make a 12 percent reduction in needed Earths. Still further, having a vegetarian diet reduces the needed Earths by another 8 percent for a cumulative decrease of 20 percent.

As an institution of education and youth membership, we should take responsibility in preparing

our participants to create a just, fair future for everyone. A goal for Philmont Scout Ranch should be to teach participants how to live within the means of our Earth and to create a just and fair future for everyone. The latter can be accomplished in more than one way, but a relevant solution is to allot each person the same natural resources. This lesson can be taught by example, and the sustainability team is working toward this goal.

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Philmont Staff Association Announces Writing Contest

The Philmont Staff Association (PSA) is holding its first ever writing contest for Philmont's seasonal staff members.

The deadline for submission is July 13. The PSA will announce the winners on August 3. Winning entries will appear in "High Country," the magazine of the PSA.

The judges for the contest will be a panel made up of the Publications Committee of the PSA. Warren Smith will chair the panel. Smith is a past editor of "High Country" and a columnist for WORLD Magazine. He has also written or edited 10 books, including the recently released "I Wanna Go Back: Stories of the Philmont

Rangers."

"Writing about Philmont is not as easy as it looks," Smith said. "Because Philmont has such obvious beauty and because we love it so much, it is too easy to fall back on clichés and sentimentality. The trick to writing about Philmont- especially when you're writing for people who already know about Philmont- is to take what is familiar and somehow make it new."

The PSA Staff Association Writing Contest will recognize a winner in the following categories:

- Adventure Story: Has something strange or unusual happened to you or someone you know at

Philmont? A near miss or close call? A dream realized- or deferred? A crazy day-off road trip? Let us hear about it.

- Spiritual/Personal Memoir: From Henry David Thoreau to John Muir to Annie Dillard, the "green world" has provided powerful settings for reflections on spiritual matters. What has Philmont taught you about your life or your God?
- Poetry: All forms are welcome.
- Fiction: Lew Wallace, D.H. Lawrence, Walker Percy, Willa Cather, and Zane Grey are just a few of the great novelists who have used New Mexico as a setting for

fiction.

Smith offered this advice to those considering submission. "Great writing is concrete," he said. "It may offer thoughts and opinions, but those thoughts and opinions should spring from close observation of the world around us."

He added that writing about Philmont should "show and not merely tell." He said, "Don't say that the view from Window Rock is beautiful. Say that a crew that had been obnoxiously loud all morning, became suddenly quiet when it stepped onto Window Rock and saw the plains stretched out below them. Say that the loudest and most obnoxious kid in the crew could manage only one word: 'Wow.'"

Smith said this sort of close observation and narrative detail allows a reader to enter the story, making flowery descriptions unnecessary.

It is preferred that submission be via email, as a Microsoft Word attachment. Email all submissions to wsmith@worldmag.com. Handwritten submissions must be legible and I-camped to the PSA office. All submissions are due by midnight, July 13, 2012. Please limit all submissions to 1500 words.

Staff Highlight of the Week: World Traveler Nurse

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer

Have you ever been to a health care appointment and had a nurse who did not take their time with you? Bedside manner makes all the difference in not only nursing, but any career dealing with people.

Susan Bates, a credentialed critical care nurse and family nurse practitioner, is working her first season at Philmont Scout Ranch in the Health Lodge. She believes that, “Philmont is all about the people,” and thus skills you learn here will help you in all of your future endeavors, particularly nursing.

She studied chemistry in college and decided, along with most of her class, to complete a one-year Bachelor of Arts to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. They had been looking through want ads, and saw there was as strong a need for nurses as her own need for employment.

“But you have to love it to stay with it,” said Bates.

She also appreciates how nursing combines the physical and social sciences because for Bates, nursing is not just about curing, “it’s about caring for individuals, families, and communities.”

She has worked in just about every area of nursing and says it is a career that is never boring. So far, her nursing career has taken her to Alaska, Japan, Kuwait, Syria, Lebanon, Germany, Panama, Afghanistan, and now New Mexico.

Last summer, while in Helman Province, Afghanistan, Bates was a trauma nurse and expected to care for strictly military, but was surprised to find about half of her patients were Afghan, many being children.

She said that once a



Susan Bates. RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

grandmother brought in her daughter to be treated, and then began teaching Bates to speak Pashto, an Afghan language spoken in the South, from the words on the side of a soda can. She always tried to learn the different dialects of the patients who came into her care and said they would laugh when she messed it up, but “patients appreciate any attempt to be part of their world.”

Now, as part of the Philmont world, Bates continues to make her career about the patients and community while always having

a smile and adventurous spirit. The staff she works with seem to appreciate her and share in her belief that “Philmont is all about the people.”

Born and Raised

By Katie Sill
Staff Writer



Ry Taylor. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Ryan (Ry) Taylor, 25, was born and raised at Philmont. His father, Rod Taylor, works full time as a cowboy in the Ranch Department. Growing up in Cimarron, Ry Taylor witnessed firsthand how Philmont has evolved over time.

Throughout his life, Ry has worked in various places on the Ranch. This summer he serves as the Camp Director of Crater Lake. He currently holds the record at Crater for the fastest spar pole climb – an amazing 10 seconds. As Camp Director, Ry is committed to making Crater Lake a friendly and welcoming environment for both crews and staff members passing through. Because of this, he refers to his staff as “gentlemen loggers.”

During Crater’s evening

campfire, Ry performs alongside his staff. As a professional musician, Ry Taylor serves as a mentor to his staff members; some of whom are aspiring performers. Ry has experience playing in multiple bands throughout his life; everything from country to 90s cover bands to bluegrass.

In the off season Ry travels across the country to perform his original music. Some describe his style as a hybrid of jazz and folk music. Ry Taylor will be performing at the St. James Hotel on June 23 at 7 p.m. For those who cannot attend, they can find Ry’s CD for sale in the Tooth of Time Traders. Ry is currently working on a new album which will be available for purchase this summer.

Bargain Yurt Opens for Business

By Aaron Loncki
Tooth of Time Traders



Inside the yurt. AL GERMANN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

It's up, ready and open for business. After weeks of preparation the bargain yurt at Tooth of Time Traders (TOTT) is officially complete.

"The yurt will be a place for our closeout items-- anything we have on clearance will be in there," explained Randa Celley, Lead Retail Associate at Tooth of Time Traders.

The sidewalk sales from years past are no more. Now, all clearance merchandise will be sold in the yurt.

"Right now," said Celley, "we have a lot

of sweatshirts and jackets, tons of t-shirts, and lots and lots of toothpick holders."

With the yurt officially opened June 19, the bargains are still fresh.

Mark Anderson led the yurt's construction effort and with help from the Ranger, maintenance and other departments, the project was completed on time. With final touches by Paul Grasse and the Trading Post staff, the yurt was ready to go.

The yurt itself is a remnant of the former Double H High Adventure Base. Instead of keeping it in storage, it was determined that the trading post could utilize it. And Tooth of Time Traders gladly accepts the challenge.

"What other outdoor retailer

has a yurt annex?" asked Celley.

It's big, it's fresh, and it's totally unique to Philmont.

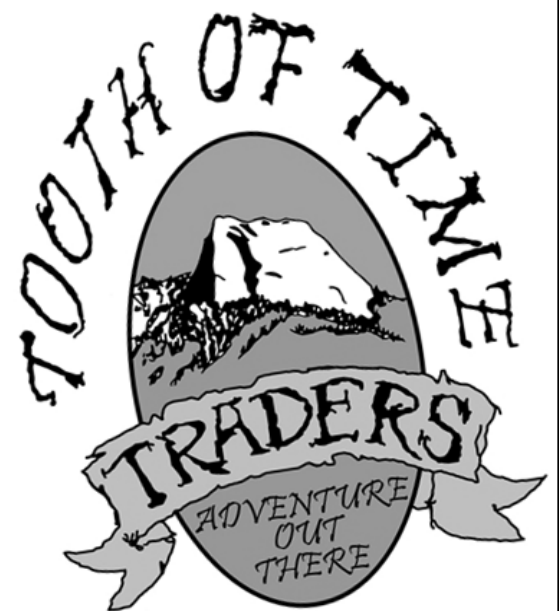
With the yurt comes new opportunities. But Tooth of Time Traders is taking it one step at a time. As Celley put it, "Bargain for the time being, with hopes to turn it into much, much more."

TOTT staff encourages everyone to stop by Your Unbelievable Retail Turf. Be sure to bring yert-wallet!

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PSA Seasonal Staff Scholarship

The Philmont Staff Association Seasonal Staff Scholarship program has steadily grown over the past five years. More money for college expenses have been awarded each year, and more staff have submitted applications for these funds. Both trends continued last summer. Ninety-eight summer staff applied for the PSA Seasonal Staff Scholarships in 2011. Thanks to our members' generosity, the PSA awarded a total of \$34,000 to thirty recipients last year.

The Philmont Staff Association is working hard to make 2012 an even bigger year for the Seasonal Staff Scholarship program. There will be more funds available for you to use for school expenses. However, you need to apply. Forms are available around the ranch, including the Silver

Sage Staff Activity Center and the PSA office. Scholarship awards of \$500 for first year staff, \$1,000 for second year staff, and \$1,500 for third year staff will be made for the Fall 2012 – Spring 2013 academic year. Payment of the scholarship will be distributed directly to the school. Applications are due August 31, 2012.

Over the past five years, \$96,000 was been awarded to Philmont staff. First year staff to seasoned veterans, Wranglers to PTC staff to Rangers, freshmen to graduate school students, the Philmont staff has been well represented amongst the scholarship winners. All college and post-secondary education students are encouraged to apply this year.

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Featured NPS Staff: Matthew Baide

I'm Matthew Baide, and if you search my name in Facebook, chances are my profile will be the first one you find.

I am from Richland Wash., and recently graduated from Washington State University with a degree in communications and a minor in Philosophy.

I have written for my schools newspaper as well as the Moscow-Pullman Daily News and Cougzone.com.

My interests include sports as people are likely to find me at the SSSAC at some point watching any sport from golf to basketball. My favorite teams are the San Jose Sharks, Seattle Seahawks, Mariners and Sonics (someday).

I hope to one day become a sports columnist.

This is my first year at Philmont and I am excited about exploring the backcountry.



Matthew Baide. MATTHEW PROKOSCH/
PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Katie's Musings: My First Hike

By Katie Sill
Staff Writer

I was sent on assignment to cover my first backcountry camp, Crater Lake. This also marked my first hike ever. I tried to pack light since I would only be staying one night, but even still my pack felt oversized and heavy on my back. Apparently that's normal, according to my experienced hiking buddy and photographer, Erin Nash.

It didn't take long after we started on the trail from Lover's Leap for me to realize one thing: hiking is hard. It's especially

difficult hiking uphill with a heavy backpack. Erin and I agreed that this hike would be a 'no-judgment' journey which was great because I was not in shape. I appreciated Erin's patience each time I requested a water break or a pause to catch my breath.

Eventually we ran into a crew also bound for Crater Lake. The members of this crew moved a lot faster than us and eventually we got tangled in a game of trail leapfrog. When they took a break we'd pass them and later they'd pass us. This

happened once or twice before I suggested stopping altogether and allowing them to create distance between us.

While we waited Erin and I sat together on a boulder. We talked about work and our experiences at Philmont thus far but mostly we just took in our peaceful surroundings.

Speed and pacing are not the most important things about hiking. It's important to remember to stop and look around at the natural beauty of Philmont.



This prairie lizard was spotted basking in the sun around Base Camp's frisbee golf course. LYNN DECAPO/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER



Crater Lake staff members Will "Flapjacks" Thompson (left) and Collin "Bobby Li" Wong demonstrate how rail ties were made in the 1940s. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER



Grasshopper. LYNN DECAPO/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER



The Kwahadi Native American dancers perform at PTC on Monday, June 11. All costumes were handmade. RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER