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PhilNews

Ropin' and Ridin' for Independence

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer



A man rides in the calf roping competition at the Maverick Club Rodeo on Wednesday, July 4 in Cimarron.
RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS

The 90th annual Maverick Club Rodeo kicked off with a parade celebrating July 4. The parade began on one end of town and led straight to the Rodeo Fairgrounds. Admission was eight dollars and the stands were filled by 10 a.m. when events began.

At the Grand Entry, they

explained the Maverick Club, which puts on the rodeo every year, and its history. The Maverick Club was formed in 1922 by citizens of the Village of Cimarron. The purpose was to “pursue social, civic, and educational activities, while avoiding political and religious viewpoints.” The reasoning

behind the name was because no other club such as Lions or Kiwanis could brand them under their rules, leaving them as individuals. This is all according to the rodeo announcer, R.W. Hampton a Philmont wrangler in the 70’s, now a western singer/songwriter.

The parade was led by many
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Wranglers at 90th Maverick Rodeo

By Katie Sill
Staff Writer

Throughout its history, a number of wranglers have represented Philmont’s ranch department at the July 4 Maverick Club Rodeo in Cimarron. Meanwhile, the remaining wranglers are always in attendance to support their friends and coworkers. This year, wranglers Dee Cwian and Kelly Knight participated in the senior barrel race.

“Wranglers are not required to compete but we are expected to be at the rodeo,” said Knight.

The wranglers that decide to participate must pay their own entry fee for the events they wish to compete in. With the permission of the Ranch department and Bob Rickleffs the Ranch Superintendent, the wranglers can even ride Philmont



Deidre Cwian competes in the barrel racing competition during the Maverick Club Rodeo on Wednesday, July 4 in Cimarron. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

horses in the rodeo.

Knight and Cwian picked two cavalcade horses – Sunset and Little John – to ride. These horses are used primarily for trail rides throughout the season. At the end of the cavalcade
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Sunday 8	Monday 9	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 11	Thursday 12	Friday 13	Saturday 14
					8 p.m. Coffee House in the Staff Dining Hall	8 p.m. Stargazing at the Stockade, meet on SSSAC porch
Sunday 15	Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19	Friday 20	Saturday 21
8 p.m. Humans vs Zombies, meet in Badly Pavilion	8 p.m. Overnight hike to Crater Lake Rugby on Health Lodge lawn	8 p.m. Volleyball on Health Lodge lawn court	7:15 p.m. Yoga @ Small Fry 8 p.m. Karaoke Night @ Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Movie "Batman Begins" @ Baldy Pavilion Knitting lessons in Walcutt Room	11 a.m.-2 p.m. Brat Day @ Baldy Pavilion 8 p.m. "Dark Knight" @ Baldy Pavilion	Time TBA "Dark Knight Rises" in Trinidad

PSA Annual Reunion in Tulsa

The Philmont Staff Association invites all Philmont staff members – whether or not members of the PSA – to its Annual Meeting and Reunion October 26-28 in Tulsa. This will be a once in a lifetime event to share with your Philmont friends, old and new.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the ornate gothic lobby of the Philtower, and the Reunion dinner will be at Waite Phillips' other home, the magnificent Villa Philbrook.

For those of you who may have forgotten your Phillips history, during the winters Waite and Genevieve Phillips resided in Tulsa at Villa Philbrook, a similar but much larger residence than the Villa Philmonte. The Phillips donated Villa Philbrook to the citizens of Tulsa and it now houses a highly regarded art museum and is the most popular place in Tulsa for special events.

The Philtower was Waite Phillips' business headquarters and was given to the Boy Scouts of America to help support Philmont financially as part of the "second donation" of Philmont in 1941. The BSA took possession of the Philtower in 1942 but later sold it. Seventy

years later the PSA will – if only for a couple of hours – "occupy" and retake possession of this Tulsa landmark which is so interwoven with Philmont's history.

In addition, there is an opportunity for a guided historical tour of downtown Tulsa explaining the Philtower, Philcade, Philbrook and the Phillips' impact on Tulsa. And when that is done, you will be able to tour the meticulously restored offices of Waite Phillips in the Philtower.

All these opportunities wrapped into a single weekend is not likely to happen again, so don't be left out. Join with your Philmont friends to create a unique Philmont memory.

Your charge for this event is just the cost of the dinner at Philbrook, \$30. You can make your reservation on-line (www.philstaff.com) or you can register at the PSA office at the Training Center. The firm cut-off date for reservations is October 16. Persons showing up at Philbrook without a reservation cannot be accommodated. (You can attend the Annual Meeting and other events without a reservation and at no charge.) You are

encouraged to bring any guests you believe would enjoy this event.

The schedule is as follows:

- October 26, arrive in Tulsa and mingle at Edward B. Delk's Bar in the Philtower. (This bar is named for the architect who designed the Philtower, Villa Philbrook and Villa Philmonte. Also note that Oklahoma alcoholic beverage laws will be in force.)
- October 27, historical tour, 9 a.m.; tour of Waite Phillips' offices, 11a.m.; Annual Meeting in Philtower, 1:30 p.m.; festivities at Villa Philbrook beginning at 4:30 p.m.
- October 28, depart at your leisure.

The Villa Philbrook festivities include:

- Self guided garden tours, and docent guided museum tours (Philbrook is an outstanding fine arts museum) beginning at 4:30 p.m.
- Refreshments on the terrace – where Waite and Genevieve Phillips entertained their guests -- beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- Dinner in the elegant

Philbrook rotunda beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- Silver Sage awards beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Philbrook auditorium. The evening will conclude at 9:30 p.m. Preferred rates for a block of rooms at the downtown Courtyard Marriott – next door to the Philtower and Edward B. Delk's Bar – have been obtained. The rates are as follows:

- Standard King Bedroom, \$85 plus tax.
- 2 Queen Bedroom, \$89 plus tax.
- Tax is 13.517%. Valet parking is \$5 overnight.

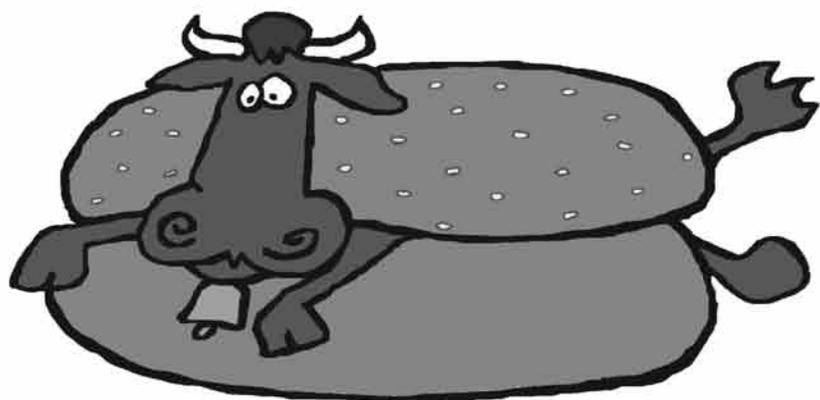
Reserve your room by calling the Courtyard Marriott at 918-508-7400, tell them you are calling to reserve a room for the Philmont Staff Association event October 26 and 27 at the special rate, and give them your credit card details.

Questions? Contact Randy Saunders at the PSA office at 575-376-1138, or at randy.saunders@scouting.org

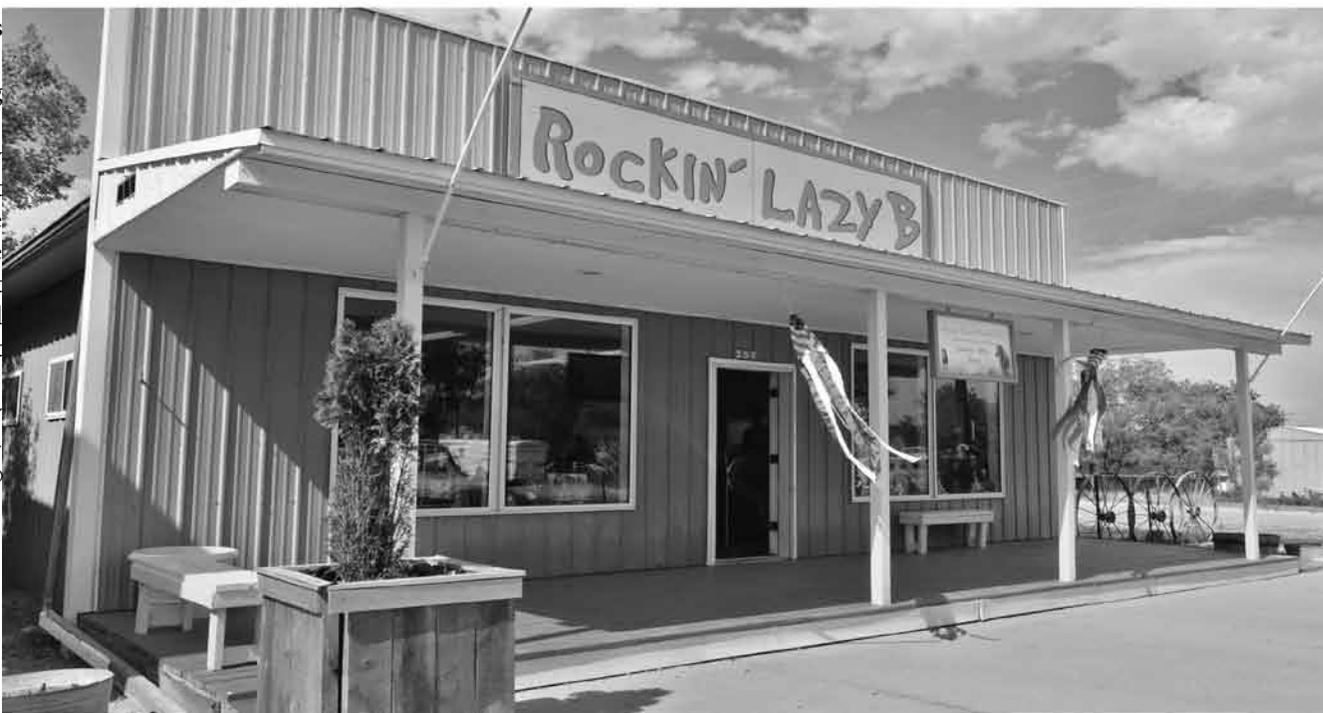
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Location: 301 C East 9th Street Cimarron, NM 87714

This is a new little grill in Cimarron. The menu consists of steaks, fried chicken by the plate or the bucket, hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, stuffed baked potatoes, crispy fries, onion rings, nachos, soft tacos, salads, and ice cream! (Shakes and sundaes). Everything is priced to bring in the locals. Come on in!



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Mark's Minute: Reflection of Night Skies

By Mark Anderson
Director of Program



Mark Anderson, Director of Program. SAMANTHA WAIDLER/
PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER 2011

During this past week, we have been able to enjoy a beautiful full moon. The accumulated smoke in the air from the fires across the West added to the color and intensity of those first few moments as it peaked in the East and began its way across the sky. This full moon experience made me pause and think about one of the special things I have enjoyed at Philmont – the night skies.

Whether it is the moon in one of its phases traveling across the sky, or the full moon illuminating the Ranch to allow a person the ability to safely travel at night, or an incredible display of stars so close you feel like touching them, each is a special moment.

I know by now that all of you have some special Philmont night sky memories.

- My daughter and I have always enjoyed looking each fall for the winter constellation, Orion.
- Once we had a rare opportunity to view the Northern Lights, deep magenta bands in the North.
- In the winter there is often a ring around the moon

that according to folklore warns of changing weather patterns.

- Watching the August shooting stars darting around like lightning bugs from the south.

- Looking through various telescopes that allowed me to observe objects in the sky that I had only seen in pictures before. Great job Ring Place!

- Standing in the pasture above Zastrow enjoying the Scouting Rededication Ceremony and thinking about how many people have used the North Star to guide their travels and how important it is to have a direction for your life.

My list of night sky memories goes on and on. I hope your list will begin to grow as well this summer as you enjoy the night skies.

I would encourage each of you to pay fantastic attention to details!

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Asthma and Secondhand Smoke

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that affects your breathing. The disease causes the airway to the lungs to become irritated, making it more difficult to breathe.

Asthma symptoms include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness. People living with asthma can experience attacks ranging from mild to severe and life threatening. Smoking hurts our bodies and worsens asthma.

Secondhand tobacco smoke causes more than 22,700 deaths from heart disease every year. Secondhand tobacco smoke comes out of the end of a burning cigarette, cigar, pipe and some other tobacco products. It contains approximately 4,000 chemicals-including cancer-causing agents, irritants and toxins.

- Secondhand smoke can cause asthma in children who have never before experienced any symptoms
- Exposure to secondhand smoke makes it hard to breathe, which can trigger an asthma attack and make the disease's symptoms more severe.
- Tobacco smoke causes breathing problems and affects the immune system, making it difficult for lung tissue to repair itself.

- Children with asthma who live with a smoker are more likely to experience asthma attacks, take more medicine for their asthma, and miss school more often.
- Children exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to be held back in school, do worse on tests, have more ear infections, more severe asthma, more symptoms of ADHD and die from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

If you or a family member suffers from asthma, cigarette smoke should not be permitted inside your home or car. Ask family members to smoke outside. If you use tobacco and suffer from asthma, you should quit.

Asthma cannot be cured, but if you have asthma, you can control how frequently you experience its symptoms and discomfort.

Don't risk developing asthma, causing an asthma attack, heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure or creating other health problems. The best way to help yourself and your health is to quit tobacco use. If you quit smoking, you will feel better and live longer. Choose your quit day.

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Continued from Page 1, Rodeo Continued from Page 1, Wranglers

of Philmont's Activities staff dressed in interpretive clothing as characters like Waite Phillips, Lucien Maxwell, Kit Carson, and many more. The American and New Mexico flags were followed by the Maverick Club flag. As in any 4th of July parade, the vehicles and clothing were a patriotic red, white and blue.

Bob Ricklefs rode out as Grand Marshal of both the parade and the rodeo. As the parade rode by, many tossed candy for children to run out and grab. At the end of the parade, was a long line of cars headed to the rodeo.

Two riders entered the arena, one with the American flag, and one with the New Mexico state flag. Everyone took off cowboy hats and caps for the National Anthem and kept them off with heads bowed for the invocation.

After thanking the appropriate people and making introductions, the first event began.

The first session of Booger Brown Bull Riding had nine riders signed up, which added up to a purse or prize of 1,000 dollars and a buckle. "Bulls 9, cowboys 0," said Hampton when

none of the riders qualified. To qualify, a rider must stay on the bull for 8 seconds, which is when the buzzer sounds. According to Owen McCulloch when the bulls win, the prize money that would go to the cowboy goes to the owner of the bulls.

In the Ranch Bronc Ride, cowboys get on a bucking horse and have to stay on, also for eight seconds. The scores given are based on how difficult the ride was and how long the rider stayed on. They may only hold on with one hand, the other should stay in the air. Marshall Zimmer won this event with an incredible ride on a horse that was bucking and jumping straight up in the air. Robert Aragon came in second place, and Pryce Marez and Tyler Moore tied for third.

One rider was not so lucky having gotten to about seven seconds before being bucked off into the fence.

The wild cow-milking event is when teams go out in threes and it is one person's responsibility to rope the cow, another's to pin the cow and the third to milk the cow. The milker must get enough milk to qualify, which can take several tries. At one point, one

team had all three people holding on to the rope as the cow drug them through the sand. The team that won was composed of Greg Carpenter, Keith Johnston, and Taylor Witcom.

There are also events for children at the rodeo, one being the Lee Cotez Calf Scramble. In a calf scramble children six to 12 go out on foot to lasso a calf. Once they have caught it they must pull it across a white line. If they get the roped calf across, they win the calf.

The Maverick Club 4th of July Rodeo is fun for people of all ages. Barbara Robin Steenstrup came here from Kenya, Africa on a trip to visit an old college friend, Hal Fuller. "He enticed me," said Steenstrup. "He took me to an Indian Rodeo last time and it was my first time so I was really excited. This rodeo is so fun and seems really well organized."

The two of them went to college, "a billion years ago," according to Hal and reunited through e-mail. The rodeo is something they have begun appreciating together, proving that it is enjoyable for people of all ages from all backgrounds.

treks Scouts can partake in a mini-rodeo which includes barrel races. This puts them at a disadvantage to the horses that train for rodeo events regularly.

"We're not really here to compete," said Knight, smiling. "Just to have fun."

Even though Knight has been working as a wrangler for multiple summers, this was the first time she chose to participate in the rodeo. Meanwhile, this was Cwian's third rodeo in Cimarron and last year she even took fourth place in the barrel race.

"Barrel racing is such a rush!" said Cwian, enthusiastically.

During the barrel race the rider must guide their horse through a series of three barrels. The goal is to quickly navigate the barrels in a clover-shape pattern. The participants are timed with an electric timer so the results are accurate.

Knight was the first of the two to run, riding Little John. Just as she approached the first barrel, Little John reared and shied away. Knight struggled to get her horse to round each barrel. She was determined to finish though and in the end her will won. Unfortunately she didn't qualify for a time.

"I don't know what happened!" said Knight, frustrated. "He's usually really good at running barrels."

When it was her turn, Cwian made a successful run on her horse Sunset. This year, however, her time wasn't fast enough to qualify for a prize.

Though Cwain and Knight didn't win anything, they were still able to have fun and take part in the festivities of the 90th Maverick Rodeo.

Rodeo Winners

Bull Riding No Qualifiers

Calf Roping

1. Chase Pope
2. Danny Garcia
3. Jim Hudgens

Ranch Bronc Ride

1. Marshall Zimmer
2. Robert Aragon
3. Walker Lee/
Tanner Shaw

Sr. Barrel Race

1. Jana Campbell
2. Karlee Vigil
3. Les Hudgins

Open Team Roping

1. Bubba Whitten/
Greg Langer
2. Andrew Jeffers/
Eddie Jeffers
3. Mark Miller/
Aaron Potter

Jr. Barrel Race (8 entries)

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. Jeb Loney/
Robert Aragon

Mixed Ribbon Roping

1. Jim Hudgens
2. Jace Felts
3. Dallas Day

Pole Bending

1. Chase Kiker

Mutton Bustin (20 entries)

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Balance Your CHI: *Crew Hygiene Initiative*

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer

There are six essentials for staying well on the trail: wash your hands, clean your plate, stay hydrated, wash dishes, cover your cough, and get some sleep.

For the past two years at Philmont, there has been an increased number of gastroenteritis, commonly called the stomach bug, cases among participants and staff. According to Nate Lay, Health Lodge Chief of Support, around 400 campers come off the trail every year for gastro-intestinal illness.

Another problem is lack of hygienic practices in the backcountry. Showers are rare and water is scarce. Crews are often tired when they get their camps set up and so they do not choose to bathe or sanitize regularly. Sanitation on the trail is crucial to preventing the spread of communicable diseases.

Everyone is living in close quarters, and virulent strains of gastrointestinal illness are highly contagious. Another reason is

that equipment is constantly passing through many sets of hands, and "those viruses are really resilient and can spread from crew to crew," said Nate Lay.

Spread of disease is preventable if crews and staff take the proper precautions. One of the major reasons for disease spread is inadequate hand washing. When crews or staff do not wash or sanitize their hands properly and then handle equipment or trade in or out of the swap box, bacteria is left and the next person to touch it will also get sick.

Clean your plate. This means that one should always eat all of the food off the plate. It is important in order to maintain energy needed for the trek so that your body can continue to fight off bacteria and viruses.

Staying hydrated is a vital part of staying healthy at Philmont. Fill water bottles at every given opportunity and make it last. At every filling station, do not just

top off the bottle, try to finish it so that thirst is quenched and the water you refill with will last longer.

Another issue is dishes. Often, dishes in the backcountry are washed improperly leading to gastrointestinal problems from the bacteria or soap that is left on the plate.

To wash dishes properly there must be one cooking pot and one clean pot. After everyone has eaten, both should be filled part way with clean warm water. Add camp suds to the cooking pot and it becomes the wash pot for the dishes. Wash all the dishes first and then use some of the water from the clean pot to rinse them. Once all the dishes are washed, scrub the wash pot, formerly the cooking pot, and dump the residue into the sump. Then use the rest of the clean water to rinse the newly cleaned cooking pot over the sump. Leave all the clean dishes by the sump.

In every clinic there is a

sign administered by the Center of Disease Control (CDC) that explains covering your cough, and the Health Lodge is no exception. One should always cover their mouth with a tissue or their sleeve when coughing or sneezing as well as wash or sanitize hands afterwards.

Finally, get some sleep. Without rest, your body cannot repair itself. Every night when you go to bed your body works to fix muscles and allows your immune system to fight foreign bacterial or viral infections. As is well known, it also gives you energy to keep on hiking.

The quickest way to ruin a trek is to get a case of gastroenteritis as staff member David Spitznagel, News and Photo Services Photographer recalls from his trek in 2003. On his last day of hiking, they planned to summit the Tooth of Time, but the night before he became ill with the stomach bug and had to come off the trail.

As a staff member, Spitznagel was able to climb the Tooth for the first time this year. His father, who came off the trail with him, also was able to summit it for the first time on a trek he was leading.

If staff become sick with gastroenteritis, Nate Lay advises that they stay away from work. In order to obtain permission to be out of work, staff may either talk with their supervisor or go to the Health Lodge and get a note. The bug generally lasts for about one to two days.

Do not share drinks, wash your hands, get plenty of food and sleep, and maintain good hygiene habits. This will help stop or slow the number of crew members pulled from treks as well as the number of staff getting sick in tent city. Stay healthy and keep hiking.

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Strike it Rich at French Henry

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

The year is 1922, and there are a lot of rich gold deposits in the area.

Nestled in northwest Philmont lies an establishment called French Henry, where the potential to strike it rich still lures crews.

A man by the name of Waite Phillips just bought the property next to French Henry.

Tara Bagley works as a mucker, which pays \$3.25 a day. A mucker is a person who shovels broken ore or waste rock into ore cars or ore buckets.

“I muck out 16 tons of rock every day, and if I don’t muck out the 16 tons I don’t get paid,” Bagley said.

Fast forward to 2012, where no Scout has found any significant gold amount yet, but the possibility always looms.

“It’s really interesting to watch kids get down there, and you tell them that if they find gold, they get to keep it, and their eyes just light up,” Camp Director Jack Chinn said.

In 1996, someone found a gold nugget that was worth \$30,000. But the gold is not profitable without mines. All the

mines were shut down in 1940 because of WWII.

Chinn enjoys blacksmithing the most.

“Blacksmithing is fun because it is not something they get to do every day. You get to beat hot metal with hammers,” Chinn said. “It’s also a lost art that has been sparked up a lot because of Philmont.”

While blacksmithing, the crews may participate in making a J-hook, which is a hook participants hang things on. Crews will work together on the three to eight step process, with one Scout hitting the hammer, bending the metal into a J-hook, and so forth until the J-hook is made.

Sometimes they can make S-hooks, which are double sided J-hooks.

Each staff member at French Henry is creating their own forge design to change it up from making only J-hooks and S-hooks.

The camp also offers tours of Aztec Mine.

“I had a crew the other day and I was talking with one of the participants afterwards and

he said ‘It is literally like being a hundred years in the past,’” Chinn said.

French Henry and Cyphers Mine are the only camps that give mine tours, which makes a unique experience.

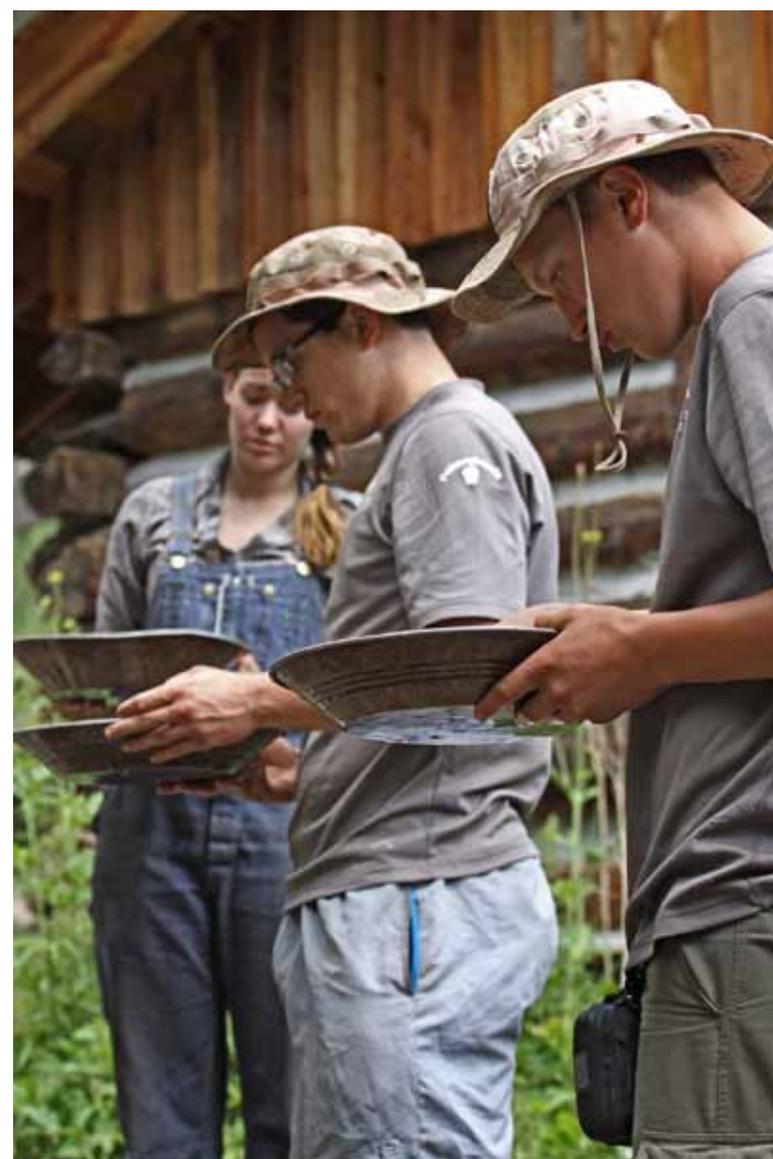
“The mine tour is unique because you can go into caves... but you [usually] can’t just go into what used to be a mine 100 years ago,” Chinn said.

“They all get beards from the coal dust and it’s real fun,” Bagley said. “They get to act like real men for some time. The fact that we can go into a 150 year old mine...is pretty awesome.”

While in the mine, crews are asked to turn their lights off so they can hear the mountain rumble.

French Henry is a camp to enjoy history, and a chance for crews to have some fun before they continue on their trek.

“There are things you do at this camp that you can’t do anywhere else in the world in an hour and a half,” Chinn said. “Hopefully for a lot of people, it takes their mind off hiking and gives them a little bit of fun.”



Tara Bagley instructs a crew on how to pan for gold at French Henry on Saturday, June 30. Crews may keep whatever gold they find in the stream. DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

View from Baldy

By Garrett Franklyn
Staff Writer

With the tallest mountain at Philmont Scout Ranch staring down at it, Baldy Town welcomes crews for a brief respite from their wearisome travels on the trail.

“We’re a good place to relax, refresh, and recharge,” said Regina Engle, 25, camp director.

Most participants who come to the camp enjoy a two-day layover where they can shower, pick up new food, and eat fresh fruit. While many choose to unwind from the strain of hiking, others use their layover for a trip up Baldy Mountain.

“The mountain is a physical challenge, mental challenge, and

an individual challenge,” Engle continued. “It’s a crew challenge.”

But for the mountain, it wasn’t always a day hike for tired crews staying the night at Baldy Town. During the mid-1800s, travelers from across the country shot westward for gold and fortune. Many ended up at Baldy, and in 1868 Baldy Town was built to service these Midas-touched men. However, it wasn’t until nearly 100 years later, long after the last gold panner left, that the mountain and the surrounding tract of land were incorporated into Philmont.

Now, bodies crawl over the



Tim Sizemore, of Troop 625-F, takes in the view on Sunday, July 1, at Baldy Town. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Continued on page 8, Baldy

Continued from Survival Skills of Page 7, Baldy Crooked Creek

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer



Michael Lee, of troop 625-F, catches a trail lunch from David Steedman on Sunday, July 1, at Baldy Town Commissary. "Keep the assembly line moving," said Steedman. "We're almost done getting all your meals." ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

mountainside, searching not for gold, but excitement.

"They look at it, and they're scared," Engle said about newly-arrived crews. "Then they get to the top, and they're excited."

Working at Baldy Town has given Engle an insight into how the challenges at Philmont can change crews, particularly after conquering a mountain like Baldy. Crews that come to Baldy Town, though, will be able to do more than just hike the highest peak on the Ranch. They'll also be able to learn about it.

David Kurzwil, an environmental studies major from the City University of New York, teaches crews about

the geology of Mt. Baldy, either at Baldy Town or on top of the summit itself.

"I just hope they get an interest in geology and want to learn more," the 21 year old said.

As for the crews themselves, Baldy Town and Mt. Baldy are a part of the journey that is Philmont. They're at the mid-way point in their trek, and conquering Baldy means conquering half of their journey.

"It [Baldy] is about where they were and where they are going," Engle said.

After this, it'll all be downhill.

Crooked Creek is home to the many animals and a scenic view, but for the Casey family who call it home, they are just trying to survive.

The year is 1875 and the Casey family is from Tennessee. They decided to move out West to a drier climate.

Lucien Maxwell has purchased land in New Mexico, and is letting people live on it, which was a perfect opportunity for the family.

Lucien Maxwell sold the land to the Dutch Trading Company in 1870. The company told the family they must pay to live on the land or leave, but the Casey's told them they are not going to do either. This was during the infamous Colfax County war.

"It's really tough for us because our mother dies on the way here, we have this beautiful home, we pretty much lose it, this war breaks out," Rachel Milner, also known as Sally Casey, said. "We are never safe."

Molly Casey, the oldest of the family, is looked up to as the leader. There are three boys: Jack, Mick and Andy; and three girls: Molly, Sally and Lucy.

Crooked Creek delivers an interpretive camp experience. But it is not a typical interpretive camp experience; they are actually living the lifestyle. Dirt floors, wood fire stoves and lamps is what participants will find when they enter the cabin.

"We are not exactly pretending, we are living it," Milner, also known as Sally Casey said. "We are living the homesteading lifestyle...we have to get water, we have to feed our animals, we have to milk them. The kids aren't doing program, they are living the homesteading life."

The Scouts enjoy the animals the most at Crooked Creek. The family has two burros, two cows, ten chicks and two hens.

"Scouts will just carry those chickens around all day, they will



A Scout holds a chicken on Wednesday, July 4 at Crooked Creek. There, Scouts learn about homesteading and taking care of livestock. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

pet them, they will name them," Camp Director Julia Hoss said. "For some kids, this is the first time they have ever milked a cow."

Taking care of their animals is something that the Casey family has to do every day. They wake up at 6:30 and feed the chickens, take their animals out of the corral and throughout the day give the animals water. At night, they have to put the animals back in the corral, milk the cows and feed the animals.

Along with the animals, Scouts can take a tour of the cabin. They have a cold hole instead of refrigerator and there is no spigot to get water from.

There is also wood work for the Scouts, where they can chop wood. A popular activity with the Scouts is the horseshoe pit.

There is no road to the camp, so they are truly cut off from the outside world. But the staff at Crooked enjoy being cut off from the normal amenities they are used too.

"I love getting away from it all," Program Counselor Travis Evans said. "I don't have to check Facebook out here."

And don't expect cell phone service when arriving at Crooked Creek, because there are no cell towers in 1875. As participants leave Crooked, they will have a much better appreciation of the things they have.

"We live the homesteading life," Hoss said. "We live the program we present to Scouts, it is not just something we do from eight to five, it's something we do all the time."

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Practice Your Cowboy at Clark's Fork

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

It is the 1950s, and the sweet tunes of Alshire's Golden Hits, sending vibes of a simpler time.

While ranching is not doing well during this era, Clarks Fork is still thriving.

"It's the start-up of the cold war, ranching is like a dying breed, we've started up a war with this country called Korea," Program Counselor Blake Olvera said.

As a tier four camp, Clarks Fork has many programs to offer.

One of the most popular programs at Clarks is horseback riding.

"I think it is really cool that these kids who have never been on a horse before get to come to Philmont and get to do that for the first time," Camp Director Joshua Standard said.

To accommodate western lore, Clarks has branding and roping. Clarks Fork has its own unique brand, with a F on the inside of a capital C.

Zackary Garmoe is one of the branders at Clarks. They are able to make many different brands because they have wires they can

bend into different shapes which is how they F became a Clarks Fork brand.

"I branded STL for a crew from St. Louis, I've branded initials, and I've even branded YOLO for some people," Garmoe said.

Garmoe is making a checkerboard out of a stump, and branding the squares and the pieces.

For those that want to practice their cowboy skills, they can rope cattle. The staff teaches simple techniques and if a participant learns quickly, they can learn advanced methods.

"Certain days I'm good at a certain kind of throw...most people are good at one and not good at the other," Program Counselor Kyla Rohrbough said.

Rope-the-Log is a game involving two participants with lariats. Each participant tries to rope the log, pull it to its side, and put their foot on it to be declared the winner. If both rope the log, then it becomes a tug-of-war battle to determine a winner.

The evening program

includes a Chuck Wagon dinner and a 'lampfire' bowl. The dinner includes beef stew, biscuits, pound cake and peaches.

The 'lampfire' bowl includes songs and skits to entertain crews. The Clarks staff always enjoys putting on a show for the crews.

"I like to tell the story of this place and the time that we are trying to represent," Standard said. "I give my talk at the end and that's always rewarding to get to share my story with the campers. I've had a bunch of campers come up to me and say we needed that and that's good to hear."

When the time comes to leave Clarks Fork, expect to go with a smile on your face.

"Clarks Fork is unique just because of the chemistry of the staff," Olvera said. It's because everything just flows so smoothly, and we have campers coming in who look exhausted and tired. We can get them to laugh and crack up and get all this energy."



Kyla Rohrbough teaches Scouts how to lasso on Friday, June 29 at Clark's Fork. CONNOR SPURR/ PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Clear Creek's Firearms and Furs

By Garrett Franklyn
Staff Writer

With the smoke of the recently-discharged Hawken .50 caliber rifles dissipating, Paul Newell, known as "boss" to the other fur trappers, begins his speech to the greenhorns assembled before him.

"We want to send you home looking pretty for your mom," he said, after teaching them about the sounds a misfire will make.

Though he goes by Paul Newell to the greenhorns—that is, campers—his real name is Paul Maniscalco, the Camp Director of Clear Creek.

"As kids come into camp, we want to take them back to 1831," Maniscalco said. "We want kids to believe they're in this time period."

It won't be hard for Maniscalco to do that, dressed as he is—a trapper from the 19th century. He wears a blue cotton button-up tucked into a pair of thin cotton trousers. A set of knives rests on his right hip, attached to a wide leather belt boasting a muddled bronze buckle wide enough to shame a Texas cowboy.

As participants arrive at Clear Creek, they'll learn



A Scout shoots a black powder rifle on Saturday, July 7 at Clear Creek. ERIN NASH/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

how to survive in the Western backcountry as a fur trader. They pick up tips on how to shoot a black powder rifle, how to set

a beaver trap, and how traders lived during the time period.

"We want to train the 'greenhorns' on how to survive," he continued.

But as important as the lessons is the camaraderie of being a fur trapper, which Maniscalco is keen on extending to the

tired campers.

"They've had a tough hike up and down Phillips," he said. "We

want them to spend their time here relaxing. We want them to feel at home at our camp."

As the participants ready their Hawken rifles, one of the younger fur trappers, looks on and makes sure they're loading the firearm properly.

"We're trying to give them a good foundation for possibly their first time shooting," said Bobby Root, 22, who plays Frach.

Meanwhile, the campers ease back on the triggers, firing the Hawken. The camp is full of these disjointed sounds of black-powder rifles going off.

The noises are even heard at the main cabin, where the newly-arrived meet "the Famous" Joe

Continued on page 15, Clear

Best Ever Jalapeno Poppers



Ingredients

- 12 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 block of Cheddar cheese, shredded
- 12 jalapeno peppers, seeded and halved
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. In a medium bowl, mix the cream cheese and cheddar cheese.
3. Spoon this mixture into the jalapeno pepper halves.
4. Put the milk and flour into two separate small bowls.
5. Dip the stuffed jalapenos first into the milk then into the flour, making sure they are well coated with each. Allow the coated jalapenos to dry for about 10 minutes.
6. Dip the jalapenos in milk again and roll them through the breadcrumbs. Allow them to dry, then repeat to ensure the entire surface of the jalapeno is coated.
7. Bake in the oven for 30 minutes or until the crumbs are toasted.

* These can also be fried in a skillet. Heat the oil to 350 degrees and fry until crispy.

*For the non-vegetarian option, bits of bacon may be added to cream cheese and cheddar cheese mix; poppers may also be baked with bacon slices wrapped around them

Reviews for Jalapeno Poppers

"The cheesy-ness comes through the spicy-ness very exquisitely." Al Germann (NPS)

"I like how they're crunchy and not soggy." Katie Panek (Conservation)

"Love the heat, great flavor." Zach Ford (Activities)

"The cheese jalapeño had the best visual appearance as well as a kick. The breaded jalapeño had the best texture." Valerie McCarn (Activities)

Yogurt-Cream Cheese Pie

Ingredients

- Crust:
- 2 cups crushed graham crackers
 - 1/4 cup butter, melted with 2 tablespoons honey
 - 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

Mix together above ingredients and press firmly into sides and bottom of 8-inch pie pan, save extra crumbs for topping the pie

Filling:

- 8 ounces softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup firm yogurt
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla
- grated rind of 1/3 orange

Directions

1. Beat with electric mixer till well-blended
2. Spread into shell, top with crumbs
3. Chill at least 3 hours and enjoy

*Recipe from the Moosewood Cookbook, page184

Noodle Kugel

6-8 servings

Ingredients

- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups cottage cheese
- 3/4 cup sour cream
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/4 cup honey
- few dashes salt
- 2 medium apples or fresh peaches, sliced

Beat together until smooth.

- 4 cups egg noodles, boiled in salted water until just barely tender.
- Drain and butter.

Directions

1. Combine everything into well-buttered casserole (if no casserole/ brownie dish, use large pot)
2. Top with a mixture of 1 cup bread crumbs (make by toasting the bread and crushing over kugel), 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1/4 cup brown sugar
3. Dot with butter
4. Bake uncovered, 35 minutes at 375 degrees

1 1/4 hours to prepare, including bake time

*Recipe from the Moosewood Cookbook, page 112

Family Home Evening

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer



The Wensel family displays their flag during LDS family night on Monday, July 2 at PTC. Family night is an opportunity for LDS families to spend quality time and have a spiritual experience together once a week.
RACHEL TAYLOR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Families participating in Jesus Christ Church of the Ladder Day Saints (LDS) Week sat poised with banners made to represent their values and heritage. The banners were made in many different ways using quilting, duct tape, screen-printing, burlap, pillowcases, carved wood, string, PVC pipe, and paper. One family even used a rain poncho. After the banner parade, many families shared musical talents and poetry.

One family explained their banner. Paige Winters, a freelance graphic designer and full time mom in Idaho, had their four older children design their own snowflakes. They then spray painted around the snowflakes and put three mountains representing the father, mother, and youngest son participating in the conference. At the top their last name, Winters, was spelled

out and on the bottom were the words “unique” and “steadfast,” defining their family.

Many families had fun, creative banners such as the Wensel family who had pictures depicting “The Brady Bunch” opening image with all of the boxes and everyone looking at one another. Inside it said, “The Wensel Bunch.” Others were beautiful in their simplicity, and all of them were special in the way they represented their families.

When the family would introduce themselves on stage, they would state their family name, their ward (geographic location of the church they attend) and stake (many different wards make up a single stake.)

At the end of the parade, Mark Killian, who led the event, cited the movie “The Other Side of Heaven,” and asked that

everyone yell “Hoorah Israel” while thrusting their fist into the air. It was repeated three times. Then a worship song was played called, “My Heavenly Father Loves Me,” and everyone sang together.

President Cooley then gave prayer leading into the time for families to share their musical talents. The Jeppsen family shared a sing-along on the guitar.

Until this point, the sky had been ominous with dark clouds hiding the sun. Just as a testimony was shared, the clouds parted to a sunset that looked as though it were out of a painting.

General Young Man’s President David L. Beck closed the evening by stressing the theme of the evening, “Families can be together forever.”

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Savages (R)

Blake Lively, John Travolta

130 minutes

1:05, 4:05, 6:55, 9:40

Katy Perry: Part of Me (PG)

Katy Perry

95 minutes

1:20 PM

Katy Perry: Part of Me 3D (PG)

Katy Perry

95 minutes

4:20, 7:05, 9:30

The Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG-13)

Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone

136 minutes

3:45, 6:45, 9:45

The Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13)

Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone

136 minutes

12:45 PM

Magic Mike (R)

Channing Tatum, Alex Pettyfer

110 minutes

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

Ted (R)

Mila Kunis, Mark Wahlberg

106 minutes

1:25, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40

Brave (PG)

Kelly Macdonald, Billy Connolly

100 minutes

1:10, 3:50, 6:50, 9:20

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG)

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock

93 minutes

1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:10

Andy Griffith Dead at 86

By Bill Trott and Jane Sutton,
Reuters

Andy Griffith, best known for starring on the classic TV sitcom, *The Andy Griffith Show*, died of a heart attack July 3 in his North Carolina home. His role as Sheriff Andy Taylor on the "The Andy Griffith Show" in the 1960s gave him a place in television history.

Bon Jovi Teams with Avon

WENN

Rocker Jon Bon Jovi is set to become the latest celebrity sign up and front a new Avon fragrance campaign. The Bad Medicine singer, 50, will star in ads for both *Unplugged for Her* and *Unplugged for Him*, which will hit stores later this year. The women's fragrance is a floral oriental perfume, while the men's has a woody musk aroma.

Mickey Mouse Visits North Korea

Associated Press

Mickey Mouse and Winnie the Pooh took the stage in North Korea during a concert for new leader Kim Jong Un. Performers dressed as Minnie Mouse, Tigger and others danced and pranced as footage from "Snow White," "Dumbo," "Beauty and the Beast" and other Disney movies played on a massive backdrop. Featuring Disney characters signals that Kim may be seeking to carve out a different image than his father and grandfather by easing restrictions on Western culture.

Jackie Chan to Combat Myanmar Child Trafficking

Associated Press

Hong Kong action star Jackie Chan is going to Myanmar on a mission to help combat child trafficking in the Southeast Asian nation. UNICEF announced Tuesday that in his capacity as a good-will ambassador, Chan will visit the agency's projects for supporting trafficked children under special care for trauma and distress. He also will meet with officials of the Social Welfare Ministry and members of the Myanmar Police Anti-Trafficking Task Force in Mandalay, Myanmar's second-largest city.

'Psycho' on TV

WENN

Network executives are on the hunt for a new Norman Bates to star in a small screen series based on Alfred Hitchcock's classic horror movie "Psycho." A&E is working on a 10-episode show which will act as a prequel to the iconic 1960 film. The series will be titled "Bates Motel" and will tell the story leading up to the Hitchcock movie. The show is scheduled to premiere in next year.

Adele to be Engaged?

Access Hollywood

Adele is expecting a baby with boyfriend Simon Konecki, but should she also be expecting a marriage proposal? Simon, 38, is reportedly already shopping for an engagement ring for the "Rolling in the Deep" songstress. The Grammy-winning singer first met Konecki, a business man who co-founded U.K. bottled water company Life Water, in summer 2011.

Alan Jackson Raises Thousands for Wildfires Relief Fund

WENN

Country star Alan Jackson raised thousands of dollars at a special show to boost a disaster funds for victims of recent wildfires in Colorado. Jackson sold off premium front row seats for his show at Colorado's Red Rocks Amphitheatre, and the special sale raised thousands for the Denver Foundation for use by the Colorado Wildfire Relief Fund.

Chuck E. Cheese Being Replaced

Associated Press

The company that operates the chain of children's pizza restaurants is retiring the giant rodent's outdated image — and the man who voiced its character for nearly two decades. The revamped image of Chuck E. Cheese is a hip, electric-guitar-playing rock star. The new Chuck E. Cheese will be voiced by Jaret Reddick, the lead singer for the pop-punk band Bowling for Soup. The Chuck E. Cheese Facebook page now shows a silhouette of a cartoon mouse playing a guitar.

ACT for Children?

By Josh Lederman, Associated Press

A new digital tool to test academic and behavioral skills will target students starting in kindergarten. The tool tracks students' career interests, academic performance and progress toward goals. It's designed to follow students from kindergarten through high school. ACT, the organization that developed the ACT college-entrance exam, will start testing the tool in the fall. It will be available to schools starting in 2014.

Movies Coming out July 13

Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG)

Red Lights (R)

Trishna (R)

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

Local and Regional

Albuquerque Isotopes

By Isotopes.com

The Isotopes hit their stride just before the Triple-A All-Star Break, going 5-2 this week. The team produced double digit runs in four of the five victories, and won four out of five games in a series against Red Rock. Albuquerque goes into the break a half game behind division leading Oklahoma City.

Olympic Trials

By Associated Press

Swimming- Fireworks will start at the Olympics when Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte get in the pool. The two are swimming four events against each other in London: 400 IM, 200 IM, 200 freestyle and the 100 butterfly. Phelps won three of the four, with Lochte edging Phelps in the 400 IM. Along with three relays, Phelps could obtain seven gold medals this Olympics.

Gymnastics- These women made the U.S. Women's Gymnastics team: Gabby Douglas, Jordyn Wieber, Aly Raisman, McKayla Maroney and Kyla Ross. The United States is the reigning world champions and is expected to bring home the team gold medal from London. These men made the U.S. Men's Gymnastics team: Danell Leyva, John Orozco, Jake Dalton, Sam Mikulak and Johnathan Horton. ESPN.com projects that the team will take home a team medal.

Track and Field- Usain Bolt is expected to defend his 100 meter gold medal from Beijing, but he may have competition in London. Yohan Blake beat Bolt in the 100 and 200 meters at the Jamaican Olympic Trials. Along with Tyson Gay of the U.S., Bolt will have a challenge to retain the Gold Medal.

Colorado Rockies

By Rockies.com

The Rockies finished their dismal first half of the season this week, going 3-5 over that stretch, including almost being swept by the St. Louis Cardinals. The Rockies enter the All-Star Break with a 33-52 record, 13 games back of the division leading Dodgers. They are tied for last place in the division with the Padres. The first half did end on a positive note, with the Rockies taking two of three from NL East division leading Nationals.

Mixed Martial Arts

By UFC.com

Anderson Silva defends his middleweight belt, defeating Chael Sonnen in the second round due to TKO. Silva landed a hard knee, followed by a flurry of punches that forced the referee to stop the fight. Silva improved to 32-4 and defended his title for the 10th time, a UFC record. Sonnen earned dominant position in the first round, but could not do anything to get past Silva's guard. Tito Ortiz, in his final UFC fight, losses by unanimous decision to Forrest Griffin. Tito Ortiz, recently inducted into the UFC Hall of Fame and former light-heavyweight champion, finishes his career with a 17-11-1 record.

NASCAR

By ESPN.com

Tony Stewart won the Coca-Cola 400, passing Matt Kenseth on the final lap to earn the victory. This is Stewart's third victory of the season, and moved him up to fifth in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Standings.

National Sports

Baseball Standings

American League				
AL East	W	L	GB	
Yankees	52	33	-	
Orioles	45	40	7	
Rays	45	41	7.5	
Red Sox	43	43	9.5	
Blue Jays	43	43	9.5	
AL Central				
White Sox	47	38	-	
Indians	44	41	3	
Tigers	44	42	3.5	
Royals	37	47	9.5	
Twins	36	49	11	
AL West				
Rangers	52	34	-	
Angels	48	38	4	
A's	43	43	9	
Mariners	36	51	16.5	

National League				
NL East	W	L	GB	
Nationals	49	34	-	
Braves	46	39	4	
Mets	46	40	4.5	
Marlins	41	44	9	
Phillies	37	50	14	
NL Central				
Pirates	48	37	-	
Reds	47	38	1	
Cardinals	46	40	2.5	
Brewers	40	45	8	
Cubs	33	52	15	
Astro	33	53	15.5	
NL West				
Dodgers	47	40	-	
Giants	46	40	.5	
Diamondbacks	42	43	4	
Padres	34	53	13	
Rockies	33	52	13	

Basketball

By Associated Press

Blake Griffin, Andre Iguodala and James Harden were the last three players added to the U.S. Olympic Basketball team. They join Chris Paul, Russell Westbrook, Deron Williams, Kobe Bryant, Carmelo Anthony, Kevin Durant, LeBron James, Kevin Love, and Tyson Chandler on the team. Many of the players have international basketball experience, either being a part of the 2008 Olympic Gold Medal team, or being a part of the 2010 World Basketball Championships Gold Medal team. The team is expected to Medal, with Spain and France likely being the toughest competition.

Food

By ESPN.com

For the sixth straight year, Joey Chestnut was crowned the Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest champion. He ate 68 hot dogs and buns, tying his personal best and world record from 2009. The sixth title ties him with Takeru Kobayashi for the most Nathan's championships. Sonya "Black Widow" Thomas won the women's division. She ate 45 hot dogs and buns, beating her old mark of 41 set in 2009. The contest takes place at Coney Island and has been a tradition for 97 years.

Tennis

By ESPN.com

Roger Federer won his seventh Wimbledon title, defeating Andy Murray in four sets. Andy Murray was the first player from Great Britain in the Wimbledon final since 1938, but couldn't stop Federer from earning his 17th grand slam title. Federer is now tied with Pete Sampras for the most Wimbledon titles ever.

World

Egyptian President Orders Return of Parliament

By The New York Times

Egypt's president on Sunday ordered the return of the dissolved Islamist-led Parliament until a new one could be elected, challenging a decision by generals who had dismissed the assembly based on a court ruling.

"President Mohamed Morsi ordered the reconvening of sessions of the elected Parliament," according to a presidential statement read by Yasser Ali, an aide to Mr. Morsi. A parliamentary election will be held within 60 days after a new constitution is approved by the nation, Mr. Ali said.

Libyans Celebrate Election

By CNN News

After four decades of political exclusion, Libyans on Saturday night celebrated a historic election that many saw as the African nation's first steps to building a free and democratic nation. The landmark parliamentary vote was marred in places by disruptions that prompted polling centers to close, but the overall turnout was higher than expected.

Israeli Prime Minister Promises Military Draft Reform

By CNN

A day after thousands of Israeli demonstrators demanded an end to rules that make ultra-Orthodox Jews exempt from the draft, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday that the nation's approach to military service must change.

The Netanyahu named a new team to draw up a law that would "share the burden" of military service. The existing law provides an exemption for Arabs and ultra-Orthodox Jews.

Physicists Find Higgs-Boson

By The New York Times

Signaling a likely end to one of the longest, most expensive searches in the history of science, physicists said Wednesday that they had discovered a new subatomic particle that looks for all the world like the Higgs boson, a key to understanding why there is diversity and life in the universe.

Like Omar Sharif materializing out of the shimmering desert as a man on a camel in "Lawrence of Arabia," the elusive boson has been coming slowly into view since last winter, as the first signals of its existence grew until they practically jumped off the chart.

Taliban Execute Woman Accused of Adultery

By Huffinton Post

A man Afghan officials say is a member of the Taliban shot dead a woman accused of adultery in front of a crowd near Kabul, a video obtained by Reuters showed, a sign that the austere Islamist group dictates law even near the Afghan capital.

In the three-minute video, a turban-clad man approaches a woman kneeling in the dirt and shoots her five times at close range with an automatic rifle, to cheers of jubilation from the 150 or so men watching in a village in Parwan province.

Such rare public punishment was a painful reminder to Afghan authorities of the Taliban's 1996-2001 period in power, and it raised concern about the treatment of Afghan women 11 years into the NATO-led war against Taliban insurgents.

Four Killings in Small Ohio Town may be Related

By CNN

Police investigating the fatal shooting of four people in Ohio believe the deaths are connected to a man who later drove to a cemetery and killed himself.

"We still unfortunately have three different crime scenes, a lot of different agencies are involved trying to sort through the mess, for lack of a better word," said Police Chief John Kuivila of the Newton Falls Police Department. "We are fairly confident that these homicides are related."

Police were alerted to a disturbance at a home in Newton Falls just after midnight Friday. Officers found a mother, a father and a juvenile shot dead in the home, Kuivila said. An additional juvenile in the home was unharmed.

California Senate Passes "Anti-Arizona" Bill

By CNN

The California Senate has passed a so-called "anti-Arizona" bill to prevent racial profiling by police and allow local law agencies to ignore federal requests to detain nonviolent illegal immigrants for deportation, a state lawmaker said.

The proposal, called the California Trust Act, would be the first state law imposing "detrainer reform," though local governments in Illinois, Wisconsin and elsewhere have enacted similar measures, according to California Assemblyman Tom Ammann's office.

No other states have legislation similar to what is now being considered in California, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

National

Heat Wave Kills Over 74 As Temperatures Cool Slightly

By The Huffington Post

The heat that blanketed much of the U.S. began to ease up from unbearable to merely very hot Sunday as temperatures from the Midwest to the East Coast dropped from highs above 100 degrees down to the 90s. The heat of the past several days has also been blamed for at least 74 deaths across the country. A 4-month-old girl died and a 16-month-old girl was hospitalized in suburban Indianapolis after both were found trapped in cars during 105-degree heat Saturday. Deaths have also been reported by authorities in Illinois, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

Ernest Borgnine Dies at Age 95

By WENN

Hollywood veteran Ernest Borgnine has died at the age of 95.

The actor, real name Ernes Effron Borgnino, best known for his role in 1955 film Marty, passed away on Sunday after suffering kidney failure. Borgnine's spokesman, Harry Flynn, tells the Associated Press the actor's wife and children were with him at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles at the time of his passing.

Colorado Lifts Statewide Fire-ban

By CNN

Much-needed rain and forecasts predicting cooler and wetter weather prompted Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper to lift a statewide fire ban Sunday.

"Mother Nature is finally giving us some relief," Hickenlooper said in a statement. "Even though the 2012 wildfire season is far from over and still challenging, we believe conditions are such that local authorities and federal land managers ought to resume control over fire bans in their jurisdictions."

A number of Colorado counties have fire bans in place, which will remain unchanged by Hickenlooper's action, his office said.

Usher's Stepson in Jet Ski Accident

By WENN

R&B star Usher's stepson has been hospitalized after he was struck by a jet ski in Georgia, according to reports. Kyle Glover, the 11-year-old son of Usher's ex-wife Tameka Foster, was sitting in an inflatable raft on Lake Lanier when he was hit in the head. He was rushed to an Atlanta hospital and is in a critical condition.

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Chaplain's Corner:

By Father Gerard Gentleman
Catholic Chaplain

In the second letter that he wrote to the people of Corinth, Saint Paul declares "for when I am weak, then I am strong."

Strength through weakness is an experience that we are continually made aware of at Philmont. I am continually amazed at the good that is done here, not through physical strength but through the acceptance of personal weakness. It is only through accepting ones weakness and therefore depending on the strength of others, that a participant and their adult advisors make it through this event. In fact, it would not be rewarding if there was no weakness or failure along the way.

So too is the case for any member of our staff. The numbers of people we serve, the tremendous responsibilities

bestowed upon those that are still so young and the length of the season can try our strength. Yet often during the times that our strength is at an end, our weakness is overcome by the people our Creator has placed in our lives.

Finding strength through weakness is also a key aspect of faith and spirituality. So often we are discouraged by our failure to overcome temptations that lead us to destructive behavior in our lives. We are embarrassed because we seem to commit to the change we seek or the doubts we want to overcome.

In a strange but valuable way, our failures can lead us to a stronger and more committed spiritual life. These experiences of failure place us in need of compassion, mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation with our God

and with others. Lest we become falsely independent, when we are weak due to our failures, we have the opportunity to be made strong by merciful and forgiving love.

As hard as the challenges of Philmont are for staff and participants, I don't think any of us would give up the chance to experience the blessing that we encounter here. As a Chaplain, I blessed to see how this experience of strength through weakness brings so many to a profound and deeper appreciation for their own gifts, the talents of others, the magnificence of the One who created us and this place we love. May we be ever grateful for the strength that our experiences here give us to overcome the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual weaknesses of our lives.

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Continued from Page 9, Clear

Meek, who introduces them to fur trading while at a front porch decked in furs and candle-lit lamps.

He's bundled in furs himself, a rifle held gingerly in his fingers with the metal-tipped butt resting against the dirty wooden panels of the porch. He could be a daunting figure, but his smile and jokes belie a good-natured humor.

"Now Texas is a small word," he lectured to a trek from the state, placing the rifle aside and leaning forward to elaborate with his. "So it must be a small place."

Joe Meek, who is played by 24-year-old Reed Rutledge, grins. The campers laugh in response. Their laughs compete with the chatter of another group of campers bustling around a stack of logs. One of the participants throws a tomahawk toward the stack, where it sinks deeply into the wood.

"Chris is a master!" yells one

of his friends.

Chris Siebarta misses his next throw before stepping aside to let one of his friends take his place. In addition to learning about how to shoot a black-powder rifle and set a beaver trap, axe-throwing is yet another activity offered at Clear Creek.

Although it is a welcome respite, some campers are ready to get back to hiking.

"I'm excited to do another mountain," Siebarta, 16, said. A Life Scout from Lakewood, Colo., he will be hiking up Mt. Phillips later in the day.

The laughter at the porch and the cheers at the log stacks mingle with the shots from the black-powder rifles. The campers are having fun.

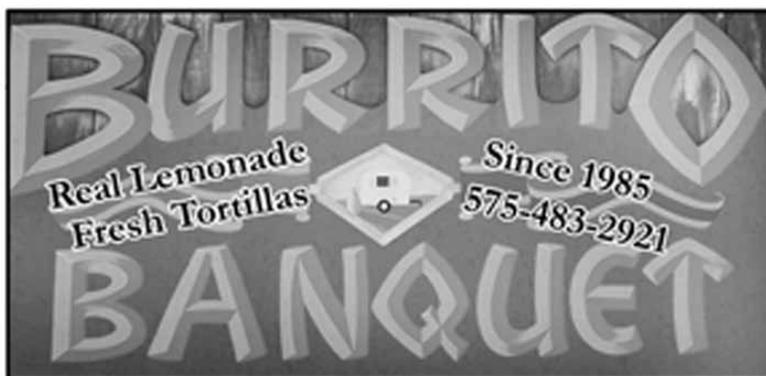
"We like to be out with the kids," Maniscalco said. "That's the mentality we always have, 'Pushing the bar higher.'"

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.

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The Wild Within

By Beverly Ponterio
Staff Writer

Phrynosoma hernandesi



Horned toad. AL GERMANN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Though difficult to see due to impeccable camouflage, the horned toad makes its home around the Ranch. Also called the short-horned lizard or *Phrynosoma hernandesi*, this lizard has developed special adaptations in order to survive.

The short-horned lizard is prey to many desert animals such as coyotes, foxes, hawks, etcetera. One method of survival gave them the nickname horned toad.

The texture of this lizard appears rough and spiky; in reality, they are not that tough. If a predator approaches them, they will fill up with air in order to appear larger. This can intimidate the predator and chase it away. When they are full of air, they look more round like a toad rather than slender like a lizard.

Their most intimidating

adaptation however, is the ability to shoot blood out of their eyes. The blood actually comes from a sinus next to the eye according to animalplanet.com. When a predator corners the lizard, it will shoot blood directly into the mouth of whatever attempts to eat it. It can shoot accurately for up to three feet.

According to a quote from animalplanet.com, Wade Sherbrooke, a horned lizard specialist who runs the American Museum of Natural History's Southwestern Research Station went the extra mile for his research. He wrote that the blood "appears to have a repulsive taste to kit foxes and probably to other canids but, as I discovered when I first tried it (the things we do for science!), it was not particularly offensive to my taste buds."

According to National Geographic, the blood contains a chemical noxious to canines, the lizard's main predator.

The horned toad is carnivorous and primarily feeds on ants, swallowing them whole. They also feed on grasshoppers, beetles, and spiders.

The short-horned lizard has begun to decrease in number due to habitat loss and the illegal pet trade, but mostly due to efforts to exterminate ants. While a pest for us, ants are the primary food source for this lizard.

Only growing to about six inches in length, they are hard to spot, but if you see a bit of desert ground moving, look closer, it might be the elusive *Phrynosoma hernandesi*.

"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

If you have a cool wildlife encounter whilst hiking in the backcountry or around base camp, please come by the News and Photo office and ask for Beverly. We'd love to share it in our next issue if possible.

Unclaimed Money Waiting to be Found

By Jo Duran and Janice Dudley
Seasonal Personnel and Payroll Staff

While it seems too good to be true, there are thousands of dollars just waiting to be picked up at Philmont's Camping Headquarters (CHQ)! Even though CHQ is open 7 days a week, many individuals have been paid and just haven't picked up their paychecks yet.

While many staff are receiving their salary through Automatic Payroll Deposit, many of these same staff have their first checks (which are "live" checks - ready to cash) still awaiting pickup.

One man's recent story illustrates the power of picking up your paycheck. Jonathan B.



The staff at CHQ wants you to pick up your paychecks and pay stubs! CHQ is open from 8 a.m. to 5p.m. every day. LYNN DECAPO/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

found over \$1,000 waiting for him that he didn't know he had. He was able to immediately pay for his mother's earlobe surgery.

Another amazing story comes from Susan Q., who had over \$750 she was able to claim from her unclaimed paychecks.

With her new found wealth she was able to send her uncle Bob on his dream trip to BronyCon, the fan convention dedicated to the animated show "My Little Pony."

Be sure to stop by CHQ or your department office and pick up your unclaimed paychecks. Even if you are having

your paychecks automatically deposited, you will still want to make sure your deductions are correct, and your paycheck is for the correct amount.

Owen's Corner: Visitors are Welcome

By Owen McCulloch,
Associate Director of Program



Owen McCulloch. KATY MOONEY/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHY
MANAGER

Philmont is a great opportunity for not only our staff to enjoy the beauty of Northern New Mexico, but for the many parents and family members who come to visit as well. Family members are encouraged to visit Philmont during the summer, and we have a few guidelines in place to make sure they are aware of what is available for them to see and do when they are here.

These guidelines are meant to provide clarification and guidelines to the information found in our Staff Guidebook.

From the Staff Guidebook:

Visitors and family members are welcome at Philmont, however, THERE IS NO HOUSING and visitors must check in and register at the Camping or Training Center office. Visitors must purchase a meal ticket to eat. Visitors are NOT allowed in the backcountry unless accompanied by a member of management.

Family and Special Visitors:

Family members of Philmont Staff and Special Visitors (designated by Philmont Management) may be issued a

Visitor ID Badge through the PTC Office or CHQ Office. A person being issued a Philmont Visitor ID Badge is defined as a person being provided a service by Philmont Scout Ranch.

Individuals with a Visitor ID Badge are allowed to eat one consecutive day of meals provided by Philmont. Additional meals may be purchased as needed.

Family and Special Visitors may be granted access to the backcountry for the purpose of visiting their family member's program area, or another specific destination. They are not allowed to hike any backcountry trails or spend the night in the backcountry. They may join the backcountry staff for a meal if it does not place undue stress upon the meal service. Family and Special Visitors are only allowed in the backcountry if approved by Philmont Management, and must be accompanied by a member of management or their designee in a Philmont vehicle.

Visitor ID badges must be returned to the PTC Office, CHQ Office or Welcome Center upon departure.



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Two New Trail Camps for Participants

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

There are new places to camp at Philmont.

The two new trail camps this year, Lost Gap and Martinez Springs, are now operating.

Lost Gap was not originally meant to be a trail camp. Conservation was making a new trail, and they found an area they thought would be good for a camp. It was made in 2010 and has six campsites.

"We were doing a trail survey up in that area, and we saw this really sweet flat meadow up on this ridge, and it just jumped out at us as a cool place to camp," Conservation Director Mike Serio said.

The camp got its name

because Serio and a group of conservation staff got lost there when they were designing the trail.

It is a dry camp, which was a challenge. The camp is between Deer Lake and Devil's Wash Basin. Conservation wanted to open up the Deer Lake Mesa area so participants can experience something different at Philmont.

"We have a lot of trails on the north side of the mesa, we didn't really have anything on that south side," Serio said. "The hike from Deer Lake Camp to Devil's Wash Basin...you would have to hike this road and swing down to Devils Wash, so that is why the trail went in, to spread

campers out and allow them to see another cool area."

With Martinez Springs, Conservation was looking for a place to put a new trail camp. The spot for the camp was selected because of the water source Martinez Springs provides.

Conservation started looking at the site in 2009 and started building it in 2010. The camp was finished during training this year, just in time for crews to stay there. It has seven campsites.

"We have this resource and it was an opportunity to spread people out," Serio said.

The camp is located between Harlan and Upper Bench.

"It's a neat area, it's got a nice little meadow out there, nice Ponderosa grove, and the spring is sweet and you can get a real cool view of Midnight Mesa," Serio said. "It has this really neat feel of being out in the middle of nowhere."

Lost Gap is in itinerary three and Martinez Springs is in itineraries 12 and 27. While they aren't being used much now, the camps will be used more once Logistics decides how to utilize the camps best.

One of the goals Conservation has been working on is to have one trail camp that is only used by a few itineraries. This will reduce the number of

crews that stay at that camp each night and allow crews to have a better wilderness experience by staying alone in a trail camp.

Conservation hopes to open up more trail camps in the next couple of years to help accommodate the Philmont experience, including a spot near Urraca.

"It's all up in the air right now, and we have a spot picked out but hopefully in the future we will be able to utilize it," Serio said.

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62					63			64	65					
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69					70						71			

Across

1. Corded fabric
5. In regard to
10. South American weapon that's thrown
14. L.A. Angel, e.g.
15. Lecture hall platforms
16. Consumes completely with "up"
17. It may follow grade school
19. "? inhumanity to...": Burns
20. "Thy word is ? unto my feet"
21. Trait of a touchy person
23. Thine, in Tours
26. Powerful Greek deities
27. Result of good pitch, maybe
32. Prefix meaning "one quintillion"
33. ? Lama
34. Tried to catch a conger
38. Does on better than
40. Crazy Legs Hirsch
42. ? avis
43. Furnish funds for
45. Entirety
47. Hanks or Selleck
48. Book collector's delight
51. Prefix with -fugal
54. Knight's lady
55. Kinda
58. Item for Rostropovich
62. Merry play
63. How a pendulum swings
66. Nile queen, informally
67. Like many statesmen
68. Perpetually
69. Atlantic Coast area, with "the"
70. Stir up the fire
71. Fly into the wild blue yonder

Down

1. Punjab prince
2. Twelfth Jewish month
3. Transportation Secretary Federico ?
4. Chief
5. Tax mo.
6. Classic drama of Japan
7. Works for a magazine
8. "And stay by my cradle till morning is ?"
9. Island whose capital is Papeete
10. Inadvisable advice
11. Port of Japan
12. Russian Revolution leader
13. AARP and NAACP
18. ? for (chose)
22. 'Just do it' slogan
24. East Indian vine
25. Dots in the ocean
27. Whale
28. Nerve cell impulse transmitter
29. SoCal enforcers
30. Prognosticator's deck
31. Ran amok
35. Notes between sol and do
36. Slangy suffix with smack or sock
37. Denounces as a failure
39. Sentimental weakness
41. In triplicate, a Seinfeld catchphrase
44. Tightrope
46. Dance that requires a bar
49. Helps with the dishes
50. Picks on
51. Enchantress in Homer
52. ? Gay (WWII bomber)
53. Expectant parents' choices
56. Delta material

Medium

		4		7		6	1	2
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			7	1	8			
	9	1						
				4		2		3
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Sustainability: Responsible Landscaping

By Katie Sill, Staff Writer
In collaboration with the Sustainability Team

Even though the Ranch is receiving regular rainfall, Philmont is still under drought conditions. Due to current drought conditions, Philmont is especially conscious of its water usage.

As a means of conserving water, only designated areas of basecamp are being watered. Many will notice that the areas receiving regular water are program areas such as the Villa Philmonte and Mark Anderson's lawn. Meanwhile, all Philmont residences are restricted from watering their lawns as a means of preserving the natural resource.

In the backcountry, areas such as Ponil, Zastrow, Carson Meadows, Fish Camp and Crater Lake use grey water to maintain their landscape. Grey water is run off from sinks and showers which people cannot drink. The water is used in the subterranean irrigation system in these areas. Most use solar power to pump

water through shallow, perforated pipes that diffuse water into the upper soil layers. This introduces the water directly into the soil so as to prevent evaporation.

In 2006 Philmont received recognition from the state of New Mexico for its water conservation efforts. Then again in 2007 at the national level. On behalf of the Ranch, Compliance Manager Dave Kenneke traveled to Pennsylvania to receive the Excellence in Environmental Achievement Award from the National Rural Water Association.

To further conserve water and continue the legacy of responsible water use at Philmont, the sustainability team suggests the following practices be adopted:

- Water lawns during spring snowmelt when water is plentiful and less heat. This introduces moisture into the ground and helps prepare

for the hotter months.

- Hand watering specific plants with a hose. This is more efficient than blanket watering with a sprinkler.
- Water in the evening or night to reduce evaporation due to the sun and heat.
- When on water restriction, mow just before watering.
- Cut grass taller and with a sharp blade to reduce shock to the grass and therefore its water consumption.
- Water your plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
- Don't water when windy
- Mulch around plants and in beds to reduce water loss from the soil

Remember, it's our responsibility to maintain a sustainable lifestyle so as to preserve the natural resources necessary for human survival.

Villa Music Night

Thank you to all who have signed up so far for the Villa music night on Saturday, July 21st.



If you are still interested in participating and are skilled in playing an instrument or singing **please contact** Amanda Allred at the Villa (ext. 1271) by Saturday, July 14th.



This is not an open-mike event! You need to contact us so we can put you on the program.

If you need accompaniment, please let us know and send us a copy of the music by July 14th.




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 are 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. Hand-written 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 no more than 1500 words.

Scout Discovers New Path to Cimarron Seton Relic

By Matthew Baide
Staff Writer

By Anne W. Semmes
Greenwich Citizen

While he was working on his Eagle Scout service project, Robby Tolette of Cos Cob, Conn. stumbled upon something extraordinary. Tolette uncovered the Medicine Rock that Ernest Thompson Seton and his Woodcraft Indians used in their dance ceremonies more than 100 years ago.

Under the guidance of his Eagle Scout advisor, Nancy Chapin, Tolette decided to restore an overgrown trail for his service project. Chapin suggested the location after she discovered the trail on the Pomerance-Tuchman property.

The Pomerance-Tuchman property was once the estate of Ernest Thompson Seton – one of the founders of the Boy Scouts

of America. Tolette had explored the area before. “I would say to myself, ‘Wow, this is where it [Scouting] all started,” said Tolette.

The project took over two weekends and, according to Tolette, more than 50-60 wheelbarrows of overgrowth to clear the trail.

Tolette’s Eagle Scout project uncovered the original Seton campground, placed as it was overlooking Seton’s manmade lake. It was here that Seton’s precursor to the Boy Scouts, the Woodcraft Indians met and held their campfire council meetings and dances. Tolette and his troops brought into view what some might consider the first Boy Scout campground.

A path from Philmont to Cimarron that has been in the works will soon be complete.

Philmont is building a three and a half mile path to Cimarron.

The path will be 10 feet wide and will be for pedestrians, bikers, as well as horses.

The village of Cimarron’s committee, called Hikers and Bikers, thought it was a great idea to build a path from Cimarron to Philmont.

“For years, we have talked about the need for some way to get safer access for the staff members that want to run, to jog, to walk, to ride their bikes between here and town,” Director of Program Mark Anderson said.

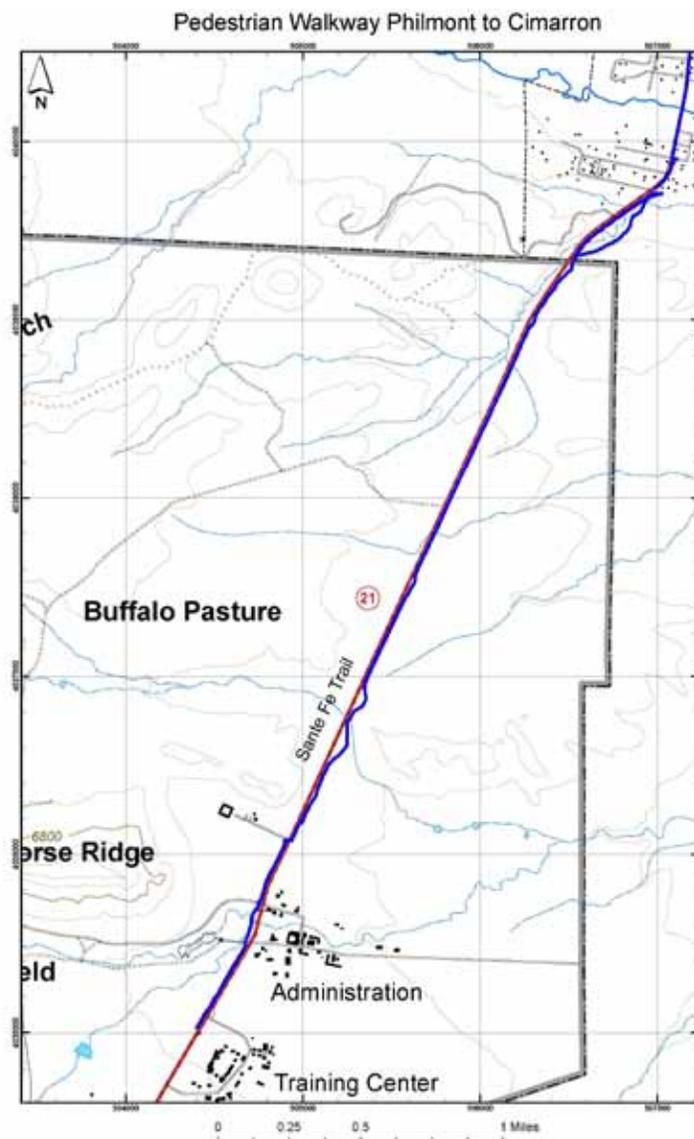
Philmont has been working on the plan for several years, trying to work with the highway department to get a safer path to Cimarron. But there was no money in the state budget to build it. So Philmont took matters into their own hands and decided to build the path.

This spring, the highway department agreed to help with the fence, providing some of the materials for the fence, while Philmont paid for the construction of the fence.

Conservation recently finished moving the fence further away from the highway to make room for the path. The fence has 30 feet of space between it and the road, with 10 feet being prairie, then the 10 foot-wide path, and then another 10 feet of prairie before Highway 21.

The path will be built into the nature trail at PTC, crossing the street and then continue along Highway 21 until it reaches the Polo Barns. It will cross highway 21 there and continue all the way to about the Apache Springs Campground. Philmont has permission to paint the crosswalk on the highway.

The path will be similar to the path from CHQ to PTC, a dirt path that is lined with rocks on either side.



Some parts of the trail are going to be the natural prairie already there. Materials will be coming from Philmont to make the trail.

Conservation Director Mike Serio is going to have to build bridges on it for crossing creeks, which they hope to complete this fall. The Conservation team plans on having the trail done by the beginning of next year.

“You get to look at the Tooth of Time and the glorious views of the East, but you’ll also have several spots where the Santa Fe Trail is visible...and we will place some markers so people can see that as they are hiking along,” Anderson said.

Cimarron plans on building a trail from that point all the way

into town so it will connect with the network of paths that are in town.

When the trail is done, Philmont plans on adding historical markers and signs for walkers to stop and read about the history of the trail.

And after several years of planning, Philmont and Cimarron will be united by something other than Highway 21.

“We will get people to town,” Anderson said.

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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 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 are 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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Staff Highlight of the Week: Run, Toph! Run!

By Katie Sill
Staff Writer

A crowd of 50 people gathered together in Angel Fire, New Mexico the morning of Sunday, July 1. They were all eagerly awaiting the arrival of one man. Finally, after 29 hours and 20 minutes of running, Chris White emerged from the woods and at 10:20 a.m. he became the first person in New Mexico state history to finish a 100-mile trail race.

“My goal was to just finish and anything else would just be the icing on top,” said White, better known as Toph.

This was the first time Toph, an avid runner, attempted a 100 mile run. In May of this year he competed in the Jemez 50 in Los Alamos, New Mexico and ran the 50 mile race. It wasn't long after that he learned of the 100-mile trail race in Angel Fire.

“I figured I'd try it,” said Toph. “It's the next step after running 50 miles.”

The Oklahoma Trail Runners Association designed the trail run through Angel Fire to showcase the area as a place where runners from nearby Oklahoma and Texas can train in high altitudes.

In addition to the 100-mile race, there was also a 50-mile race and a 50-kilometer race. Of the 20 runners who began the 100-mile race on Saturday June 30, only three met the qualifying

time of 14 hours at the 50-mile mark. Of those three, only Toph chose to continue the race.

Once the sun set, Toph was alone on the trail. The race officials tracked him with a GPS to make sure he was moving along the route. There was also a search and rescue team on call in case of emergency. Toph ran through the night and finished the last 50 miles of the race alone.

“Watching the whole experience was inspirational,” said Steve Nelson, Philmont Comptroller.

Steve and his wife Diane Nelson served as Toph's pit crew throughout the entire race. While Diane currently works with Toph as the Health Lodge Secretary at Philmont, the couple has known Toph for years both from working at Philmont and training with their son in endurance runs. The two also competed together in the US Ski Mountaineering Championships.

As part of his preparation for the Angel Fire race, Toph asked both Steve and Diane to help care for him.

“We focused on just him,” said Diane. “We made sure he was eating and drinking enough. We also made sure he was mentally well because extreme distance runners can become delirious after a while.”

The Nelsons met Toph at

every available checkpoint to give him soup, water and gel packs.

After checking his physical and mental state they made sure he kept going. The encouragement they provided was the most vital.

“I wouldn't have finished, let alone placed, if it weren't for them,” said Toph, smiling.

Toph averaged 15 minutes per mile but he ran the last three miles in 30 minutes. The crowd that gathered in the early hours that Monday morning was a mixture of participants and spectators.

Steve said he could tell that everyone was impressed with Toph's accomplishment.

Toph is not one to dwell on his achievement, however. His humble personality prevents him from doing so. To him, the race was just another personal challenge. He was not prepared for the amount of attention he has since received.

“He did something extraordinary,” said Diane, with pride. “He just doesn't realize it yet.”

Regardless of where he goes from here, Toph will always have the honor of being the first person in New Mexico state history to finish a 100 mile trail race.



Christopher “Toph” White. AL GERMANN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER



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